

# The Messenger

The Magazine of  
the villages of  
Great & Little  
Bromley

May 2018

Vol: 2 No: 5



## St George's School

See page 7  
for full report on  
the Music  
Festival and  
School Forest  
Area

# THE FIRST PAGE

What a lot has been going on this month - the Graveyard Run, the car rally (I know it isn't organised by the village) taking place as I write, the School has been busy with music and trees, the litterpick ... to name but a few of the things that have occurred during the last month.

All these occasions require committee people and hard work. This month Great Bromley Parish Council, as The Messenger's Publisher, honoured Henry and Ann Fairley who have been a part of the Messenger since it began in 1985. They have unstintingly given of their time and energy ensuring the magazine gets to all our volunteer distributors who bring each issue to your letterbox each month come rain, come shine. They have also dealt with many logistical problems along the way and always with a smile. I was away and unable to attend their presentation at the council meeting but they have eased many a sticky occasion for me and on behalf of you all I would like to add our sincere thanks for all their hard work over the years. I would now like to thank Susan Scott who is stepping into a part of their very big shoes and to Richard Perry who, as well as being treasurer, has taken on a huge part of the distributing process as well. Lastly my thanks to all the volunteers who do the leg work around the villages helping us all to keep in touch with what matters most to us - our community.

There are a number of pleas in this issue for people to come forward to serve on various committees of organisations etc in the villages. Without these time-generous people we would not have the breadth and number of clubs and events to participate in and enjoy. The Lt Bromley Amenities Group has now ceased. Is this partly to do with lack of help? A great shame whatever the reason. So I do hope some of you will consider putting your hand up to join a committee. Being on them can actually be fun - you meet new people who sometimes become lifelong friends, you have a say in, and are involved in, YOUR village. Yes, it can be more or less time consuming and hard work but always worth while and immensely satisfying. Please think twice next time when asked to join something before you lower your eyes and shake your head.

The Litterpick filled 30 bags of rubbish. It is only six months since the last one which, even with my poor maths, averages out at over a bag a month of litter dropped in our villages. I have just returned from a holiday in north east Italy (between Venice and the Dolomites), a truly beautiful and interesting area, which was pristine in terms of no litter. It is also the main area for the production of Prosecco so I now have expert knowledge of the good, bad and indifferent Prosecco!

I came back to grass 6" high which was hard work mowing but my new little garden is beginning to take shape with the plants I brought with me given, over the years, by friends and relations. It is going to be exciting to watch it develop.

*Leonie*

**MATERIAL** for the **JUNE 2018** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by

**14th MAY 2018** please. Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed.

Whilst the editor welcomes contributions, photographs etc this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to publish, that the item may be edited and that there is no breach of copyright. Publication is in good faith and neither the editor nor the publisher accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement, including any error or omission, responsibility for which remains with the author.

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For details of availability and costs for **ADVERTISING** in the 'The Bromley Messenger' please contact the Treasurer on 01206 230537

# \*\*\*\*VACANCY\*\*\*\*

**We currently have a vacancy on Great Bromley Parish Council.**

## **Have you considered becoming a Parish Councillor?**

As a councillor you can become a voice for your community and affect real change. It helps if you're a "people person" who enjoys talking to other residents but, more importantly, you need to have the concerns and best interests of the parish as a whole at heart. Councillors are community leaders and should represent the aspirations of the public that they serve.

Parish councils are the most local part of our democratic system and are closest to the public.

## **What do Parish Councillors do?**

Councillors have three main areas of work:-

1. **Decision-making:** through attending meetings and committees with other elected members, councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented;
2. **Monitoring:** councillors make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services by keeping an eye on how well things are working;
3. **Getting involved locally:** as local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their parishioners and local organisations. This often depends on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available.

## **How much time does it take up?**

On average, less than a couple of hours a week. Obviously there are some councillors who spend more time than this –

and some less - but in the main, being a parish councillor is an enjoyable way of contributing to your community and helping to make it a better place to live and work. Great Bromley Parish Council meetings are always held on the second Wednesday evening of each month.



## **Am I qualified?**

Most people are. However, there are a few basic rules. You have to be:-

- ◆ a British citizen, or a citizen of the Commonwealth or the European Union; and
- ◆ 18 years or older on the day you become nominated for election; and
- ◆ live or work in or near the parish.

## **You cannot stand for election if you:-**

- ◆ are the subject of a bankruptcy restriction order or interim order
- ◆ have, within five years before the day of the election or co-option, been convicted in the United Kingdom of any offence and have had a prison sentence (whether suspended or not) for a period of over three months without the option of a fine.

## **Why don't you see what difference you can make to your local community?**

Contact the Chairman at [chairman@gbpcc.org.uk](mailto:chairman@gbpcc.org.uk) or the Clerk at [clerk@gbpcc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@gbpcc.org.uk) if you are interested.

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS & ADVERTISERS**

# GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

[www.gbpc.org.uk](http://www.gbpc.org.uk)

Clerk: Lizzie Ridout Email: [clerk@gbpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@gbpc.org.uk)

We were pleased to be able to present Ann and Henry Fairley with a gift to thank them for their hard work over the last 30 years helping to deliver copies of the Bromley Messenger. They have decided to put their feet up for a well-earned rest, and the whole village is very grateful to them for their contribution.

The resurfacing work at the crossroads outside The Courthouse has been completed and the Parish Council hopes that this will have a positive effect in reducing the number of accidents here. We will continue to monitor this.

Our recent litter pick had 12 volunteers – thank you all – and between them they collected 30 bags of rubbish. Our thanks also to TDC for providing bag holders to make the job a little easier.

We would remind landowners of their responsibilities to keep their ditches clear, but also to take care when digging them out that it is not done when they are full of flood water.

The Community Library based at the Bromley Cross Inn opened on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April – hopefully you might have had a chance to visit it. It will be open every Wednesday from 10am-12pm.

The Parish Council for some time has had two email addresses which we thought is a little confusing, therefore with immediate effect the only email addresses in use are:-

Parish Clerk [clerk@gbpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@gbpc.org.uk)  
 Chairman [chairman@gbpc.org.uk](mailto:chairman@gbpc.org.uk)  
 Please update your address books.

*Lizzie Ridout, Parish Clerk*

## Planning Determinations

REFERENCE	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
17/02199/FUL Mr Nick Lines	Erection of one detached bungalow and two detached houses. – Proposed alteration to already approved application (17/00629/FUL). Additional Juliet Balcony to Plot 3.	Kia, Frating Road, Great Bromley CO7 7JW	Approval – Full <b>05.03.2018</b> Delegated Decision
18/00277/ AGRIC H Fairley & Son	Erection of an agricultural store building in place of existing dilapidated building.	Park Farm Hilliards Rd Gt Bromley CO7 7US	Determination prior approval not required 22.03.2018 Delegated Decision
18/00230/FUL Mr Ken Robinson	Replacement of a general purpose agricultural barn building destroyed by fire, with a new agricultural barn building.	Badley Hall Farm, Badley Hall Road Gt Bromley CO7 7UU	Approval – Full <b>28.03.2018</b> Delegated Decision

## Planning Application

REFERENCE	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
18/00246/FUL Mr Michael Thompson	First floor extension on top of existing ground floor extension - to provide third bedroom with ensuite.  Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to this application.	1 Chase Cottages, Honeypot Lane, Great Bromley CO7 7UR

# Public Notice

## The Essex County Council (Harwich Road, Great Bromley) (Prohibition of Traffic) Order 2018

Notice is hereby given that the Essex County Council intends, not less than seven days from the date of this notice to make the above Order under section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Effect of the order: To temporarily close the various lengths of road in the District of Tendring as specified in the Schedule.

The works being undertaken will take place within an 18-month period from 23rd April 2018 exact dates will be specified on <http://roadworks.org/>. The roads will be closed to facilitate each phase and then re-opened to the public. Access will be maintained for emergency services. Diversion routes will be signed at each location and residents will be informed of the dates of each phase via letter / leaflet drop and advanced warning signs on the road.

The Closures are required for the safety of the public and workforce whilst roundabout construction works are undertaken by Highways England.

For all enquiries please contact Highways England.

The Order will come into effect on 12th April 2018 and may continue in force for 18 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

Dated: 05/04/2018

Essex County Council Highways 3rd Floor, Seax House, Market Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH

Telephone: 0345 603 7631 Website: [www.essex.gov.uk/highways](http://www.essex.gov.uk/highways)

Road Name	Extents	Diversion Route
Harwich Road, Great Bromley	from its junction with A120 for a distance of approximately 150m in a south/southwesterly direction	Harwich Road, Bromley Road, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Main Road, Colchester Road, Thorpe Road, Tendring Road, Thorpe Road, The Street, School Road, Clacton Road, Heath Road, Clacton Road, A120 and vice versa
Harwich Road, Great Bromley	from a point approximately 60m south of its junction with A120 for a distance of approximately 80m in an easterly direction	Harwich Road, Little Bromley Road, A120 and vice versa

# Public Notice

## The Essex County Council (High Street, Great Bromley) (Temporary Prohibition of Traffic) Order 2018

**Notice is hereby given** that the Essex County Council intends, not less than seven days from the date of this notice, to make the above Order under section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

**Effect of the order:** To temporarily close that length of High Street, Great Bromley in the District of Tendring, from a point approximately 40m south of its junction with Furze Lane for a distance of approximately 140 metres in a southerly direction.

The closure is scheduled to commence on 25th June 2018 for 5 days, or where stated on a valid permit (EC30034790584 - UK Power Networks). The scheduled dates may vary for these works with appropriate signs showing and/or displayed on [www.roadworks.org](http://www.roadworks.org).

The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce to allow new electrical supply to customer works are undertaken by UK Power Networks.

An alternative route is available via Harwich Road, Bromley Road, Clacton Road, Frating Hill, Main Road and vice versa.

Access for emergency service vehicles and pedestrians will be maintained at all times during the closure.

The Order will come into effect on 14th June 2018 and may continue in force for 18 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

Dated: 07/06/2018

### **Essex County Council**

#### **Highways**

3rd Floor, Seax House,  
Market Road,  
Chelmsford,  
CM1 1QH

Telephone: 0345 603 7631

Website: [www.essex.gov.uk/highways](http://www.essex.gov.uk/highways)



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

Telephone: 01206 230305

## Music Festival

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> of March, Class 3 took part in the 2018 Disney -themed Music Festival. At 9am schools started to arrive. The schools included All Saints Great Oakley, Wix and Wrabness, St Joseph's, Bradfield and Ardleigh St Marys. The Year 4 boys and girls acted as hosts, by showing them where everything was. First we did some warm up songs to get our voices ready for singing. When everyone had arrived we sang our first Disney tune – 'Zip-a-Dee-Doo-Dah.' Three schools performed their own song before everyone sang a song together. This song was 'You've got a friend in me.'

Then it was time for a break. We had a drink and biscuit and the grown-ups had a hot cross bun and a tea or coffee. After break we had another warm up song to refresh our voices, 'Tale as Old as Time' Following this the other schools, including us, sang our own songs.

To finish, we all joined together to make our own music to a song from Tarzan. Everyone had an instrument to play – very brave Mrs Weaver!

We were all in it together!  
*Emelia and Evan*

## Forest School Area

As you may have noticed, sixty trees have been planted along the edge of the Forest School Area. These were provided to us by the Woodland Trust and will eventually grow to form a natural hedge to demarcate the Forest School Area from the field. We also planted thirty copse trees in the corner plot. The children helped to plant the trees and protect them from any rabbits. A big thank you to Mrs Fincken, Mrs Varnarva, Mrs Towner and Mrs Omar for helping the children to plant the trees.

## MARS MISSION

On the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 Class 4 were lucky enough to have Matt, Kim and Paul come into the school from Thinkers in Education. They told us that in 17 years time it is predicted that the first rocket manned by humans will be sent to Mars and they are looking for people of our generation to board the shuttle.

First, we were sorted into groups (USA, Japan, China, India, Europe and Russia) we then decided whether to be Commander, Scientist or Engineer. Then we followed instructions on how to make a simple breadboard (electrical component) light. Then we were given instructions on how to make more complex alarms. Level 1 had all the instructions but was only 25% effective. Level 2 didn't have all the instructions so we had to figure it out on our own. Level 3 was to make a buzzer and light sensor work on the Breadboard with no instructions at all.

## Blood analysis

The second task was blood analysis where we had three different containers named A B and Rh. Then we put two drops in of fake blood in each well. Then we put different antibodies in each well and we waited to see if they reacted- the red blood cells stuck together. Then we had a quiz using really cool phone-like machines. These were linked to the board for instant results. The winning team was China.  
*By Elenore, Torri and Maria*

# THANKS

## GREAT BROMLEY SPRING LITTERPICK

Many thanks to the 14 volunteers who helped with the Great Bromley Spring Litterpick. We removed 30 black sacks of rubbish from the roadside and some ditches and the village looks much better for that, at least temporarily. The two strangest finds this time round were a large pile of beer cans and another of beer, wine and spirits bottles; sadly all empty! The Autumn Litterpick will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November, immediately before Remembrance Sunday, so please note your diaries. We may hold more litterpicks in the interim, details to be

*Owen Blowers*

## GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB



### 100 Club Winners

#### February

1st- Hugh Frostick  
2nd- Ruth Lawson  
3rd- Beryl Hurst

#### March

1st- Olga Lawson  
2nd- Kathrine Foley  
3rd- June Wenden

# KITCHEN CORNER

This is perfect for a light supper

## Cheese Souffle

### Ingredients

1oz butter  
½oz plain flour  
¼ pint milk  
3 oz grated cheese (Lancashire preferably)  
4 eggs  
pepper and salt

### Method:

- Melt butter in a saucepan and mix the flour with it
- Pour on the milk, stir til boiling
- Cool slightly, stir in cheese and seasoning
- Mix in egg yolks one at a time, blending well
- Whisk the egg whites stiffly, whisk a quarter into the cooled mixture,
- Then fold in the rest
- Pour into the prepared dish. Heat oven to 400 F
- cook in the middle of the oven till well risen, firm and golden (30 mins)

### Variations:

- add 6oz minced meat/flaked fish instead of cheese
- add 4 oz chopped cooked vegetables instead of cheese

For extra richness, add 2tbsp double dairy cream to mix before baking

*Jill Frostick*



### SAY NO TO PLASTICS

I heard something on the radio the other day that made me really sit up and listen. Scientists have recently discovered that the size of the plastic waste accumulation in the Pacific Ocean is much larger than they previously thought. It was first believed to be the size of France, which is quite worrying. However, to discover that it is actually **3 times the size of France** is shocking!

Globally 300 million tons of plastic is produced each year and only 10% gets recycled. Those of us who diligently put plastic items into our recycling bins will be shocked to hear that.

The Blue Planet 2 series by David Attenborough has brought the plastic problem to the attention of the public as seen in the Facebook video by '*1 Million Women*'. A wave of single-use-plastic bans is hitting the UK - The Queen bans plastic cutlery, plates and cups from all of the palaces; there is high demand for the return of the glass milk bottle; the BBC is completely banning all single-use-plastic in the Corporation by 2020; PG tips are switching to plastic-free tea bags; Marriott International has banned plastic straws from all of their hotels and Scotland is banning straws and Q tips. It's being termed as 'The Blue Planet Effect'.

Apparently 1 truck of rubbish is being dumped into the ocean every minute. Because the plastic doesn't really break down, it just keeps growing in size. It's always so easy to start 'mudslinging' – it's the government's fault, the council's fault, the supermarkets' fault, those who can't be bothered to recycle fault etc. So let's start thinking what we, individually, can do about it. It's a huge problem and we can't wait around any longer for someone else to sort it out.

I understand that very recently Tesco have replaced plastic shopping bags with biodegradable plastic shopping bags. This really doesn't help! It's still plastic and it needs replacing with something else. Instead let's use a 'bag-for-life' which lives

in the car and gets re-used each week. Try not to use plastic of any kind at all for one week. Put your food plastic bags, Clingfilm etc. away, somewhere where they are not easily accessible – *the loft?* Place any left-over food in a crockery/glass bowl and cover with a saucer before putting it in the fridge, for instance. After all, what did our grandmothers do before plastic was discovered? They used grease-proof paper to wrap food in, a clean tea cloth to wrap the bread in etc. So next time you reach for the plastic, think what you could use as an alternative. If we don't do something about this massive problem now, there won't be an ocean left for the fish to swim in.

Ekoplaza, a supermarket in Amsterdam has re-vamped one of its supermarket aisles into a 'plastic-free' aisle. There are 700 items in glass, metal or cardboard. They've used a new, bio-degradable material that looks like plastic but it's made of trees and plants. It can break down within 12 weeks using a home composter. They are planning to expand this idea to all of their 74 stores across Netherlands. Let's hope our supermarkets will take note!

If you are wondering what all of this plastic talk has to do with food and our health, then here is the answer. The dumped plastic gets broken down very, very slowly over the years and ends up as microscopic particles that are eaten by fish. We eat the fish and there you have it, it ends up in the human food chain, poisoning the ocean, the fish as well as us humans.

So, let's keep pushing for banning plastic in our lives, starting where we can really make a difference – in our own homes.

Best of health!

**Suzanne**

Natural Health Consultant  
Specialising in Naturopathic Nutrition

# Little Dragons Pre-School - Great Bromley & Frating

Church Meadow Bungalow, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TR  
Ofsted Inspected

Website: [www.littledragonspreschool.org](http://www.littledragonspreschool.org)  
Email: [littledragonspreschool@gmail.com](mailto:littledragonspreschool@gmail.com)



## **OUTSTANDING OFSTED INSPECTED**

### **BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS- PLACES AVAILABLE**

**Tel: 01206 231823/ 07857 503103**

We are flexible and happy to take children for the occasional session and times to suit your situation.

If you require further information please call us on the numbers above or pop in to see us.

**30 Hours funding** for eligible parents comes into effect from September 2017 - give us a call for more details.

Last term ended with much excitement, the children enjoyed an Easter egg hunt around the gardens. They also had fun making Easter cards, baskets and chocolate nests and thank you to Amanda for visiting us to tell the story of Easter.

Our African Land Snails have laid lots of eggs and we are watching as they hatch into tiny snails, we were kindly donated a larger tank so that the adults are now separate from the young for safety reasons.

This term we are looking forward to growing our vegetables and plants, we have already planted potatoes, spinach and carrots and have started growing seeds in our greenhouse too. We have also sown our wildflower seeds which the children collected from the garden last autumn. A very busy time!

In addition this term we will be starting to work with St Georges Primary School to prepare for the transition of our older children that are starting school in September.

### **Little Dragons Pre-school – Trustees Background**

Little Dragons Pre-School of Great Bromley & Frating was formed in 1977; for many years, it operated from the Village Hall before moving to purpose rented premises at the Church Meadow Bungalow in 2013. It provides Pre-school education in line with early years' national framework/ syllabus; in addition, it also provides pre and post school care in support of working families (commonly

referred to as wrap around care). Finally, it provides holiday clubs out of term time and provides educational support to children with special needs.

It does the above under the umbrella of state sponsored 15hrs/ 30hrs free provision as well as full fee paying arrangement for those not eligible. It currently has more than 30 children registered and employs 7 staff on mostly a part-time basis. We are a registered charity and not for profit organisation. We provide an open and equal opportunity community based service. We are assessed by OFSTED as **OUTSTANDING**. Further details can be found at: <http://www.littledragonspreschool.org/>

### **Opportunity**

As a registered charity and OFSTED regulated Pre-school, the appointed Trustees play a vital role in the management and good governance of the school. The roles span chairperson, treasurer, secretary as well as members who do not hold key posts. Whilst the Board of Trustees often operate under the name of "committee", the roles and the contribution of those performing the roles are pivotal to the ongoing operation and success of the School. Regulated governance would not be compliant without the posts filled and the responsibilities discharged. In that situation, the school would have no choice but to close.

To that end, the Pre-School is always looking for new Trustees to replace those stepping down or add extra value to the team that exists today. Business skills in any of the areas such as management, finance, IT (including GDPR), marketing and sales would be extremely useful but not pivotal. The roles would particularly suit retired or semi-retired professionals who have some time but also want to be intellectually stretched and enjoy an active participation in a community based service. There is NO requirement to have previous or current relationship with the School through child attendance. Individuals

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will be subject to DBS checks in accordance with UK law.

Anybody who would be interested in becoming a Trustee or just learn more about the Pre-School should contact Rob Lord who is Chairman of the Pre-school. His mobile is: 07747 787270.

#### **FUNDRAISING:-**

Upcoming events- make a note in your diary. A big thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising 'Race Night' on 24th March; a lovely evening was had. A fantastic £1174 was raised which will go towards refurbishing and fitting our 2-3 year olds garden.

**SUMMER FAYRE – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June –**  
further details to follow

This year is our 40<sup>th</sup> birthday so we will be celebrating in style!

#### **ASDA GREEN TOKENS**

**Help us to fundraise when you shop – please tell friends and family too. Thank you.**

Asda 'Green tokens'

Please look out for '2-3's garden project' in the foyer of Asda Colchester. If you use the self-service tills don't forget to ask for a green token.

Thank you for supporting our project.

#### **Please help us to collect:**

Used Printer Ink Cartridges/ biscuit

wrappers/ plastic bottle trigger heads and caps from washing up bottles.

#### **OUR RECYCLING STATION now makes it easier to drop off items**

We have set up an area – across the car park to the right of gate, with boxes for you to drop off collected items. Thank you.

We take children from the age of two years and offer a 'home visit' to families of children prior to them starting Pre-school. This gives the child the opportunity to meet their key-person in their own home, aiding the transition stage to pre-school. It also enables us to collect and share information in a confidential environment.

For further information or to arrange a visit to the setting please contact us on the above number.

#### **Party Table and Chair Hire**

**Having a party for Pre-School children?**

*We can offer 4 perfectly sized tables & 20 chairs.*

*Deposit only £10 Tables only £5.00 each*

*Chairs Only £1.00 each*

*Collection Only - Contact us: Tel: 07857*

*503103 Email:*

*[littledragonspreschool@gmail.com](mailto:littledragonspreschool@gmail.com)*

Dates for diary:

Mon 4th June-Fri 8th June - Family Week

Saturday 16th June - Summer Fayre

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July - Last day of term

## **FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

What an interesting afternoon we had at our March meeting listening to Marjorie Culham telling us about her work as a puppy walker with Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Marjorie was accompanied by her 27th guide dog puppy, Arthur, a very handsome German Shepherd who completely stole the show! We heard about the intensive training the puppies receive before being placed with their new owners, and the wonderful freedom having a guide dog brings to a person with deficient sight. We do hope Marjorie will make a return visit to us sometime in the future with her next puppy.

During the business part of our meeting Barbara gave her financial report for the

year. Various stalls and collections were lower than in previous years, and it was decided we should have our usual Auction in August to raise funds. The Committee has also decided to have a Bring and Buy stall at our May meeting, for which members are asked to bring a SMALL item to sell.

Our Speaker for May is Mr Pritchard and the competition a bell.

We would be delighted to welcome new members to the Club and also volunteers to serve on the Committee. Please do consider joining us.

*Sylvia Ward*

# IN THE GARDEN WITH KATE



I am saying this very quietly, but spring seems to have finally sprung!

As I write, the sun is shining, the birds are rushing around building their nests, and my primulas, daffodils,

magnolias and camellias are all looking beautiful. It certainly seems to have been a long winter.

I was watching Countryfile the other day, and the presenter was explaining how birds regulate the hatching time of their broods to coincide with the food being available. Very clever. I wish I knew what the weather was going to be like in a couple of weeks, it would certainly make gardening easier! May is a very busy time of year in the garden; the grass is growing at breakneck speed, weeds are sprouting before the eyes and, if it is damp, slugs and snails are chewing the seedlings.

When the danger of frost has passed, usually towards the middle of the month, frost tender plants can be sown such as swede, beetroot, carrots, cabbage, cauliflower, calabrese, peas, chard, radish lettuce and spring onions. It is a good idea to protect these seeds against birds, especially pigeons, and I find it an excellent use for old CDs - to string them up between two canes so they twist and turn in the breeze. The other enemy is cats using your vegetable patch as a latrine, and I find that chicken wire dissuades them - so does the other suggestion of short canes planted in the garden at a distance of about 6 inches. The plants can grow through, but the cats don't have room to get between.

Spring bulbs need deadheading, and benefit from a feed to improve flowering next year. Sweet peas can be planted out by their supporting frame. Clumps of primroses and polyanthus can be divided after flowering and replanted.

In the greenhouse, ventilation is key, and shading paint will need to be applied as the sun is getting strong. Plants in the greenhouse will need more water and feed now as they start to grow strongly. If not already done, tomatoes can be planted now, and towards the end of the month, peppers, chillies and aubergine.

Seedlings will need to be pricked out and potted on, and when big enough, will need to come out of the greenhouse during the day, and returned at night to harden them off. Alternatively, they can be left in a cold frame, open during the day and shut at night.

Try and remember to put supports around plants such as peonies, lupins and hollyhocks whilst they are still small. They will only be visible for a short time, but it is almost impossible to do effectively later on. Tubs hanging baskets and pots can be potted up with bedding plants, but will need protection until the latter half of the month, there may not be frosts, but many will struggle if night time temperatures are low.

Finally, please don't forget the plant sale at the Village hall on 26th May 11-1pm. All donations of plants gratefully received, come and buy some too, and support your Village Hall.

Enjoy your garden!  
*Kate Stowbridge*

# 2018-19 EVENTS

## MAY

- 2 Wl meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
6 Bluebell service, meet at Lt Bentley church at 2.30pm  
9 Gt Bromley parish council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
16 Village Hall AGM followed by Annual Meeting of Trustees, 7.30pm  
17 Table Top Sale, Village Hall, 2.00pm  
Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting AGM, The Haywain, 7.00pm  
26 Plant Sale, Village Hall, 11.00am  
Springtime Music, Lt Bromley church, 3.30pm

## JUNE

- 2 Donkey Day Charity Event, Tether's End, 10.30am  
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Lt Bromley church, 7.30pm  
8/9/10 Lawford church Flower Festival  
9 St Helena Hospice Bubble Rush, High Woods Country Park  
16 Little Dragons Summer Fayre  
23 Midsummer Tea & Pimms Party, Lt Bromley church, 3.30pm

## JULY

- 14 Tendring Show  
29 Bromfest, Lt Bromley church, 12 noon

### Lawford Church Flower Festival June 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 2018

"Let me tell you a story".

Featuring flower displays based on this year's theme, refreshments, second-hand book stall, children's activities, face painting, a raffle plus a guest organist.

We are looking for volunteers to help set up the church, meet and greet, sell books and/or serve refreshments. If you think you could spare an hour or more please get in touch. We also need second hand books in good condition as well as cakes to sell.

We would also like to hear from you if you could help sponsor us in any way. Sponsorship packages are available from £15 to £50 and also in exchange for raffle prizes.

We do hope that you will be able to support this special event and help raise money for the Church.

Please contact Sarah Vincent on 01206 393848 or email

[LawfordFlowerFestival@outlook.com](mailto:LawfordFlowerFestival@outlook.com)

You can also follow us on Facebook at Lawford Church or @stmaryslawford

### The Friends of St. Mary's Church, Little Bromley

would like to invite you to our

#### Coffee, Concert and AGM

On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May  
beginning at 3.30pm with tea and music,  
then our AGM at 4pm and after more  
music between 4.15pm and 4.45pm.

**Everyone welcome**

Friends of Little Bromley Church  
*Future events*

A Midsummer Night's Dream  
by Shakespeare

Little Bromley Church

Saturday 2nd June at 7.30pm

Tickets from [Thisismytheatre.com](http://Thisismytheatre.com)

Or email [friends@littlebromley.org.uk](mailto:friends@littlebromley.org.uk)

#### Midsummer Tea & Pimms Party

With music by Rococo

Saturday, 23rd June, 3.30-5.30pm

Little Bromley church

Admission free, donations for CCT  
welcome

#### Little Bromley Church Bromfest

Sunday 29th July

12 noon-5.00pm

## Table top Sale

In aid of Great Bromley Village Hall funds

Sunday 17th May 2018  
2-4 pm

Clear out your loft and garage and make some money for your summer holidays!



Tables £10 each  
payable in advance  
To book, please  
contact Kate



## Great Bromley Plant Sale

Saturday 26th May  
11am-1pm

**Great Bromley Village Hall**

The annual sale of locally grown and donated plants in aid of Great Bromley Village Hall funds.

Donations very welcome, please contact Kate on 07592735600 to arrange collection

Come and Join us for  
**Bluebell Service in Little Bentley Woods**

Sunday 6th May at 3pm

Meet at St Marys Church,

Church Road, Lt Bentley CO7 8SE at 2.30pm for short walk to the Wood.  
Transport available for the less able.

Ponies, Dogs etc are all welcome.

This wonderful annual gathering is a short open air informal service for all Denominations in the middle of a private 100 Acre Bluebell Wood. Afterwards you are all welcome to walk around the Bluebell wood, and then meet back to the Church Hall for Tea and Scones.

We look forward to welcoming you all.



## Village Hall Events

Wednesday 16 May  
**Village Hall AGM** at 7.30pm  
followed by Annual Meeting of trustees

Saturday 26 May - **Plant Sale**  
at Village Hall from 11.00am

Saturday 10 Nov - **Festive Fayre Shopping Event**  
at Village Hall

## IT'S HERE!!!

Our Annual  
**DONKEY DAY CHARITY EVENT**  
to raise funds for EST - the part of the Donkey Sanctuary that supports children with severe learning difficulties, and petting therapy for the elderly in residential homes

will be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June  
10.30am-1.00pm  
at Tether's End, Ardleigh Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TL

£3 entry includes a cuppa and a cake  
Jane Brind is bringing her lovely donkeys to welcome you; there are stalls, a raffle and refreshments so please do come along and help us raise as much as possible for the charity. For more info, please ring Brenda or Richard on 01206 230537

**A Very British Afternoon Tea**  
Tea, Coffee and Cake...  
Just bake and donate!  
1-30 June  
Host your own Very British Afternoon Tea and raise funds for Essex & Herts Air Ambulance - helping to save lives one cake at a time.  
To get your free fundraising pack call 0265 2040 033 or email: info@essexhertsair.org  
SPONSORED BY  
BerryWorld  
FR  
Essex & Herts Air Ambulance  
Your local life-saving charity

Little Dragons Pre-School

## SUMMER FAYRE

Saturday 16th June  
Further details to follow

This is our 40th birthday so we will be celebrating ins tyle!

# MAYPOLE DANCING

## What is a May pole dance?

A **maypole** is a tall wooden pole erected as a part of various European folk festivals, around which a **maypole** dance often takes place. The festivals may occur on May Day (May 1st) or Pentecost (Whitsun), although in some countries it is instead erected at Midsummer.

## How tall is the Maypole?

In general, the more dancers, the taller the maypole. A **3 to 5 m** tall wooden maypole should be at least 40mm diameter. Strong plastic pipe is another option for the maypole. The top of the maypole needs a crown (right) to which you can attach your ribbons.

## The Introductory Dance

In its most simple form, the dancers simply stand in a circle around the maypole and, in time with the music, take 4 steps towards the maypole, 4 steps back and the circle for a count of 8. As they approach the maypole they can raise their arms, and then lower them as they back away.

## The First Plaiting Dance

The next level of complexity is for the dancers to attach ribbons to the top of the maypole. Most maypoles have a static (non-rotating) crown so the ribbons plait onto the maypole as the dancers circle around. This is called a closed plait. Dances where the ribbons plait away from the maypole, such as The Gypsies' Tent, are called open plaits.

To get used to using the ribbons, make sure that all the dancers are facing in the same direction and holding their ribbon in their right hands. The left hand simply gathers up the excess ribbon. Now start the music and all dance around the maypole in the same direction without overtaking. Eventually there is no length of ribbon left as it has become wrapped around the maypole, at which time the order is given to reverse your steps and unwind the maypole. If you unwind without any knots you have successfully completed your first plaiting dance.

## The Grand Chain

The next dance requires you to divide into 2 groups of equal numbers. Members of **Team A** should partner Members of **Team B**. Make sure that As and Bs are spaced alternately around the maypole with each **Team A** dancer facing one from **Team B** and then start the music. Each of **Team A** should pass right shoulder with their first **Team B** dancer and then left with the next (do not turn back on yourself), carrying on alternately until the ribbons are again exhausted. As dancers pass each other, they should raise and lower their right arm rhythmically to guide the ribbon over the other dancer. To unwind, remember to retrace your steps accurately, passing your last dancer first and then alternate shoulders until the ribbons unwind. Make sure that everyone dances at a constant pace and that no one overtakes. You have now completed your second ribbon dance. You can vary the dance by having pairs (or more) of dancers, joined arm-in-arm, weave in each direction together. In each case, look at the beautiful pattern that you have made on the maypole during the dance.



*[All information found on the internet - Ed.]*

# LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: [littlebromleypc@gmail.com](mailto:littlebromleypc@gmail.com)

The 10k race around Little Bromley held on April 8th was a great success - well done to Roly Knott for organising this. We understand that money raised should be going to a memorial garden in the churchyard and/or toilet provision.

At the last PC meeting the Council were congratulated on getting the pair of VAS signs in the village, and, along with our new Village Entrance Gates, we hope this will help calm the traffic through the Village.

Also at the last meeting, the Council thanked the local farmers for the work they did in helping to clear the roads during the

recent blizzards. We are also planning on contacting Highways to discuss planting proper hedgerows alongside the roads to stop drifting snow in the future.

We understand that The Amenities Group have recently shut and the Council would like to thank the Committee for all the hard work put in over the last 5 years with all the events that were organised.

The next meeting of the Council, which will be our AGM, will be on the 17th May at 7.00 pm at the Haywain

*Little Bromley Parish Council*

## RUNNING INTO THE GRAVEYARD 3



April 8th 2018

After two successive years of beautiful sunshine our record this year was well and truly broken. During the preparations our hopes for a good day were like a roller coaster. However after heavy overnight rain the course for our run was wet and interrupted by some large puddles. To add to this there was a shower of rain just after the runners had started.

The race has become a popular event in the area and the quota for the run was soon reached. The inclusion of the race in the Essex Grand Prix series contributed to the entry being filled quickly.

Whilst this year saw the biggest number of runners with 512 completing the course, it was disappointing that 200 applicants didn't turn up. There was keen competition at the front of the race but the weather conditions did not allow the course records to be broken. Elizabeth Davies from Springfield Striders was First Lady in 35mins 55secs. Ryan Prout from Thrift Green was the first man in 32mins 5secs. Steven Peck from Harwich runners took the male vet40 prize with a stunning 33mins 54secs. Claudine Benstead also from Harwich runners took

the female vet55 prize with a time of 42mins 23secs. The other prizes were won mainly by runners from large clubs in Essex.

Each competitor was given a memento of a mug displaying a picture of St. Mary's church.

The race has received many accolades from the runners. The success as a race and financially is due to careful preparation and the support of local people and businesses. The tea and cake stall did a roaring trade perhaps assisted by the poor weather. All of the profits made will go to supporting the maintenance and provision of the church which is the only public space in the village. There is an intent to create a memorial garden and improve the toilet facility.

I am grateful to all the support received from people living in the Bromleys before during and after the event.

*Roly Knott*

# THE RIVER STOUR TRUST

Would you like to be skipper or crew on an electric launch on Constable's beautiful River Stour?

The River Stour Trust is looking for volunteers to join its team of skippers and crew operating its fleet of electric launches on the River Stour in Suffolk, made famous in John Constable's paintings. Full training and familiarisation with the river will be provided, but the 21ft launches are simplicity itself to drive, with smooth, quiet electric motors, and maximum speeds of 4mph. And if you don't fancy getting afloat, we also need people ashore to handle the bookings, meet the visitors, cutting the grass and general maintenance.

They run most weekends and some mid-week days from April to October and raise funds vital to the work of the Trust in restoring and maintaining the navigation for all to enjoy. Over the past 50 years it has restored or rebuilt four of the 25 mile waterway's 13 locks, two slipways, and a Visitor Centre.

Visitors from all over the country and world, as well local residents, enjoy observing the wildlife and tranquillity of the river on our boats Trusty II and Kathleen who operate between Stratford St Mary, Flatford, Dedham and Brantham with Rosette, Francis J, Edwardian Lady and the John Constable Lighter operating between Sudbury, Great Cornard and Great Henny.



The river is peaceful, with just swans and occasional rowing boats to negotiate, and you will find yourself drifting back 200 years to the days when it was a busy commercial waterway, with 50ft lighters towed in pairs by horses through 13 locks from the sea at Manningtree to Sudbury.

What better way to spend a pleasant day on a beautiful waterway!

**For more information in respect to volunteering please contact Kevin Taylor: [kevintaylor@btinternet.com](mailto:kevintaylor@btinternet.com),**

To plan your visit [www.riverstourtrust.org](http://www.riverstourtrust.org) for up to date information in respect to events.

*Follow us on Facebook and Twitter*



River Stour Trust



River Stour Trust @RiverStourTrust



**Community Library  
at The Cross**

Every Wednesday 10.00am-12 noon



**The Post Office  
at  
The Cross**

Wednesday mornings 10 - noon



## VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

With the end of the financial year now behind us, the

attention of trustees has turned to the Village Hall AGM which will be held on Wednesday 16th May commencing at 7.30pm in the Millennium Lounge. All parishioners and members of the public are welcome to attend the AGM which reports on the past year and looks forward to the next. This is your opportunity to provide feedback in person on the facilities in our village hall and the way it is organised and managed.

As mentioned in last month's magazine, the AGM is also your opportunity to volunteer to assist with the management of the village hall, either as an elected trustee, co-opted trustee or as a 'friend' of the hall. Apart from Marion Britton, our loyal caretaker who is paid for her work, the hall is managed entirely by volunteer trustees from the local area who form the management committee. The hard work of the trustees is critical if the hall is to be successful as a community facility and is to survive in the modern world. Trustees are responsible for a wide variety of management tasks including secretarial, bookings and hire liaison, finance, licensing, food hygiene, health and safety,

property maintenance, grounds maintenance, fire safety and advertising/business development. There are currently vacancies on the management committee and my colleagues and I would really welcome 'new blood' onto the committee to help with the strategic and day-to-day running of the hall. No particular skills are needed but a desire to help our fine community facility to flourish and a willingness to get stuck in and take on a non-onerous management responsibility would make the role more meaningful and much more enjoyable. We have fun as trustees and are proud to be responsible for the village hall and its lovely grounds. If you are interested in joining us on the committee please contact me for further information.

Our next fundraising event follows shortly after the AGM - we are holding a Plant Sale at the hall on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May so please do support us and buy some lovely plants for your borders and planters as summer approaches. Kate Strowbridge is organising the event, which will also benefit from a range of craft stalls and refreshments. Kate would be grateful for donations of plants in due course.

*Martin Frostick*

## ADVERTISING & SPONSORSHIP

### Advertising

Are you a Business operating within a 15 mile radius of our villages?

Would you like to advertise your business?

The Messenger is delivered free to every household in the villages of Great and Little Bromley.

### Sponsors

Would you perhaps become a Sponsor and help keep our magazine printed each month? We are completely self supporting through sponsors and advertisers although Great Bromley parish council would help out in the case of an emergency. Sponsoring a month would give you a permanent box on the back cover and an additional advert on page 2 for one month of your choice (first come with a monthly preference, first choice).

**Contact Richard on [perrybr@btinternet.com](mailto:perrybr@btinternet.com)  
for more details.**

# DISTRICT COUNCILLOR NEWS

By the time you have had your Messenger delivered the Car Rally will be over. It was discussed at full TDC council on 27th March. A motion against the rally was put to the council and the Leader was asked three questions by the same family regarding insurance, if the drivers and marshals have had criminal or mental health checks and how the council intends to protect residents from a malicious attack. The Safety Advisory Group (SAG) have passed the event. SAG have to examine all public events, the Cycle tour, the Air Show etc. The leader Cllr Neil Stock answered all questions and stated that once the rally was over it would be subjected to TDC Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This committee will be meeting at Weeley Council Offices on 30th July at 7.30pm. The committee will comprise of 11 councillors, all appointed under Widdecombe Rules. I also raised this with Cllr. Grundy, ECC Portfolio Holder for Highways at the meeting described below. He confirmed ECC cannot stop the rally, it is permitted by recent government legislation.

I have attended two meetings at County Hall. The first with Cllr. Kevin Bentley, deputy leader ECC, to do with the Garden Village and traffic around Manningtree Railway Bridge, when those attending were given an update. Including a possible fast transit route between the new garden community on the Colchester/Tendring border and Colchester Town Railway Station, previously known as St Botolph's. Nothing has been decided and it is still a matter for discussion. I have seen some letters in the local newspapers stating the station will be closing, this I am told is scaremongering, if anything the station will be enhanced.

The second meeting was with Cllr. Ian Grundy, Portfolio Holder for Essex County Council Highways on 11th April. This meeting was to discuss my motion that was given full backing by TDC Councillors regarding speeding through villages and a 20 mph limit outside schools.

The meeting was very useful and I was provided with an example of a 20mph sign to use in the vicinity of our schools. My proposed 20 mph outside schools is to be the subject of a schools competition for designing a banner to bring to the attention of motorists of a school in the vicinity.

There will be prizes for the best design and it is likely the Fire and Police Crime Commissioner will provide funding for the banners. Letters inviting schools to participate have been sent to all schools in Tendring.



The 30mph proposal through villages will require a survey of all parish councils in Tendring, which is to be undertaken very shortly. It is hoped that all villages will support this, we can then take the results back to Cllr. Grundy.

Recycling - if anybody requires, red and/or green bins or food caddy please let me know and I will order some on your behalf. I did have a small stock but these have all gone.

*Fred Nicholls*



**St Helena Hospice**  
your time...your hospice  
Registered Charity Number 280918

### St Helena Hospice Open Gardens 2018

If you enjoy gardening and would love the chance to share the fruits of your hard work with friends and family, your neighbours, or members of your community, then you may like to hold an Open Garden event in aid of St Helena Hospice.

Whether you have an acre of beautiful shrubs and borders, or a pocket yard of stunning tubs and herbs, opening it up for a few hours for other people to see will give you a sense of pride, inspire your fellow gardeners, and support your local hospice.

It's free and easy to get involved. Decide if you want to open up your garden just to people you know or to your whole community; pick your own day and time (any time between April and September) and simply collect any donations from visitors on the day.

There are many ways to raise even more funds at your event such as selling plants, garden produce and crafts, or serving tea and cake – each Open Garden is unique! If you took part in St Helena Hospice's Can You Dig It campaign an open garden may be the perfect way to start selling your produce.

St Helena Hospice can provide you with collection pots, posters and tips on promoting your event, and if you decide to have a public event we can advertise your event on the hospice website and via social media.

To register your Open Garden event, or if you would like more information, please email [fundraising@sthelenahospice.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@sthelenahospice.org.uk) or call the fundraising team on 01206 931468.

### ALSO

Will you make a difference this June?? Have you written your Will? If yes, have you revisited it in the last 5 years? June is Wills Month at St Helena, a chance to write or update your Will with the help of a number of local solicitors. For more information visit:

[www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/makeawill](http://www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/makeawill)



## Recent Meetings

On Wednesday 11 April Wendy Harwood, one of Dr Penny Hundleby senior scientists, who works on genetically modified crops, gene editing and similar at the John Innes Centre spoke on "GM Crops – where are we now?". Wendy has 20 years of experience working within the GM field s and she covered what the technology is, how it has developed from the first GM crops, how the new technology of gene editing fits in, the current situation worldwide and what is in the pipeline.

## Future Meetings & Diary Dates

Roger Kennell will talk on "William Pretty – A Suffolk Family & Corset Manufacturer" on Wednesday 9 May. His illustrated presentation follows the major corset making business of William Pretty & Son at Ipswich (& its outpost factories) which was part of the Footman Pretty department store, now Debenhams.

On Wednesday 13 June Tony Diamoand's subject is "Chocolate". He will present the history of the colourful discovery of chocolate and the spread of the hot drink in Europe, its astonishing aspects and an overview of its financial importance to the UK.



"Around the World in a Container Ship" is the interesting talk by Peter Hesketh a former Police Officer & Merchant Navy Purser. As a lone passenger for around 4 months it positively was not a cruise`1. `he explains the attraction of and comments on, life at sea when the ship spends so little time in port.

Our main purpose is to encourage lifelong learning for those who are no longer in full time employment and emphasis is always placed on making learning active and fun as well as helping in developing friendships. We have a wide range of groups including language study, country walking, computer studies and gardens, churches and historic buildings visits. In the main, membership is drawn from communities in the lower Stour Valley and adjacent areas including Brantham, Capel St Mary, Dedham, East Bergholt, Holbrook, Lawford, Manningtree, Raydon, & Stratford St Mary. We are affiliated to the ThirdAge Trust, have over 300 members and 38 groups. For further information please visit [www.stourvalleyu3a.org.uk](http://www.stourvalleyu3a.org.uk) where membership secretary Gillian Gibbs may be contacted.

## Meeting Venue

We meet at The Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt CO7 6TP at 2 for 2.15pm. Annual membership costs £12 a year and this entitles members to attend the meetings that take place on the second Wednesday of each month, except August and December.

## Remember

It's never too late to learn! Join over 400,000 members across over 1,000 U3As throughout the UK today!

## Membership



# STOUR VALLEY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB

## Recent Meetings

On Wednesday 7th March Grant Elliot returned again and this time his subject was "The Life of Chic Murray", much enjoyed by all members especially the video clips of a rare talent. Our Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday 21 March when the President Graeme Forsyth, Vice President Paul Holmes Treasurer Peter Stanway-Williams, Secretary Hew Naylor, Speaker Secretary Dave Carman and Paul Oliver & Russell Howe were voted in as the new Committee. Bob Milne talked to us on Wednesday 4 April about "The assignation of the Italian Barber". Oliver Paul, from the Suffolk Food Hall, voted the best Local Food venue in the UK & Ireland in the Countryside Alliance rural Oscars, spoke to us on Wednesday 18 April and his subject was "Food and Farming Heritage".

## Future Meetings & Diary Dates

We have two interesting speakers in May, Joyce Kimber will speak on 2nd May on "Britain's Finest Hour" and on 16th May Brain Kelly will enlighten us on "The Life Of a British Consul". Dr John Knight will talk to us on 6 June on the life of "John Betjeman "The Man & His Poetry" and on 20 June Chris Parfitt will present "A Portrait of a Suffolk River". On 4th July John Field will

introduce us to "The Treasures of Ipswich". We hold our Summer Buffet at The popular Haywain on 18th July when our spouses and Probus Widows join us for what is sure to be an enjoyable event and a tasty meal.



## Meeting Venue

We meet at the convenient St John Ambulance HQ, Manningtree CO11 1EB

## New members are welcomed

Our Club endeavours to be simple in structure, be free of the constraints and obligations of service clubs, and involve members to a minimal cost. The club is directed primarily to providing fellowship between members who are compatible with each other, and provide the opportunity for development of acquaintances. New members are welcomed by Stour Valley Men's Probus Club, we meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month in Manningtree at 10 for 10.30am. Please contact Speaker Secretary Dave Carman on 01255 880202 for further details. Mary & Graeme Forsyth

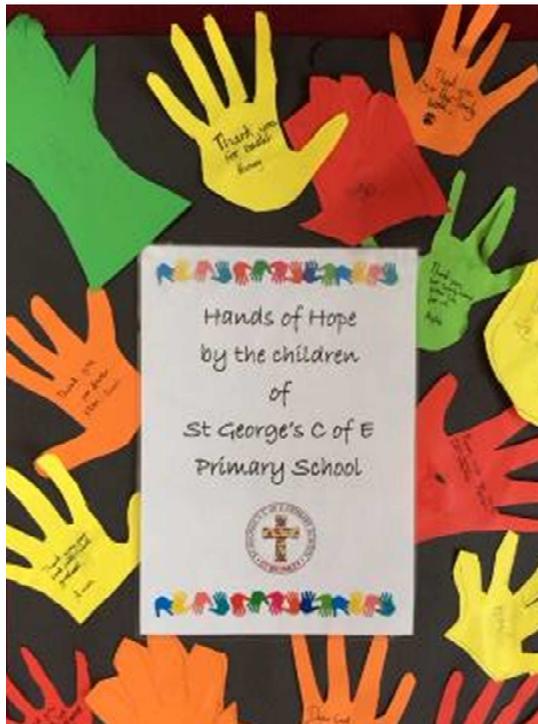


# WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

For more than 600 years the people of Great Bromley have gathered together at St George's Church to worship god St George's Church is open every day of the year during daylight hours, you are very welcome to drop in and enjoy the beauty and tranquility of our lovely church. We are always here for all of you, whether celebrating marriage, giving thanks for a child or saying goodbye to a loved one. St George's has played, and continues to play, a central role in the most important moments of many people's lives in our community



if you would like to talk, meet or have more information about how we can help you please phone  
Simon 392659  
Yvonne 230360  
Jenny 230688



# FROM THE RECTORY

The Shepherd Gate clock that is mounted on the wall outside the gate of the Royal Observatory in Greenwich is unusual in one key respect. Designed to display Greenwich Mean Time to the public the clock, that was constructed and installed in 1852, has a 24 hour analog dial rather than the usual 12. Originally the clock indicated astronomical time, where the counting of the hours starts each day at noon. In the 20th century this was changed to the more familiar system of the counting of the hours beginning at midnight.

Dividing the day into hours was a common system in many parts of the worlds for centuries before the arrival of Greenwich Mean Time. The ancient Egyptians began splitting the night into intervals in the 24th century BC, and a 1000 years later had devised a system of 12 hours in a day using sundials to mark the passage of time.

By the time of the Old Testament in the bible, the changing position of the shadows made by the sun as a means to tell the time was a familiar concept. In the books of both 2 Kings and Isaiah we hear how God caused the shadow cast by the sun on the 'stairway of Ahaz' - probably a sundial of sorts - to move back ten steps as a sign that he would keep a promise he makes to Hezekiah the king.

Keeping precise time is not something that seems to concern many of the characters whose lives spring from the pages of the bible. What they are more interested in is seeking out when God is going to act. This is a desire that Jesus himself is keen to see put into perspective.

'No one knows the day or the hour', says Jesus, referring to events in the future, 'only the Father'.

We can mark, record and watch time. But we will never be its master. It keeps moving without input or interference from us

As the writer of Ecclesiastes says, "God has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end."

Time is a beguiling mystery, but nevertheless a gift from God. Let's use it well.

*Rev Canon Simon Heron*  
Lawford, The Bromleys & Little Bentley  
Area Dean of Harwich

01206 392659  
[www.lawfordchurch.co.uk](http://www.lawfordchurch.co.uk)  
'Loving God. Living Life.'

## Easter Lilies

Thank you to all who donated so generously towards the Easter Lilies in memory of loved ones ....

This year we were able to purchase 30 stems at £4.15 per stem, well done The church looked absolutely stunning this Easter Tide. I would like to say a huge Thank-you to all who generously gave their time to Flower Arrange....help with the Big Clean and those who came and enjoyed the services over this weekend.

You are all appreciated by the team here at St Gorge's.

If you would like to join us in looking after St George's you are always very welcome , you do not have to be a regular church goer just have a love of our beautiful church which belongs to the whole community here in The Bromleys.

Hope to see you soon ..  
Just phone if you can spare time to help  
*Jenny*



## Services for May

### St George's Church, Great Bromley

*Welcome to our services*

<b>May 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Rogation Sunday</b> 9.15am Holy Communion (BCP) with hymns
<b>May 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Ascension Day</b> 7.30pm Holy Communion at St Mary's Lawford
<b>May 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday after Ascension</b> 10.30am Parish Eucharist (CW1)
<b>May 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Pentecost (Whitsunday)</b> 9.15am Family Service
<b>May 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b> 10.30am Parish Eucharist (CW1) 6.30pm Evensong with choir (BCP)

<b>Vicar:</b>	Revd Canon Simon Heron	01206 392659
<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Mrs Jenny Nicholls	01206 230688
	Mrs Yvonne Cobbold	01206 230360

*The church is open daily and you are welcome to visit.  
More details and information at [www.greatbromley.org.uk](http://www.greatbromley.org.uk)  
Facebook or Twitter @StGeorgesGtBrom*

#### St Mary's church, Lawford

Every Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
1st Sunday	10.30am	Holy Communion
2nd Sunday	10.30am	Family Service
	6.30pm	Evensong
3rd Sunday	10.30am	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Café Church
4th Sunday	10.30am	Morning Worship
Wednesdays	9.30am	Holy Communion

#### St Mary's church, Little Bentley

1st Sunday	10.30am	Morning Prayer
3rd Sunday	10.30am	Holy Communion

#### St Mary's church, Ardleigh

1st Sunday	10.3am	Parish Eucharist
2nd Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
3rd Sunday	10.30am	Parish Eucharist
4th Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion

#### J.A.M. DROP-IN

Every Friday in St George's church  
Term time only  
Parents and children welcome  
All are welcome  
3.00pm to 3.45pm  
Refreshments, activities

#### Church Lunch

Friday 4th May at 12 noon  
Please come & join us for friendship & fun.