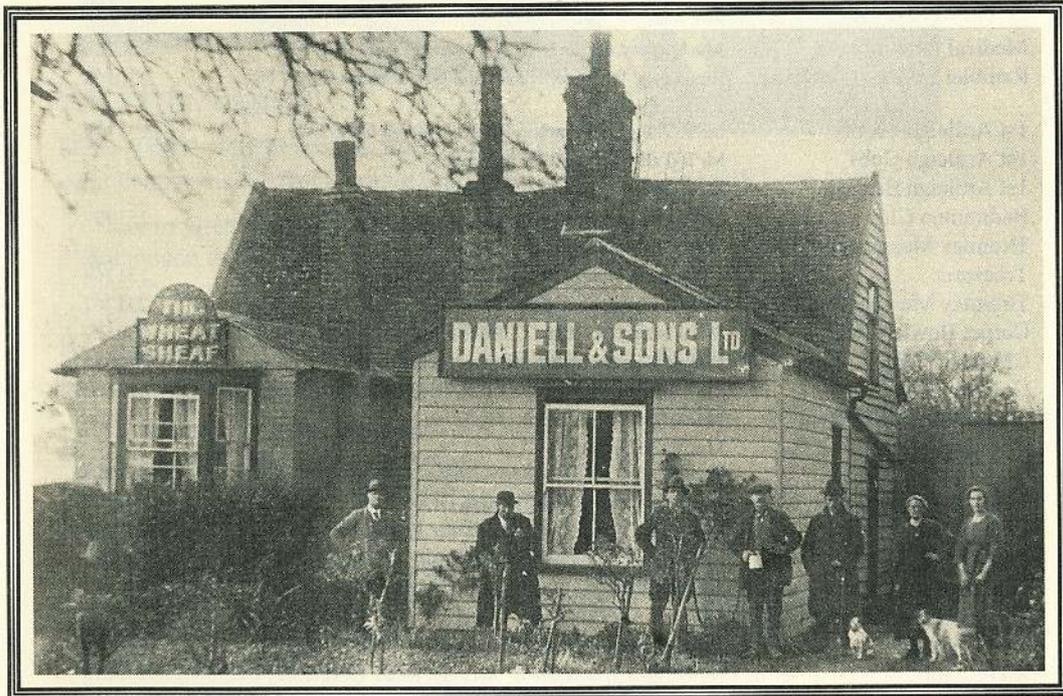


THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

The Magazine of the Villages of Great & Little Bromley
January to December 2000

THE BROMLEY MESSENGER



*The Magazine
of the Villages of
Great & Little Bromley*

These old magazines have been scanned and converted to text for historical reference
by Dr Hugh Frostick, Historian for Great and Little Bromley.

Tel: 07722 253962 Email: hugh@greatbromley.org.uk

December 2021

Note – this is not intending to be verbatim; some typos corrected, some phone numbers &
contact details removed, and repeat adverts truncated.

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ORGANISATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS CONTACTS *[most phone no's removed]*

Police PC Christopher Phillips Mistley Police Station
Gt. Bromley Parish Council Mrs Sandra Shute, Dewberry, Shop Road, Little Bromley
Lt. Bromley Parish Council Major A. Downes, 3 Bentley Road, Little Bromley
Tendring District Council Cllr. Nigel Rowe, Lilleys Farm, Carrington Rd, Great Bromley
Essex County Council Mr. K. Hawkins, 18 Middlefield Road, Mistley
Parish Church Revd Fr. Nicholas Spicer, The Rectory, Hall Rd
Trinity Methodist Church Mrs G. Newman. 1 Conway Close, Wivenhoe
Methodist Minister The Revd. Simon Coleman 4A Ladysmith Avenue, Brightlingsea
Manningtree School Mrs D E Hollister, Headteacher
S. George's School Mrs Pat Fitzgerald, Headteacher
S. George's School P.T.A. Mrs A Rowe, Lilleys Farm, Carrington Road, Great Bromley
Medical Practitioners The Surgery, Dedham Road, Ardleigh CO7 7LD
Rambler's Assn. (Tendring) Ann Jones, Wayside, Hall Road, Gt. Bromley
1st Ardleigh Scouts, Cubs & Beavers Mr R. Talbot, 30 Gurnon Road, Ardleigh
Badminton Club Mrs J. Golding, Meadowcroft, Kings Farm
Bromley Messenger Treasurer Mr L. Christodoulides, Magnolia House, Bromley Road, Frating
Bromley Messenger Editor Mrs L. Henderson, Badley Hall, Gt. Bromley
Carpet Bowls Club Mrs J. Bates Dolphins, Colchester Road, Gt Bromley
Cheshire Home Homes Manager 230345
Cricket Club Mr T. Biscoe, 30 Bignall Croft, Highwoods Colchester
Essex County Standard Mrs V. Biddis, Berriedale
Friendship Club Mrs V Griffiths, Trevelyan, Mary Lane North, Gt Bromley
Gt. Bromley Brownies Mrs L. Henderson, Badley Hall
Gt. Bromley Guides Mrs J. Terry, The Nook, Colchester Road
Hamilton Lodge Vol. Association Mrs M. Hart, Pondfield, Parsons Hill
Huntingdon's Disease Assn. Lora Lumsden, 154 Stanley Rd Clacton
Ladies Circle Mrs D Taylor, Brundles Farm, Ball Green Gt Bromley
Men's Club Mr G. Hurst, Arethusa, Ardleigh Road
Millennium Fund Mr Paul Bishop, Pytle Lodge, Colchester Road, Gt. Bromley 231529
Pantomime Group Mr N. Rowe, Lilleys Farm, Carrington Rd
Playgroup Mrs C Prince, 2 Ash Grove, Gt Bromley
Recreation Field - Great Bromley Parish Council
St. George's Repair Fund Mr J Clapham, Copley Dene, Parsons Hill
Touchstone Folk Dance Club Mr R. Mears, Meronash, Colchester Road
Village Hall Committee Mr B Willgress, Lee Cottage, Great Bromley
Treasurer & Bookings - Mrs L Allam, Bluegates Farm, Carrington Road
Women's Institute Mrs M. Clarke, 15 Meadow Close, Gt Bromley
Youth Club Mr M Beauchamp, The Beeches, Colchester Rd, Gt Bromley
& Mrs E Kemp, Bleatarn, Mary Lane South, Gt Bromley

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PLEASE CONTACT the Rector with requests for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. The Rector is pleased to hear of anyone who would like to receive a Visit and for Holy Communion at home.

MEETING VENUES & TIMES

1st Ardleigh Beavers Wednesdays(term time only) Vicars Room, Ardleigh, 5.30-6.30pm
1st Ardleigh Cubs Tuesdays (term time only) Village Hall. Ardleigh, 6.15-7.30pm
1st Ardleigh Scouts Wednesdays (term time only)Vicars Room, Ardleigh. 7.15-9.00pm
Badminton Club Mondays (match nights only) Village Hall
Bell Practise Fridays St. George the Martyr Church 7.30pm
Carpet Bowls Wednesdays (except 1st Wed in Month) Village Hall. 7.30pm
Friendship Club 3rd Thursday in month Village Hall Doors open 2.00pm
Gt Bromley Brownies Thursdays (term time only) Pirie Hut, Gt Bromley, 5.30-7.00pm
Gt Bromley Guides Mondays (term time only) Pirie Hut. Gt Bromley. 6.45-8.30pm
Ladies Circle 3rd Wednesday in month Ring contact for venue, 7.30pm
Touchstone Folk Dance Club, Thursdays Wivenhoe Methodist Church Hall, 8.00pm
Women's Institute 1st Wednesday in month Village Hall. 7.30pm
Youth Club (9-15yrs) Wednesdays (term time only) Village Hall 5.00-6.30pm

All contributions should be sent to the Editor Mrs Leonie Henderson, Badley Hall, Badley Hall Road, Gt. Bromley.. Published by Great Bromley Parish Council. Printed by Hot-Line Printers.

BROMLEY MESSENGER SPONSORS 1999 – 2000

APRIL	T & F MOTORS, <i>Horsley Cross Garage</i> GREENACRE CATTERY, <i>Briar Road, Great Bromley</i>
MAY	COLCHESTER BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL <i>Wellesley Road, Colchester</i> LITTLE PADDOCKS GARDEN CRAFTS, <i>Harwich Rd</i>
JUNE	SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME <i>01206 230345 Great Bromley, Colchester. Essex CO7 7TT</i>
JULY	ROTARY CLUB of BRIGHTLINGSEA & DISTRICT <i>Mr Len Christodoulides 01206 251264</i> N.B. & D.M. SMITH <i>Oil Fired Boiler Heating Maintenance Service</i>
AUGUST	HOT-LINE PRINTERS <i>24 Priors Way, Coggeshall 01376 561001</i>
SEPTEMBER	PARISH CHURCH OF THE BROMLEYS
OCTOBER	GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
NOVEMBER	R G GWINNELL & SON <i>(Funeral Directors) Manningtree</i>
DECEMBER	GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP
JANUARY	LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE PLEASS THOMSON & CO - SOLICITORS <i>Clacton 01255 221133</i>
FEBRUARY	PERSONAL AND CLUB DONATIONS
MARCH	BROMLEY REFRIGERATION SERVICE LTD

The Bromley Messenger January 2000

UP & COMING IN THE WORLD OF FASHION!

Happy New Millennium to everyone. Now is the time for making extra special New Year Resolutions; mine is to work even harder than usual, to enable me to make myself known in the hard-edged world of fashion. I am currently studying a Fashion Degree (BA Hons) at The Colchester Institute, and am now in my final year. Some of you may have seen me last year in the local papers. I was lucky enough to win a prestigious award: The BBC Network East "Young Designer of the Year" 1998. This was as a result of me designing an outfit based on the fusion of Asian and British cultures. My prize for this award was two weeks' work experience with the British designer, Zandra Rhodes. She is a very interesting lady and I had a wonderful experience working with her. The first week of my prize was in San Diego, California (Courtesy of Mercedes Benz Finance). I have never been to the United States so this was a fantastic opportunity for me to experience this great country. Unfortunately, I didn't quite have enough time to shop in all the department stores, but I certainly gave it a good shot! In November I was asked back to the 1999 "Young Designer" competition to judge and to present a bouquet of flowers to the winner; I must say I felt rather special! There were also five students from the Colchester Institute who made it into the top 20 finalists, so you can see there are some promising young designers among us. This year we will be exhibiting our final collection at the New Designers' exhibition in Islington, London. This is a show for graduates and should attract lots of people from the industry (and hopefully land us some good jobs!) There will also be an exhibition at the Institute for those of you who might be interested (this will be at the end of June). As a group (3rd year Fashion and Textiles) we have so far managed to raise over £1,000 to fund our Exhibitions through crafts sales, catwalk dressing, And a very kind donation of £250 from Mercedes Benz Finance. Although on our way to launching our careers in the big wide world of fashion and textiles, we still have quite a way to go.

You never know "Nicole Abbott" may soon be a household name. If you would like to help or know more about what we do, contact me on 01206 230659.



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LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

It has been confirmed that the 30 mph speed limit along Shop Road will be up and running by the end of this financial year. The Council will hold its next meeting on 24th February, 2000 at The Methodist Chapel, Little Bromley at 7.30 pm

"The Messenger wishes all its readers and supporters very Happy New Year and Millennium."

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our Christmas party began with Mrs Jill Frostick, our new President, welcoming everyone present including many guests, some of which were members from neighbouring Women's Institutes. After the business had been dealt with, a presentation was made by Mrs Frostick to Mrs Rita Baxter, our retired President, thanking her for all she had done for us in her term of office. We then enjoyed a very tasty supper, prepared for us by Mrs Valerie Baxter. Afterwards we were entertained by 'The Occasional Choir' and 'The Leigh Singers', finishing off with everyone singing carols. Our first meeting of the new millennium will be on Wednesday, 5th January which promises to be very entertaining. Mr Ian Rose, one of our favourite speakers, will be telling us all about 'Dragonflies'. Do come along at 7.30 pm if you are interested - you will be made most welcome. *June Willgress*

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION

The branch is applying for a grant from BBC Children in Need for the fourth year running. We usually receive £2,000 to spend on our children who are at risk from the disease; the younger ones enjoy art therapy, play activities and outings. The older ones up to age 18 years go bowling, swimming or skating all with our trained volunteers. Thank you to Great Bromley people who have supported us in the past.

ARDLEIGH WEA

The Spring Course will commence on Thursday, 13th January at 2.30 pm in the Village Hall, Ardleigh. Tutor for the 10-week course will be Mr. David Possee of Braintree, whose subject will be "The 19th Century Silk Industry of Essex and Suffolk". It will cover the industry from its start in Pebmarsh in 1799, and its rise and decline throughout the years. Well-known names like Courtauld, Walters, Vanner, Brown and Hall and the part played by these people will be discussed as well as items like the wages and working conditions, and the meanings of various technical terms. There will be a 'half-term' break on 17th February, the course finishing on 23rd March with the Annual General Meeting of the Branch on 30th March. Fees - Full - £23, Concessions - £20. Further details from Secretary (01206 230476) or Chairman (01206 230473).

LITTLE BROMLEY POST OFFICE - THANKS

Many of you will know by now that after many years of trading, the village shop and post office in Little Bromley has closed. On behalf of the village and all their customers in the past, we would like to thank Peter and Pauline for their valuable service to the community and, although we are sorry to see them go, wish them well for the future. *Paul and Claire Quilter*

We wish to thank all our customers and friends for all their moving messages of kind regards. We are very grateful for all the support you have all shown us over the last 18 years. We will never forget the kindness all of you have shown us. *Peter and Pauline Ollivant and Family*

CHRISTMAS SALE

Thanks to everyone who helped, donated and supported us once again at our Christmas Sale in the Village Hall on 27th November, 1999. We made £919.26 overall, which when shared between St. George's Church, Gt. Bromley and the Village Hall, gives £459.63 to each. A very successful day. Thank you all. *Jean Wright*

CRICKET CLUB

With the kind permission of Mr and Mrs J Clapham the Annual General Meeting of Gt. Bromley & District Cricket Club will be held on 20th January, 2000 at Copley Dene at 8.00pm.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE. We start the year with our meeting on 20th January when JIM ENSON from BBC Essex will be our guest speaker. Subscriptions are due (£5). The competition is a TANKARD. *Vicky Griffiths*

GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 6th January, 2000 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

NOTES FROM A VILLAGE SCHOOL ST. GEORGE'S, GT. BROMLEY

At the time of writing we are only able to tell you about the Christmas Fayre which was very successful and raised £685 + £30 free books for school funds. Many thanks to all the helpers for their hard work. School returns on Tuesday, 4th January with Mrs Godsell in Class 3 after the retirement of Mrs Sue Tilbrook who taught at the school for 23 years! The new toilet block has made a little more classroom space in Classes 1 and 2 and now the work vehicles have left the playground netball will be able to resume again. P.T.A.'s first fund-raising event of the year is on Saturday, 5th February. Tickets available soon from P.T.A. members.

1st GREAT BROMLEY BROWNIES

We welcome Leanne, Katie, Charlotte and Shannon who joined the Pack and made their Promise this term. Journey and Interest badges have been attained by the brownies during the term as well as a Venture badge received by Rebecca and Hannah. During the early part of the term we did a lot of craft work - finger puppets, musical instruments from straws and milk bottles, bracelets from old plastic bottles and painted face masks. In October we planted seeds gathered from trees for Tree Gathering Sunday which we hope will germinate for the village Tree Warden, Cathy Hayward, to be able to plant when they are big enough. After half term we started preparations (peppermint creams for our home-made crackers, orange pomanders, Xmas tags and biscuits etc.) for our Christmas Sale in aid of Children in Need and we are grateful to the school for allowing us to set up our stall there during their Christmas Fayre. Thanks to all your support at the event we raised £34.45. We rounded the term off with a Christmas party which was much enjoyed and I thank all the parents and brownies for providing such wonderful eats for the evening.

The pack is still looking for a new leader to take over from Brown Owl in July. Please do come forward. The pack has a happy, lively bunch of girls, the use of a hut thanks to the kindness of Warren and Cindy Taggart and is financially sound. The job takes up 1½ hours each week for the meeting plus a little time for preparation. Wishing all our supporters all the very best in the new Millennium, Tawny Owl and I look forward to the start of the new term on Thursday 20th January. Brown Owl (01206 231262)

G R E A T B R O M L E Y & F R A T I N G P L A Y G R O U P

Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9.30 am-12 noon £3.00 per session

Toddler Group - Wednesdays 9.45 am-1 1.40 am £1.50 per session

Our Christmas party, held on 15th December, was as usual lots of fun. Entertainment was provided by 'Magic Marvio' and the children sang festive songs to the parents. We played games and had a lovely buffet. Festivities ended with a visit from Santa, amidst much excitement, with a present for all the children. This term our topic is numbers. Due to children leaving us to start school we have a few spaces available in playgroup. If you would like to register your child or would like any further information please contact our secretary, Helen Fairley on 01206 392486 who will be pleased to help. Our Toddler Group, held on Wednesdays in the smaller hall, is informal and friendly and always pleased to see new faces. Just come along - your first visit is free. Wishing everyone a Happy New Year from all at playgroup. Dates for your diary Mon 17 Jan Return to playgroup Wed 19 Jan Toddler Group return

SITUATION VACANT PLAYGROUP DEPUTY SUPERVISOR

Days required to work - Monday, Wednesday and Thursday Times - 8.45 am to 12.45 pm
DiPP or the equivalent qualifications * Wages on application. Please submit full CV and two

names and addresses of referees (one personal and one professional) to the Secretary: Mrs H Fairley, Richmond House, Paynes Lane, Little Bromley, CO11 2PJ. Applications should reach us no later than 10th January, 2000.

<i>Ideal Dutch</i> Conservatory Furniture Gifts & Accessories Teak & Hardwood Garden Furniture Showroom opening times: Monday - Saturday: 9am - 5pm Sunday: 10am - 2pm Colchester Road, Elmstead Market, Essex CO7 7EA. Tel: 01206 242366 Mobile: 07771 510805	<i>DO YOU NEED A BABYSITTER</i> <i>My name is Sarah Lawson. I am 15 years old and I am willing to babysit children aged 3 years and upwards. I have experience, am reliable and like children. Telephone 01206 251263</i>
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Forthcoming Events for 2000

JANUARY

1st Celebrations for the New Year, St. Georges Church, Noon
5th W.I. Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
6th Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
6th The epiphany of Our Lord, St. Georges Church, 7.00pm
8th Gt. Bromley Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, 10.00am
12th-15th Gt. Bromley Pantomime Group - Aladdin
13th W.E.A. term starts, Ardleigh Village hall, 2.30pm
20th Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
20th Cricket Club A.G.M., Copley Dene, 8.00pm

FEBRUARY

5th Children's morning at Ardleigh Methodist Church
5th PTA Quiz Night
6th Candlemass Sunday
17th Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
24th Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm

MARCH

1st The Bromleys Annual Parochial Meeting, 7.00pm
4th Modern Mystery Play, Village Hall
8th Ash Wednesday, St. Georges Church, 7.00pm
16th Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

APRIL

1st Day Pilgrimage to Walsingham, 9.00am
16th Palm Sunday .
20th Maundy Thursday, St. Marys, Ardleigh, 7.00pm
20th Lt Bromley Parish Council Assembly, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm
21st Good Friday, St. Georges Church, 2.00pm
23rd Easter Day
27th Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

MAY

20th Hamilton Lodge Annual Fete, 2 - 4.30 pm
25th Gt Bromley Parish Council Assembly, Village Hall. 7.30pm
28th Rogation Sunday, St. Georges Church, 10.00am
29th Day Pilgrimage to Walsingham

JUNE

1st Ascension Day, St. Marys, Ardleigh, 7.00pm
10th National Celebration at London Arena for Pentecost; 11th Pentecost
22nd-26th Visit of Stone family members
24th Millennium Banquet

AUGUST

15th Assumption of Our Lady, St. Marys, Ardleigh, 7.00pm

SEPTEMBER

17th Stewardship Sunday

OCTOBER

1st-15th Celebrate Together
7th Day Pilgrimage to St. Albans
14th Children's Day
15th The Bromleys Harvest festival

NOVEMBER

1st All Saints Day, St. Georges, 7.00pm
2nd All Soul's Day, St. Marys, Ardleigh, 7.00pm
9th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Coffee Morning

DECEMBER

2nd Advent Vigil, St. Mary's, Ardleigh, 7.00pm
3rd Advent Sunday 21st Carol Service, 8.00pm
24th Christmass Eve Children's Christingle Service 5.00pm;
Midnight Mass, St. Marys, Ardleigh, 11.30pm
25th Christmas Day Service at St. Georges church, 9.30am

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GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

What a great way to start the new millennium, we are very pleased to acknowledge and say that the Millennium Festival Awards for All committee has agreed to award a grant to Great Bromley Village Hall for £5,000 from the National Lottery Charities Board. This grant has been awarded as a contribution towards the cost of building a 'millennium' lounge and additional storage room. Meanwhile, planning for the Hall alterations to provide the lounge and storage area are continuing. No firm date is known for the site work to start, but February sounds a good month. We will aim to cause minimum disruption to users of the Hall. We wish to acknowledge with thanks, the efforts of Jean Wright and her many supporters in raising £459 for the Hall, with a similar amount for St. George's Church, from the Christmas Sale. The committee next meet on Saturday, 8th January at 10.00 am in the Village Hall.

May I on behalf of the Management Committee wish you all a very happy and prosperous year 2000, having hopefully escaped any nasty nips from the millennium 'bug'.

Bevan Willgress, Secretary

Stuart Harris

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Cook the fish in the milk, soften onion in some butter (with mushrooms, if used). Mix with the cottage cheese. Strain fish, use the milk to mix with the beaten eggs.

Arrange ingredients in the flan case, pour over the eggs and milk and bake in a moderately hot oven for 30-40 minutes until browned and firm.

Jill Frostick

CAROLYN'S SCHOOL of DANCE

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us have even taken exams recently to
add to the excitement.

THE OCCASIONAL SINGERS

The Occasional Singers is a group of people from the villages of Great Bromley and Ardleigh. The group was conceived just after Easter of this year by Clive Sparling and myself. We both enjoy singing very much and wondered if there were any other folk around who would be interested in forming a casual singing group. We spread the word that there was to be a meeting with the intention of finding out what sort of music those interested would like to sing but with the expectation of 'only a few may turn up'. We were amazed when 16 people arrived for the meeting and after a short introduction, explanation of our hopes and a discussion, enjoyed an hour's singing together as a trial. Everyone who stayed was enthusiastic and keen to keep going. We decided that practises would be held every 1st and 3rd Monday in the month in St. Georges and we would sing for pleasure, and for ourselves, a variety of songs both in parts and unison gradually building a repertoire. Not all the members read music but they are given a taped recording of what they need to learn. One of our members has been seen singing very enthusiastically as she passes through Gt. Bromley in her car, one gentleman sings in the bath, another in his shed. I joined up in order to sing but I now find myself waving my arms about trying desperately to conduct and take the practises.

Harvest time gave us the opportunity (with thanks to Father Nicolas) to perform a well known Negro Spiritual during the morning Eucharist and it also gave a feeling of achievement and pleasure to all of us. It must also have affected the congregation as the following practise found us with two more members. We have since sung for the Gt. Bromley W.I. Christmas party and also the Cheshire Home Christmas tea. We are a happy informal group who will be delighted to sing at, or for, whatever comes along or nothing if that be the case. There are still 18 of us and we would be happy to welcome anyone else who would like to come along - especially men. There is no pressure to attend all the time, come when you can. It's a great way to relax. Our only requirements are that you can sing a little and that you have a sense of humour! Our future thoughts are for a concert of mixed songs some time next year - nothing stuffy.

Our practise venue has changed to the Cheshire Home and I find myself in front of a singing group that many choir masters would be delighted to have. For myself, I feel proud of these people who I regard as my friends and thank them for their patience and support and for being so wonderfully enthusiastic. If you would like to know more call either Pat Hughes (01255 862544 or Olive Sparling (01206 230436). I would like on behalf of The Occasional Singers to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year and hope that we may see you some time soon. *Pat Hughes*

"OLD BLACK BOY" INN

COMMENDED

Harwich Road, Great Bromley (Tel: 01206 250322/Fax 01206 251346)

Smoking and Non Smoking Restaurants Large Menu & Bar Snacks plus Blackboard Specials

Lunch time Specials from £3.40 Thursday is Special Curry Night 3 Courses plus Trimmings £8.50

Sunday Roasts £4.80 Our Full Menu is on 7 Days Per Week

Millennium Eve Buffet Disco Glass Champagne £35 per head Entry by Ticket Only (Bed & Breakfast available)

Bed & Breakfast - en suite rooms

Message from Bishop John

WHY MARRIAGE?

Recent weeks have seen both Government Ministers and the House of Bishops of the Church of England giving strong support to the institution of marriage. Proposed changes in the National Curriculum in schools will ensure that greater weight is given to marriage and the family. A teaching document entitled "Marriage" has been sent to all the Anglican clergy in the country. These welcome initiatives are opening up a highly important debate in a society where cohabitation as an alternative to marriage has become widespread.

"We can't see the point in getting married. We're happy as we are. What difference will getting married make? We don't need a piece of paper to prove we love each other, do we?" This is a common enough attitude of couples living together. Some couples see it as a short-term experimental relationship. Others have serious long-term hopes. Some have a negative view about marriage, either because of personal insecurities, (perhaps from a broken home) or disappointments which they have brought from the past. Others can't see any advantage in

going to all the trouble and expense of getting married. They can see all the disadvantages but what are the advantages?

So - why get married?

The most obvious advantage is the security which is meant to be the hallmark of marriage. All the evidence shows that a couple is less likely to achieve that outside marriage than within it. At a marriage service or ceremony a couple make a public as well as personal commitment that helps to create a secure framework in which the marital relationship can grow in mutual trust and forgiveness, supported by family, friends and community. From a Nazi prison cell, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote to his niece prior to her wedding: "It is not your love which sustains the marriage but from now on, the marriage which sustains your love".

Marriage also strengthens the security of children. A child needs to know that the main people in its life will be there right through childhood. A Survey by the NSPCC showed that anxiety about this is one of the chief causes of unhappiness among children. Of course, many co-habiting couples have children and stay together permanently, but many don't - and many more co-habiting couples break up than married couples. Something is wrong if children cannot be sure that their parents are committed to each other for life.

The strongest reason of all is that if a man and a woman truly love each other, want to be together and especially if they intend to have children, then marriage is God's purpose for them. Marriage is a pattern that God has given in creation and mirrors the kind of love which is revealed to us in Christ's unconditional, sacrificial love for human kind (Genesis 2 and Ephesians 5:25-33).

The ideal of life-long marriage is one of the fundamental building blocks for a cohesive and caring society. I hope that the teaching document "Marriage" will be widely used throughout the Diocese.

Dear Parishioner

How are your resolutions going? Personally I'm not a great one for New Year's resolutions. Calendar dates are man made and if they are useful to people then all well and good. For myself, I find anniversaries are a much better time for resolving to do something. The anniversary in July of my priesting would be my first choice, as it marks a day when I made vows in public how I hoped to live my life. Another significant anniversary is of my being made Rector here, when I publicly committed myself to God and the people of Ardleigh and the Bromleys. These are far better occasions for me because I'm personally involved in them, have something to look back on and remember how I looked then to the future. They are times for taking stock, acknowledging past mistakes and failings, and they are times to re-focus and re-dedicate anew to the future. Others find the New Year ideal for a new start and there is a Millennium Resolution. Produced by the Many Christian Denominations in consultation with the other faith communities in Britain, it is at the heart of many millennium celebrations. Its working isn't actually explicitly Christian. The idea is that it is a gift from the Christian people of the land, and a true gift does not impose conditions on those who receive it. The marking of the Millennium is a time of deep significance for Christian believers and it is a hope that others will feel able to join in on any time of reflection or resolution making.

The Resolution begins as does the Bible (Genesis 1:1) looking for respect for the earth; respect for people too for inner peace between nations and communities (John 14:27); that all may know a sharing in love (Matthew 22:37, 39); it is a resolution wondering about the future (Philippians 4:8); and for closing the past century, acknowledging the frailty of human nature and the power of sin (Luke 1 1:34); and finally like all resolutions it is about a new start, which is what many people will be looking for, and for Christmas is always on offer from Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:17). "Let there be respect for the earth, peace for its people, love in our lives, delight in the good, forgiveness for past wrongs, and from now on a new start"

Enjoy your resolutions. May they bring peace to you and your loved ones, to our community, and to our world. *Fr Nicolas*

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR
GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Services for January



Services for January

Sunday 2nd Second Sunday after Christmass

- 7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr
- 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
- 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 9th The Baptism of the Lord

- 7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
- 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
- 11.00 am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 16th Second Sunday of Epiphany

- 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
- 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 23rd Third Sunday of Epiphany

- 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
- 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 30th Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

- 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
- 11.00 am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS at St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

The Bromley Messenger February 2000

VILLAGE MAGAZINES

Each year the Rural Community Council of Essex hold a presentation evening for the awards for the Village Magazine Competition followed by a talk this year given by the Revd. Keith Lovell on the History of Essex Village signs. I print overleaf the comments made by the judges of our magazine which are complimentary when you realise how small our publication is when compared with the magazines of some other villages. The Messenger is pleased to welcome the new church magazine. This has been started by the Rector to keep church members within his united parish informed of all matters religious. Both magazines have their place in the service of the community. The Messenger which is published by Great Bromley Parish Council will continue and be FREE to every house in the villages of Great and Little Bromley containing ALL the news, views and events that are happening within the bounds of the villages. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Len Christodoulides for all his hard work as Treasurer in keeping the Messenger solvent, Natalie Smith for proof-reading each month and Ann Fairley and her wonderful team of distributors (see Ann's report below) who bring the magazine to your doors each month as well as all those who either by personal or club donations, sponsorship or business advertising ensure that the magazine continues to be published. Thank you for your support. *Leonie Henderson, Editor*

Please would ALL Organisation and Association Contacts that need a name, address or telephone number changing on the cover of the Messenger, or indeed any other information on the cover pages, let me have their amendments by 15th March, 2000 please.

The Messenger is very grateful and thanks all those who by their donations have sponsored this month's magazine through PERSONAL and CLUB DONATIONS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my very reliable team of efficient distributors, who always endeavour to have your 'Bromley Messenger' delivered to your door by the first of the month. They are namely: Estelle Kemp, Margaret Cheeseman, Jill Frostick, Dawn Taylor, Doris Anns, Mary Bush, Anne Jones, Grace Gould, Betty Rowe, Jacquie Terry, Angela Prior, Nicky Robinson, John Appleby, Ben Welham and John Osborn from Little Bromley. A very special thank you to Mary Roberts who has been a distributor since the 'Bromley Messenger' was first printed in 1986 and who now wishes to be relieved of her duties. A warm welcome to the new team member, Sue Clark, who has kindly offered to take on that area. If anyone has any comments to make about the distribution please phone me [Ann Fairley] on 01206 250229.

RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF ESSEX VILLAGE MAGAZINES COMPETITION 1999

Judges Comments .

Category	Mark	Comments
1) CONTENT (Maximum mark: 20 each)		
Judge A	14	Very good range of community information - contacts, events, diary etc. Also good range of club reports. Could benefit from some more general features and perhaps an editorial overview.
Judge B	15	Prioritise items better. Well written generally.
2) LAYOUT (Maximum mark: 15 each)		
Judge A	11	Simple but very clear layout. Good integration of editorial and advertising. Some more illustrations would be beneficial
Judge B	11	Brightly laid out. Easy to read.
3) DESIGN/PRODUCTION (Maximum mark: 15 each)		
Judge A	12	Good production/presentation - clear cover design. Good community involvement in production and effective partnership with local sponsors.
Judge B	9	Disappointing cover.

Total (maximum 100) 72

Thank you very much to everyone who supported or donated to the village carol singers. £65 was raised for MENCAP.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The following planning applications have been considered by the Parish Council and their comments have been forwarded to the District Council.

Elm Bungalow, Harwich Road. Rear single storey extension and conservatory. The Parish council had no objections to this application. However there were concerns regarding surface drainage as the Parish Council are aware that the ditch has been filled in.

Police House, Chase Road West. Change of use of office to form part of dwelling. No objections to this application.

Byeways, Mary Lane North. AMENDMENT. Extension to existing bungalow to form bedrooms. No objections to these amended plans.

PARISH NEWS:

Budget 2000/2001 Expected expenditure for 2000/2001 is estimated at £12,000. A precept request for this sum has been submitted to the District Council. This is an increase of £1,250 on the 1999/2000 financial year.

St. Georges Primary School - Fence. Following the recent incidents whereby two vehicles have breached the school fence, Essex County Council have stated that they are currently investigating the possibility of improved advance warning chevrons on the bend near the school. Although the Parish Council welcomes any initiative that may reduce the danger to children and staff at the school, the addition of warning chevrons goes nowhere near to providing an acceptable solution to this real danger of vehicles crashing into the playground. The Parish Council have once again requested a physical barrier or traffic calming measures outside the school.

Church Meadow The purchase of Church Meadow is now nearing completion. The Parish Council is most concerned about the muddy condition of the meadow due to the recent rain and use of the meadow as a dropping off point for the school and church parking. Urgent remedial action will be taken.

Footpath - Hall Road A footpath request along the B1029 between the Lakewood development and the primary School, was submitted to the County Council in 1998. The Parish Council has now restated the necessity to give this scheme urgent priority because of the danger to pedestrians walking along this stretch of road. a reply is awaited from the County Council. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at the Village Hall at 7.30pm on 17th February.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Council will hold its next meeting on 24th February, 2000 at The Methodist Chapel, Little Bromley at 7.30 pm

TENDRING ADULT COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE VILLAGES

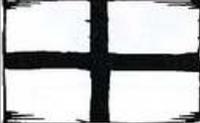
Just a note to give you a progress report on our classes in local villages. Lots of courses were set up last term in response to local demand such as Spanish in Weeley and St Osyth and First Aid in Jaywick. We've had a wonderful response to all of the classes with some of them, such as Yoga, full to bursting. If you thought it was too late to enrol don't worry as most of the classes can accommodate students joining in the January term. For more information or for suggestions for new classes call Sue Craggs or Liz Dunnett at the Harwich Centre (01255 502467) either as individuals or as a group who have specific needs and demands. It is a great way of meeting up as a group of friends or meeting new friends as well as learning a new skill or starting a new hobby. The possibilities are endless and you can gain a great sense of achievement. Once again a huge thank you to all who support the college. *Susan Craggs*

KITCHEN CORNER

ITALIAN STYLE RISOTTO is a quick and easy dish for supper. ½ lb Italian rice is enough for 4 people. 1 large onion + 1 clove garlic, peeled and chopped. 4 oz bacon rashers, chopped Melt 2 oz butter (or equivalent oil) in large pan and saute till softened. Add rice and cook and stir till transparent, then add 1 pint of hot stock (preferably ham or chicken), cover closely and cook about 30 minutes. Add more stock if needed. Wash and slice 4 oz mushrooms and cook in a little water and butter till tender, drain and add to the cooked rice. Grate 4 oz cheese and add half to the rice, stir carefully and pile into a hot serving dish, sprinkle with rest of cheese. For vegetarians, substitute sliced leeks for bacon, and add some mascapone cheese with the mushroom. This melts to make a delicious sauce. *Jill Frostick*

EASTERN ANGLES "In the Bleak Midwinter"

Eastern Angles, the professional theatre company, will visit Great Bromley for a performance of this play in the Village Hall at 7-30pm on Saturday, 4th March. Written by Charles Way and based on a medieval mystery play, In the Bleak Midwinter features a lively and novel slant on the idea of the millennium. It was a Winner of the Manchester Evening News Award for Fringe Theatre, and was described in The Guardian as having "spellbinding magic" and as being "deeply rooted, warmly human, funny and moving" Tickets, costing £6.00 for adults and £4.00 for children, may be had from Gt. Bromley Village Shop, from the Wivenhoe Bookshop, or from John and Anne Clapham. The net proceeds from the performance will go to the St. George's Roof Repair Fund, Eastern Angles having kindly agreed to charge less than their normal fee. Please come along and enjoy the evening.

	THE BROMLEY CROSS INN Good food and fine ales in a homely atmosphere
Forthcoming events	
⊕ 26th January and every 4th Wednesday in the month -	
Live Music Night - play sing or just watch and enjoy the music	
⊕	Thursday 3rd February -
Charity Quiz Night in aid of Hearing Dogs for the Deaf £2 per head entry including supper 8.00 pm start	
⊕	Spring Beer Festival - Easter weekend including St. George's Eve celebration on Easter Saturday
⊕	Watch out for East End Night, Caribbean Evening, Country & Western Evening and a Night Out "Le Café Renee"
Brenda and Richard your hosts Telephone 01206 230282	

LETTER

From Debra Pipe, Technical Officer for Environmental Services at Tendring District Council

Environmental Clean Up

I am writing to inform you that Tendring District Council is offering to all community groups and associations, including Parish and Town Councils, the opportunity to participate in an 'Environmental Clean Up'. The procedure for such an event takes place on a Saturday. The local groups who wish to take part organise the manual labour. Tendring District Council can arrange the vehicles needed to dispose of the waste, but organisation and centralisation of the rubbish needs to be co-ordinated through the local group taking part. Due to limitations on labour, Environmental Services can help with publicising the event, although door to door leaflets would have to be dropped by the people organising the clean up. This is a great opportunity for residents from local communities to get together and arrange clearance of unwanted household items, such as old washing machines, furniture etc. Once a convenient date is found we can then arrange for collection of the unwanted items through our contractors, Onyx. If you consider that your area could benefit from this please contact me on telephone 01255 830455 ext. 6177

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met for the first time this millennium on 8th January. Peter Wenden as Chairman welcomed all committee members present, accepting apologies from the only one who was unable to be at the meeting. The meeting reviewed our current and recent activities at the Hall which includes the floor repair, re-lining the badminton court, renewal of our public music and dancing licence, manhole repair, Charity Commission return and fire equipment checks. Also, the recent visit from the Buildings Control Officer at Tendring District Council, carrying out their statutory duty.

The forthcoming alterations at the Hall to provide the new lounge and storage area were further considered with the Secretary having a copy of a draft specification and some detailed drawing for the members to see. The tendering process to obtain quotes from selected builders is in progress and hopefully an early start on site will be possible. At each meeting the Hall's financial position is reported and reviewed and it was considered to be satisfactory. Fund raising is always an ongoing subject, but bearing in mind that other organisations in the village are endeavouring to raise money as well, our next effort will probably be a sponsored walk of about 10 miles by some water during May. Why not join us? The committee next meet on Saturday, 26th February at 10.00am in the Village Hall. *Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

OPENING THE DOOR TO THE WORLD

The ESSEX DISABLED PEOPLES ASSOCIATION are opening the door to the world for full time wheelchair users across the county of Essex. A National Lottery Charities Board grant of £560,000 will enable the edpa to give away £25.00 worth of free vouchers to all scheme members every month. The scheme launched on 1st November is on offer to a limited number of people fulfilling a tight criteria in order to give maximum benefit to those in most need. For an application form please telephone 01245 253400 or write to the Essex Disabled People's Association at 90 Broomfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex -CM1 1SS. E-mail Bedding@edpassorg. If you meet the following criteria DON'T DELAY - APPLY TODAY

1. Rely entirely on a wheelchair for your mobility
2. Receiving income support
3. Over 18 years of age
4. Not an orange badge holder (or willing to surrender)
5. Living at home (or in a residential/care home - with no access to transport).

We have a network of wheelchair accessible vehicles waiting to take you wherever YOU want to go, whenever YOU want to go. (44 transport providers Countrywide).

MAKE TODAY DIFFERENT - OPEN THE DOOR.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At our first meeting of the New Year, indeed the Millennium, we had Mr Ian Rose to tell us about Dragonflies and Damselflies with the aid of slides. We were given a very interesting and informative account of the thirty eight different species of dragonflies resident in Britain. They always lay their eggs in water and depending on their species, bogs, ponds, lakes and streams are used for this purpose. The eggs hatch into nymphs which live in the water until they mature then, under the cover of darkness, they leave the water and move on to water plants until their skins are ready to split open revealing the dragonfly. They vary in colour, but in this area the males are mostly blue and the females either yellow or green, all with two pairs of beautiful iridescent wings. They feed on insects whilst on the wing, catching them in a "basket" formed by their front legs and are known to be a very fierce member of the insect world. Damselflies are much smaller, slimmer but again very beautiful, always hold their wings over their backs when resting. They too depend on water, they lay their eggs in reed stems by boring holes all the way up and depositing them inside. Their bodies also vary in colour. Next month on the first Wednesday in February, will be a talk about the work of NORDOC. Anyone who would like to join us, do come along to the Village Hall for 7.30pm. *June Willgress*

Dates for the Year 2000

FEBRUARY

- 2nd WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5th PTA Quiz Night, St. Georges Primary School
- 17th Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.30pm
- 17th . Gt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 24th Lt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm
- 26th Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, Village Hall, 10.00am
- 26th Charity Quiz Night, Bromley Cross Inn, 8.00pm

MARCH

- 1st The Bromleys Annual Parochial Meeting, Cheshire Home, 7.00pm
- 4th In the Bleak Midwinter, Modern Mystery Play, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 16th Gt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

APRIL

- 20th Lt. Bromley Parish Council Assembly, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm
- 27th Gt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

MAY

- 20th Hamilton Lodge Annual Fete, 2 - 4.30 pm
- 25th Gt. Bromley Parish Council Assembly, Village Hall, 7.30pm

JUNE

- 24th Millennium Banquet

OCTOBER 1st-15th Celebrate Together

NOVEMBER 9th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Coffee Morning

MILLENNIUM MUGS

Many of you will have read in the local press that Brooke Toole of 34 Tokely Road, Frating won the competition for the best design of a millennium mug by a pupil of St. Georges School, Gt. Bromley, which would be given to every pupil at the school, by the Parish Council, to mark the occasion of this special milestone. Brooke was presented with her millennium mug by Simon Baines, the Councils Vice-Chairman, at a special ceremony at the school on 21st December and all the other pupils have now been given theirs. The Parish Council ordered extra mugs as it believes that many people will wish to buy them as a local souvenir of the year 2000. The attractively designed mugs, depicting St. George slaying the dragon, are on sale at the village shop at the cost price £2.

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

The summer of 1999 will not be remembered as one of the best in the short league history of Gt. Bromley & District Cricket Club as the 1st XI lost its Division One status after finishing bottom of the 1st Division of the Osborne Garages Cricket League. The season got off to an inauspicious start with the untimely withdrawal of the 2nd XI from the competition which was much frowned upon by the league's management committee and a blow that the Club never really recovered from. The season started moderately but as the summer progressed, availability (or more accurately lack of it) affected the strength of the team that was being put out on the field and subsequently sub standard performances were put in which left the team firmly entrenched at the bottom of the first division. The Club never had the strength in depth to cope with the lack of resource and ultimately our fate was sealed during a poor run in July and August. Nothing but praise must be given to the 1st XI Skipper, Peter Brinkley, who battled on manfully throughout the season often having to captain a side that contained less than the full compliment of players against far superior opponents. It was not all doom and gloom however and one of the more memorable performances saw local rivals, Elmstead Grasshoppers, put to the sword in a tense finish at Gt. Bromley.

The Club's annual tour was also a success as Norfolk was visited for the first time. The two fixtures resulted in two victories and the making of many new friends. The Club continues to thrive off the pitch and the recent Quiz night held at the Village Hall provided a welcome boost to the Club's coffers. On behalf of the Cricket Club, I would like to thank all the villagers and friends who made the effort to turn out for the quiz and make it an enjoyable and successful evening for all concerned. Thanks also go to the helpers (the same old faces!), John Hill for donating the prize for the winning team and especially club secretary, Tim Biscoe, for researching and compiling all 100 questions. The Club held its annual Dinner and Awards night at the Snooty Fox in November. As usual the event was thoroughly enjoyed by those present and thanks go to all at the Snooty Fox for their kind hospitality. The awards were presented by the Chairman's wife, Linda Allam, to the following recipients:

The Douglas Wenden Trophy (1st XI Batting) - Peter Brinkley

1st XI Bowling Trophy - Matthew Pirie

1st XI Fielding Trophy - Justin Whittaker

The Tubby Austin Shield (1st XI Players Player of the Year) - Fraser Eadie

Friendly XI Batting Trophy - Fraser Eadie

Friendly XI Bowling Trophy - Matthew Foley

Friendly XI Fielding Trophy - Justin Whittaker

Friendly XI Players Player of the Year - Simon Prestney

Clubman of the Year - Matthew Foley.

The ever faithful army of Tea Ladies and helpers were also recognised and each received a small gift in appreciation of their efforts throughout the summer. Staying on a positive note, the indoor season has started and this winter Gt. Bromley will be playing in the 1st Division of the Royal London Indoor Cricket Alliance. This is the premier division of the competition and the team has got off to a reasonable start having won two of their first four fixtures. A recent cup victory against Abberton Lions saw Gt. Bromley's final cricket match of the century and millennium (albeit indoors!) end on a winning note.

100 Club Winners

Apologies for the lack of information regarding the Club's 100 Club draw. The following draws have been made and the following members are the lucky winners:

Sep 1999: 1st Heather Brinkley 2nd Pat Petchey 3rd Warren Tagget. Oct: 1st Mr G Kempster 2nd Matt Pirie 3rd Mr P Herring Nov 1st J Herring 2nd Nutan Singh 3rd Mrs B L Fuller

ROTARY NEWS

The Rotary Club of Brightlingsea & District is did their Christmas Sleigh appeal “door to door” collection in Wivenhoe, Brightlingsea, parts of Frating & Gt. Bromley and at the co-op Brightlingsea, this year. Over £2,000 was donated, and the charities chosen to receive moneys will be named in the Messenger, Unfortunately the reindeer got a bit soggy on Christmas Eve due to the heavy rain and wind (I was soaked as well - no not sloshed!) This resulted in the loss of two antlers, a red nose, and the audioamplifier blew up, as it turned out not to be weatherproof. The Club sincerely thanks all those who gave a contribution. The Club also held their annual Carol Concert-Sing Along at Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, where for the first time, the sleigh went as well with me as Santa giving out the pressies. The Summer (Steam) Festival which has been held for the last five years on the first weekend of July has had to be cancelled. This was a big venture and many charitable organisations did have stalls which made money for their organisations. However, the site was no longer available, there was a lack of funding and last year we made a loss of over £700. We have decided to do smaller fund raising events instead. Best wishes for 2000, *Rotarian Len Christodoulides*

PLAYGROUP

As we prepare for the start of a new term we look forward to welcoming some new faces. The theme for this term is numbers. Included in the playgroup sessions we have a Rising Fives group, which starts the term a child is four years old. This is to encourage the children in concentration skills, pencil control, letter and number formation, recognition of colours, shapes and their own name. The aim is to assist in preparing them for the more formal approach found in the classroom. If you would like to register your child or would like any further information please contact our secretary, Helen Fairley on 01206 392486 who will be pleased to help. We accept children from the age of 2 years 9 months. For the younger ones the Toddler Group is held every Wednesday morning in the small hall. It is informal and friendly, just come along. Dates for your diary: 21 Feb - Half term week 28 Feb - Return to playgroup 1 Mar - Return to Toddler Group

NOTES FROM A VILLAGE SCHOOL ST. GEORGE'S, GT. BROMLEY

Although a long way past now, December was a busy but enjoyable month at the school. Firstly the children had to rehearse and then perform two excellent performances of “Alice through the looking glass” for parents and friends and then the following week were treated to a theatre trip to the Mercury to see “Mother Goose”. The Christmas discos raised £80 and a great time was had by everyone. Sadly Mrs Sue Tilbrook had her retirement party which was attended by past and present teachers and parents.

The new toilet block between classes 1 and 2 were completed before the end of term and were officially opened by Mrs Tillbrook along with a new drinking water fountain. PTA future events include a Quiz Night on Saturday, 5th February. Tickets available from Jacky Platt, Sue Skinner or the school office. if you have any suggestions for future fund raising PTA events, please let a member of the committee know.

GARDENERS, CORNER for FEBRUARY

In the sheltered places ROSES showing signs of breaking into leaf should be pruned quickly before they do. This of course only applies to HYBRID, TEA and FLORIBUNDAS. CLEMATIS also will need to be looked at - early flowering varieties should be tipped back. The late flowering kinds should be pruned hard, leaving about 3- 4 ft from the ground. BEGONIA CORMS should be on sale in the garden centres now. Plant them in a tray of moist peat to start them off, then pot on when they have 2” shoots on them. USEFUL TIP: When potting up plants, instead of putting stones in the bottom of the pot put a few dead leaves, this will stop the soil falling through the hole and at the same time give the roots an added boost. *Frank Griffiths*



FRIENDSHIP CLUB

There is always a very warm welcome for new members so do join us - our meetings are the third Thursday each month at 2.30pm - transport is available. The entertainment for February will be the “Young Brothers” with slides and stories of JAYWICK. The competition is: A Sea Shell *Vicky Griffiths*

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR GREAT BROMLEY united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Dear Parishioner

It is that time of year again when accountants and treasurers and auditors up and down the country are working to produce the accounts. No sooner have the reviews of the year stopped in the media than it is Annual Meeting time again. The church is no different. On 1st March at 7.00pm in Seven Rivers Chapel we shall celebrate the Eucharist and then hold our two Annual meetings. The first is the election of churchwardens, to which anyone living in the Church parish of the Bromleys is welcome to attend. The annual Meeting last year agreed to adopt the procedure whereby wardens would hold office for five years. To set this in motion after many years of faithful service, Olive Sparling is standing down. To help with continuity James Wild, the other warden will retire in two years' time. I'd like to record here my personal thanks to Olive, and her husband Dennis, for their support and work. There is often a tight bond between a priest and the wardens who first welcomed him to the parish, and this is the case here. Olive will still be involved in the life of the congregation - one of the conditions of her retiring! We do have one nomination to succeed Olive, but if anyone would like to serve as churchwarden they should speak with Olive, James or myself. The second meeting is open to all, but only those on the Church Electoral Roll can vote or speak. Again, under the new guidelines, six people will be elected to serve a maximum of three years. Together with the Wardens, Reader, Deanery Synod Representatives and myself who are all ex-officio, they make up the Church Council. We can co-opt two members if the meeting feels it necessary. The accounts will be presented, reviews of the year given, and plans set out for work on the Church roof and how we might use our building more. Not always the most exciting of evenings, but required and so enjoyed as much as is possible. All of this worldly business is to help us lay proper foundations, so that we can concentrate on what the Church council and congregation are really here for - heavenly business. Heavenly business is to offer daily worship to God, and to serve him in amongst the people we spend those days. If you think you can help us here or offer constructive criticism as to how we might conduct our business in the future then these are the meetings for you. See you there! God Bless *Fr Nicolas*

Services for February

Sunday 6th Candlemass Sunday

7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 13th Fourth Sunday before Lent

7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
11.00 am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 20th Third Sunday before Lent

7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 27th Second Sunday before Lent

7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS at St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

The Bromley Messenger March 2000

You may feel that the Messenger is a little late this month and you would be right because the Editor went to Hungary for a few days. On the bus from the airport after we arrived we were advised not to eat any fish during our stay. You will now be familiar with the story of the cyanide spill from a foreign owned gold mine in neighbouring Romania which resulted in the contamination of the River Tisza and with that the Danube. This is an ecological disaster over which the Hungarians had no control and which had the greatest impact on the poorest and least well educated. Our Hungarian guide clearly had no confidence that, confronted with an abundance of dead fish as a result of the contamination, the unscrupulous would not take advantage of the low price and seek to sell them for human consumption. This made us appreciate how much we rely upon governments and farmers to provide us with wholesome food and how sad it is that we are increasingly wary of where our food comes from and who it is processed by. Labelling in this country is becoming better and the public have now much more knowledge of what they are buying and use their voice to protest if concerned. In this connection the present campaign by British farmers to ensure that their produce is clearly marked to show its origin in order that we may make an informed choice when shopping can only be good.

MATERIAL for the April 2000 edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by TUESDAY, 14th March, 2000 please. Please would ORGANISATION and ASSOCIATION CONTACTS that need a name, address or telephone number changing on the cover of the Messenger, or indeed any other information on the cover pages, let me have their amendments by 14th March, 2000 please.

The Messenger thanks Bromley Refrigeration Service Ltd for Sponsoring this month's issue of the magazine.

SPONSORSHIP for the MESSENGER

April will be the start of yet another 12 editions of the Bromley Messenger. We have been going for 13 years, and believe that there is still a need to bring you local news and local advertisements for services that you may require from time to time. There are still a lot of small local businesses that could be sponsors, if you are one of them and would like more details of costs etc please contact me. The Messenger can only exist if it has sponsors and advertisements.
Len Christodoulides

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

As the magic carpet flies off into the sunset with Aladdin and Princess Sparklin on board may we thank each and everyone who enabled the 41st Pantomime to be so successful. Very shortly we will be able to present a cheque for £1,000 to our chosen charity, St. George's School, which represents a tremendous gift of generosity from our audiences especially as the Thursday night show had to be cancelled. We have also received some very generous accolades not only for the high standards of the show and the wonderful atmosphere created but also appreciation for the village hall supported by the community spirit which was much in evidence this year as sickness befell many of our stalwarts over the years to be replaced by willing hands. Finally a big thank you to our Auntie Vera who after 42 years of association with the pantomime since its inception announced her retirement, but we've heard that one before and there will always be a seat for you Vera. Thank you very much and we look forward to seeing you for many years yet.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We had an informative talk in February, given by Patricia Cairns and Nicola Dowling, who explained the role of NORDOC (North Essex Doctors On Call). It was set up in 1996 and is an emergency doctor service providing out of hours cover for surgeries in Colchester and most of the surrounding villages. Doctors have an arrangement with NORDOC and contributed towards the cost of setting it up and running the service, employing it to attend to their out of hours calls. There are normally three doctors on duty, two mobile with drivers and one at its base in Colchester. . Should you need a doctor out of hours, you should call your normal surgery first, either to be diverted to the NORDOC service or be asked to ring another number for them. A leaflet is available which gives more information. After refreshments Mrs Pippa Hardy, one of our members, gave us an insight into her job as a Voluntary Help Co-ordinator and Recruitment

Officer for the League of Hospital Friends in Colchester. Also, they provide the refreshment service at the hospital seven days each week. This month, Mrs S Karia is coming along to demonstrate Indian Cookery. If you are interested come along to the Village Hall for 7.30pm on Wednesday, 1st March. *June Willgress*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

S.O.S.! Save Our Sale - On 29th April our SPRING SALE will be held in the Village Hall. The usual stalls will be there - can you contribute anything to the White Elephant, Nearly New, Jewellery, Toys, Rummage please? If you require anything to be collected please contact Mrs Biddis on 01206 230506. The Speaker at the next meeting will be Audrey Wells on FUSCHIAS. Competition: a PENDANT. *Vicky Griffiths*

CARPET BOWLS

A shorter than usual league, season has just ended and Gt. Bromley managed to attain 3rd position. How - were not quite sure as we suffered two 8-0 defeats. One by Walton and the other at the hands of Alresford. No more than we deserved, the standard of play seems to have dropped somewhat this year. Some of the other clubs must have fared the same otherwise we would have been at the bottom of the table. Beaumont had the honour of taking the league shield this year.

Have you just moved into the village? Perhaps you would like something different to do on a Wednesday evening. Why not come and join us? With some bright new talent in the club we might even win the shield back next year, you never know - it could happen! We are looking forward to hosting our Brumbella Cup Charity day on 11th March, when 16 teams of four players will compete. This is a fun day as well as raising money for a needy cause.

Nancy Kempster

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL

The Management Committee met for the first time this Millennium on 8th January and are scheduled to meet again on 26th February at the Hall. We had hoped to report some progress with the proposed alterations to provide the lounge and storage areas at the Hall but we were frustrated over December and January by Tendring District Council's seemingly lack of resources to deal with our plans lodged therewith for Building Regulation Consent. Meanwhile the Hall is being well supported by club, group and individual bookings for which the Committee is very appreciative. However, space does exist to accommodate further hirers, so if you are thinking of planning something why not contact our booking person, Mrs Lynda Allam.

Bevan Willgress, Secretary

KITCHEN CORNER

Now is the time to enjoy the new season's rhubarb. The tender early sticks need very little cooking.

RHUBARB FOOL Use soft, pink, young rhubarb and cut up small. Cook gently with 2 tablesp sugar and no water. Process (or sieve), then add 2 or 3 tablesp of chopped preserved ginger and its syrup. Process briefly to mix or stir in. Mix together fromage frais and thick yoghurt and blend into the fruit. (A richer fool can be made using whipped cream). (Adjust quantities according to taste and numbers to serve). Shortbread fingers go well with this, or you may like to try nutty cakes.

ALMOND CAKES 4 oz butter 2 oz caster sugar 1 egg 4 oz ground almonds 2 drops almond essence Grated zest of one lemon Icing sugar. Cream butter and sugar, beat in egg then almonds, add essence and peel. Grease individual tartlet tins and bake the mixture in these for 10 mins, hot oven (220C, 425-450F). Dredge with icing sugar and serve at once.

Jill Frostick

GARDENERS' CORNER for MARCH

ROSES: Finish pruning this month and give a sprinkling of fertiliser found the base of the bushes. I always use Growmore for everything. ANNUALS: Flower seeds can be sown in trays, cover with a piece of glass and if the weather is mild they can be left outdoors. DAHLIAS: The ones which over-wintered in the greenhouse or shed should soon start to shoot - wait until they are 3" high then take cuttings - cut below a pair of leaves, remove the leaves and plant in a mix of sharp sand and peat. The rest of the tubers can be planted straight into the garden.

TOMATOES: Seeds can be planted this month in pots or trays. You will find Grobag compost much cheaper than other types of compost but don't forget to sieve to get rid of the lumps before filling your trays or pots. VEGETABLES: All other vegetable seeds can be planted outside this month. *Frank Griffiths*

PLAYGROUP

This term the theme in playgroup is numbers, concentrating on one number each week. There have certainly been no shortages of items brought in by the children for our theme table. We are pleased to report that the new children who started playgroup in January have all settled in really well and are enjoying our new topic. We would also like to welcome Sue Clark, who will be joining our team of staff in March. Fund-raising also continues for playgroup funds. The children are having a sponsored "number collect". Keeping to our number theme the children will be collecting certain numbers of different items. If you would like any further information or would like to register your child please contact our secretary, Helen Fairley, on 01206 392486 who will be pleased to help. We accept children from the age of 2 years 9 months.

OFSTED INSPECTION 1999 - We received a very good report back from OFSTED. Copies are available for anyone wishing to read it. Well done to all those involved. Our Toddler Group is always pleased to see new faces, just come along your first visit is free. Dates for your diary: Mon 17 April - Easter Holiday Wed 3 May - Playgroup & Toddler Group return

Notes from a Village School St. George's, Gt. Bromley

SPORT - the netball team has played two matches recently. The first against Ardleigh was a great win for us 18-1 but against Gt. Oakley we had tougher opposition and ended the game 5-7 to them. Well done girls. Football in the community is a great success on Thursday afternoons when 30 or so children often turn up to play football AND get caked in mud! Clive Platt is proposing to hold a Saturday morning club for years 4, 5 and 6 during term time but must have support from a few parents as well. Health & Safety regulations stipulate that there must be at least TWO adults present - if you might be interested phone Clive on 01206 251070.

PTA EVENTS - the Quiz Night was a great laugh and raised £301 - well done.

7th April - EASTER FAYRE 1.45-3.00pm - there will be cakes, tombola, crafts, toys, books, games, raffle and teas. The children's competition is a decorated fairy cake.

8th April - THE FABS live band in the Village hall. This was a roaring success last year so reserve your ticket early as tickets are limited - available from Jackie on 01206 251070.

VOUCHERS Just a reminder that the school are collecting various vouchers. Tesco vouchers, crisps, biscuit and cereal packet tokens are all gratefully received. If you are not sure if we want it, just save and send it to the school - last year we were able to purchase computer equipment and books. THANKS.

Dates for the Year 2000

MARCH

1st WI meeting - Indian Cookery, Village Hall, 7.30pm

1st The Bromleys Annual Parochial Meeting, Cheshire Home, 7.00pm

4th "In the Bleak Midwinter", Modern Mystery Play, Village Hall, 7.30pm

16th Gt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

APRIL

7th PTA Easter Fayre, St. George's School, 1.45pm

8th The FABS band, Village Hall

20th Lt. Bromley Parish Council Assembly, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm

27th Gt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

29th SPRING SALE, Village Hall

MAY

20th Hamilton Lodge Annual Fete, 2 - 4.30 pm

25th Gt. Bromley Parish Council Assembly, Village Hall, 7.30pm

JUNE

24th Millennium Banquet

OCTOBER

1st-15th Celebrate Together

NOVEMBER

9th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Coffee Morning

GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 16th March in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

EASTERN ANGLES "In the Bleak Midwinter" in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Saturday, 4th March. Written by Charles Way, a medieval mystery play Tickets, costing £6.00 for adults and £4.00 for children, from Gt. Bromley Village Shop, Wivenhoe Bookshop or John and Anne Clapham on 01206 230790. In aid of the St. Georges Roof Repair Fund



HELP! Does anyone have a photograph of a place, event or general happening which we could borrow of Great Bromley (older Gt Bromley or modern Gt Bromley) that would be suitable for the front cover of the Messenger ?

THE STONE FAMILY VISIT

Many of you will have read and heard of the Stone family from America, of which two brothers emigrated from Bromley in the 1630s and whose descendants return here frequently to search for their roots. They have in the past donated a considerable sum of money towards the repair of St. Georges. There is also a window in the Church which they erected in the early part of the last century dedicated to those two brothers. Plans are laid for a four day visit by some members of this by now large and spreading family. We hope to be able to offer some hospitality to them and are looking for people who would be prepared to accommodate them for B & B for up to four days. The Americans would love to feel part of the village, and join in any activities over that weekend. All those that we have met have been very friendly and warm people. Please contact Jean Harding (01206 826150) for more information.

ALL MY POSSESSIONS

Margery Tungat, a widow of Gt. Bromley made her will on 10 February, 1603. Part of the original document is eaten away on the left side so some bequests are not too clear. The will runs

"To my d(aughter, wife of Robert Pearson, a durance apron, a workaday hat and apron, a great kettle, a middle brass pot, a long diaper towel

To my daughter's daughter, Margery Pearson, daughter of Robert P(earson), until she, Margery, shall enjoy the said bed, a featherbed, a staff gown (the worst of 2), my stammel, the best of two riding cloaks, my best hat, best durance apron and a silk ribbon, two yards long

-- Reand, my son-in-law, a cloak.

To my daughter's daughter, Elizabeth Reand, 20s, a flock bed, my best stuff gown. My wearing liven to be divided equally among my three daughters, that is Margery, John and ...

John Clearke, supervisor

Witnesses - William Beatell, John Smythe, William Clearke."

John Appleby

UNDERGROUND STATIONS (INCLUDING DOCKLANDS) quiz competition

[Omitted] Competition prize for the first correct list drawn, completed forms to Treasurer by 12 March 2000.

Friends of St. Osyth Church "Our Glorious Heritage"

An illustrated talk about our beautiful and historic Churches

by Roy Tricker Of the Churches Conservation Trust

Saturday 18th March At 7.00pm for 7.30pm in St. Osyth Church

Tickets £5 Including Finger Buffet

Available from Mark Roberts, Springvale, Beach Road, St. Osyth

JAMES HASTIE

On Saturday, 5th February Died peacefully in his sleep in the Gt. Tey Ward of y Colchester General Hospital Aged 98 years Known as Jimmy he was the husband of the late Elenor Myra who was known as Nell. Born in Scotland he became a joiner before owning a grocery and wine shop in Edinburgh. He moved to 10 Springhill Close when it was first built 30 years ago. He leaves behind a daughter. a step-daughter and step-sons, a grandson and great grand children. He is to be buried in Edinburgh. , Thanks to all his friends in Gt. Bromley for the help they have given him over the past years.

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR GREAT BROMLEY united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

The Christian season of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 8th), began as a period of time when people were admitted to the beliefs of the faith. The prospective Christians were taught the beliefs and practices of the early Church culminating in their public profession of faith and baptism on Easter Day. Lent is still a time of discovering about the Christian faith. For those who are very new to things Christian there are a group of adults already meeting at various times to discover more about what it is to be a Christian and explore possibilities of making a commitment to Christ. Youngsters from 10 years meet on Thursdays in the Rectory. If you would like to know more about either of these gatherings please just ask.

This year Christians of all denominations will be meeting together once a week to explore the journey of faith in words and music. For many of us what we believe is reflected in what we sing in church, and listen to at home. Whether it is church or secular, music is a powerful influence in life and can say a lot about who we are and what our hopes and expectations are - witness the guides use of the Spice Girls song "Momma we love, you, momma we care", in church last Mothering Sunday! This year it is hoped that some people from the parish who worship on a Sunday, but not in S , Georges will join one of these groups and share their particular faith journeys.

The penitential aspect of Lent came somewhat later and it is this rather negative aspect which most of us know about! Giving things up seems to be more popular than starting new things! There are obvious health benefits to be gained from abstaining from various things, and it can be a boost to self- knowledge which can all be very positive. Lent is supposed to be a positive season, one of new growth and awareness, for the individual and the community. So although the personal growth of the individual in knowledge and self awareness is important it is not the end. A deepening of faith will show itself in attitudes and behaviour towards others. Any sacrifices made or new steps discovered will also be of benefit to others. One of the least known or adhered to aspects of Lent is that any money saved from giving up things should all be given away to a Charity. This year the Churches are particularly supporting the work two groups. Mission Direct is a Church charity run by volunteer priests to give money to projects at home and abroad supporting groups of Christians where a little practical and financial help can make a big difference. In November some of us were privileged to visit the S John's Eye hospital in Jerusalem. Specialising in eye diseases and trauma the hospital is a charity that welcomes anyone for a nominal fee. For many including a disproportionate number of children, this is their only hope of sight in a country where the NHS doesn't exist! Lent leads us on to Easter to new life for the individual and the community to which they belong. May God bless each of us in our journeys and experiences on our own or together for our good and to His glory. *Fr Nicolas*

Services for March

Sunday 5th Sunday next before Lent 7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Wednesday 8th Ash Wednesday 7.00pm Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr

Sunday 12th First Sunday of Lent 7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00 am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 19th Second Sunday of Lent 7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Saturday 25th The Annunciation of our Lord 9.30am Eucharist for the Benefice St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 26th Third Sunday of Lent 7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 6.30pm Ardleigh Methodist Chapel

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS At St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

The Bromley Messenger April 2000

THE REPAIR OF ST GEORGE'S An Update

At the beginning of March, when making the Repair Committee's report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, I expressed the hope that work on the first phase of the repair of the double-hammerbeam roof could begin in April. I am now rather doubtful that this can be achieved, because we now find that most of the contractors who were asked to tender for the job have too much other work in hand at present. This is a pity, because the fact that the church is a bat habitat means that if work cannot begin in April it will have to be postponed until September, so as to accommodate the breeding habits of the bats and the requirements of English Nature. The good news is that a Diocesan Faculty for Phase I has now been granted, following approval of the specification by the Diocesan Advisory Committee, so that we now have every confidence of being able to begin Phase I in this millennial year 2000 - a particularly appropriate one, given that the roof was originally constructed in about 1500. The Fund now stands at rather more than £40,000, collected over the seven years since the launch of the present campaign. We are also assured that English Heritage will contribute, and we are exceedingly grateful to have received a commitment of £5,000 from a new Environmental Trust established by Bucbricks. All this means that we are now in funds for Phase I, which will be restricted to the two most westerly bays of the roof, but the fact remains that we will need to raise much more money before we can responsibly embark upon the remainder of the project. Patience and perseverance will prevail, though I had better admit that my own patience is sometimes on the short side.

In the meantime it was pleasant to find that Simon Jenkins, in his recent magnificent book about England's "Thousand Best Churches", had chosen St. Georges as one of them. He happily describes the church as being "moored on its mound across a small meadow like a pocket battleship, tall, compact and powerful" The building is worth looking after, despite all the difficulties, and all the members of the Repair Committee will join with me in hoping that people will continue to show their goodwill towards the Fund.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who so unstintingly gave their time and effort in helping to arrange the recent Eastern Angles' production of "In the Bleak Midwinter? It was not a great money-spinner, but I know it was much enjoyed by those who were able to get seats and that they all appreciated the talent and enthusiasm of the actors. For those who could not get tickets, I mention that there is to be a performance of the play in Wivenhoe on Saturday, 13th May. *John Clapham* l

APRIL DIARY DATES

1st Day Pilgrimage to Walsingham Village Hall; Charity Trustees meeting, Village Hall, 10.00am
4th Annual Parents Meeting with Governors, Gt. Bromley School, 7.30pm
5th WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
7th PTA Easter Fayre, St. George's School, 1.45pm
8th The FABS band, Village Hall
12th Easter Fayre, Ct. Bromley School, 1.45pm
14th Huntington's Disease Assn. ACM, Seven Rivers, 7.00pm
20th Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.30pm
 Lt. Bromley Parish Council Assembly, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm
27th Gt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met on Saturday, 26th February with Peter Wenden, Chairman, welcoming Henry Fairley who was attending for the first time since his appointment by the Parish Council. Unfortunately, when the floor repair was done in the autumn, the badminton court lines were laid incorrectly. This has now been rectified and the contractor has again resealed the floor. Our apologies to those badminton players whose shuttlecocks kept dropping the wrong side of the line(s)! We have turned our attention to the Hall rubbish bins and teapots, seeking out suitable replacements. The ladies toilet and kitchen floors need our attention, as do those of the two cloak rooms. In reviewing our water supply costs, we note that since we have been metered, our costs have risen, something we must continue to monitor. We plan to hold a sponsored walk, on 21st May in aid of the Hall funds, we hope you can support us on this gentle stroll in the countryside. Our next Committee meeting is on Saturday, 1st April at 10.00 am and

our Annual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 10th May at 8.00pm when we hope you will come along to the Hall.

PRESENTATION

At a small ceremony held at the Hall following the Committee meeting on 26th February, the Chairman of Great Bromley Millennium Committee, Mrs Mandy Gaffney, ably supported by her fellow members, presented the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, Peter Wenden. with a cheque for £4,215.21 in the presence of his committee members. The Management Committee of the Village hall are extremely pleased to receive this donation towards the costs involved in building and equipping the Millennium Lounge currently planned for the Hall. We wish to publicly acknowledge the hard work and effort made by the Millennium Committee in raising this magnificent sum of money over the past two years. We also wish to thank all those individuals, clubs, organisations and firms who have made an effort and contributed to this project in any way. Shortly you will be able to see the results of your efforts as building work gets under way at the Hall once we obtain the necessary consents from the District Council.
Bevan Willgress, Secretary to Village Hall Committee.

MAINTENANCE MAN'S MOAN

(Whilst engaged on emergency repairs out of doors during inclement Weather)

We hate the thought of Wintertime and always wonder why
Emergencies at Work occur when storm clouds fill the sky
When weather is cold and rigorous, sub-arctic bleak and rotten
And what the sunshine once looked like we've blinking well forgotten.
As we crawl about on rooftops to earn an honest bob
Because we simply need the cash, not liking for the job.
That's why we strive in gale force winds which steadily get worse
And all the while we moan and groan in torment and we curse
As gusts so cold and bitter bring on a coughing spasm,
No wonder we turn up for work without enthusiasm.
Goose pimples, chilblains, chapped sore hands and fingers cold and numb
With quivering lip and nose adrip and rumbles in the tum
And many other ailments too numerous to mention
We think the dreaded wintertime is Nature's worst invention.
Although we own some folk look up and just in passing say
In disregard of winters hard, "It's quite a bracing day",
As they gaze out upon the scene with coffee cup in hand
With backside to electric fire and legs apart they stand
Behind the double glazing with grim determination
And speak with scorn of weaklings born, a softer generation!
But we no claim to toughness make, we don't feel very strong,
not really, even in the head, although we may be wrong
As we, mid blizzard, snow and ice our spirits faintly raise
In hopes that later on there'll be some brighter balmy days
When we, less bright than barmy will roam outdoors again
In shirt sleeves when on holiday, then bet your boots 'twill rain!

A.H.C. (ex Maintenance Man)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

GT. BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The following planning applications have been received and the Parish Council comments have been forwarded to the District Council.

Steel Frame Portal Building. Replacement building. Park Farm No objections to this application

Planning renewal. Use of barn and garden for display of garden ornaments. Little Paddocks No objections to this application.

Continued use of site as base for vehicle recovery company. Former Tip-Toe premises, Rectory Road No objections subject to the operating conditions as per the applicants letter. There are concerns regarding the repair to the broken down vehicles at this site.

Parish News

St Georges Primary School - Fence A site meeting is to be held with the County Council to discuss safety measures near the school. Church Meadow The resurfacing of part of Church Meadow is now complete. Our thanks go to Mr Fairley for organising this work.

Tree Planting Scheme 1999/2000 As part of the Tendring Tree Planting Scheme, two trees have been planted on Church Meadow. A Tulip Tree (*Liodendion Tulipifera*) behind the war memorial and an Acer Autumn Blaze near the paper bank.

Crime and Disorder Partnership The object of the Crime and Disorder Partnership is for the police and local authorities to work together to reduce crime in the district. All Parishes have been asked to contribute to the funding of a Project Manager for this scheme. Great Bromley has been asked to contribute £60 which has been agreed by Council.

Football Nets New football nets are to be purchased.

The next meeting of Gt. Bromley Parish Council will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on 27th April.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Parish Assembly of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 20th April at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Chapel.

CRICKET CLUB

The AGM of the club was held by the kind invitation of our President, Mr John Clapham, at Copley Dene recently. Phil Allam retired as Chairman after many successful seasons which has seen the club progress through the Lancaster League now in Div. 2. We look forward to Phil continuing his association with the club in his umpiring capacity. Thanks were also expressed to Linda Allam as the Chairman's Lady and her role in raising much needed funding for the club through the very enjoyable Chairman's Days. Tim Biscoe has also stepped down as the club secretary and we thank him for his prowess with the letter writing. We also said farewell to some of our players who have moved on to fields anew and we wish them well with their new clubs.

The officers elected were as follows:

President: John Clapham

Chairman: Nigel Rowe

Captain: Peter Brinkley V. Captain: Pip Allam

Secretary: Catherine Hart

Fixtures Secretary: Andy Trussler

Treasurer: Matt Foley

Indoor net practices have been arranged for the coming season at the University Sports Centre on Sunday, 9th and Saturday, 15th April from 11am-1 pm when all are welcome to free those rusty joints for the summer.

100 CLUB WINNERS December: Anne Fairley, Mary Hart, Mark Lamb January: Linda Allam, Justin Whittaker, Bertha Jenno February: E Daniels, A Sykes, T Marshall

NIGEL'S MARATHON EFFORT

That time of year is fast approaching again when 30,000 plus mad fools run, jog or walk (or any combination thereof!) the London Marathon. This year I will be joining them on the start line, and hopefully finishing with them 26 miles and 385 yards later in the Mall. To assist me with my efforts it would give me great encouragement to know that Gt. Bromley residents are with me, if not in spirit. then financially. Yes, it's time to dig deep and donate a little sponsorship to a worthy and local cause, The Thursday (Gateway) Club. A local Colchester based club, they organise social activities for people, young and old, with learning difficulties. Their aim is to provide Opportunities for members to meet new friends and to take part in various social activities that would otherwise be out of reach for them. The Thursday (Gateway) Club, like all gateway clubs is affiliated to MENCAP, however, all monies raised by my efforts will be donated to the Colchester Branch. So, don't feel guilty or left on the start line. Support your local runner and his marathon effort. Anyone wishing to donate to this worthy cause please contact Nigel.
Nigel Shed, Gt. Bromley Resident

CARPET BOWLS

In February Gt. Bromley entered a team in the Harold Wagstaff Wildlife Fours Competition. Five games are played by each team and the winner decided on the highest number of points. By

winning four out of five games Gt. Bromley came out on top. Well done! to Jayne Bates, Andrew Childs and Linda and Brian Francis.

Our own competition day for charity this year was 11th March, when 16 teams of four players set out to win the Brumbella Cup. 1.00 pm saw the start of a very good afternoon's bowling played in a friendly atmosphere and reached the semi-finals just before 6.00 pm. Beaumont was drawn against Alresford who played well but Beaumont were clear winners with a score of 8 shots to 4. The other semi - Dedham versus Gt. Bromley was a tighter game going into the last end at 4 all, and ending in a dead end with nothing measurable between two opposing woods. This necessitated a decider which was taken by 2 shots in Gt. Bromley's favour. Nail biting stuff. An entertaining final ensued, the home team scoring 11 to Beaumont's 4. The Cup and Individual mementoes were presented to Evelyn Childs, Thomas Bates, Joe Canham and Linda Francis by Phyllis Gowlett a past Area Secretary, who congratulated all concerned on their achievement and the excellent entertainment the whole day had produced. After expenses, £255.55 was raised for Cancer Research our chosen charity for this year. We would like to thank everyone for their hard work, and a special thank you to the visiting teams and local friends who donated such splendid raffle prizes. We look forward to helping another good cause next year.

Nancy Kempster

GT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

BRING A PICNIC have a family day out to raise money for Village Hall Funds by doing a Sponsored Walk around Alton Water, Stutton near Holbrook on Sunday, 21st May from 11 o'clock.

Sponsor forms with full details obtainable From: Lynda Allam, Bevan Willgress and Peter Wenden

Approximate distance 8 miles. Dogs on leads welcome.

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting of the Colchester & District Branch is to be held at Seven Rivers on Friday 14th April at 7.00 pm. We are very fortunate to have as speaker, Dr. Roger Barker, hon. consultant neurologist at Addenbrookes Hospital, whose speciality is Huntington's Disease. All will be welcome. *Jean Harding*

GREAT BROMLEY MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE

The Committee would like to thank all those who have helped to raise funds during the past two years and which culminated in the presentation of a cheque for £4,215.21 to the Village Hall Committee. The Millennium Committee, which will continue to function until late summer, is to organise a Medieval Banquet as a celebration of the millennium on Midsummer's Night - Saturday, 24th June, 2000. This event will coincide with the visit by American descendants of the Stone family from Gt. Bromley, currently being organised by the Church. It is intended that any monies raised from this event will go towards the Church Roof Restoration Fund.

CATS PROTECTION TENDRING & DISTRICT BRANCH

The start of a new year and new millennium has been a very busy time for the Tendring branch. At present: we have 27 cats in foster care throughout the area and as this is the beginning of the kitten season our numbers will increase dramatically. As you can imagine this involves a lot of expenditure with food, vet bills, cat litter etc. In order to meet ever increasing costs we have organised several fundraising events throughout the year around our district. To maximise time and labour we are renting a warehouse unit which means we are now able to store goods for sale plus bulk purchases of cat food and sundries. If anybody has bric-a-brac, toys, children's clothes, books, small items of furniture or any saleable goods they would like to donate please contact me. March/April is the start of the year for membership of Cats Protection Tendring & District Branch and is just £5, forms available from contact number below. We are also desperately in need of help at our fundraising events especially in Gt. Bentley and Gt Bromley so if you feel able to help for a few hours two or three times a year please give me a call - Sue Alberis. We display a list of cats needing new homes in Bentley Green Stores and Gt. Bromley Post Office. Fundraising events in this area: 10 June BBQ, The Vestry, St. Marys Church, Gt. Bentley 24 June Stall at Gt. Bentley Carnival 2 Sept Stall at Gt. Bentley Flower Show 16 Sept Cat Show, Gt. Bentley Village Hall 28 Oct Halloween Disco, Gt. Bromley Village Hall.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB SPRING SALE

29th April Donn: forget - we look forward to seeing you at the Village Hall from 2.00 pm. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

Our next Club meeting is on 20th April at 2.30 pm new members welcome - why not make it your first visit? The Speaker will be Mr John Hall from the Essex Wildlife Trust. The competition - a BIRD ornament.

OUTINGS: 25th May: Blake House Craft Centre, Braintree. 13th July: Taverham Nursery and Shopping Centre, Norwich with tea at the Chapel at Roydon, Diss. *Vicky Griffiths*

UNDERGROUND STATIONS (INCLUDING DOCKLANDS)

Winner of the Underground Quiz was Rita Baxter. Cheshire Home, Great Bromley, who wins a Woods of Windsor Gift Box, runner up was Leonie Henderson.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Unfortunately, the day before she was coming to our March meeting to tell us about Indian Cookery, Mrs S Karia had a bad fall at home and injured her back. As a result of this, she had to cancel her visit. Hopefully she is much improved by now. We were very grateful that Mrs Julia Powell, a member of the Sorptomists, agreed to come along instead. She told us about her work on behalf of the Sorptomists, giving lectures and advice about Breast Screening (Mammogram) and Breast Cancer. Women aged 50 and over are invited for breast screening every three years. up until they are 64 years of age. These invitations are soon to be extended up until 70 years of age. In the meantime, Mrs Powell told us that a woman over 65 is entitled to self refer for further screening tests if she wishes. Although it is obviously much less common. it is possible for men to develop breast cancer too. Age Concern has produced a very informative leaflet covering all aspects and queries on the subject, which includes a list of organisations that give help and advice. Next month Mr D Wilkin is coming to talk about Owls. Visitors will be very welcome on Wednesday, 5th April at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. *June Willgress*

MILLENNIUM ARDLEIGH SPECTACULAR

Saturday, 22nd and Sunday, 23rd July The event is based around the re-enactment of the Siege of Colchester by members of The Sealed Knot, with their artillery, cavalry, pikes and living history encampment. Additionally, in the 21st century themed area there will be a human circus putting on four shows a day, and also giving the public an opportunity to take part in circus skills workshops in between. Amongst the attractions, there is a large craft fair and thrills and spills available on fairground rides. Morris dancers and strolling entertainers will add to the atmosphere and when people need some sustenance, they will find plenty of good food and drink on sale throughout the day. Tickets are available from local Tourist Visitor Information Centres and by post with sae from Ardleigh Millennium spectacular, Middleborough House, 16 Middleborough, Colchester CO1 1QT.

Prices - which include parking and admission to all the above - are: £21 for a family ticket (up to 3 children), £8.50 adults, £4 children 3-15, £6.50 concessionary OR come for both days, at a huge reduction, at £35 family ticket, £15 adults, £6.50 children, £10 concessionary.

AND THERE'S MORE! On the Saturday evening, there is to be a special Show in the Big Top, featuring the Abba tribute band, "Arrival", and the Beatles tribute group, "Words & Music by Lennon/McCartney". Tickets will be priced at just £12 and are strictly limited to 400, on sale from May at the same outlets.

STONE GATHERING

Thursday, 22nd - Monday, 26th June, 2000

E-mails are flying between New Mexico and the UK. and to date we have well over 20 interested in this meeting. Some will be so pleased to stay with a local family on a B & B basis if invited. A programme is being devised which we hope they and we, their hosts, will enjoy. It will start with a reception in the Village Hall on Thursday at 6.30 pm. We are hoping for the Vice Lord Lieutenant to join us to welcome them, together with their local hosts and other village friends. It will be meeting and greeting, a buffet supper and short introductory talk by the Chairman of the Roof Appeal Committee. Also a few words about the Stone connection and history by John Appleby, and a little music has been suggested. There seems to be tremendous excitement over the other side at this event, and plans are being laid by many of them for the visit to coincide with a wider trip to the UK.

There will be outings arranged for Friday, 23rd with which local people may well want to participate. More details next month. Do look at the Church notice board where you will see a copy of the Website set up by Susanne Stone whom some of you will remember. It can be found on <http://www.nm.net/~jakepage/index.html>. On a humbler basis for any enquiries, offers of accommodation etc. ring Jean Harding

Notes from a Village School St. George's, Gt. Bromley

Forthcoming dates for your diary:

4th April Annual Parents Meeting with Governors at 7.30 pm in the school.

8th April The Fabs live band in the Village Hall. This was a roaring success last year so reserve your ticket early as tickets are limited - available from Jackie on 251070.

12th April Easter Fayre 1.45 - 3.00 pm - there will be cakes, tombola, crafts, toys, books, games, raffle and teas. The children's competition is 'A decorated fairy cake'.

14th April School closes for Easter holiday and re- Opens on Tuesday, 2nd May.

19th May Children's quiz night - 6 pm - 8 pm for years 3-6. Tickets are £1 from the office.

VOUCHERS Just a reminder that the school are collecting various vouchers. Tesco vouchers, crisps, biscuit and cereal packet tokens are all gratefully received. if you are not sure if we want it, just save it and send it to the school - last year we were able to purchase computer equipment and books. THANKS.

PLAYGROUP

With Mothers' Day and Easter looming the children have lots to keep them busy this term. They have been making clay plaques of their handprints for Mothers Day, lovely to keep but twice as much fun to make. We've been cooking again, pancakes this time, for Shrove Tuesday. I'm not sure which the children enjoyed more - making them or eating them. We still have a few spaces available for playgroup, we accept children from the age of 2 years 9 months old. If you would like to register your child or would like any further information please contact our secretary, Helen Fairley who will be pleased to help. The Toddler Group is held every Wednesday morning in the small hall. It is informal and friendly, a chance for parents with younger children to meet and have a coffee and a chat. The children quite enjoy it too! Your first visit is free so why not come along?

Dates for your diary: 13 April Last day of term 3 May Playgroup & Toddler Group return

GARDENER'S CORNER for APRIL

ANNUALS: Can be sown out of doors this month. Gradually harden off any plants that have been grown in the greenhouse. SHRUBS: All types can be bought and planted this month. Late flowering shrubs can be pruned this month. CHRYSANTHEMUMS: Can be stopped this month by pinching out the growing point. GLADIOLI: Plant corms this month approximately 4" deep with a little sand at the bottom of the planting hole. TOMATOES: Be ambitious and plant a couple outside but beware of FROST - cover with several sheets of newspaper when necessary. SPRING CABBAGE: If you planted any last autumn, now is the time to give them a feed boost. POTATOES: Plant MAIN CROP now. *Frank Griffiths*

THINKING OF EVERYBODY (Part 1)

George Martin described as "yeoman" of Great Bromley believed in remembering as many people as possible in his will of 26th January, 1602. These are the people to whom he left goods, lands or money.

To the poor people of Little Bentley, 20 shillings

To the poor people of Great Bromley, 20 shillings

To have my body buried in the church (at Great Bromley)

To the poor of Wormingford, 10 shillings

To the poor of Little Bromley, 10 shillings.

To George Hoye, son of my daughter Alice Hoye, my lands near Reynes Heath in Little Bentley. (8 acres), in the occupation of Robert Clark; and my house and lands wherein I dwell called Newmans alias Harwoodes and Hodgkyns; my farm called Busardes alias Eastwoodes in Great Bromley; my land and tenements called North Land and Howlettes purchased from William Pyrton, esquire, deceased; my free land purchased from one called Cooper in Great Bromley; and my copyhold lands and tenements in Weeley. For default of issue, successively to George Hoye, Edward Hoye and Elizabeth Hoye, of which lands bequeathed to George. Edward Hoye shall take

the rents and profits until George is 21 or if he dies within his minority and without issue. To the rest of Edwards children aforementioned. Edward and Elizabeth likewise at 21. On condition that, during George's minority, he shall have the rents and bring up and nourish him in good and virtuous education and learning at the rate of £20 per year and be accountable for this. To be continued... *John Appleby*

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR GREAT BROMLEY united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Dear Parishioner,

Journeys figure largely in the Bible. The journey of the Israelites out of Egypt through the waters, into the wilderness and the Promised Land is one. The journey of Jesus through the Palestinian lands and finally up to Jerusalem is another. Even today at Jewish celebrations of the Passover the idea of being a people on a journey, eating standing up with staff in hand ready for the off, is common practice. Christians also think of themselves as being pilgrim people. Journeys have good days when good progress is made, and times when the traveller has to take stock, look at the map, rest, and gear up for the next: stage. The Christian season of Lent is one of the latter times. Forty-six days (that includes the Sundays) in which to take a good look at one's Christian life and direction, to remedy weaknesses and build on strengths. Through personal prayer, public worship, listening afresh to the word of God in the Scriptures, the Christian becomes aware of being one of many. To be a Christian is to stand in a long line of people who have done, are doing, and will seek to journey in their human lives for the divine as shown to us in the person of Jesus Christ. Through abstaining from certain foods, drinks or actions, the Christian learns self-knowledge. So this is not purely a personal thing, the money saved by sacrifices made is given away. This year we are supporting Mission Direct which seeks to provide resources for teaching the Christian faith at home and abroad, and the St John's Eye Hospital in Jerusalem, which specialises in helping people who cannot afford health insurance. The journey towards God, along with others, is the Christian way. This journey reaches its yearly climax in the celebration of Holy Week and Easter. The Palm Sunday procession, the sharing in the Lord's Last Supper, the watch in the garden, the veneration of Our Lord on His cross, the dawn Vigil of expectancy, the celebration of bells, music, flowers and Alleluias on Easter Day; ancient liturgies, journeying deep into the mystery of the cross and high into the mystery of the Resurrection. May God bless our journeys of discovery and exploration.

Fr Nicolas

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS At St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Services for April

Sunday 2nd Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin .

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 9th Fifth Sunday of Lent:

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 9.30am

Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00 am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 6.30pm

Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 16th Palm Sunday

8.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr

11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 6.30pm Evening Prayer & Baptisms St. George the Martyr

Thursday 20th Maundy Thursday

7.00pm Celebration of the Lords St. Mary the Virgin Supper & Silent Watch until Midnight

Friday 21st Good Friday

11.00am Stations of the Cross starting from St. Marys School 2.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion St. George the Martyr

Sunday 23rd Easter Day 5.00am The Easter Vigil 8.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 31st Second Sunday of Easter

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

The Bromley Messenger May 2000

GREAT BROMLEY HAS ALWAYS BEEN VERY LUCKY IN ITS VOLUNTEERS. The numerous parish organisations listed on the covers of The Messenger keep going with unpaid help willingly given by the people named, and by many others, acting as chairman, committee and members. Some have been active in the parish since they were in the Youth Club here. There are yet others in organisations not listed. But there can hardly now be anyone with a record of service as long as that of Vera Biddis. We learned recently that, after helping with the pantomime for forty two years since its inception, she is to retire. The note to that effect expressed the writer's doubts, and it is not easy to think of anything going on without Vera in the midst of it. She was brought up on the northern edge of the parish, and she and her late husband, Jim, had their home built opposite the school, where she still lives. Between them, they did far more than their share for us, and she has continued the family tradition. I dared not consult her before writing, but I know she helped in the canteen run for the troops, in the gatehouse to Gt. Bromley Lodge, during the war. This takes us back sixty years, and it is more than likely that she was active in the Village fetes before that. It is really too soon to celebrate work that is not finished, but perhaps we may acknowledge the diamond jubilee, whenever it was.

Thank you very much Vera.

R.K.H.

[Sponsor] COLCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL
THE MESSENGER would also like to thank GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB for sponsoring this months magazine and wish them every success during the coming season
100 CLUB WINNERS March 1st P. Herring 2nd R. Christmas 3rd D. Loading

PETER OLLIVANT

It is with much sadness that we have to report the passing of Peter who died suddenly at his home. His devotion to the community in his capacity as Sub-Postmaster, Newsagent and as a caring person was well known and appreciated throughout the district. After his recent illness we all thought that he was well on the road to recovery, sadly this was not to be. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Pauline and their family at this very sad time. Peter will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Dates for the Year 2000

MAY

- 3rd WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm
- 6th Plant sale & coffee Morning, Waterhouse Fm, Ardleigh, 10 am
- Village Hall Charity Trustees Cttee meeting, Village Hall, 10 am
- 7th Sponsored Dog Walk, Royal Square, Dedham, 10 am
- 9th Tendring District Open Day, Village Hall, 12 noon
- 10th Parochial Church Council Meeting, 7.00pm
- Village Hall Trustees Annual Meeting, Village Hall, 8.00pm
- 11th Charity Quiz, Cross Inn
- 16th Copy to Editor for 'Messenger' please
- 19th Children's Quiz Night, Gt. Bromley School, 6.00pm
- 20th Playgroup Table Top Sale, Village Hall, 11.00 am
- Boot Sale, Cross Inn
- Hamilton Lodge Annual Fete, 2 - 4.30 pm
- 21st Village Hall Committee Sponsored Walk, Alton Water, 11.00am
- 24th Music Night, Cross Inn 25th Friendship Club Outing
- Gt. Bromley Parish Council Assembly, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 28th BBQ & live music, Cross inn
- 19 May - 5 June Manningtree Festival

JUNE

- 22nd Reception for Stone family, Village Hall, 6.30pm
- 23rd Trip with Stone family to Tiptree Jam Factory/Audley End or Duxford Air Museum
- 24th Millennium Banquet, Village Hall, 7.30 pm

BROWNIES - AND GUIDES - IN GT. BROMLEY

I am STILL looking for a Brownie Guider to take over from me when I leave in July. My replacement needs to enjoy 'mucking in' with 17 (at the moment) 7-10 year old enthusiastic and lively girls, have a sense of humour and be able to take a meeting for 1½ hours once a week on whichever day suits her best during term time. More time than that for District events, outings, etc. is optional and a bonus for the girls but you DO NOT NEED to give up your time for that if you don't want to. The Guiding Association provides support, back up and training.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my 11 years running the Brownies and will miss them but the time has come for someone new to take over. The District Commissioner, who lives in Lawford, has offered to carry the unit on - as a stop gap - for a short time until someone comes forward but she will be changing the day from Thursday to a day to suit her. Please someone - preferably two to work as a partnership - come forward to take over the pack. The older brownies can then go on to Guides as before. The other - good - news is that Gt. Bromley Guides will be re-starting in the village in September. More details soon. Brown Owl (01206 231262)

Notes from a Village School St. George's, Gt. Bromley

A sellout evening of live music took place at Gt. Bromley Village Hall on Saturday, 8th April. THE FABs were excellent once again, with many favourites being played. We would like to thank Malcolm, the band and everyone who supported this event. Many thanks also to those who donated raffle prizes and to Clive and Simon for running the bar. The evening raised a grand total of £581.

The following week was the Easter Fayre where many of the school children had organised fund-raising games. Again thanks to all the parents who supported this event as £331.35 was raised. Well done to the children who entered the Decorate the Fairy Cake competition.

Also this term, many of the children participated in a Maths Adventure at local schools and received a certificate to say they had solved the Mathematics dome! Class I visited Badley Hall Farm to see the lambs and other farm animals and the netball and football teams visited Elmstead Market School. The boys were unfortunately defeated but the girls won 8-6 - well done. School re-opens on 2nd May for the summer term and the first fund-raising event is the Children's Quiz on 19th May - get your tickets from the Office. Another date for your diary is Sunday, 16th July - Family Fun day at the school which is always great fun!

PLAYGROUP

Last month the children made some beautiful Easter cards and planted some marigold and sunflower seeds, in pots, to take home and grow. We sadly said goodbye to Carol Cordwell, our senior Playgroup Supervisor, who had decided after a total of 11 years at playgroup, that it was time to call it a day. Carol has been a tremendous asset to the playgroup over the years and will be greatly missed by both children and adults alike. A leaving party was held for Carol on the last day of term, quite a few former playgroup Children and their parents joined us for a buffet lunch and to wish Carol all the best for the future. Jacqui Archard will be taking over as Senior Supervisor and Sue Clark as Deputy Supervisor. We would also like to thank Jean for her help at Playgroup last term and wish her all the best for the future. We also say a fond farewell to Fergus Fairley, Matthew Halsey and Benjamin Taylor who are leaving us to start school after Easter - good luck to you all.

Our Easter Rattle held on the last day of term was very successful and raised a total of £112. The sponsored Number Collect that the children did last month raised a staggering £500! A very big thank you to everyone involved.

Dates for your diary: Wed 3 May - Playgroup & Toddler Group return after Easter break

TABLE TOP SALE

at Gt. Bromley Village Hall on Saturday, 20th May 11.00 am - 2.00 pm

Ploughman Lunches * Cake Stall * Face Painting * Games * Raffle

Admission 20p If you would like to book a table please telephone Carolyn on 01206 251858

Tables £5.00 (£6.00 on day)

GT. BROMLEY MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE A Medieval Banquet

Saturday, 24th June, 2000 at 7.30 pm. The event will coincide with the visit by American descendants of the Stone family from Gt. Bromley, currently being organised by the Church. Tickets available from Linda Pinhey Adults £12.50 Children £6.50 (includes rustic plate and

goblet) Traditional Hog Roast Dinner - Ale and wine sold by the jug. Entertainment will include Minstrels, Court Jester, Juggling, Apple Bobbing 4 and Stocks!

**GT BROMLEY VILLAGE
HALL TRUSTEES**

BRING A PICNIC
have a family day out
to raise money for Village Hall Funds
by doing a Sponsored Walk around
Alton Water, Stutton near Holbrook
on Sunday, 21st May from 11 o'clock.
Sponsor forms with full details obtainable
from: Lynda Allam (01206 230375),
Bevan Willgress (01206
230150) and Peter Wenden
(01206 230613)



Approximate distance 8
miles. Dogs on leads
welcome.

**MANNINGTREE
FESTIVAL 2000**

18 days of varied entertainment
Friday, 19th May to Monday 5th June
Tickets and programmes for all
events during the Manningtree
Festival are available from
Anderson & Co. Estate Agents, 2
Station Road, Manningtree
Tel: 01206 397222



**ST. MARY'S,
ARDLEIGH &
ST.
GEORGE'S,
GT.
BROMLEY
PLANT
SALE**




and
**COFFEE
MORNING**

At Waterhouse Farm, Waterhouse
Lane, Ardleigh
on
6th May 10.00 am - 12.30 pm
CAKE STALL
RAFFLE
in aid of Celebrate Together
Funds.



Anyone who would like to
contribute plants, or make a cake
for this event please contact Ann
Wild on 01206 230679

GT. BROMLEY MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE

A MEDIEVAL BANQUET




Saturday, 24th June, 2000 at 7.30 pm
The event will coincide with the visit by American
descendants of the Stone family from Gt. Bromley, currently being organised
by the Church.
Tickets available from Linda Pinhey (01206 230126)
Adults £12.50 Children £6.50 (includes rustic plate and goblet)
Traditional Hog Roast Dinner - Ale and wine sold by the jug.
Entertainment will include Minstrels, Court Jester, Juggling, Apple Bobbing
and Stocks!

THE RETURN OF THE STONE FAMILY

22nd - 26th June AD. 2000

To date 31 family members are coming to the get together, many of whom will be meeting each with the other for the first time. Some have opted to stay in hotels and inns nearby, others are kindly being hosted by local families. On Thursday, 22nd June there will be a reception in the Village Hall at 6.30 pm where we hope that they, their hosts and any parishioners will meet each other, enjoy a buffet supper with a little music by the Bromley singers to greet them. John Norris, deputy Lord Lieutenant of Essex, will welcome them to Essex on behalf of the Queen. It is hoped that there will be some in the parish who, though not providing B & B, will want to invite some of the Stone family to visit their homes for coffee, tea or lunch at some time over the weekend. PLEASE come to meet them. Tickets (free) for the reception will be available from Fr Nicolas or the Churchwardens in advance in order to estimate numbers.

There are two outings arranged:

Friday 23rd June - TIPTREE JAM FACTORY followed by AUDLEY END garden and/or house, a picnic tea and a ride on Lord Braybrooke's miniature steam railway through the estate. Entry to Tiptree is free.

OR

To DUXFORD AIR MUSEUM joining the other group at Audley End to follow the same programme. Entry to AUDLEY END is £4.90 - £6.50 depending on numbers etc. payable at the time. Entry to DUXFORD is £5.70 - £7.40 payable at the time. CHILDREN FREE. Refreshments can be purchased at both venues. PICNIC TEA should be ordered in advance for £5.

Coaches will leave the Village Hall at 9.00 am return about 6.00 pm. The cost for the coach, depending on numbers, will hopefully be no more than £10 each. If anyone would like to join either of these outings, please put your name down on the list in St. Georges or contact Jean Harding on 01206 826150.

Saturday, 24th June ALL the Stone fraternity are going to the Medieval Banquet in Church Meadow. We hope that a large number of parishioners will be there too. Adults £12,50, Children £6.50. Details from Linda Pinhey

Sunday, 25th June

Stone members are participating in the Church Services. Saturday and Sunday will be ideal times to invite family members to your home. Let us give a big welcome to this extended family who have their roots here and have contributed so generously in the past to St. Georges Church.

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met on 1st April with Peter Wenden, Chairman, and ten members present. Apologies were received from three. This past month we have had to replace a broken toilet seat, some missing drain pipe and some roof tiles. We have agreed to continue our affiliation to the Rural Community Council of Essex, who are organising a Village Halls Conference for Essex in October this year. The Performing Right Society has informed us of a change to its tariffs for music played in the Hall, they have tried to simplify the calculations involved. We have reviewed our hire charges and have agreed that for summer 2000, they will remain at 1999 rates - thus no increase.

The plans and specification for the new lounge and Store Room have been agreed by Tendring District Council and four firms have been invited to tender for the work. Upon receipt of tendered prices and time scales we shall evaluate these results and consider our financial position before proceeding further. Our sponsored walk will be on 21st May between 11.00 am and 4.00 pm in aid of the Hall funds. We hope you can support us on this gentle stroll of about 8 miles (13 kilometres) in the countryside around Alton Water starting from the Dam End car park, Stutton. Sponsor forms can be obtained from Peter Wenden, Lynda Allam or myself. Our next committee meeting is on Saturday, 6th May at 10.00 am and our Annual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 10th May at 8.00 pm when we hope you will come along to the Hall. Looking further ahead at activities in the Village Hall, on Saturday, 18th November the Occasional Singers will be giving a concert in aid of the Hall and the Church, then on Saturday 25th November will be the Christmas sale for the W.I. and the Hall. *Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND (Stour Valley Branch)

The Stour Valley Branch, which includes Great and Little Bromley, celebrates its first anniversary this month. Forthcoming events to which everyone is invited are: **Quiz Night** Saturday 29th April, Ogilvie Hall, Lawford. Teams of up to 6 people. £3 per person to include food, bring your own drink. Please book - (individuals or teams) with Marjorie or Myrtle. Sponsored Dog Walk Sunday 7th May starting and finishing at the Royal Square, Dedham. 10.00 am The route is approximately two miles long, along the picturesque Stour Valley. Sponsorship forms and further details available from Marjorie. Non dog owners or folks who dislike the Sponsorship idea can come along and join in for a donation of £2 to our funds.

TENDRING DISTRICT REVIEW LOCAL PLAN: ISSUES REPORT

Tendring's recently published Issues Report covers a wide spectrum of subjects, affecting everyone who lives in the district, ranging from planning, development, housing, economic regeneration, community services, environmental issues, to transport. Probably of most interest to everyone living in Great Bromley is the subject of housing, especially as several developers are

keen to build here. However, other issues throughout the district also affect us and these are summarised as follows:

1. Development will be, mostly, within urban areas on, preferably, derelict and brownfield land.
2. Development will also be in villages which contain a range of facilities and a choice of transport.
3. Jobs will be created near homes to reduce the need to travel long distances to work.
4. There will be economic regeneration in areas where there is high unemployment and few jobs. Harwich and Dovercourt, Walton, Lawford and Mistley have been identified as such areas.
5. Between 1996 and 2011, 6250 new homes will be provided in Tendring. 700 homes have already been built, and of the remainder, 1340 will be built on greenfield sites. These sites will be located within urban areas or on their edges. Small scale housing may be provided in small towns and villages, but not where this would lead to an increase in car commuting. Areas identified for possible housing are: Clacton (for most of the greenfield sites). Harwich and Dovercourt, Lawford, Manningtree and Mistley (for small scale development only).
6. Housing developers have suggested sites in Frating, Balls Green, Hare Green and Great Bromley. This is not agreed by Tendring nor by the County's Structure Plan Panel. Tendring believes that the focus for regeneration should be on the coastal towns.

Comment: Great Bromley will need to remain vigilant against the threat from housing developers up to and beyond 2011. *James Heaney*

TENDRING DISTRICT OPEN DAY AT GREAT BROMLEY

on Tuesday, 9th May, 2000.

TDC is holding a series of open days throughout the district from 3rd April to 13th May. Great Bromley's open day will take place in the Village Hall from 12 noon to 8.00 pm on 9th May and everyone is invited to attend. Officials from the District Council will be present to answer questions and to hear views and comments. The main purpose of the open day is to give Tendring District Council an opportunity to explain the proposals contained in the draft plan for the district and to obtain a feedback from Great Bromley. Views and comments on any other matter will be welcomed. *James Heaney*

GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

St. Georges Primary School - Fence The County council will not erect railings or a barrier at the school although this might be a possibility later. Bend advance chevron signs will be installed with the aim to slow traffic.

Church Meadow Two footpaths, one leading from the car park area to the war memorial and the other to the church will be constructed. The Chairman thanked Mr Baines for offering to carry out this work.

Speed Restrictions Council has agreed to request the County Council to extend the 40 mph speed limit along Ardleigh Road (B1029) to include Colchester, Briar and Carrington Roads.

Dog Fouling As there is a problem with dog fouling near the school, notices to "Clean up after your Dog" have been placed near the temporary footpath in Hall Road. Additional signs will be placed outside the school and in Badley Hall Road.

Gt. Bromley Parish Council will be holding its Annual Parish Assembly on 25th May in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

TENDRING ADULT COMMUNITY COLLEGE OUTREACH PROJECT - MAKING LEARNING

As part of the Outreach Project of Tendring Adult Community College ways are constantly sought for reaching people who do not take part in adult education for one reason or another. This year the idea taking part in local events/fetes is being introduced. Taster sessions for people to take part in or watch tutor demonstrations will be on offer. This can be done in the form of a stand or stall or set up in a side room. Access is possible to a minibus fitted out as a classroom which could be used for outdoor events or where there is insufficient space inside. From this the needs and interests of people, as well as reaching, members of the community, can be ascertained. This does not just apply to village fetes. It can be arranged for a Guest Speaker to talk to local groups either on the outreach work and the services of the college, or a tutor to talk about their particular subject. It may be a surprise as to how we can offer opportunities locally and at the range of subjects. If you are aware of any such events or would like to discuss these Opportunities further, please contact Sue Craggs or Liz Dunnett at the Harwich Centre on 01255 502467.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mr D Wilkin came to our April meeting to tell us about his work with Owls, assisted by Mrs Wilkin and "Casper", the Barn Owl. We were told of his involvement with owls, particularly Barn Owls, and Kestrels on the family farm and other farmland in the Tendring area. For various reasons the owls' habitat has changed: loss of trees through Dutch Elm disease and the 1987 hurricane being two of them. Barn Owls hunt in corridors of rough grass and ditch banks for small mammals mainly voles. Their territory can be up to 120 acres per pair. He also rings birds and explained the method of doing this is painless and not stressful. He likes to involve other volunteers and they build and place special nesting boxes around the area. These nesting boxes are placed on top of tall poles where Barn Owls are known to hunt etc. Little Owls sometimes inhabit these boxes; they also like apple orchards. Tawny Owls like ash trees and Long Eared Owls take over old rooks' nests. Kestrels use a different type of nesting box, and he also rings their chicks when he can. At present there are 50 boxes of various kinds in the Tendring area. We all thoroughly enjoyed the evening with Mr Wilkin showing us lovely slides as he explained his work. Incidentally, there is going to be a "Birds of Prey" stand at the Tendring Show this year (8th July) which should prove popular.

This month is our Resolutions Meeting when we discuss and decide how to vote on resolutions for our National Annual General Meeting being held in June. our V.C.O. for the evening this year is Mrs Marie Codd. *June Willgress*

KITCHEN CORNER

STRAWBERRY CHEESE CAKE

6 oz digestive biscuits, crushed; 1 oz soft brown sugar; 1 level teasp cocoa powder; 2 oz butter; 4oz Philadelphia or cream cheese; 2 oz castor sugar; ¼ pt double cream; 1 carton strawberry yoghurt ; Fresh strawberries

Melt the butter in a pan, mix in the biscuits, soft sugar and cocoa powder.

Press into 8½" loose bottomed flan tin. Beat together the cream cheese and castor sugar. Whip the cream stiffly and combine with the yoghurt. Fold this into the cheese.

Cut up the strawberries and arrange a good layer on the biscuit base. Smooth the cheese mixture over and leave 24 hours in 3 fridge to firm up before serving. *Jill Frostick -*

BROMLEY MESSENGER Statement of Accounts

Statement of Accounts

	1998/1999	1999/2000
<u>Income</u>	£	£
Carried forward	52.58	220.14
Creditors	0.00	0.00
Donations	137.00	104.48
Advertisements	561.00	427.00
Sponsorship	995.00	755.00
Interest	7.71	4.19
Debtors	0.00	0.00
Total	1753.29	1510.81
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Printing	1473.92	1531.91
Postage	12.00	15.00
Expenses	47.23	22.76
Debtors	0.00	0.00
(Loss) /Gain	220.14	(58.86)
Total	1753.29	1510.81

Honorary Treasurer L.B.Christodoulides MBE

1 April 2000

Report: In compiling this year's figures I have discovered an error in last year's figures. The profit was not £279.37 but £220.14 (which I have amended in the figures above). The figures this Millennium year show a loss £58.86. You will notice that donations, advertising and sponsorship are down, hence the different situation to that of last year. I ask you all to help in trying to obtain more of all these incomes, especially the business card advertisements. I am sure there are a lot of small businesses in the villages which for £24 would find this type of advert worthwhile. Thank you to all those of you who sponsor the magazine each month and all

our business card advertisers. Readers please when contacting any of these mention that you saw their name in The Messenger. Well done to all the contributors, deliverers, and our editor for their sterling efforts. If anyone has any questions about these figures please, let me know, and I will do my best to answer them.

A collection taken throughout the Parish for Peter Ollivant at the time of his illness and premature retirement in October was presented about three weeks ago. Organised by Judith and Raymond Hutchinson the sum £300 was raised - a great response and many thanks to all who made that possible.

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR GREAT BROMLEY united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Dear Parishioner,

The theme for this year's Christian Aid week is "Children make our future - give them a life". The money collected during this week will be focused on projects throughout the world that work with children. Savita is ten years old and lives in a village in India. As head of the household her mother, Susheeta, earns money through casual agricultural or construction work. Savita cares for her brothers, taking them to school and looking after them at home. Savita would love to go to school but her mother, who has had no education herself, cannot afford to let her go until the youngest boy is in school. Savita is now being helped by a programme which trains people to work in homes in such situations, encouraging a change in attitudes towards health care and hygiene, whilst also helping with reading, writing and numbers. The innovative scheme teaches other youngsters (13 years +) to train children like Savita to do simple tests, such as on drinking water, and about the importance of sanitation and personal hygiene. Training and educating youngsters helps to break cycles of ignorance and misunderstanding. Savita's mother, Susheeta Waghmare, says, "My daughter is the eldest so she must stay at home. When the boys are older then she will be able to go to school. I hope Savita can study and stand on her own two feet, I myself cannot guarantee anything."

Among the first to benefit this year from Christian Aid week will be children in India, Nicaragua and Rwanda. As in previous years you can return the envelope to the Church or the Post Office. If you are a taxpayer, please take the extra time to fill in the details on the envelope, which will be confidential. The Chancellor's Millennium Gift Aid initiative enables charities to claim an extra 28% on any amount donated making a £1 gift worth £1.28 and £10 worth £12.80. Celebrating as we are this month the message of Easter which proclaims New life in Jesus for everyone any donation you give helps to give a child quality of life before death too. May God bless us in our generosities. *Fr Nicolas*

CONGRATULATIONS to Natalie, 'The Messenger' proof-reader - and to her husband, Christopher on the arrival of their daughter.

Services for May

Sunday 7th Easter 3

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George 8.00am The Eucharist St. George 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist & Baptisms St. Mary 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George

Sunday 14th Easter 4

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00 am Parish Eucharist St. Mary

6.30pm Evening Prayer Ardleigh Methodist Chapel.

Friday 19th 7.30pm Confirmation St. James', East Hill

Sunday 21st Easter 5

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr 8.00am The Eucharist St. George

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George

Sunday 28th Rogation Sunday

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

10.00am Benefice Eucharist St. George followed by Rogation Ceremonies 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS At St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

The Bromley Messenger June 2000

We BATTLE HYMN OF THE STONES

(Tune - The Battle hymn of the Republic)

There's something strong and mighty in a good old family name!
The name of Stone is found among those on the scroll of fame;
For nearly all the sons of Stone pursue a lofty aim,
the clan goes marching on!

Chorus: Glory to our grand old family,
 Virile, worthy, brave and loyal!
 Sure, Stone is a grand old family!
 The Clan goes marching on!

Richard, Joseph, John and Hugh were fathers of our clan;
Posterity of Gregory and Simon never ran:
Samuel was virile, Thomas was sturdy man,
the clan goes marching on! *Chorus*

William was a signer of a famous document;
Enos into danger for his country bravely went;
Samuel preached the Gospel, everything he said he meant.
The clan goes marching on! *Chorus*

Gilbert was a writer who served many noble knights;
Patriotic David was hero of many fights;
Frederick stood for justice; Lucy fought for women's rights.
The clan goes marching on! *Chorus*

Andrew was a statesman whom his countrymen adore;
George Stone was a bishop, worthy of the robes he wore;
William governed Maryland - request of Baltimore
The clan goes marching on! *Chorus*

When danger threatened country or a battle to be won,
Righteous movements need defenders or work to be done,
Brave Stones were always there, and never did a kinsman run.
The clan goes marching on! *Chorus*

The sons of Stone have courage, any task or foe to face;
Our daughters are all lovely with their beauty, charm and grace;
The leaven of our family is a blessing to the race.
The clan goes marching on! *Chorus*

No matter who opposes or what enemies assail,
With Stones allied in worthy causes, justice should prevail.
Those who claim the name and blood of Stone should never fail.
The clan goes marching on! *Chorus*

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested, we need volunteers for the following:- Reading to residents; Writing letters; Taking round tea and coffee; Helping with the computers; Generally chatting and spending time with residents. Please contact Jane, Alison or Robert for more information. 01206 230345

GT. BROMLEY MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE presents a QUIZ NIGHT on 15th June at 8.00 pm at The Snooty Fox Quiz. Nibbles and Raffle in aid of the Church

GT. BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB 100 Club Winners

April 1st Mrs M West 2nd Mr W Taggett 3rd Mrs Knappett

JOHN STONE the Elder, of Great Bromley, Yeoman 1600

The will of John is among the interesting ones for persons of Great Bromley.

To my sons Richard, 20 shillings: John. my pikestaff, Henry, £10 and 5 marks value of my household stuff when he have most need to occupy in the same house.

To the poor people of Great Bromley, 10 shillings and of Ardleigh, 10 shillings.

To Mercy Lovering- my daughter. and Susan Stone my daughter, each £20. The rest of my goods and ready money among my three daughters, Mercy, Susan and Frances, equally divided.

Leonard Rolf, my son-in-law and husband to Frances deducting and allowing out of my wife's part, £26-13s-4d which he hath already received of me towards his portion.

I ordain my daughters executrices. I request my good neighbour and friend George Marten to be overseer to aid them. Witnessed by George Marten, Richard Stone, Henry Stone, Leonard Rolf, John Lovering and Ralf King. (Rectory Little Bromley).

John Appleby

Notes from a Village School St. George's, Gt. Bromley

Unfortunately we have had to cancel the Barn Dance on 24th June due to it clashing with the Stone family visit. In the future it will be on the last Saturday in June. Don't forget the FAMILY FUN DAY on 16th July. There will be the usual fun and games and a treasure hunt in the grounds of the Cheshire Home. Bring your own meat and drink. Salad and rolls supplied. Tickets £5 per family or £1 .50 per adult. £1 per child and pre-school children free. Available from Jacky Platt or Sue Skinner

FAMILIES WANTED I am often asked if I know of families who would like to have a French student to stay with them The students are school children or adults and stay for periods of between one and three weeks. Sometimes accommodation is requested for two children staying with one family or with two friends so that they can share activities. The students visit England throughout the year, not just in the summer and normally require breakfast and an evening meal: the children also require lunch. A teacher comes in for an hour or two a day at a mutually convenient time and apart from that entertainment etc. is arranged by the family and student. The remuneration for this varies according to the age of the student and whether the family provides the English lessons etc. If you are interested in this or could offer to teach either with or without the accommodation, or if you would like any more information please contact me.

Val Harris

PLAYGROUP returned for the start of summer term on 3rd May. We are pleased to report that the new children have quickly found their feet and are settling in really well. We would also like to welcome Jane and Melanie who have joined our team of Staff. Our topic for this halfterm is solid shapes. Some wonderful cardboard models have been made using cube and cuboid shapes. Our cylinder and sphere week was a great success - the children made cardboard telescopes and binoculars and went star gazing.

With the onset of the better weather we have been able to use our outdoor play area much more. Great fun to have the sand and water out again. We accept children from the age of 2 years 9 months. If you would like any further information please Contact our secretary Helen Fairley, who will be pleased to help. Toddler group is held on Wednesday mornings -just come along. your first visit is free. Dates for your diary Mon 29 May - Half term week. Mon 5 June *Return to playgroup Wed 7 June - Return to Toddler group

CALLING ALL "OLD" BROWNIES

Leonie Henderson, Brown Owl for the 1st Great Bromley Brownies, is leaving in the summer. Come for tea and a chat with old friends on Sunday. 16th July from 4.00 - 6.00 pm at the Village Hall R.S.V.P.: Louise Brooks on 01206 251455

BOOKS - BOOKS - BOOKS BOOK AID EVENING

Thursday, 29th June. 6.30 - 7.30 pm in The Hut (behind the Gt. Bromley Post Office)

Children's books for sale, Refreshments

The Brownies invite you to support their aim to raise money for Book Aid - aimed at sending relevant books to Africa for educational purposes. Children's books wanted. Please contact Leonie Henderson.

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met on 6th May with Peter Wenden. Chairman, and all members present. We heard that our resources were sound but were in need of additional funding to enable us to carry out our planned and projected requirements in the near future at the Hall. Our request to the Parish Council for the footpath kerb to be dropped opposite the Hall to facilitate wheelchair access has, we are pleased to understand, been forwarded to County level with their support. On 10th May we held our Annual General Meeting with 11 charity volunteers and two members of the public present. All the current Officers and Members were returned for the ensuing year. We have over the recent weeks been gathering information with regard to the new Lounge and Store room project and should be able to come to a decision on the next stage when the Committee meet on Tuesday 23rd May at the Village Hall. Looking further ahead at activities in the Village Hall. on Saturday. 18th November the Occasional Singers will be giving a concert in aid of the Hall and the Church, and on Saturday; 25th November there will be the Christmas Sale for the W.I. and the Hall. *Bevan Willgress. Secretary*

VILLAGE FLOWER TUBS

The Parish Council has arranged for ten flower tubs to be placed around the village. from late May/early June in the same locations as last year. They will remain in situ until late September. It is possible that the criminals who stole our flower tubs last year might well attempt to do so again. Everyone is asked. therefore, to note the registration number. and other details of any vehicle whose occupants remove, or attempt to remove, the tubs and to inform the police. Tendring District have arranged for the flowers to be watered three times a week during late morning. *James Heaney*

GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Hare Green Recreation Ground New football nets and supports are now on order - delivery imminent.

Owen Williams - consultants to the Highways Agency. Local Parish Councils were invited to a meeting, with the consultants to identify and prioritise any problems with the A12 and A120 roads. Most Parishes agreed that the A120 should be duelled over its entire length between Colchester and Harwich. The District Council would like to see a proper link between the A120 and A133 roads.

Traffic Loop Following a request by the Parish Council. the County Council will install a traffic loop in the village to monitor traffic volume and speed. Their findings will be reported back to the Parish Council.

Church Meadow The Council has given Father Nicolas permission to hold a mediaeval banquet on Church Meadow in June.

Civic Amenity site County Councillor. Mr Hawkins, reported that the County council has been looking in Great Bromley for a suitable location for a Civic amenity site. Councillor Hawkins does not support this as he believes that a more suitable location would be in Manningtree or Lawford and he will campaign for the site to located there.

Refuse A request has been made to the District council to collect rubbish which has been dumped in Morebarn Road. Stone Road and in the spinney in Mary Lane North.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Council has given consideration to the following applications and submitted their comments to the District Council.

Bottle House. Carrington Road Demolition of part of existing dwelling and erection of extensions to provide additional accommodation. The Parish Council objects to this application as the dwelling would be too big and out of character for the area

Pond Farm. Hall Road Proposed change of use of agricultural buildings at Pond Farm for the use as storage and distribution of Christmas decorations and garden furniture. The Parish Council agrees to temporary consent for 2 years to enable any possible traffic problems to be assessed

CARPET BOWLS

Over the past few months. six friendly matches have been played involving the teams within the league area that Gt. Bromley didn't meet in the official league programme. Of the six we managed five wins and one draw. Although this was extra to the league matches. an official record was kept and we finished one point below the leaders - Gt. Bentley. In April we played in

the High Woods Open Team Competition. The team of six was: Singles - Andrew Childs. Pairs Jayne Bates and Nancy Kempster. Triples- Pauline Keeble. Evelyn Childs and Joe Canham. We reached the second round and although the triples won all their games. the team as a whole just missed the next round by two shots. It was a good day with 52 teams entered.

Club evenings continue through the summer and new members are welcome. We also meet on Monday afternoons at 2.00pm, so if the gardening loses its appeal come and have a "roll up" and a "cuppa". There is no obligation to join the club for this. Why not give it a try! Nancy Kempster

KITCHEN CORNER - EASY ROCK RUNS

Children enjoy making these! You need a hot oven 200F

1lb SR flour 6 oz margarine or butter

6oz caster sugar 2 eggs 4oz mixed dried fruit

Milk to mix

Rub fat into the flour. Stir in the sugar and fruit. Add beaten eggs and mix with a fork. adding one or two tablesp of milk until the mixture will just cling together without being at all wet or sticky.

Put tablesp of the mixture well apart on a greased tray. making nice rocky heaps without pressing the mixture too much. Bake about 10 minutes till just golden brown on top (turn the tray round it needed to colour evenly) carefully slide the buns onto a wire tray to cool. then enjoy them for tea! This quantity make about 12 large buns or 18 small ones. *Jill Frostick*

GARDENERS CORNER for JUNE

The garden is now in full flower and one of the main jobs is weeding and dead-heading the flowers as they die off to give the new flowers a better chance to bloom. Early flowering SHRUBS can now be pruned. There seems to be a lot of green and black fly about this year mainly owing to the mild winter which did not kill them off. Spray, spray; spray!

BEDDING PLANTS. DAHLIAS and CHRYSANTHEMUMS can all be planted at the beginning of the month. If you want your chrysanthemums to bloom late in the year take out the growing point in July. Don't forget if you are growing SWEET PEAS that the more you pick them the more Flowers you will get. If you let them seed they will stop flowering.

If the leaves on the TOMATOES are showing yellowing, spray with Epsom Salts - 2g to the gallon of water. MARROWS and all the CABBAGE family can be planted out this month. *Frank Griffiths*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mrs Mary Codd, Voluntary County Organiser (V.C.O.) came to our last month's meeting to discuss with us the resolutions for the National Federation of Women's Institutes' Triennial General Meeting being held at Wembley Conference and Exhibition Centre from 6th-8th June 2000, the main conference being on the 7th. Mrs Mary Clarke, our Secretary, will be our delegate and we all look forward to hearing her report at our July meeting. Subjects to be covered include Benefit and Pension payments at Post Offices. Government Funding of Children's Hospices and Improved treatment and therapy for Stroke Patients. Afterwards. Mrs Codd gave us details of the WI Heritage Show being held on 14th and 15th July at Marks Hall, Coggeshall together with many other events that are planned up until the end of the year 2000. Our meeting in June is organised by Members in order that our President and her Committee may have a well earned break for the evening and is known as the Members Meeting. All will be revealed on the night!
June Willgress

CHILDREN'S PAGE

FUN FOOD (Ask a grown up to help you)

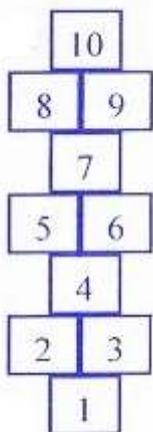
EGG BUTTERFLIES 6 hard boiled eggs 6 small cooked chipolatas Cress

150g grated cheese 2 desserts mayonnaise 2 tblsp chopped parsley

Cut the cress. Put it in a sieve and wash it. Leave to drain. Peel hard-boiled eggs and cut them in half. Carefully remove yolks with a teaspoon and put them in a bowl. Add the cheese, mayonnaise and parsley and mash the mixture together with a fork. Pile yolk mixture back into the egg whites. Scatter the cress on a serving dish. Arrange the chipolatas on a plate and put half an egg on each side to make the wings of your butterflies.

Here are two different versions of hopscotch. Before you begin either of them, you will have to use chalk to draw the squares for the playing area. But make sure you are allowed to draw on the ground where you are going to play.

BRITISH HOPSCOTCH

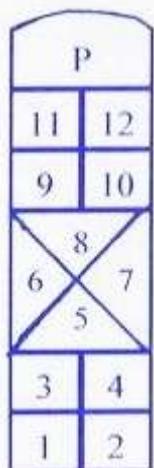


The first player throws their stone into box number 1. They then jump through the other boxes (missing out number 1), hopping through single boxes and landing with a foot in each box on double squares.

When they reach number 10, they turn round and jump back in the same way. At boxes 2 and 3, they pick up the stone from number 1 and jump over the box. Then they throw the stone into box number 2, hop from box 1 to 3, through the other numbers and back again. When they reach box 3, they pick up the stone from box 2 and hop over it into number 1. Continue in this way through all the numbers. Once the player has gone through the numbers, they stand with their back to the squares and throws their stone through their legs and then hops to the square it has landed on, where they stand on both feet. After writing their initials in the corner with chalk, they hop to the end and back, remembering to pick up the stone before carrying on. No one else is allowed to hop into that players square. A player misses their turn if they

stand on a line, throws their stone on to a line or into the wrong box, steps into the box that their stone is in or if they step into a box belonging to someone else. The game is over when all the boxes have owners. The winner is the player with the most number of boxes.

AMERICAN HOPSCOTCH



Before the game begins, players must decide who is going to play first. They do this by "pinking". This means that they stand in the section marked "P" and throw their a stone at the front line of the playing area. The person whose stone lands nearest to the front line begins the game.

The first player stands outside the square end of the A playing area and throws their stone into box 1. They then hop into the square and kicks the stone out of the playing area with the hopping foot, using any number of kicks. The player then returns to the starting position where they can stand on both feet. The same player then throws their stone into box 2. If it goes in, they hop into box 1 and then box 2 where once again any number of kicks maybe used to kick out the stone. The player continues like this as far as box 8, called "Rest Home", when they can stand with feet astride in sections 6 and 7 before continuing the hopping. When the player reaches "P", they hop back through the sections, except Rest Home, kicking the stone through each section in turn, back to number 1. But the player is only allowed one kick for each section. If the stone lands on a line, outside the playing area or in the wrong section when throwing, the player is out. The same rule applies when kicking the stone back from

section "P". The player is also out if they let their two feet touch the ground when they should be hopping. The winner is the player who manages to go through the whole playing area without making a mistake.

DATES for the Year 2000

JUNE

7th WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

10th Cheshire Home Colchester Street Collection, 9-12 noon

BBQ, Vestrey Room, Gt. Bentley, 7.30pm

15th Quiz Night, Snooty Fox, 8.00 pm

17 & 18 Open Gardens in Wivenhoe, 2.00 pm

22-26 Stone Family visit ; 22nd Stone Family reception, Village Hall, 6.30pm

24th Millennium Banquet, Church Meadow, 7.30 pm

29th Book Aid evening, The Hut (behind P.O.), 6.30 pm

JULY

1st Essex Joint Animal charities Day, Clacton Factory Outlet, 10 am

13th Friendship Club outing

14/15 WI Heritage Show, Marks Hall, Coggeshall

16th Family Fun Day, St. George's School

22/23 Ardleigh Millennium Spectacular

OCTOBER

1st-15th Celebrate Together

3rd Cheshire Home Autumn Sale, Village Hall

28th Hallowe'en Disco, Village Hall (Cats Protection, Tendring & District Branch

NOVEMBER

9th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Coffee Morning, 10.30 am

18th Concert, Village Hall 25th Christmas Sale, Village Hall

MILLENNIUM ARDLEIGH SPECTACULAR

Saturday, 22nd and Sunday, 23rd July Near the Crown Inn at Ardleigh, just Off the A12

Tickets are available from local Tourist Visitor Information Centres and by post with sae from Ardleigh Millennium spectacular, Middleborough House 16 Middleborough Colchester CO1 1QT.

COLCHESTER INSTITUTE New Directions?

Are you thinking of returning to work or further education? - Do you need guidance and support in deciding on a new direction? - Do your skills need updating? - Do you simply want to enjoy learning something useful?

If so, you may benefit from attending a series of short workshops being held at Colchester Institute. We offer a variety of subject areas so whether you want to try your hand at computers, build self confidence or update your job search skills we will have something for you. These workshops are completely free of charge and the timetable is flexible and fun! If you would like to find out more about the New Directions Workshops please contact Donna or Tony.

TENDRING & DISTRICT BRANCH CATS PROTECTION B.B.Q.

10th June in the Vestry Room, St. Mary's Church. Gt. Bentley 7.30 pm onwards

Tickets £5 from Sue Albins. Vegetarian option available. Bring your own drink. All welcome (Please book before 7th June)

Essex Joint Animal Charities Day

Collection - 1st July 10.00 am - 6.00 pm Clacton Factory Outlet "Events Pavilion"

Free Gifts! Membership Forms! Advice & Information on Cat Care.

WIVENHOE 2000 Open Gardens

Saturday 17 June & Sunday 18 June 2.00 - 6.00 pm Frog competition for children Admissions by programme. Adults £2.50 in advance, £3 on the day. Children free. Lifts 01206 822980 for those with mobility difficulties. Organised by St. Marys Church

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR GREAT BROMLEY united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Dear Parishioner

Last month we celebrated the news that in the Colchester area attendance in the Anglican Churches had increased on the previous year. Churchgoers may be in a minority but we are a growing minority! in our parishes here we celebrated nine people being Confirmed, that is taking on the promises made for them by parents and godparents at baptism. for themselves and being welcomed into full membership of the Church. All of this is good and encouraging news which I share with you just in case it doesn't make headlines in the national press!

Sharing the idea, or Good News, that a belief in God in Jesus Christ and in the Holy Spirit, can improve your earthly life and bring heavenly rewards as well, has always been at the foundation of the Church. Jesus said to his followers "Go and tell others what you have witnessed and how it has changed your life". Most of these witnesses were so convinced of the truth about Jesus and his message that they were prepared to give up everything they had to share it. Most of them died rather than deny Jesus and what they believed about him. Whatever happened on the day of Pentecost, it transformed a group of frightened, inward looking men and women, into confident outward going people. From being a small minority Christianity grew. A Mission - telling people about beliefs as Christians - often conjures up negative thoughts and experiences. I believe that Jesus encouraged his followers that if knowing him made a positive difference in their lives, they should share that with others. "Come and see" is a great maxim of the Christian life.

Here in these parishes we are preparing for a mission in October. A group of trained men and women are coming to help us share the good news that we believe being a Christian makes a positive difference in our lives. I like to think that this mission fortnight is the one that "takes no

for an answer". Yes we will be delivering leaflets explaining our Christian life. Yes each house will have a knock on the door to see if the church can be of any assistance to the occupants. The callers will not be persistent or badgering. they will read the signs, hear the messages, take no for an answer! The fortnight (October 1st-15th) has been named "Celebrate Together". This was chosen because those of us who are trying to lead our lives as Christians. those of us who acknowledge our need of God in our lives, feel we have something to celebrate and we want others to share it. We want to share it not from fear or guilt, but from a joy and love and peace. which we have experienced. May God bless us all in our responses and celebrations. *Fr Nicolas.*

Services for June

Sunday 4th Easter 7

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr
8.00am The Eucharist St. George
9.30am Parish Eucharist & Baptisms St. George
11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George

Sunday 11th Pentecost

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary
8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George
11.00 am Parish Eucharist St. Mary
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary

Sunday 18th Trinity Sunday

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George
8.00am The Eucharist St. George
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George
11.00am Parish Eucharist St Mary
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George

Sunday 25th Trinity 1

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary
8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George
11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS At St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

The Bromley Messenger July 2000

The May Bank Holiday this year 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 this year because, last Autumn, my sight had been 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. Perhaps all those winter weeks of enforced inactivity during which my vision was affected, had made me more acutely aware of sounds. Those things which are taken for granted - reading, driving, birdwatching - had been 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 was 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 continuous 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. On my 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 I had had my pupils 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 this millennium. It had made my day!

Joan D. Gurney

ST. GEORGE S C of E SCHOOL would like to thank everyone who has collected tokens and vouchers for the school, so far...

7000 Walkers Books tokens. 3,700 McVitics Free Maths Stuff. 30 Tetley Tea Bags Free Sports Stuff for Schools. 525 Sainsburys points 2,450 Safeways Free school trips. £33 from Nestle Box Tops. 4,528 Time computer/WH Smith vouchers and 9,900 Tesco computer vouchers have been collected.

This has enabled us to buy books. 2 computers with a scanner. printer. digital camera and software and £150 worth of coach hire which is of enormous benefit for our school. Please keep saving them all!

Sponsor: N. B. & D. M. SMITH OIL FIRED BOILER HEATING MAINTENANCE SERVICE

COUNTRYSIDE MILLENNIUM BUSINESS AWARDS 2000

There were two finalists from our area in the awards this year who were the Solvents Industry Association in the small/medium category of On Line Marketing (which I run from home) and Hiskeys Farm Kennels who were given a Highly Commended in the New Small Companies section. Congratulations are therefore in order to Anne and Pete for this achievement (and they advertise in The Messengers). Len Christodoulides

Notes from a Village School St. George's, Gt. Bromley

SPORTS NEWS Both the netball and football teams finished the season with the Tendring Cluster Rally and both teams finished in 3rd place - well done to you all. A number of year 5 and year 6 girls also trained with other schools in the cluster to hunt a Tendring team to enter in the Ormiston Rally in Colchester. it was a wonderful experience for them all to be touched by top netballers and then play with the host in the area at a very competitive rally - both the year 5 and year 6 team got into the quarter Finals - which has inspired all concerned to start the training earlier next year! The rounders and scatterball clubs are in full swing with tournaments being held in July.

OUTINGS Classes 1 and 2 had a glorious and luckily not too hot day at Abberton Reservoir where pond dipping and bug finding were enjoyed. Other trips planned for July are to Colchester Natural History Museum, Chessington World of Adventures and Tendring Hundred Water Works for a maths and science trail.

FUNDRAISING Our recent fun and games afternoon where every child in the school has to undertake various activities was a great success.

Don't forget 11 July - sports day

16 July - Family Fun Day at school 3 pm

21st July school closes for the summer holidays



MILLENNIUM ARDLEIGH SPECTACULAR Saturday 22nd and Sunday, 23rd July

The Tendring & District Branch CATS PROTECTION SUMMER SALE

Thursday 13th July Walton Church Hall - 9.30am - 1.00pm

Stalls to include: . Plants Clothes ,. C.P. Goods Books Refreshments ,- Raffle Bric-a-brac

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

100 Club winners for May 1st P Allam 2nd M Lewis 3rd B Wright

FRIENDS of ESSEX CHURCHES SPONSORED WALK and BIKE RIDE

9th September, 2000 Walk or cycle around Essex churches to raise money for the church or chapel of your Choice and for The Friends of Essex Churches. If you would like a sponsor form and a directory of churches open on the day. please contact Nicky Robinson.

CALL CENTRE TRAINING AT THE COLCHESTER INSTITUTE

We are Committed to listening and trying to meet the needs of our local community. As such we are running a Certificate in Call Centre Techniques training course which is available to anyone seeking a change in direction and the opportunity to develop and learn new skills. It runs during the day and in the evening, all year round. and takes place in a state-of-the-art simulated Call Centre Room at the Colchester Institute, Colchester. It is delivered by several highly qualified tutors, each a specialist in his/her own field. With the main emphasis on the development of excellent customer service, the course also covers areas such as communication, listening and keyboard skills, and personal development. We are also building strong links with local Call Centres. several of which are now giving priority to our students with regard to recruitment. If you are interested, and would like to find out more, please do not hesitate to contact Karen Stephenson.

GT. BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Annual General Meeting of Gt. Bromley Parish Council was held on 25th May at the Village Hall.

Major Heaney has been elected Chairman for the coming year and Mr Baines Vice-Chairman.

Representatives have been appointed to the following:-

Tendring District Association of Local Councils Major Heaney

Footpaths Mr Sievwright

Hare Green Recreation Ground Mr Phillips

Tendring in Bloom Major Heaney

Internal Auditor Mr Richardson

The Annual Parish Assembly was held all the Village Hall on 25th May.

In the Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council Major Heaney said that in the last 12 months there were 12 full council meetings and 17 planning meetings. in addition to this; a meeting was held to discuss the proposed purchase of Church Meadow.

Council submitted their comments to the District Council on all of the planning applications brought to their attention and the two planning decision appeals which arose during the year. There has been an increasing number of consultation documents to comment upon which can be quite difficult at times due to the tight timescales given. One very important decision made by the Council was to purchase Church Meadow which is of great amenity value to the village. The Meadow cost £7,500 and approximately £2,000 has been spent on the resurfacing work.

Report from the County Councillor, Mr K Hawkins. An extra £13.7 million will be spent on education across the region in the coming year. The Draft Structure Plan shows an increase of 6,250 new homes for the Tendring District most of which will be built in the Harwich and Clacton areas. Most villages now have speed limits and road safety measures are continuing. However there is little money in the budget for road maintenance. The Government is changing the way councils are managed. Instead of the old and time consuming committee style of management. a new cabinet structure will be set up and individual councillors will be given portfolios which will make individuals more accountable. In addition to this a Scrutiny Committee will be set up who will oversee the work of the members.

Hare Green Recreation Ground During the year new football posts have been installed and a new contractor is now cutting the grass. As the ground is very wet land drains will be laid when conditions allow.

Report on the Bromley Messenger 550 copies of The Bromley Messenger are printed each month which are delivered free to each household in the villages of Great and Little Bromley. It costs £150 per month to produce and the Council sponsors one issue each year. Council also underwrites any other losses throughout the year.

Parish Council accounts Copies of the accounts were available at the meeting and Mr Richardson, internal Auditor, went through these. highlighting g several items.

GARDENERS' CORNER for JULY

SHRUBS: Take semi-hard cuttings of CAMELLIA, CISTUS, CEANOTHUS, ESCALLONIA, HYDRANGEA, POTENTILLA and PYRACANTHA this month - keep out of the strong sun. **ROSES:** Keep dead heading and spray regularly to combat green and black flies. **DAHLIAS:** Disbud and leave only the main bud on each stem if you want large blooms. **BEARDED IRISES:** Can be divided at the end of the month. After planting cut back the leaves by a third. **POTATOES:** At the end of the month to the middle of August to get new potatoes in November: plant tubers in 10" pots -just cover with 1" Growbag, compost then as the shoots Show through keep adding more compost until the pot is full. Keep moist and feed now and again with a weak liquid fertiliser. *Frank Griffiths*

BARN DANCE Saturday 9th September With London Band & Caller In aid of Village Hall Funds Further details to be announced

The LEIGH SINGERS

invite you to a Strawberry Tea on Monday 3rd July 2.30-4.30pm at Grove House, Gt. Bromley For Tickets £2.50 please phone 01206 250263.

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION

The Colchester Branch of the Huntington's Disease Association are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to your magazine. Many of you know .lean Harding. our former Chairman, who I

am delighted to say is still very active. and it was she who put Great Bromley on the map with regard to Huntington's Disease Association . Although she has moved to pastures new (Wivenhoe) we still have ties at Gt Bromley - mainly the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home - who have been true friends to our Association and who help us out in many ways by allowing; us to use their facilities. There is also Val and Paul Bishop of Pightle Lodge who let us use both their Wonderful home and grounds for a Bar-B-Q as well as, especially for the children, their swimming pool. Our Treasurer, supported by his wife who has to put up with his disappearing to our Committee meetings as well as locking himself away to keep our financial records, also lives in the village.

We have just had a wonderful day out .Audley End with our families and friends. We left Seven Rivers at 10 am for a 1½ hr trip to he met by the Rt. Hon Lord Braybrooke (Lord Lieutenant of Essex) and his wife. His hobby is his train which roams through the woods of the estate, crossing over bridges through tunnels and through beautiful woodland. Dotted behind every tree. nook and Granny are teddy bears with other toy animals that bring great delight and laughter from our children though I think bigger roars of approval come from the grown ups. Lord Braybrooke appeared to enjoy the event as much as we did as he was driving the train and once round its non stop - around we go again. After this we had a picnic lunch which always goes down well. Then the Children went of to the Balloon shop for their large balloons that either go pop in a few minutes or as in this case many brought them home in one piece. We left Audley End around 3 pm. to go to one of our families who invited us to tea at Elmbridge Farm. Peter with his Daughter Alison show Shire horses. and they were there to greet us with the horses already in their regalia. These horses are fantastic giants and the children as well as the adults were thrilled by the occasion. We then left around 5 pm. to get back to Seven Rivers at around 6 pm. A lovely day out with fine weather wonderful people with memories of just sheer happiness for a good day out. Our next outing will be to Val and Paul and Pightle Lodge on 5th August to which we are all looking forward, hoping the weather will be kind to us. Our big event of the year will be a visit to the Millennium Dome on 23rd September. which is just being arranged so we are hoping for a good turnout for the one off event.

CARPET BOWLS

Two charity events have been supported by the club recently. The first was on 21st May when our all ladies team - Nan. Evelyn, Pauline and yours truly a played at Weeley. Alas. we lost 2 games and drew 1 which was no good as a result, but the afternoon was greatly enjoyed. Later in the month Linda and Jayne joined in a ladies versus gents match at Gt. Bentley when, after some tight games and a lot of friendly banter, the gents pulled ahead to win by 10 shots. On 18th June. Evelyn, Andrew, Jayne and Linda travelled to Gt. Bentley again this time for the Ida French Memorial Cup. Every team played 5 games and Gt. Bromley won 2 and lost 3 of theirs. The Cup was won by Wix Carpet Bowls Club. To any readers who are outdoor bowlers we wish a successful season. *Nancy Kempster*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We have a few vacancies for our outing to Taverham Nurseries, followed by tea at Diss on 13th July at a cost of £10 which includes the coach. If you would like to join us please ring NOW. Our speaker for July is to be Mr David Padwick. discussing the Music of IVOR NOVELLO. The competition is ca paper serviette *Vicky Griffiths*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mr John Lilley (The Story Teller) came along to our Members meeting at the Village Hall in June. He had an assortment of tales. most of which he had written himself and all made a point which was very true to life. After refreshments. we held an auction with Mrs Jean Wright as a very competent auctioneer. It was all good fun with some useful money being made for WI funds. We have Mr John Appleby coming to our July meeting to tell us about Great Bromley and the local history. This promises to be a very interesting evening. If anyone would like to come along to the Village Hall on Wednesday. 5th July at 7.30 pm you will be very welcome. The WI Heritage Show is being held on 14th and 15th July at Marks Hall Coggeshall and many other events are planned up until the end of the year 2000. *June Willgress*

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

Sunday 21st May saw the Management Committee and friends on a sponsored walk round Alton Water to raise some more funds for our Village Hall. The weather wasn't brilliant, mild but raining which became progressively heavier during the day. With Control Marshall Vera Biddis firmly seated at the Dam End car park Stutton. the main group of walkers set off between 11.10 and 12.00 am to walk anti-clockwise round this lovely part of a Suffolk countryside finishing between 2.00 and 4.00 pm. Earlier in the day Martin Frostick had run the circuit in about 1.5 hours. Those walking were: Peter and June Wenden. Carol and Julian Cordwell, Lynda and Phil Allam, June and Bevan Willgress. Jean and Tracey Wright, Gill and Rob Christmas. Henry and Anne Fairley. Pat Petchey, Tubby Austin & Mr and Mrs Raper. Jean Austin, Beryl and Geoff Hurst were present in support. We wish to thank everyone who supported this effort, whether it be as a walker. sponsor or in any other capacity gathering in of the sponsored monies is currently in progress!

The Management Committee met again on Tuesday. 23rd May with Peter Wenden. Chairman, and most members present. We were unable to come to a final decision with regard to the new Lounge and Store room project and still require a little bit more information. The Committees next scheduled , meeting is on Saturday, 22nd July at 10.00 am. *Bevan Willgress. Secretary .*

KITCHEN CORNER

New potatoes are one of the things I really enjoy at this time of year- Here is a recipe for a potato salad that goes well with cold meats or terrine.

Sour Cream Potato Salad serves 6 people

1½ lb new potatoes, 1 small onion, 1/2 cucumber, 3 or 4 stalks of celery, salt and pepper, 3 hard boiled eggs

Dressing:- 1 carton soured cream, 3 rounded tablesp mayonnaise, 1 teasp made mustard
Scrape and boil potatoes (12 minutes). Drain and cool then slice thickly. Peel and fine chop the onion. Peel and dice the cucumber, wash and shred celery. Put all in a bowl and season well. Cut eggs in half, remove yolks and finely cut up the egg whites. Add these to the bowl and toss together lightly. Mix 1 together the dressing ingredients, add to the salad and toss lightly to mix. Put mixture into a serving dish, then use a wooden spoon to press the egg yolks through a sieve all over the top to decorate. *Jill Frostick*

Dates for the Year 2000

JULY

3rd Strawberry Tea with Leigh Singers, Grove House, 2.30pm

5th W.I. Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

5th Charity Quiz Night, Cross Inn

7th Tendring Show Deanery Millennium Celebration on Tendring Showground, 7pm

9th Baptism Party at the Rectory, 2.30pm

11th School Sports Day 12th Parochial Church Council Meeting, 7.00pm

13th Friendship Club outing to Taverham Nurseries

13th Cats Protection Summer Sale, Walton Church Hall. 9.30am

15/15th W.I. Heritage Show at Marks Hall, Coggeshall

16th Family Fun Day at Gt. Bromley School

22nd Ct. Bromley Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, 10.00am

22/23 Ardleigh Millennium Spectacular

SEPTEMBER

9th Friends of Essex Churches Sponsored Walk and Bike Ride

23rd HD visit to Millennium Dome

OCTOBER

1st-15th Celebrate Together

28th Hallowe'en Disco, Village Hall (Cats Protection)

NOVEMBER

9th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Coffee Morning

POST OFFICE PLAN

LITTLE BROMLEY is still on course to get a new post office. I The hamlet has been without one for eight months following the retirement of Peter Ollivant, postmaster for 17 years. Two months ago Post Office Counters confirmed it had appointed a new sub-postmaster and negotiations

were continuing on the siting for an office- Now the company has said a planning application was being made to build a new office but could not say when it would open.

Taken from the Essex County Standard 23rd June, 2000

THINKING OF EVERYBODY (continued)

To one Quarles' wife of Dedham, a young cow, already in his (sic) possession.

To Elizabeth Bonner of Norwich. my sister's daughter, 10 shillings.

To John Rogers that did marry Susan Bonner, a cow

To Thomas Perry, William Fuller, Christopher Fuller and George Fuller, each 10 shillings and Lancelot and Christopher Fuller a bullock each.

To Many Martin's children 10 shillings

To Michael Davy's children of Great Bentley, each 5 shillings at 18.

To Richard Mont. my servant. a cow bullock and 6s-8d.

Mr Pyrton on payment of £5 a piece of plate remaining with me in pawn since lent.

To young Edward Pyrton 20 shillings. If the plate be not redeemed and the £5 paid, the same piece and the standing silver cap, a silver and gilt salt. a silver tun. 3 pots tipped with silver. 11 silver spoons and all my household stuff. (if not bequeathed to George Hoyer) at 21.

I forgive William Fuller £6 owing to me by his bond which shall be freely delivered to him.

John Upcher for one year yearly rent of £13-6s-8d may occupy and farm 40 acres of my farm called North Land and Howletts and have his firewood. viz..3 loads of wood per year.

To Joan Sadler 10 shillings

Anne Waller, my wife's son's daughter 10 shillings at 21

George Dyer. my godson. 10 shillings

Thomas Martyn, a bullock and his little son William. a store bullock

Little Clarke of Little Bentley. 6s-8d.

Anne. daughter of William Fuller. a bullock .

John Appleby

PLAYGROUP

Our table top sale. held on 20th May. was a great success. A total £372 was raised which will be used to purchase some new equipment. A big thank you to everyone who helped on the day and those who supported us. We would also like to thank the following people who kindly donated prizes for our raffle: The Cross Inn, The Old Black Boy, The Kings Arms (Frating). Go Bananas. Childsplay Adventureland. The Snooty Fox. Deans Garden Centre. Blenheims Nurseries. Putnams Photographs, Beth Chatto and Gt. Bromley Post Office and Stores.

Our topic for this half term is colours. We had brilliant fun playing pirates and learnt about gold and silver treasure and also did some baking. The children made orange buns with brown chocolate buttons on the top. Yummy! They have also been busy making Fathers Day cards. We have been very lucky with the weather and have been able to use our outdoor play area most days with the sand and water. We accept children from the age of 2 years 6 months. If you would like any further information please contact our secretary. Helen Fairley, on 01206 392486 who will be pleased to help. Our Toddler Group is held on Wednesday. Dates for your diary: Thurs 13 July - Last day of term Mon 11 Sept - Playgroup returns for Autumn term.

The BROWNIES

Ashleigh and Lorna have just taken their Promise and we welcome them to the Pack. Sadly Rosie has left us but will be joining the new Guide unit in September and we wish her all the best for the future. 20 of us went to London on 17th June to watch the Trooping of the Colour in Horse Guards Parade which was an experience to remember. The day was very hot and we were all totally exhausted by the time we arrived home but at least we didn't faint like the poor Guardsman! We will be moving from the Hut to the Village Hall in September and the meeting day will then be on a Tuesday. Our thanks to Warren and Cindy for allowing us to use the Hut this past year - it will be a great wrench to leave our theme of the last few years. We have a number of girls who will be leaving us to join guides so there will be quite a few spaces soon. Any girl aged 7 years or over who would like to become a brownie please contact me. From September we will be meeting on Tuesdays from 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm. *Brown Owl*

CHILDREN'S PAGE

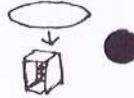
Make a Zoetrope A zoetrope is a circular drum with pictures inside. When the drum is spun round the pictures are seen through slots. This makes the pictures look as if they are moving.

You will need

Card	a matchbox	a medium plate	paper
Paints	a pencil	a ruler	scissors
Glue	a split pin	pair of compasses	

What to do

1. Set the compasses so that they are 5 cm apart and draw a circle on the card. Cut it out and stick it on to the top of the inside of the matchbox (see 1).



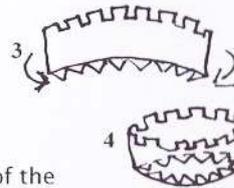
2. Draw round the plate on to the card to make another circle. Cut it out.

3. Cut another piece of card about 15cm wide and long enough to go round the second circle of card. Add an extra 2 cm for gluing.



4. Cut zigzag tabs along one long edge of the card and ten evenly spaced slots along the other, each about 6mm wide (see 2).

5. Bend the tabs inwards (see 3). Apply glue underneath them and use them to stick the strip of card on to the second circle of card. Stick the ends of the strip together to make the drum (see 4).



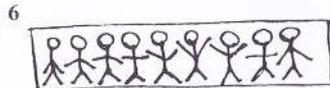
6. Paint the outside of the drum and the sleeve of the matchbox in a dark colour.

7. Once the paint has dried, push a split pin through the centre of the bottom of the drum and into the inside of the matchbox (see 5). Put the sleeve of the matchbox back on.



8. Cut a strip of paper 8cm wide and long enough to fit inside the drum. Put it inside the drum and mark where each slot falls.

9. Take out the strip and draw a series of pictures, one above each mark (see 6). Perhaps you could draw the stages a person goes through when waving. Colour your pictures in one colour.



10. Slip the paper into the drum and pin it round (see 7). You should see a moving picture.



14

HISKEYS FARM KENNELS
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 Open 8am to 8pm – 7 days a week – 365 days a year
 Quality care for your Dogs, Cats and Small Pets
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 GREAT BROMLEY
 Tel: 0467821862
 E-mail: louise.j.c.@virgin.net

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR GREAT BROMLEY united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Dear Parishioner.

- Farming families care for 80% of our land and produce 70% of our food.
- They employ over 600,000 people.
- Farm incomes have fallen 60% in recent years.
- 18,000 farmers and farm workers lost their job last year alone
- Nearly all pig producers and the majority of poultry producers are making unsustainable financial losses. So, too, over half of all lowland livestock farmers. almost half of cereal growers. one in three dairy farmers. one in four hill beef and sheep producers and the majority of horticulturists.

Bleak financial prospects are cited as the predominant factor behind the growing number of farmers being diagnosed with severe emotional problems. You may be forgiven in thinking that I'm going on about Christian Aid again and these are about some famine-wasted area of the world. They are not of course. rather statistics produced by the UK Churches about our own land for last month's Rogation Day.

It's not just farming families who are affected by these statistics. Our lives are changing. Change can be good and positive. Often if something doesn't change it's because it's dead! I think as an individual though I can control more of this than I think. Governments can make a difference, but then so can I. It's all about the choices I make. I enjoy being able to shop at one large store where I can buy everything at once, often things out of season, at the time I want and at the cheapest price. But where does that leave the small specialist supplier, the Village Shop, those who see a bottle of water costing a lot more than what they get for producing a pint of milk! The choice I make affects them all and those who cannot get to out of town shops or who see local places as more than a place to buy things. I want more spent on health care. education and subsidies. like we see in other countries, but not if it means my tax bill goes up.

Christians believe God has created this world. that out of love he came to earth as Jesus Christ to show us how to live. and that he sustains Christians through himself in the Holy Spirit. A Christian response to this is. a sensible use of our planet's resources. and good support of each other in earthly life. Seeing my life as part of something greater is important. When people feel secure. appreciated, loved, then difficult situations and change can be seen in a different perspective. Jesus was the best at doing this and calls others to live like him. May God bless all our reactions to these statistics. Where we are personally part of them may we find some peace, and may the choices we make be for the good of my brother and sister. as well as for self.

Fr Nicolas

Services for July

Sunday 2nd Trinity 2

8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George

11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George

Sunday 9th Trinity 3

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary

8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George

11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary

Sunday 16th Trinity 4

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George

8.00am The Eucharist St. George

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George

11.00am Parish Eucharist & Baptisms St Mary

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George

Sunday 23rd Trinity 5

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary

8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George

11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary

Sunday 30th Trinity 6

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary

8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George

11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS At St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

The Bromley Messenger August 2000

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A few things of note have occurred since I last wrote which was some while ago. The main item of note is church burglaries. Some of you may have read in the papers that some of our local churches have been the subject of burglaries. Antique items of furniture are the main target. Some of the churches have been forcibly entered and some have been entered when the churches have been left open. Little Bromley church was targeted a few weeks ago. An attempt was made to break in which was unsuccessful. A possible suspect vehicle has very recently come to light, a green Astra van, although no registration number is known.

A house in the Harwich Road area of Great Bromley has recently had a window smashed. It would seem somebody was throwing large stones around this would appear to be deliberate criminal damage.

There are two new co-ordinators for the Great Bromley area. Mr Bush has taken over the Springhill Close area and Mr Jones has now taken over the Hall Road, St. George's Close and Badley Hall Road area. Mrs Shute is the new co-ordinator for the whole of Little Bromley. The incidents of burnt out cars being found in Great Bromley are on the increase again. These are usually found in the back lanes of Bromley and Ardleigh. They are usually status vehicles. We need to hear if anybody sees anything suspicious as persons are preparing to set fire to a vehicle. Lastly please remember the number at Mistley for the Community Policing Team, 01206 395555. This number can be used to leave any messages for members of the team. If need be you do not have to leave your details. C J Phillips. PC1061

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

100 CLUB winners for June

1st M Frostick 2nd J Hodge 3rd P Petchey

QUIZ NIGHT 7th October 7.30pm In the Village Hall

MATERIAL for the September 2000 edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by TUESDAY, 15th August, 2000 please. Copy can either be delivered by hand sent by post or by e mail.

HOT LINE PRINTERS sponsor advert

USE THEM - OR LOSE THEM?

We in Great Bromley are very fortunate. We have a Post Office and Stores together with three pubs, a school, a playgroup, a village hall and a daily bus service as well as a number of local businesses who also kindly sponsor and advertise in our magazine. We also have a youth club, brownies and various adult groups ranging from WI, Carpet Bowls, Badminton, the Cricket Club to the Friendship Club and bellringing. There is also the Pantomime group. All of these depend upon you for your support failing which one or more may well be lost to us. The Rector quoted bleak farming statistics last month and the Rural Community Council of Essex compile statistics through questionnaires sent to parish councils, an excerpt of which is shown below and from them I obtained the following information.

Post Offices

Post masters and rural communities have expressed considerable anxiety over the Government's plans to introduce Automated Credit Transfer (ACT). There are concerns that with customers no longer able to withdraw benefits in cash, the viability of the post office would suffer greatly. The Government's decision not to compel people to use bank accounts has been welcomed, but the uncertainty over future changes and their impact remains.

Village Shops

Between October 1997 and April 2000 the Village Shop Development Scheme has offered over £80,000 in grants to village shops in Essex. As many village shops are located with post offices, the viability of one affects the other. There are therefore concerns amongst shopkeepers about Government plans for the future of rural sub-post offices and proposals for introducing ACT. The internet could provide both an opportunity and threat to village shops and post offices. Internet food shopping can of course be a threat to village shops. Alternatively, there is the potential for sub-post offices to be used as collection points for internet goods, thus increasing their use. Later this year the Rural Community Council of Essex will be producing a series of leaflets

entitled "Keeping Vital Services Alive" which will provide communities with advice on how to save village services under threat. The series will include leaflets on sub- post offices and village shops. We will let you know when and where these leaflets will be available. **LMH**
 With thanks to the Rural Community Council of Essex

1997 Rural Services Survey - Essex

Percentage of rural parishes lacking key services	Essex	Colchester	Tendring
Parishes without any type of shop	31%	17%	0%
Parishes without a post office	35%	25%	5%
Parishes without a village hall	13%	17%	19%
Parishes without a public house	12%	8%	5%
Parishes without a school (for any age)	39%	26%	28%
Parishes without a school (for 6 year olds)	39%	26%	28%
Parishes without a daily bus service	62%	46%	29%

GREAT BROMLEY MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE

The Committee would like to thank the following for their support and help with the recent Medieval Banquet. The Banquet, held as a celebration of the Millennium and as a welcoming event for the Stone family from America, was a great success. Funds raised from this and other events since the New Year will go towards the Church Roof Restoration Fund.

Nigel and Amanda Rowe, Mr Chris Haines. Mr Tom Trimby, Mr Kevin Clarke, Mrs June Willgress, Mrs Anne Wild, Mr Henry Fairley, Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, The Cross Inn, The Snooty Fox, Gaffneys of Tiptree, Mr Pete Vigus, Mr Paul Gaffney, Mr Neil Thompson, Joanne, Sam, Yvonne, Hannah, Mr Steve Pinhey and the Parish Council.

NIGEL'S MARATHON EFFORT UPDATE

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who generously donated towards my recent fund raising efforts. As a result of my London Marathon run at the Thursday (Gateway) Club has now received a cheque for £1,050. This donation means that the club, together with the Stepping Stones (for children with learning difficulties) now have sufficient funds to purchase a Mini Bus for day trips. For those that are interested in the run itself, my final time for the marathon was 4 hrs 13 mins. This was slightly slower than hoped but given a serious bout of "hitting the wall" at the twenty mile point I am happy with the time. Many thanks for all donations. *Nigel Shed, Great Bromley Resident*

LETTERS

From: Mr L M Bellet of the Old School House, Shop Road, Little Bromley

SPEEDING Having lived in Little Bromley for just over two years, I was astonished and angered at the speed at which some motorists drove through the village. I was even more stunned when upon telephoning the Highways Agency I learned that the village had a speed limit of 60 mph. Since then, however, a speed restriction of 30 mph has been imposed. But sadly as ever, there does seem to be an awful lot of irresponsible drivers who completely ignore this speed limit. What will it take for drivers, motorists and motorcyclists alike to slow down and change their driving habits. Perhaps random Police speed checks would be a start. The word would soon spread that they were in operation. Or will it take a fatality for this to happen? Are there other villagers who feel the same, if so, let us try to do something about it- I am more than willing to take up this task.

BARN DANCE
 Saturday 9th September
 7.30pm



With London Band & Caller

In aid of Village Hall Funds

Tickets £6 including supper
 Bring your own drink
 Obtainable from 250617, 230506,
 230578 or the Post Office Stores

THE OCCASIONAL SINGERS
 - A Mixed Voice Group -



Meet fortnightly in Great Bromley

New members welcome - especially Tenors and Basses

Ability to read music not essential but a sense of humour is welcomed

For more information please contact either 01206 230436 or 01255 553885

Dates for the Year 2000

AUGUST

17th Friendship Club meeting. Village Hall. 2.00pm
24th Frating Gardening Club visit to Gifford's Hall Vineyard, 10.30am
Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting. Village Hall, 7.30pm
25- 28th St. Osyth Church Flower Festival

SEPTEMBER

6th WI meeting. Village hall, 7.30pm
9th Friends of Essex Churches Sponsored Walk and Bike Ride
Barn Dance. Village Hall. 7.30pm
17th Harvest Festival, Lt. Bromley Church, 6.30pm
23rd HD visit to Millennium Dome

OCTOBER

1st Launch of Celebrate Together, St. Mary's. Ardleigh. 11.00am
3rd Any Christian Questions evening. School. 8.00pm
7th Trip to Ely, starting St. George's church. 9.30am-5.00pm
Gt Bromley Cricket Club Quiz Night. Village Hall. 7.30pm
10th Songs of Praise. Ardleigh School. 8.00pm
13th Barn Dance. Ardleigh Village Hall. 8.00pm
14th Church Activity and Open time. St George's Church. 2-4pm
15th Parish Harvest Thanksgiving. St. Georges Church. 9.30am Harvest Lunch. 12.30pm
28th Hallowe'en Disco. Village Hall (Cats Protection)

NOVEMBER 9th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Coffee Morning 18th Concert. Village Hall
25th Christmas Sale. Village Hall

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met on Sunday. 16th July to further discuss the proposed building project to provide a lounge and Store at the Hall. We are pleased to say that having got answers to most of our queries we have decided to move forward and proceed to place the order for the provision of the Lounge and associated works. The cost of the project together with our current financial situation prevents us from providing the Store at this stage.

The Chairman of the Committee, Peter Wenden. wishes to thank everyone who helped or supported in any way the sponsored walk round Alton Water on 21st May to raise more funds for our Village Hall. We are delighted with the outcome, with £1,753 being raised to the benefit of the Hall. Thank you all very much. Peter intends to organise another walk next year. at about the same time (May) - we just hope it does not rain!

We are holding a fund raising Barn Dance at the Village Hall on Saturday. 9th September. why not book your ticket with Pat Petchey on 01206 250617 to ensure you are present to enjoy the evening. Further events are a Concert on 18th November and our Christmas Sale on 25th November, both at the Hall.

The Committee was scheduled to meet on Saturday. 22nd July at 10.00 am.

Bevan Willgress. Secretary

GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on 22nd June.

Village Pond - Grass Cutting Quotes for grass cutting. near the pond are currently being obtained.

Colchester Road - Speed limit The request for an extension of the 40 mph speed limit along the Colchester Road is still under consideration by the County Council. They are awaiting the results of recent surveys.

School Chevron Sign It had been noticed that the chevron warning sign is in the wrong position. The Parish Council will have a site meeting with the County Council to get this corrected.

Land adjacent to Old Spread Eagle Public House The poor condition of this plot has been reported to the District Council for action.

Footpath Overgrown vegetation near the footpath which runs alongside the A133 where it crosses the A120 road has been reported to the Public Rights of Way Officer at the County Council for action.

Dropped Kerbs A site meeting has been arranged with the County Council to discuss the installation of dropped kerbs in the village.

Insurance The Parish Council's insurance has been renewed with Cornhill Insurance as their quote was approximately £200 less than Zurich Municipal's. The value of the Council's assets will now be reviewed as it is thought that the insurance values are inaccurate.

Accounts The accounts and associated paperwork will be presented to the District Auditor on 24th July.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications have been considered by the Parish Council and their comments forwarded to the District Council.

1 Chapel Lane Demolition of existing front lean-to and construction of new single storey front extension and new two storey side and rear extension No objections to this application

22 Chapel Lane Replacement garage No objections to this application

1 Hall Road Garden Shed The Parish Council has no objection to this application subject to the following conditions: 1. That the shed is painted to match the house 2. That trellis is erected for screening purposes.

MILLENNIUM MUGS A few mugs are still available for sale - phone 23061338 Thank you to Mr and Mrs Beckett. Great Bromley Post Office, for selling the mugs on behalf of the Parish Council. The next meeting of Gt. Bromley Parish Council will be held on 24th August at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Notes from a Village School St. George's, Gt. Bromley

GOVERNOR NEWS Due to work commitments and moving house, Anne Brittain and Rebecca Callows respectively, have had to resign as Parent Governors from the Governing Body. Julie Fahy, Chair of Governors and Pat Fitzgerald thanked them both for the hard work they have contributed to the school. Letters went out to Parents recently asking for nominations and only one was received by Mr Gary Prince who is therefore elected unopposed. The remaining vacancy will then be filled by our present co-opted governor. Mr Dave Skinner, which allows us to co-opt on to the governing body Mr Neil Fortescue who has expressed an interest in becoming a governor in advance of his child joining our school next year.

BAD WEATHER Due to the weather so much has had to be cancelled. Firstly the Rounders Cluster Tournament. then Sports Day (twice) and then the Family Fun Day. Luckily the rain held back for most of the day at the Leavers Outing to Chessington World of Adventures, although a lot of children still managed to get very wet on various rides. Finally in the last week of term the sun shone, the Scatterball Cluster Tournament hosted by St. George's at the Village Hall cricket ground was able to be held with Wix winning and Gt. Bromley and Gt. Oakley finishing a close second. The same afternoon parents of children with musical talents were entertained in the school hall. And on the last day of term Sports Day was finally able to be held!

THE BROWNIES this term have welcomed Lorna and Ashleigh who have taken their Promise and sadly said goodbye to Rosie N, Sabrina, Victoria, Michelle and Alice who are going on to guides as well as Rosie K and Leanne who are joining other brownie packs. Also a goodbye and a big thank you for all her help and enthusiasm over the past few months to Katie and we hope she soon gets her bronze DOE. Through learning about brownies from other countries both last term and this term almost everyone has gained their World Cultures, World Traveller and Worldwide badges. Swimming, Sportswoman and Friends to Animals badges have also been gained. The pack has been very active this term enjoying a trip to London to see the Queen at The Trooping of the Colour, joining in District fun at STOMP at Park Farm, going on a walk to Boudge Hill wood, learning about asthma and also about owl conservation. They also raised money for Book Aid - a Guide Association project to send appropriate educational books to Africa. Craft and food evenings have also been much enjoyed! This is my last report on brownies as I have now retired after 11 years of great fun. I have loved running the brownies and I thank everyone over the years who has helped and supported me. I know too you will help and support Jean Baalham who is taking over until a replacement for me can be found - the pack is in good, capable hands. The pack will meet from September on Tuesday evenings at the Village Hall, 5.30 - 7.00pm during term times. We thank Warren and Cindy Taggart for allowing us the use of the Hut during the past year and wish them well when their new baby arrives. Any girl wishing to join brownies who is 7 years or over should ring Jean on 01206 393313. - Brown Owl

WANTED - MID-DAY SUPERVISORY ASSISTANT

Our popular village school needs a Midday Supervisory Assistant to join our existing team at lunchtime. Starting date: September, 2000 Hours: 11.55-12.55 Monday - Friday (term time only) Please contact the school office (01206 230305) for details and an application pack.

PLAYGROUP

Continuing our topic of colours this term we have been strawberry picking for red and green and making pink and purple flowers. Thank you to PC Phillips for visiting us on our black and white week and talking to us about road safety and zebra crossings. Our annual summer outing this year was a trip to the seaside, blue for the sea and yellow for sand. We travelled to Walton by train and despite the weather being dull, the children had a lovely time. We would like to extend our thanks to the management of Walton Pier who opened up "Pirate Petes" early for us. The children also enjoyed a paddle in the sea and finished with a picnic on the beach. We held a Teddy Bears Picnic on the last Wednesday of term. There was a prize for the best-dressed teddy, games and face painting for the children, a lovely way to end the term. We sadly say goodbye and wish luck to Ruth, Charlie and Daniel who will be Starting school in September. If you would like any further information about playgroup please contact our secretary. Helen Fairley on 01206 392486, who will be pleased to help. Our Toddler Group is held on Wednesday mornings - just come along. Dates for your diary: Mon 11 Sept Playgroup returns after summer break Wed 13 Sept Toddler Group returns

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our next meeting on 17th August we have a Musical entertainment with Kathy & Sharon. The competition is - a candlestick We had a very enjoyable day out at Taverham Nurseries last month where they had water features for the large or small gardens, plants, pots, craft centres, restaurants etc, it is well worth a visit. The ladies at the Diss Methodist Church made us very welcome here we had a delicious tea. *Vicky Griffiths*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We all expected to have a very interesting talk by Mr John Appleby at our July meeting and we were not disappointed. He brought along his slides of Gt. Bromley. or some of them, and told us the history of the village as he went along. The evening was over much too quickly but we are hoping he will be able to come back again before long, as he said there were lots more slides for us to see and history to hear about. As it was our birthday meeting, Mrs Sylvia Mangan made us some delicious refreshments enjoyed by all. Mrs Jean Wright usually undertakes this task but is not at all well at the moment and I would like to send everyone's best wishes to Jean. In August we have an outing instead of our usual monthly meeting. We meet again the Village Hall at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday in September, so why not come along? *June Willgress*

THOMAS PAYNE of LITTLE BROMLEY, HUSBANDMAN

By his will of 4 April. 1589. Thomas Payne left the following bequests

"to Joan, my wife, my tenement with the lands belonging in Little Bromley, called Mullyes for 24 years, if she live so long, paying my son, Thomas, at the expiration of the 24 years for a stock, £15.

"if she deceases before, there shall he allowed out of the tenement and lands to the use of Thomas after the rate of 12 shillings a year

"If my wife be with child, the child shall have allowed out of the tenement and lands by my wide likewise £10

"To John, my son, after my wife's term, for the default of issue, to Thomas

"All my goods to be equally divided, into three parts, to my wife, Thomas and John.

"I ordain my wife executrix and my loving neighbour Robert Sound supervisor

Witnesses - Francis Gallantt, John Steven

John Appleby

GARDENERS' CORNER for AUGUST

Where is the sun?? Don't know which part of the Globe we're in but the warming does not seem to reach us! Onwards with the garden - it is not too late to take cuttings of flowering shrubs such as HYDRANGEA. When they have rooted pinch out the growing tip and next year you should have two or three blooms. ROSES: Feed them to help through the rest of the year - keep taking off the dead blooms.

HEATHERS: can be propagated this month - take semi-hard cuttings with a heel. WINTER FLOWERING PANSIES and WALL-FLOWERS: you can still risk planting the seeds now. Frank Griffiths

FRATING GARDENING CLUB

A small group has got together to form a gardening club in Frating. Our aim is to meet on a regular basis in Frating Memorial Hall to swap ideas and formulate plans for the planting of bulbs and flowers in small areas around the village. In the winter, it is intended that some informative talks can be arranged, as well as some outings throughout the year. We would like to get as many people involved as possible. For more details come along to the hall on the first Monday of every month at 7.30pm. or contact Jacqui O'Brien on 01206 251497.

7th August. 7.30pm BARBARA PRICE-TRASLER

This month Barbara Price-Trasler will visit our club, with the aid of slides she will be speaking on the subject of "choosing shrubs and trees". £2.00 price to include a glass of wine, tickets on the door. We hope to see as many of you as possible as all proceeds will go towards the purchase plants, flowers and bulbs to be planted in small areas around the village.

Trip to GIFFORD'S HALL VINEYARD Sunday 24th September

Coach leaves Frating Village Hall at 10.30am £10.00 each including a light lunch

The trip consists of a tour of the vineyards and gardens. A leaflet advertising Gifford's Hall is displayed in Frating Post Office where tickets can be purchased.

METHODIST NEWS

Please note that the new address for Methodist contact. Gill Newman. is 3 Lilac Court, Chaney Road, Wivenhoe CO7 9RY. Telephone (still) 01206 826178.

All local Methodists, (or in fact anybody) are very welcome to join us in our brand new Trinity Christian Centre at Elmstead Market. Services from August will begin at 10.30 am. Trinity has been so named as it was formed from three congregations formally at Balls Green, Burnt Heath and Elmstead Market. Two chapels were sold and the third was demolished to make "Trinity" possible. We now have a light, airy, multi-purpose building with modern kitchen and toilet facilities, including a spacious disabled toilet, so we are now well equipped to face the 21st Century! Do come and visit the first new church in the Millennium.

<p>FRIENDS of ESSEX CHURCHES SPONSORED WALK and BIKE RIDE 9th September, 2000</p> <p>Walk or cycle around Essex churches to raise money for the church or chapel of your choice and for The Friends of Essex Churches.</p> <p>If you would like a sponsor form and a directory of churches open on the day, please contact Nicky Robinson on 01206 230229.</p> 	<p><i>Church of St Peter and St Paul, St. Osyth Flower Festival</i> 2000 Years <i>A celebration of 2000 years of history from the birth of Christ to tomorrow</i> 25th-28th August Fri/Sat/Mon: 10.00 am - 5.00pm Sunday: Service 10.00 am Festival 11.30am - 6.00pm Songs of Praise 6.00pm Refreshments Admission by Programme £1</p> 
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DO YOU PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?

Would you be willing to swell the musical sound during

- ◆ "CELEBRATE TOGETHER" - 1st - 15th October

Members of "The Occasional Singers" (a group drawn from Ardleigh and The Bromleys) will also be assisting. There will be

- ◆ 'SONGS OF PRAISE' on Tuesday, 3rd October at 8.00pm at Ardleigh School as well as other celebrations and Children's/Adult events.

Please telephone 01206 230436 after 6.00 pm with the news that you are willing and able to help.

FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Parishioner. letters are beginning to arrive on my desk from some of the members of the Stone family in America who recently spent a long weekend in the parish. Sentences like " What a perfectly wonderful weekend we had with you all" and "the trip of a lifetime" and "we Stones were so touched by the beautiful welcome and care during our stay" sum up the general response! I think that those of us from here would express similar sentiments. The Stones came and were perfect guests, loving our villages and churches and helping me at least to look again at what I take for granted. For some of them it was their first visit and the emotion evoked was a powerful one. One of them said that she first remembers seeing a picture of S Georges sixty years ago in her grandparent's house. All her family's houses have a picture of the church and they were brought up to know it as home, and here she was! They came with a great sense of history, of love, and generosity. One grandmother Stone who was too frail to come sewed three Church mice. One for the Church, one for the School and one for the Rectory! They presented some books on America to the school and needless to say are being very generous towards the Repair Fund.

I'd like to say a thank you to them for coming (and I know some of them have placed orders for the Messenger). Also I'd like to thank all who worked so hard to make it such a special few days. Jean and Robert Harding put a lot of hours into the project and involved a whole host of other people too. Thank you. Thanks too must surely go to the Members of the Millennium Committee (I'm only really a sleeping member!) for the Medieval Banquet. I had to check with the Bishop Monday morning that I still had a job, and as yet no news from the Sheriff's men, so I think I'm alright there too. Again an extraordinary amount of work went into the evening and it was marvellous. I was at the London fireworks New Years Eve, I've been to the Dome (which I can recommend as a good day out a if you can afford it) and I've celebrated in lots of places the birth of Jesus, but when I look back on the year 2000, that night in the marquee on Church Meadow will be what I value most.

You will have noticed that the scaffolding is still up in S George's. Things are going well if not quite to plan but then part of the exercise is to find exactly what needs to be done. When this phase is over we shall have a realistic specification to put to tender for the work to be completed which in the long run will save us money. The good news is that the roof is sounder than once feared. The not so good news (isn't it always like this?) is that the "feet" which support the roof have been eaten away by beetle and so will have to be replaced. Once this has been costed, we will see the presence of builders and the end of the scaffolding will be insight. Not such a bad way to mark the Millennium securing our beautiful place of worship, for future generations of Bromleyites - English and American. May God bless you all for your generosity and good will. and continue to bless us as we seek to be true to our inheritance and our future promises.

Fr Nicolas.

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR GREAT BROMLEY united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Services for August

Sunday 6th The Transfiguration of Our Lord

7.30am Morning Prayer 8.00am The Eucharist St. George

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George

Sunday 13th 8th Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer St Mary 8.00am The Eucharist St Mary

9.30am Parish Eucharist Sr. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St Mary

6.30pm Evening Prayer St Mary

Tuesday 15th The Assumption of our Lady

7.00pm Patronal Festival St. Mary the Virgin with Br William CR as preacher

Sunday 20th 9th Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George 8.00am The Eucharist St. George

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist & Baptisms St. Mary

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George

24th 10th Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer & 8.00am The Eucharist St.Mary 9.30am Parish Eucharist St.

George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary

17th September Harvest Festival at Little Bromley Church 6-00pm

The Bromley Messenger September 2000

GREAT BROMLEY BADMINTON CLUB

Last season was another enjoyable one, with the Club competing in three Leagues, Men's Division 5 of the Colchester & East Essex Federation, Mixed Div. 6 in the Colchester & East Essex Federation and a mixed team in the Baker Smith Cups Competition. Unfortunately we are unable to have regular club nights as there is just not enough of us, so all members take part in the competitive games in the leagues. Considering we only have 10 full members, we managed to field a full team on most occasions, with just one or two men's matches at the beginning of the season where we only managed to field two pairs. The Men's team managed to finish 3rd, the mixed team finished 4th, and the Baker Smith team came 4th divided only on games difference from Wix who finished 3rd. We have survived another season financially, making a slight profit of £4.44, although we will need extra shuttles for the coming season as we have none left in stock. The new season looks as if we might have a few more players, but still not enough to be able to have Club Nights on a regular basis. We will be playing in the three leagues as before, the fixture meetings for the leagues will be held during August so details of games/club night will be arranged then. The new season begins on 4th September with a Club Night, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, anyone who wishes to come along and play will be welcome to do so. Also proposals for the coming season will be discussed at the first club night. Any enquiries ring Joy Golding 01206 251027.

MATERIAL for the October 2000 edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by TUESDAY, 19th September, 2000 please. Copy can either be delivered by hand, sent by post or by e mail: bromleymessengerybtintemet.com We thank GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL for Sponsoring this month's magazine.

GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on 20th July, 2000.

Hare Green Recreation Ground A quote for the installation of a basketball post and tarmac surfacing 10 x 5 sq.m. has been accepted by council and work will commence as soon as possible. Although there are insufficient funds for a full size court at this time, the council intends to apply for a lottery grant to aid the completion of the project.

Traffic Speed The results of the recent traffic survey carried out in Hall Road, showed that the average speed of traffic entering the village was 38.6 mph (The speed limit is 30 mph). PC Phillips has stated that the police will take action whenever possible to catch speeding motorists.

Tree Warden Ms Cathy Hayward has accepted the appointment of Tree Warden for the coming year.

Consultation Documents The following consultation documents have been presented to the Parish Council for comment and replies sent: Essex Ambulance Service; Tendring District Council - A New Council for the 21st Century - plans for a new look council; Draft Electoral Review: New ward boundaries; Tendring District nature conservation questionnaire.

Reminder: Many footpaths in our village are very narrow and overhanging trees, overgrown hedges and vegetation can make matters worse. Please keep an eye on your boundary hedges to ensure that they are trimmed regularly and do not pose a hazard to our pedestrians. Thank you. The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held on 1st September at the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Planning Applications The following planning applications have been considered by the Parish Council and their comments forwarded to the District Council.

Atlantis, Chase Road, Rear Conservatory No objections to this application

Field House, Frating Road, Proposed swimming pool, shed and garden fencing. The Parish Council would like to withhold its comments on this application until the following information is supplied: 1 Where will the swimming pool filtration equipment be kept. 2 What is the intended use of the shed.

2 Hall Cottages, Hall Road, Two storey extension No objections to this application

Kenley, Harwich Road. Single storey rear extension No objections to this application

Willow Farm, Hilliards Road. Erection of building for storage of vintage tractors, agricultural and commercial machinery. The Parish Council objects to this application. The site is not suitable as the access road is very poor. It is a single tract road with no passing places.

Land site of March Cottage, Mary Lane South. Erection of double garage. (in lieu of single garage approved in 1998) No objections to this application

Land fronting Strutts Farm, Frating Road. Proposed change of use from highway to private use
No objections to this application

Barn adjacent to Portlands, Harwich Road. Temporary siting of mobile home for a period of 2 years during the conversion of the barn to a dwelling. No objections to this application

Barn adjacent to Portlands, Harwich Road. Conversion of Essex barn to dwelling including rear addition, replacement outbuildings and erection of cart lodge No objections to the barn conversion or cart lodge. The Parish Council strongly objects to the proposed games room and storage area as it is too large and out of character with the other buildings on the Site.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

August is the month we have our Annual Outing. This year we visited the Brightlingsea Museum and found this very interesting. It features the town's maritime history and explained their membership of the Cinque Ports. There were a large number of various displays, too many to look at in detail in the time available, so I for one, hope to visit again soon. Afterwards, we went to the Chinese Restaurant in the High Street, where we all enjoyed a very tasty and traditional meal in pleasant surroundings. We meet again on 6th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall when we have Mrs D Roberts coming to tell us about her Charity work and the Children's Hospice. All visitors welcome. *June Willgress*

Seven Rivers Cheshire Home AUTUMN SALE

Fabulous range of stalls, including Alpaca jumpers, bathroom accessories, Christmas presents, Dorling Kindersley books, greetings cards, Italian pottery, jewellery, silver, stocking tillers and wrapping paper at Great Bromley Village Hall on Tuesday, 3rd October 10.30 am to 3.00pm. Entry: £1.50 Tombola Refreshments including coffee, cakes, sandwiches will also be available.

Dates for the Year 2000

SEPTEMBER

2nd Gt. Bromley Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, 10.00am

4th Badminton Club season starts, Village Hall, 7.30pm ,

6th WI meeting, Village hall, 7.30pm

9th Friends of Essex Churches Sponsored Walk & Bike Ride
Barn Dance, Village Hall, 7.30pm

6th Barbecue/Fete, The Old Rectory, Lt Bromley 12 noon

Cat Show, Gt. Bentley Village Hall, 2.30 pm

Guide Dogs for Blind Quiz Night, Lawford, 7.30pm

17th Harvest Festival, Lt. Bromley Church, 6.30pm

21st WEA course commences, Ardleigh Village Hall, 2.30 pm

Gt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

23rd HD visit to Millennium Dome

OCTOBER

1st Launch of Celebrate Together. St. Marys Ardleigh, 11.00am

3rd Autumn Sale, Village Hall, 10.30 am

"Any Questions" evening, St. Georges School, 8.00pm

7th Trip to Ely, starting St. George's church, 9.30am-5.00pm

Gt Bromley Cricket Club Quiz Night, Village Hall, 7.30pm

10th Songs of Praise, Ardleigh School, 8.00pm

13th Barn Dance, Ardleigh Village Hall, 8.00pm

14th Church Activity and Open time, St Georges Church, 2-4pm

15th Parish Harvest Thanksgiving, St. George's Church, 9.30am

Harvest Lunch, Village Hall, 12.30pm

28th Hallowe'en Disco, Village Hall (Cats Protection), 7.30pm

NOVEMBER

9th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Coffee Morning

18th Concert, Village Hall

25th Christmas Sale, Village Hall

2001 JANUARY 10-13 'The Good, The Bad, The Ridiculous' Pantomime, Village Hall

MAY 19 Hamilton Lodge Fete, 2.00 - 4.00 pm

OLD COURTHOUSE INN

formerly "OLD BLACK BOY"

Tourist Board 3 Diamonds Recommended

Harwich Road, Great Bromley
Tel: 01206 250322 Fax 01206 251346
Email: oldcourthouseinn@talk21.com

In the 17th century this building was an old courthouse and the gallows were situated across the road and the old barn opposite was where the horses were stabled. Hence the new name and now converted back to an Inn.

BED & BREAKFAST EN SUITE ROOMS
SMOKING AND NON SMOKING RESTAURANTS
LARGE MENUS AND BAR SNACKS, DAILY CHALK BOARD SPECIALS
SECLUDED BEER GARDEN & LARGE CAR PARK
SELECTIVE CHOICE OF FINE ALES, LAGERS & WINES
COOKING TILL 10.00 pm EVERY EVENING

The Vineyard Delicatessen
23-24 Eld Lane
Colchester
Essex

Tel/Fax: 01206 573363

Purveyors of fine food and wine

**FROM OLIVES TO ANCHOVIES, WE HAVE A
FULL RANGE OF FOOD AND WINE FROM
AROUND THE WORLD FOR EVERY
OCCASION.**

**WE PREPARE HAMS, TERRINES, PATES
AND MUCH MORE IN OUR OWN
KITCHENS USING ONLY THE FINEST
NATURAL PRODUCE**

**WE STOCK A RANGE OF RARE AND
UNUSUAL WINES**

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

Performance 2001

10th - 13th January

In the Village Hall

Casting meeting

Thursday, 28th September, 7.30pm

Auditions

Tuesday, 3rd October,
7.30pm

for

**"The Good, The
Bad, The
Ridiculous"**



BARBECUE/FÊTE

Saturday, 16th September
at

The Old Rectory,
Little Bromley
12 - 3.00pm
(in aid of a Village
Sign)

Stalls, Tombola,
games etc.



GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

The 100 Club's last draw for the 1999- 2000 Season is on 30th August. The new draw commences 1st September. I would like to thank everybody who participated in the draw. It is vital to the Club we continue to run the 100 Club. At the moment we have 80 members each paying £12 per year (or £1 monthly). More than 50% is paid out in prize money. If you would like to continue to support the club please could you send your cheque to me. Thank you very much for your support and GOOD LUCK *P Allam*

100 CLUB winners for July

1st N Kempster 2nd James Pirie 3rd T Biscoe

QUIZ NIGHT 7th October in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Tickets £3 per person. If you would like to enter a team please contact P. Allam on 230375. Bring your own drink and nibbles

Tendring & District Branch of CATS PROTECTION CAT SHOW

Saturday, 16th September Gt Bentley Village Hall, 2.30pm

Cat Show Classes

1 Best Kitten - up to 6 months 2 Best Adult 3 Best Veteran Cat over 10 years

4 Best Rescued Cat 5 Cat with longest tail 6 Best in Show

Entry £1 per class Stalls: C.P. Goods - Cakes - Refreshments

HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS & DISCO PARTY 60s 70s 80s 90s music

Gt. Bromley Village hall Saturday, 28th October, 7.30pm - 12 midnight

Prizes for best costume Male, Female and Child

Tickets £6 to include supper Contact 01206 251955 or 01206 252201

KITCHEN CORNER

Orchard Chutney

It is such a good year for fruit, you might like to try making your own chutney. It is very easy, and a good flavour. 2 lbs plums 2 lbs red tomatoes 1 lb onions 2½ lbs cooking apples 1½ pt malt vinegar ½ oz garlic 4 oz sultanas 4 oz currants 1 lb demerara sugar 2 oz salt 1½ tablesp pickling spices tied in muslin

Wash and stone the plums. If the stones are not free, leave the plums whole. Peel and slice the tomatoes. Simmer these in the vinegar till soft, then remove plum stones if not already done. Mince the onions, apples, garlic and dried fruit and add to the fruit, with spices and salt. Cook all gently for about 2 hours till well reduced and tender. Remove spice bag and put into clean dry jars. This makes about 5 lbs. *Jill Frostick*

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met on Saturday, 22nd July with 9 members present. We were very sorry to hear of Jean Wright is continuing illness and wish her well. Confirmation has been received that Messrs J A Malt, Builders & Contractors can commence work on Monday, 18th September at the Village Hall constructing the Lounge and associated works. This is good news, the work is expected to take approximately 8 weeks, so should be completed by December. We are pleased to say that some large holes in the grass at the rear of the South car parking area have been filled and since then some holes have been filled in the car park as well, our grateful thanks to all those involved. Unfortunately, somebody has recently decided to demolish the railing by the car park entrance with their vehicle and drive off leaving us to pick up the pieces of their escapade. We are holding a Fund raising Barn Dance at the Village Hall on Saturday, 9th September. Why not book your ticket with Pat Petchey on 01206 250617 to ensure you are present to enjoy the evening. Further events are a Concert on 18th November and our Christmas Sale on 25th November, both at the Hall. The Committee next meet on Saturday, 2nd September, 10.00am at the Village Hall. *Bevan Willgress, Secretary.*

CHILDREN'S PAGE [colouring a sea horse]

HARVEST LUNCH

The Bromleys Harvest Lunch will be held at Gt. Bromley Village Hall on Sunday, 15th October at 12.30pm for 1.00pm. Tickets Adults £3, Family £8 from Olive Sparling 230436, James Wild 230679 or Gt. Bromley Post Office. Anyone willing to help with the lunch or donate fruit, vegetables or flowers for Harvest Festival please contact Ann Wild.

FRIENDS of ESSEX CHURCHES SPONSORED WALK and BIKE RIDE

9th September, 2000

Walk or cycle around Essex churches to raise money for the church or chapel of your choice and for The Friends of Essex Churches. If you would like a sponsor form and a directory of churches open on the day, please contact Nicky Robinson on 01206 230229.

DO YOU PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?

Would you be willing to swell the musical sound during

1) "CELEBRATE TOGETHER" 1st - 15th October

Members of the Occasional Singers (a group drawn from Ardleigh and The Bromleys) will also be assisting. There will be

2) SONGS OF PRAISE, on Tuesday, 3rd October at 8.00pm at Ardleigh School as well as other celebrations and Children's/Adult events. Please telephone 01206 230436 with the news that you are willing and able to help.

The United Benefice of Ardleigh & The Bromleys BARN DANCE

with Iceni & Caller at Ardleigh Village Hall 3 on Friday, 13th October at 8.00pm

Ploughman's Supper - Bar - Tickets £3 from Ann Wild on 230679

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

Sunday, 17th September to be held in Little Bromley Church at 6.30pm ALL WELCOME
Little Bromley residents please use this opportunity to enjoy a service in your local church

GUIDE DOGS for the BLIND

Stour Valley Branch QUIZ NIGHT at the Ogilvie Hall, Lawford on Saturday, 16th September, 7.30pm Tickets £3 per person with light refreshments being included, bring your own drink! Book early for this popular event with either: Marjorie 393504 or Colin 393059 As usual during Guide Dog Week we will be holding our annual service at St. Marys Church, Lawford on Sunday, 1st October at 3.00pm. . This is a joyful celebration of the work of Guide Dogs to which everyone is welcome, light refreshments will be served afterwards in the adjoining church hall. Come along and meet some of our four legged friends together with their owners and share a pleasant afternoon.

ARDLEIGH WEA

The Autumn Term will commence on Thursday, 21st September at 2.30 pm in the Village Hall, Ardleigh. Tutor for the 10 week course will be Mr David Peachey (who some members will remember from other courses), whose subject will be "Crossing the Divide - Where Arts and Sciences meet". This course aims to show that personalities, objectives, and motivations of scientists and artists are not so far apart as one may think. Both disciplines are seen as creative activities reflecting the nature of a particular society. Please note there is NO half-term break this term. Fees: Full £25; Concessions: £22. For further details ring 01206 230473.

PLAYGROUP

Nothing much to report this month as the summer holidays are upon us. We return to playgroup on Monday, 11th September and are looking forward to welcoming some new faces. Our topic for next term is "The five senses" The photographer will be at playgroup on Wednesday, 20th September. She will be at the hall from 10.30am - 12.30 pm. She is wonderful with the children and produces some lovely photos. Everyone welcome -just come along. Our Annual general Meeting will be held on 26th September at 8.00pm at Mrs Helen Fairley's house; we look forward to seeing you there. If you would like any further information about playgroup please contact our secretary, Helen Fairley on 01206 392486, who will be pleased to help. The toddler group returns on Wednesday, 13th September -just come along.

Dates for your diary: Mon 11 Sept Playgroup returns Wed 13 Sept Toddler group returns Wed 20 Sept Photographer Tues 26 Sept A.G.M.

FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Parishioner - During the next few weeks members of the Church will be out and about delivering invites to every house. The invites are for you to come to all or part of "Celebrate Together" For fifteen days (1st - 15th October) a team of people from different parts of the country who try to live as Christians in various ways will be in Ardleigh and the Bromleys. They too will be coming around the houses. First they will deliver a card which asks if you have anything that you would like the Church to know about for prayer. The team are coming to live amongst us to help us realise that in all our different human needs, following the person of Jesus can help. The needs do not necessarily disappear, but often a different perspective comes into view, when they are expressed as part of being in God's world, and that can bring a sense of peace. Please fill in the reply side of the card if you would like something or someone to be prayed for on a Sunday morning. A member of the team will then call back to collect the card. One of the important things about the mission and the members of the team is that you can say "no thanks" and they will hear that and respect it. The idea is not to pressurise anyone. The idea is though, to say that you have had a visit from the Church here and to demonstrate that they are your Churches. The Churches acknowledge that mistakes have been made in the past, opportunities missed, and honestly know mistakes will be made again and that they haven't got it completely right. Within that framework, a new beginning is sought and the invite is going out to come and celebrate together our lives here.

The fortnight is made up of many different events. There will be our traditional celebrations of the Harvest, a Songs of Praise evening, an Any Questions evening including on the panel Mr Frank Field MP, a clay trip to Ely, a barn dance, an open Church day, and evening gatherings in church with specific teaching subjects in mind, such as healing and "I don't need God do I?" If you would like a specific visit from one of the team members or to take part in all or any part of "Celebrate Together" please do not hesitate to ring one of the telephone numbers on the back page of the Messenger- Some things you can just turn up to, other events you need to have a ticket so plans can be made. We are not aiming to make any financial profit out of these events

but can't make a loss either! If the person can't help you with specifics, they'll know who can! Celebrate Together was conceived two years ago and will be the culmination of a lot of hard work by Church members and a new beginning for us all here. It promises to be an exciting, challenging time, affirming in Christian witness, and a lot of fun, which has incidentally, often been my experience of living the Christian life.

Come and Celebrate Together in Ardleigh and the Bromleys and may God be with you.

Fr Nicolas

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR GREAT BROMLEY united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Services for September

Sunday 3rd 11th Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George 8.00am The Eucharist St. George 9.30am Parish Eucharist

St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George

Sunday 10th 12th Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00 am Parish Eucharist St. Mary

6.30pm Harvest Festival Ardleigh Methodist Church

Sunday 17th 13th Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George 8.00am The Eucharist St. George

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary

6.30pm Harvest Festival Little Bromley Church

Sunday 24th 14th Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS At St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

The Bromley Messenger October 2000

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL VERGES

A petition has been received from the Friendship Club requesting the Parish Council to ask Tendring District Council to take action regarding the grass verges, overhanging branches and weeds overgrowing footpaths in our village. First, it is Essex County Councils responsibility to maintain the verges in order to prevent danger to road users and pedestrians. Second, it is householders/landowners responsibility to remove foliage/branches overhanging from their property and obstructing footpaths, whenever there is danger of branches falling on road-users, and pedestrians being forced to walk on the road. The Parish Council, from time to time, reminds property owners of their responsibility regarding overhanging foliage and, additionally, places notices to this effect in the parish magazine. The Council also asks Essex County Council to cut back vegetation on verges whenever there is a risk of accidents. This year, there have been many calls on the county's resources as it has been a particularly wet one.

In rural areas, Essex County Council undertakes one single swathe cut of grass verges per year, during late Spring, and every second year there is, additionally, a full width cut in the autumn. Urban areas have a full width cut every year. Whenever visibility is a safety factor, such as at road junctions, Essex County Council undertakes additional cutting. Although safety is a priority in the management of the roadside verges, Essex County Council's policy recognises that these are grassland habitats which are a valuable wildlife resource providing shelter and food for a variety of species from birds to insects. They are especially important for many plants that have been all but eradicated in other habitats. Over-cutting can destroy flora. We should protect our verges, therefore, and leave cutting to authorised contractors so that future generations can enjoy the beauty of natural wild flowers and grasses.

James Heaney Chairman of the Parish Council

LITTLE BROMLEY HARVEST FESTIVAL



It was very rewarding to see standing room only when so many residents, their friends and past residents of Little Bromley returned to the Village Church to take part in the special Harvest Festival Service. At this service also, the Baptism of Grace Mari Smith of Little Bromley and Alex Tokeley of Great Bromley took place.

The Church was beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables and all 100 candles lit for this special occasion. The service was conducted by Father Nicolas Spicer assisted by Mr John Appleby. This event coincided with the Open Door Weekend which allowed passers by access to all normally locked churches, such as the working church of Ardleigh and the now redundant church at Little Bromley. Thank you to anyone who assisted in any way over this wonderful weekend by flower arranging, stewarding or contributing gifts to the church. Our thanks to the Church Conservation Trust for the care they give this beautiful church. Father Nicolas looks forward to seeing you at the Parish Church at any of the numerous services, times of which are to be found at the back of this book. *Ann Fairley*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mrs Dorothy Roberts came along to our September meeting to tell us about her charity work raising money for EACH (East Anglian Children's Hospices). EACH aims to ease the terrible burden on families when a child becomes terminally ill. Their first Children's Hospice was opened at Milton, Cambridgeshire, but have now added two more at Quidenham in Norfolk and Ipswich in Suffolk with a further one planned for Southend-on-Sea in Essex, taking admissions from surrounding counties including the Greater London Boroughs.

A child's needs are always the prime consideration, one to one care 24 hours a day is provided at the Hospice whilst they stay in cheerful surroundings, with special play equipment such as multi-sensory and soft play rooms for the child to enjoy. Care and support for all the family is also given priority and accommodation for them to stay too, also grandparents are encouraged to get involved sometimes. Home nursing is available when required to give families a fully deserved rest.

Our next speaker is Mr P Harrington who will Show us the craft of Silk Painting which promises to be interesting. Visitors are welcome to come along to the Village Hall on Wednesday, 4th October at 7.30pm. A reminder to Great Bromley WI members that nominations for the new Committee are needed at the October meeting. *June Willgress*

Dates for the Year 2000

SEPTEMBER

30th Sponsored Colchester Fire Swim, Leisureworld, 2.00pm

OCTOBER

1st Launch of Celebrate Together, St. Mary's, Ardleigh, 11.00am

“I don't need God do I?”, Gt. Bromley Church, 6.30pm

3rd Autumn Sale, Village Hall, 10.30 am

Songs of Praise, Ardleigh School, 8.00pm

4th WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

7th Trip to Ely, starting Gt. Bromley Church, 9.30am-5.00pm

Gt Bromley Cricket Club Quiz Night, Village Hall, 7.30pm

9th Any Questions with Mr Frank Field MP, Gt. Bromley School, 8pm

12th Reflections, Ardleigh Methodist Chapel, 8.00pm

13th Barn Dance, Ardleigh Village Hall, 8.00pm

14th Church Activity and Open time, Ardleigh Church, 10.30-12.30

Church Activity and Open time, Gt. Bromley Church, 2-4pm

15th Harvest Festival, Gt. Bromley Church, 9.30am

Harvest Lunch, Village Hall, 1.00pm

Celebrate Together, Gt. Bromley Church, 6.30pm

19th Friendship club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm

26th Gt. Bromley Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

28th Hallowe'en Disco, Village Hall (Cats Protection), 7.30pm

NOVEMBER

4th Hamilton Lodge Coffee Morning, 10.00-11.30am

Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, Village Hall, 10.00am

9th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Coffee Morning, 10.00am

12th Act of Remembrance, Gt. Bromley War Memorial, 9.15am

Act of Remembrance, Lt. Bromley War Memorial, 11.00am

18th The Occasional Singers & Friends, Village Hall, 7.30pm

25th Christmas Sale, Village Hall, 2.00pm

DECEMBER

1st Festive Fayre, School Hall, 7.30pm

22nd Nine Readings & Christmas Carols, Gt. Bromley Church, 8.00pm

2001 JANUARY

10-13 'The Good, The Bad, The Ridiculous' Pantomime, Village Hall

MAY 19 Hamilton Lodge Fete, 2.00 - 4.00 pm

BARBECUE and FETE

at The Old Rectory, Little Bromley

Despite the dreadful weather, a very satisfactory amount of money was raised - about £750. The food was delicious and everyone had fun playing the games and spending money at the various stalls. So, a big thank you to all those who came, and especially to all the helpers.

CARPET BOWLS

Already the autumn session is underway and in our opening match we entertained Alresford who kept up the pressure right through the match. Although the home team won 6-2 it was by no means as easy as the score suggests. A last end score of 5 shots by the “2nd Fours” team, saved us from only managing a drawn game.

At Gt. Bentley on Sunday, 17th September a Fours competition was held organised by Beaumont Carpet Bowls Club in aid of a local charity. Gt. Bromley's team of Pauline, Joe, Jayne and Linda started well by winning their first two games only to fade as the day wore on. The fact that Joe has just celebrated his 91st birthday, did nothing to stop him making his usual valuable contribution.

To use football jargon our new “strip” has been worn for the first time - navy blue zip-up jackets with white blouses for the ladies and with navy polo shirts for the men, all with our Gt. Bromley logo embroidered on the front.

We welcome Paul Wilsher who has been with us a few weeks already making his mark within the club. Enjoy your bowling Paul! *Nancy Kempster*

**GREAT BROMLEY &
DISTRICT CRICKET
CLUB**



100 CLUB

for August

1st Mr I Whittaker
2nd Mrs C Simmons
3rd Mr M Raper

QUIZ NIGHT

7th October

in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Tickets £3 per person.

If you would like to enter a team please
contact P.Allam on 230375.

Bring your own drink and nibbles

**THE
OCCASIONAL
SINGERS &
FRIENDS**



present

A Musical Evening with
Candlelit Ploughmans Supper
at 7.30pm on Saturday, 18th November
in Great Bromley Village Hall
Tickets £6.00 Licenced Bar

Donations will be made to:

- Great Bromley Church Repair Fund
Great Bromley Village Hall

Tickets obtainable from Keith Hughes
on Tel. 01255 553885

**Tendring & District Branch of CATS
PROTECTION
CAT SHOW**

**HALLOWE'EN FANCY DRESS
& DISCO PARTY**

60s 70s 80s 90s music in Gt. Bromley
Village Hall

Saturday, 28th October, 7.30pm - 12 midnight

Prizes for best costume Male,
Female & Child

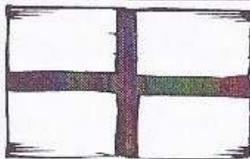
Tickets £6 to include supper
Contact 01206 251955 or 01206
252201



MATERIAL for the November
2000 edition of 'The Messenger' should
reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by
TUESDAY, 17th October, 2000
please.

Copy can either be delivered by hand,
sent by post or by e mail:
bromleymessenger@btinternet.com

We thank the **PARISH CHURCH of
the BROMLEYS** for sponsoring this
month's magazine.



THE BROMLEY CROSS INN

Good food and fine ales in a homely atmosphere

Forthcoming events

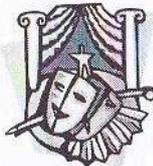
- ⊕ As from 6th July, we will be hosting a **STEAK NIGHT** every Thursday – 2 starters, 2 sirloin steaks, mushrooms, peas and fries, and a jug of wine – **BOOKINGS ONLY, MINIMUM 2 PEOPLE.**

Brenda and Richard your hosts Telephone 01206 230282

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We were all very sad to learn of the death of Mrs. Grose. To any members who are on the sick list - GET WELL SOON. We would like to thank very sincerely everyone who signed our Petition to KEEP BROMLEY TIDY which has been sent to the Parish Council. (We had over 100 signatures - Well done!)

At our next meeting on 19th October our entertainers will be a Musical Duo - John and Sue Mason. The competition: a wine or sherry glass. *Vicky Griffiths*

<p>Seven Rivers Cheshire Home AUTUMN SALE of Fabulous range of stalls, including Alpaca jumpers, bathroom accessories, Christmas presents, Dorling Kindersley books, greetings cards, Italian pottery, jewellery, silver, stocking fillers and wrapping paper at Great Bromley Village Hall on Tuesday, 3rd October 10.30 am to 3.00 pm, Entry: £1.50</p>  <p>Tombola Refreshments including coffee, cakes, sandwiches will also be available.</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS SALE on 25th November at 2.00 pm in the Village Hall All the usual stalls</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free children's visit to Father Christmas • Raffle • Refreshments <p>Proceeds for WI and Village Hall funds Any items welcome Collection can be arranged - ring 231765 LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE</p>
<p>HAMILTON LODGE COFFEE MORNING Saturday, 4th November 10.00 - 11.30 am</p> <p>Raffle Stalls Sideshows</p> <p>Everyone welcome to come and enjoy a cup of coffee with the residents and staff at the Lodge.</p> 	<p>THE BROMLEYS PLANT SALE 2001</p>  <p>We hope to have a Plant Sale each Spring. If anyone who is dividing perennials during this Autumn cannot pot them up themselves, please let me know and I will collect them. Ann (230679)</p>
<p> MANNINGTREE DISTRICT GUIDES ASSOCIATION TABLE TOP/REACH OUT and RECRUIT Sunday, 1st October at 2.00 - 4.00pm in the Lawford Venture Centre 2000 Entrance fee 20p</p> <p>Raffle Refreshments Tables £6 per person £5 if you bring your own table Contact Jean Baalham on 01206 393313</p>	<p>GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP</p> <p>Performance 2001 10th - 13th January In the Village Hall Casting meeting Thursday, 28th September, 7.30pm</p> <p>Auditions Thursday, 3rd October, 7.30pm for "The Good, The Bad, The Ridiculous" All welcome to join</p> 

KITCHEN CORNER

An American recipe the children will enjoy

Peanut Butter Brownies (Adriana Rabinovich) makes 16-20

110g plain chocolate (at least 700% cocoa solids) 110g unsalted butter 80g plain flour
½ teasp baking powder ½ teasp salt 150g caster sugar 100g light soft brown sugar
2 eggs 1 teasp vanilla 140g crunchy peanut butter .

Oven temp. 180C Gas Mark 4

Butter and flour a 23 cm sq. cake tin.

Melt chocolate and half the butter in a bowl over hot water (or microwave).

Stir and leave to cool a little. Beat rest of butter with the sugars until pale and fluffy, beat in eggs gradually. Add vanilla and fold in flour sifted with baking powder and salt. DO NOT overmix.

Spoon half the mixture into another bowl. Add chocolate to one half, peanut butter to the other. Spread the peanut mixture in the tin to form an even layer then spread chocolate mixture over .

the top. Bake 20-25 minutes or till set in the middle (a skewer should come out with just a few moist crumbs on it). DO NOT overbake! Leave to get quite cold before cutting into squares.

I made this using half quantities and a 7" square tin which was very successful. *Jill Frostick*

PLAYGROUP

We started the new term by welcoming some new faces and are pleased to report that they are all settling in really well. Our topic for this half term is The Five Senses. We are looking forward to having some fun with that. We have been very lucky with the weather so far and are taking full advantage of the outside play area while it lasts. As usual if you would like any further information about playgroup please contact our secretary, Helen Fairley on 01206 392486, who is always pleased to help. Our Toddler Group is always pleased to see new faces, just come along on the day. First visit is free and we even throw in a coffee. Dates for your diary Mon 23 Oct Half term (2 weeks) Mon 6 Nov Playgroup return Wed 8 Nov Toddler Group return

Notes from a Village School St. George's, Gt. Bromley

This term we are really pleased to welcome two new members of staff, Mrs Cockman and Mrs Cleaver. Mrs Cockman will teach Class 4 on Mondays and was previously the Literacy co-ordinator at Tendring primary School. Mrs Cleaver is a music specialist and will spend Thursdays in school teaching the whole school. If anyone would like to help in the school, people are always needed to play maths games, word games, listen to children read, make books, knit, sew or embroider, art or cookery -just contact the School Office.

IMPORTANT DATES

30 September Colchester Fire Swim - the school is again taking over Leisureworld from 2.00-3.00pm to help raise money for the Fire Benevolent Fund and local charities. Teams are now organised so if you would like to sponsor someone contact Jackie on 251070.

23-27 October Half Term

1 December Festive Fayre in the School Hall at 7.30pm

1st GREAT BROMLEY GUIDES

The first meeting of 1st Gt. Bromley Guides was on 14th September at the Cricket Pavilion. We are looking forward to a busy term and would like to invite any other girls between the ages 10-14 to join us in our activities. Our meeting begins at 6:45 pm and finishes at 8:30 pm on Thursdays. Sunday, 1st October we will be trying to raise funds at a Table Top Sale at Lawford Venture Centre, 2:00-4:00pm. Do come along and look out for some bargains. *Melanie Keady*

GARDENER'S CORNER for October

LAWNS: Towards the end of the month apply fertilizer - Growmore is quite good. Scatter over the lawn and let the rain wash it in.

ROSES: Plant new roses this month - take cuttings of ramblers and climbers.

DAHLIAS: After frost has blackened the foliage, cut down stems to 6" lift f tubers and turn upside down to allow hollow stems to drain. When the tubers are dry store in boxes in a shed or greenhouse.

ANNUALS: Clear beds of dead plants , and plant winter pansies.

BULBS: Lift gladiola bulbs and hang up to dry. When dry cut off stems and store for next year. ' Finish planting spring bulbs. *Frank Griffiths*

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met on Saturday, 2nd September with Peter Wenden in the Chair. We welcome the Brownies to the Hall for their weekly meetings and trust they will enjoy themselves. We are pleased that work started on Monday, 18th September at the Village Hall constructing the Lounge and associated works. it is expected to take approximately 8 weeks (weather permitting) and hopefully users of the Hall will not suffer undue inconvenience during this period.

Unfortunately, the Hall suffered some damage in September when kitchen cupboard doors were forced: if anybody sees the Payphone dumped etc. in a ditch, please let us know.

A very enjoyable Barn Dance was held on 9th September which raised some laughter and funds for your Hall. Many thanks to Pat Petchey and his band of helpers for all their efforts to get people on and off the floor.

Future events coming to the Hall this year include a Concert by the Occasional Singers on 18th November and the Christmas Sale on 25th November. Please support these events if you can and give the organisers and helpers a real boost as they put much time and effort into staging these events. The Committee next meet on Saturday, 4th November at 10.00 am in the Hall. *Bevan*

Willgress, Secretary

CHILDREN'S PAGE - how to make Teasel Hedgehogs

CHILDREN'S PAGE

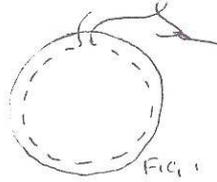
How to Make TEASEL HEDGEHOGS

Teasels can be found growing in late summer, but be careful when you pick them – the stems have lots of prickles on them!

YOU WILL NEED

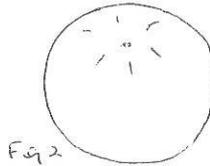
A teasel head	a scrap of fabric	a scrap of lace
A scrap of thin ribbon	a scrap of net curtain	scissors
Stuffing or cotton wool	3 tiny black beads	a cocktail stick
A tiny white bead	a scrap of felt	a side plate
Strong thread	Strong glue	pencil
		a needle

1. Place the side plate on to the fabric and draw round it with a pencil. Carefully cut out the circle.

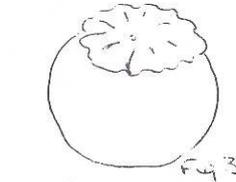


2. Sew running stitch around the edge of the circle, about 1cm from the edge. Do not fasten off the end of the thread (Fig. 1)

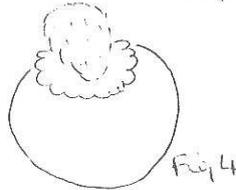
3. Carefully pull the end of the thread to form the circle into a small 'bag'. Fill this with the stuffing. When it is full, pull the thread tight, tuck in the raw edges and fasten off the end with several small stitches in the same place. You should end up with a round ball (Fig. 2). This is the hedgehog's body.



4. To make the hedgehog's collar, sew running stitch along the raw edge of a piece of lace about 20cm long. Pull the end of the thread to gather up the lace, then stitch the little 'rosette' in place on top of the body you have just made (Fig 3)



5. Glue the teasel 'head' on top of the collar (Fig 4). Make sure the pointed end of the teasel is at the front as this will be the snout. You may find it easier if you flatten the bottom of the teasel before you stick it on by trimming the prickles with scissors.



6. Give the hedgehog two eyes and a nose by carefully glueing on three beads at the pointed end of the teasel.



7. Make a lace cap in exactly the same way as you made the collar. Glue this on top of the head – after trimming some of the prickles flat – and glue in the centre a little bow made from the ribbon. (Fig 5)

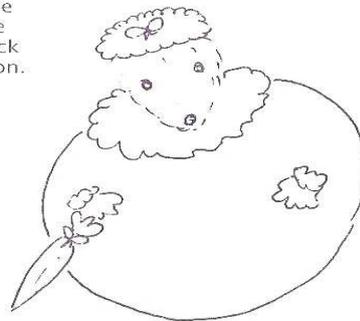
8. Cut out 2 tiny hand shapes from felt. Glue them on to the sides of the body. Then glue on tiny scraps of lace to make cuffs (Fig 6.)



9. To make the parasol, cut out a small circle of net about 10cm in diameter. Place the cocktail stick in the centre of the circle and gather the net around the cocktail stick (Fig 7). Tie it in place with a piece of ribbon.

10. Glue a bead on to the top of the cocktail stick to make the parasol handle, then glue the parasol on to one of the hands.

Now your hedgehog is finished.



MORE IDEAS

- You could make a whole family of hedgehogs in the same way or try to create other characters.
- Add pot pourri to the stuffing to make scented hedgehogs.

GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

PLANNING APPLICATIONS The Parish Council has considered the following applications and their comments have been forwarded to the District Council.

Selectacars, Harwich Road Extension to car display area and erection of two-storey offices. The parish Council objects to this application as it is over development of the site.

2 Hall Cottages Two storey extension No objections to this application

Woodland between Church Cottage and The Cottage, Badley Hall Road Vehicular access. No objections to this application.

The Book Service, Colchester Road, F rating Expansion of facility. The Parish Council objects to this application. It is unacceptable 3 development of the existing site.

Ivyside, Frating Road Two storey side extension. No objections to this application.

Croylands, Frating Road Double garage with study/studio over. Demolition of existing garage. : No objections to this application

Hallbrook House, Church corner, Hall Road Detached double garage and internal alterations No objections to this application.

The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on 26th October.

Br William, the Celebrate Together Leader writes:

Dear Parishioner,

In many villages the fixed point is the Church; it was there before we arrived and it will be there long after we are gone. The village church is an important part of the heritage of that village. But the church is more than just a building, however beautiful it may be. The Church is a group of people who believe they have something to celebrate and to share and this is what the churches of Ardleigh and the Bromleys will be doing in the first two weeks of October; a fortnight of Celebrating Together. Almost two years of prayer, preparation and organisation are reaching their goal. Meetings, social events, a pilgrimage to Ely, as well as activities for young people make up the fortnight. But it is also a time for listening, listening to each other whether we are committed Christians, curious or downright hostile. Every home will receive a card asking if there is anything you would like us to pray for; it may be sickness or difficult relationships, a friend or member of our family or national or international issues. Someone will collect the card and they will be part of the worship in the churches over the fortnight. On Thursday, 12th October there will be a "Reflections Evening" in Ardleigh Methodist Chapel, when we will be asking how best can we as churches be more accessible and how best as churches can we be more responsive to the needs of those around us? Perhaps you can help us in this work. I hope those of us who are visiting the villages will have the opportunity of meeting and speaking to as many of you as we can.

So come along and help us to Celebrate Together. May God bless us all. *Br William CR*

Services for October

Sunday 1st 15th Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Morning Prayer St. Mary 11.00am The Benefice Eucharist & launch of Celebrate Together! St Mary 6.00pm Evening Prayer St. George 6.30pm "I don't need God do I?" St. George

Sunday 8th 16th Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00 am Harvest Eucharist
6.00pm Evening Prayer St. Mary 6.30pm "The Church & Sacrament" St. Mary

Sunday 15th 17th Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George 8.00am The Eucharist St. George 9.30am
Harvest Eucharist St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary
6.00pm Evening Prayer St. George 6.30pm "Celebrate Together" St. George

Sunday 22nd 18th Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary: 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary

Sunday 29th The Last Sunday after Trinity

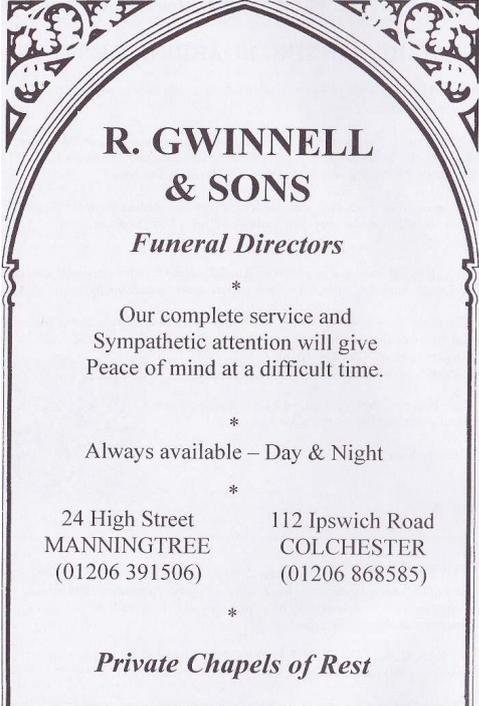
7.30am Morning Prayer St. George 8.00am The Eucharist St. George 9.30am Parish Eucharist
St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George
Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS At St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

AWARD WINNING BOARDING KENNELS

Hiskeys Farm Boarding Kennels and Cattery have won their second prestigious business award this year. The first was in May at the countywide Millennium Business Awards 2000 when they won the 'New Company - Highly Commended' category. The formal presentation ceremony was held at the Cliffs Pavilion, Southend. The second award was early October at the Colchester District Business Awards 2000. On this occasion they were outright winners of the 'New Company' category. On both occasions in excess of 400 companies entered the nine categories with the 81 finalists attending a Black Tie dinner dance and award ceremony. Both events were organised by the Newsquest Group (Evening Gazette & Business Gazette) in conjunction with the main sponsor, Ranmor Computing Ltd. and category sponsors Barclays (Highly Commended category) and Natwest (New Company category). Visitors to the kennels can see both presentation plaques proudly displayed in the reception area. *Pete Longhorn*

MATERIAL for the December 2000 edition of The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by TUESDAY, 14th November 2000 please. Copy can either be delivered by hand, sent by post or by e mail.

We thank R. G. GWINNELL & SONS, Funeral Directors for sponsoring this month's magazine.



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Private Chapels of Rest

**THE OCCASIONAL
SINGERS & FRIENDS**

present
A Musical Evening with
Candlelit Ploughmans
Supper
at 7.30pm on Saturday,
18th November
in Great Bromley Village Hall
Tickets £6.00 Licenced Bar



Donations will be made to:

- Great Bromley Church Repair Fund
- Great Bromley Village Hall

Tickets obtainable from Keith Hughes
on Tel. 01255 553885

**HAMILTON LODGE
COFFEE MORNING**

Saturday, 4th November
10.00 - 11.30 am

Raffle Stalls Sideshows

Everyone welcome to come
and enjoy a cup of coffee
with the residents and staff
at the Lodge.



CHRISTMAS SALE

on 25th November at 2.00 pm
in the Village Hall
All the usual stalls



- Free children's visit to
Father Christmas
- Raffle
- Refreshments

Proceeds for WI and Village Hall funds
Any items welcome
Collection can be arranged - ring
231765
LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING
YOU THERE

**SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE
HOME**

COFFEE MORNING

Thursday, 9th November
at
10.30 am

All welcome



TEARCRAFT COFFEE MORNING

*There will be a Coffee Morning
on Saturday, 11th November
at The Chase, Chase Road East, Great Bromley
for the sale of Christmas cards and craft goods from less
developed countries
10.00 am to 12 noon
added attractions - steaming of the
garden railway at 11.00 am (weather
permitting)*



DATES FOR THE YEAR 2000

NOVEMBER

1st WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

4th Hamilton Lodge Coffee Morning, 10.00-11.30am

Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, Village Hall, 10.00am

9th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Coffee Morning, 10.00am

11th Tearcraft Coffee Morning, The Chase, Chase Rd East, 10.00am

12th Act of Remembrance, Gt. Bromley War Memorial, 9.15am

Act of Remembrance, Lt. Bromley War Memorial, 10.55am

15th Parochial Church Council meeting, 7.00pm

18th The Occasional Singers & Friends, Village Hall, 7.30pm

23rd Ct Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

25th Christmas Sale, Village Hall, 2.00pm

26th Choral Evensong with Cammarata Singers, Ardleigh Church, 6.30pm

DECEMBER

1st Festive Fayre, School Hall, 7.30pm

11,12 & 14 School Christmas play performances, Village Hall

16th Children's Christian Activity time in Ardleigh Methodist Chapel, 10.30-12.30

21st Friendship Club Christmas Dinner, Village Hall, 12 noon

22nd Nine Readings & Carols, Gt. Bromley Church, 8.00pm

24th Christingle Service, Gt. Bromley Church, 5.00pm

Midnight Mass, Ardleigh Church, 11.30pm

2001 JANUARY

10-13 The Good, The Bad, The Ridiculous, Pantomime, Village Hall

MAY 19 Hamilton Lodge Fete, 2.00 - 4.00 pm

GREAT BROMLEY POORLANDS CHARITY

Just to refresh your memories this Charity is an amalgamation of Jacobs, Nicholls and Poorlands Charities back in 1993. The interest on capital invested, is given out each year in January to the needy of the Parish, approximately £170.00. If you know of someone you think the Trustees should consider adding to the list of recipients please let me know.

James B Wild, Ilex Farm, Waterhouse Lane, Ardleigh CO7 7NE (Tel. 01206 230679)

GT BROMLEY & NAYLAND, SUFFOLK - Part I

Gregory and Simon Stone had land in Nayland in the 1600s and there are instances of marriages there between Bromley and Nayland families. How did this connection come about? Richard Constable built the chapel of St Nicholas in Stoke in 1216 AD and facing it were the twin battlemented towers of Giffords Hall, mostly built in Tudor times, and home of the Mannock family who had connections with Great Bromley where they were lords of the manor as well as presenting rectors to both our parish and the Suffolk one.

The Mannocks were of Danish descent and bought the estate from the Crown in 1428. By the time of Elizabeth 1 the Mannocks had land in Essex and Suffolk and were of some prominence. But they were Catholics and stood by the old faith. Indeed they went to our parish church of St George and then went back to Great Bromley Hall and had the services of their own priest who was hidden in a "priest's hole" in the Hall which has not yet been discovered.

At Giffords Hall the Jesuit priests, disguised as lackeys and stewards were saying the Mass, not in the lonely St Nicholas chapel but in a secret chamber in the Flemish Tapestry room there. The Crown seized two thirds of their land in 1596 but returned it when James I became king only to seize it again when Charles 1 took the throne. To make things right Charles I made Francis Mannock a baronet and the Crown Commissioners made an inventory of the estates and effects Francis Mannock had so that fines could be levied. Servants at both Halls were recruited from local people and the Mannocks used both Great Bromley Hall and Giffords Hall.

John Appleby

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

THANK YOU to everyone who came to our Quiz Night in the Village Hall on 7th October. A very enjoyable evening which raised £349 for Club funds. Phil Allam

100 CLUB September 1st M Lamb Jnr 2nd M Lewis 3rd P Lane

GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on 21st September.

Hare Green Recreation Ground Quotes for the installation of a basketball court are being obtained. Grant funding is also being looked into.

Tendring Rural Development Area Designation The Rural Development Area was established in 1993 under the guidance of the Rural Development Commission. They provide financial support for community and voluntary group projects in areas with high levels of unemployment, high long term sickness, high numbers of elderly population and seasonality of employment. The Tendring Rural Development Commission have ruled that 16 villages in the East of Tendring are included in the designation whilst all villages to the west of Tendring and Bradfield are excluded due to their proximity to Colchester. Great Bromley is not included in the Tendring R.D.A. and therefore is unable to obtain grants for community projects.

Tree Planting Scheme 2000 Tree planting will take place in Mary Lane North to replace the dead and damaged trees. A grant from the District Council will be applied for.

Street Furniture The damaged "No Through Road" sign at the end of Lillies Lane has been reported to the County Council.

Footpaths It was reported that some farmers are not reinstating footpaths after cultivation. The Parish Council will continue to bring this to the attention of the County Council. Review of the Audit Regime In response to concerns raised by Parish Councils, the Audit Commission has prepared a consultation document suggesting ways of reducing the overall cost and burden of audit. Great Bromley Parish Council has considered the document and concurs with the View that the audit regime should be amended. The Council believes that the most appropriate way of proceeding would be to raise the threshold for the three year audit to £25,000. This would remove most small authorities from the requirement for annual audit. The requirement on small councils to produce annual accounts should not be relaxed, but strengthened, by requiring councils to submit annual accounts to their parent authority for review. The next meeting of Gt. Bromley Parish Council will be held on 23rd November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

We are pleased with the progress at the Village Hall on constructing the Lounge and associated works, although the state of the weather this week as I write cannot be particularly helpful to the roofing operation. In trying to keep the Hall up and running whilst the work progresses, some difficulties have been caused to both the builder and user and hopefully you have not suffered undue inconvenience in this period. We must however close the Hall for a week from 20th October to enable the heating system to be drained and altered. You may have seen the temporary traffic lights set up outside the Hall for a few days. This is to enable the Highways Authority to drop the kerb opposite the Hall car park entrance so that wheelchairs, prams and the like can safely access the Hall and cricket ground area. Similarly, the kerb has been dropped opposite the Post Office.

Events coming to the Hall this month include a concert by the Occasional Singers on 18th November and the Christmas Sale on 25th November. Please support these events if you can and give the organisers and helpers a real boost. Father Christmas will be there on the 25th. The Committee next meet on Saturday, 4th November at 10 am in the Hall.

Bevan Willgress, Secretary

KITCHEN CORNER CHRISTMAS TREAT - SLOE GIN

This year has seen a bumper crop of berries in the hedgerows, and there are still plenty of sloes on the bushes. not too late to make sloe gin for a delicious Christmas drink.

1 pint sloes 1 pint gin $\frac{3}{4}$ pt demerara sugar

Wash the sloes if necessary, then prick them well with a fork to help the juices to flow. Put in a jar with tight fitting lid (ie. Kilner jar) and add gin and sugar. Stand in a dark place if possible and shake well once a day until all the sugar has dissolved. After six weeks or longer, strain off and put into screw top bottles or a decanter. *Jill Frostick*

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GARDENER'S CORNER for NOVEMBER

LAWNS: If the weather permits make the final cut and apply fertilizer. **SHRUBS:** Plant new shrubs this month and take hardwood cuttings. **ROSES:** Prune climbing rose - cut back by a third to a bud. **BULBS:** Finish planting tulips. Make sure the bulbs in pots do not dry out - keep just moist **HOUSE-PLANTS:** Give plenty of light but remove from window ledges at night. Stop feeding and water sparingly. The next Gardener's Corner will be in February so if it is not too early may I wish everyone a GOOD CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR. *Frank Griffiths*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Sister Joan and Father Tom from the Celebrate Together Mission paid us a visit at the beginning of our October meeting, telling us about their aims during their time in the Parish. Our scheduled speaker, Mr Peter Harrington, was unable to come along to tell us about Silk Painting so his wife, Susanna, took his place and told us about her Christian Indian dancing, Bharatha Naytam, which she teaches. She explained to us the steps and movements, telling how the stories Hindu/Sikh and Christian religions are interpreted i.e. the Trinity.

Susanna showed us a beautiful dance sari made from rich red and gold silk and then how to put on an everyday cotton sari, modelled by Mrs Sylvia Ward. To finish off a very interesting evening. Susanna danced an Indian dance with traditional music. We have our AGM on the first Wednesday in November when we vote for the committee for the coming year. Also, on Saturday, 25th November at 2.00 pm in the Village Hall, we have the Christmas sale in aid of the Village Hall and Women's Institute funds. Please support this event if you can - Father Christmas will be there! *June Willgress*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Ian Rose, the much travelled gentleman, is to be our entertainer this month. His talk, with slides, will take us to ALASKA. We have a few vacancies for our Christmas Dinner on 21 st December at the Village Hall. A three course meal with coffee, entertainment, BUMPER raffle etc. The cost: £15 per person. Time: 12 for 12.30pm. Bring your own drinks.

The competition for this month is a CERAMIC TILE with picture. *Vicky Griffiths*

PLAYGROUP

Our AGM was held on 26th September and thank you to everyone who attended. Karen Beattie, Helen Fairley and Carolyn Prince were all re-elected as Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. We would like to thank them for all their hard work over the past year. Thanks also go to Gill Driver who stepped down as Toddler Representative. Tracy Bird was welcomed on to the committee and was elected to succeed Gill. Kaye Mitchell takes over from Jane Calderbank as 'Messenger' and 'Grapevine' representative.

We are pleased to report that the new children who started playgroup in September have all settled in really well and are enjoying our new topic. Our topic for the first half of term has been the five senses. We have made lavender bags for smell, peppermint creams (amongst other things) for taste and lots of touchy, feely collage for touch, including lots of lovely "gloop"! Dates for your diary: Mon 6 Nov Return to playgroup after half term Wed 8 Nov Return to Toddler Group Wed 13 Dec End of term Christmas Party

1st GREAT BROMLEY GUIDES

This term has seen quite a few changes starting with a new venue at Gt. Bromley Village Hall at the same time as last term, 5.30 pm until 7.00 pm, but on a Tuesday. We have a new Brown Owl, Mrs Jean Baalham, and myself as the new Assistant, Miss Anthea Baalham. We are, however, still looking for another adult to come into uniform as Brown Owl is also our District Commissioner and this takes up a lot of her time, and I am at present studying for a degree. We do have a very good parent help rota but an extra adult in uniform would be much appreciated. Our numbers at the moment have dropped to ten brownies but we are seeking to increase this and as a result have been taking part in the national campaign to reach out and recruit by putting a string of post cards with the kind permission of Mrs Fitzgerald outside St. Georges School gates and holding a Bring a Friend to Brownies night. This term and next we are working towards craft and art badges. Anyone wishing to join us please contact Brown Owl on 01206 393313. Anthea Baalham

Notes from a Village School St. George's, Gt. Bromley

GARDENING Thank you to everyone who turned up on a very wet Saturday morning to help paint the birdhide, trim hedges, shrubs etc. and lay bark on the adventure playground. Unfortunately the whole job could not be completed because of the weather but it looks better already. Thank you also to Simon Baines and Ken Robinson for laying a footpath in the car park.

FIRE SWIM Once again Great Bromley took over Leisure World for an hour on 30th September and this year our children did even better with four lanes filled and only two with teachers, parents and governors. We hope to have raised £700, which is split between the Fire Benevolent Service and local charities. The children were all given a medal for their efforts and later presented with a certificate in assembly.

HARVEST FESTIVAL took place on 12th October in the church which was full with parents, grandparents and friends. Each class performed a song and the older children had to recite poems. Victoria Hicks performed a solo with other year 6 pupils playing the recorders and Brother Tom, part of the Mission team, had the whole congregation up singing and dancing. Well done everyone.

FOOTBALL and NETBALL One football match has been played recently against Wix and although Great Bromley did not win a great time was had by all! Unfortunately, it always seems to rain on Monday afternoons so not much netball has been practiced but let us hope for better weather as we have some matches arranged.

AND SO TO CHRISTMAS!

1 Dec PTA Festive Fayre

11,12 & 14 Dec Christmas play performances at the village hall

15 Dec The whole school visits the Mercury Theatre to see Babes in the Wood

19 Dec School closes for the Christmas holidays

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Spinning Snake

You will need:

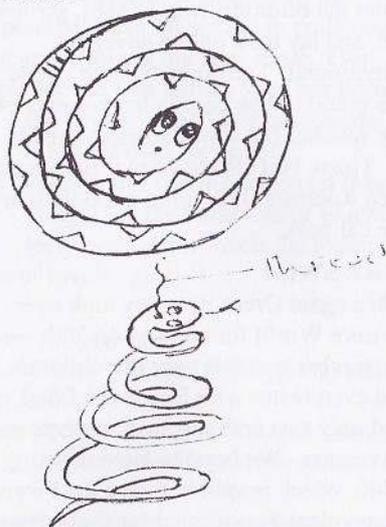
- ⊕ Thin white card
- ⊕ Felt tipped pens
- ⊕ A pencil
- ⊕ A needle and thread

1. Draw a spiral shape on the card and mark two eyes at the centre. Decorate the shape to look like a snake.

2. Cut along the line you have drawn, starting at the tail.

3. Carefully push the needle through the head end of the snake and tie a knot in the end of the thread to stop it going all the way through.

4. Hang the snake over a lit table lamp or heated radiator. The snake will spin round and round.



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THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH & THE BROMLEYS

The Rectory

Dear Parishioner, Celebrate Together has come and gone and I would simply like to say thank you to everyone who responded to it. The team were overwhelmed by the generosity and warm welcome they received on people's doorsteps and in their homes. I wanted to get the message across that the churches here are for everyone and I think in some small way that was achieved. St. Georges is open daily for you to visit as many people already know and do. Many of you made requests for prayer which were offered on the following Sunday. I would like to think that you would again ask, if there were anything you would like me and the congregations here to pray for. Christians believe that prayer is "the lifting of one's mind and heart to God", writes S John Damascene, a task we try to do daily and joyfully. Without prayer we are individuals, with and in prayer we become part of something greater, brothers and sisters on earth linked with God and the saints in heaven. At times conversation with God comes easily, at other times it is a struggle. This reflects any relationship that is worth pursuing. As one deepens in familiarity, then words can seem less important, silence laughter, even tears can say it all.

November is a special time of prayer for those who have died. On the first (7pm in S George's) we think especially of those we call the Saints. Then on the second (7pm in S Mary's) we think of all the faithful departed. If you would like a name to be mentioned during the prayers please let me know. Then on the twelfth we meet at the war memorials at 9.15am in Great Bromley and 10.55am in Little Bromley for our village Act Of Remembrance, for those who have given their lives in the pursuit of peace.

Celebrate Together did bring many people closer in an experience that shall be talked about for a good while. Isolation can be one of the curses of our modern society, and I hope and pray that some barriers to that may have been brought down here. May God continue to bless us in our relationships with Him and each other. *Fr Nicolas*.

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR

GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Services for November



Sunday 5th 4th Sunday before Advent

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 12th 3rd Sunday before Advent

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 9.15am
Act of Remembrance St. George the Martyr & Parish Eucharist 10.45 am Act of Remembrance
St. Mary the Virgin & Parish Eucharist 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 19th 2nd Sunday before Advent 7.30am Morning Prayer St. George 8.00am The
Eucharist St. George the Martyr 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr

11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 26th Feast of Christ the King 7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary 8.00am The Eucharist
St. Mary 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the
Virgin 6.30pm Choral Evensong St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 29th The Last Sunday after Trinity 7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr
8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00am
Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

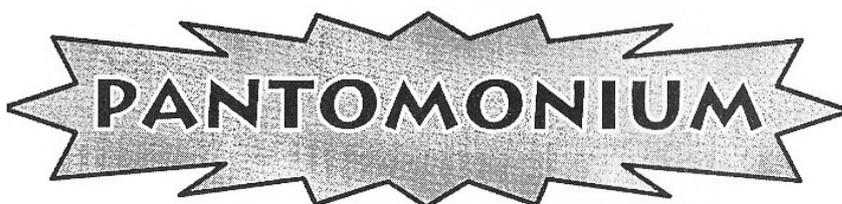
ROTARY CLUBS

As a member of the local Rotary Club for the last 10 years, it perhaps is time for me to let you know what Rotary Clubs do. Besides meeting once a week to promote fellowship amongst ourselves, we also help to raise money for charities, local, national and international. We aim as well to get involved in other activities that revolve around helping the community. No wonder the Rotary motto is "Service above Self". Internationally the biggest and most successful project is called polio plus- The objective is to eradicate polio from this world. Well we have almost done it; some \$378 million has been raised and two billion children immunised. Nationally there are very many projects. One of which is aimed at children and parents called "coping with life" CD. The first was on "bullying" which my club, Brightlingsea and District, bought for all schools who requested it in Tendring, the second on "coping with family changes" is now available and a third on "citizenship" is due out shortly.

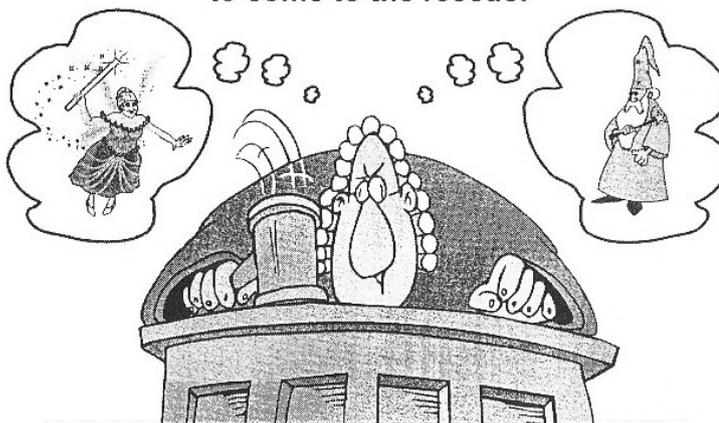
Local charities, big and small also are given donations from local hospices to scouts and bands. Fund-raising, however, relies on you, the public, and your generosity to give. The UK public is the most generous in the world. My Club will be bringing their Father Christmas sleigh to Gt. Bromley from 4pm Sunday, 17th December, (after their carols at Seven Rivers) from Brook Street to Frating Road so please save up your pennies for the collection boxes. You'll be sure to hear us coming! A very Merry Christmas to you all . If anyone requires any more information on Rotary please contact me.

Len Christodoulides

Uh Oh! There's trouble in pantoland - in fact it's....



When the baddies from Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty and Dick Whittington try to destroy pantomime forever, it's time for the Great Bromley Pantomime Group to come to the rescue!



But - WE NEED YOUR HELP!

**Come and help us to defeat the baddies from
Wednesday 10th to Saturday 13th
January 2001
at Great Bromley Village Hall**

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!
Tel: Susanne on 01206 231337
Tickets £4 – Adults & £2 – Children

**CHARITY NIGHT 10th January
in support of HEARING DOGS FOR THE DEAF**

THE OCCASIONAL SINGERS CONCERT

Every now and again, without rhyme or reason, something happens to give one reason to suppose that in spite of politicians and global warming there is hope for the survival of the human race. Something such occurred in the Village Hall on the dark and rainy evening of 18th November, when the group of singers and musicians assembled by Tricia Hughes and Olive Sparling produced a concert which will never be forgotten by those who were privileged to enjoy it. There is no space here to mention the names of all the many people who, in so many different ways, made it: possible for the evening to be such a resounding success. I would like to be able to say that I had eyes only for one special person, whose talent as an alto had previously been unknown to me, but I feel bound to admit that the ladies' gorgeous and glimmering dresses compelled my eyes to wander whilst my ears were being enchanted.

Here is at least one person who, having been justly accused of a tendency to make fun of such things, now hopes that the Occasional Singers will produce many more Concerts for the pleasure of us all, and perhaps fill (albeit in a very different way) something of the lamentable gap left by the demise of the Bromley Buskers. I suppose the Editor might have wished me to write a review of the performance. This is not a review, but simply an attempt to express the enormous pleasure given to us by so many people who made music so well, simply to please. *JRLC*

CHILDREN'S CORNER

EMBROIDERED GREETINGS CARD

You will need:

- ◆ A three-fold card with a shape cut from the middle section
- ◆ Patterned or 'picture fabric
- ◆ Wadding
- ◆ Muslin

1 Choose a design or picture on the fabric which will fit into the cut-out shape on the card.

2 Cut a fabric oblong so that your chosen design will sit in the centre of the shape.

3 Cut wadding and muslin the same size.

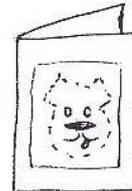
4 Place the pieces on top of each other, with the wadding in the middle.

5 Tack or pin the edges, then sew with a running stitch in matching thread around the outer edges of the design.

6 You can sew further lines, if desired, to make a quilted picture.

7 Glue the picture in place on the card and glue the end flap over the muslin.

8 Leave to dry under a heavy weight.



Dares for the Year 2000

DECEMBER

1st PTA Festive Fayre, School Hall, 7.30pm

6th WI meeting, Village hall, 7.30pm

11,12 & 14 School Christmas play performances, Village Hall

14th Gt. Bromley council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

16th Children's Christian Activity time in Ardleigh Methodist Chapel, 10.30-12.30

17th Rotary Carol Singing - Brook Street to Frating Road, from 4.00pm

18th Children's Disco - see School news for details

18 & 20 Carol Singing round the Village. Meet Church Meadow at 6.30pm

21st Friendship Club Christmas Dinner, Village Hall, 12 noon

22nd A service of Nine Readings & Carols, S George's Church, 8.00pm

24th Christingle Service, S George's Church, 5.00pm

Midnight Mass, S Mary's Church, 11.30pm

2001 JANUARY 10-13 "Pantomonium", Village Hall, see page 2 for details

FEBRUARY 3rd PTA Quiz Night, School Hall

GREAT BROMLEY CAROL SINGING

As has been the custom over many years, carols will be sung around the village on Monday, 18th December and Wednesday, 20th December. The more people who come to sing, the better, so, please join us if you can. We shall meet at 6.30pm on the Church Car Park. If you have any queries please contact *Dennis Simons*



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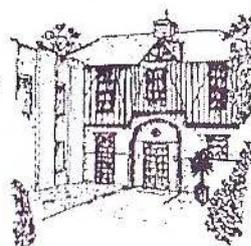
SQUASH & TENNIS

FITNESS TESTING

FAST-TAN SUNBEDS

Join Ardleigh Hall and you'll find that as a member you can enjoy unlimited, free use of all the fitness and leisure facilities you need to shape up or wind down. Membership costs less than £11 per week* and packages are available for individuals, couples or families on an annual or monthly basis. Call today for a free, guided tour.
**Joining fee applies*

Members Club Lounge & Restaurant, Beauty Therapist, Weekday Crèche, regular Social Events, Personal Training and Coaching are also available to our Members.



Dedham Road, Ardleigh Tel: 230620

4

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB 100 CLUB

October 1st Mrs J Boulton 2nd Miss J Herring, 3rd Mrs V Biddis

LOCALLY GROWN XMAS TREES

OLD SHIELDS FARM WATERHOUSE LANE ARDLEIGH

- ❖ PRICES START AT £5
- ❖ LOCALLY GROWN
- ❖ OPEN DAILY 10am - 4pm
- ❖ POTTED, CUT AND ROOTED .
- ❖ OPENS 1st DECEMBER

PLAYGROUP

Fireworks were the theme for the first week in November. Some beautiful pictures were made using lots of glitter and sparkles, very popular with the children. The following weeks covered Autumn and Winter. December is a busy and exciting month in playgroup with all the preparations for Christmas. As well as the cards and decorations to be made, we are also looking forward to a visit from Father Nicolas who will be telling us the story of Christmas.

We finish of course with our Christmas party which is always lots of fun and hopefully Father Christmas will have time to pop in too! We would like to wish good luck to Max, Rachel, Aaron, Jake, Toby and Thomas who will be leaving us to start school in January. The recent staff changes are working very well. If you would like any further information about Playgroups or Toddlers please contact our secretary, Helen Fairley who will be pleased to help. Our Toddler Group always welcomes new faces. Why not come along for a chat and a coffee - your first visit is free.

Dates for your diary: 13 Dec - last day of term 15 Jan - return to Playgroup 17 Jan - Toddler Group returns

1st ARDLEIGH SCOUT GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP

Do you have a little time to spare? Would you like to help prepare children for responsibility and equip them with skills for life? Then we need you! The 1st Ardleigh Scout Group accepts hoys aged 6- 14 years from the three parishes of Ardleigh Bromley and Dedham. We need help in our Beaver Section (6-8 years) and Scout Section (10-14 years). Qualifications: Time and enthusiasm, male or female. between 18 and 65 years old. The Sections meet on Wednesday evening, at Ardleigh Village Hall Beavers: 5.30-6.30 pm. Scouts: 7.15-9.00 pm. Enquiries contact: Ricky Talbot, Group Scout Leader on 01206 231129

Notes from a Village School - St. George's, Gt. Bromley

What a lot of rain we have had! And it always seems to start about 3.00pm on a Monday which means our netball club has had to be cancelled so many times. Our first netball match arranged with Dedham school was also cancelled but luckily our second against Rochevale was able to go ahead and we won 17-1 - well done girls, a great start to the season. Football matches have also been postponed and Football in the community have coped the best they can in the hall when the weather is rough.

PTA Dates:

1 Dec CHRISTMAS FAYRE Father Christmas will be visiting and there will be lots of stalls organised by children , to enjoy.

18 Dec CHILDREN'S DISCO

Classes 1 and 2 From 4.00-6.00pm Classes 3 and 4 from 6.30-8.30pm

3 Feb QUIZ NIGHT At the School - always good for a laugh!

April FASHION ROAD SHOW High Street fashions from leading retail outlets

30 June BARN DANCE More information next year.

Mrs Fitzgerald and her Staff would like to thank all their helpers and parents for their help during the year and wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on 26th October.

Church Meadow - Footpath The footpath on Church Meadow has now been completed. Thanks to Mr Simon Baines and Mr Ken Robinson who completed the work and thanks also to Ashfern Surfacing who kindly loaned us their digger. This really is appreciated.

Re-Cycling Mr G Jessop, District Councillor, is looking into the feasibility of obtaining a bottle bank for the village. The Council hopes to position this next to the paper bank on church Meadow.

Highway Matters The large pothole in Stone Road and the broken man hole cover in Hillyards Road have been reported to the County Council for repair. Tendring District council has been asked to repair the Springhill Close street nameplate which has been knocked over.

Planning Applications

The following planning applications have been brought to the attention of the Parish council and their comments have been forwarded to the District council.

Little Paddocks, Frating Road Conversion of existing barn to one residence with garage. The Parish council objects to this application. The design is out of character for a barn conversion. The access to the site is in a dangerous position

Greshams Farm, Harwich Road Continued use of mobile home The Parish Council objects to this application. The need for the continued use of this mobile home has not been given.

1 Chapel Lane Demolition of front lean-to and construction of single storey front extension and two-storey side extension. No objections to this application.

The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held on 14th December at Hillyards Farm, Gt. Bromley at 7.30pm.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council was held on 21st September, 2000.

Village Sign The total moneys raised towards the proposed Village Sign has been £745.72 which included donations of £50 and £30 - an excellent start. It is hoped to obtain a grant to add to this. The provisional cost is estimated to be £2.750 but this will be confirmed. Before proceeding further it was agreed that Mr Atterbury (Local Historian) should be shown the template of the sign to confirm that the form of the shields is correct.

Toxic Fumes There have been more complaints about toxic fumes from the local scrap yard with the result that a letter has been sent to the Environmental Health Agency.

Road White Lining It was proposed that as well as side lining our roads should have a centre line - certainly the main route through the village and on the A120.

Walkways The Clerk reported that repair of the existing walkway along Shop Road would be repaired in the near future. The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 30th November in the Methodist Chapel School room, Chequers Road at 7.30pm.

WISHING ALL OUR READERS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

MATERIAL for the January 2001 edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor; Leonie Henderson, by MONDAY, 11th DECEMBER 2000 please. Copy can either be delivered by hand, sent by post or by e mail. We thank GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP for sponsoring this month's magazine.

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met on 4th November under the chairmanship of Peter Wenden with ten members present and three sending their apologies. The agenda was long and varied as there was much to be discussed. Items included were the Charity Commission annual return, Great Bromley Porcelain Plates and the Rural Community Council Update together with the more important aspects of the Financial situation, Hall Insurance cover, Millennium Lounge and Fund-raising events.

Many of you will have been to the Hall in the last two or three weeks and will have seen the Millennium Lounge in its final stages of construction. By the time you read this, building work should be completed and we are now turning our minds to furnishing it for use. We will discuss this subject at our meeting on 21st November, as there are many aspects to cover before it can be used. We wish to thank the Occasional Singers for their Concert on 18th November, also the organisers and helpers at our annual Christmas Sale on 25th November together with those of you who supported these events in any way. It is much appreciated.

Into the new year 2001 (hasn't 2000 gone quickly), fund-raising events are being planned in the form of a Line Dance for February and a talk by John Appleby in March.

May I, on behalf of the Committee, wish everybody "A very happy Christmas and Good Fortune in the year 2001". *Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

GT BROMLEY & NAYLAND, SUFFOLK - Part 2

Among the Jesuit priests, at both Giffords Hall and Great Bromley, was a Father James Blake, alias Cross. He has mention in "The true and exact narrative of the terrible plot and conspiracy of the Popish Party against the life of his Sacred Majesty and the Protestant Religion". It was a fortunate thing that Father Blake was in Spain at the time of Titus Oates' Plot. After much travelling and privations he came back to Great Bromley Hall where he died in 1720, aged 80 years, and for all we know he was buried in our churchyard and his burial is recorded in St. George's register with a note that he was "an old man". The register book of the hall has not been discovered but was undoubtedly kept. From other sources we can put together a list of the priests at the Great Bromley Hall. The Mannocks numbered eight nuns and four priests in their family. Francis Mannock became a Benedictine monk and used the alias of Arthur and was a resident of both parishes. More of him later. *John Appleby*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We had a very good Annual General Meeting in November under the guidance of Mrs Julie Alen, our W.I.A. (Women's Institute Adviser) for the evening. Mrs Jill Frostick agreed to be our President for a second year and her Committee is: Mrs Gwen Barrel, Mrs Paula Bradshaw; Mrs Mary Clarke, Mrs Hazel Greenleaf, Mrs Beryl Hurst, Mrs Ann Jones and Mrs Sylvia Mangan. Mrs Rene Roberts retired from the Committee after serving several years. When the elections were over, Mrs Alen told us how she is going to be coordinator of the 2001 Essex Federation of Women's Institutes Show and what the job involves. This month will be our Christmas meeting and we would like to remind members to bring a plate of food of their choice together with a glass (two if you are bringing a guest). On behalf of all Great Bromley Women's Institute members. I would like to send everyone seasonal greetings. *June Willgress*

ST. MARY'S AND THE BROMLEYS BARN DANCE

This was a great success. Over a hundred people of various ages and the Mission team joined in the dancing to Icen Band with great assistance from the Caller. Many thanks to all who attended and those who helped make it such a good evening.

THE BROMLEYS HARVEST FESTIVAL

Very many thanks to all who decorated St. Georges Church so beautifully throughout the fortnight of the Mission, donated fruit and vegetables, and to all who gave up so much time cleaning the Church which was ongoing while the builders were working on the roof. *Ann Wild*

THE BROMLEYS HARVEST LUNCH

This was the last social event of “Celebrate Together” and was a fitting way to end such a wonderful fortnight. It was good to welcome the Mission Team, plus many from Ardleigh and The Bromleys. Many thanks to everyone who donated food. The £188 profit will be sent to a chosen charity.

CARPET BOWLS

So far in this league season matches have been played against: Alresford, Walton, Beaumont and Thorpe, resulting in 20 points for Gt Bromley out of a possible 40. Not particularly good. With illness etc. it has been difficult at times to field a full team together with the fact that membership is down to 16. We are in need of new members and to quote job advertisements “no experience is necessary” so do come along. At the AGM in October all officers were re-elected en bloc. The Treasurer reported that finances are quite healthy but costs keep rising and we must continue to look to our home match raffles to save raising the membership fee. The chairman, Pat Petchey, thanked everyone for their efforts in keeping the smooth running of the club. Thank you to Richard Bates who attended the service at the War Memorial on 12th November and laid a poppy wreath on behalf of the club. Lest we forget! *Nancy Kempster*

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR
GREAT BROMLEY
united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Dear Parishioner

The word “rapture” has taken on a big meaning on the USA. Some Christians believe that there will be a moment in the future when the faithful will be taken up into heaven, chaos will be caused, as machines are left unattended, trains and vehicles crash, and people literally disappear. In true American style, car bumper stickers can now be seen saying “in case of Rapture this car will be unoccupied!” and of course it wasn’t long before other stickers appeared saying “In case of Rapture, can I have your car?”

What you may be wondering has this got to do with Christmass. Well, it's about what Christians believe and celebrate at this time of year. It is difficult to escape from the commercial aspects of the feast, and it is good that we should celebrate, rejoice and share in our blessings and riches. Christmass marks a time and place in history when it's believed that God came to earth in the person of Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin Mary. One of the purposes of the Incarnation, as it is called, was so God could call his people back to his ways and Show them how to live life to the full. The way of service of God, brother and sister and self is in unconditional love, and so the crucifixion becomes part of the plan. “Christ has died.”

The crucifixion is not the end “Christ has risen”, only a means to show that God will not be bound by things of nature like death, and that those who believe in him have a new life, a different experience awaiting them. So there is a future aspect to living the Christian life “Christ will come again” a time when Christians will meet with God face to face. Talk of “Rapture” may be an extreme interpretation of this happening, but the Christian life is about past, present and future experiences, how one copes with them and the person they make us into. Often during the celebration of the Eucharist it is acclaimed “Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again” and we are blessed by God to live this life anew.

So the four weeks before the feast of Christmass, before the celebration of the past, the Church sets the scene by looking to the future. The season of Advent (which means coming) is about expectancy not just of presents and a good party but of looking forward to meeting with God. Yes there are meetings with him in celebrations of past events, and in our daily encounters with our brothers and sisters and in prayer, and in our bible reacting, but Advent is about that and much more. It's about a Christian faith and joy in a God of the future, who is loving and merciful, who one day in his own time and way, will take each of us to himself. As a Christian that to me has elements of rapture and I want others to feel that to. Advent sees Christians celebrating, with some most beautiful readings, prayers and hymns of the year, a time of quiet reflection amidst the busyness preparing to meet the Christ child, preparing to meet their King. "O come let us adore Him" May God bless you. - *Fr Nicolas*.

Services for December

Friday 1st	11.00am	The Eucharist for our schools	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
Saturday 2nd	9.30am	The Eucharist for a good keeping of Advent	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 3rd		Advent 1	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	9.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	11.00am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Monday 4th	12 noon	The Eucharist for the Housechurches	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Wednesday 6th	7.00pm	The Parish Eucharist for Children	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Thursday 7th	7.00pm	The Eucharist for Christian Unity	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Friday 8th		The Immaculate Conception of Our Lady	
	11.00am	The Eucharist for the Benefice	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
Saturday 9th	9.30am	The Eucharist of Our Lady of Walsingham	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 10th		Advent 2	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	9.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	11.00am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Monday 11th	12 noon	The Eucharist for penitents	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Wednesday 13th	7.00pm	The Eucharist for vocations to the Religious Life	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Thursday 14th	7.00pm	The Eucharist for Spiritual Directors	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Friday 15th	11.00am	The Eucharist at and for	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
Saturday 16th	9.30am	The Eucharist for our work with Children	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 17th		Advent 3	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	9.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	11.00am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Monday 18th	12 noon	The Eucharist for shopworkers	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Wednesday 20th	7.00pm	The Eucharist for priests	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Thursday 21st	7.00pm	The Eucharist for Operation Shoebox	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Friday 22nd	11.00am	The Eucharist for all who travel	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
Friday 22nd	9.30am	The Eucharist for our keeping of Christmass	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	7.00pm	A Service of Nine Lessons & Carols	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00pm	A Service of Nine Lessons & Carols	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 24th		Advent 4	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	9.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	11.00am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	3.00pm	Christmass Carol Service	<i>Hamilton Lodge</i>
	5.00pm	Christingle Service	<i>both Parish Churches</i>
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Monday 25th		Christmass Day	
	8.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	9.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	11.00am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Tuesday 26th		S Stephen	
	11.00am	The Eucharist for Christian witness	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Wednesday 27th		S John the Evangelist	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist for Evangelists	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Thursday 28th		Holy Innocents	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist for family life	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Friday 29th		S Thomas Becket	
	11.00am	The Eucharist for all in authority	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
Saturday 30th	9.30am	The Eucharist for the New Year	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 31st		Holy Family Sunday	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	9.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	11.00am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

Great Bromley Parish Council

HARE GREEN RECREATION GROUND BASKETBALL COURT

The Parish Council is aware that there are very few facilities in our village for our young people and are therefore considering a proposal to install a practice basketball court on the recreation ground. For funding purposes we need to confirm that sufficient use would be made of this facility. Therefore we ask you to spare a few minutes to complete this questionnaire. Thank you.

(If there is insufficient response to this questionnaire then it may not be possible to obtain the necessary funding for this scheme).

1. Would you support or oppose the provision of a basketball court at Hare Green?

Please tick as appropriate)

Support Don't Mind Oppose

2. How many people in your family would be interested in using this facility and what are their approximate ages?

Enter number in each category

Under 14 15 -18 19-21 22-35 36+

3. Would you use the facility.

Please tick as appropriate

Mon - Fri Daytime Evenings Weekends
Regularly Often Occasionally

Please return your questionnaires by 19 December 2000 to:
Mr C Phillips, Old Police House, Chase Rd West, Gt. Bromley,
Mrs S Shute, Dewberry, Shop Road, Little Bromley,
or to any Parish Councillor.