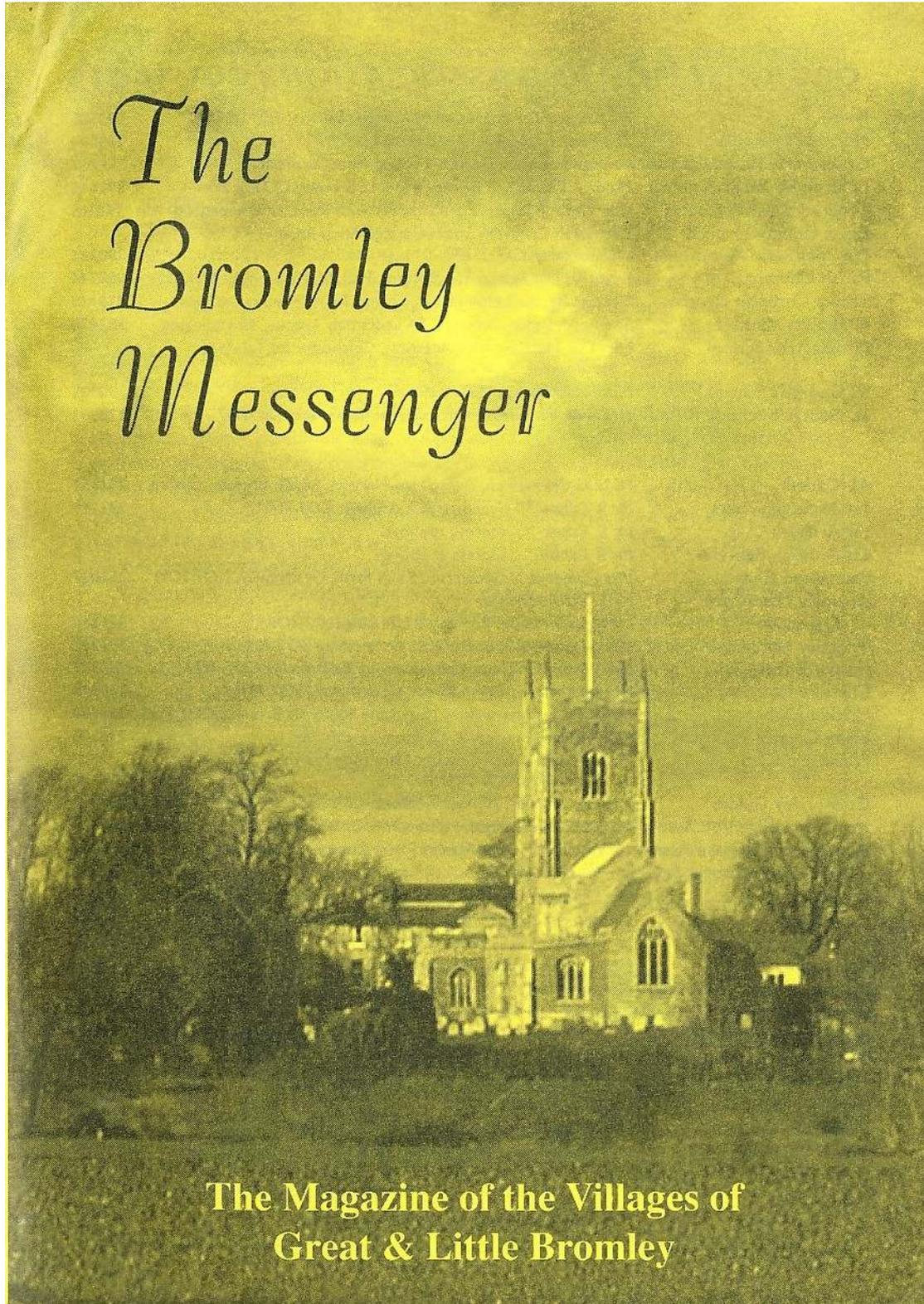


THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

The Magazine of the Villages of Great & Little Bromley
January to December 2002



These old magazines have been scanned and converted to text for historical reference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.

All content copyright © 1946-2021 Great Bromley Village (www.greatbromley.org.uk)

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

Police PC Christopher Phillips Mistley Police Station
Medical Practitioners The Surgery, Dedham Road, Ardleigh CO7 7LD
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 Clr. Gordon Jessop, Portlands, Harwich Rd, Great Bromley
Essex County Council (Tendring Rural West) Cllr. Sarah Candy, Wisteria Cottage, Shop Road. Lt Bromley
Parish Church Revd Fr. Nicholas Spicer, The Rectory, Hall Rd
Trinity Methodist Church Mrs Gill Bucke, 3 Lilac Court. Chaney Rd, Wivenhoe CO7 9RY
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
Air Cadets Flt Lt G Cheeseman. Fleece Hse. Harwich Rd, Gt Bromley CO7 7UH 25 1551
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 Mrs K Foley. Pussywillow. Mary Lane South. Gt Bromley
Essex County Standard Mrs V. Biddis, Berriedale
Friendship Club Mrs V Griffiths, Oak Cottage, Mary Lane North. Gt Bromley
Gt. Bromley Guides Mrs Els Connelly, 70 Nayland Road. Colchester
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 John Smith. The White House, Green Lane. Ardleigh
Pantomime Group Mr N. Rowe, Lilleys Farm, Carrington Rd
Playgroup Miss C Wheatstone, Playgroup Supervisor 252034
Rambler's Assn. (Tendring) Mrs Ann Jones, Wayside, Hall Road, Gt. Bromley
Recreation Field - Great Bromley Parish Council
St. George's Repair Fund Mr J Clapham, Copley Dene, Parsons Hill., CO7 7JA
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 CO7 7VZ
Women's Institute Mrs M. Clarke, 15 Meadow Close, Gt Bromley
Youth Club Mr M Beauchamp, The Beeches, Colchester Rd, Gt Bromley

THE PARISH OF THE BROMLEYS

RECTOR

The Revd Fr. Nicholas Spicer, The Rectory, Hall Road, Great Bromley

READER

Mr John Appleby, Little Pitchbury, Brick Kiln Lane. Great Horkesley

CHURCH WARDENS

Mrs Ann Fairley, Park Farm, Park Road, Great Bromley

Mr Dennis Simons, Michaelmass House, Parsons Hill, Great Bromley

PCC SECRETARY .

Mr Mike Raper, Waterhouse Farm, Waterhouse Lane, Ardleigh

PCC TREASURER

Mrs Hilary Powell, 1 Ash Grove, Great Bromley

CAPTAIN OF BELLS

Mr David Wenden, Girlings, Stone Road, Great Bromley

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
 Ladies Circle 3rd Wednesday in month Ring contact for venue, 7.30pm
 Mens Club Tuesdays Village Hall, 7.00pm
 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 2000 – 2001

APRIL	THE OLD COURTHOUSE INN 01206 250322 Harwich Road, Great Bromley COLCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL 01206 573389 Wellesley Road, Colchester
MAY	SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME <i>01206 230345 Great Bromley, Colchester. Essex CO7 7TT</i>
JUNE	GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
JULY	N.B. & D.M. SMITH <i>Oil Fired Boiler Heating Maintenance Service</i> T & F MOTORS, <i>Horsley Cross Garage</i>
AUGUST	HOT-LINE PRINTERS <i>24 Priors Way, Coggeshall 01376 561001</i>
SEPTEMBER	PARISH CHURCH OF ARDLEIGH & THE BROMLEYS
OCTOBER	GREENACRE CATTERY, <i>Briar Road, Great Bromley</i> St GEORGE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
NOVEMBER	R G GWINNELL & SON <i>(Funeral Directors) Manningtree</i>
DECEMBER	GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP
JANUARY	PLEASS THOMSON & CO - SOLICITORS <i>Clacton 01255 221133</i> LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
FEBRUARY	PERSONAL AND CLUB DONATIONS
MARCH	BROMLEY REFRIGERATION SERVICE LTD

The Bromley Messenger January 2002

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

On the first day of Christmas, my true love said to me,
I'm glad we bought a Turkey and a proper Christmas Tree.
On the second day of Christmas, much laughter could be heard,
As we tucked into our Turkey, a most delicious bird.
On the third day we entertained the people from next door,
The turkey tasted just as good as it had the day before.
Day four relations came to stay, poor Gran is looking old,
We finished up the Christmas pud, and ate the turkey cold.
On the fifth day of Christmas, outside the snowflakes flurried,
But we were nice and warm inside, for we had our turkey curried.
On the sixth day I must admit the Christmas spirit died.
The grandchildren fought and bickered, we had turkey rissoles, fried.
On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love he did wince,
When he sat down at the table and was offered turkey mince.
Day eight and nerves were getting frayed, the dog had run for shelter,
I served up turkey pancakes, with a glass of Alka-Seltzer.
On the ninth day, the cat left home, by lunch Grandad was blotto,
He said he had to have a drink to face turkey risotto.
By the tenth day the booze had gone, (except our home made brew),
And if that wasn't bad enough, we suffered turkey stew.
On the eleventh day of Christmas, the Christmas tree was moulting,
The mince pies were as hard as rocks, and the turkey was revolting.
On the twelfth day my true love had a smile upon his lips,
The guests had gone, the turkey too, and we had Fish and Chips!

WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS 2002

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

1. In an effort to encourage as much interest as possible in our community an Amenities Committee has been formed. They have laid down their objectives for the coming year and will need our support if it is to be successful.
2. Objectives for the year 2002
 - a) It was agreed that Little Bromley is a delightful village, and that the committee's objective was, in essence to leave the core as it stands. However, there are many areas in need of improvement and that we should take a fresh look at both Little Bromley and its neighbouring villages to get some ideas for cosmetic improvements such as the "In Bloom" which neighbouring parishes have undertaken successfully. Areas such as the War Memorial were identified as key examples.
 - b) Building on community spirit within the village was identified as a key objective, especially with issues such as the opening of a new Village Store and Post Office. The varying skills and time of Little Bromley residents could be utilised in any fund raising efforts, with the key being reinvestment into the village. In short, the objectives for 2002 are to find out what Little Bromley residents want, how much support they are willing to give and to use any money raised in a tangible way to show immediate enhancements for residents and visitors to our village.
3. Fund raising ideas. The ideas discussed included:
 - Golden Jubilee celebrations - a street party followed by evening entertainment with a traditional community theme,
 - Monthly Little Bromley raffle/lottery, possibly something based around the village shop when it opens.
 - Quiz Night at the Fox & Hounds.
 - Bi-annual themed family events in addition to the family events for occasions such as Christmas. Easter, Halloween etc.

The main problem at this time is a use of premises/land for any events. With this in mind, it is planned to produce a community questionnaire, asking for Opinions, ideas and support. This could be delivered in December, for return in January 2002 and should prove invaluable in establishing our objectives for the future. *A C Downes MBE*

Many parents and friends of the school enjoyed the production of "Cinders". Every child in the school took part with Year 6 taking the leading roles. The school choir led by Miss Barber entertained the Residents of the Cheshire Home with festive music accompanied by percussion instruments. We are looking forward to nine new children starting at the school in January. Pupils and staff would like to wish everyone a prosperous and happy new year and thank them for all the support shown to the school over the past year.

EASTERN ANGLES THEATRE COMPANY present THE WALSINGHAM ORGAN

This play, specially commissioned for performance by Eastern Angles, comes to the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Saturday, 9th March. It is about rows in a Norfolk parish and is based on an actual event - the blowing up of the newly installed church organ of St Marys, Walsingham, on Guy Fawkes Day, 1866. Lots of fireworks followed! Come and enjoy them! Tickets for the play cost £7. They can be bought at the door (if there is still room) or bought in advance from Anne Clapham, Pat and Keith Hughes, or from (near Bromley Post Office). This year we are offering a hot supper in the Village Hall before the show, to be served from 6.15pm. Combined tickets to cover both the supper and the performance (numbers limited) cost £12 and need to be bought in advance.

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

presents the classical tale of BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (as only they know how!)

Wed 9th, Thurs 10th & Fri 11th January 7.30 pm

Sat 12th January Matinee 2.30 pm Evening 7.30 pm

in Great Bromley Village Hall

BOOK NOW! Children £3 and 12 yrs + £5

Wednesday night's proceeds will be donated to The Children's Hospice and the Village Hall fund.

SLIDE SHOW & TALK

for our sponsors and friends (or anyone who is interested to hear about our adventure) SUZANNE & JAMIE'S ECUADOR CYCLING CHALLENGE for Macmillan Cancer Relief Saturday 2nd February 2002 at the Village Hall, Great Bromley at 7.30 pm. Tickets £2.00 to include light refreshments. Please phone Suzanne 01206 230659 for tickets by mid January.



HEARING DOGS FOR DEAF PEOPLE
Registered Charity No. 293358 (England)
Fear comes in many guises ...
Dare you walk bare foot across red hot coals??

When you know you can, as an act of sheer determination and willpower, you know there is **nothing** that can hold you back. Conquer the fear of the unknown. Achieve!!

SPONSORED FIREWALK
Friday, 11th January, 2002
Stoke by Nayland Golf Club
Limited number only. £25 deposit secures place
Call 01206 230320

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Little Bromley Parish Council met on 24th November.

Government Sponsored Training in the Rural Communities The meeting was addressed by guest speaker, Jenny Hinton who represented the Government Sponsored Training in the Rural Communities. This represents an excellent opportunity for the over 25s to enhance their education, gain experience and skill certificates at the same time. The Council will find a venue for this training so that registration could start as soon as possible.

St Marys Churchyard The organising of work parties to assist with maintenance and general upkeep of the churchyard is being addressed and is one of the projects for the Amenities Committee.

Amenities Committee An amenities committee has been constituted and met recently. This is a big step forward for the village and maximum support for their efforts will be required. It was agreed that the present contribution for the upkeep of St Marys Churchyard be increased from £130 to £230. The current bill for this task, currently heavily subsidised by the PCC of The Bromleys, is about £800.

Dangerous Parking Mention was made of the dangerous parking at the Lawford Adventure Centre. It was suggested that the local council should be approached to see if any improvements could be made.

The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 11th January, 2002 in the Methodist Chapel School Room at 7.30pm.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council Following the resignation of Mrs Shute, the Council is pleased to announce that Mrs Sue Skinner has been appointed Clerk to the Council. Mrs Skinner will commence her duties on 1 January, 2002.

*** STOP PRESS * Mrs Sandra Shute will be continuing as Parish Clerk after 1st January, 2002; Mrs Sue Skinner will not be assuming this role.**

The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council is to be held on 31st January in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

CORRESPONDENCE between Major Heaney, Chairman of Gt Bromley Parish Council and Tendring District Council

Planning Application No. 01/01892I/AGRIC - 2 Agricultural Buildings Field Adjacent 2 Hall Cottages, Great Bromley

From Major Heaney to Mr J Hawkins of Tendring District Council, 3 December 2001

Our council was dismayed during our meeting with your Mr Lifford when he informed us that the 28 day expiry date had elapsed for the above application thereby making it impossible for those who will be affected by the proposal to be informed in sufficient time for them to lodge their objections. That a Mr Moss, a resident of Brightlingsea, should be legally entitled under current rules pertaining to agriculture to build two large buildings on a 31.5 acre field, which he recently bought in our village, would suggest if common sense were to prevail, that the rules needed to be changed. The field, adjacent to 2 Hall Cottages on Hall Road, lies alongside the B1029, the main road through our village and is very close to the heart of Great Bromley with its Cheshire Home, beautiful church and of course, many residential properties. That apart, the buildings will be an eyesore and spoil a visual amenity enjoyed by everyone who lives in and passes through our village. Great Bromley Parish Council understands that Mr Moss intends to keep free-range pigs on the 31.5 acre field and to install corrugated iron huts as shelter for the pigs. It seems he will not require planning permission for these eyesores nor indeed to keep pigs so close to the centre of the village. Pigs cause obnoxious smells and generate flies. These will be a nuisance and a discomfort for everyone living nearby. For these reasons our council strongly objects to the planning application.

From Mr Bill Newman of Tendring District Council to Major Heaney, 6 December 2001

Under the terms of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 the operators of agricultural holdings have certain permitted development rights which enable them to carry out agricultural developments on agricultural land without the need to obtain full planning permission. I believe these may be the "rules" to which you refer in which case they were ratified by Parliament. In this case the farmer may erect buildings in certain locations and of a certain size and he is only required to notify the local planning authority of his intention. The local planning authority then has 28 days to determine whether or not prior approval is necessary. If the Council resolves that a full application is necessary it is in effect a refusal which means that it may be the subject of an appeal. As you say the 28 day period does not allow adequate time to notify interested parties and indeed there is no requirement to do so. We place such applications on the Parish List so that at least you are aware of them. The restricted time also means that there is little time for any negotiation. Turning to the other points you raise, agricultural buildings erected under such a procedure may not be used to accommodate livestock as part of an intensive rearing enterprise. You refer to "free range" pigs and "pig arks". Generally speaking these are not regarded as buildings that require any planning permission. If however the operation causes nuisance in terms of smell or flies then the Council's Environmental services may be able to take action

DO YOU KNOW OF ELSIE MILDRED WILLMORE (nee STEADY)

I would be very grateful to hear of any information regarding the whereabouts of Elsie Mildred Willmore (nee Steady) who was known to have resided in the vicinity around the 1940/50s. She had lived in other areas of the Tendring area and was born in 1912. She is thought to have lived in Orchard Cottage near the Fox & Hounds, Little Bromley and her parents, James and Edith Steady, with some of her brothers and sisters were known to have lived in temporary Post-war housing in Great Bromley. It is known that Elsie Mildred also had certain connections with Ardleigh. If anyone has any information or photographs of the above I would be very pleased to hear from them. Please contact Sue Ward.

ARDLEIGH WEA

The Spring Term course is "William Morris and his Age" with tutor Dr Robert Brownell. William Morris is remembered today as a pattern designer of genius whose chintzes still sell as wallpapers, fabrics, and gift wrappings. But he was also a writer of both poetry and prose, fiction and theory. The course will set out to help students discover why Morris thought he could save the world through design. Are there links between the patterns of Chintz, and the patterns of verse and of society? Does the way in which we design and make things affect the way we think and behave? The course will encourage students to look for answers in an and literature. The 10 week course will commence on Thursday, 10th January, 2002 at 2.30pm in Ardleigh Village Hall. Sessions last 1½ hours with a break for a cup of tea. Fees for the full course will be: Full fee £30, concessions £27, unemployed/benefit receivers (upon production of proof) - free. There will be a half term break on 21st February. For further details contact the Secretary (01206 230476) or Chairman (01206 230473).

CHURCH REPAIRS- THANKS

The members of the Repair Committee are most grateful to the Colchester Institute Chamber Choir and their Leader, Ian Ray, for having come to sing in St George's Church on the evening of 8th December. Their fortunate audience heard a wide and well-chosen selection of choral pieces ranging from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries, together with beautiful cello pieces by Bach and Vivaldi, played by Oliver Ray. Altogether it was a wonderfully happy occasion, which raised more than £800 for the benefit of the Fund. *John Clapham*

FORTHCOMING EVENTS in 2002

JANUARY

- 2 WI. meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9-12 Beauty & the Beast Pantomime. Village Hall .
- 10 'William Morris & His Age' WEA course, Ardleigh Village Hall, 2.30pm
- 10 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 11 Sponsored Firewalk, Stoke by Nayland Golf Club
- 15 Gt Bromley Village Hall Charity Trustees committee meeting, Village Hall
- 15 Ardleigh Church council meeting, 7.30pm
- 17 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 24 The Bromleys Church Council meeting, 7.00pm
- 31 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

FEBRUARY

- 19 Cricket Club A.G.M., Copley Dene, 8.00pm
- 20 The Bromleys Annual Parochial Church meeting, 7.00pm
- 21 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

MARCH

- 2 Tom Collins Jazz Band, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9 'The Walsingham Organ', Eastern Angles Theatre Co, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 17 Ardleigh Annual Parochial Church meeting, 12 noon
- 21 Little Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm
- 28 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

APRIL

- 11 Little Bromley Parish Council Assembly meeting, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm
- 25 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

MAY

- 4 Plant & Garage Sale, Ilex Farm
- 16 Great Bromley Annual Council Parish Assembly, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 25-26 Golden Flower Festival at St Marys Church, Ardleigh

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Flower Arranging Demonstration, St George's Church
- 27 Harvest Barn dance, 7.30pm

OCTOBER

- 7 The Bromleys Harvest Festival and Lunch

THANKS

A very big thank you to everyone who donated an old mobile phone to the Samaritan's Purse Appeal - we were able to send about 50 to the depot and as most of them had chargers with them that is approximately £250 to the charity. Well done everyone. *Caroline McShane*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

A new year begins when we wish everyone Good Health and Happiness, with a reminder that the A.G.M. is on 17th January - the subscriptions will stay at £5 - when please bring your members card. Our speaker will be Sue on Care and Mobility. The competition is a walking stick. We are sad to report the death of Mrs Edie Wickham who was a long standing member. We send our condolences to Paul and family. *Vicky Griffiths*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We had our Christmas Party in December, instead of a more formal meeting. Our President, Mrs Jill Frostick, together with her Committee arranged for us an evening of entertainment and buffet supper, with Members also contributing food for all to share. A number of guests from neighbouring Institutes had been invited and joined us for the evening. "The Entertainers", a group of nine people, provided us with music and songs which we all thoroughly enjoyed. Halfway through their performance we had an interval for refreshments and afterwards there was a sing-a-long with most people joining in. Our first speaker for 2002 is Mr Ken Cook who will come in January to tell us about his experiences as the Mayor of Colchester. Do join us in what promises to be an interesting evening on Wednesday, 2nd January at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. A very Happy and Prosperous New Year to everyone from all Great Bromley W.I. Members. - *June Willgress*

KITCHEN CORNER

Two recipes from North America to start the new Year! A warming drink, ideal after a walk or instead of morning coffee on a cold day.

HOT SPICED CIDER

4 pints cider (or use apple juice if non-alcoholic is preferred)
1 cup brown sugar 12 whole cloves 4 cinnamon sticks 1¼ teasp allspice
Put all in a large pan, boil several minutes. Garnish with lemon slices.

CANADIAN APPLE SLICE

For the dough: 8 oz SR flour; 6 oz butter; 2 oz caster sugar; 1 large egg.
Filling: 1 lb cooking apples; 3 or 4 oz caster sugar; 1/2 teasp ground cinnamon.
Rub butter into flour, add sugar and beaten egg to bind, using a fork. Turn onto floured board and knead lightly till smooth. Rest Dough 20 minutes then roll half to fit a square or oblong tin (7" x 11"). Grate prepared apples on top, sprinkle with mixed sugar and cinnamon, add a few raisins if liked. Roll remaining dough to fit top and seal edges. Bake 1 hour 325F. Mark in squares when cold and sprinkle thickly with icing sugar. *Jill Frostick*

CONVERTING ASPIRATION TO ACTION - [Stour Valley Market Towns Article not transcribed]

St GEORGE'S YOUTH CLUB

Happy New Year to everyone and we hope you all had a great Christmas. The youth club is still popular with over 25 turning up on club nights. We have loud music, pool, air hockey, unihoc with cricket and football in the summer. and a tuck shop just to name a few of our activities. We had our Christmas outing to Rollerworld in December, which also included Quasar. We were joined by Els and the guides and we all had a great time. I must thank the parents who helped out, without them these outings would not happen. Which brings me to my next point. I must have someone to help me run the youth club. I have great support from the parents on a rota system on youth club nights but I need someone to share ideas and decisions for the good of the kids. I did say that if I had no help by the end of 2001 I would disband the youth club, which I don't want to happen. I am therefore prepared to keep the youth club running for one more term but be warned - it will close if I don't get help by that time. So please don't let the youth club fade away - if anyone is interested give me a call for details on 230196 - most importantly they are a super bunch of kids and I don't want to let them down.

MARK BEAUCHAMP, Youth Club leader

MATERIAL for the February 2002 edition of The Messenger should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by Tuesday, 15th January, 2002 please. Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed. Copy can either be delivered by hand, sent by post or by e-mail.

We thank LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL and ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH of ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL for sponsoring this month's magazine.

BROWNIES

During this term we have enrolled Sasha and Mia into the pack, Eleanor has gained her Hostess badge; Georgie, Imogen, Shannon, Eleanor, Charlotte, Sasha and Lorna all passed their Sight Awareness badge and Lorna her Book Lovers badge. Imogen, Charlotte, Ashleigh and Eleanor are going up to Guides in the new year and we wish them all the best for the future. Due to falling numbers it is no longer viable to run the pack with the result that the decision has been taken to suspend the unit with the hope that it will be reopened in the not too distant future. Therefore the remaining six girls in the pack are looking to join existing packs in the area. Also Groovy Chick is now in the last year of her Art degree and wants to devote more time to this, but hopes to come back into guiding at a later date. I will continue to run the Manningtree District as District Commissioner. *Brown Owl*

 <p>BEAUTY BUSINESS at GASKINS HAIR CO.</p> <p>Manicures & Nail Extensions/Facials/ Pedicures/Wax Depilation/Eyelash Perming & Eyelash/Eyebrow Tinting/San Tropez Sunless Bronzing Treatments/Body Exfoliation/ Wedding Packages & Professional Make Up</p> <p>Victory House Plough Road Great Bentley Essex CO7 8LA</p> <p>Tel: 01206 251683 Mobile: 07949 608628</p> <p>DAWN PEGRUM IHBC, NVQ, VTCT <i>Member of Guild of Professional Therapists</i></p>	<p>HISKEY'S FARM KENNELS</p> <p>Boarding Kennels and Cattery Open 8am to 8pm – 7 days a week <i>Quality care for your Dogs, Cats and Small Pets</i> Playtimes & Country walks for dogs – Cuddles for cats <i>Competitive rates – Inspection invited</i> GROOMING PARLOUR – WASH & BRUSH Tel: Anne, Pete or Stuart on 01206 395657 Spratts Lane, Little Bromley, Essex CO11 2PR</p>
<p>Stuart Harris CABINET MAKER</p> <p>Designer/Maker of Specialist furniture, Church furnishings and restoration to general Woodwork.</p> <p>Tel/Fax: 01206 230078</p>	 <p>P.J. SAMPSON</p>  <p>BUILDERS COMPLETE BUILDING SERVICE Over 17 Years' Experience</p>
<p>Orchard Boarding Cattery</p> <p>Orchard Cottage Little Bromley Road Little Bentley near Colchester CO7 8SS</p>  <p>Tel: 01206 397 096 Email: ken@littledev.demon.co.uk</p>	 <p>CATERING & CAKES FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS</p> <p>WEDDING FUNCTIONS PARTIES BUSINESS LUNCHES SPECIALIST CAKES NOVELTY CAKES CROCKERY/CUTLERY HIRE</p> <p>CONTACT LINDA PISHLEY FORGE COTTAGE HALL ROAD GE. BROMLEY COLCHESTER CO7 7TP</p> <p>Tel: 01206 230126</p>

OLD COURTHOUSE INN
(4 Diamonds Tourist Board Recommended)

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

SMOKING AND NON SMOKING RESTAURANTS
LARGE BAR, RESTAURANT and WINE MENUS
SPECIALISING IN FRESH FISH and HOMEMADE DISHES
THURSDAY IS CURRY NIGHT
£8.50 THREE COURSES
SUNDAY ROAST – 1 COURSE £5.50, 2 COURSES £7.50, 3 COURSES £9.50
PLUS FULL MENU ALWAYS AVAILABLE
COOKING TILL 10.00 pm EVERY EVENING
LARGE CAR PARK & SECLUDED GARDEN
BED & BREAKFAST EN-SUITE ROOMS

ARDLEIGH HALL

**THE PLACE TO KEEP FIT..
- is on your doorstep!**

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*

FREE, UNLIMITED USE OF ALL THESE FACILITIES

- AIR-CONDITIONED GYM
- AEROBIC CLASSES
- INDOOR HEATED POOL
- SAUNAS & SPA
- SQUASH & TENNIS
- FITNESS TESTING
- FAST-TAN SUNBEDS

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



Brenda and Richard welcome you to
"THE BROMLEY CROSS INN"

For fine ales and good food, brought to you in a friendly, welcoming atmosphere and comfortable, homely environment.

- Thursday, 17th January – CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT in aid of Lawford pre-school group.
- Wednesday, 23rd January – MUSIC NIGHT Play, sing or just listen and enjoy. 8.00pm start.

Non-Smoking Restaurant Evening meals and Sunday Lunches
Non-Smoking B & B available, twin room en suite shower

Telephone 01206 230282

Extra help with maths

GCSE coaching by qualified, experienced teacher
Other subjects and levels offered
Single sessions or longer courses available
Tel: 01206 251691 to discuss your requirements
Special village rates

**CURTAINS - CUSHIONS -
LOOSE COVERS**

**MADE TO MEASURE at
REASONABLE PRICES**

Please contact: Alison Everington
01206 230956

CHIROPODY

ALL FEET
NEED A LITTLE
TENDER LOVING CARE

For all your foot ailments and a friendly, caring service call Louise Carter-Hardy on 01206 250538
A registered member of the British Chiropractic and Podiatry Association

**Pleass Thomson
& Company**
Solicitors

Rectory Chambers,
91-93 Rosemary Road West,
Clacton-on-Sea,
Essex CO15 1EP

Tel: (01255)221133 Miss Jane Pleass, B.A. (Hons)



ROBERT CAREY

CARPETS & VINYL SUPPLIED & FITTED

2 HILL COTTAGES, RECTORY ROAD
GREAT BROMLEY
COLCHESTER, ESSEX CO7 7JA
TEL: 01206 231720
MOB: 0794 1149793
FREE QUOTATIONS

FADING AWAY?

Old photographs deteriorate over time and can be completely lost along with your family's memories and history. We can copy* and digitally restore old photographs. Call us for prices and free advice.

01206 790221
143 Hythe Hill, Colchester

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP

*Copyright permitting

*** ACUPUNCTURE ***

Dr J. N. WAKELY
M.A., B.M., B.CHIR (Cambridge)

SUITABLE FOR:-
JOINT/MUSCLE PROBLEMS HEADACHE/MIGRAINE
PAIN RELIEF/STRESS/PMT ASTHMA/ECZEMA/HAYFEVER
PERIOD PROBLEMS IRRITABLE BOWEL

Enquiries welcome for other conditions
Telephone: 01206 231072

**OSCAR®
Pet Foods**

The HOME DELIVERY PET FOOD SUPPLIER

All your pet needs delivered to your front door
For your requirements contact:
PAUL & VAL BISHOP Tel 01206 231883



THE 'ODD JOB' MAN

GARDENING * PAINTING
DECORATING * GENERAL D.I.Y.
AT REASONABLE RATES

**TEL: (01206) 250442
(EVENINGS)**

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



**THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH
AND THE BROMLEYS**



Dear Parishioner. A happy and blessed 2002 to you and yours! January is the time for preparing the Annual Reports and accounts and meetings, for looking at the past year and preparing for the New one. The Church is no different to any other organisation, indeed as a Charity we have to follow certain procedures and produce an Annual Report. The Church of England is a strange institution-in many ways! The one I'm particularly thinking about is that it is one of the few institutions that exists primarily for those who aren't members. The whole of the country is divided up into parishes, no where is left out. Sometimes the boundaries are pretty obscure and occasionally can be changed. Everyone has a legal right to be baptised, or have a funeral, and if there is a graveyard be buried, at the Parish Church. You can be married in Church too (unless you are divorced and your previous partner is still alive, when it is more complicated). The Church is open during the day for you to explore, for you to use as a place of peace, a place that has been set apart in the village for hundreds of years for meetings with God. It is your Church. On an institutional level the Church of England does have members, people who have made a commitment to a place of worship. Every six years a new membership list - the Electoral Roll- is created and this happens in 2002. To join the Roll, you have to be baptised, and be at least sixteen; you must live in the parish or have attended regularly for at least six months. In turn that qualifies you to attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). If you think you'd like to be a member please collect a form from Church. To be a member of the Parochial Church Council you have to be on the Roll, Confirmed, and a regular Communicant. During the next few weeks the Church Secretary - will be writing to all existing Roll members inviting them to be on the new Roll. The Church does give guidelines as to what it expects of her members. Weekly worship is central to our life and all should try to attend one of the Sunday celebrations. Members should receive Holy Communion at least once a year, one of which should be Easter. The Church relies upon her members for the day to day running of Churches and to pay for the ministry of the Parish Priest. Members are encouraged to give financially regularly and efficiently (i.e. taxpayers using Gilt Aid). Belonging to a Housechurch, the MAGI or Sunday Church Club, subscribing to the Benefice News, and opportunities For daily public worship, are local initiatives designed to strengthen Christian fellowship and understanding. The

APCM this year will be at 7pm February 20th. Copies of the Annual Report for 2001 will be available before the meeting. Amidst all of this paper and regulations I have to keep sight of the main reason that I am here! The bishop placed me here four years ago to offer daily worship to God; to care for the souls of this parish: “to minister to the sick, prepare the dying for their death; to teach and admonish, to feed and to provide for the Lord’s family, to search for his children in the wilderness of this world’s temptations and to guide them through its confusions, so that they may be saved through Christ for ever.” Though a somewhat daunting charge, I know from past experience, here and in other places, that having “the cure of souls” can also be a source of great blessings for me and others. May these blessings continue to be experience for all in our church and parish throughout 2002. *Fr Nicolas.*

Services for December

1st Mary, Mother of God

- 11.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 2nd 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr
- 3rd 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 4th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
- 5th 9.30am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 6th Epiphany of The Lord

- 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
- 9th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
- 10th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 11th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
- 12th 9.30am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 13th The Baptism of the Lord

- 7.30am Morning Prayer St Mary the Virgin
- 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 9.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr
- 11.00am The Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
- 15th 7.30pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
- 16th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
- 17th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
- 18th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
- 19th 9.30am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 20th Epiphany 3

- 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
- 3.00pm Christian Unity Service
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr
- 21st 9.30am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
- 23rd 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
- 24th 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr
- 25th Conversion of S Paul
- 11.00am Holy Communion Seven Rivers

Sunday 27th Epiphany 4

- 8.00am The Eucharist Sr. Mary the Virgin
- 9.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr
- 11.00am The Parish Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
- 30th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr 31st 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
- Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS at St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

The Bromley Messenger February 2002

LANGUAGE

Over the last few years some quarters of society have become increasingly sensitive to the use of certain words (e. g. Chairman). With the advent of fast broadcasting of language the damage that can be done is instantaneous or so they tell us. (e.g. Crusade) Language is something that we enjoy, whether in books, poetry, hymns, plays, opera, to music, paintings, sculpture and wine. The latter especially as the experts spend some minutes in telling you what the wine is tasting like in words.

One of the greats in the use of language was Winston Churchill who motivated the British people, not to give in, in that time of dire crisis. Listen to well known people being interviewed on television for their language, because it needs some interpretation:-

“Basically” - often repeated every fourth sentence. I intend to summarise the position, but I would have said this anyway.

“Briefly” - we are running out of time so for goodness sake just say yes or no.

“As I say” - I've already said this once but as I have nothing to add, I'll say it again anyway.

“At this point in time” - I'm sure not if I am up to speed on this one, so I'll say what I do know.

“You know?” - often repeated at the end of every sentence. I have not told you yet, so you do not know, but I can't think what to say.

“Er” - wait till I gather my thoughts.

“Um” - take a breath while I gather my thoughts.

“At the end of the day” - I'm going to tell you what I think anyway.

“As far as I know” - I do not know much about this subject but I'll try to flannel through it.

“So?” - What has that got to do with the subject matter? (currently in fashion by schoolchildren)

“In conclusion” - I'm about to repeat all the matters I've just related with the same details.

Basically then pleasant reading Messenger er readers, and try um keeping a record of these you know at the next function you attend, you could tum it into a lottery at the end of the day.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

2 Ecuador Slide Show & Talk, Village Hall, 7.30pm

7 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

9 Churchyard Working Party, St George's Church, 9.30am

16 Valentine Dance & Dinner, Lawford Venture Centre, 7.15pm

19 Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club A.C.M., Copley Dene, 8.00pm

20 The Bromleys Annual Parochial Church meeting, Seven Rivers Chapel, 7.00pm

21 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm

Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

MARCH

1 Women's World Day of Prayer, Mistley Parish church, 2.30pm

2 Tom Collins Jazz Band, Village Hall, 7.30pm

9 'The Walsingham Organ', Eastern Angles Theatre Co, Village Hall, 7.30pm

17 Ardleigh Annual Parochial Church meeting, 12 noon

21 Little Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm

28 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

DONT MISS OUT ON FREE TRAINING

Training in the Rural Communities Distance Learning Courses and Computer Training in your community. cahro have been given funding by the Learning Skills Council to deliver training out in the rural communities. We are delivering training in your area at the Village Hall. This training is FREE OF CHARGE to all members of the community. The training is taking place in the following communities:

Monday Morning - Great Bentley Monday Afternoon - St Osyth

Wednesday Morning - Weeley Wednesday Afternoon - Lt Clacton

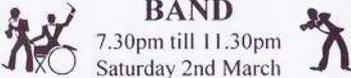
Thursday Evening - Thorrington

Friday Morning Great Bromley Friday Afternoon Wrabness

Other areas to come on board will be: Thorpe Le Soken and Little Bromley. Call 01376 324309 for more information.

A WORK PARTY will meet at St George's Saturday morning 9th February at 9.30am for a couple of hours to again tidy up the Churchyard as well as undertaking some maintenance of the building. If you would like to help please call Mike 011230203 or please just come along on the morning. Coffee and doughnuts provided.

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

<p>ST GEORGE'S ROOF REPAIR COMMITTEE present THE WALSINGHAM ORGAN performed by EASTERN ANGLES THEATRE COMPANY in Great Bromley Village Hall on Saturday, 9th March at 7.30pm</p> <p>The play is based on an actual event - the blowing-up of the newly-installed church organ of St Mary's, Walsingham, on Guy Fawkes Day, 1866.</p> <p>Come and enjoy the uproar and fireworks that followed!</p> <p>A hot supper (number limited) will be served before the show at 6.15pm. Wine/beer/soft drinks can be bought at a licensed bar during supper and at the interval.</p> <p>Tickets: £7 - play £5 - supper are available from: Anne Clapham (01206 230790), Pat & Keith Hughes (01255 553885), Great Bromley Post Office or at the door, though you risk being told the show is SOLD OUT!</p> <p>Supper tickets need to be bought in advance.</p>	<p>SLIDE SHOW & TALK for our sponsors and friends (or anyone who is interested to hear about our adventure)</p> <p>SUZANNE & JAMIE'S ECUADOR CYCLING CHALLENGE for Macmillan Cancer Relief</p> <p>Saturday 2nd February 2002 at the Village Hall, Great Bromley at 7.30 p.m.</p> <p>Tickets £2.00 to include light refreshments.</p>  <p>Please phone Suzanne 01206-230659 for tickets by mid January</p>
 <p>The Rector & Wardens invite you to a Service for the Blessing of a Statue of S George in S George's Church Great Bromley on April 13th at 11.00am followed by reception and lunch in the Village Hall.</p> <p>Please reply by April 7th to Fr N Spicer The Rectory, Great Bromley Essex CO7 7TS</p>	<p>VALENTINE DANCE & 3 Course Dinner</p>  <p>Saturday, 16th February at Lawford Venture Centre 7.15pm for 7.45 till 12 midnight dancing to The Steve Lintan Band Raffle for Colchester Breast Care Unit £21 per head Telephone 01206 230126</p> <p>TOM COLLINS JAZZ BAND</p>  <p>7.30pm till 11.30pm Saturday 2nd March at Great Bromley Village Hall</p> <p>Tickets £6.00 per person including Buffet</p> <p>Contact: Dean Dasley 01206 231643 Beryl Hurst 01206 230578</p> <p><i>Bring your own drinks and glasses</i></p>

GREAT BROMLEY CAROL SINGING

Christmas has come and gone for another year and with it the carol singing too; but the memory of the kindness and hospitality that we received lingers on. The good old stalwarts turned out again this year and we began our first evening, trying to get our voices together, with an invitation to sing at Seven Rivers. Many thanks to the residents and staff for a warm welcome and a very kind donation. From there we moved from house to house in the centre of the Village. Halfway through the evening hospitality once more greeted us with an invitation to stop for drinks and nibbles. We couldn't resist and got no further.

As a consequence, the collection tins didn't rattle as much as they might! The second evening was more productive as we roamed Chase Road and Meadow Close. We did take the opportunity and accepted another invitation to drinks but were determined to carry on. Apart from the £130 collected and which has been donated to Crisis, again this year, the warmth with which we were greeted was very much appreciated. Thank you to everyone who put money in our collection tins and an especial thank you to those who came and sang. - *Dennis Simons*

The MESSENGER COVER

In April the cover pages of "The Messenger" will be updated. For economic reasons it is changed only once a year so 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 19th March, 2002.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Once again it seems garden sheds are a target for the burglars. Lawnmowers, strimmers, hedgecutters and power tools are all being stolen. Most of the time the sheds concerned are locked, however the manner in which they were secured was not strong enough. Small hasps and a padlock will not deter a determined thief. If possible a good quality mortice lock needs to be fitted. If this is not possible then try and bolt any hasp used rather than use screws. Theft from motor vehicles has also been on the increase, Vauxhall Novas seem to have been a prime target and expensive audio equipment stolen.

Bogus callers are always a problem. Thankfully we do not have a huge problem on the Mistley Section which includes your village. However any bogus caller that manages to gain access to someone's house is a problem. They generally prey on the elderly and will appear very genuine. If you are not expecting anybody from companies such as the water board or electricity board do not let them in until you have seen some ID. If you are still not sure make a phone call to the company they claim to be from to double check. If the person is genuine they won't mind waiting. CJ Phillips, PC 1061

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Management Committee met on 15th January. With many thanks to Martin Frostick and his helpers, you may have noticed that the north car parking area has been much drier since the start of the year. We believe this will benefit those using the Hall and also the Cricket Club supporters later in the year. We are continuing our efforts to improve the inside facilities and over the next month or so will be carrying out work in the Ladies Cloakroom, Kitchen and Billiards room areas. This has already commenced in the kitchen and we sincerely hope it does not disrupt any club activities.

We are very grateful to the Great Bromley Pantomime Group for the performances of Beauty and the Beast and the proceeds Of the Wednesday night being split between the Ipswich Children's Hospice and our Village Hall. Thank you to all those involved in the Pantomime Group for the splendid show produced last month.

On Saturday, 2nd March there will be a Jazz night at the Hall from 7.30pm until 11.30pm with the Tom Collins Jazz Band. Tickets, £6 including buffet but bring your own drinks, are available from Dean Dasley or Beryl Hurst or any Village Hall committee member. Book early to avoid disappointment. Eastern Angles Theatre CO will be performing at the Hall on 9th March at 7.30pm in aid of St Georges Church roof funds. - *Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (INTERDENOMINATIONAL)

The Women's World Day of Prayer Movement will celebrate its annual Day of Prayer on Friday, 1st March. The theme of the Service will be "Challenged to Reconcile". The Service comes from Romania, a country of contrasts - mountains, plateaux, hills and plains, woods, meadows and a variety of flora and fauna. It is rich in natural resources and the River Danube flows through the Danube Delta into the Black Sea where there are resorts and health spas. These facts may appear to paint a picture of health, wealth and pleasure but is not the reality, for many people still struggle after years of difficulty and oppression. However, they are resilient and do not lose hope. This is evident in their faith and hope in God and their country. People of all ages and from many differing backgrounds will be celebrating this Day of Prayer. May we invite you to join in a service at Mistley with Manningtree Parish Church at 2.30pm on Friday, 1st March, 2002. - *Barbara Pearce*

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP Another opening, another show. Wow what a start to the year. A great big thank you to all who came and cheered and clapped to support Beauty finally save the Beast from an eternity of loneliness. More importantly being so generous to our charities, The Children's Hospice and . the Village Hall, it makes all the effort and tedium of rehearsals worth it. More news on the amounts when our treasurer has come out of his counting closet. As our audiences rise it seems the tradition of Bromley Panto will reach its 50th birthday in 2003 so watch out for something special as plans are already under way for a

very special show. The pantomime could not be the success it has been without the help and dedication of so many. Over 60 people had an input into Beauty & the Beast so on behalf of the committee a very special thank you and see you again in 2003. Oh yes we will! *Prod.*

A BROMLEY WOMAN'S WARDROBE in the late 16th/early 17th century

A Widow Margery Tungat left goods to her family in her will of 10 February 1603. Part of the document is eaten away. It reads:

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' daughter, Margery Pearson, daughter of Robert P(earson), until she Margery shall enjoy the said bed, featherbed, a stuff gown, (the worst of my two), 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, 20 shillings, a flock bed, my best stuff gown

My wearing linen to be divided equally among my three daughters, i.e. Margery, Joan and ---.

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

John Appleby

ST GEORGE'S REPAIR FUND - A PROGRESS REPORT

As regards English Heritage, 2001 brought us a serious disappointment. They recognise the great architectural and historical importance of the church and the enormous financial problems faced by a parish such as ours in seeking to maintain such a building. This is shown by their past financial support, which has been crucial in enabling us to complete not only the recent repair of the two western bays of the double-hammerbeam roof but also our previous repair of the tower. As regards each project they contributed 40% but unfortunately our new application for grant in respect of the next phase of work, comprising principally the remaining bays of the roof structure and the repair of the parapets of the north aisle, has been rejected. It had to be made under the new Joint Grant Scheme for Churches and Other Places of Worship, administered by English Heritage and the heritage Lottery Fund in partnership. As the church is listed as Gracie I it seemed reasonable to suppose that the information gained during the completed part of the work (which showed that because of decay the hammerbeams of the two western bays were no longer adequately supported by the walls of the nave) would be a sufficient measure of the urgency of the high level works in Phase II. Regrettably, however, English Heritage reluctantly found it necessary to give even greater priority to other applications. They received some 350 similar applications from across the country, with a potential cost of more than £30 million, whereas their available budget for such applications was at most £9 million. The best they have been able to do for us is to keep available the so far unclaimed balance of their original grant offer, but then only on condition that it is fully taken up by 28th February 2004. If we are to meet this condition we will need to begin the Phase II work in April 2003 and the earlier months of 2003 have to be used for the procurement of the necessary consents and tenders. It follows that we will need to collect the rest of the necessary money, being no less than £70,000, by the end of 2002. In the absence of further financial support from the Joint Grant Scheme, and in the light of all the other financial burdens on the Parish of the Bromleys, the raising of £70,000 before the end of this year will obviously be a tall order. We hope that it will not be beyond us, but it is clear that even our best local efforts will not enable us to achieve our target without substantial assistance from external charities. GCG Environment Trust (Bucbricks) has agreed to make a further grant of £10,000 in addition to the grant of £5,000 which they kindly made towards Phase 1. Anyone who has potential access to other sources of funds should please let a member of the Repair Committee know about it. We need all the help we can get! *John Clapham*

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

The Annual Dinner and Presentation Evening was held at the Snooty Fox. The awards were presented by Mrs Anne Clapham to Peter Brinkley for Batting, to Neil Garnham for Bowling, Justin Whittaker won the Fielding Award and Lynda Allam was presented with the Club Person of the Year Trophy which was decided by the Club Captain and the Chairman. The Players Player of the Year award was won by Neil Garnham. All club players were presented with trophies for becoming Division 2 Champions of the Osborne League. With the kind permission of Mr and Mrs J Clapham the Great Bromley & District Cricket club Annual general Meeting will be held on 19th February at Copley Dene at 8.00pm.

100 CLUB Winners

for November are: 1st Mrs Claire Gosling 2nd Mr John Hill 3rd Mrs Nicky Robinson

for December are: 1st Mr J Whittaker 2nd Mr M Blenheim 3rd Mr H Fairley

Date for your diary GBCC Colts Quiz Night, 20th April at Great Bromley Village Hall, 7.30pm

Phil Allam

CARPET BOWLS

After a good start in the league this season we have temporarily (we hope) lost our way. The five matches played just before Christmas resulted in only 9 points for Gt Bromley and 31 against. Heavy away defeats against Lawford, Gt Bentley and Walton were disappointing as the games were much closer than the score suggests. We managed a good home win over Wix and an away draw with Clacton-on-Sea. However a rest over the festive season might just have given everyone a boost towards a fresh start. In December Ardleigh Bowls Club joined us for a friendly, the venue Colchester Bowls Clubhouse, Ardleigh. This turned out to be a very enjoyable evening for all concerned, with Gt Bromley winning on this occasion. Our Charity day will soon be here and if there is any reader who feels they would like to donate a raffle prize to the cause, which is Arthritis and Rheumatism, it will be very much appreciated. Thank you. *Nancy Kempster*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mr Ken Cook came to our first meeting of 2002, to tell us about his experiences as Mayor of Colchester in 1990. He thoroughly enjoyed his mayoral duties, but as he is a bachelor he had to "borrow" Mrs Jill Bober to be his Mayoress. Mr Cook brought along items of the mayoral regalia including the Mayor's Chain of Office which is made up from six chains, the links each being old American Gold, thus making it unique to Essex. It is always weighed after each term of office, because in years gone by some links were found to be missing! The mayoral robe was red until Prince Albert's death when Queen Victoria decreed that all robes should be black, in mourning for her husband. It has been black ever since. He also brought along other items of interest, amongst which was a Flag of Texas, presented to him after it was flown over the White House when he was made an Honorary member of the State of Texas on 10th September, 1990. During his year of office, Mr Cook had several important visitors to entertain including the Queen Mother and Princess Diana. Some German Ex Prisoners of War returned after 50 years to be honoured by the people of Colchester. Mr Cook found the occasion both moving and enjoyable, many Germans were in tears because of the hospitality received. Here are some of the statistics he gave us, 864 events to attend, 13 turkey dinners prior to Christmas, 8 Garrison dinners, 12 prize giving ceremonies, 12,556 legal documents to sign and visitors from 234 countries to be met. He had just 11 days off duty that 12 months and found he had gained 28 lbs in weight! For our February meeting, we are having a talk about "Hat pins" If you would like to come along, we will be pleased to see you on Wednesday, 7th February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. - *June Willgress*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We start the month on a sad note - PAM TAYLOR died in hospital on 13th December after a short illness. She was a member for many years and will be greatly missed. Our entertainment for this month is given by ROSE, who was the other half of a duo but now goes solo - "JUST ME". The competition is a SMALL COASTER. The following poem was written by one of our members which I think sums up the Club. *Vicky Griffiths*

FRIENDSHIP

Friendship is a wonderful thing
Especially when youth has had its fling
We meet once a month in the Village Hall
It's an enjoyable time for one and all.
Ida has her stall, another for books and clothes
A raffle too gets good support and birthday cards of every sort.
There's talks and shows and slides
Welcome cuppa and biscuits too
Followed by our finishing Hymn
Yes - FRIENDSHIP IS A PRECIOUS THING. - BR

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE, ST. GEORGE'S

The New Year has well and truly started. However we must just remember the Christingle service and say a big thank you to all who contributed to the production of 125 decorated oranges for the service held on Christmass Eve. We were delighted to welcome 41 children and 63 adults. Conducted by John Appleby it was a splendid celebration of love and worship. We will produce more service sheets for next year! We do have a Sunday club for children held during the 9.30am service on three Sundays each month. The remaining Sunday we enjoy "Worship Together" when the children remain with their parents. We invite you to come and bring your family. You are assured of a welcome and a cup of coffee with biscuits after the service when there is always an opportunity to chat with others. DO COME. We hope that you enjoy a happy, peaceful and healthy New Year. *Pat, Olive and all the helpers.*

KITCHEN CORNER

BROCCOLI AND CHEDDAR SOUP (one of Michael Barry's recipes)

1 medium onion, peeled; 170g/6 oz peeled potato; 1 tbsp. sunflower oil; 454g / 1lb broccoli; 852ml / 1½ pts chicken stock or water; ½ teasp sugar; 170g / 6oz mature cheddar, grated; Salt and pepper;

Chop onion and potato roughly and cook gently in the oil in a roomy pan. Trim the broccoli and cut the stems into 1 cm / ½" slices. Add these to the pan and season generously. Fry for 5 minutes. Reserve half the broccoli florets and add remainder to pan, add water or stock and simmer for 20 minutes. Add remaining florets and the sugar. Cook one minute only, then liquidise or process. Pour into a soup tureen, sprinkle on the cheese and stir gently till melted. Serve with rolls or crusty bread. *Jill Frostick*

GARDENER'S CORNER for FEBRUARY

Welcome to a new year of gardening in the hope we do not get too waterlogged! if you were given the pot plant Solanum (Winter Cherry) for Christmas you can propagate your own seedlings by taking one of the ripe berries, open it and lay the seeds on a piece of kitchen roll to dry. When dry plant in pots - 6 or 8 seeds to a pot. Once they have their first true leaves, grow on until they are approximately 2" high then pinch out the growing tip which will give you a nice bushy plant. When they start to flower stand the pots outdoors so that they can be pollinated, leave outside all summer but bring them in before the frost arrives. LILIES: Can be planted this month in tubs and containers. ROSES: At the end of the month lightly prune to stop the wind rocking the plants, this causes a hole to appear at the base of the roses - firm this in to stop water collecting in the hole. Give all borders a general fertilizer such as Growmore. *Frank Griffiths*

Little Bromley Jubilee celebrations

Following the report last month of the proposals being considered by Lt Bromley Parish Council for fund raising and the celebration of the Golden Jubilee, support for those ideas has been sent to the Messenger. If any of you also wish to support these ideas or have other ideas please let Major Downes know. This will of course be an event for YOUR VILLAGE and your support and participation is essential.

St. George's School, Gt. Bromley

Dates for your Diary

FEBRUARY 1st National Non-Uniform Day - our school will once again be supporting the UNICEF Day for Change. It is a great opportunity for the children to learn about life for children in other countries and the value of sharing with those who are less fortunate.

9th PTA Evening of Fun at the school hall at 8.00pm Teams of 8(ish) compete for a few small prizes! Tickets available from Sue Skinner -£5 including a ploughman's supper. Bar available. 18-22 Half Term

25th Staff Training/non-pupil day

MARCH 8th Mufti Day - donation of items for Tombola or rattle stalls

14th Easter Fayre - 1.45-3pm School Hall. Children's competition "A decorated Easter Egg".

TOKEN COLLECTION The school is collecting Walkers Books for Schools Tokens, Sainsbury's Equipment for Schools, Nestle Box Tops and PC World Ink for IT. Please bring any to the school office. Thanks.

COLCHESTER & DEDHAM VALE FARMERS' MARKETS

February 1 Colchester 15 Dedham

PLAYGROUP

As we prepare for the start of a new term we look forward to welcoming some new faces. Our topics this term are the seasons and the weather. We encourage the children to bring in items for our theme table. This gives them the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the topic by participating in Show and Tell with the other children. Included in the playgroup sessions we have a tone to one, group, which starts the term during which 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.

Dates for your diary: 18 Feb Half term 25 Feb Return to Playgroup 27 Feb Return to Toddler group.

FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Parishioner

Lent is a time of growth, like spring, only spiritual growth. Christian people use the season to get closer to God, to deepen their self-knowledge, and to reach out to their brothers and sisters. It is a time for the opening of Bibles and discovering more about what is revealed there; a time for making space in busy lives to be with God in prayer; a time for sharing fellowship with other Christians to give and receive encouragement in this earthly life.

This year the leaders of the Churches are calling all their people to spend time in each others company. I'd like to invite all of you reading this who are practising Christians to join together in this area for Lenten gatherings. You may have commitments with your own Church and of course you must honour those, but if you haven't, or feel that this Lent God is calling you to spend time with Christians where you live please consider the following.

"Called to be Saints" is the title for Lent 2002 taking up references from the New Testament where Paul describes his readers, the local Christians, as the saints. "Saints" carries a meaning both for individuals and communities. So our leaders are asking us this Lent to consider both our individual discipleship and about the nature of our Church and the wider communities in which we live. On the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sundays at 5pm in the Church Hall at Ardleigh there will be talks given by local Church leaders on their understanding of what it is to be "called to be saints". We'll begin with a cup of tea or coffee, listen to the talk and be able make a response and ask questions, then close with an optional time of silent prayer.

Then in the week in various houses throughout the parishes small groups of people will meet to learn and develop our understanding of what it is to be "called to be saints" At the moment the following groups will be meeting, simply give the phone number a ring if you would like to be part of them. Alternatively if you'd like to host a group please let me know. Mondays at 1.45pm Wednesdays at 10am Wednesdays at 8pm Thursdays at 1.45pm Thursdays at 8pm

In case those of you who are not practising Christians are feeling left out, please don't! Everyone is welcome to be part of this experience and I always think groups gain a great deal more when there are "outsiders" in them keeping us on our toes and making sure we don't get too comfy. However you mark this Lent may it be a time of growth, understanding and blessing for you, your loved ones and our communities.

God bless you, *Fr Nicolas*.



Services for February

1st 11.00am Holy Communion Seven Rivers

Sunday 3rd Presentation of the Lord

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

6th 6.00pm Holy Communion Hamilton Lodge
7th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
8th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
9th 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 10th Next Sunday before Lent

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

11th 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr

13th Ash Wednesday

7.00pm The Benefice Eucharist St. George the Martyr

14th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin '

15th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

Sunday 17th 1st 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 Mary the Virgin

18th 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
20th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
21st 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
22nd 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
23rd 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 24th 2nd Sunday in Lent

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

25th 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
27th 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr

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

The Bromley Messenger March 2002

On the whole I hate housework yet inexplicably every year just as the first snowdrops bloom and the birds begin to think of spring I get this overwhelming desire to spring clean the house with the garden also beckoning to be given the appropriate attention. I have this great surge of energy which ensures that at least once a year everything is truly spick and span.

The whole of nature has this surge. Lambs are being born and can be seen cavorting around the fields whereas in others the corn is growing apace. My ducks are taking long walks hither and thither looking for, and trying out, good nesting sites. Nothing is wasted as the wild birds make use of all the left-over feathers lying around in order to line their nests. The plants and bulbs are sprouting and showing renewed signs of vigour. The bees have tidied up and thrown out all the dead bees who were piling up by the hive entrance and when I peeked in to see if their supplies were adequate I discovered the bees filled almost the entire brood box ready to start the busy season.

Things change in the village as well. I have been altering the names of associations and contacts for the new cover next month as new people come along and take over various roles in local government and in existing village groups. Some such as the brownies have closed down but others will spring up in due time. They all need people energy to run them and to serve on their committees.

The Messenger is kept running voluntarily through the energy of Len Christodoulides who manages the Finance, through Ann Fairley and her fine team of distributors - Estelle Kemp, Sue Clark, Margaret Cheeseman, Jill Frostick, Sarah Harris, Dawn Taylor, Margaret Cook, Doris Anns, John Appleby, Mary Bush, Mrs D Cooley, Ann Jones, Grace Gould, Betty Rowe, Jacquie Terry, Angela Prior, Nicky Robinson, Henry Fairley and John Osborne (who delivers to the whole of Little Bromley) - who energetically and reliably bring this magazine to your homes by the first of the month together with Natalie Smith who proof reads picking up the typos I make thus ensuring events happen on the correct day at the correct time etc!

On this note I would encourage those of you who are also have a surge of spring fever to consider directing some of that energy towards an active role in one or more of the many organisations that we are so fortunate to have in the villages. Even if you do not have that energy please do support them! *LMH*

LENT PROJECT 2002 St Francis' Hospital, Katete, Zambia

This year the benefice of Ardleigh and the Bromleys are raising funds for St Francis' Hospital. Katete, Zambia, from Ash Wednesday to Easter Day. A photographic display is in each church and individual collecting boxes are available.

In addition there are 2 events:

Sunday 3 March - Children's Sponsored Silence in both churches

Saturday 9 March - Coffee Morning in the Committee Room, Ardleigh from 10.30 to 12 midday

Please be generous during Lent in your support for this African hospital, which relies on donations for 50% of its funds. Thank you.

Christine Mingay, Bromley Road, Ardleigh

We thank BROMLEY REFRIGERATION SERVICE LIMITED for sponsoring this month's magazine. Please support our sponsors.

THE BROMLEYS EASTER LILIES

Anyone who would like to contribute towards the Lily fund for Easter in memory of a loved one, please contact me before 20th March. Thank you. *Ann Wild*

Tendring & District Branch Cats Protection FAMILY FUN EVENING

An evening of games, magic, quizzes, disco and fun with children's entertainer KEITH 'NUTTY' NORMAN at Gt Bentley Village Hall Saturday 11th May 6.30 - 10.30pm

Tickets £4 per child (Mums & Dads free) - to include refreshments (soft drink & barbecue)

Tickets from: Sue Albins or Sue Gipps

FRIENDSHIP CLUB SPRING SALE

on 27th April in the Village Hall if you have anything to donate to a WHITE ELEPHANT stall or RUMMAGE which will fit into the boot of a car, give us a ring and we will collect.

ST GEORGES CHURCH

SPRING CLEAN

Saturday, 23rd March, 9.30am Please come, for you will also be able to greet and welcome the Essex Leg of Student Cross, at their first stop on their way to Walsingham.

ST GEORGE STATUE

The Rector & Wardens invite you to a Service for the Blessing of a Statue of S George in S George's Church on April 13th at 11.00am followed by lunch.

Please reply by April 7th to Fr N Spicer, The Rectory, Great Bromley Essex CO7 7TS

PLANT & GARAGE SALE

4th May. Anyone who is dividing plants this Spring please think of our sale. I will collect and pot up. Thank you. *Ann Wild*

Forthcoming Events

MARCH

- 1 Women's World Day of Prayer, Mistley Parish church, 2.30pm
- 1 Tom Collins Jazz Band, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 3 Children's sponsored silence in Ardleigh & Gt Bromley churches
- 6 WI meeting - Silk Painting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9 Coffee Morning, committee Room, Ardleigh, 10.30am
- 9 The Walsingham Organ, Eastern Angles Theatre Co, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14 Easter Fayre, St. George's School Hall, 1.45pm
- 17 Annual Parochial Church meeting, 12 noon
- 19 Village Hall Management Cttee meeting, Village Hall
- 21 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.30pm
- Little Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm
- 23 Spring Clean in St George's Church, 9.30am
- 28 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

APRIL

- 11 Little Bromley Parish Council Assembly meeting, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm
- 13 Blessing of Statue of St George, St George's Church, 11.00am
- 20 Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club Colts Quiz Night, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 25 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 27 Friendship Club Spring Sale, Village Hall

MAY

- 4 Plant & Garage Sale, Ilex Farm
- 11 Family Fun Evening, Gt Bentley Village Hall, 6.30pm
- 16 Great Bromley Annual Council Parish Assembly, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 25-26 Golden Flower Festival at St Marys Church. Ardleigh

IS YOUR COMMUNITY LOSING ITS SERVICES?

Are you involved in running a Community Shop? Are you interested in finding out what is involved in setting up, running and managing a Community Shop? Then come along to Essex Rural Development Centre's REGIONAL COMMUNITY SHOP SEMINAR

The seminar is to be held on 16th March, 2002. Speakers include ViRSA and the Post Office. To be held in Radwinter Village Hall, North Essex

For more details ring Shelley or Catherine or email'

ESSEX RURAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE & UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Is your community lacking in provision for young people? Local youth club closed? Little or no transport available? Confused about current legislation relating to young people? Not sure what support is available? Need to know how to engage and consult young people? Then come along to DEALING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

A one day interactive conference to help communities identify and solve issues involving young people Saturday, 13th April at Council Chambers, Uttlesford District Council, Saffron Walden. For more information ring Shelley or Catherine or email

COLCHESTER & DEDHAM VALE FARMERS' MARKETS

March 1 Colchester 15 Dedham
April 5 Colchester 19 Dedham
May 3 Colchester 17 Dedham

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our February speaker, Mrs Barbara Faulkner, came along suitably attired to tell us about Hat Pins and called her talk "Ornament or Armament". Hat pins became popular in Victorian times around 1850, when the fashion was for women to wear their hair arranged on top of their heads. This meant hats, which everybody wore at the time, were just sitting on the top and needed something to hold them in place. In Edwardian times hats were much larger and needed two hat pins, which were called "companions".

Early in the 1900s, a problem arose because hat pins could be used as a weapon or protection. People started to keep a hat pin underneath their lapels or a spare one in their umbrella, for protection. In Germany, they were banned unless they had a protective little cap to cover the sharp end. A law was brought in and the poor used mostly a piece of cork or potato.

Hats were smaller and hat pins became shorter in the 1930s and 40s. Mrs Faulkner showed us her collection of hat pins and the containers they used to be kept in on dressing tables, with suitable holes, looking similar to a candlestick. They were very decorative, large and small as the fashion changed through the years. There was also a factory, Morrells of Redditch, which made as well as hat pins, pins, needles, fish hooks and surgeons needles, which is still there today and is open to visitors. Another manufacturer was Homer, who made silver items. Mrs Faulkner had certainly researched her subject thoroughly.

This month's speaker will be Mrs Clemence-Robinson telling us about "Silk Painting". Please join us if you wish to on Wednesday, 6th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, you will be made very welcome. *June Willgress*

CARPET BOWLS

At the beginning of February the latest league table was circulated to club secretaries and surprisingly we found ourselves at the top. We had lost 8-0 away to Alresford the previous week and left with one game in hand. Some of the other clubs have more than one match left to play, so, until their final results are sent in we will have to wait to see if our position changes. It has been quite a see-saw season. We all send our best wishes to Roger Kynaston alter his recent spell in hospital. We wish you well Roger, and look forward to seeing you back at bowls club soon. *Nancy Kempster*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

SPRING SALE on 27th April Put this date in your diaries! If you have anything to donate to a WHITE ELEPHANT stall or RUMMAGE which will fit into the boot of a car, give us a ring - we will collect. Our next meeting is 21st March. A warm welcome is awaiting anyone over the age of 50 who would like to join us at 2.30pm at the Village Hall on the third Thursday of each month. There are various pickups round the village by coach if you let me know where you live. The competition is A GARDEN POND. To all those on the "sick list" we wish a speedy recovery to Good Health - keep smiling - we are thinking of you. *Vicky Griffiths*

KITCHEN CORNER

This recipe for a spicy fish dish can be prepared in advance so would be good for a dinner party. The ingredients given are for 2 servings, so multiply according to numbers required.

Thai Salmon Filo Parcels Mix together: 1 teasp grated fresh ginger; grated zest of one lime; 1 crushed garlic clove; 1 tabbsp chopped coriander leaves; 1 small spring onion finely sliced.

Stir in juice of one lime. Preheat oven gas 5/375F/190C

2 salmon fillets (4-5 oz each) 4 sheets Filo pastry (12" X 7" approx)

Brush a filo sheet with melted butter. Place another on top and brush lightly; Place salmon near one end. Season and Sprinkle with half the mixture. Fold short end of pastry over salmon, fold long sides inwards, fold over twice and trim off any surplus to make neat parcel. Brush with melted butter. Repeat with second salmon fillet. Bake the parcels 20-25 minutes till brown and crisp.

Jill Frostick#



GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Management Committee last met on 15th January. The Committee felt it prudent to increase the insurance cover for the Hall to bring it in line with expected rebuilding costs. Also, they studied the Licensing Surveyor's report which requires some signs to be upgraded and alterations to emergency lighting. The Playgroup requested a change to their storage facility. Nigel Rowe has resigned from being the Hall's Caretaker and we thank him for all the hard work he has put in at the Hall over the past few years since taking over from Mr & Mrs West. Mrs Marion Britton has agreed to carry out this vital task together with the cleaning duties she already does. We are very grateful to her for taking this on and ask our hirers to co-operate with her at this early stage.

We have made some progress on our internal improvements. The Ladies have a new vanity unit, the kitchen some additional units and the Billiards Room a new fire exit. Many thanks to Mr Arthey for his efforts in carrying out this work. Soon we must change the floor covering in the Ladies. We appreciate the donation of £50 raised at the bar of the Old Courthouse Inn and donated to the Village Hall by Terry and Carole Marshall. Many thanks.

On Saturday, 2nd March there will be a Jazz night at the Hall from 7.30pm until 11.30 pm with the Tom Collins Jazz Band. Tickets, £6 including buffet but bring your own drinks, are available from Dean Dasley or Beryl Hurst, or a Village Hall Committee member.

Eastern Angles Theatre Co will be performing at the Hall on Saturday, 9th March at 7.30pm in aid of St Georges Church funds. The committee next meet on Tuesday, 19th March at the Hall.
Bevan Willgress, Secretary

GARDENER'S CORNER for MARCH

LAWNS: Keep raking off the dead leaves and mow with the blades set high SHRUBS: Prune hardy FUSCHIA and BUDDLIEA CHRYSANTHEMUMS: Take cuttings from overwintered stools DAHLIA: These should now be placed in boxes of old potting compost to start into growth. Sow seeds of annual dahlia in trays at the end of the month. *Frank Griffiths*

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council has given consideration to the following planning applications and their comments have been forwarded to the District Council.

Guildhall Orchard, Mary Lane North Erection of a conservatory. No objections to this application.

Pond Farm, Hall Road Change of use from riding school to trade showroom for the sale of garden furniture etc. Great Bromley Parish Council strongly objected to this application as the proposed retail and trade outlet is unrelated to agriculture. The Parish Council was also concerned about the number of large vehicle movements to and from the site as the entrance to Pond Farm is on a bend in the road.

South Bank Recovery, Rectory Road Continued use of site for vehicle breakdown recovery. The Parish Council objected to the continued use of this site for the following reasons:

1. The occupants of nearby dwellings have complained strongly about noise emanating from the site at all hours of the day and in the early hours of the morning.
2. The noises are inconsistent with what purports to be a business for the recovery of light vehicles.
3. Maintenance of vehicles takes place during weekends i.e after 1.00pm on Saturday and on Sundays i.e. outside the permitted hours.
4. Engines are left running and revved for long periods during the hours of darkness making sleep difficult for nearby residents.
5. Frequently large articulated vehicles are allowed to use the site for parking.
6. Work is being carried out on vehicles other than within the buildings.
7. Council has been informed that the site is used for the tuning of vehicles other than the firm's recovery vehicles.

It is clear that South Bank Recovery have not adhered to the conditions imposed on them on 18 July 2000.

The next meeting will be held on 28th March in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting will be held on 21st March in the Methodist Chapel, Chequers Road, Lt Bromley at 7.30pm

REPAIRS AT GREAT BROMLEY CHURCH

The Trustees of Church Lands Charity have done much to keep the Parish church in good repair. They have left behind a memo dated 13 December 1866. It reads:

“The South Aisle having been thoroughly repaired and new leaded at an expense of £285. “ The West window has lost several diamonds in recent gales, etc. Again the Trustees footed a bill in 1858. The account book says -

“Mr Edward Norman and Mr Carrington Nunn advanced on account of the new West Window, being in bad repair .£116 - 17s- 4d.”

Carrington Nunn lived at Little Bromley Hall. He was a banker, trading as Nunn & Co, at High Street, Manningtree. The bank was open from 10 to 4 daily and 10 to 1 on Saturdays. Cheques were drawn on Barnett, Hoares & Co., London.

The Misses Eliza and Maria Nunn lived in Mistley Thorn. Thomas Nunn, junior, also a banker, lived in the handsome Lawford House. Part of Lawford Parish belonged to Carrington Nunn. Carrington then Thomas became Lord of the Manor of Little Bromley. Thomas was a J .P. and owned Great Bromley Lodge in the 1870s-1880s. The Lodge was described as “a handsome building, pleasantly situate and commanding fine views”. Thomas died in 1888. A memorial window in the south aisle of Great Bromley church was erected to T.W. Nunn’s wife and depicts *Faith, Hope and Charity*. Carrington Nunn was a celebrated fox hunter and had one of the best packs of hounds in Essex in the early nineteenth century. He built the National School, Little Bromley in 1839 and it was donated to the parish by Thomas William Nunn of Lawford House for some 80 children and was in Church Road.

Edward Norman was a maltster, corn, seed, oil cake and coal merchant and ship owner at Mistley and lived at Mistley Place. The Norman family owned many acres of land in Little Bromley. *John Appleby*

TENDRING & DISTRICT BRANCH CAT PROTECTION

Tendring & District Branch of Cat Protection continues to go from strength to strength. In October we opened a shop in Frinton on Sea on the corner of Ashlyns Road and Connaught Avenue. This is a huge responsibility for a small branch such as ours but I am pleased to say that at the moment things seem to be going well. Having the shop means that we now have a permanent base for our co-ordinator to work from and also storage for goods which have been donated. If you have any bric a brac, books, clothes, toys, etc, which are in good condition that you wish to donate please contact me. We are still holding several fund raising events throughout the year as our costs are ever increasing. On behalf of our committee I would like to thank every body who supports the work we do.

Diary dates Sat 11 May Family Fun Evening, Gt Bentley Village with children’s entertainer Gt Bentley Carnival. We will have a stall selling C.P. goods.

Gt Bentley Show. Stall with C.P. Goods, bric a brac.

7 September Cat Show. Gt Bentley Village Hall.

October Charity Stalls only Table Top Sale, Lawford Venture Scout Hall.

For more information on any of these events please contact Sue Albins

WHO KEEPS FISH?

The Facts 1 There are five houses in five different colours 2 In each house lives a person of a different nationality. 3 These five owners drink a certain beverage, smoke a certain brand of cigar and keep a certain pet. 4 No owners have the same pet, smoke-the same brand of cigar or drink the same drink.

The Clues 1 The Brit lives in a red house 2 The Swede keeps dogs as pets 3 The Dane drinks tea 4 The green house is on the left of the white house 5 The green house owner drinks coffee 6 The person who smokes Pall Mall raises birds 7 The owner of the yellow house smokes Dunhill. 8 The man in the house right in the centre drinks milk. 9 The Norwegian lives in the first house 10 The man who smokes Blend lives next to the one who keeps cats 11 The man who keeps horses lives next to the man who smokes Dunhill 12 The owner who smokes Blue Master drinks beer 13 The German smokes Prince 14 The Norwegian lives next to the blue house 15 The man who smokes Blend has a neighbour who drinks water.

The puzzle: Who keeps fish? It is not a trick question and was set by Albert Einstein who said 98% of people cannot solve it. Using logic the answer can be found which will be given next month.

THE BROMLEY CROSS INN

Sunday, 10th March - MOTHERING SUNDAY LUNCH

Thursday 21st March - CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the St. George's Church Roof Fund

Wednesday 27th March - MUSIC NIGHT Play, sing or just listen and enjoy. 8.00pm start

BEER FESTIVAL Easter Weekend 29th March -1st April

JUBILEE FAIR Monday, 3rd June - Open all day Sideshows Bar-B-Q Competitions Guest Ales

Evening Disco ending with a patriotic singsong

M.E.F. ELECTRICAL
ALL ELECTRICAL WORK UNDERTAKEN
NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL FREE ESTIMATES GIVEN
MATT FOLEY 01206 251780 OR 07712 577601

FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Parishioner, Lent began early this year which meant our post Christmass diets had hardly chance to kick in before it was time to it give something up! For the Christian this six week season is a time of spring clean if you like, that has three disciplines, prayer, fasting and almsgiving, to give guidance and structure.

1 Prayer for the good of your soul. Sunday, being the day Jesus rose from the dead. is a special day of prayer for Christians. Gathering together to give time and praise to God on the first day of the week, it is a reaction to how we see God being part of our lives and to give thanks for that. Christianity is not simply a one day a week affair. Day by day, through reading from the Bible and trying to spend a little time in prayer Christians seek to deepen their relationship with God. We do it to gain a sense of earthly peace but also because we believe it will bring us one day face to face with God.

2 Fasting for the good of your body. For Christians the body is created by God and so is something good. What we do to and with our bodies isn't always the same. Fasting seeks to redress the balance by abstaining from food, tobacco or drink. If I'm feeling less sluggish or my mind is sharper then I'm more likely to become aware of God, more aware of my neighbour. Going without a meal once a week to identify with those who don't have enough to eat, by feeling for just a while what it is to be hungry, can move the experience as well. On a different level I might fast from the television, or from gossiping, or from being negative. I can seek to fast from whatever I understand to be polluting my good body, made in the image of God.

3 Almsgiving for the good of your neighbour. The money I save from fasting I give away. That takes the fasting experience on from mere self to involve another. This year our savings are going to help the African hospital of Katate with whom Ardleigh has had a connection for forty years. Just as my prayer has a communal aspect to it on a Sunday, so my being able to make a little sacrifice to help others in a big way is very much part of the Lenten journey.

So, come Easter Day, my relationship with God will be a little deeper, I may be a little leaner or healthier to respond more readily, and I may have helped someone less fortunate than myself to have a better dignity of life. Sounds a good Lent to me and so worthy of seven weeks of celebrating the joys of Jesus Risen from the dead. May your March be one of fasting and feasting, and may God bless you in that. *Fr Nicolas.*

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

TRINITY CHRISTIAN CENTRE Every Sunday at 10.30 am at Bromley Road, Elmstead Market

Services for March

1st SAINT DAVID

11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

2nd 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 3rd 3rd 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

4th 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr

6th 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr

7th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

8th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

9th 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 10th 4th Sunday of Lent

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

8.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

9.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr

11.00am The Parish Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St Mary the Virgin

11th 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr

13th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Seven Rivers

14th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

15th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

16th 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 17th 5th 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. Mary the Virgin

18th 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr

20th 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr

21st 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

22nd 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

23rd 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 24th Palm Sunday

8.30am Morning Prayer St George the Martyr

9.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr

11.00am The Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St Mary the Virgin

25th 12 noon Chrism Mass The Cathedral, 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr

26th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

27th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. GCorge the Martyr

28th Maundy Thursday

7.00pm Eucharist of the Last Supper St Mary the Virgin & Silent Watch until Midnight

29th Good Friday

11.00am Stations of the Cross from S Mary's School

2.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion St George the Martyr

30th Holy Saturday

8.30am Morning Prayer St Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St George the Martyr

31st Easter Day

5.00am The Easter Vigil St George the Martyr

8.30am Morning Prayer St George the Martyr

9.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr

11.00am The Parish Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St Mary the Virgin

The Bromley Messenger April 2002

When one has a deadline it follows on that you should not be ill. I had been in bed a week with some bug and had only a day, having recovered, in which to do the magazine and send it to the printers. I therefore did not give it to Natalie to proof read; BIG MISTAKE! That beastly Law which always manages to come into practice when least wanted did and some of you will have spotted mistakes. My apologies for any inconveniences I may have caused and will try to do better this month in the hope that the Friendship Club have not already flooded the Village Hall with all the garden ponds submitted for their competition. With regard to the distribution and production of the magazine this is done on a voluntary basis. Things do go wrong and sometimes distribution is erratic. Should this be the case please let Mrs Ann Fairley know so that she may sort it out. Distributors, due to unforeseen circumstances, cannot always get it to your door by the beginning of the month and we hope that you will be understanding when on the odd occasion this should happen.

I spent the week following the putting to bed of the magazine well away from the computer with helpers manning the Essex Handicrafts Association stand at the Be Inspired, Show held at ExCel in Docklands where we had a display and were demonstrating various crafts. The visitors flocked to the Show and came to our stand asking questions and being interested in what we were making. At one point I looked up from the kilim weaving that I was demonstrating to find a video camera homing in on my face and work which I found off putting - all the more so when I discovered that the camera bearer knew well how to make the particular kind of weaving I was doing as her family came from the area! We chatted and it was lovely to hear about how they do it. We all talked, laughed and demonstrated our crafts through the week with the bonus of seeing and saying "hello" to a number of you from this area who came along to the Show. It was lovely to see you and thank you for your support. - *LMH*

MATERIAL for the May 2002 edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by Tuesday, 16th April, 2002 please. Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed. Copy can either be delivered by hand, sent by post or by e-mail. We thank THE OLD COURTHOUSE INN and COLCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL for sponsoring this month's magazine. Please support our sponsors.

OLD COURTHOUSE INN (4 Diamonds Tourist Board Recommended)
Harwich Road, Great Bromley Tel: 01206 250322 Fax 01206 251346

Email: oldcourthouseinn@talk21.com

SMOKING AND NON SMOKING RESTAURANTS LARGE BAR. RESTAURANT and WINE MENUS
SPECIALISING IN FRESH FISH and HOMEMADE DISHES
THURSDAY IS CURRY NIGHT £8.50 THREE COURSES
SUNDAY ROAST - 1 COURSE £5.50, 2 COURSES £7.50, 3 COURSES £9.50
PLUS FULL MENU ALWAYS AVAILABLE COOKING TILL 10.00 pm EVERY EVENING
LARGE CAR PARK & SECLUDED GARDEN BED & BREAKFAST EN-SUITE ROOMS

COLCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL - INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL

(Boys 3 - 16 years; Girls 3 - 11 years) Principal: Andrew Moore MA (OXON) PGCE

NURSERY 3 - 5 years; PREP 4½ - 7 years JUNIORS 7 - 11 years; SENIORS 11 - 16 years

- Friendly caring atmosphere
- Small teaching groups
- High academic standards
- Strong in music & drama
- Convenient central location

You are most welcome to visit the school

For further details please telephone (01206) 573389

Happy "40th" Birthday ?? to JO SMITH of Carringtons Road, Gt Bromley love Kelly xx

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

- 3 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 7 Blessing of Statue of St George, St George's Church, 11.00am
- 11 Little Bromley Parish Council Assembly meeting, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm
- 13 Blessing of Statue of St George, St Georges Church, 11.00am
- 16 Deadline for copy for 'May' Messenger to Editor please
- 17 Annual Parochial Church Meeting, 12 noon
- 18 Friendship Club Meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 18 Mother's Union Roadshow, Wix Village Hall, 8.00pm
- 19 Flower Arranging & Wine Tasting, Vicar's Room, Ardleigh, 7.30pm
- 20 Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club Colts Quiz Night, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 25 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 27 Friendship Club Spring Sale, Village Hall

MAY

- 4 Plant & Garage Sale, Ilex Farm, 10.00am
- 11 Family Fun Evening, Gt Bentley Village Hall, 6.30pm
- 16 Great Bromley Annual Council Parish Assembly, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 25-26 Golden Flower Festival at St Marys Church, Ardleigh

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Flower Arranging Demonstration, St George's Church
- 7 Cat Show, Gt Bentley Village Hall
- 27 Harvest Barn dance, 7.30pm

OCTOBER

- 7 The Bromleys Harvest Festival and Lunch

SCHOOLMASTER or SHOEMAKER - OR BOTH?

On 16th January, 1889, the Register of Little Bromley tells of the baptism of Winifred Louisa, the daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Weller. They lived at the School House, Little Bromley, and Charles' occupation is given as "Schoolmaster and Shoemaker", The second registered child of the Wellers was a son, Charles, but on 13th May, 1890, the fathers occupation is given as "Shoemaker" only. It appears that Jessie Bishop who was Mistress of the National School in Church Road had left the position and Charles Weller filled the vacancy for a while.

John Appleby

ST MARY'S CHURCH, ARDLEIGH GOLDEN JUBILEE FLOWER FESTIVAL 25th-27th May

As part of the Flower Festival we shall be having arrangements on the pew ends; if you would like to make a donation for one of these to be for a special occasion (eg. a golden wedding, a birthday, etc.) or in memory of someone please phone one of the churchwardens with your message and we will get it written. Alternatively, if you wish, you could Sponsor a complete window sill or pedestal. Please contact Susan or Claire.

Would you like to help GUIDE DOGS for the BLIND?

We would love you to join in "Shades for a day 2002". The idea is for groups of people to raise awareness of eye care by wearing their "shades for a day", on 16th July (or any other day more convenient for your group). We encourage businesses, youth groups, schools or any organisations to join in - donating £1 for each person participating.

Shades also helps schools raise money for their own good causes by giving back 50p to the school for every £1 raised. G.D.B.A. supplies posters, sticky badges and support information to all groups registering. A free promotional video is also available. If you or any of your colleagues are interested please contact the local branch chairman, Mrs Marjorie Culham or visit our website [www. guidedogs.org.uk](http://www.guidedogs.org.uk) or email

What's on - Stour Valley Branch

AGM - Monday 8th April at 7.30pm, Ogilvie Hall, Lawford. Short meeting followed by refreshments. Everyone welcome.

Quiz Night - Saturday, 20th April at 7.30pm, Ogilvie Hall, Lawford. Teams of up to 6 people £3.50 including light refreshments. Bring your own drink. Contact Colin Horlock on 01206 393059 to book a table.

COMING TO A VENUE NEAR YOU! THE MOTHERS' UNION ROADSHOW

will be coming to Wix Village Hall, Harwich Road, Wix on Thursday, 18th April at 8.00 pm when a team of excellent speakers will be able to tell you all about the Mothers Union and the work its members do in all parts of the world. Work such as Contact Centres where children of separated couples can meet the other parent for a couple of hours in a safe environment, farming and marketing skills for villagers in Africa, holidays for families who couldn't otherwise afford one, creches for children of prison visitors and much, much more. Everyone is welcome to come to the Roadshow, a unique opportunity to be enlightened, entertained and informed and share in the Good News of what is often called the Church of England's best kept secret! See you there!
Barbara Pearce, Ardleigh Branch Mothers' Union -

<p>ST GEORGE'S PLANT & GARAGE SALE at Ilex Farm, Waterhouse Lane, Ardleigh on 4th May 10.00am - 1.00pm All proceeds towards Church Funds Anyone who has plants or anything for the Garage Sale please contact Ann on 01206 230679</p> 	<p>FRIENDSHIP CLUB SPRING SALE 27th April in the Village Hall LOTS of STALLS - Plants, Groceries, Cakes, Books & Toys, Tombola, Jewellery, Nearly New Clothing, Raffles, Knitwear, White Elephant</p> 
<p>QUIZ NIGHT to be held on 20th April at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall to raise funds for the newly formed Colts side of the Cricket Club. Teams of 6 or 8 or to join another team please contact Steve Wright on 230119 or Phil Allam on 230375.</p> 	<p>The Rector & Wardens invite you to a Service for the Blessing of a Statue of S George in S George's Church Great Bromley on April 13th at 11.00am followed by lunch Please reply by April 7th to Fr N Spicer The Rectory, Great Bromley Essex CO7 7TS or sign the list in church</p> 
<p>ST MARY'S CHURCH, ARDLEIGH SOCIAL EVENING in aid of the Flower Festival) FLOWER ARRANGING & WINE TASTING Raffle The Vicar's Room 7.30pm on 19th April Tickets £5 from Susan (01206 230681)</p> 	<p>Tendring & District Branch Cats Protection FAMILY FUN EVENING An evening of games, magic, quizzes, disco and fun with children's entertainer KEITH' NUTTY' NORMAN Gt Bentley Village Hall Saturday 11th May, 6.30pm - 10.30pm Tickets £4 per child (Mums & Dads free) - to include refreshments (soft drink & barbecue) Tickets from: Sue Albins 01206 251955 or Sue Gipps 01255 880927</p> 
<p>COLCHESTER & DEDHAM VALE FARMERS' MARKETS</p> <p>April 5 Colchester 19 Dedham</p> 	<p>May 3 Colchester 17 Dedham</p>

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the parish council was held on 21 February.

Noise Pollution from A133 Road In response to the Parish Councils request for more tree planting along the A133 to help reduce traffic noise, Essex County Council will carry out a noise survey when the weather improves.

Land to Front of St Georges Close The Parish Council has taken over the responsibility of grass cutting from the County Council. The first cut will take place in mid March. The feasibility of planting some trees on this plot of land is being investigated.

Recycling Bins on Church Meadow The recycling bins continue to be well used. A tin can recycling bin has been requested from the District Council but it is unknown when this will be delivered.

Street Signs There are several damaged street/road signs in the village. These have all been reported to the County Council for repair.

Fly Tipping Refuse dumped in Mary Lane North and Stone Road has been reported to the District Council for removal.

Village Seat, Brook Street Mr Taggart of Brook Farmhouse, Brook Street stated that the village seat and litter bin, which have been in situ for many years, are on his property and he requested their immediate removal. The Parish council has removed the items for safe keeping whilst the County Council checks the boundary line situation.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

4 Park Cottages, Mary Lane North Two storey side extension and alterations No objections to this application

The Old Courthouse Inn, Harwich Road Erection of five chalets for bed and breakfast Great Bromley Parish Council objected to the above planning application as it is over development of the site and not in keeping with the environment.

Seven Rivers, Hall Road Non-compliance with Condition 3 imposed upon planning permission TEN/670/74 Great Bromley Parish council agrees with the removal of the restriction imposed 5 upon planning permission TEN/670/74 restricting occupation of the bungalow to employed staff, providing the bungalow remains the property of Cheshire Home and not sold by them.

Land north west of Manheim Auctions, Colchester Road, Frating Change of use of existing redundant agricultural land to provide car parking area. Great Bromley Parish Council objected to the above planning application for the following reasons:- * This is designated agricultural land and should not be used for other purposes. * It would set a precedent by allowing it to be used as a car park. * It would not be in keeping with the surrounding area. * It would lead to light and noise pollution. * It would be an eyesore. * Covering approximately 11 acres of land to provide a hardstanding would cause surface water drainage problems and possible flooding.* The land is not redundant. The fact that the owner, a farmer, has sold it does not mean that it is redundant agricultural land.

This application is contrary to the District Council's planning policy regarding the preservation of agricultural land and green field sites. The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held in the Village Hall on 25th April at 7.30pm

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Assembly of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 2nd April in the Methodist Chapel, Chequers Road at 7.30pm

FRIENDSHIP CLUB APPEAL

If anyone has any knitting wool they do not want could we please have it for our members to knit blankets for the Hospice. Just give me a ring for collection.

SPRING SALE on 27th APRIL - we look forward to seeing you. Lots of STALLS - plants, groceries, cakes, books and toys, tombola, jewellery, nearly new Clothing, raffles, knitwear, white elephant, BUMPER RAFFLE. Competition: April meeting - an EGG CUP. *Vicky Griffiths*

VILLAGE HALL CHARITY

The Village Hall Management Committee met on Tuesday, 19th March. Fortunately the Village Hall escaped with minor damage from the recent winter high winds, with two tiles being dislodged from the roof. Thank you to the brave fellows who scaled the ladders to carry out repairs. March has been a busy time at the Hall and, together with the regular groups and clubs during the weekdays, we have had several large events on Saturdays. We have had an excellent Jazz Concert with Tom Collins and his band which was thoroughly enjoyable and very well supported which raised £600. The Eastern Angles Theatre Company performed "The Walsingham Organ" to a near capacity audience in aid of St Georges Church Roof Fund. Great Bromley Carpet Bowls Club staged the Brumbella Trophy competition in which 16 teams of 4 players from clubs in the Colchester and Tendring areas hotly compete for the honour of lifting the trophy whilst raising funds for a good cause. Finally the Guild of Post and Telecom (bell)Ringers had tea and held their Annual General Meeting at the Hall.

We have upgraded some of the emergency exit signing at the Hall. Hirers and users of the Hall are reminded that emergency exits should not be blocked at any time, either inside or out. You may only need to use them once in your life time but that could be critical! In May we shall be holding the Charity's Annual General Meeting, when you have the opportunity to elect people on to the Management Committee. *Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

KITCHEN CORNER

APPLE MERINGUE This is my version of this popular pudding. Very quick and easy to make. For 4 people you will need 4-6 cooking apples, peeled cored and sliced. Cook them in a pan with a knob of butter and very little water, till soft enough to beat to a pulp. Off the heat, beat in 2 egg yolks. Whip the egg whites with 2 tablesp of sugar till very stiff. Put the apple mix in an ovenproof dish and spread the meringue on top. Bake in the oven 7-10 minutes till browned, or under the grill if preferred. Serve with custard or cream and hand shortbread biscuits to eat with it. - *Jill Frostick*

WOMENS' INSTITUTE

Unfortunately Mrs Amanda Clemence-Robinson, our speaker for the March meeting, did not turn up. Instead we heard about members' recent holidays which proved very interesting. We also discussed future events for the year 2002. We have decided to celebrate the Queens Golden Jubilee with a party in July, for the Senior Citizens of Great Bromley and members of the Friendship club. More details about this will appear in the Bromley Messenger at a later date. Our speaker for April, is Mrs Linda Elliot who will talk to us about Stroke Management. If you are interested, do come along to hear what Mrs Elliot has to say, we will be pleased to see you. Our meeting is at 7.30pm in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 3rd April. - *June Willgress.*

GARDENERS CORNER for APRIL

Spring is well on the way now - time to think of bedding plants. The PLUG PLANTS are now on sale at the Nurseries which are a good buy and reasonably priced. These can be transferred into pots and placed in the cold frame until the end of April when they can be planted out. HANGING BASKETS: This month is an ideal time to prepare them. Once you have planted them up leave in the greenhouse for a week to get going then they can be left out once all danger of frost is over. - BEGONIA TUBERS: These are now in the Garden Centres and can be set in trays of moist compost about 2" (50mm) apart with the hollow tops level with the surface of the compost. Soon you will see the pink buds starting to appear - once they are about ½ inch (12.5mm) high they can be repotted into 5inch (126mm) pots. When all danger of frost is past they can either be planted out in the garden or left in the pots to bloom. *Frank Griffiths*

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

The Annual General Meeting was held at Copley Dene on 19th February. The following Officers were elected:

President Mr John Clapham
Chairman Mr Tim Biscoe
Hon. Secretary Mrs Katherine Foley
Hon. Treasurer Mr Matthew Foley
Hon. Fixture Secretary Mr Andy Trussler
100 Club Manager Mr Philip Allam
Captain Mr Peter Brinkley
Vice-Captain Mr Matthew Foley
Match Manager Mr Dave Hardy

100 Club Winners for January 1st Mr D Goss 2nd Mr C Pirie 3rd Mr J Whittaker
Winners for February 1st Mr J Whittaker 2nd Mr J Pirie 3rd Mr T Biscoe

The Cricket Club are holding a Quiz Night at the Village Hall on 20th April at 7.30pm for 8.00pm to raise funds for the newly formed Colts side. Anyone interested in getting a team of six to eight or joining another team please contact Steve Wright on 230119 or Phil Allam on 230375. The cost will be £3 per person. Please bring your own drinks and nibbles. *Phil Allam*

CARPET BOWLS

Last month we just had to share our small moment of glory with you, but somehow knew it wouldn't last. Most of the league results are in and Great Bromley has tumbled to fourth place.

It seems inevitable that Wix will stay at the top - deservedly so. For the first time we have joined the summer league which amounts to six home and six away matches over a period of three months. Apparently there are several readers who follow our doings as a club and we thank them for their interest. Some new members would be welcome. Club evenings are not just for practise but for fun as well and although league may sound a serious business, they are played in a light hearted manner. Our annual competition for the Brumbella Cup took place on 16th March in the Village Hall. 16 teams assembled at 1.00pm and after a full afternoon's bowling came down to the semi-finals at 6.00pm. Wix played Engaines B with Wix just getting the edge for a 5-4 shots win after a close match. In the 2nd semi Dedham bowled well but Walton managed to keep creeping ahead and in the end won 6 shots to 3. Some very accurate bowls gave Walton a good Start in the final but Wix came back strongly and kept ahead taking the match after 9 ends, 8 shots to 5. The Cup was presented to the Wix captain by Jayne Bates. The very busy day which seems to run like clockwork is the result of all the preparatory work put in by Jayne and Pat. Our thanks to them and also to Linda and Tom for raising £84.50 on the raffle. A special thank you to the ladies who donated and served the refreshments. Evelyn Childs, Pauline Keeble, Pam Frostick, Nan Percival not forgetting Jayne's "Auntie June" who comes to help us every year from Colchester and is the best washer-upper we know. Over the whole afternoon a profit of £205 was made for the Arthritis Research Campaign. Thank you to our friends in the village who donated raffle prizes. *Nancy Kempster*

PLAYGROUP

With Mothers Day and Easter this term the children have had lots to keep them busy. They have been decorating tea towels with their hand prints, and have made some fantastic Easter Chick cards. We would like to thank everyone who was involved in the sponsored swim on 9th March. Approximately £600 was raised. Bentley Country Park offered free use of their pool and facilities; for this a big thank you. Playgroup would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to Sue Clarke who is sadly leaving. The staff and children wish her well in whatever she does next. Due to Sue's departure there will be some staff changes one of which is the appointment of Helen Fairley to the post of Thursdays Playgroup Assistant. The staff welcome her. *Dates for your diary:* 21 March Last day of term 8 April Playgroup returns 10 April Toddler Group returns

St Georges School

Although the Spring Term was rather short, a lot of activities have still taken place. Well done to the PTA for organising two successful events. The first was the Quiz night, when 10 teams packed into the hall for a hilarious evening - well done to the Squash Team for winning. A total off £430 was raised. Just think, next year we will have a bigger hall so more teams can compete! The second fund raising evening was a Beauty Evening organised by one of our Mums, Dawn Pegrum, a qualified beautician. Again, this was an amusing evening which raised £110 for school funds. Recently the school organised the Easter Fayre. Numerous children organised games including a mini coconut shy, treasure island and soccer skills. The competition was for a decorated egg and was judged by a group of on site builders. The winners were:

Reception - Amy Perry Year 1 - Harry Jones Year 2 - Ben Taylor
Year 3 - Karl Whitlock Year 4 - Lorna Carey Year 5 - Leanne Fahy
Year 6 - Alice Rowe

DONT FORGET, school returns on Tuesday, 9th April.

The Annual Governors' Meeting with parents took place in March: There was much discussion about the building work. Classes 1 & 2 will be moving into the two new classrooms at the end of March so that demolition of our 30 year old "temporary" classrooms can take place. Phase 2 of the building works will be the construction of our new school hall!

Our new school admissions was another topic raised which allows for two term intakes from September 2003. For more details, please contact the school office.

**** SAVE UP TO 50% OFF
your vehicle fuel bills by converting
to LPG ****

Contact Essex Star Gas - your local LPGA approved
conversion specialists with a national reputation for
excellence

Essex Star Gas, Claire Road, Kirby Cross
Tel: 01255 852777
email: essexstargas@aol.com

THE BROMLEY CROSS INN EVENTS

Thursday, 18th April c. CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT in aid of Waif animal rescue

Wednesday 24th April - MUSIC NIGHT Play, sing or just listen and enjoy, 8.00pm start

Saturday 11th May - 40s NIGHT. Dance, dress up or just come and enjoy yourselves
 Monday 3rd June - CHARITY JUBILEE FAIR. Side shows - Bouncy Castle - Bar-B-Q - Competitions - Guest Ales - Evening Disco .. ending with a patriotic sing song.
 Friday 7th June - As ENGLAND are playing ARGENTINA during the morning we are breaking with tradition and screening the match, £5 per person for breakfast and the first pint.

Answer to last month's WHO KEEPS FISH?					
					
Yellow	Blue	Red	Green	White	
Water	Tea	Milk	Coffee	Beer	
Dunhill	Blend	Pall Mall	Prince	Blue Master	
Norwegian	Dane	Brit	German	Swede	
Cats	Horses	Birds	FISH	Dogs	
Congratulations to Ivan Arthey who worked out the correct answer. I wonder how many others did?					

THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner, Holy Week and Easter are the climax of the Christian year. Following on from Lent, the "Great Fifty" days mark out what it is to be a Christian - that the person whom Christians believe to be God, having been prepared to die on the cross, is brought back to life. The first followers of Jesus were so convinced of this that they were themselves prepared to die rather than deny their new faith. Many of them were put to death for their belief in what is called the Resurrection, and so the body of believers actually grows in numbers as many more are convinced. This demonstrates that for a Christian it is important to have a personal relationship with God, one that will give courage and strength in times of need and more than that a sense of peace from doing what one believes to be right. Down the ages countless men and women, most of them unknown, have "kept the faith", often in difficult circumstances sustained by a personal relationship with their God. We tend to call these people the Saints, but by giving them a capital S, we lose sight of the original meaning that all the followers of Jesus are called to be saints, called to be holy. Called to witness in the world to the love and mercy of God through faithfulness, acts of mercy, a thirst for justice and the truth. There is an ancient painting that of Jesus risen from the dead, standing on the open tomb holding out his hands; in each of his hands he is holding a wrist of a person. The picture depicts Jesus calling the dead by name and literally dragging them from death to new life. This is an image that has strengthened and encouraged countless men and women through the centuries; that because of their faithfulness one day God will call them by their name and drag them into a new life with him; a life that will know no pain or grief or sadness, only peace and joy. For some it is a hope that comforts them in grief especially if a loved one has been taken away at a young age or at an untimely stage. For others it creates a greater picture. making some sense of the things of this world.

All of this may seem simply an individual way of life, but it has been demonstrated from the earliest of days that this is to be a group experience, a group of saints joining in a church. Not every day will I be feeling confident and strong in my faith, be able to sing the hymns with gusto, say loud Amens, and receive Holy Communion with a glad heart. So I join with others knowing that on my low days others will be able to carry me on, in the knowledge that it may be my turn to carry or see others through in the future. The Church is the local community of Christians, individuals trying to live their lives in the light of Jesus risen from the dead. On my own I shall get discouraged and fail, as part of the Church, I can be weak or grow strong, but will not fail. So even when the celebratory chocolates are eaten the Church will still be singing Alleluias, be celebrating Jesus' promise that all who believe in Him will live forever. All services, offerings of worship, are open to visitors, who desire to be known by God and called to new life in him. May the Churches here be blessed in responding to him and so bring some peace to our world.
Fr Nicolas.

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

Services for April

1st Easter Monday
11.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

Easter Wednesday

3rd 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

Easter Thursday

4th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

Easter Friday

5th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

Sunday 7th Easter 2

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

8th The Annunciation of our Lord

9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr

10th 6.00pm Holy Communion Hamilton Lodge

11th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

12th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

13th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 14th Easter 3

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

9.30am The Parish Eucharist Sr. George the Martyr

11.00am The Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St Mary the Virgin

15th 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr

17th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

18th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

19th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

Sunday 21st Easter 4

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

23rd S George's Day

7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr

24th 7.30pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

25th S Mark

7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

26th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

27th 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 28th Easter 5

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

8.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

9.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr

11.00am The Parish Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St Mary the Virgin

7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr

29th 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr

YOU WILL RECEIVE A WELCOME AT ANY OF THESE OCCASIONS

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

TRINITY CHRISTIAN CENTRE Every Sunday at 10.30 am at Bromley Road, Elmstead Market

The Bromley Messenger May 2002

After my paternal grandparents married they moved in about 1893 from Bowness on the Solway to London where my father was born the following year. My grandfather, who was a teacher used to return to Bowness most summers and my father, being the eldest, usually kept him company. The journey was made by bicycle up the Great North Road, which passed the end of the road where they lived, camping where they could on the way. In later years the journey was made by motorcycle, with or without a wicker side car, and rarely without incident. As a result my father had a love for Cumberland which remained with him throughout his life. For my part I still have a vivid pre-school memory of nights in a caravan parked in a quarry beside the road at the summit of Dunmail Raise. The quarry was on the opposite side of the road and to the north of King Dunmail's cairn placing it just in Cumberland. The cairn remains as Dunmail's last resting place but the quarry has disappeared with road improvements. (The AA Man who patrolled that part used to stop for a chat and a cup of tea made with water from a spring off the fell beside the road which turns into Dunmail Beck).

We have recently visited Cumbria again to stay in an apartment forming part of the house where my wife's great uncle used to live. More Westmorland than Cumberland but the fells were as ever enhanced by exceptionally good weather which highlighted their beauty, to which we are not so accustomed, to the extent that one can be seduced into forgetting the totally different beauties of East Anglia. The Solway has its similarities with the Essex estuaries with cattle grazing the salt marshes and I am told that neither the haaf netter for salmon nor the Essex farm boys went out without "a nail, a knife and a piece of string". In Essex I gather that Sixpence for the phone eventually replaced the nail.

We returned to Great Bromley in time for the dedication of the statue of St George in the church. The strong sense of community which we experienced both then and at the funeral of Robert Harding two days later forcefully reminded us as to how easy it is to overlook both the blessings we enjoy within our own community and the beauty that surrounds us when confronted with the unaccustomed. - GRMH

MATERIAL for the June 2002 edition of The Messenger should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by Tuesday, 14th May, 2002 please. Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed. Copy can either be delivered by hand, sent by post or by email.

We thank THE SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME for sponsoring this month's magazine.

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

Creating opportunities with disabled people.

HALL ROAD. GREAT BROMLEY

Visitors are always welcome to chat to the residents over a coffee.

There are also job opportunities in care and catering.

Volunteers for Shopping and driving are always needed.

If anything above appeals to you please contact Gill on 01206 230345.

PANTOMIME GROUP - WANTED!

Someone to work with a small team co-ordinating costumes for our local Pantomime. It will require a bit of spare time from the end of September until the beginning of January, mainly adapting existing extensive wardrobe, a bit of charity shop browsing, some sewing and glueing. It is fun to do and very rewarding. Please contact Linda Pinhey on 01206 230126.

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

100 Club Winners for March

1st Mrs M West

2nd Mr J Whittaker

3rd Mr B Wright

ROBERT LIONEL HARDING 11 July 1918 - 6 April 2002

<p>** SAVE UP TO 50% OFF your vehicle fuel bills by converting to LPG **</p> <p>Contact <u>Essex Star Gas</u> – your local LPGA approved conversion specialists with a national reputation for excellence</p> <p>Essex Star Gas, Claire Road, Kirby Cross Tel: 01255 852777 email: essexstargas@aol.com</p>
--

Robert was born in 1918 in Harpenden, the son of a noted local surveyor. At Bedford School he was a rower and even in the last years of Parkinson's his grip was as strong as ever. He joined the Territorial Army in the 1930s and went to Singapore in 1942 where he was captured at the time of its fall. As a prisoner he worked on the Burma-Siam Railway (later known as the Railway of Death). He suffered greatly there but came through with his spirit unaffected and ready to forgive the Japanese for their cruelties because, he said, they treated their own men no better than they treated us prisoners. His was a generous spirit.

After the war he qualified as a surveyor and came to work for Fenn Wright in Colchester. He had a passionate commitment to the training and development of surveyors throughout the Eastern Counties and pioneered regional training events that were copied throughout England. Known first as Harding's Circuses and then the Want To Know organisation, these events continue. He chose the title "Want to Know?" and it was very appropriate. He always wanted to know about everything. Not only that but he always had ideas on how to develop and bring together people and organisations. Sometimes he left us far behind but there always was a clear point and a wise argument, often an awkward truth.

He was always in the thick of the action. Bromley Cheshire Home, which he helped to found, the church, the Village Hall committee - all these benefited from his unstinting expenditure of time and effort. Nor were his enthusiasms and commitments purely local. He was involved with many regional organisations and his work on behalf of the surveying profession was recognised by his election as President of the Land and Rural Practice division of the RICS.

Robert enjoyed life and he had a great love for the East Anglian countryside. He also loved dancing and often he and Jean would dance all Friday night before returning with the dawn to Colchester and the market. Just weeks ago at a Jazz Night in the local Village Hall he was to be found in his wheelchair on the dance floor in the thick of the action. Nothing daunted him - or Jean who was a vital source of his strength. They met on a blind date in June 1946 at a dance for returning heroes and were married by December - beginning a partnership that was to develop and deepen for 55 years.

He was an inspiration to many and will be much missed but I would like to end not with loss and sorrow but with three immensely practical tools that for me symbolise Robert.

The first is a surveyor's tape - the symbol of his profession. Each year with the help of his children he transformed vast fields in Bromley or Lawford into inch-perfect Showgrounds for the Tending Hundred Farmers Club.

The second is a Dictaphone - I picture him in the car charging back to the office after a farm visit, dictating as he went: he never stopped. Just recently he bought three new Dictaphones to overcome the problem that no-one could now read his once clear and bold handwriting - a significant hindrance to communicating his plans and ideas.

The third has to be a corkscrew. He loved to entertain and good food and wine were always a part of the pleasure at the vast range of Harding Spectaculars.

It was a good life to the end. God bless.

From the tribute given by his son Graham at his funeral and reproduced here with his kind permission.

GOLDEN JUBILEE 1952-2002

Photographic History of Great Bromley

Having raised enough money and got permission to keep the albums in the Church, the final condition that we needed to achieve was to be able to insure the bookcase the albums were to be kept in. However the Parish Council's Insurer is not able to oblige as the premises cannot be locked, even though I offered to give it all to the Parish Council for ease of administration. The project is therefore dead and I will not be getting involved with it any more. Many thanks to all the contributors, whose money will now have to be re-disposed of in some mutually agreeable way by the Cross Inn, who did a great job in the & fund raising - *Len Christodoulides*



The Walsingham Organ helps St George's Hammerbeams

The mystery surrounding the destruction of the Walsingham organ with gunpowder on bonfire night in 1866 provided Alistair Cording with the inspiration for this splendid play, so well presented by Eastern Angles. Although set around that event in Victorian times, the production made excellent use of a whole range of conflicts which occur in every age. Not only social and economic but also the pressure for change, without regard to the feelings of others no matter how well intended, and the reaction to such change. The cast of four

played the seven characters with lively enthusiasm, skilfully making the transition from pipe smoking shepherd in a smock who played some discordant instrument in the church band to the cultured governess in the “big house”, or from squire to simpleton as the plot required. Harsh economic circumstances and social difference lead to neither the local farmer and builder nor the squire’s brother, the incumbent, achieving their ambitions their collaboration turning sour after a promising start. If you missed the performance in the Village Hall you missed a treat. If you did see the Eastern Angles I am sure that you will be hoping that it will not be too long before they return to Great Bromley. *GRMH*

In addition to the pleasure it gave, the performance of The Walsingham Organ was successful in that even after payment of Eastern Angles and other expenses it raised nearly £800 towards the massive further £70,000 which needs to be found by the end of this year for the St Georges Hammerheam Roof Repair Fund. Grateful thanks go to all the people who helped with the event, and particularly with the theatre supper which went before. *Anne Clapham*

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MAY

4 Plant & Garage Sale, Ilex Farm, 10.00am

8 AGM Village Hall Committee. Village Hall, 8.00pm

11 Family Fun Evening, Gt Bentley Village Hall, 6.30pm

16 Great Bromley Annual Council Parish Assembly, Village Hall. 7.30pm

25-26 Golden Flower Festival at St Mary's Church, Ardleigh

25 Plant Sale & coffee Morning, Gt Bentley Village Hall, 10.00am

JULY

3 WI Golden Jubilee Party for senior citizens & Friendship Club, Village Hall, 7.00pm

21 PTA Family Car Treasure Hunt, 2.00pm

SEPTEMBER

5 Flower Arranging Demonstration, St George's Church

7 Cat Show, Gt Bentley Village Hall

27 Harvest Barn dance, 7.30pm

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOOD COMPLAINTS A case has recently arisen within the village concerning a company which had temporary permission to carry on a business before they then applied for permanent consent. On this occasion, although no written complaints had been made within the previous year, the Planning Officers at Tendring were made aware that there had been problems with disturbances to neighbouring residents involving noise and light pollution and working outside the permitted hours with the result that only 3 years consent was granted. In these situations the District Council will take into account any complaints made by residents, between the time consent was first granted and the time a renewed application is made. It is most important, therefore, that residents register any complaints in writing with the District Council giving as much information as possible: dates, times, occurrences etc. and to copy correspondence to the Parish Council and the District Councillor. If this is not practicable, residents should keep diary notes of all disturbances, breaches of trading conditions, obnoxious smells etc.

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

The Caravan Carrington Road. Sewage treatment plant, shed for toilet, washing machine etc. Retention of wall and additional curtilage. No objections to this application subject to the removal of development rights on additional curtilage.

Schiehallion. Hall Road. Two storey extension. No objections to this application.

Little Paddocks Frating Road. Change of use of display area to tea room. The Parish Council objected to this application on the grounds of highway safety as access is dangerous. It is also over development of the site.

Pond Farm Hall Road. Construction of new vehicular access from Hall Road (31029) The Parish Council objected to this application on the grounds of highway safety. The current existing vehicular access is sufficient for current permitted use of the buildings. The new access will over develop the site.

Field adjacent to 2 Hall Cottages. Hall Rd. The Council repeats its dismay of the intention to develop this site as a pig farm.

Land to the rear of Atlantis, Brumbella. and Old Police House, Chase Road. Change of use from agricultural use to garden curtilage. No objection subject to the removal of development rights on the additional curtilage.

The next meeting of Gt Bromley Parish Council is the Annual Parish Assembly and will be held on 16th May in the Main Hall of the Village Hall at 7.00pm.

OCCUPANTS OF LITTLE BROMLEY HALLS in 1841.

The Census gives the following occupants at

Little Bromley Hall

Carrington Nunn	Age 60	Banker	Born in Essex
Susan Norman		Independent	"
Mary Ellis	Age 35	Female Servant	"
Maria Parsons	Age 20	Female Servant	"
Mary Smith	Age 20	Female Servant	"
Abraham Farrow	Age 60	Male Servant	"

Braham Hall

C(h)arles Eagle	Age 40	Farmer	Born in Essex
Susanne Eagle	Age 35		
John Winterflood	Age 20	Male Servant	
Mary Cook	Age 20	Female Servant	

In the 18th century the Essex historian, The Revd. Philip Morant, notes that "Mulberry House" belonged to Thomas Eagle, senior, and "Stephens" to Thomas Eagle, junior and James Eagle had an estate here also. The Eagles were a well known Tendring Hundred family and kept a pack of hounds. *John Appleby*

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

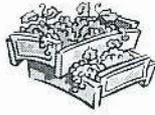
The Village Hall Management Committee met on 19th March. All members were present except one. The next scheduled meeting of the Committee is on Tuesday 30th April. We reviewed the projects recently undertaken at the Hall and looked at a draft list drawn up for discussion on possible jobs to be programmed in for future execution. The upgrading of the south car parking area is to be investigated, together with the inspection and repair to our external brickwork. Other smaller projects within the Hall will be further considered. We are very grateful to Brenda and Richard for organising a Quiz night at The Cross Inn which raised £168 for the Village Hall. A very big thank you to them and to all of you who supported their efforts on our behalf. On Wednesday, 8th May at 8.00pm at the Hall will be held the Village Hall Annual General Meeting to which you are all cordially invited. The current members making up the Management Committee are Peter Wenden (Chairman). Bevan Willgress (Secretary), Lynda Allam (Treasurer). Vera Biddis, Gill Christmas, Carol Cordwell, Beryl Hurst, June Willgress, Dean Dasley, Henry Fairley, Martin Frostick, Pat Petchey and Nigel Rowe.
Bevan Willgress

ADVERTISEMENTS	
<p>WANTED - A copy of the video of "FAME". Willing to pay for a copy in good condition. Please phone 01206 250512</p>	
<p>NA SEARL FLOORING. Ceramic floors, Wall tiling & Wood specialist Professional finish every time. Enquiries or quotes: 07880965809 or e-mail: nas.flooring@btopenworld.com.</p>	
<p>COUNTRY BUNTING use that 'flagstuff' to help you celebrate</p>	
<p>GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS BIRTHDAY PARTIES BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS BABY BUNTING</p>	<p>GARDEN PARTIES WORLD CUP CELEBRATIONS CHRISTENINGS 'THEME' BUNTING</p>
<p>Whatever the occasion some individually made 'material' bunting (not plastic or nylon) could enhance your event. Why not decorate your own house or garden this June for the historic Golden Jubilee Celebrations in traditional red, white and blue 'material' bunting. Made to order. Please phone Sue on 01206 251302 for more details.</p>	

ST GEORGE'S PLANT & GARAGE SALE

at Ilex Farm,
Waterhouse Lane, Ardleigh
on 4th May
10.00am - 1.00pm

All proceeds towards Church Funds
Anyone who has plants
or anything for the
Garage Sale please
contact Ann on 01206
230679



GOLDEN JUBILEE PARTY

The Great Bromley WI are having a celebration on Wednesday, 3rd July, 2002 and warmly invite senior citizens and members of the Friendship Club to join them for an evening of entertainment and light refreshments.

7.00 pm in the Village Hall.
contact no. 01206 251939.
Lifts can be arranged where required.



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH FLOWERS

As several people have had to give up arranging flowers in church for one reason or another, I would like to hear from anyone who would be interested in helping by going on our flower rota.

Also if anyone would like to have flowers arranged in church on the week of an anniversary in memory of a loved one.



For details please contact Ann, telephone 230679.

GIANT PLANT SALE & COFFEE MORNING

Great Bentley Village hall
Saturday, 25th May, 10.00am - 12 noon
All proceeds to St. Helena Hospice

- * From antirrhinum to zinnias
 - * Assorted beans to zucchini
 - * And pots and pots of perennials
 - * Please come along & support this event
- Any enquiries: (01206) 250145, 251180 or 250524

Tendring & District Branch Cats Protection FAMILY FUN EVENING

KEITH' NUTTY' NORMAN
Gt Bentley Village Hall
Saturday 11th May, 6.30pm -
10.30pm



Tickets £4 per child (Mums & Dads free) - to include refreshments (soft drink & barbecue)
Tickets from: Sue Albins 01206 251955 or Sue Gipps 01255 880927

ST MARY'S CHURCH, ARDLEIGH GOLDEN JUBILEE FLOWER FESTIVAL 25th-27th May

As part of the Flower Festival we shall be having arrangements on the pew ends; if you would like to make a donation for one of these to be for a special occasion (e.g. a golden wedding, a birthday, etc.) or in memory of someone please phone one of the churchwardens - Susan (230681) or Claire (395417) with your message and we will get it written.

Alternatively, if you wish, you could sponsor a complete window sill or pedestal. Again please contact Susan or Claire.

COLCHESTER & DEDHAM VALE
FARMERS' MARKETS
May 3 Colchester 17 Dedham

COLLECTION OF TART MAINTENANCE RECORDS

Here are some actual logged maintenance complaints and problems, known as "squawks" said to have been submitted by pilots and the solution recorded by maintenance engineers. Before paranoia sets in just remember the carrier concerned the major airline that doesn't have accidents. It helps to imagine these lines being pronounced with an Australian accent.

P: Mouse in cockpit. S: Cat installed

P: No. 2 propeller seeping prop fluid. S: No. 2 propeller seepage normal. Nos. 1. 3 and 4 propellers lack normal seepage.

P: Aircraft handles funny. S: Aircraft warned to straighten up, fly right. and be serious!

P: Target radar hums. S: Reprogrammed target radar with words.

P: Something loose in cockpit. S: Something tightened in cockpit.

P: Autopilot in altitude-hold mode produces a 200-fpm descent. S: Cannot reproduce problem on ground.

P: DME volume unbelievably loud. S: DME volume set to more believable level.

P: Friction locks cause throttle levers to stick. S: That's what they're there for!

GARDENER'S CORNER FOR APRIL

ROSES: Spray roses to guard against aphid attack - don't wait until you are infested.
CHRYSANTHEMUMS: Plant outdoor flowering plants early in the month - stop plants about the middle of the month.
DAHLIAS: Plant out young dahlias from cuttings. keep some protection ready in case of frost.
ANNUALS: Plant out half hardy annuals after risk of frost has passed. Sow biennials such as Canterbury bells, foxgloves, sweet william and wallflowers.
HOUSE PLANTS: water more freely - give a weekly liquid feed. *Frank Griffiths*

KITCHEN CORNER

PORK & RED CABBAGE BAKE *Serves 4/5*

1 tblsp olive oil; 550g (1 ¼ lb) diced shoulder of pork; 2 teaSp cumin seeds; 1 chopped onion; 450g (1lb) red cabbage shredded; 1 cooking apple, peeled cored and sliced; 1 tblsp brown sugar; 1 tblsp wine vinegar; 25g (1 oz) raisins; ¾pt stock

Heat Oil in pan and brown meat lightly. Add cumin and onion and cook a few minutes. Stir in rest of ingredients, bring to the boil. Cover and cook moderate oven 350F 180C for 1 hour or until meat is tender. Serve with jacket potatoes. *Jill Frostick*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At our April meeting, Mrs Linda Elliot came along to tell us about her job as a Family Support Supervisor for the National Stroke Association. It is the only charity solely for Stroke, which 100,000 people suffer each year. She is based in Clacton and visits patients who have just returned home after suffering a stroke. She finds out what the persons needs are, as no two strokes are the same. The patient's carer is also looked after and are encouraged to talk about their needs. The Association is also working towards prevention, as some of the causes of strokes are due to family history, high blood pressure, diabetes, smoking, obesity (this is on the increase), age, heart disease, inactivity (10 minutes moderate activity per day is beneficial), alcohol (over indulging), high cholesterol and salt. Some people suffer from several tiny strokes. Mrs Elliot gave her talk in a very pleasant way; she also brought along many information leaflets for members to take home.

In May we have our Resolutions Meeting, guided by Mrs Nancy Fuller, A Women's Institute Adviser (WIA). We will discuss the Resolutions to be sent to the National AGM of the WI to be held in June. *June Willgress*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

By the time you read this we will be lying prone from exhaustion after the SALE or jumping for joy because we have had a successful day and are able to continue the Club for another year. To EVERYONE who has supported us by attending the Sale or given donations of any kind please accept our sincere thanks. Our next meeting is on 16th May - the competition is a PRETTY BROOCH. The outing to Van Hages Dutch Nursery followed by tea at Braintree Chapel is on 30th May starting at Elmstead Market at 9.00am with the usual pickups. *Vicky Griffiths*

CARPET BOWLS

On 10th April Five members of Lawford Carpet Bowls Club joined us for a social evening of bowling. It was non- competitive and proved to be the sort of occasion worth repeating. The proceeds of a competition run by Mr and Mrs Marshall at the Old Courthouse Inn, has kindly been donated by them to our club funds recently. We would like to thank them for the £50 cheque and for including us in their long list of local organisations that they have supported since coming to live in the village. Thank you Terry and Carole. Club meetings are held on every Wednesday of the month now instead of the last three as in the past. *Nancy Kempster*

St. Georges School, Great Bromley

The atmosphere when school returned after the Easter break was fantastic! French Kier, staff and volunteers had worked hard during the holidays to ensure the new classrooms were ready on 9th April. No-one was allowed into school until 8.45, so the children could be the first to see their new classes. Later Classes 3 and 4 were given a guided tour of the new premises which include Classes 1 and 2, and ICT suite, Food Technology Area, Resource Library and Special Needs Room. During the holidays children and parents had witness the demolition of the two "temporary" classes, the tarmac of the new play area - with a netball court marked out and the initial foundations of the School Hall, with great excitement.

The netball team have done extremely well this year considering their lack of a court. Many matches were arranged with Langham, Wix and Roach Vale with great results. The football team has also had enjoyable matches with Dedham and Langham.

The PTA would like to thank Mrs Dawn Pegrum who made the beauty evening possible and all those parents and friends who made the event such a great success.

Dates for your diary: 21 July Family Car Treasure Hunt, £5.00 per car starting at 2.00pm. BBQ available to use - bring your own food and drink. Venue details to be confirmed.

PLAYGROUP

Welcome back after the Easter holidays. We hope you enjoyed the break. The theme for this term is "Months of the Year" This will include looking at festivals, celebrations, birthdays and reinforcing the patterns of weather that we looked at last term. We would like to wish Dominic Del Guidice, Lewis Short, Gemma Foley and Gemma Weely good luck as they leave us and start school and to welcome some new children who will be joining our playgroup throughout the coming term - Luca Del Guidice, Nicholas Garnham and Isabelle and Carlos Houghton.

For our summer playgroup outing this year we are hoping to take the children to the zoo - nothing to do with this term's theme but guaranteed to be great fun. Playgroup would like to thank Mr Neil Fortescue for the audit he did on our books, and Mr Ivan Arthey for the great job done on our storage shelves. We accept children from the age of 2 years 6 months. 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 UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner,

Back in Lent Fr John Harper spent an evening with some of Standing Committee members leading them in the "Cheerful Giver" Bible Study. It was a positive and thought provoking look at how we respond financially to being a Christian in a cheerful way! Whilst being committed to using Fr John more widely in the parish it was felt that other things had to be put in place first. As someone expressed it we seem to be doing a fair bit of fire-fighting and we should take some time to plan a bit so we can see where the fires may pop up! Since then I've met with the Wardens and held a joint meeting of the two Standing Committees. By the time you read this the new PCCs will have met too. What is proposed is that we produce a document that reflects where we are as Churches and where we think we would like to be going; proper plans can then be made. The basis of all of this is how we can best serve God and our brothers and sisters in this area. In all that we do we have to return to this question. The church is here to worship God and serve him in his world. We must never lose sight of that.

You want this to be something everyone who wants to is involved in. To start this off we have highlighted the areas below for particular thought. Please if you have any thoughts, ideas or comments then contact the nominated person.

The times and where we worship on a Sunday - Fr Nicolas 230344

Amalgamating Ardleigh & The Bromleys into one parish, one PCC etc - Claire Scargill 395417

Buildings - S George's Dennis Simons 231115, S Mary's Sue Tilbrook 230681

Finance - Roy Stephenson 01473 271970

Communications and publicity - Sharon Stephenson 01473 271970

Obviously this is going to be one of these documents that is always changing and being updated, but it will be a start and a foundation for us to continue to build on. This May has several lovely feasts to help us discern what God wishes us to be doing here. On the 5th we'll all gather in S George's for the Eucharist at 10.30am before going on to Badley Hall Farm for the Rogation blessings and a picnic. As a rural congregation this gives us a lovely Opportunity to get out there! This past year has been tough on agricultural workers so we pray for blessings on the coming months. The feasts of Ascension day (9th) and Pentecost (19th) remind us that Jesus ascended to heaven to rule over the world as king, but did not abandon us, or leave us as orphans, but sent the Holy Spirit "so I am with you until the end of time". In our worship, in our deliberations in our service may we demonstrate this truth. God bless you. - Fr Nicolas.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism 7th April at S George's Joshua Andrew Thomas King - **"We welcome you into the Lord's family"**

Funerals 15th April at S George's Robert Lionel Harding **"Rest eternal grant unto him O Lord"**

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

Services for May

1st 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
2nd 9.30am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
3rd 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
4th 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
Sunday 5th Rogation Sunday
7.30am Morning Prayer St Mary the Virgin
8.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
10.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr
Followed by Rogation blessings at Badley Hall Farm
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
6th 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
8th 6.00pm Hamilton Lodge
9th Ascension Day
7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
10th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
11th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 12th Easter 7
7.30am Morning Prayer St Mary the Virgin
8.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
9.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr
11.00am The Parish Eucharisc St Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
15th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
16th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
17th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
18th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 19th Pentecost
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
20th 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr
22nd 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr
23rd 9.30am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
24th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
25th 9.00am The Eucharis: St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 26th Trinity Sunday
7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
8.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
9.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr
11.00am The Parish Eucharis: St Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer St Mary the Virgin
27th 8.30am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
29th Corpus Christi
7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
30th 8.30am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
31st 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

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

TRINITY CHRISTIAN CENTRE Every Sunday at 10.30 am at Bromley Road, Elmstead Market

The Bromley Messenger June 2002

This month we celebrate the ascension to the throne of Queen Elizabeth II with her Golden Jubilee. I was three when she came to the throne and as she said in her address in Westminster Hall many changes have taken place since then in our society, in technology, in the family. Fashionwise I remember that in the 50s once my elder sister had left school and went to work, she made using her hard earned money stunning, colourful dresses out of yards and yards of material with flounces of net beneath to ensure that the skirt stuck out in direct contrast to the austerity of the war years. I was a teenager in the mini and maxi years of the 60s making the transition from stockings to tights as the hemline went up. I too made my clothes in all the colours of the rainbow wearing earrings with bells that tinkled as I moved. My brother, slightly younger, wore his hair long, a music student he went about in winter in an old fur coat - very un-pc today! However we dressed there were still dress codes and everyone adhered to them - how much easier than today when "smart casual" is suggested on an invitation - what exactly does that mean? I learned to type on a typewriter. My daughter learned on a computer. My sons practically cut their teeth on Sinclair computer games connected to the TV and both they and my husband are proficient at typing. We have all learned to use the new technology for work - for designs in engineering, for creating computer programmes, accounting, for art, and even producing this magazine. We seem to be totally dependent on this particular type of technology noticeably so when it is "down" as well as the ubiquitous mobile phone in a way unimagined 50 years ago. A woman's role has also changed. In 1967 when I went to work in London the man running the training course for the new secretaries said that he didn't know why be bothered as we would all be married within two years. That kind of remark did not go down well with us then with our changing attitudes to our role in society. Just imagine how it would be received today! The changes in farming over these years are mirrored in the poignant account written by Mr Golding on page 4. It looks as though the face and role of the community in Great Bromley is about to change again and I wonder if, despite all the technological progress of the past 50 years, whether it is all entirely for the better. *LMH*

We thank GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL for sponsoring this month's magazine.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council was held on 25th April in the Village Hall.

Hare Green Recreation Ground Land drains are due to be laid during May. The work should be completed within one week.

Brook Street The damage railings in Brook Street have been reported to the County council for repair.

Village Seat - Brook Street Essex County Council have now clarified that they own the land on which the seat was situated. The seat will be reinstated into its original position very soon.

Footpaths The poor condition of GB footpath No 8 (Harwich Road to Chapel Lane) and GB . footpath No 26 (off Chapel Lane) will be reported to the Public Rights of Way Officer at the County Council.

Dog Fouling There have been reports of dog fouling problems in the village. Owners are reminded that it is an offence to allow their dogs to foul the public highway. Failure to clear up after your dog can result in a fine of up to £1,000.

Council Meetings Members of the public are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings. All meeting dates are published in The Messenger (see below).

Local Government Act 2000 Sections 51 and 81 Notice is given under the above Act that Great Bromley Parish Council has adopted a New Members' Code of Conduct and established a register of Members' Interest. The Code and Register is available for inspection, by appointment, with the Clerk to the Council.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

Greshams Farm, Harwich Road Continued use of mobile home. No objection this application.

Treetops, Colchester Road Change extension from flat to pitched roof. No objections to this application.

The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held in Great Bromley Village Hall on 6th June at 7.30pm.

GOLDEN JUBILEE PARTY

The Great Bromley WI are having a celebration on Wednesday, 3rd July, 2002 and warmly invite senior citizens and members of the Friendship Club to join them for an evening of entertainment and light refreshments. 7.00 pm in the Village Hall. Contact no. 01206 251939. Lifts can be arranged where required.

CONSERVATIVE STRAWBERRY TEA

Park Farm Sunday, 30th June at 3.00pm. Tickets: Adults - £5, Children under 11 £3. Contact Henry Fairley on 01206 250229

ROTARY CLUB of BRIGHTLINGSEA & DISTRICT

Sponsored walk Start at the Kings Arms, Elmstead Market on 9th June at 10.30am. 5 miles for "Make a Wish" or for the Charity of your Choice but £10 entrance fee. Ring Len Christodoulides to get forms or to sponsor me.

CRESSING TEMPLE FESTIVAL

18th - 21st July Plays - Music - Art Sponsored by E.C.C. Information From 01245 436174

SEVEN RIVERS LEONARD CHESHIRE WEEK

7th - 14th October 2002 This is Leonard Cheshire's first ever UK-wide fund raising week. The theme of the week is enabling talent, and the purpose is to raise funds and celebrate the services, which Leonard Cheshire provides for disabled people. Leonard Cheshire Week 2002 has widespread support from national organisations, including the bank, Northern Rock, and the restaurant chain, Pizza Express. They are taking part in a variety of ways but all with the same Spirit - to raise funds for Leonard Cheshire services in the UK.

A new Red Feather Pin Badge has been especially designed which will be sold at fund raising events as well as during street collections.

Seven Rivers is planning to hold a "Seeing Red Day", and a Wine & Cheese Evening during the Week as well as a Red Feather Raffle. On 1st October there will be a Sale in Great Bromley Village Hall which will boast as in previous years a variety of stalls. There will be a Street Collection in Colchester on 22nd June and the annual Coffee Morning will be held at the Home in Great Bromley on 14th November.

DO NOT THROW your Inkjet cartridges away. Give them to me, Len Christodoulides, and Childline get 30p at least.

Forthcoming Events

MAY 30 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm

JUNE

3 Golden Jubilee Fair, Cross Inn, 2.00pm

5 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

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

9 Sponsored walk, Kings Arms, Elmstead Market, 10.30am start

13 Police parish surgery, Village Hall, 10-11.00am

20 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm

22 Seven Rivers will be holding a Street Collection in Colchester

29 Sea Rescue Display, Waldegraves Holiday Park, W Mersea, from noon

30 Conservative Strawberry tea, Park Farm, 3.00pm

JULY

3 WI Golden jubilee party, Village Hall, 7.00pm

18-21 Cressing Temple Festival

21 PTA Family Car Treasure Hunt. 2.00pm

SEPTEMBER

5 Flower Arranging Demonstration, St George's Church

7 Cat Show, Ct Bentley Village Hall

27 Harvest Barn dance, 7.30pm

OCTOBER

1 Cheshire Home Sale, Village Hall

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 30th May, 2002 at 7.30pm. The location of future meetings is in doubt as the Methodist Chapel where council meetings are presently held is for sale so please check the venue beforehand with the Clerk to the Parish Council. Major A Downes on 01206 391015.

A FARMER'S TALE

It is with much reluctance, sadness and regret that we have had to come to the decision to sell our family of cows. Grandad Grey bought Wright King's Farm from Walter Seabourn's family in 1942 for my parents when they were married. The dairy herd was started with three cows which Dad brought with him from his parents' home farm in Peldon together with two heifers bought at the Seabourn's farm sale. During the war Dad was in the Home Guard. One of his favourite stories was of being arrested at the end of Park Road when going on shift because he didn't know the password. He was released when the commanding officer arrived and asked "What have you arrested him for, he's the one who supplies our milk".

In the early years when cows needed a service Dad would walk them three miles up to see the bull belonging to Mr Wagner who lived and farmed where Dean's Nursery now is. All the resulting heifer calves were kept to build up the herd. The introduction by the Milk Marketing Board of a daily visiting AI service provided a selection of bulls only a phone call away. For the young first time cows he would choose a smaller Aberdeen Angus all black polled bull for easier calving whilst the other cows had the choice of some of the best British Friesian bulls in the country. In those early days an AI service cost around £1 for the first service and if the cow needed a repeat service three weeks later it was free of charge up to three free repeats.

In the 40s/50s corn and sugar beet were grown with kale for winter feed and grass for grazing. George Lock was employed as a farm worker until he retired followed by Roly Bantick.

200 chickens laid lovely brown eggs in two nissen type sheds. Pigs too were kept but only three sows at any one time. Miss Leek from Thorrington used to bring her boar to service the sows. She parked her car and pig trailer at the end of the drive and the old boar would slowly waddle up to the pig court to do his job, not always successfully. Sugar beet was cut out of the rotation in the early fifties to allow more corn to be grown. The corn was sown by Dad using a little old Massey Harris drill with Derick Richardson from Ardleigh coming to combine it with his little Massey combine. Corn was grown until 1974. By then more grass needed to feed the dairy herd of about 30 cows.

I started working on the farm in July 1965 when I was 15. One of the first cows I looked after was 8 months old "Snowdrop". She calved regularly, within a few days every year, for 12 years producing 11 heifer calves (most of which went on to continue the herd) and just one bull calf. Around the same time we had "Stock" who produced 12 calves in 8 years having four sets of twins and four singles. Sadly one set of twins was born dead. There was "Marvel" in the 80s who produced triplets with her first calving, the only set of triplets we ever had. More recently we have had "Lupin", a dear hard-working honest cow, one of Snowdrop's grand-daughters who produced four of her 11 calves on the 5th October in different years, 6 of her other calves were born within 14 days either side of the 5th. Sadly 11 was one too many for Lupin. The last calf died days before birth and despite veterinary attention Lupin became ill and died.

In the 70s big changes were made. The milking parlour was modernised in 1971 so as to cut out the need to carry 3-4 gallon buckets of milk front parlour to dairy. A 12 tonne bulk feed bin was put in place next to the parlour - no more need to carry bags of feed about. A refrigerated bulk milk tank was installed in the dairy eliminating the need to lift 16 x 10 gallon milk churns about each day. A tractor with a fore end loader was purchased, a new cow cubicle house was built with each cow having their own bed and new feed racks/bins were bought. Cow numbers peaked at 57 during this time before the A120 sliced 10 acres of land off the corner of the farm and demolishing our home at the corner of Hare Green. We had to reduce cow numbers to around 35 with less pasture, Mum and Dad were nearing the end of their working lives, my wife Joy was rushed to hospital and milk quotas were introduced, ours based on the years when we had to reduce cow numbers. Milk production was therefore less. Big bale silage, although more expensive, was made instead of hay which provided far more feed from a first cut in May with a second cut of silage or hay 6-8 weeks later in a good year.

Despite fears the price of milk improved peaking at 26p a litre in the late 80s. They were the good days as everything has gone steadily downhill since with each year bringing the worry as to whether we would be over our milk quota which resulted in a fine of up to 32p per litre for all over quota milk produced. A decision to lease extra quota to avoid the fine had to be worked out before the end of December for the quota year which finished at the end of March. For the last 20 years we have had about 35 cows and all we have ever wanted to do was to make a reasonable living for an honest day's work but with the milk price dropping as low as 15p a litre, calf and cattle prices depressed, increased expenses, new rules and regulations introduced. paper work to keep up to date, there is no time to do the work which matters i.e. milking, feeding, mucking out every day, plus the seasonal work, silage/hay making, straw baling and

carting, calving cows and muck spreading. The latest restriction involves muck/slurry spreading which we are not to be allowed to do if it is raining, snowing or the ground is wet or frozen. When is the land dry enough in October. November or December, the traditional time for spreading muck on grassland. It has become too much physically, mentally and financially to carry on.

So as I stated at the beginning reluctantly, sadly and with regret most of our family of cows will leave us on 7th May and be sold at Uttoxeter Market on the 8th and we will become just another of the growing number of ex-dairy farmers. We will be left with seven so called unsaleable cows which I intend to milk for a few months to provide milk for 15 beautiful, boisterous young, mostly bull, calves we have at the moment and when the cows milk dries up, they will have to be slaughtered. It will be very lonely without them, but after working virtually every day for close on 37 years, apart from the odd illness and 10 days' honeymoon holiday in 1973 with one Christmas off through illness in 1969, maybe I've earned the chance to take it easier
P.W. Golding

HEARING DOGS FOR DEAF PEOPLE TALL SHIP CHALLENGE

A sponsored day sail on the historic "Excelsior" along the River Orwell. Relive a bygone age on Excelsior. built in 1921 to Fish the North Sea out of Lowestoft. Today she takes groups- children as well as adults - for a unique sailing experience. You do not need to have ever sailed before - her crew will show you the ropes. Lunch and refreshments served on board.

For details and to book contact the secretary. Don't delay - only 18 places available!

WATER SEA RESCUE DISPLAY, FUN & FOOD at Waldegraves Holiday Park. West Mersea Saturday 29th June from midday Tickets £3 adults. £1.50 adults/concessions - Entrance includes use of all facilities of Waldegraves.

BROMLEY MESSENGER STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

	2000/2001	2001/2002
	£	£
Income		
Carried forward	(58.86)	23.62
Creditors	0.00	0.00
Donations	108.98	69.57
Advertisements	670.30	635.80
Sponsorship	1010.00*	1285.00
Interest	4.10	1.87
Debtors	0.00	120.00
Total	1734.52	2135.86
Expenditure		
Printing	1649.92	1667.25
Postage	19.00	20.80
Expenses	41.98	73.59
Debtors	0.00	120.00
(Loss) /Gain	23.62	254.22
Total	1734.52	2135.86

Report We Show a healthy profit this year and the outstanding debt has been subsequently paid. Income from advertisement and sponsorship are satisfactory. As always I ask you all to help in trying to obtain more of all incomes, especially the business card advertisements, where we seem to be still attracting more outside advertisements. Keep the pencils sharpened Contributors, and let's have a few more "articles". A hearty thank you to the Deliverers who brave all weathers. If you do not receive a copy of the magazine let Ann Fairley know, but remember there are spare copies at the Village Shop and the Church. Finally many thanks to our Editor for her hard work, in collating all the copy, some of which arrives the day of the deadline and for getting it to the printers on time. If anyone has any questions about these figures please let me know, and I will do my best to answer them.

Honorary Treasurer L.B.Christodoulides MBE 11 May 2002

The Rector and this Wife and Family

You will already have read about the Revd Ralph King, Rector of Little Bromley from 1579 to 1611. He was very diligent in obeying the instructions of Queen Elizabeth I's ministers to copy out the paper registers on parchment from at least 1558, when the Queen ascended the throne. or from 1538; when Thomas Cromwell ordered that church registers were to be kept. Ralph's wife was named Jane and he sorrowfully recorded -

"Jane Kinge wyf of Raph King (buried) xx March 1584"

The same registers notes -

"Relf Kinge, p(ar)son of Little Bromley, (buried) 8 June 1611".

There is no evidence of any children from the marriage and the place of the marriage is not known. I have been collecting information on the wives of incumbents in Essex for many years and would welcome any that you may discover. Wives were certainly not always silent and some came from very distinguished families. *John Appleby*

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The committee met on 30th April. Some old village photographs have been hung in the Millennium Lounge with much thanks to the efforts of John Appleby and Martin Frostick. The Committee are affiliated to the Rural Community Council of Essex and the latest copy of "Update" was reviewed. Further repairs and maintenance projects were discussed, the flooring in the Ladies toilet being a priority consideration. Fund raising is always in mind, the next event being a Coffee Morning run by June and Peter Wenden on 20th July.

On Wednesday 8th May at 8.00pm the Village Hall Annual General Meeting was held in the Hall. The Members of the Management Committee for the coming year are Peter Wenden (Chairman), Bevan Willgress (secretary), Lynda Allam (Treasurer & Bookings), Vera Biddis, Gill Christmas, Carol Cordwell, Beryl Hurst, June Willgress, Dean Dasley, Henry Fairley, Martin Frostick, Pal Petchey and Nigel Rowe. All except one were present together with four members of the public. The reports of the Chairman, Treasurer and the Secretary were presented, discussed and accepted. The Chairman paid tribute to Robert Harding who died recently and served the committee well as secretary from 1992 to 1998 until failing health prevented him continuing in harness. We are very grateful for his expertise whilst filling this position and for his support of the village hall. A vote of thanks was given to the committee and to Dennis Simons for acting as our Auditor. *Bevan Willgress*

CARPET BOWLS

In April we visited Jaywick for a friendly match and received a very warm welcome from this newly formed club. It is always good to meet new people and play at different venues. Gt Bromley won 7 games and lost 2. Also in April a team was entered in the Tendring Fours at Gt Bentley. They reached the quarter-finals by way of beating Alresford 8-2. Lt Clatcon 11-3 and St Osyth 7-5 but lost 6-8 to Lt Clacton B in the quarters. The team was Jayne Bates, Pauline Keeble, Lind Francis and Roger Kynaston. The first of the summer League matches was a home game against Gt Bentley. Gt Bromley winning 6-3, but on the return match at Gt Bentley the home side took the honours winning 5-4.

The third match against Walton was a win for Gt Bromley, the home side, by 5 games to 4. This league consists of all singles games which is something quite new to us. Nine players to a team. Although we are registered as Gt Bromley in this league, we have joined forces with Lawford and welcome their players who are undoubtedly a great asset. We congratulate one of our members, Andrew Childs, who completed the London Marathon in 3 hours, 46 minutes. He vows to knock several minutes off that figure next year so we will be watching him closely. Well done Andrew.

Nancy Kempster

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We had a good meeting in May with Mrs Nancy Fuller, Women's Institute Adviser (WIA), guiding us as we discussed the Resolutions to be put to our National AG. M. being held in Brighton on 6th June. There were two. Resolution 1 was to support the provision of local Abattoirs and number 2 was for stricter controls on Imported Food Stuffs.

Mrs Mary Clarke, our Secretary, is our delegate this year and will represent us as part of a group of four local WI's. After a lot of discussion we decided to support the first Resolution and to allow our delegate to have a discretionary vote on the second. After refreshments, Mrs Fuller gave us a potted history of how she became a WIA in Essex. Nancy and her husband were both nurses at Black Notley Hospital. They took early retirement and moved to West Sussex to be near her sister. Sadly, after 2 years her husband died and she joined Bognor Regis WI. After a while she was invited to join the Organising Committee and began her training, some of it at Denman college and in Ipswich. Nancy's sister also died, so she moved back to Essex to be near her daughter who lives in Clacton. When she was appointed a WIA, a rule said she must retire at 70 but that has now changed.

In June, our committee have a well earned rest and some of our members will run the meeting under the auspices of Mrs Rene Roberts. Just a reminder that our Golden Jubilee evening will be on Wednesday, 3rd July starting at 7.00pm in the village hall. We warmly invite senior citizens and members of the Friendship Club to join us. If you need a lift please let us know on 01206 251939. *June Willgress*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB SPRING SALE.

To everyone who made our day so successful - the members who prepared and manned the stalls, the friends who are not members of the Club who came in to help, the people who gave so generously with donations. and not forgetting our supporters from the general public. Many, many thanks. We do appreciate being able to continue the Club. Our next meeting is on 20th June - the competition is A MONEY BOX. Extra thanks for the knitting wool - no more for a while. - *Vicky Griffiths*

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

The Quiz evening held in the village hall in aid of the youth section requirements raised £500. Many thanks to all those who supported this event. The youth section's Kwik cricket has begun and is open to primary school children on Thursdays at the cricket pitch from 6 to 7pm.
100 CLUB WINNERS FOR APRIL. 1st. Mr. M. Foley 2nd. Miss J. Herring 3rd. Mrs. J. Knappett

ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL

BUILDING UPDATE - you will probably have seen the new hall rising from the ground. This includes storerooms for PE. equipment and hall furniture and a new kitchen. The new hall will be able to accommodate a lot more play equipment for indoor sports lessons.

Classes 3 and 4 spent an enjoyable day at Tendring Hundred Water Works, understanding where our water comes from, how it is cleaned and purified before sitting in large underground tanks ready for the consumers use. Experiments were also done to learn more about filtration. dissolving and pH levels.

St Georges Day was celebrated with a service in the church, followed by an afternoon of crafts. The highlight of the day being BBC1 interviewing a few children about St Georges Day, which went on on "Look East".

Well done to Jordan Wheatstone of Class 1 for winning the Beetle Drive night and a big thank you to all those children who supported this event. Alistair Cheesman of Class 4 won the best drawn beetle.

DO NOT forget the Car Treasure Hunt on Sunday 21st July starting from Church Meadow, Gt Bromley at 2.00pm and concluding at the Snooty Fox. £5 a car. Complete the day with a good old fashioned game of rounders. BBQ and Bar available. (This event is replacing the Fun Day usually held at the school). Tickets available from Sue Skinner on 01206 396673.

PLAYGROUP

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 6 months. If you would like any further information please contact our secretary, Penny Wilsher 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 3 June Half term week Mon 10 June Return to playgroup Wed 12 June Return to Toddler Group

DOGGY WALK : In aid of guide Dogs for the Blind Sunday, 23rd June

Approx 2¼ miles starting and finishing at the Royal Square. Dedham. Walks commencing from 10.30am (last walkers to start by 2.45pm). Come and enjoy a pleasant stroll along the Stour Valley. Min donation of £2 please or sponsorship forms from 01206 393504.

GARDENER'S CORNER FOR JUNE

Shrubs: Take cuttings of clematis, and softwood cuttings of fuchsia and cotoneaster. **Roses:**

Disbud Hybrid tea roses grown for larger blooms - remove suckers that spring up from below ground level. **Chrysanthemums:** Step outdoor plants in the middle of the month

Dahlias: These should be well up now - spray against aphids and other nasties. **Iris:** Tall bearded types may need some support to protect against the high winds. After flowering cut down stems. **House Plants:** From now until the autumn feed once a week. I use a weak solution of Miracle-grow. *Frank Griffiths*

ADVERTISEMENT: NA SEARL FLOORING. Ceramic floors, Wall tiling & Wood specialist Professional finish every time. Enquiries or quotes: 07880965809 or e-mail: nas.flooring@btopenworld.com.

KITCHEN CORNER

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE (serves 6-8)

8oz (225g) SR flour, 1 level teasp (5ml) baking powder, pinch salt, 1 egg,
¼ pt (125 ml) double cream 3 oz (75g) butter, 3 oz (75g) granulated sugar,
1lb (500g) strawberries 2oz (50g) caster sugar

Sift the flour, baking powder and salt into a bowl. Rub butter into mixture until resembles fine breadcrumbs. Stir in the granulated sugar. Beat egg and add sufficient to the bowl to bind mixture together. Turn on to a lightly floured surface and knead until smooth. Press mixture evenly into 7" (18 cm) greased sandwich tin. Bake for 25 mins until golden brown at 375F, 190C or Gas Mk 5. Cool on wire rack. Wash strawberries and reserve 6 - 8 for decoration. Hull and slice the remainder. Sprinkle them with caster sugar. Whisk the cream until stiff. When the cake is cold, slice in half and sandwich together with half the cream and half the strawberries. Pipe two circles of cream on top of cake. Place remaining strawberry slices in the centre and decorate with the whole strawberries. *LM Henderson*

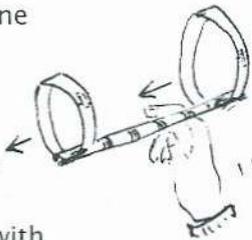
CHILDREN'S CORNER

LOOPY GLIDER

How to make a simple loopy glider to fly on the summer breeze.

Half a sheet of A4 paper (10cm x 30cm) Sellotape
2 paper clips A plastic straw

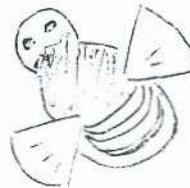
- * Fold the paper in half lengthways and cut along the fold
- * Cut one of the strips in half (widthways) and discard one piece. You will be left with one short strip and one long strip.
- * Make each strip into a separate loop and secure with sticky tape.
- * Use the paperclips to attach the loops to each side of the straw. The short side of each strip goes inside the straw.
- * To launch the glider, project it forwards with the smaller loop first. With a bit of practice, the glider can fly quite a long way.



BUMBLE-BEE ICE

75g caster sugar 100g plain chocolate
3 tbsp water 2 scoops vanilla ice-cream
water biscuits sliced peaches
chocolate drops

- ⇒ Break the chocolate into small pieces. Put them in a bowl and add 3 tablespoons of water.
- ⇒ Heat some water in a saucepan until it gently bubbles. Place the bowl over the saucepan. The heat will make the chocolate melt.
- ⇒ Turn off the heat and remove the bowl. Stir the chocolate until it is smooth.
- ⇒ Put two spoons of ice-cream one behind the other, in a separate bowl. These are the head and body.
- ⇒ Carefully pour the chocolate sauce over the body and top of the head. Put 3 peach slices firmly on the body to look like stripes.
- ⇒ Add the water biscuits to make wings.
- ⇒ Finish off your bumble-bee by adding two chocolate drops to form the eyes.



P.S. Your sundaes will have to be made quite quickly, so that they don't melt. As you finish them, put them in the fridge or eat them straight away.

MONDAY 3RD JUNE 2002

at

THE CROSS INN, GREAT BROMLEY

01206 230282

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE'S OWN

GOLDEN JUBILEE FAIR

2.00 PM - 5.00 PM

CELEBRATE THE QUEEN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE IN YOUR OWN VILLAGE. ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE COCONUT SHY, TARGET PRACTICE, ROLL-A-COIN, CHINA CRASH, TIN CAN ALLEY, LUCKY DIP, BOUNCY CASTLE, AND MUCH MORE. CREAM TEAS, B-B-Q AND BAR WITH GUEST ALES. LOADS OF ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL THE FAMILY AND LOTS OF PRIZES TO BE WON.

8-TIL-LATE

DISCO, ENDING WITH A PATRIOTIC SING-SONG

GRAND RAFFLE WILL BE DRAWN AT THE END OF THE EVENING - 1ST PRIZE - A 5-DAY TICKET FOR A CAR AND TWO PASSENGERS FROM HARWICH TO THE HOOK OF HOLLAND (COURTESY OF ETA TRAVEL, COLCHESTER) A LIST OF PRIZES WILL BE AVAILABLE SHORTLY.

ALL PROFITS FROM THE DAY'S EVENTS WILL BE DONATED TO THE EAST ANGLIAN CHILDREN'S HOSPICES, THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS ASSOCIATION AND ST GEORGE'S CHURCH ROOF FUND.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

There have recently been some suspect vehicles seen in the villages. One such incident involved two persons abandoning a car in a country lane and attempting to persuade a villager to allow them in to use the telephone. Thankfully they were denied access and went on their way. They were seen on a further few occasions wandering through the village. The incident was immediately reported to the police. Eventually, the following morning due to more calls to police, the persons were seen and spoken to by officers. On this occasion everything was in order. However it could have been a different story. It was only due to the actions of the villagers that we were able to locate these persons- Well done to all concerned. Remember if you are not happy with any vehicles or persons please report it to us. I am still holding parish surgeries at the village hall on the second Thursday of each month between 10.00-11.00 am. Please come along to discuss any matter with me. I will next be there on Thursday, 13th June, 2002. I am aware that the motorcycle season has started up again on Wednesday nights through the villages. Both Great and Little Bromley are affected. Our traffic department will be running an operation to try and tackle the problem. My colleagues and myself from Mistley will also patrol the villages using the speed detection equipment whenever our duties allow. C J Phillips PC1061

THE BROMLEY CROSS INN EVENTS

Monday 3rd June - CHARITY JUBILEE FAIR. . (see separate advertisement)

Friday 7th June. - ENGLAND v ARGENTINA £5 buys you breakfast and first pint then watch the match. Bookings only

Wednesday, 19th June - PSYCHIC SUPPER. includes a 10 minute reading, light supper and conversation - all for £5. Bookings only

Wednesday, 26th June - MUSIC NIGHT Play, sing or just listen and enjoy, 8.00pm Start

RANNY'S TANNER

At about 19 or so I lived on my own in London. Sometimes it was a frightening time when I hadn't enough money to pay the bills or buy food. Fortunately I survived. but being in debt is a scary time for anyone. Like many of us who were present at St Georges APCC meeting in February; I have been alarmed and disturbed by the fact that for one reason or another the finances at St Georges are in a pretty poor state. Our costs exceed our income; we're just not paying our way. Whichever way you look at it we don't seem to be making ends meet. However careful the Rector and his finance team are with the housekeeping; however much support our fund raising activities bring in, the books still don't balance. For some years we have been dipping into the Accumulated Fund to meet our costs; so much so that if we continue to do this. in a couple of years - or less - we shall be bankrupt. An emotive way of putting it perhaps, but a very unpalatable reality.

Now let me tell you a cautionary tale. Last week I went by train to visit my grandchildren. It was a while since lunch so when the trolley came round I bought a chicken tikka sandwich. Big Mistake. It tasted of nothing and it cost me £2.60 (besides leaving horrible sticky goo all over my fingers). On the second stage of my journey I bought a magazine. Another Big Mistake. In spite of interesting-sounding articles it was mainly advertisements and I'd read all I wanted in five minutes. It cost £2.85. Then a sudden thought struck me. I'd wasted £5.45 on rubbish - food I couldn't eat, literature not worth reading .. and these thoughtless, utterly casual purchases each came to more than I put in the bag in church each week.

I remembered with some chagrin a story that the Rev. Ransom told my parents years ago about an old lady parishioner - not hard up - who stopped him at the end of the service one Sunday. "I missed the collection bag" she said. Taking out her purse she gave him Sixpence. A tanner. I can still remember the wry look on Ranny's face as he told us. We get in a mind-set don't we? 6d in 1946 was about the same as a pound or two is now - you'd certainly have got change from a sandwich! And yet the spiritual nourishment the church gives us is so much more than a sandwich or a mag full of ads. It surprised me to learn that the largest part of St George's income over the year is "Collection in Church" This vital Contribution is desperately needed for us to pay our way and the plain fact is that we are just not giving enough. Next time I am tempted to put in only a couple of pounds I shall remember Ranny's tanner! *Caroline McShane*

THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner, This year the theme is Choose life! And all the money you donate will be passed on to Christian aid for their projects. Ama Kale lives in Ghana, married to Samuel she has six children and a baby called Enonam. Ten years ago Ama used to grow food for her family from her small piece of land. Then trouble came. A large company that grows pineapples took the land from her. Tractors arrived and destroyed her crops. She was left with her family and had to beg by the side of the road. Christian Aid works with an organisation in Ghana called the development action association. In Ama's village they have taught people better ways of farming, cooking and using machinery. They also lend people money to start their own business. Through Christian Aid the DAA helped Ama to start a business. She buys maize and cooks it to make kenkey (a kind of porridge I first experienced in Willesden Green!) Ama sells the kenkey to people for their lunch. She still has to work very hard, but now she earns money and can buy food for her family, and pay for her children to go to school. Many of you will have experienced hardship maybe through redundancy or the plight in agriculture so will know what it's like to have people who care and can help in practical ways. Last month we celebrated the Rogation Blessings at Badley Hall Farm, our opportunity to get out and ask God for his blessing on our land and lives. Whatever you decide to do with your Christian Aid (you can return it to church or the Post Office which ever is more convenient) I hope it will be a reminder of blessings received and offered. May God bless you. Fr Nicolas.

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

- 1st 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
Sunday 2nd Trinity 1
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
3rd 12 noon Pilgrimage Mass at Walsingham
5th 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr
6th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
7th Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
8th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 9th Trinity 2
7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
8.00am The Eucharist: St. Mary the Virgin
9.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr
11.00am Parish Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer & Sermon St. Mary the Virgin
10th 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr
11th 6.00pm The Eucharist Hamilton Lodge
13th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
14th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
15th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 16th Trinity 3
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 & Sermon St George the Martyr
17th 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr
19th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
20th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
21st 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
22nd 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 23rd Trinity 4
7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
8.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
9.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr
11.00am The Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
24th Birthday of John the Baptist
9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr
26th Ember Day
7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
27th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
28th Ember Day
11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
15th SS Peter & Paul
9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
Sunday 30th Trinity 5
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 July 2002

A VISIT TO ITALY A few days after my husband, Robert, died, a long loved friend of mine of a Huntington's Disease family, with whom death is sadly an all too familiar friend and visitor telephoned me. She invited me to join her (Catholic) parish group for a week, who were shortly going on a holiday to a monastery not far from Rome. And I thought, with some trepidation. "Why not?"

So I left behind all those daunting documents and duties which pile up after a death, to join 25 people, mainly from the Cheltenham area together with their parish priest and was warmly welcomed. The coach from Fiumicino airport climbed up over the Albano lake. leaving us at Palazzola, an ancient Cistercian monastery of chequered career. Comparatively recently it was the HQ for the Germans of the area in World War II. Some very beautiful paintings still remain, from the hand of the German Medical Officer. on the walls of the Dining Hall. Needless to say, the swastika outside on the building had been removed.

Later it passed into the hands of the English College in Rome, which I understand is the "Eton" of training for R.C. priests. The young aspirants would come there in the heat of the summer, when travel back home to the UK. or anywhere was not so possible . Now it is a place of quiet and beauty welcoming travellers of all denominations, still run by three nuns of daunting authority, but hardly cell like in its facilities. Hospitality was bountiful with good food, an abundance of local wine flowing and comfortable bedrooms. There were always interesting evenings in the bar or lounge, often with visiting young priests-to-be, bringing lively debate and at times hilarious entertainment.

The lake formed from an extinct volcano, lies serenely below. and across from my window I gazed upon Castel Gandolfo, the summer home of the present Pope. Adorations, masses and evening prayer followed their quiet routine in the chapel attended by the nuns but totally optional to us. I joined in happily, welcomed by all, with my particular circumstances remembered graciously. Afterwards we decided where we would go and what we would do. Indeed a great programme was devised - a trip to the beautiful Ninfa Gardens, a rambling beauty of a 20th century garden sprawling over medieval buildings, resonant of the Heligan gardens: a pause at the remarkable Benedictine Abbey of San Sebastiano where Benedict lived in his cave thereafter founding his great Order with the Abbey above (the paintings adorning the walls are magnificent); a springtime walk amongst the asphodels, orchids and cyclamen through the woods high above the lake; market day in the local town of Albano; or to the awesome catacombs. It was all there to tempt one. Then there was the great Rome outing where we wandered and wondered at the Coliseum and the Pantheon, and of course on to the vast and memorable St. Peters and St John Lateran, the Cathedral of Rome and St Paul Outside the Walls, and to be amazed as we walked at the magical fountains. And what of the ancient Port of Rome, Ostia Antica, surpassing even Colchester Museum!, a town where Roman life seemed still to be present, the domestic daily life of shopping at the fish market still clearly evident with the mosaics alive with fish decorations, or the butcher's slab where one could almost smell the fresh meat being chopped.

And so, refreshed and renewed with sunshine and prayer, peace and companionship. we returned to a life now different for me. And here I would like to say how moved and grateful we were as a family at the love and generosity we received at the Saint Georges celebration weekend, culminating in Robert's funeral. So much friendship and support: the singers, the flowers, the food and the many many people, all representatives of the life we lived as a family for over 50 happy years in Great Bromley.

P.S. I didn't come back a convert! But perhaps I feel more at ease hailing Mary at little more often, and praying for closer unity between our churches! *Jean Harding*

<p>GOLDEN JUBILEE PARTY</p>  <p>Great Bromley WI warmly invite senior citizens and members of the Friendship Club to join them for a celebratory evening of entertainment and light refreshments on Wednesday, 3rd July, 2002 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall. Contact 01206 251939. Lifts can be arranged where required.</p>	<p>St George's Church, Great Bromley "CURTAIN UP" by Robin White FLOWER DEMONSTRATION in aid of Church Funds</p> <p>5th September, 2002</p> <p>Doors open 7.00 for 7.30pm Raffle</p>  <p>Tickets to include wine and refreshments from 230679 or 230613</p>
<p>CRESSING TEMPLE FESTIVAL 18th - 21st July Plays - Music - Art Sponsored by E.C.C.</p>	 <p>SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME</p> <p>It is 10 years ago this July that our founder Leonard Cheshire died. To celebrate his life and achievements we are holding a service at the home on Wednesday 31st July at 2.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. Tea and biscuits will be served afterwards.</p>
 <p>WIVENHOE 2002 OPEN GARDENS Saturday 6th & 7th July 2.00pm - 6.00pm Admission by programme from:</p> <p><i>In advance & on day:</i> Londis, Vine Parade <i>(not open pm on 7th):</i> Anne Quarrie, High St <i>On the day (pm):</i> any garden Adults £2.50 in advance, £3 on the day Children free Organised by St Mary's Church tel: 01206 822754</p>	<p>COFFEE MORNING</p>  <p>20th July 10.30am until 12.30 at The Pippins, Waterhouse Lane, Burnt Heath (In the Village Hall if wet)</p>
 <p>COFFEE MORNING 21st July 10.00am - 12 noon at Vince's Farm In aid of Church funds</p>	 <p>CONFIRMATION at St George's Church 6th July 10.30am</p>

Forthcoming Events

JULY

- 3 WI Golden Jubilee party, Village Hall. 7.00pm
- 6-7 Open Gardens in Wivenhoe
- 11 Friendship Club outing to Southwold. Leave Elmstead Mkt 9.00am
- 11 Gt Bromley Parish council meeting, Village Hall. 7.30pm
- 18-21 Cressing Temple Festival
- 20 Coffee Morning. The Pippins, Waterhouse Lane, 10.30am (Village Hall if wet)
- 21 Coffee Morning, Vince's Farm, 10.00am
- 21 PTA Family Car Treasure Hunt, start at School, 2.00pm
- 31 Service of celebration for Leonard Cheshire. Seven Rivers. 2.30pm

AUGUST 3 BBQ, Cricket Ground, 7.00pm

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Flower Arranging Demonstration, St George's Church, 7.00pm
- 7 Cat Show, Gt Bentley Village Hall
- 27 Harvest Barn dance, 7.30pm

OCTOBER 1 Cheshire Home Sale, Village Hall

WINDOWS, WINDOWS, EVERYWHERE!

ERO D/P 103/5/2 C/L C/L = *Church Lands*
 1644 April 8 CW Account at Walberswick Suffolk
 "Pd to Master Dowson for breaking the glass 6s"
 1644 CW Account Gt Bromley "Payd to Mr Dowden when he broke the glass in the Church 3s."
 for 17 foote new glasse 9..11
 " 6 " "leaded 1..6
 " 4 " Repayrd 6..4
 mendinge all the Rest of the glasse about the church 1.. 5..0
 " 35 pounds of sodder 1..12..1
 " the plumber works 17..6
 " his diet, eight dayes 4
 " a help for him 5 days 3..4
 " half a load of woode 3..
 " 6 foote new glasse 3..6
 " mending glasse 6 1
 1845 C/L Account
 "Mr Tovell - for the new stone windows at the East and West Ends of the South Aisle £43-10-00.
 1848 October 13 C/L Account
 "Mr Williams outstanding A/c paid for three windows put in over the South Aisle £10-15-00.
 1866 December 13 memo t
 "The South aisle having been thoroughly repaired and new leaded at an expense of £285"
 1662, December 1662 CW Account
 "Paid for a Platforme & Book for Use of ye Church OO-OO-O6(d.)"
 1839 C/L Account Mr Stirt's Bill for Pulpit Stairs etc. £13-14-10.
John Appleby

ST GEORGES PLANT & GARAGE SALE

A rather belated thank you to all who supported our Sale on rather a chilly but fine morning! Thank you also to those who left plants etc. in our garage who we were unable to thank and to everyone who helped. The total raised to date for church funds £545. *James and Ann*

I DID MY SPONSORED WALK - 6 miles on the Saturday to mark out the walk and 6 miles on the Sunday. I got blisters on my blisters but we made about £700 for Make a Wish Foundation. Special thanks to those in Great Bromley who sponsored me. *Len Christodoulides*

THE CROSS INN £1,000 REWARD

£ 1,000 was the amount collected for charity at our Jubilee Fair on Monday, 3rd June, and the reward for the efforts of all the generous folk who contributed, whether by donations, manning - sorry, personning - a stall or digging deep into their pockets to patronise all the events (or all three). The rattle alone raised over £400, which is just amazing. Untold thanks go to everyone who participated, especially to those whose individual efforts made the day such a resounding success. The achievement was fantastic, and from the comments we have had, everyone had a really enjoyable day from start to finish. See you again next year, as we intend to make this an annual charity event.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual General Meeting was held on 16th May. - Major Heaney was elected Chairman. Mr S Barnes was elected Vice-Chairman. Tree Warden - Mrs S Rampling. Tending in Bloom Rep. - Major J Heaney. Footpaths Rep. - Mr A Sievewright. Hare Green Rec. Ground - Mr C Phillips. New Clerk - Mrs N Robinson, Badley Hall Farm, Great Bromley (01206 230979)
PLANNING APPLICATIONS The following planning application has been considered by the Council and their comments forwarded to the District council. Lynton, Ardleigh Road Change of use from agricultural land to garden. No objections to this application.
 The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held on 11th July in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 18th July at 7.30pm. Please check the venue with the Clerk

LITTLE BROMLEY AMENITIES COMMITTEE - RESULTS OF SURVEY MARCH 2002.

The Little Bromley amenities survey was commissioned by the committee to assess the needs of the village and its residents. We had planned to use some of the funds already held to host a fundraising Golden Jubilee party. Around one hundred questionnaires were compiled and delivered throughout Little Bromley, but unfortunately we only received eighteen in return. Of those questionnaires we did receive, the results almost unanimously supported the starting up of an amenities committee and the desire for changes and improvements within Little Bromley. *OF THOSE QUESTIONED:* -

94% supported a Jubilee event and/or Barbecue

67% would attend a regular Quiz Night

55% would support a village lottery scheme

The majority wholly supported the idea of improving certain areas such as the memorial site, the car park and the installation of a village sign. What was evident was the urgent need for a recreational area within Little Bromley, and the committee will continue to look at ways of achieving this.

That said, in view of the lack of response, we felt we had no option but to cancel plans for a Jubilee Party, which was disappointing for everyone involved in the preparation process. Our aim is still to continue to raise funds to enhance and improve Little Bromley, and one of the main objectives is to bring the community together. Therefore, we will be holding a "Meet & Greet" event in late July, where Little Bromley residents will be invited to attend for a picnic, family games and a chance to get to know each other. The event will be free of charge, and we hope to have a good turnout. Full details will be announced soon, but if you would like more details, or to offer help please contact Kate Everett on 01206 397111.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

It seems there is some confusion over the correct telephone numbers to use when contacting the police. The number published in The Bromley messenger is the Callminder number for leaving non-urgent messages for members of the community team. If you require urgent immediate attention then you should dial 999. Should you need to see a police officer the same day but it is not a matter of life or death then you ring 01255 221312. This is the number for Clacton Police Station. The old number for Mistletoe Police Station is still valid but is automatically diverted to Clacton. This is because all calls to any station in Tendring Division are answered by a central switchboard at Clacton. I hope this information is of some help.

One of the biggest problems in the area at the moment is one of dumped motor vehicles and fly tipping which is the illegal dumping of rubbish. If you should see any of this going on please make a note of the registration numbers of the vehicles responsible and pass the information on to us. Many thanks. C J Phillips, PC

St George's School, Gt Bromley - Headteacher: Pat Fitzgerald

May was a busy month for the school with the Statutory Assessment Tests (SATS) for years 2 and 6 and annual tests for the remaining years. The netball team had to then find the strength to compete in two netball tournaments in one week. The first was held at The Ormiston Sports Centre in Colchester where they had to compete against 11 schools. They did extremely well to qualify for the final and just lost 3-2 to Lexden Primary. The team of Rebecca Robinson, Alice Rowe, Michelle Andrews, Hannah Edwards, Kirsty McCune, Charlotte Pegrum and Chloe Saltmarsh were delighted with the 2nd place medals. Two days later they had to do it all again for the Tendring Small School Cluster Group at Tendring Community College in very gusty conditions. This time they competed against seven other schools and finished the day with the most points bringing home a trophy. Well done to you all and the supporters!

The football five-a-side team made up of Craig Perrin, Josha Joyce, Ben Knowles, Josslyn Manson, Rebecca Robinson and Alice Rowe had an enjoyable afternoon at the Cluster Tournament finishing a very respectable 4th - well done.

BUILDING REPORT. As you can see, the hall has risen from the ground at a fast pace. The ugly containers will soon be moved to start the landscaping and car park areas. When the school breaks up on 19th July, the contractors will move inside to complete the remodelling of the old hall and refurbishing of the two old classrooms.

DON'T FORGET the Family Car Treasure Hunt on Sunday, 21st July at 2.00pm starting at the School and ending up at The Snooty fox, Frating Road, Great Bromley where a BBQ and refreshments will be available. The annual Rounders match, Kids v Adults, will then take place!! More information from PTA members.

CARPET BOWLS

By the time this is read the summer league will be drawing to a close. Not all clubs send in their results on a regular basis, so as far as I can gather from the grapevine, we are in second place. We won 6-3 away to Lt Clacton, a home win 6-3 against Tendring, a home win 7-2 against Beaumont who then beat us 5-4 in the return match. A few more to play yet so hopefully we can maintain this standard. A team of 4 was entered for a charity competition at Weeley in June, they lost 2 and won 2 of their matches unfortunately not enough to take them into the knockout part of the competition. The eventual winners were Thorpe-le-Soken. we wish good luck and good weather to our outdoor bowling friends. *Nancy Kempster*

PLAYGROUPO

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. The children have been busy making gifts for Fathers Day and they enjoyed personalising their gifts with their hand prints (great fun but very messy). We would like to give a big thank you to Mrs Lawson, our local village Reception-t Year One teacher who paid the children a visit. The children really benefit from meeting the person who will be teaching them when they leave to start school. Playgroup would like to wish good luck to Christopher Marshall, Harvey Eels, Alex Fairley, Thomas Driver, Joshua Forster, Laura Prince, Alison Powell, David Beard, Calista Arthey and Megan Beattie who leave us to start at their Chosen schools at the end of term.

A fantastic time was had during our annual playgroup summer outing. The venue this year was the zoo. Parents and children enjoyed seeing the animals, and during the course of the day not a single child was misplaced or lost. The staff and children would like to wish everyone a great summer break. Dates for your diary: 11 July Last day of term 16 Sept Playgroup returns 18 Sept Toddler Group returns.

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

We are holding a BAR-B-QUE on Saturday 3rd August at the cricket ground. The day will begin at 12pm. with a 40 overs a side cricket match between local players. At approximately 6.00pm. it will be the Colts and Terriers turn to play games of cricket. We will be serving food from about 7pm. Tickets will be £5 per person, £2 for children, available from Katherine Foley or Pip Allam. Limited tickets available on the night.

100 CLUB WINNERS FOR MAY 1st. Mrs. J. Knappett 2nd. Mrs. K. Foley 3rd. Mr. R. I. Arthey.

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Management Committee met on 11th June. We reviewed the charges for the hire of the various rooms at the Hall, looking forward to the period 1st September, 2002 until 31st August, 2003. The committee discussed the related issues and decided that the current level of charges would be held for the next year or so with no increase.

Hall repairs and maintenance was again discussed, improvements to the South car parking area were talked through, as was the pointing up of the external brick work and attention to the flashings and gulleys. Does anyone know of a competent person who might be able to undertake this building repairs for us? Tests of the Hall electrical system are to be carried out shortly, as required by law.

Fund raising is always in mind, the next event being a Coffee Morning run by June and Peter Wenden at "The Pippins", Waterhouse Lane, Burnt Heath on 20th July from 10.30am until 12.30. If wet, it will be in the Village Hall. Please give it your support if you are able.

Bevan Willgress

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

For our June gathering, President Mrs Jill Frostick held a short business meeting and then handed over to Mrs Rene Roberts who convened the Annual Members' evening with a committee consisting of Mrs June Willgress (Secretary), Mrs Barbara Hall (Treasurer) and Mrs June Malcolm. Mrs Roberts welcomed everyone present and asked the Secretary to read the minutes of the meeting in 2001, which were agreed and signed. Mr Oxley from the Walton & Frinton-on-Sea Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) was introduced by Mrs Roberts, he was accompanied by Mrs Oxley who looked after their souvenir table. Mr Oxley gave a very informative talk about both the history and present day role of the RNLI. In the 19th Century, there were lots of small villages around our coast who manned boats to rescue sailors or fishermen in distress independently, regardless of their own safety. In 1864, a Mr Hillary from

the Isle of Man, gathered everyone together and started the national organisation we know today as the RNLI. Walton & Frinton-on-Sea held their first meeting in 1884, their first call was on Christmas Day, returning on Boxing Day. Coastguards inform Lifeboat crews of each incident, using sophisticated equipment these days. In the past, men would have only been able to see to the horizon, whilst today with radar and radio links they are able to communicate much further. Also, crew members are provided with bicycles to enable them to reach the lifeboat at the end of Walton pier within 13 minutes day or night. Oxleys have been members of this lifeboat crew since the 1920s. Mr Oxley is currently secretary, as was his father and uncle before him. The RNLI is a charity and relies solely on donations which brings in £1m per annum, one of the top four in the country. At the end of his talk, Mr Oxley invited a volunteer to come up and help him demonstrate the clothing that is worn. Mrs Ann Jones agreed - she looked very fetching in the trousers and jacket even though they were a trifle large! Mrs Roberts gave a vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Oxley, saying she has always wanted to know more about the RNLI. This month on 3rd July, we are holding our Golden Jubilee Party and are looking forward to seeing all members of the Friendship Club and Senior residents of Great Bromley who would like to join us at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. If you need a lift, please ring Mrs Mary Clarke on 01206 251939. *June Willgress*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We all know the old music hall song "Where did you get that 'at". At our May meeting Barbara Faulkner gave us a very interesting talk on the history of the hat from the lace trimmed bonnet to the "Ascots" also recalling the elaborate creations by the "Shilling" family. We extend a very sincere THANK YOU to Mr and Mrs Perry of the Cross Inn who arranged a Quiz Night on behalf of the Club which raised £139.00. 11th July is the Southwold and Flora Tea Rooms outing - starting at Elmstead at 9.00 am. We have a few vacancies so if you fancy joining us. I MUST know by 28th June so that your choice of food at the Tea rooms can be added to the list. The menu can be given to you on the phone. The competition for July is a KEY RING. *Vicky Griffiths*

GARDENER'S CORNER for JULY

SHRUBS: Take semi-hard cuttings of Camelia, cistus, ceanothus, escallonia, hydrangea and pyracantha. HEDGES: Do not let hedges get out of hand, trim little and often. CHRYSANTHEMUMS: For large blooms reduce stems to six and begin disbudding. DAHLIAS: Tie in young shoots - if long stems are required for cutting disbud some of the side Shoots, leave only the strong terminal bud. IRISES: Tall boarded irises may be divided at the end of this month - water until divisions are established. *Frank Griffiths*

KITCHEN CORNER

A recipe given me by Jacquie Terry which uses the courgettes that are abundant this month. a delicious moist cake.

CHOCOLATE COURGETTE CAKE

7 oz plain flour, 1 teasp baking powder, ½ teasp bicarbonate of soda ½ teasp salt. 4 oz caster sugar - Sift these into a bowl

2 eggs, 6 fl.oz vegetable oil - Beat together and add to bowl

6 oz good quality plain chocolate, melted, 8 oz firm courgettes, peeled weight, grated,

2 oz finely chopped nuts - Add these to mixture

Divide mix between 2 x 8inch sandwich tins that are well greased and floured. Bake 25-30 minutes, 180C till well risen. Cool 5 minutes before turning out on to wire rack. When cold, sandwich together with your choice of filling. Cream cheese is good, or a choc butter cream etc.

Jill Frostick

THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner, As I write this Ardleigh have just had, and The Bromley's are just about to have, their annual Gift Day. This is an old custom going back to when people paid tithes to the Church, not voluntarily either! These days the congregations and I very much rely upon the good will of you, the parishioners, to be supportive financially. In these parishes we are blessed with three very beautiful buildings (buildings, incidentally which are of national importance) as spaces to find sanctuary and peace from the bustle of daily life. Little Bromley Church is looked after by a charity and the church only has limited access. S George's, Great Bromley and S Mary's, Ardleigh are very much in the care of the local Church. Many people think that the Government or State provides funding, or looks after the buildings but this is not true. In the

case of grants from Government bodies such as English Heritage, they sometimes provide 40% of a project, rarely more. The upkeep and maintenance of these two buildings is up to the congregations and you, the parishioners. The day to day running of the places is almost covered by the congregation, but I do look to the generosity of others to help us with the building works. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have made donations in this past year, it is very much appreciated. You are helping make sure that these buildings are secure for future generations to visit and enjoy. Of course anyone who missed out, there is always time! Simply pop into church and place your donation in the offertory box using one of the pew envelopes. Thank you. May God bless you. *Fr Nicolas*

WANTED! Chelmsford diocese is looking to appoint a new Foundation governor to S Mary's School, Ardleigh Are you:

- willing to become a critical friend and a supporter to the Headteacher, teaching and ancillary staff, children, parents and fellow governors?
- willing to become involved in school life in order to contribute to the schools plan to raise standards and to improve the effectiveness of teaching and learning?
- always able to respect the professional roles and responsibilities of the staff?
- Able to attend the twice termly governor meeting, serve on a committee and attend training sessions as required?
- An active member of a local, not necessarily C of E, Church?
- Sure that S Mary's Ardleigh is one of the best places to educate children in the area?
- Under 70 years old?
- Prepared to work hard and enjoy the benefits of making a difference in the education of our young people?
- Able to say yes to all of the above and still be interested?

Then please contact Fr Nicolas for more details.

Services for July

3rd 6.00pm Holy Communion Hamilton Lodge, 4th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
5th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers, 6th 10.30am Confirmation St George the Martyr
Sunday 7th Trinity 6 7.30am Morning Prayer St Mary the Virgin, 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin, 9.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr, 11.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin, 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
8th 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr, 10th 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr, 12th 11.00am Holy Communion Seven Rivers
Sunday 14th Trinity 7 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin, 9.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr, 11.00am The Parish Eucharist St Mary the Virgin, 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
17th 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr, 18th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin, 19th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers, 20th 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary
Sunday 21st Trinity 8 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
24th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr, 26th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
27th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin Sunday 28th Trinity 9, 7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 9.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00am The Parish Eucharist St Mary the Virgin, 3.00pm Evening Prayer Ardleigh Methodist Chapel, 31st S Ignatius 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
July 6th 10.30am Confirmation at S George's 28th 3pm Farewell Service for The Revd. Andrew King at Ardleigh Methodist Chapel, September 5th Flower demonstration in S Georges, 7th-14th Rook on the Roof at S Georges. 21st 10-12 Coffee Morning at Vincés Farm, in aid of Church Funds
TRINITY CHRISTIAN CENTRE Every Sunday at 10.30 am at Bromley Road, Elmstead Market.

Magazine Makeover

Having attended a course on "Producing a Village Magazine Training Day" (fun title!) run by the Essex Rural Development Centre for anyone interested in such matters I came away with the distinct feeling that your magazine should have a complete overhaul and new look. The trainer, Mr Chris Wells, was humorous and interesting and I felt the day overall was stimulating though I have since heard that some of the others found it less so as they thought they were going to cover other aspects of producing magazines. We were encouraged to think of new ways to display the news items you all send in to be humorous with headlines, to edit articles right down and to include photographs and pictures with always, of course, lots of space around articles. advertisements and .. well everything. There is but one (or more) snag here.

1. We cannot afford, nor have the space, except for special circumstances to produce photographs of a decent quality. 2. I do not have lots of space to spare but I try to get everything that you send me into the space that is allotted me. 3. I do edit what I receive but not to the extent that the author will never recognise anything they sent in. If wanted to do that I would need to become a reporter and go to everything myself and write up on everything and I do not see - or want - my role to become village reporter. Also I like the fact that you all have different styles and different ways of expressing things which makes it much more your magazine than mine! My role, as I see it, is to pass on the news to you all and make you aware of the diverse happenings in our two villages.

Having said all that a few changes will creep in over the passage of time as quite apart from anything else I enjoy changing things about and endeavouring to make it different and I do occasionally have fun with the clip art that I use to illustrate items. However please let me know (as I know that you already do and I am sure that you will continue) if there is anything you would like to see in the magazine that you don't, to not see something that you do (but I may not take any notice of that) and generally let me know if you are not satisfied with what you receive and subject to the usual financial constraints I will do what I can to improve. *Leonie*
P.S. If you are bored with my taking up space on the front page please send in suitable articles - I shall not take offence!

POST BOX GONE AWOL

Am I missing something or has the Post Box by the War Memorial in Little Bromley been taken away? I used to use it on a regular basis and a while ago it disappeared. I thought maybe it had been stolen or taken for refurbishment but it has not come back - do you know anything about it? How can the Post Office just take it away without any advance warning - it seems as though we're in a Consignia black hole with the Post Office closing down, the refusal to give us a stamp machine because of "vandalism" and now one less post box - what is going on?? Ranting & raving on a Tuesday afternoon, *Sue Hedley*

ARDLEIGH SURGERY NEWS

Ardleigh Surgery has been approved as a GP training practice with Dr Owens as the approved Trainer. GP training practices train doctors, normally those working in hospitals, to gain experience and learn the skills of being a general practitioner. There are five other training practices in the Colchester area. Becoming a general practitioner is seen by many hospital doctors as an interesting career path rather than training as a consultant in a particular specialist area of medicine. GP Registrars are assigned to training practices for a year. However, owing to the shortage of doctors, training practices might not have a GP Registrar assigned every year. The practice will therefore, have a GP Registrar starting in August, Dr Sayomi Gunawardena. Dr Gunawardena, born and educated in Colchester, works currently as a doctor in Colchester General Hospital. She is looking forward to joining the practice for a year. The examination room has been converted into a fourth consulting for her use. However, at times Dr Gunawardena will also be using the other consulting rooms. Ardleigh Surgery is also to become a Practice Nurse training practice. Sister Kate Strowbridge has trained to become a Practice Nurse Trainer and will start teaching other nurses wishing to pursue a career in general practice later this year. We are sad to inform patients that our other practice nurse, Sister Kirsten Horsler has had to give up permanent employment at Ardleigh Surgery, to care for her child who is not well. We would hope to have appointed a replacement nurse by the time you read this article. *Fred Merrin, Practice Manager, Ardleigh Surgery*

THE CHURCH HAD THESE

Insurance Companies and others sometimes require an inventory of goods. The Incumbent and Church Wardens are also responsible for keeping an inventory of church items. Little Bromley's Rector, Mr H Crossman, left his list in the Parish Register. It reads:

"An account of the Goods, Utensils & Co., belonging to the Church of Little Bromley in the year 1741. H. Crossman, Rector.

A new Wainscot communion Table; A Fine Crimson cloth; A new Linnen (sic) cloth. A Napkin; A Silver Plate escallop'd for a Paten; A Silver Cup and flagon; A Pewter Flagon; A Crimson cushion and Vallant for the Pulpit and a vallant for the Desk, the same as the Communion Table cloth; An old Green cloth cushion; A Surplice and Hood; A Common Prayer Book; A Bible (deleted!); An old Book of Homilies; A new cover to the Font; Three Bells A Bier & He(a)rse Cloth

You will note that the "vallant" is in today's language a "valance" which is a short curtain round a frame or canopy of a bedstead, over a window, etc (OED). Today's list should read:

A silver Cup, weight 9oz 6dwt, date 1803. Marked under the foot "Little Bromley".

A silver Paten, weight 3½ oz, undated, No marks.

A silver Flagon, weight 27oz 7dwt, date 1807. Marked PB over WB for Peter and William Bateman.

A silver Almsdish, weight 8oz 16dwt, undated. No marks but inscribed "Little Bromley Church, 1741, given by H. Crossman, Rector"

In 1607 Robert Baker, Church warden, told the Archdeacon that there was no "stope" for the wine. In 1683 communion vessels are given as "A Chalice of Silver and Cover with a Rose on it" but there was a need for "a flaggon and Patten of pewter". In 1707 the silver "Cupp and Cover" feature in the return. There was still no flagon. The Almsdish was no doubt from Mr Crossman's household goods. *John Appleby*

Please support our sponsors. We thank HOT LINE PRINTERS, who print this magazine every month, for sponsoring this month's magazine.

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

the Village Hall Management Committee will next meet on Tuesday 27th August at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The Committee are considering having an early film of Edwardian Colchester evening at the Hall in the autumn, the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 30th November and a dance to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Queen's Coronation in May-June next year. These will be run as fund raising events and we will try not to clash with other events in the locality at these times. We are very appreciative of those people who keep the surrounds of the Hall cut, clean and tidy. Also to those very helpful people that fill in holes in the car parks and generally look after the Hall grounds. Thank you all very much. *Bevan Willgress*

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The drainage works to Hare Green Playing Field are in progress and hopefully complete by the time you read this. This will allow the field to be used a lot more in winter when it is often water logged. Grass cutting and hedge trimming have taken place recently. This now allows you to enjoy the flower tubs in Balls Green and St Georges Close. which were overgrown. PLANNING APPLICATIONS The following planning applications have been considered by the Council and their comments forwarded to the District Council: **Church Cottage, Badley Hall Road** - Rear kitchen/bedroom extension No objections **21 Mead Close** - Extensions and alterations No objections **The Thatched Cottage, Brook Street** - Double garage No objections **Elm Bungalow, Harwich Road** - Extension No objections **Manheim Car Auctions** - Use of land for car storage in association with existing motor auction business Objection to change of use from agricultural land, concerns over light pollution, inadequate screening and drainage of surface water were raised. The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 8th August at 7.30pm.

GT BROMLEY GUIDES Due to unforeseen circumstances both guide leaders are unable to continue after the summer holidays. I am therefore seeking TWO new leaders aged 18 years and over who are willing to take on our unit of 10 girls. No experience is necessary as training will be given. If you can help please contact District Commissioner on Tel. 01206 393313. If no one comes forward I will have to close the unit. *Jean Baalham*

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

Chairman's Day was well attended with over 100 guests and players. Kesgrave Cricket Club were our opponents this year competing for the Pirie Trophy. A superb lunch and tea was kindly provided by Mrs. Margaret Holland. On behalf of the Chairman, Mr. Tim Biscoe, bouquets of flowers were presented to the Presidents wife, Mrs. Anne Clapham, and to Mrs. Margaret Holland by the Captain, Peter Brinkley. A commemorative crest in cross stitch was presented to Kesgrave Cricket Club. As for the match itself, Kesgrave won the toss and invited Gt. Bromley to bat. They declared on 208 for 6 with Peter Brinkley retiring on reaching his 100. Kesgrave then batted and reached their target with 5 overs to spare and therefore won the Pirie Trophy. A most enjoyable day was had by all.

100 CLUB WINNERS FOR JUNE. 1st. Mr. A. Trussler. 2nd. Mrs. Lorraine Allam. 3rd. Mr. P. Herring.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We had an enjoyable meeting in July being joined by some of the Village's Senior Citizens to help us celebrate the Queens Jubilee. At the beginning, Mrs Jill Frostick our President, welcomed everyone present and thanked them for coming along. About 40 of us sat down to a delicious tea provided by our members. A lovely jubilee cake was made and decorated by Mrs Jean Dalgety, which was cut up for all the guests to take home a slice. After tea we were entertained by Mrs Angela Dennis and her guitar. She played and sang songs which we all could remember and were able to join in too. At the close of the celebrations, Mr Frank Griffiths thanked the W.I. on behalf of everyone present and said what a nice evening it had been.

At the end of the evening our President called a short business meeting and Mrs Mary Clarke gave a very informative account of the National W.I.'s Intermediate General Meeting she had attended in June at Brighton. Both resolutions we had discussed in May were passed, the first being to support the provision of local abattoirs and the second for stricter controls on imported food stuffs. Sadly, it was also announced that Denman College had made a loss in the last financial year. There is no meeting of the WI at the Village Hall in August, instead we are going to the Frinton Theatre for our annual Outing. *June Willgress*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our June meeting Margaret Clubb of the Citizens Advice Bureau kept us enthralled when we relived every minute with her from the day she received the letter to say she had been awarded the MBE for 30 years' service with the Bureau and "What shall I wear?" to the actual presentation by the Queen. It was so exciting to listen to and it was good to hear that she was just an ordinary person and not a POP STAR whose services had been recognised. We were so lucky to have such a brilliant day for our outing to Southwold/Dunwich - a beautiful warm sunny day (apart from a torrential downpour as we got on the coach to Dunwich and again as we got on the coach to come home!) The competition for August is a Floral tea plate. *Vicky Griffiths*

WILDLIFE WONDERINGS - WHERE HAVE ALL THE CUCKOOS GONE?

Has anyone else missed the cuckoo calling this year? I have heard it on precisely two occasions. I know it is having problems and numbers are decreasing but this lack of a quintessential sound of summer is very sad and does it mean that next year I won't be hearing it at all? Swallows and house martins are down in even greater numbers this year than last with the house martins no longer considering my house a place suitable to build their nests and bring up their young. I was, however, delighted to see that house martins had at least decided that the Post Office was a good site choosing an interesting view of the post box so that they can keep an eye on the comings and goings of the postman! Noise outside my kitchen window alerted me recently to a flock of blue tits seeing off a magpie who must have been raiding their nest. There were at least eight tiny birds flying after and harrying this much larger bird who eventually gave up and flew away.

ARBOREAL ANGST FOR AUGUST

LAWNS: If hot weather continues do not cut lawns too short. Apply selective weed killer. ROSES: Feed with loz of sulphate of potash per square yard. PERENNIALS: Make sure that these do not dry out particularly the autumn- flowering kinds such as Michaelmas daisies, Golden Rod and Helenium. LILIES: towards the end of the month propagate lilies from bulblets. *Frank Griffiths*
COLCHESTER POULTRY CLUB AUTUMN OPEN SHOW including Pairs and Trios at Gt Bromley Village Hall on 31st August at 10.00am - 3.30pm Free Entry

Forthcoming Events

AUGUST

3 BBQ, Cricket Ground, 7.00pm

8 Ct Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

15 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm

24 Coffee Morning, Berriedale, Brook Street, Ct Bromley, 10.30am

27 Village Hall Management Committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

31 Colchester Poultry Club Autumn Open Show, Village Hall, 10.00am

SEPTEMBER

5 Flower Demonstration, St George's Church, 7.00pm

6 Evening at Green Island, Ardleigh, 5.00pm

7 Cat Show, Ct Bentley Village Hall

7-14 Rook on the Roof at St George's Church

12 Lt Bromley Parish Council Meeting, Venue - contact Parish Clerk, 7.30pm

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

21 Coffee Morning, Vince's Farm, 10.00am

27 Harvest Barn dance, 7.30pm

OCTOBER

1 Cheshire Home Autumn Sale, Village Hall

7 The Bromleys Harvest Festival and Lunch

7-14 Leonard Cheshire Week

St. George's School, Gt. Bromley Headteacher: Pat Fitzgerald

The summer term has been busy with school trips. Classes 1 and 2 visited Colchester Zoo and Classes 3 and 4 went to Southend Pier and Peter Pan's Playground, which was enjoyed by all. The weather was great for both trips, which helps. Science Week meant pupils had the chance to visit other schools in Tendring for science sessions. Sports Day loomed and so did the black clouds. Amazingly, only a few spots fell, along with a few pupils and the odd dad in his race. After much cheering and clapping, the points were added up and the Drake Team won the cup this year. Unfortunately, the weather was unkind on the Scatterball Tournament Day, which had to be cancelled, but the Rounders tournament was played and the team of year 6 and 5 boys and girls did very well. Drawing to the end of the school year, we will sadly say farewell to 13 of our pupils who are leaving to go to either Manningtree, The Colne School or Tendring Community College. They have had Induction Days at their respective schools and have entertained the school helpers at a Tea Party. Good Luck in your new schools.

IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - St Georges School reopens on 9th September to completed refurbished premises!

The Vince's Farm Housechurch Group warmly invite YOU to a COFFEE MORNING AND BRING & BUY at Vince's Farm, Ardleigh on Saturday, 21st September 10.00am - 12 noon in aid of Church Funds PRODUCE - REFRESHMENTS - BRING & BUY - RAFFLE - WINNERS TOMBOLA (every entry wins a prize!) - CRAFTS - LOTS OF LOVELY CARDS & GIFTS! Easy parking come and meet your friends: load up with goodies & support church funds.

CHESHIRE HOME AUTUMN SALE

1st October in Gt Bromley Village Hall St George's Church, Great Bromley

"CURTAIN UP" by Robin White FLOWER DEMONSTRATION in aid of Church Funds

5th September, 2002. Doors open 7.00 for 7.30pm. Raffle.

Tickets £6 to include wine and refreshments

COFFEE MORNING on Saturday, 24th August 10.30am - 12 noon at Berriedale Brook Street, Great Bromley Proceeds to be shared between St Georges Church, to go towards a light over the bronze figure of St George, and the Friendship Club Offers of Raffle prizes, cakes etc. would be very welcome. Contact Vera Biddis (230506)

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME EVENING AT GREEN ISLAND, ARDLEIGH

Friday, 6th September 5.00pm - 8.00pm Tickets £7.50 each to include a glass of wine and snacks. Children under 16 free. Come and enjoy Fiona Edmond's wonderful garden Contact 01206 392520 or ask at Seven Rivers for a ticket.

KITCHEN CORNER

This month is runner bean time! Here is a slightly different way to serve them.

CREAMY BEANS WITH CARROTS for 4 people

½lb young carrots, scraped and sliced, salt and pepper.

1 lb runner beans, prepared and sliced, 2 tabbsp oil

1 tabbsp fresh chopped mint

3 tabbsp fresh or soured cream.

Put the carrots with a little salt and pepper in a pan and barely cover with water. Bring to boil, simmer 5 minutes. Drain off a little of the water, add beans and oil. Mix well then bring back to the boil. Cover and cook gently 10-12 minutes stirring occasionally until just tender. Drain off the liquor. add mint and cream mixing lightly. Turn into a hot dish and serve at once.

Jill Frostick

DISCARDED MOBILE PHONES & INK JET CARTRIDGES HELP OTHERS

Thank you to everyone for continuing to send in old mobile phones and chargers. Even if they only come in occasionally they are still reaching their charity destination. Used printer inkjet cartridges can also be re-cycled; let us have them - as well if you can - just leave them in the box at the back of the church. Let your discards help someone else - and thank you for your effort. *Caroline McShane*

LITTLE BROM LEY PARISH COUNCIL Mr Kenneth Hatch was proposed and accepted unanimously as the new Chairman, vice Mr Peter Herring. Miss Mary Cooper was proposed and accepted as a newly co-opted member to fill the vacancy created for a councillor. She has accepted. A vote of thanks was proposed to Peter Herring for services to the council and the community over a period of nearly forty years. The Clerk reported that the police were making every effort to control speeding through the village.

ST GEORGES CHURCH REPAIR FUND

When writing to charity trustees to ask for funds I have been sending them copies of this magazine. I feel sure that they are likely to be better disposed towards us if they know that the church serves a lively community. and there can surely be no better evidence of this than the monthly contents of "The Messenger". Another thing which influences the decisions of trustees must be the extent of local fund raising. Here again I do not think that the Bromleys can be faulted, and in particular we must acknowledge the very generous personal contributions made to the Fund in memory of Robert Harding. who served it for so long and so devotedly. As regards grant-making bodies. the first half of 2002 has been encouraging. GCG Environment Trust (related to Bucbricks) have agreed to increase from £10,000 to £12,000 their offered contribution towards Phase II of the works - especially generous, when one remembers that they also made a contribution of £5,000 towards the cost of Phase 1. Another magnanimous contribution of £5,000 has come from the Garfield Weston Foundation, "with the best wishes of the Weston Famil". Many people may not know that Mr Curry Weston, who died earlier this year. was a noted philanthropist. He was frugal and discreet, on the ground that "money only attracts envy and weird people". We have also gratefully received a contribution of £200 from Allchurches Trust, a charity which owns the v

Ecclesiastical Insurance Group and which aims to further the Christian religion. More recently we were delighted to receive a grant offer £12,500 from the Friends of Essex Churches. This is a much larger grant than they usually make, and I feel they were influenced not only by the importance of the building but also by the stalwart efforts of those members of our congregation who, year upon year, have undertaken sponsored bicycle rides for the benefit of the Friends. It would be a good mark of our appreciation if more people were to subscribe to individual membership of the Friends, and should you like to do so please get in touch with me (230790). Other applications have been and are being submitted. but in the meantime it is crucial that our local fund raising efforts should continue apace. Pauline Rook, who must be mad, intends to seek sponsorship for living a hermit's life on the tower roof for no less than seven days from 7th September. Please support her eremitical endeavour, and also note in your diaries that there is to be another Grand Concert in the Village Hall on the evening of Saturday. 23rd November. We

still have a long way to go but let us hope that we shall indeed be able to carry out Phase II during 2003. and so return our great building to a decent structural condition for the foreseeable future. *John Clapham*

THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner, TIMES ARE CHANGING! Few people like change and change just for the sake of it is seldom good. The two Church Councils here have decided to make a change to the times of Sunday worship at S Mary's and S George's. I suppose you could say that the conversations began in October 2000 when a group looked at the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the two parishes. Probably though you could actually trace it back to when the parishes were united and indeed back to when Great and Little Bromley became one under The Revd. Ransom. Many of you will have been part of those decisions and have come to like them or not. Change happens, and actually if something isn't continually evolving and changing it's probably dead or dying! That is certainly not the case here. Indeed these past few years have seen a growth in confidence and feeling secure in our Churches. A lot of hard work has gone into looking after the buildings, supporting and caring for each other, in witnessing to the love of God. Financially things aren't easy, but there is still a marked improvement and we certainly pay our way in the wider Church. All of this brings me to the changes. As of 15 September there will be an 8.00 am Eucharist and 6.30 pm Evensong according to the old prayer book in one Church, and a 10.30 am celebration of the Eucharist from the new prayer book in the other. This will alternate Sunday by Sunday. Transport will be available at 10.15am to take any walkers to the other Church. This is going to take some getting used to and the Church Councils will regularly be watching to try and iron out any problems. Believe me when I say the decision has not been reached lightly, much thought, discussion and prayer has gone into it. I think it is going to release a lot of energy that can be channelled into praising God and serving him here. I hope you, the parishioners, will be the recipients of blessings. *Fr Nicolas.* You may not have seen the **Samaritans Purse magazine** which is now at the back of the church. Do please take a moment to read it and find out what happened to your Christmas shoe-box. The expressions of delight on the children's faces and the heart-felt thanks from the organisers and distributors of this scheme make most rewarding reading. Start putting aside your shoe boxes and items for filling now, and children who have nothing will be thrilled with your gifts at Christmas time. This is a project which has caught the imagination of so many people - absolutely anyone can contribute! *Caroline McShane*

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY			
united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh			
Services for August			
1st	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin
2nd	11.00am	The Eucharist	Seven Rivers
3rd	9.00am	The Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin
Sunday 4th		Trinity 10	
	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
	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
5th	7.00pm	Transfiguration of Our Lord	
6th	7.00pm	Benefice Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
7th	6.00pm	The Eucharist	Hamilton Lodge
9th	11.00am	The Eucharist	Seven Rivers
10th		S Laurence	
	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 11th		Trinity 11	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	St. Mary the Virgin
	8.00am	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
	9.30am	The Parish Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
	11.00am	The Parish Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	St. Mary the Virgin
15th	7.00pm	Assumption of Our Lady	
16th	11.00am	Benefice Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
17th	9.00am	The Eucharist	Seven Rivers
		The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 18th		Trinity 12	
	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
19th	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
21st	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
22nd		Our Lady Queen & Mother	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
23rd	11.00am	The Eucharist	Seven Rivers
24th		S Bartholomew	
	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 25th		Trinity 13	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	St. Mary the Virgin
	8.00am	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
	9.30am	The Parish Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
	11.00am	The Parish Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	St. Mary the Virgin
26th		Sick and handicapped pilgrimage to Walsingham	
28th	7.00pm	Manningtree Methodist Chapel welcome to Simon Coleman	
29th		Beheading of John the Baptist	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
30th	11.00am	The Eucharist	Seven Rivers
31st	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin



ANCIENT VIEWS

In 1991 we rented, for a week's holiday, Laundry Cottage which looked up at Dunvegan Castle rising above us on the Isle of Skye. Laundry Cottage was next to the jetty for the trips out to see the seals but we very quickly realised that we seemed to be part of the tourist route when foreign tourists peered through the windows and wandered into our temporary home. We learnt from all these people teaming past that they were "doing" the Scottish castles. By the end of the week we had counted over 20 different nationalities from all over Europe and beyond with one intrepid car number plate coming from Egypt. We were amazed that everyone should have come so far to see castles. However we have just returned from a trip through Yorkshire, up into Northumberland and over into the Border country round Carlisle and Hawick. In Northumberland we saw various castles and abbeys - Alnwick, Bamburgh, Lindisfarne and at the last, right on our campsite doorstep, we trekked across to the isolated Dunstanburgh Castle our travails finally walking the legs off our dalmation who collapsed into her bed each night too tired to bark, not even waking us early in the morning to go out! A feat in itself. Across into Border country abbeys featured again at Jedburgh and Hermitage where too there was a lonely, beautiful and strategically placed castle. If ever near Hermitage go see. It is set in the most beautiful countryside. All these buildings had "wow" factor built into them and although we didn't go into all of them they radiated "Here I am, look at me" in their power and supremacy even when, as most of them are, completely ruined. So many are there around in these areas we got to the point of saying "Castle/abbey on your left/right/wherever" and as we began to learn about the Reivers it became "Peel over there" or "Must be a Bastle". It has been a delight spotting these ancient relics of a bygone age. In our midst we have our own ancient relic, the church, and whatever your feelings about the interests and systems which these magnificent buildings represent they are part of the heritage of the area in which they are set and stimulate us to think about the circumstances and the reasons for their being built. Although there are various features and buildings in our villages which form part of its heritage very few would dispute that the most outstanding of these is our glorious medieval church, the repair and restoration of its roof being something for which the much loved John Clapham gave so much of his time and energy.

Leonie Henderson

DID YOU KNOW? that wasps fly about all spring and summer without your noticing them. Then around August they become a nuisance. The reason for this is that adult wasps are hunters. They return to the nest with raw flesh which is chewed up and fed to the larvae. Wasp larvae produce a sweet liquid which they offer to the adults so between them they produce a balanced diet. However as summer progresses in the colony new queens and some drones are produced while the old queen's egg-laying drastically reduces. There are therefore less larva offering sweetness to the hunters which is when they start pestering anybody who has something sweet near them. That is when you suddenly start to notice them!

THINKING OF COMING TO CHURCH?

If so, please check the times at the back of this magazine, as they are changing.

Harvest Festival celebrations

Sunday 15th 6.30pm at the Methodist Chapel

Friday 27th Barn dance in Ardleigh Village Hall

Sunday 29th 10.30 in S Mary's Ardleigh

Sunday 29th 6.30pm in S Marys Little Bromley

October 6th 10.30 in S George's Great Bromley

October 6th 1pm Harvest lunch in Gt Bromley Village Hall.

Come ye thankful people come.

BENEFICE HARVEST LUNCH

Sunday, 6th October, 2002 12-30 for 1 pm. Great Bromley Village Hall . Please bring your own drinks! Tickets £4 adult, £10 family (2 adults & 2 children)

Available from the Post Offices in each village and James and Ann Wild

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH ROOF REPAIR FUND

Following on from John Clapham's article in the August Messenger about the St George's Church Repair Fund, I would like to underline the two forthcoming fund raising events mentioned by him in aid of the repair of the roof.

The first event is **ROOK ON THE ROOF**, when Pauline Rook will camp on the tower roof for seven days. She would like sponsorship for her lone endeavour and forms for this are in the back of the church.

Pauline will go up the tower at lunch time on Saturday 7th September, and remain alone up there until lunch time Saturday 14th September. She will make camp with a small tent and the barest essentials, but would be very pleased to see visitors at the bottom of the tower for a wave and a chat (please bring your own megaphone). Newspapers, TV and Radio have been contacted and we are expecting good coverage and publicity for this event in an effort to raise money and awareness of St. George's need for funds to finish the repair of the roof. Hopefully this is not too far away.

Please take a Sponsorship Form from church or sign someone else's to sponsor Pauline in her efforts - a week is a long time on a roof even if our name is ROOK!

Teas will be available on Saturday 7th and a BBQ lunch will be served on Sunday 8th with teas in the church in the afternoon. St Georges will be manned daily throughout the week of ROOK ON THE ROOF with a BYGONES EXHIBITION and COMPETITION run by James Wild and teas and cakes for sale.

FRIENDS OF ESSEX CHURCHES SPONSORED BIKE RIDE & WALK

Saturday, 14th September 10.00am - 6.00pm

If you have not done this before this day can be thoroughly recommended as a most enjoyable way of fund raising and possibly an added incentive being that the F.O.E.C. have promised St George's a substantial grant towards our Roof Repairs.

A list of participating churches and sponsorship forms are available in church. St Georges will welcome bicycle riders taking part in the Cycle Ride around Essex Village Churches so if you are unable to cycle or walk but could spare an hour on Saturday, 14th to sit in Church to welcome the visitors and sign their forms that would also be much appreciated. If you want to know more contact James Wild.

Again a BBQ lunch will be available with teas and cakes in the church in the afternoon. Pauline will come down from the Tower at lunch time having spent a week entirely alone with some books, a small radio and the birds.

THANKS FROM ST. GEORGES CHURCH REPAIR FUND

As one of the recipients chosen to receive a £200 donation from the £1,000 collected on Monday 3rd June from the Cross Inn, Jubilee Fair, a big thank you. Such kind gestures confirm John Clapham's opening remarks in his article, last month, that "...the church serves a lively community". We are very grateful to all involved.

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

100 Club: The August Draw is the last one in the current year. I would like to thank everyone who took part, and sorry if you did not win anything! We managed to raise £500 for the Cricket Club. I look forward to your continued support.

100 CLUB WINNERS

	JULY	AUGUST
1st	Mr. P. Herring	Mr. D. Scarlett
2nd	Mr. C. Pirie	Miss C. Hart
3rd	Mr. B. Jones	Mrs. B. Jenno

The postponed Bar-B-Q will now take place on Saturday 14th September.

We are having our annual QUIZ NIGHT on October 26th at Gt. Bromley Village Hall. It will be the usual format. Tickets are £3 per person and bring your own drinks and nibbles. If you would like to enter a team please contact me. Phil Allam

JOHN CLAPHAM

All the members and players of the Cricket Club were saddened to hear of the sudden death of our President, John Clapham.

John had been president of the Club for the last four seasons, and it was evident from the outset of his appointment that he cared about the Cricket Club. He encouraged us to use his

home for committee meetings, and in doing so insisted that we took on what he considered to be the necessary liquid refreshment. John was an all round generous man, freely giving his time, services and support to the Cricket Club in many ways.

At Club functions such as Chairman's Day and our end of season meal, John's speeches were eagerly anticipated. He had a wonderful gift of telling stories with eloquence, wit and intelligence the result of which would leave us all laughing helplessly.

We will all greatly miss John. He was unique, and special to us all at Gt. Bromley Cricket Club. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Anne and all family and friends.

Tim Biscoe GBDCC Chairman.

SIZZLING SEPTEMBER IN THE SOLARIUM

Septum-pa-Aqua - Loosely translated means: "If you want to keep dry stay out of the rain!"

CHRYSANTHEMUMS: Take late flowering types into the greenhouse at the end of the month.

Move stools of early types to a cold frame. DAHLIAS: Water in dry spells - and make sure plants are properly supported. CARNATIONS & PINKS: Plant young border plants and pinch out

growing tips. BULBS: Plant daffodil and narcissi in pots for indoor Christmas flowering. Leave outside in a cool dark place until the tips of the bulbs show through, then bring indoors - keep just moist. *Frank Griffiths*

JOHN CLAPHAM 18 April 1935 - 1 August 2002

"Weep no more woeful shepherds, weep no more

For Lycidas your sorrow is not dead.

Sunk though he be beneath the watery floor;

So sinks the day star in the ocean bed.

And yet anon repairs his drooping head,

And tricks his beams, and with new-spangled ore

Flames in the forehead of the morning sky"

John was fond of quoting from Lycidas and it was at school that he began to cultivate his prodigious memory. On the stage he was a stylish performer. On the rugby field at full back on amazingly spindly legs he was a safe pair of hands. In the boxing ring, due, he said, to his long arms, he was a surprisingly effective pugilist.

Later he went to Oxford and it was somehow appropriate that he should go to the dark blue, the more exuberant, rich, idiosyncratic, romantic. He would not have sat so well in the ascetic.

Rational, astringent, pale rinse of the light blue of Cambridge. Nor would he have been likely to meet Anne.

That was clearly the best thing that could have happened to him. and how happy it was that hearts and heads were in unison. It was also fitting that he should marry a Celt because he loved words, ideas, pictures and theatre. He was a brilliant raconteur, turning what was probably a pretty dull lecture by a Frenchman on how to appreciate good wine into a hilarious and many times repeatable delight. Perhaps it was those years in the Marches, the soft Welsh air, the sensual rolling mountains, and the music of Welsh voices which touched him and endowed him with wit, sensitivity and imagination, gentleness - and a sometimes impatient temperament.

But his Yorkshire origins showed through: loyalty, resilience, good sense, good humour. So, while gifted with a powerful memory, a good brain and the sharp mind of a lawyer, he was at the same time extraordinarily imaginative and sensitive, but was always ready to see the funny side. At dinner lawyers and non-lawyers alike were enthralled as John summarised the development of personal freedom out of Medieval feudalism and demonstrated the historical significance of a leading case in the law of negligence. The snail in the ginger beer bottle was revealed in totally new light. As soon as that was over he was back to limericks and no doubt the fat lady from Bude.

When it came to travel. it was Italy and especially Venice which he loved most. Part of the appeal of Venice was undoubtedly the absence of cars for John's relationship with motoring never really developed. But Venice, besides its theatricality, contains the other passions of his life, restaurants, pictures, architecture, history. When a visit to Berlin was suggested he was hesitant, for Prussia was not his style, but the art galleries, the absurdities of Sans Souci and the historical contract with France appealed in the end. Prague combined the romance of Mozart with the excitement of a place emerging from tyranny and at that time rediscovering the joys of childhood at Christmastime. But it was home he loved most, family, the books and pictures, the garden, East Anglia and the Welsh hills. He thought and read deeply and although like most of

his generation he spoke little about God, he was a loyal member of this church and supporter of its roof. His inclinations were traditional and corporate and he believed that by remaining consistent a stable collective relationship could be made between men and God to the benefit of each individual and society. He was instinctively a kind, generous and charitable man though that did not protect all from his wrath. Among his dislikes were the European Union, Health and Safety and the Metropolitan Police.

When he retired from the law some wondered what he would find to do. No-one need have worried as he set about learning how to regale his friends with interesting food. This proved a good and wise choice. It provided an excuse for the sociability which he loved, and it was something he could master on his own, for he was at his best and happiest doing his own work, at his desk or over the stove, not organising other people's.

But beyond and above all these human characteristics, it was the warmth of his friendship. and his ability to amuse and enthrall, to deal in both the trivial and the profound, to entertain and to provoke, that he was such an outstandingly engaging and loveable person.

Is it too much to hope that rather than feeling pity for ourselves and one another at having lost a dear friend or companion, we can rejoice in having known such a wonderful chap, thrive on our memories of him, and say "Thank God for John Clapham".

From the tribute given by Mr Denis Dunstone at the funeral and reproduced here with his kind permission.

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

On July 31st Bishop Christopher joined Fr Nicolas, residents, staff and guests at our parish Cheshire Home to mark the 10th anniversary of the death of Leonard Cheshire. It was a lovely celebration of a man and his vision and how here in Great Bromley it is put into practice. Any anniversary of death is also tinged with a sadness as it reminds us of others whom we have known and loved who have died. So we sang the great Easter hymn of faith, "Thine be the glory" as a prayer for God's peace here on earth as well as in heaven.

One of the themes of the day was that Leonard lit a candle and others are continuing to keep that candle alight. Seven Rivers is very much a place of light, with a strong sense of being a community within a community. Fr Nicolas visits Friday 11am each week to celebrate a simple Eucharist for anyone who cares to join in. Visitors are always welcome, particularly if they feel they might have something to offer to the community there. Fundraisers are always needed, and often people with specific skills. Maybe more importantly, people are wanted who visit and simply become friends with the residents. Reading the newspaper out loud, playing a card game, joining in a mean game of scrabble or simply walking someone through the grounds, but above all friendship. If you'd like to visit and/or think you have something to offer please give the manager Jill a ring on 230345. Many of you already know that Seven Rivers is a place of great blessings and that we are privileged to have it here. Are you able to help to keep Leonard Cheshire's candle burning?

St. George's School, Gt. Bromley : Headteacher: Pat Fitzgerald

The last assembly on the last day of term with the last year 6's to hold a Leaver's Assembly in the old hall was an emotional affair. The 12 leaving pupils put on a display of poems, singing and musical instruments for the rest of the school, parents of leaving children and school staff. Father Nicolas presented the pupils with a Bible.

It was sad to say goodbye to Mrs Allen and Mrs Burnby who are both leaving their respective jobs. Next term we will be welcoming Mrs J Platt who has been appointed as Learning Support Assistant for class 3. There are two Midday Assistant jobs vacant - one for five hours per week and one for two hours per week. Contact the office if you are interested.

Throughout the year the school has raised money for various charities including UNICEF, Leukaemia research Fund, Marie Curie Cancer Research, Poppy Appeal, Colchester Fire Swim, Shades for a Day and of course, St George's School. Thank you to everyone who has contributed. School reopens on 9th September in our newly remodelled school!

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our July meeting "The Sapphires" gave us a fast moving and jolly entertainment with their , singing, dancing and monologues - don't know where they get the energy! We send our GET WELL wishes to our members and friends who are not feeling too good. The competition is a PAPER KNIFE. *Vicky Griffiths*

OCCASIONAL SINGERS TWO

Following the sell out Occasional Singers Concert two years ago, the choir sadly disbanded. In May 2001 following a meeting attended by some 10 ladies it was decided to restart a singing group. It was agreed to work towards putting on a show in the Village Hall on 23rd November with the proceeds to be shared between St Georges Roof Repair Fund and the resources for St Georges School. The Group meets fortnightly in the Cheshire Home with the kind permission of the Management. The only requirement for membership is enthusiasm, a sense of humour and commitment.

A concert is well underway in construction and friends and guests lined up ready to contribute their bit towards hopefully, a very enjoyable evening. Children from St Georges School have been invited to join us in some of the items in the show and also to perform themselves. Support from Mrs Pat Fitzgerald and her staff (thank you to them) coupled with an excellent response from the children has added to excitement and determination to make this concert SUPER! Songs from the shows, music you love to hear with a touch of something different thrown into a pot and stirred for while. Come along and see for yourselves. Tickets will be available from the middle of OCTOBER further details in the October Messenger. *Patricia Hughes*

ARDLEIGH WEA

The Autumn Term will commence on Thursday, 5th September. Tutor for the ten week course will be Ian Rose (from Mistley), who under the title of "Nature adapts to a Changing World", will take us (by means of slides etc) all over the world. We will travel from Hudson Bay (with polar bears) to the Galapagos Islands. En route we will have learnt about Flora and Fauna in places as diverse as the USA, Norway, S America, the Himalayas, Africa and others. Meetings will commence at 2.30pm in the Village Hall, Station Road. Sessions last 1½ hours with a break for a cup of tea. Fees for the full course are: Full Fee - £30; Concessions - £27; Unemployed/benefit receivers (on production of proof) - Free. There will not be a half-term break this time. Final session will be on 7th November. For further details or book your place, please contact the Secretary on 01206 230476.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 3 Village Hall Management Committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 4 WI meeting, Village Hall. 7.30pm
- 5 WEA course starts, Ardleigh Village Hall, 2.30pm
- 5 'Curtain Up', Flower Demonstration, St George's Church, 7.00pm
- 6 Evening at Green Island. Ardleigh, 5.00pm
- 7 Cat Show, Gt Bentley Village Hall
- 7-14 Rook on the Roof at St Georges Church
- 12 Lt Bromley Parish Council Meeting, Venue - contact Parish Clerk, 7.30pm
- 12 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14 Sponsored Bicycle Ride Cricket Club Bar-B-Q, 7.00pm
- 19 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 21 Coffee Morning, Vince's Farm, 10.00am
- 26 Script Reading for 2003 Pantomime; Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 27 Harvest Barn dance, 7.30pm

OCTOBER

- 1 Cheshire Home Autumn Sale, Village Hall, 10.30am
- 1 Auditions for 2003 Pantomime, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6 Harvest Lunch, Village Hall, 12.30pm
- 7 The Bromleys Harvest Festival and Lunch
- 7-14 Leonard Cheshire Week
- 26 Cricket Club Quiz Night, Village Hall

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP - A SCRIPT READING

for the January 2003 pantomime will be held at 7.30pm on 26 September in the Village Hall. AUDITIONS will be held on 1st October - same time! same place! New faces and old, on stage or backstage, all will be welcome! Telephone Susanne Harknett for details.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Members from our WI provided a Co-operative and Individual entries for the Federation of Essex Women's Institutes Summer Show held at Ingatestone Hall on 19th and 20th July. Set in beautiful surroundings, the Show was well supported. The standard of entries was very high and overall we were pleased with our achievements.

The group of 12 members and friends thoroughly enjoyed this year's Annual Outing on 7th August, which was to the Frinton Theatre to see the production of Terence Rattigan's "The Winslow Boy". For our September meeting, Miss Helen Chuah is coming along to talk about Chinese Cookery. It should be an interesting evening so if you would like to come along please do, you will receive a very warm welcome. It is on Wednesday, 4th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. *June Wilgress*

"CURTAIN UP" by Robin White FLOWER DEMONSTRATION at St Georges Church, Great Bromley in aid of Church Funds 5th September, 2002 Doors open 7.00 for 7.30pm, Raffle Tickets £6 to include wine and refreshments

OCCASIONAL SINGERS TWO together with CHILDREN FROM ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL, FRIENDS AND GUESTS

invite you to a CONCERT REVUE Saturday, 23rd November Great Bromley Village Hall at 7.30pm. Funds in aid of the St George's Roof Repair Fund and St George's Church School. Tickets will be available in October

THE VINCE'S FARM HOUSECHURCH GROUP warmly invite you to a COFFEE MORNING AND BRING & BUY at Vince's Farm, Ardleigh 10.00am - 12 noon on Saturday, 21st September In aid of Church funds - Easy parking - come & meet your friends and load up with goodies Produce - Refreshments - Bring & Buy - Raffle - Winners Tombola (Every Entry Wins A Prize!) - Crafts - Cards & Gifts!

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

AUTUMN SALE: 1st October in Gt Bromley Village Hall 10.30am-3.00pm - Entry £2 - Refreshments

COFFEE MORNING: 14th November at Seven Rivers, 10.30am -12 noon

EVENING AT GREEN ISLAND, ARDLEIGH: Friday, 6th September 5.00pm - 8.00pm

Tickets £7.50 each to include a glass of wine and snacks. Children under 16 free. Come and enjoy Fiona Edmond's wonderful garden. Contact 01206 392520 or ask at Seven Rivers for a ticket.

GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The drainage works to Hare Green Playing Field have finished. The Council expressed their gratitude to Miles Drainage for doing an excellent job. Ken Robinson was also thanked for levelling and re- seeding certain areas.

A site meeting has taken place with ECC with a view to extending the 40 mph limit along Harwich Road past Selectacars and the 30 mph limit on Badley Hall Road. It is hoped they will be included in this financial year of ECC Highways Department.

A few moments silence was held in memory of John Clapham, who had contributed so much to the village and had given legal advice freely to the Council over the years.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS The following planning application has been considered by the Council and their comments forwarded to the District Council.

Hallbrook House, Church Corner - Conservatory No Objections

The next meeting of Gt Bromley Parish Council will be held in the Village Hall on 12th September at 7.30pm.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of will be held 7.30pm on 12th September. Please check the venue with the Clerk.

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Management Committee will next meet on Tuesday, 3rd September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Due to unforeseen circumstances we have changed the date from 27th August. With the break in bookings that naturally occurs in August, we take the opportunity to undertake those jobs which are difficult to carry out without disruption to hirers whilst the hall is in use. Those which have been scheduled are: the replacement of the Ladies Toilet floor covering, test of the Hall's electrical system, maintenance work on the floors and repairs to the stage decking, kitchen hatch and various doors.

We are very appreciative of those who supported the Splendid Coffee Morning on 20th July organised by June and Peter Wenden at their home. Although the weather forecast was unsettled, the day proved dry and fine for the duration of the proceedings. June and Peter wish to thank all those who helped and contributed in any way to make this occasion the success it was, with £415.75 being raised for our Village Hall. Special thanks go to June and Peter for the use of their home and running the event. You may be pleased to know that the Committee have decided to hold hire charges at last year's level for the next 12 months from 1st September, 2002. *Bevan Willgress*

KITCHEN CORNER

Some 'Fishy' ideas for this month

TUNA FISH CREAMS serves 4-6 as a starter

5 fl oz carton soured cream or natural yoghurt

6 tablesp salad cream; Seasoning & dash of Worcester sauce

2 tablesp Chopped onion or chives

½ oz gelatine (one packet) dissolved in 3 tablesp water

2 hard boiled eggs; 2" piece cucumber diced small

1 tablesp capers chopped; 7 oz can tuna, flaked; Parsley Sprigs to garnish

Combine soured cream or yoghurt with salad cream or seasoning and onion. Dissolve gelatine over hot water, mix in evenly. Chop one of the eggs and add, plus cucumber, capers and tuna. Spoon into 4-6 ramekins (or one large dish) and chill till set. Serve garnished with sliced remaining egg and parsley sprigs, and hot toast and butter or garlic bread, salads etc.

SMOKED HADDOCK QUICHE To fill a large 12" pastry case

12oz smoked haddock; 8 oz cottage cheese; 2 medium onions, chopped

4 oz mushrooms (Optional) sliced; 3 or 4 eggs ; 7-10 fl. Oz. milk; Seasoning

Cook fish in milk, soften onion in butter and mushrooms if used. Mix with cottage cheese. Put all into flan, use stained milk to mix with beaten eggs or pour over. Bake hot oven 35-50 minutes until cooked. *Jill Frostick*

CARPET BOWLS

The last five Fixtures of the summer league have taken place and resulted in GI Bromley finishing second. Two matches with Wix (winners of the league) gave us an 8-1 home win and a 3-6 away defeat, away to Walton we lost 3-6, lost to Tendring away by 8-1 but managed an 8-1 home win over Lt Clacton the last match in the summer season. Our first venture into this type of game so all considered not a bad start. Having teamed up with Lawford for this year, we shall miss their friendship and support as they will now revert to being one of our opponents in the winter league which starts in September. Thank you Lawford.

Being so busy as well as holidays our annual dinner was not held until 5th July when 22 members and friends enjoyed an excellent meal and social evening at the Old Courthouse Inn. Thanks go to Pat for arranging this. On 11th August, Gt Bromley entered a team in a knockout competition organised by Walton at Gt Bentley. Out of the 5 games they lost 3 and won 2 so did not qualify for the next round. The eventual winner was Paxman's Club with Thorpe-le-Soken in second place. This event raised £385 for the Essex Air Ambulance. Well done! *Nancy Kempster*

THE BROMLEY CROSS INN SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Wednesday, 4th TABLE TOP SALE 6.30pm - 8.00 pm

Thursday, 19th CHARITY QUIZ You have had a rest, those little grey cells should be refreshed, so book your table now (teams of up to 4 at £2.50 per head) for the next QUIZ, which is in aid of the POTTING SHED PROJECT. This is to raise funds for blind people to set up a cottage industry and thereby earn their own living.

Wednesday, 25th MUSIC NIGHT Play, sing or just listen and enjoy, 8.00pm start

FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Parishioner, TIMES ARE CHANGING! So the Church of England has a new Archbishop of Canterbury in Dr Rowan Williams. Only time, and any more “leaks” will tell if the Church has got her first choice. The selection process whereby a supposedly representative group of people put forward two names to the Prime Minister to recommend one to the Queen, is shrouded in secret. At least one past incumbent of No 10 has been known to choose the second choice and even thought to have rejected both names on one occasion! No prizes for guessing who she might have been! Certainly the media seem to believe Mr Blair accepted the favoured candidate and general assent has murmured through the Church. In fact Mr Blair and the politicians could find themselves early on clashing with the new Archbishop. On August 6th (the day Christians remember the Transfiguration, when God gave the disciples a clear message that Jesus was his son and would one day be glorified in heaven and notably the anniversary of the Hiroshima bombings) a group of church leaders presented a petition to Downing Street, expressing reserve at possible military action against Iraq without the backing of the UN. Dr Williams was a signatory to that, which is in line with his writings after September 11th 2001, questioning the scale and appropriateness of the bombing of Afghanistan. This is a man who had to run for his life on that morning as he was in a meeting next to the Twin Towers when they collapsed. He has condemned those attacks as having little to do with God and a Christian understanding of martyrdom. A Christian Martyr dies because he or she loves someone, not because he or she wants to destroy someone. Archbishop Rowan seeks to promote dialogue on this from the question of what is “just”. Where is natural justice and what brings about justice for the greater number of people. That is at the root of this man, justice in the eyes of God and man. He has criticised the CofE (remember at the moment he is a Welsh bishop!) for saying that if Christians find themselves in same-sex relationships, though that is not commendable, they are to be supported and welcomed by their brothers and sisters, but that this is not an option for Clergy. You can’t have it both ways he says; if its right for ordinary people it’s right for the clergy, if it’s not right for the clergy, then it’s not right for anyone. It needs to be just. From that he seeks Unity. Unity of thought, of peoples both Christian and non, of unity between human and the divine as experienced in Jesus. He is a poet and more of a prophet than a management. The Church committee have taken a risk, Mr Blair has taken one too! Times are changing! May God bless the new Archbishop, may he bless us all. *Fr Nicolas*

Services for September at St George Gt Bromley and St Mary Ardleigh

Sunday 1st (14th Sunday after Trinity) - 7.30am Morning Prayer 8.00am The Eucharist St George;
10.30am Parish Eucharist St. Mary; 6.30pm Evening Prayer St George;
4th 6.00pm Holy Communion Hamilton Lodge; 5th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary
6th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers; 7th 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary
Sunday 8th (15th Sunday after Trinity) - 7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary;
10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George; 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary
9th 9.00am The Eucharist St George; 11th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George
12th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary; 13th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
14th Triumph of the Holy Cross 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary
Sunday 15th (16th Sunday after Trinity) - 7.30am Morning Prayer 8.00am The Eucharist St. George;
10.30am Parish Eucharist St Mary; 6.30pm Harvest Festival Ardleigh Methodist Chapel
16th 12 noon The Eucharist St Mary; 18th 7.00pm The Eucharist Seven Rivers
19th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary; 20th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
21st (St Matthew) 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary
Sunday 22nd (17th Sunday after Trinity) - 7.30am Morning Prayer. 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary
10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George; 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary
23rd 9.0am The Eucharis: St George; 25th 2.30pm The Eucharist St. Mary;
26th 7.00pm The Eucharist St George; 27th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
28th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary;
Sunday 29th (18th Sunday after Trinity) - 7.30am Morning Prayer 8.00am The Eucharist St. George
10.30am The Harvest Eucharist St. Mary; 6.30pm Harvest Evensong St. Mary's, Little Bromley
30th 9.00am The Eucharist St. George.

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS at St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh
TRINITY CHRISTIAN CENTRE Every Sunday at 10.30 am at Bromley Road, Elmstead Market

The Bromley Messenger October 2002

The new school buildings have been finished and from the outside look impressive. We will all be able to see them for ourselves from the inside on 14th November. September and October are for many parents a time of upheaval and change as home life makes way for the routine of school life. It is the time of year when young children often take their initial steps away from the security of home by starting school for the first time. Older children change schools and start on the road which leads to GCSEs and possibly 'A' levels before finally taking the biggest step of all by packing their bags and leaving home for university, a gap year of travels and/or work or learning a new skill which they can put to good use throughout their lives. At each stage the parent has to let go the strings a little more. Having given children security throughout childhood and built up their self-confidence parents then have to trust them to be able to cope on their own and learn by their mistakes. On into adulthood the strings become more elastic which is possibly the hardest time of all: to stand back, to not interfere or judge but to be there whenever necessary to offer support or whatever else is needed. My mother used to say that it gets harder as they get older and I used to think she was talking tosh. I now know better!

Leonie Henderson

We thank GREENACRE CATTERY and ST GEORGE'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL for sponsoring this month's magazine. Please support our sponsors.

ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL, GT. BROMLEY Headteacher: Pat Fitzgerald

The Governors, Staff and children of St Georges Primary School, Great Bromley welcome local people, past pupils and all who have had an association with the school to an Open Evening at our recently modernised school Thursday, 14th November, 2002 from 3.30pm - 7.00pm Guided tours and light refreshments

JOHN CLAPHAM

There is to be a Service of Thanksgiving for John's life in the Church of St Bartholomew the Great, Cloth Fair, London EC1 at noon on Thursday, 24th October, 2002 and afterwards at Farmers and Fletchers Hall, Cloth Fair.

Nesta, Catherine, Jenny and I would like to thank all those who have sent kind messages of sympathy and paid wonderful tributes to John. They have been a huge support to us and we are very grateful. *Anne Clapham*

THE STONE MEMORIAL WINDOW IN AMERICA

In April 1951, I received a cutting from an American Church magazine and it read:-

"In memory of their father and mother, Fowler Penfield Stone and Margaret Stewart Stone, the stained glass windows in the left transept were presented to the Church by the sons and daughters, Benjamin D., Norman S., Helen S. Thom, Fowler Penfield, Jr., Margaret S Werle, Marion S. Gamble and W. Richard on December 2, 1950, at a dedication service on that date. The main window is a replica of one which was presented to Great Bromley Church in the parish of Tendering Hundred (sic), Essex, England, by the American Stone Family Foundation in April, 1904.

"The three principal panels contain the figures representing St Gregory the Great, St Mary the Virgin with the infant Jesus and St Simon the Apostle. The smaller panels under each, illustrate a notable incident in the life of each, namely, St Gregory accosting the captive children in the market place in Rome, the annunciation of the Virgin and the call of St Simon by Christ. Over all, in the topmost tracery, is a dove, representing the holy Spirit. The lettering across the bottom reads, "*To the Glory of God and the memory of Fowler Penfield Stone and Margaret Stewart Stone*"

"Fowler Penfield Stone was born in Camden, New York, August, 21, 1851 and died in Wausau, June 28, 1933. He became a member of this church in 1882, served on various boards of the church and was a member of the Session at the time of his death.

Margaret Stewart Stone was born in Philadelphia, Pa, September 4, 1864 and came to Wausau in 1882, at the time her father the Reverend William R. Stewart, was called as a pastor of this church. Always active in many phases of the church, she served as President of the Missionary Society for many years. Margaret Stewart Stone died in Wausau, September 1, 1934.

May the beauty and inspiration of this memorial bring those who worship in its light closer to the Holy Spirit and the love of God. Willet Stained Glass Company of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, were the artisans." *John Appleby*

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Finally the recycling bins in Church Meadow were emptied. Staff shortages had lead to a delay in collections. A tin bank should be available shortly. The council is proposing to plant a few trees in Brook Street in front of St George's Close. A Licence to Plant has been organised and planting will commence in the autumn. The year ending March 2002 accounts and audit form were approved and signed at the meeting.

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

Little Paddocks - Occupation of caravan during building alterations Council does not object for a temporary period of 6 months, after which time it should be removed.

Willow Orchard, Frating Road - Formation of vehicular access to residential premises No objections

The next meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 10th October at 7.30pm.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on Thursday, 24th October at 7.30pm. Please check the venue with the Clerk

LITTLE BROMLEY AMENITIES FUND

LITTLE BROMLEY PICNIC

Our 'Meet the Neighbours' picnic and barbeque on Sunday 21st July was a resounding success. We were delighted at the turnout and it was great see so many new and familiar faces. Thankfully, the weather held out long enough for everyone to enjoy some good food and company, and some fun games as well. Thank you to everyone involved for their hard work and support.

A VILLAGE GREEN FOR LITTLE BROMLEY?

We are very pleased to tell you of an exciting development which could bring little Bromley our long-awaited village green. 97% of you asked for some recreation space and we have been working hard to achieve that goal - so watch this space for more details.

FIREWORKS IN LITTLE BROMLEY

Everyone attending July's picnic was keen to book the next event, and thanks (once again) to the generous offer of land from the Hatcher family we will be holding a Fireworks party on Saturday, 9th November. We hope to have a children's "Best Dressed Guy" competition, a barbeque, music, mulled wine - and of course fireworks and sparklers. Look out for more details coming soon. but if you would like to be involved, ask about tickets or have any questions please contact Kate Everett.

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Management Committee last met on 3rd September.

We have now had the opportunity to clean the South Boundary ditch which should help with drainage of the village hall land and that of the adjacent field. Our grateful thanks and appreciation to Mr and Mrs Ardley for allowing us access to the field and to Rob Christmas for carrying out the operation. We have a small sub committee looking at the possibility of improvements to the South car park and we are grateful to Mark Redfern for organising the in-filling of some deteriorating areas in the North car park. The floor covering within the ladies has been replaced and we thank Rob Carey for a job well done. The kitchen hatch, stage decking, two doors and a broken window have all been dealt with by Ivan Arthey with our thanks and appreciation. The Hall's electrical system has been tested and a little more work remains to be completed, with grateful thanks to Andrew Stollery and Martin Frostick.

Fund raising events being considered are a nostalgia evening with John Appleby, probably in March 2003, an event to mark the 50th anniversary of the Queen's Coronation at the end of May 2003 (not to clash with The Cross Inn) and coming very soon now will be the Christmas sale on Saturday, 30th November. 2002 starting at 2.00pm. Linc dancing also seems set to return on a regular basis in the New Year to our Hall.

The next meeting of the Village Hall Committee is schedule for Tuesday, 12th November at 7.30pm at the Hall. *Bevan Wilgress*

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB QUIZ NIGHT on October 26th at Gt. Bromley Village Hall. It will be the usual format. Tickets are £3 per person and bring your own drinks and nibbles. If you would like to enter a team please contact Phil Allam.

“If I can make one person smile, as I go on my way
If I can hear one person say ‘You sure have made my day’
I’ll know I’ve done some good that day, as everybody should
Although the clouds are in the sky a smile can be like sun.
So GIVE A SMILE as you go on your way,
Make someone feel it’s a SPECIAL day.”

ARDLEIGH SURGERY

It is influenza vaccination time again! The Department of Health recommends patients should have vaccination against influenza if they are aged over 65 or at particular risk if they have one of the following medical conditions; heart disease, diabetes, respiratory disease including asthma, renal disease or are immunocompromised. Patients are reminded to contact their doctor’s surgery to book into a flu clinic held during October. Ardleigh Surgery will be holding vaccination clinics for patients, please make an appointment with the receptionist to attend a clinic or to see a practice nurse at some other time *Fred Merrin Practice Manager*

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

The annual Stour Valley Branch service to celebrate the work of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association will be held at St Mary's Church, Lawford on Sunday, 13th October at 3.00pm. Everyone is welcome to join guide dogs, their owners and friends at this service, which will include joyful hymns, Guide Dog Owner Speaker and the Stour Valley Handbell Ringers. After the service refreshments will be served in the adjoining Church Hall. You are assured of a very warm welcome and the opportunity to make new friends.

The recent dog walk at Dedham organised by the Stour Valley branch was a great success with 15 dogs attending. Retired guide dogs Leah and Andrea were joined by guide dogs Robin, Fabian, Jewel and Honey, guide dog trainee Bonnie, guide dog trained Randall (now a pet) and pets Ebony, Ben, Timber, Megan, Mungo. Tom and Jerri. On a sunny day all the dogs were impeccably behaved and with their owners enjoyed the walk along the Stour Valley. The stiles and kissing gate were obstacles but by no means problems for the dogs. Guide dog Robin ably guiding his owner through the kissing gate unaided. Through sponsorship, donations, and sale of guide Dog merchandise £700 was raised for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Grateful thanks to all the walkers and everyone who supported this event. If anyone would like to join in future activities or become a branch member please phone Marjorie Culham.

CARPET BOWLS

Our first game of the new league season is on 17th September away to Little Clacton. Our position in last year’s league table means we stay in the top half, meeting Alresford, Wix, Lawford, Walton, Thorpe, Little Clacton and Great Bentley.

The AGM was held on 11th September with Pat Petchey in the chair. Membership was down from 21 last year to 16 paid up members as of 1st September. 2002. There were a variety of reasons for the decline but hopefully this will be put right in the coming months. New member. Ron Field, was welcomed to the club and his enjoyment of the game may, perhaps, persuade some of his friends to try the game too.

The officers elected for the coming 12 months are: Chairman - Pat Petchey, Treasurer - Dick Wilsher, Secretary - Jayne Bates. Captain - Ron Copp and Vice- Captain - Andrew Childs. Thanks were extended to Evelyn Childs for her hard work running the catering: for the past year, she now wishes to step down and Pam Frostick was elected to take her place. This same date was the birthday of one of our founder members, Joe Canham, who has reached “a mere 93 years”. A stalwart of the club, he received congratulations and good wishes from all the members present. It was agreed that we would run a tournament in March, the charity to be decided at a later date. *Nancy Kempster*

ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL GT. BROMLEY

Back by popular demand “The FABS” Saturday, 12th October Great Bromley Village Hall Bar available Tickets £5 from Sue Skinner or Debbie Wright - Limited tickets so don't delay!
CHRISTMAS FAYRE in the School Hall Friday, 29th November Details to follow

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Mr Dick Hayward gave a very interesting talk, with photographs, of farming in bygone days, when most of the work was done by hand. These days the invention of machines have sadly

replaced the farm workers. but it was good to be taken back to our youth by way of the old photographs. We thank Mr Hayward very sincerely for coming along. The competition for this month is "a chain necklace" (not beads). *Vicky Griffiths*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Miss Chuah. due to unforeseen circumstances. was unable to come along to our September meeting. We were very grateful to Mr Dick Hayward who kindly agreed to come along at short notice. He gave us a fascinating account of his family and farming. starting with his Grandfather in 1898 at Badley Hall Farm and how things changed between then and his own retirement in 1982. At the start of this period, agricultural workers worked from 6.00am - 6.00pm Monday to Friday and until 5.00pm on Saturdays with breakfast and lunch breaks each day. At that time. lots of jobs were done by hand with the help of heavy horses. For instance, they were expected to plough 1 acre of land per day. Wages were also low. 7 shillings rising to 17 Shillings per week in the 1920's but in 1931 the Government started to improve matters.

From 1945 onwards, tractors and mechanisation started to take over from men and horses. However in 1952, Foot and Mouth disease struck and all the sheep on the farm had to go. From then onwards only cereals, roots, vegetables, peas etc were grown. Farm buildings built in 1920 are still there. Land in the early 1900s could be. purchased for £5 per acre. today it would cost about £2,000 per acre. We are hoping Miss Chuah will be at our October meeting. which is on Wednesday. 2nd October starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. You will be welcome if you come along and join us. *June Willgress*

Forthcoming Events

OCTOBER

- 1 Cheshire Home Autumn Sale, 10.30am, Village Hall
- 1 Auditions for 2003 Panto, 7.30pm, Village Hall
- 2 WI meeting, 7.30pm, Village Hall
- 3 'Flu vaccination clinic, 2.00pm, Ardleigh Surgery
- 6 Benefice Harvest Lunch, Village Hall, 12.30pm
- 7 The Bromleys Harvest Festival and Lunch
- 7-14 Leonard Cheshire Week
- 10 Flu vaccination clinic, 2.00pm, Ardleigh Surgery
- 10 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm, Village Hall
- 12 'THE FABs' Dance, Village Hall
- 12 Countryside Open Day, from 2.00pm, Gt Bentley Village Hall
- 13 Guide Dog church service. 3.00pm, Lawford Church
- 17 Friendship Club meeting, 2.00pm, Village Hall
- 24 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 26 Cricket Club Quiz Night, Village Hall

NOVEMBER

- 2 Dance to Celebration Roadshow & Supper, Village Hall. 7.30pm
- 9 Fireworks Party, Little Bromley
- 14 Seven Rivers Annual Coffee Morning, 10.30am
- 17 Conservative Curry Lunch, 12.30pm, Brundells Farm, Gt Bromley
- 23 Occasional Singers 2 Concert, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 29 Christmas Fayre, School Hall
- 30 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall

OUT AND ABOUT IN OCTOBER

LAWNS This is a good month for laying turves for a new lawn. Weed killer can still be used on established lawns. **ROSES** Plant new roses at the end of the month. Prune climbers and ramblers. The prunings can be used as cuttings. Take a piece of the cutting about a foot long. cut just below a bud at the bottom, leave two buds above ground level. Plant in the ground where you want them to grow permanently. **HOUSE PLANTS** Move away from window ledges at night. Reduce feeding and watering. *Frank Griffiths*

FLOWER DEMONSTRATION Very many thanks to all who supported the Flower Demonstration by Robin White. The flowers and designs were wonderful. Thanks to all who helped make it such an enjoyable and successful evening. The total raised for Church Funds was £840. *Ann Wild*



<p>BENEFICE HARVEST LUNCH</p>  <p>Sunday, 6th October, 2002 12-30 for 1 p.m. Great Bromley Village Hall Please bring your own drinks!</p> <p>Tickets £4 adult, £10 family (2 adults & 2 children) Available from the Post Offices in each village and James and Ann Wild (tel. 230679)</p> <p>HAVE YOU GOT YOUR TICKETS?</p>	<p>GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP</p>  <p>AUDITIONS will be held on 1st October - same time! same place! New faces and old, on stage or backstage, all will be welcome!</p> <p>Telephone Susanne Harknett on 01206 231337 for details.</p> <p>WANTED</p> <p>Someone to work with a small team co-ordinating costumes for our local Pantomime.</p> <p>It will require a bit of spare time from the end of September until the beginning of January, mainly adapting existing extensive wardrobe, a bit of charity shop browsing, some sewing and gluing.</p> <p>It is fun to do and very rewarding. Please contact Linda Pinhey on 01206 230126.</p>
<p> SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME</p> <p>AUTUMN SALE</p> <p>1st October in Gt Bromley Village Hall, 10.30am-3.00pm</p> <p>Entry £2.00 Refreshments</p>	<p> DANCE to Celebration Roadshow & Supper on 2nd November in Gt Bromley Village Hall 7.30pm - 12.00pm</p> <p>BAR RAFFLE £10.00 In aid of Paige Lonergan-Hood Telephone - Linda Pinhey 01206 230126</p>
<p>COFFEE MORNING 14th November at Seven Rivers, 10.30am – 12 noon</p>	<p>CONSERVATIVE CURRY LUNCH</p> <p>Brundells Farm 17th. November 2002 12.30 for 13.00 hrs</p> <p>Tickets - £7.50, under 11- £3.50 Henry Fairley 250229</p> 
<p>OCCASIONAL SINGERS TWO together with CHILDREN FROM ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL FRIENDS AND GUESTS Invite you to a CONCERT REVUE</p> <p>Saturday, 23rd November Great Bromley Village Hall at 7.30pm.</p> <p>Funds in aid of the St George's Roof Repair Fund and St George's Church School.</p> <p>Tickets will be available in October WATCH THIS SPACE!!!</p> 	

KITCHEN CORNER

Leeks are available most of the year now. but I think of them as an autumn/winter vegetable. Here is a recipe to warm you up on a cooler autumn day!

GAMMON & LEEKS (serves 4 people)

4 thin gammon rashers; 4 leeks (white parts only); 1 tableSp tomato puree
1 teasp Worcester sauce; pinch cayenne pepper; 1 teasp salt; 1½ oz butter, . 1½ oz flour.
Wash leeks thoroughly ensuring no grits are left in. Bring 2 pints water to the boil and teasp salt and boil leeks 5-6 minutes. Lift out carefully and drain in a colander (save the water).
Melt butter, blend in flour and tomato puree. add one pint of the liquid leeks were boiled in to make sauce. Simmer 3 minutes, add Worcester sauce and pepper. Roll leeks in gammon rashers and lay side by side in oven-proof dish. Spoon 3/4 of the sauce over them and bake 25 minutes moderate oven (375F). Meanwhile, boil 1 lb of potatoes in the remaining water the leeks were cooked in, till very soft, drain and mash, then fork or pipe round the border of the dish. Re-heat the remaining sauce and spoon over the gammon. *Jill Frostick*

PLAYGROUP

Welcome back after the summer holidays. we hope you enjoyed the break. The theme for this term is “*opposites”. We like to encourage the children to bring in items for the theme table. This gives them the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the topic by participating in “show and tell” with the other children. We are hoping to use the outside area as much as possible this term - weather permitting. We welcome some new children who will be joining playgroup this term , Ollie. Carlos. Liberty, Megan, Naomi, Alfie, Bailey. Zak and Eleanor. We hope they enjoy their time at playgroup and make lots of new friends.

SPELL CHECKER

Eye halve a spelling chequer, it came with my pea sea
It plainly marques four my revue miss steaks eye kin knot sea.
Eye strike a quay and type a word and weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar write, it shows me strait a weigh.
As soon as a mist ache is maid it nose bee fore two long
And eye can put the error rite its rare lea every wrong.
Eye halve run this poem threw it I am shore your policed two no
Its let her perfect awl the weigh My chequer tolled me sew.

THE BROMLEY CROSS INN OCTOBER EVENTS

Saturday, 12th 70s DISCO & KARAOKE EVENING (Charity event) Are you SWEET on SLADE. or GREASE-Y with MUD? Do you BAY for a CITY ROLLER? Then break out the ABBA gear and enjoy a night singing and dancing and raising funds for The Potting Shed Project - a self help scheme for the Blind. 8.00pm start

Wednesday, 23rd MUSIC NIGHT Play, sing or just listen and enjoy, 8.00pm start

Thursday, 31st CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the "SPARKLE" appeal. Teams of 4. £2.50 per head includes light supper.

Tuesday, 5th November GUY FAWKES NIGHT 7.00-8.30pm. Bring yourselves, the kids and some fireworks.

FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Parishioner

On August 6th, the anniversary of the Hiroshima bombings, a petition was handed into 10 Downing Street by this country's Christian leaders. Bishop John of Chelmsford was one of the main signatories, in an exercise in informing the Government of their views on the international situation concerning Iraq. The fifth commandment "You shall not kill" (Exodus 20:13) is recalled by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5) where he adds the prescription of anger, hatred and vengeance for Christians. Jesus' words can be summed up in the word 'love'; love of God, of neighbour and self. Love towards oneself means it is legitimate to use self-defence. It is not only a right but a grave duty to defend appropriately one's family or state.

It is also incumbent upon all people to work for the avoidance of war. However there are occasions when the Church teaches that it is legitimate to use military force, it's called a "just war". At one and the same time: "the damage by the aggressor on the nation or the community of nations must be lasting grave and certain; all other means of putting an end to it must have been shown to be impractical or ineffective; there must be serious prospects of success; the use of arms must not produce evils and disorders greater than the evil to be eliminated."

Forgive my using the legal lingo here, but as you can imagine even given the above endless arguments and discussions follow on! It was on this basis that the Christian leaders wrote to the Prime Minister, challenging him to look again at the basis on which he is having discussions with the Americans and on which he might be about to commit us to a war. You can decide for yourself if the proposed action fits all of the above criteria. We are fortunate that our Member of Parliament, Bernard Jenkin, is at the moment Shadow Defence Secretary, and so has a major part to play in influencing, not just his own party's stance on this but the government's too. If you haven't already I urge you to write to him c/o The House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1. Send a copy to 10 Downing Street too if you want! Tell them what you think: they are making decisions on our behalf, and they often say "the public is behind us on this". Are you? May God grant us and all peoples peace and security in daily life. *Fr Nicolas*

The Bromley Messenger November 2002

THE WHEEL TURNS

Over 30 years ago I was sent abroad to work in Israel. My parents were worried. Israel, Syria and Egypt had only recently been at war but were still sniping at each other across their borders and the Palestinian problem was already well entrenched though not quite as nasty as it is today. The dangers that bothered my parents did not worry me. I was young and excited at the prospect of living, working and travelling abroad. All these years later the same anxieties my parents faced now face me. My children are all adventurous; the greater the adventure the greater the anxiety on my part, the latest being a lone backpacking tour of the Far East and Australasia with visits planned to Indonesia and Bali in particular. However thankfully he was not in Bali at the time of the bombs and the anxiety of not knowing where he was at that particular time having passed, later and calmer reflection makes one think that in reality there is probably just as much likelihood of being involved in a road traffic accident in this country as being in the wrong place at the wrong time whilst travelling the world. Today e-mail and text messages can provide up-to-date reassurance. I cannot but try to imagine how the parents of earlier generations felt as their sons and daughters left to serve in far flung parts of the former empire or in the forces during two world wars. No wonder letter writing was so important to them even if they probably arrived, like buses, all at once. As we remember those killed in wars let us also spare a thought for the families of those caught up in the recent events in Bali.

Leonie Henderson

We thank R G GWINNELL, Funeral Directors for sponsoring this month's magazine. Please support our sponsors.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

In recent months I have been able to report that the Bromleys have not suffered too badly on the crime front. However in recent weeks Great Bromley has suffered quite severely. Crimes vary from damage to motor vehicles to burglary both dwelling and non-dwelling. All areas of the village have been hit including Badley Hall Road, Carringtons Road, Harwich Road and Frating Road. At the moment we do not have much to go on. It is fairly obvious that the persons responsible have checked out the area first, so if you see any vehicle driving around an area for a while please give us a call.

In some instances the criminals were assisted by insecure premises. Please make sure you have secured all your windows and doors before leaving your house. Also garden sheds must be secured properly. In other cases the criminals were scared off when burglar alarms activated. We all need to be extra vigilant at the moment and if anybody wishes to speak with me with regards to security please don't hesitate to call. To report any crime or suspicious persons or vehicles please call Clacton Police Station on 01255 221312. CJ Phillips, PC 1061

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Management Committee last met on Tuesday, 3rd September in the Hall. A sub-committee has met recently to plan and discuss the Christmas Fayre. The Hall car parks were visited at 11pm one Thursday night recently by persons wishing to exercise their skills in car control and the creation of intricate patterns in our grassed areas, before noisily heading away to other parts of the village to serenade most of us with their varying pitch engine notes! As you realise, any such damage caused will reflect in the charges levied for use of the Hall, so please use the car parks sensibly.

A fund raising event coming very soon now will be the Christmas Fayre on Saturday, 30th November starting at 2.00pm in the Village Hall. Hosted this year by the Women's Institute and the Village Hall Committee to provide additional funds for these two organisations. We value your support and hope to see you at the sale to sample the wares on offer. viz. various stalls, Father Christmas, model car layout, refreshments and raffles. The next meeting of the Village Hall committee is scheduled for 12th November at 7.30pm at the Hall. *Bevan Willgress*

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The new parish clerk is Mr K Bromfield of 4 St Georges Close, Great Bromley. The Council thanked Mrs N Robinson for her clerkship to the Council over the past five months. Hare Green Playing Field has recovered well after the recent drainage works. More levelling will be carried out between the football goals. The Council are applying for Lottery Grant money to install new

equipment on the field. If any residents have any ideas about what equipment is needed, please inform the clerk or any councillor.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS The following planning application has been considered by the Council and their comments forwarded to the District Council.

The Old Courthouse Reception area extension The Council has no objections to this application.

Parkside, Back Lane West Two storey extension to form living room/bedroom and bathroom and conservatory The Council has no objections to this application.

Leonard Cheshire Foundation, Seven Rivers Non compliance with Condition 1 of planning permission TEN/114/70 relating to staff occupancy of Gardeners cottage The Council has no objections to this application.

Leonard Cheshire Foundation, Seven Rivers Continuance of use of bungalow approved under planning consent TEN/670/74 without complying with Condition 3 - occupation restricted to staff The Council would object to this house being sold off separately from Seven Rivers but would not object to short term tenancies to non-employees.

Pond Farm Change of use from riding school to trade display area The Council objects to this application as the business does not relate to agriculture or horticulture and is inappropriate by scale and nature to its rural surroundings.

The next meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 14th November at 7.30pm.

LITTLE BROMLEY AMENITIES COMMITTEE

A VILLAGE GREEN FOR LITTLE BROMLEY?

For the last eighteen months, the Little Bromley Amenities Committee has been working tirelessly towards finally getting the village a recreation area. We are absolutely thrilled to announce that it seems our goal is about to be achieved; and in a way that is better than we could have ever hoped for. Want to find out more? Come along to our Fireworks evening on Saturday November 9th and all will be revealed!

There will be a children's competition for the Best Dressed Guy, with a prize for all entrants and a cash prize for the winner. There will be Hot Dogs, Burgers and refreshments. The event, starting at 6.30 pm, will be held at Ardleigh Road, Little Bromley and is open to everyone. Tickets available in advance, or on the night. If you can help with this Little Bromley fundraising event, or would like tickets please contact Kate Everett or Carol Cordwell.

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 term is Opposites. We are looking forward to having some Fun with that. A big thank you to all the parents that showed their support for the playgroup by attending the Annual General Meeting held at the Cross Inn. The position of chairperson is now held by Mrs Sarah Del-Guidence, the Secretary is Mrs Penny Wilsher and the Treasurer is Mr Jenni Thorington. They having the backing of a very large committee the playgroup should continue to go from strength to strength. Thank you to Karen Beattie and Caroline Harries for their help and support over the past years. As usual if you would like any further information about playgroup please contact our secretary, Penny Wilsher who is always pleased to help. Our Toddler Group is always pleased to see new faces just come along on the day. The first visit is free and we even throw in a coffee! Dates for your diary: Mon 21 Oct Halfterm (2 weeks)

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

In our October report I quoted some figures which Mr Dick Hayward has pointed out as being incorrect and I thank him for his correspondence. For example, by 1921 the minimum wage rose to 46 shillings but with the repeal of the Wages Act, fell again to only 28 shillings per week. I am sorry to have misled everyone. We all enjoyed the demonstration of Chinese Cookery given by Miss Helen Chuah at our October meeting. She showed us how to make 5 dishes with lots of tips and advice to help us along the way. To Finish, there was a little surprise which was the way to cook "Prawn Crackers". To end the evening we were each handed a pair of chopsticks and shown how to use them so we could sample the dishes that had been produced. They were very good and I for one will be attempting to make them again. On 6th November, at the Village Hall, we will be holding our Annual Meeting under the guidance of a WI Advisor (WIA) when we elect our Officers and Committee for the next year. Don't forget the Christmas Fayre on Saturday, 30th November at 2.00pm in the Village Hall for your gifts and fun.

GARDENER'S CORNER FOR NOVEMBER

LAWNS: Weather permitting make the final cut this month and apply fertiliser. SHRUBS: Hardwood cuttings can still be taken. PERENNIALS: Planting and division can still be done. CHRYSANTHEMUMS: Stools in cold frames should be freely ventilated unless weather is freezing - keep just moist. BULBS: Finish planting TULIPS. Towards the end of the month examine bulbs potted during September, move those that are showing shoots to a cool room or greenhouse. HOUSE PLANTS: Stop feeding and reduce water so that the plants are on the dry side or just moist. This is the last GARDENER'S CORNER for this year, so in the meantime until February 2003 may I wish all gardeners and non-gardeners a Happy Christmas. *Frank*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Three ladies from the "Optimists" entertained us with songs and monologues at our September meeting. Our next meeting is on 21st November when your Christmas lunch money will be collected. The competition is a small cream jug - glass or china. BERNARD is planning to arrange a HOLIDAY at MOLD, NORTH WALES in SEPTEMBER 2003. I can hear you saying you cannot say so far ahead but these holidays have to be booked as early as January and he needs at least 25 people to make it payable. If you are interested please give me a ring *Vicky Griffiths*

JOHN APPLEBY

Well, I can't really believe that we won't be seeing Old Joss in the pulpit again! - (that is his e-mail name if you didn't know!). As a mere newcomer (only 51 years in Great Brantley), I don't know ALL about John Appleby. They used to call him the Bishop of Elmstead. so he must have made his mark there! That was where he lived with his beloved wife, Audrey, for many years, and where no doubt, his three sons grew up. He had been Head Teacher at both Thorington and later Little Bromley schools until in turn, they both closed down, so he has known generations of local children in his day.

There are so many Facets of John's life and interests, that I hardly know where to start or stop. Many of us know his passion for the Navy where he served in WWII and occasionally have heard murmurs of his role as Secretary and Chaplain to the V & W Destroyer and Burma Star Associations. You will have seen his medals on Remembrance Sunday but did you know he also had the same role in the Russian Convoy Club of the region? He is a Fellow of both the Historical and Meteorological Societies, and writer of various books of a historical content, including a recent one on the St Helena Hospice where he is Chaplain as well as one on Essex dialect.

Few of us will forget an amazing performance he gave at the great Stone reunion in 2000 with his brilliant dissertation in pure Essex. He was diligent in his research of the Stone family and descendants and is a fund of knowledge. There cannot be much that John does NOT know about Great or Little Bromley and their history. It is in his long association with our villages and parishioners where we know him as a devoted servant of the church. that we remember him most. He has faithfully served many rectors (six to my recall) and visiting priests as they came and went keeping a stability and consistency and wise council which must have been greatly appreciated. He has conducted with love and reverence very many funerals of parishioners who were generally also friends of his and involved himself in most, if not all, parish events and as a member of the Friendship Club.

We wish him well and good health in his retirement which will hardly be idle, tilted to capacity as it is. Thank you John, from all your Friends and for all you have contributed to our parishes and their people. A presentation will be made to John at the 10.30am service on Sunday, 1st December at St Georges Church, Gt Bromley in celebration of 45 years ministry as a Reader to the Bromleys. *Jean Harding*

CARPET BOWLS It seems but a short while since starting the last league season and already three matches have been played in this one. All away matches as it happens. The first was a draw against Little Clacton, next, a very good win over league leaders Wix, 6-1 2- but losing the third one 6-2 against Alresford. Somehow we never seem to get the measure of their carpets. Our club singles competition is now completed. Four groups started off and the winner of each group then became a semi-finalist. These were Joe Canham who beat Nan Percival 8-6 after an extra end (due to a drawn match) and Derek Frostick who beat Brian Francis 7-5. The final between Joe and Derek was well fought. Derek bringing off some good drawing shots. whilst Joe, wearying a little, by the end of the evening, wasn't quite at his best on this occasion. The final score was 15-3. Bad luck Joe but congratulations to Derek.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 1 Presentation to John Appleby. St George's church, 10.30am
- 2 Dance to Celebration Roadshow & Supper. Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6 WI ACM. Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9 Colchester Poultry club Show, Village Hall, 10.00am
- 9 Fireworks Party, Little Bromley, 6.30pm
- 12 Village Hall Committee meeting, Village Hall. 7.30pm
- 14 Seven Rivers Annual Coffee Morning 10.30am
- 14 Open Evening, St Georges School, 3.30-7.00pm
- 14 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 17 Conservative Curry Lunch. 12.30pm, Brundells Farm, Gt Bromley
- 23 Occasional Singers 2 Concert, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 29 PTA Festive Fayre, School Hall, 6.00pm
- 30 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall, 2.00pm

FESTIVE FAYRE



In the School Hall
on 29th November
6.00 - 8.00pm.

Father Christmas will be visiting and there will be lots of stalls organised by the children to enjoy. Mulled wine and mince pies for the grown ups, face painting for the kids. So if you need some last minute presents come along and help your children by supporting your school.

FIREWORK FUN IN LITTLE BROMLEY!

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9TH
6.30 PM ONWARDS

FIREWORKS, BBQ & REFRESHMENTS
'BEST DRESSED GUY' KIDS
COMPETITION WITH PRIZES FOR ALL



FAMILY TICKET (2A + 2CH) £6.00
£2.50 ADULT/£1.50 O.A.P/
£1 CHILD UNDER 16

VENUE: ARDLEIGH RD, LT. BROMLEY
TICKETS ON NIGHT OR IN ADVANCE
FROM TELEPHONE: 01206 397111/3951053

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

in
Great Bromley Village Hall
on Saturday, 30th November
at 2.00pm

- Δ Various Stalls
- Δ Father Christmas
- Δ Scalextric Layout
- Δ Raffles
- Δ Refreshments



Come & Buy your Christmas Gifts
Proceeds to Village Hall & Women's
Institute

OCCASIONAL SINGERS TWO

together with

CHILDREN from St George's School
Invite you to a



AN AUTUMN MUSICAL HOTPOT

Saturday, 23rd November
Great Bromley Village Hall at 7.30pm.
Tickets £6.50 (to include cheese and wine)
available from

Trisha & Keith Hughes 01255 553885
Pru & Dennis Simons 01206 231115
Nickey Robinson 01206 230979
Sue Tilbrook 01206 230681

Funds in aid of the St George's Roof Repair Fund

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

present



ALL THE KING'S MONEY

at Great Bromley Village Hall
8th - 11th January, 2003
Tickets available now from

COLCHESTER POULTRY CLUB SHOW

at Great Bromley Village Hall
on 9th November
10am until 3.00pm
All welcome



DANCE

to

Celebration Roadshow & Supper

on 2nd November
in Gt Bromley Village Hall
7.30pm - 12.00pm

BAR RAFFLE £10.00

In aid of Paige Lonergan-Hood

Telephone - Linda Pinhey 01206 230126



A PRESENTATION

will be made to
Mr John Appleby
at St George's Church at the 10.30am
Service



on Sunday, 1st December
In celebration of 45 years
Ministry as a Reader to the Bromleys

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

Sadly the cricket season has come to an end. The players have had a very enjoyable season back in Division I and achieved their aim of avoiding relegation, so we will be playing in the top division again next year. The Under 12 Colts side played magnificently and finished third in the league winning five of the ten games played. The Terriers also played very well and entered three tournaments and came away with 3 trophies and certificates for all who took part.

During the season the Colts Dads challenged the cricket team to a game of football (on one of the hottest days of the year! I think the Dads realised they were not as young as they used to be. the Cricketers winning 15 - 0!!! The game was followed by a Bar-b-que at Kate and Matt Foley's.

On September 14th the Colts Dads did very well when they joined the cricket team for an all day cricket match. This was followed by the Kwik Cricket and then a colts game followed by a Bar-b-que and Disco. A terrific day was had by all. In the evening the Club Chairman, Tim Biscoe presented the certificates to the Kwik Cricketers and the Colts Trophies. The Phil Allam Batting Trophy was presented to Craig Perrin for the highest number of runs. the Matt Foley Bowling Trophy was won by Harry Hitchcock for the highest number of wickets taken and the Tim Biscoe Fielding award was won by the youngest member of the side, Matthew Robinson , for his efforts in the field- Well done to all of them. The two Bar-b-ques raised approximately £1,000 for club funds. Next year we are running two colts sides, an Under 12 side and an Under 14 side.

During the late winter we hope to be running a coaching course again. Places will be limited so if anyone is interested please contact Steve Wright

100 CLUB WINNERS for SEPTEMBER. 1st. Mr. Loading. 2nd. Lynda Allam. 3. Kate Foley

THE OCCASIONAL SINGERS TWO present AN AUTUMN MUSICAL HOTPOT

Saturday, 23rd November in Great Bromley Village Hall at 7.30p.m.

A Light Entertainment to be enjoyed with Cheese and Wine.

It is well known that there is a huge amount of talent in Great Bromley and some of it will be on stage in Great Bromley Village Hall on the evening of Saturday, November 23rd. Occasional Singers Two will be presenting 'An Autumn Musical Hotpot', a light musical revue. The concert will be in aid of the St. George's Roof Appeal, now nearing the magic final figure of £150,000 after nine years, but still in need of some more cash, and for additional resources for St. George's C of F. Primary School. recently extended and modernised, which is a source of excitement and inspiration to everyone.

The £6.50 cost of the ticket will include cheese and wine and there will be a Super Raffle (isn't there always?) Tickets available from Trisha and Keith Hughes, Pru and Dennis Simons, Nicky Robinson and Sue Tilbrook... PHONE NOW!!!

CHURCH THANKS

Very many thanks to everyone who helped make the Vinces Farm Housechurch group coffee morning on 21st September such a success. To all who provided such lovely saleable items for all the stalls. To everyone who came and spent so generously, or sent donations. To everyone who helped so enthusiastically on the day. To Mrs Barbara Erith for allowing her lovely home to be turned upside down for the duration. Most especial thanks to Kyle and Luke Clark who managed the car parking with such skill and aplomb and Emma Vigus, whose charm and smile ensured the huge success of the Teddy Bear competition. The event raised upwards of £650 for church funds. *Caroline McShane*

A Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held at St Marys Church, Little Bromley led by Father Nicolas Spicer and Mr John Appleby on Sunday, 29th September at 6.30pm. The congregation numbered approximately 90. Lessons were read by Mrs Elizabeth Lennox and Mrs Mary Roughley nee Cooper. Mr Gregory Frostick was at the organ and the choir sang "Cantate Domino" by Guiseppe Ottavio Pitoni. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers and harvest gifts. Many thanks to all those who helped in any way to make this such an enjoyable service.

HARVEST LUNCH Was a happy occasion enjoyed by all. Many thanks to all who contributed. *Pru Simons*



Visual Computing Services Ltd

Professional

**Web Design & Marketing,
Content Management & e-Commerce**

Not yet got an internet presence for your business? We will happily create a professional, attractive website for you... which will be found easily in the search engines!
We are very competitive, so get it done properly by us and be certain your site is working its hardest for you.

Reference sites:
Larger: www.kentblaxill.co.uk
Medium: www.jacksons-insurance.co.uk
Smaller: www.essential-chiropractic.co.uk

Contact: Hugh Frostick PhD
108 Shrub End Road, Colchester CO3 4RY
Phone: 01206 509570 E-mail: hugh@vesnet.co.uk

Established 1995 with many years of experience www.vesnet.co.uk

THE BROMLEY CROSS INN NOVEMBER EVENTS

Tuesday 5th GUY FAWKES NIGHT, 7 - 8.30pm Bring yourselves, the kids and some fireworks. Hot dogs and burgers available. Please give your fireworks to the MARSHALLS.

NOTE: NO child will be admitted unless accompanied by a responsible adult.

Thursday, 21st CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the BRITISH EPILEPSY ASSOCIATION. £2.50 per head includes light supper.

Wednesday, 27th MUSIC NIGHT Play, sing along or just listen and enjoy. 8.30pm start. A great welcome back to TOM and CHRIS.

KITCHEN CORNER

NIG NOGS This recipe for biscuits has been a favourite of the family for years and since it makes quite a large number they will last for more than one day!

10 oz sugar 8 oz marg 2 tblsp golden syrup

8 oz SR flour 12 oz quaker oats 1 egg 2 teasp bicarbonate of soda

Cream butter. sugar and syrup together. Then add all the other ingredients adding the egg last of all. Roll into little balls and press lightly on to a greased tray. Bake Gas Mark 5 for 15 minutes until lightly browned... *Jill Frostick*

FROM THE RECTORY

November is a Special month for Christians focused on the Kingdom of God. It asks us to consider what it means to belong to a faith that maintains that this earthly life is only a small part of our existence and that its only after death that we shall truly live.

This year it begins with feast of All Souls on the 2nd when it is customary to pray at the Eucharist (9am in S Mary's Ardleigh) for those who have died. Please feel free to write any names you want remembering on the list in Church. If you include the date of death (years mind as its called) I can include it in our daily parish prayers.

Sunday 3rd is the feast of All saints, a wonderful celebration of the men and women who have been honoured by the Church as saints. They reflect every aspect of human life, single and married, parents, and childless, teachers, priests, nuns, rulers, social reformers, young and old. The link between them all is that however they lived or died it was as an exemplary disciple of Jesus.

Remembrance Sunday falls on the 9m and acts of Remembrance will be held at each of the village memorials at 10.45am. This year as we stand in silence honouring those who gave their lives who have died as a result of war, I'm sure I shall not be alone in praying for that the dark places of our world may come to know light, security, justice and peace.

The 24th the last Sunday of the church's year honours Christ the Universal King. As a citizen already of the Kingdom I know that I am loved unconditionally by Jesus my King. One day I will meet him face to face and, pray God, he will recognise me without too much prompting from S Peter on the heavenly gates. Jesus will want me to tell him how I responded to this ' unconditional love during my time on earth before he welcomes me to sit at the heavenly banquet.

Just one Sunday, or a month or a season of Lent, or a year, isn't enough to prepare for that, it is a daily calling. Times of getting it right and messing it up, times of growing in self-knowledge and love. Times Spent not as an individual but as part of a church locally, globally, universally-heaven and earth united under the one King who is full of love and mercy. May Christ the King draw you to himself as he has drawn countless men and women before into his love. Your Rector and fellow pilgrim, Fr Nicolas

NO BOX? NO PROBLEM!

For anyone with shoeboxes yet to till. there are several empty boxes at the back of each church so do help yourself to one (or more!) Remember to bring your completed boxes to Ardleigh Church by Sunday, 10th November. or to Gt Bromley a couple of days earlier so that we can get them to Ardleigh for the charity to collect.

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



Services for NOVEMBER

1st	11.00am	The Eucharist	Seven Rivers
2nd	9.00am	All Souls The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 3rd	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	All Saints The Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer	St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin
4th	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
6th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
7th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
8th	11.00am	Holy Communion	Seven Rivers
9th	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 10th	7.30am 8.00am 10.45am 10.45am 6.30pm	Remembrance Sunday Morning Prayer The Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Remembrance Day Service Evening Prayer	St. George the Martyr St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr St. George the Martyr
11th	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
13th	6.00pm	Holy Communion	Hamilton Lodge
14th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
15th	11.00am	Holy Communion	Seven Rivers
Sunday 17th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	2nd Sunday before Advent The Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer	St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin
20th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
22nd	11.00am	Holy Communion	Seven Rivers
Sunday 24th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Christ the King The Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer	St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr
28th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
29th	11.00am	The Eucharist	Seven Rivers
30th	9.00am	S Andrew The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin



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

TRINITY CHRISTIAN CENTRE
 Every Sunday at 10.30 am at Bromley Road, Elmstead Market

The Bromley Messenger December 2002

2+2 is 4, 4+4 is 8, 8+8 is 16 - Hey I did learn something after all!

Many years ago a small boy stood before the door to ask "Please Sir can I come in" thus beginning a relationship with St Georges School, Gt Bromley which now spans pupil, parent and governor.

From those first days, life was to change as friends were made. There was no playgroup, minds were to be expanded and how were we to survive as 3.15. pm was hours away with surrogate parents Mrs Hayward, Mrs Ransom & Mr Green who all seemed very strict at the time. However I am told I was lucky "Miss Marchant" had retired.

Entering juniors to the right door (now staff room window), seniors to the left (which is now the main door), the winter months were always greeted by the smell of coke boilers heating the rooms and what a privilege it was to be asked to fill the hod at break time. Even more of an honour was to get the 11.00am milk in which was either frozen, bird peked or warm depending on the time of year.

One will never forget the wonderful aroma emanating from the kitchen to help us overcome the dreaded times tables to chant as dinner was cooked by our favourite ladies especially when seconds of steak and kidney pud were allowed. Nor the fact that to get to the toilet was a fight against the elements dashing across the playground to sit on splintered wooden seat in a draughty brick shed, How did we survive?

St Georges reputation, however, was for excellence in sending us out totally prepared for life after the 11 plus which all had to take and very few failed to pass but all were heartily cheered at the annual prize giving with the award of a special play-time as we left the reassuring gates of St Georges behind to head into the big bad world of secondary education in the "town"!

So what has changed? Apparently very little. The Head is still referred to as the "Dragon Lady"(apol's to Pat), the challenge is still survival only till 3.00pm especially without the milk. The dinner ladies are still all sweet and what's this, sheer bliss, all these lovely T.As to look after you, heated toilets to boot, no compulsory 11 plus, the only hot spot is a red dot not the seat of your pants and dinners are once more cooked in house to make you drift away on the aroma of fish and chips. I almost wish I could turn the clock back but I think I'll make do with a quick tour with the great and the good as St George's continues with the ultimate goal that whoever passes through the door will be given every opportunity to be ready for the big bad world of secondary school.

Thank you St Georges on behalf of pupil, parent and governor. *Nigel Rowe*

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

PRESENT ALL THE KING'S MONEY

At Great Bromley Village Hall Wednesday 8th to Saturday 11th January 2003

Performances at 7.30 pm Wednesday to Saturday, Matinee performance 2.30 pm Saturday.

Tickets available now from Susanna Harknett £5 adults £3 children under 12

All proceeds from Wednesday evening's performance will be donated to The Essex Air Ambulance Appeal



GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP PRESENT



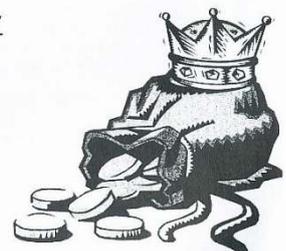
AT GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL

WEDNESDAY 8TH TO SATURDAY 11TH JANUARY 2003

PERFORMANCES AT 7.30 PM
~ WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY
MATINEE PERFORMANCE AT 2.30 PM
~ ON SATURDAY

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW FROM SUSANNA HARKNETT ON 01206 231337

**£5 ADULTS
£3 CHILDREN
(UNDER12)**



ALL PROCEEDS FROM WEDNESDAY EVENINGS PERFORMANCE WILL BE DONATED TO 'THE ESSEX AIR AMBULANCE APPEAL'

LOCALLY GROWN CHRISTMAS TREES

OLD SHIELDS FARM
WATERHOUSE LANE
ARDLEIGH
COLCHESTER
CO7 7NE



- OPEN DAILY FROM 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.
- OPENS 1ST DECEMBER
- CUT, POTTED OR ROOTED

- TELEPHONE 01206 230251



DIRECTIONS: FROM ARDLEIGH VILLAGE TAKE THE ROAD TO GT. BROMLEY, OVER THE LEVEL CROSSING, ABOUT A MILE ON THE LEFT IS WATERHOUSE LANE.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of 14 November 2002

Planning There were no planning applications for consideration during October. In spite of the Council's objections the District Council has approved the application for Pond Farm to be used as a trade display area subject to certain conditions. Following an appeal the Planning inspectorate has granted permission for a display area at Little Paddocks to be converted into a tea room.

Highways In the interests of safety the County Council proposes extending the present Harwich Road 40 mph speed limit to 110- 140 metres either side of the Frating Road cross roads. Parents bringing or collecting children to or from the school are encouraged to park their cars in Church Meadow rather than illegally and dangerously in the road adjacent to the school. The Highway contractors have been asked to make good defects in lane surfaces and clear gullies etc where there has been recent road Hooding. The Council has now received the revised definitive map of public rights of way in the parish.

Environment Essex County Council has approved the Parish Councils proposal to plant trees on the roadside verge adjacent to St Georges Close.

The Great Bromley Parish Council will next meet in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 5 December. Agenda are posted on the village notice boards and residents are welcome to attend.

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Management Committee met on Tuesday, 12th November in the village hall when a wide range of agenda items were discussed.

The Secretary reported on correspondence and renewal of the Hall Insurance, together with the Rural Community Council of Essex Training and Conference programme for 2002-2003 and Village Halls Update newsletter. Also, some correspondence from Tendring District Council about the fire-fighters' proposed strike and an invitation to the Lottery Monitor Conference at Cambridge.

The Treasurer brought us up to date with the current financial position and other matters relating to hiring of the various rooms at the Hall. Hall repairs and maintenance are an ongoing subject with discussion on the electrical system and emergency lighting facility, upgrading the south car park and repairs to external brickwork. Also, a report was made on the broken window of the committee room and storm damage incurred on Sunday; 26th October last. Fund raising is an important activity with the Christmas Fayre on 30th November, together with a Film evening and a Coronation event proposed in the first half of 2003. *Bevan Willgress*

YOUR HOUSE - MAYBE

From time to time I receive an enquiry about a house in Great Bromley. There are several ways of finding out about your house but there may not be much or any history attached to it. The deeds of the place may be useful although sometimes the older documents have been destroyed and only a short resume exists.

I use the Census Returns from 1801 to 1901. The Electoral Register and Poll books also help. Estate maps, Land Tax returns, Wills and Auction and Sale Catalogues may be available and Essex Record Office either at Chelmsford or Colchester may have one concerning your property. Essex Record Office also has an internet site called SEAX.

Ordnance Survey maps. 1844-1895, should clearly record every property in the parish. Farm buildings were returned in The National Farm Survey, 1941-1943, and are at The Public Record Office. Crops and livestock are all listed.

Local newspapers can have a wealth of information and are on microfiche and take hours of searching. Maybe there will be a nil result!

If you want a text book I recommend "Tracing the history of your house - a guide to sources" published 1901 by the Public Record Office. author Nick Barrett. There are many others.

John Appleby

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

November is the time for our Annual Meeting when we elect our President and committee for the coming year. Mrs Linda Wood was our WI Adviser for the evening to guide us through the election procedures. Having served three years as our President, Mrs Jill Frostick has stood down and Mrs Ann Jones agreed to be our new President. Her officers and committee are as follows: Secretary - Mrs Mary Clarke, Treasurer - Mrs Susan Orriss and committee members - Mrs Gwen Barrell, Mrs Paula Bradshaw; Mrs Jean Dalgety and Mrs Sylvia Mangan.

After refreshments, Mrs Pauline Rook of "Rook on the Roof" fame, came along to tell of her experiences whilst spending a week on the tower roof of St Georges Church, Great Bromley. raising money in aid of St George's Roof Appeal. She said how much she enjoyed the experience, the time went much quicker than she expected. Lots of people came and called to her and waved. The children always came at the end of the school day, residents From Seven Rivers also visited with friends, journalists and television camera crews together with Father Nicolas and we had Holy Communion together on the Wednesday. Apart From one rainy and windy night, Pauline said she was lucky with the weather and slept very well. She took all her own food with her and it had worked out rather well. When it came to the last night she felt sad as she had enjoyed her way of life. After it was over as she emerged through the church door the children cheered with everyone enjoying a barbecue. Pauline said the sum raised was close on £3,000 with more expected to come in.

December is our Christmas meeting when we are going locally for a Christmas meal together.
June Willgress

TRADITIONAL FRESH FARM CHRISTMAS TURKEYS
BRONZE OR WHITE Hazels Farm, Great Bromley 01206 230232

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our Christmas Lunch is on 19th December - 12 For 12.30pm. Bring your own drinks - a glass will be provided. The usual "pick ups" will be made - if you want to know the TIME the coach will arrive, PLEASE PHONE TREVOR on 392082.

At our last meeting we were very fortunate to have Mrs Abbot who gave a talk. with slides. assisted by her daughter on her sponsored ride through Ecuador in aid of the Macmillan Nurses. They stepped in at the last moment when the Speaker we had booked was unable to come along and for this we give them our sincere thanks. The holiday to MOLD, NORTH WALES, has been cancelled. Vicky Griffiths

GREAT BROMLEY AND FRATING PLAYGROUP

Mondays Wednesdays and Thursdays 9.30am - 12 Midday £4.50 per Session

All our New Children have settled into playgroup, and are enjoying themselves with our current topic of OPPOSITES. We are holding a Table Top Sale on Saturday 14th December 2002, which will be trying to raise much needed funds for the Playgroup, to enable them to purchase New equipment for when the children return after their Christmas break. If anyone wishes to have a table of their own it is £5 if booked in advance or £7 on the day! Tables which will be running are, Tombola. New & Nearly new, Children's activities, Cakes, Face painting and of course there will be refreshments too! Please do come along and support your local Playgroup. For bookings or any further details contact Penny.

PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

Our Parent and Toddler group, currently runs on Wednesday mornings. and is often a very good introduction for younger children to our playgroup environment. They are able to begin to make friends with little children who they will go to playgroup with, and often School too! It is very informal and a relaxed time, and all the parents/carers who come along, enjoy themselves and have found many new friends from this too. You can just drop in for a quick chat and coffee. or stay the whole morning. First visit FREE, £1.50 thereafter. 9.45am-11.40am Contact Tracey.

KITCHEN CORNER

Not everyone enjoys rich Christmas pudding, so here is an alternative. This quantity serves 10 or 12 people.

CHRISTMAS FRUIT COMPOT

900g (2 lb) mixed dried fruits - prunes, apricots, figs, peaches, pears; 1 bottle red wine;
110g (4 oz) demerara sugar; 8 cloves; 2 sticks of cinnamon; Finely pared zest of 1 tangerine;
110g (4 oz) blanched almonds.

Soak Fruits in wine overnight. Next day add spices and peel and simmer till fruit is tender. Discard spices and peel. Put fruit into serving bowl and add nuts. Reduce the wine syrup to about 450 ml (¾ pint) and strain it over the fruit and nuts. Chill well before serving.

Jill Frostick

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

Almost one hundred people came to the Gt. Bromley Cricket Club Quiz night. Quiz master Tim Biscoe set some tough questions and in the end two teams tied for first place, a team from Elmstead Market and a team from Gt. Bromley Cricket Club. Congratulations to both teams and thank-you everybody for coming and helping to raise £460 towards club funds.

Our annual Dinner and Awards night was held at the Snooty Fox on Friday 8th November. Thank you to Dennis and his helpers for an excellent meal and a lovely evening. Mrs Anne Clapham presented the awards to the following: Peter Brinkley won the Douglas Wenden Batting Trophy for scoring the most runs, Matt Foley won the Bowling award for taking the most wickets and Richard Lawson won the Fielding award for his outstanding fielding. Peter Brinkley won the Players Player award. For all her hard work off the field, Katherine Foley won the Club person for the Year award. Shields were presented to Peter Brinkley, Martin Chater and Matt Pirie for scoring centuries. The Tea Ladies were presented with bottles of wine for their help with making and serving their excellent standard of teas throughout the season.

With the kind permission of Mrs Anne Clapham the Gt Bromley and District Cricket Club's Annual General Meeting will be held at Copley Dene on Tuesday 18th February 2003 at 8.00pm.
100 CLUB WINNERS FOR OCTOBER.

1st. Mr. R. I. Arthey. 2nd. Mr. Justin Whittaker 3rd. Mr. Mark Lamb (Jnr)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

4 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

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

12 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm

14 Playgroup Table Top Sale, Village Hall

19 Friendship Club Christmas lunch

JANUARY

8-11 All the King's Money Pantomime, Village Hall

30-31 Commemoration of 1953 floods

APOLOGIES

The gremlins crept in last month and my apologies to Jean Harding whose name disappeared from the end of her piece on John Appleby and also the name of the recipient of the third prize in the Cricket Club 100 Club September draw was Katherine Foley whose name became invisible behind the Friendship Club.
MEMO TO SELF - must notice these things before they come back from the printer!

MATERIAL for the January 2003 edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by Tuesday, 10th December, 2002 please. Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed. . Copy can either be delivered by hand or sent by post, fax or e-mail. Please let me also have any 2003 Diary Dates that you may have for the 2003 Calendar which will be printed in January. We thank GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP for sponsoring this month's magazine. Please support our sponsors.

CAROL SINGING

Once again. I am hoping that we can continue the annual singing of carols around the Village on Monday 16th December and Tuesday 17th December; the proceeds going to Charity: 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 contact Dennis Simons

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting will be held on Thursday. 12th December at 7.30pm. Please check the venue with the Clerk.

A PRESENTATION will be made to Mr John Appleby at St Georges Church at the 10.30am Service on Sunday 1st December in celebration of 45 years Ministry as a Reader to the Bromleys.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU from Linda and Linda to all who supported the dance on 2nd November in the Village Hall for Baby Paige Lonergan. An Amazing £1,430.00 was raised to help toward specialist equipment.

GREAT BROMLEY POORLANDS CHARITY

The annual distribution of this Charity takes place in January for the poor and needy of the Parish. If you or anyone you know would like to be recipients please let me know. The Trustees will be meeting in late December. James B Wild, Chairman of Trustees

CANCELLED The Conservative Curry Lunch had to be postponed until the new year due to ill health of some of the committee. We apologise for any inconvenience

THE ROTARY CLUB or BRIGHTLINGSEA & DISTRICT will be going round the towns and villages with their Sleigh and Father Christmas as usual this year. See local press for details. We visit the Cheshire Home on 15 December for a carol sing song and on the way back may well call on those of you in Frating Road. Last year we raised over £2,000 for charities including St Helena Hospice and Air Ambulance. *Len Christodoulides*

BUILDING FUTURES IN MALAWI

My name is Dominic Grant and my friend Tom Bowden and I are gap year students fund raising for a project with charity Building Futures in Malawi. Malawi is a poor, small, but beautiful country in central-southern Africa. recently in the news for the famines that are especially afflicting rural areas. Early in January 2003 we will be travelling to the Malawian capital Lilongwe to stay for two months and teach at a school called Falls Secondary. The school was set up by BFM in 1999 and it promises to provide education for the people of Malawi in the light of the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Secondary education in Malawi is not state-funded and is rare, and there are many children who are desperate to improve their prospects through learning. In particular I hope to introduce basic IT skills into the classroom, while Tom is planning to pass on his experience as a qualified football coach at Colchester United Youth Development - some pupils from St Georges may recognise the name! We are organising with a Chelmsford charity to send out a container full of supplies and equipment for the school. We have already received strips from Colchester, Liverpool and Wimbledon FCs as well as boxes of books and several computers. Shops and businesses in the surrounding area and as far as Ipswich are helping with donations. So I am appealing to you. If you have any items such books, stationery, posters, calculators, sports kits and computerware that you could give, or anything else you think may be useful, please contact me at any time on the numbers below.

There will be a raffle drawn at the Old Courthouse Inn on Sunday 15 December at 8.00pm to raise money that I hope you can support. Contributions for prizes would be gratefully received. All proceeds will go directly to the school children in Malawi. Thank You very much in advance for all your efforts. *Dominic Grant*

Old Forge, Mary Lane South. Great Bromley, Colchester CO7 7UD

For more information on BFM visit www.falls-secondary.org.

RAFFLE in aid of BUILDING FUTURES IN MALAWI Be at the draw!!! 15 December at 8.00pm at the Old Courthouse Inn, Harwich Road, Great Bromley

The Learning Shop

Want to do something different, try something new? The Learning Shop can help you find the course you're looking for. We are conveniently based in Colchester town centre just off the High Street and anyone who wants to know more about learning can pop in for an informal, friendly chat or browse through the various brochures and leaflets displayed on our shelves. We provide an impartial and accessible information, advice and guidance service for adults of Colchester and the surrounding area on different local learning and education opportunities available. Up to date information is available on adult courses as diverse as computing for beginners and garden design through to professional career training.

The Shop offers the following services:

- Information to take away on learning opportunities
- Advice on available courses
- Careers and guidance interviews
- Advice sessions with representatives from organisations such as the Open University
- Free computer taster courses run through Colchester Institute

The Learning Shop is a partnership between Anglia Polytechnic University, Colchester Borough Council, Colchester Institute, Open University in East Anglia, The Adult Community College, Colchester, The Sixth Form College, Colchester and the University of Essex.

Drop in, phone or e-mail for free impartial information, advice and guidance about learning opportunities available for adults locally.

The Learning Shop, 1A St Nicholas Street, Colchester, C01 1LB Tel: 01206 368444, Fax: 01206 368555 E-mail: learning@shop47.fsnet.co.uk

1953 FLOODS

January 2003 is the 50th anniversary of the devastating floods that affected so much of Eastern England. To commemorate this Essex, Lincolnshire, Norfolk and Suffolk county councils are organising an International Conference. This will be held at the John Innes Centre, Norwich. Norfolk on 30th January, 2003. There will only be six free spaces available for the whole of Essex and these are to be allocated by nominations from the District Councils. There will, however, be places available for any other people who wish to attend, but a fee of £90 will be payable.

Essex County council are also organising a Commemoration Service, which will be held on Friday, 31st January in Chelmsford Cathedral. Full details of this service are not available as yet but these will be forwarded to the Parish Council when they are.

If you were involved in any way with the floods please contact as soon as possible the Clerk of the Parish Council Mr K Bromfield, who will forward your details to Tendring District Council.

THE BROMLEY CROSS

Brenda and Richard wish all our friends and customers the merriest of Christmas and the Happiest and Healthiest New Year and a huge Thank you for all your generosity in our Fund raising events this year - approximately £4,000 was donated to various charities - well done.

DECEMBER EVENTS

Wednesday, 18th MUSIC NIGHT 8.15 pm prompt start - an evening of song and verse ending with candlelit carols around the Christmas Tree

Saturday, 28th CHARITY QUIZ - to liven up the break between Christmas and New Year - a light hearted quiz with the focus on the festive season. 8.00 pm prompt start. Bookings only.

Christmas Eve - LIVE - Music from "The Neighbours"

New Year's Eve 8 till Late - LORD DICK and THE COOK invite the Lords and Ladies of the Manor, together with their man and maid servants to an evening of merry making. Appropriate dress please - tiaras and medals to be worn.

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

Dear Parishioner,

This is a very special time for Christians because it is our celebration of God revealing himself to ordinary human beings like you and me in the person of Jesus. Christians believe that although he died and rose again from the dead he is still present among us through the power of the Holy Spirit.

It has been said that the Church is the only organization that exists for those who aren't members! Yes we have membership lists and interested persons lists, but for the Churches in these villages always our Focus is on worshipping God, and the people around us. We seek to be outward and inclusive looking Churches. There have been times past when this has not been the case, and being human, there will no doubt be such instances again, and for that we are sorry. But in all our doings we seek to first honour God who came among us as a man, then serve him in all our brothers and sisters, and finally experience ourselves a sense of peace and goodwill as a child also born of a loving Father.

Part of where and who we are is marked by our beautiful and ancient buildings (with the exception of Trinity Church, Elmstead which is beautiful and new!). They weren't designed for 21st century people and needs, so we adapt them as best we can. At S Mary's and S George's there are plans to provide a meeting space, refreshment facilities and loo! Surely no longer luxuries but necessities if we are to continue offering honour to God, each other and ourselves. The plans seek to provide for our growing congregations and compliment what the villages already have to offer.

We could simply do this amongst ourselves - it would be simpler! But then we would be being inward looking and member centered. So we'd like to invite you to an open meeting where the draft plans will be presented and comments welcomed. These meetings are open to anyone to ask anything of the Church Council. Also on discussion will be draft proposals to make the two parishes one, keeping the names and finances as before, but streamlining the two into one. Mainly this will be an administrative move benefiting the Church officers and those who come to meetings. It will also mean an extension of rights to anyone living within the present Church boundaries of Ardleigh & The Bromleys to be baptised, married, or have their funeral in either Church.

The open meetings will be at 7.45pm 5th December in the Committee room of S Mary's Hall for Ardleigh, and 9th December at 7.45pm in the Chapel of Seven Rivers for the Bromleys. Christmass is a time of great blessing for the world, even for those who are grieving or sad, or insecure. because it reminds us of a God who does know, does care. He showed that in Jesus he shows it now in you and me when we live lives of hope and love. May God bless you and your loved ones. Fr Nicolas.

Services for DECEMBER

Sunday 1st Advent Sunday

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
6.30pm Advent Readings and Music St. Mary the Virgin
2nd 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
4th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
5th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
6th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
7th 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 8th Advent 2

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr
8.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr
10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr
9th 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
11th 6.00pm Holy Communion Hamilton Lodge
12th 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr
13th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
14th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 15th Advent 3

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
8.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
16th 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
18th 7.00pm The Eucharist St George the Martyr
19th 7.00pm The Eucharis: St. Mary the Virgin
20th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers
21st 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 22nd Advent 4

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr
8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
10.30am Parish Eucharist St Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Christmass Carols and Readings St George the Martyr
23rd 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr

24th Christmass Eve

3.00pm Christmass Carol Service Hamilton Lodge
5.00pm Christingle Service St. George the Martyr
5.00pm Christingle Service St Mary the Virgin
11.30pm Midnight Mass St Mary the Virgin

25th Christmass Day

10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
26th S Stephen 11.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
27th S John the Evangelist Eucharist St. George the Martyr
28th Holy Innocents 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

29th Holy Family Sunday

7.30am Morning Prayer St Mary the Virgin
8.00am The Eucharist, St Mary the Virgin
10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
30th 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr