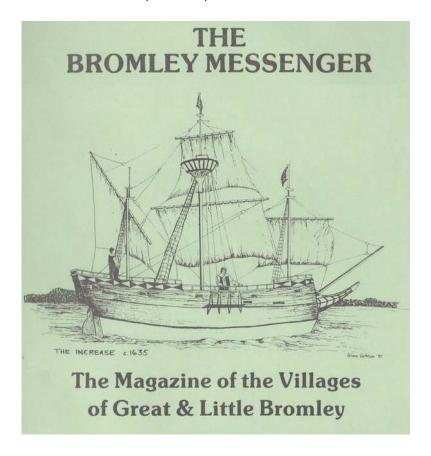
THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

The Magazine of the Villages of Great & Little Bromley

June 1986 (Issue 1) to December 1986



These old magazines have been scanned and converted to text for historical reference by Dr Hugh Frostick, Historian for Great and Little Bromley.

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December 2021

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ORGANISATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS IN THE VILLAGES

Village Hall Committee	Mrs A. Rowe, Harris Farm	230398
Badminton Club	Mr R. Robinson, 4 Boulton Cottages	250313
Cricket Club	Mrs L. Allam, Bluegates Farm	230375
Men's Club	Mr G. Hurst, Arethusa, Ardleigh Rd.	230578
Women's Institute	Mrs S. Ward, Tyrone, Back Lane	250674
Friendship Club	Mrs Hatt, de Hatt, Back Lane	251455
Pantomime Group	Mrs B. Rowe, 2 Hall Cottages	231067
Carnival	Mrs J. Wright, 1 S. Georges Close	230663
Ladies Circle	Mrs S. Ward, Tyrone, Back Lane	250674
Manningtree School PTA	Mr R. Knott, Paynes Cottage,	393787
	Paynes Lane, Little Bromley	
	Mrs C. McGuiness, 3 S. Georges Close	230671
S. George's School	Headmistress Mrs P. Fitzgerald	230305
Hamilton Lodge Vol. Ass.	Mrs M. Hart, Pondfield, Parsons Hill	230419
Playgroup	Mrs C. Simons, 5 Meadow Close	250163
Gt. Bromley PCC	Mrs P. Greenfield, 7 Springhill Close	230888
Lt. Bromley PCC	Mrs J. Fairley, Normans Farm, Lt. Br.	230237
Gt. Bromley Guides	Mrs J. Landon, Gt. Bromley House	230385
Gt. Bromley Brownies	Mrs J. Terry, The Nook, Colchester Road	230490
Garden Club	Mrs J. Wright, 1 S. Georges Close	230663
Essex Co. Standard Corr.	Mrs V. Biddis, Berriedale	230506
Burnt Heath Methodist Ch.	Mrs G. Newman, 6 S. Georges Close	230421
Balls Green Methodist Ch.	Mr P. Howard, Ballaleg, Haggars Lane, Frating	250047
Lt. Bromley Methodist Ch.	Mr J. Osborn, Cirrus, Lt. Bromley	392656
Bromley Buskers	Mr P. Wenden, The Pippins, Burnt Heath	230613
Lt. Bromley Restoration Con	nm. Mr R. Knott, Paynes Cottage, Lt. Bromley	393787
Gt. Bromley Church Repair Comm. Mr R. Harding, The Hollies, Colchester Rd		230425
Gt. Bromley Parish Council	Mr H.P. Booty, Church Cottage	230473
Lt. Bromley Parish Council Mr J. Osborn, Cirrus, Lt. Bromley		392656
East Anglian Daily Times Corr. Mr S West, Fryerning, Hall Road		230584
Civil Protection Contact Point Mr I.D. Anderson, 8 Meadow Close		251091
Treasurer, Bromley Messenger Mr L. Christodoulides, Plot 9, Bromley Road, Frating		
Local History Scheme Record	der Mrs I. Wilkinson, 11 Meadow Close-	250287

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Mr R.L. Harding, The Hollies, Great Bromley. Tel. Colchester 230425

Little Bromley;

Mr G.H. Kent, Crabtrees, Paynes Lane, Little Bromley. Tel. Colchester 392674

P.C.C. SECRETARIES:

Great Bromley; Mrs P. Greenfield, 7 Springhill Close, Great Bromley. Tel. Colchester 230888 Little Bromley; Mrs T.M.H. Fairley, Normans Farm, Little Bromley. Tel. Colchester 230237 SERVICES:

See Monthly List.

HOLY BAPTISM and MARRIAGES:

To be arranged with the Rector.

The SICK and HOUSEBOUND:

Please inform the Rector of any who are sick, in hospital or housebound. The Blessed Sacrament is always available to be taken to any person who wishes it.

Editor; to whom all contributions should be sent - the Rector.

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SPONSORS for 1986

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By their generous contributions this magazine is delivered to you free of charge

JUNE: SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME GREAT BROMLEY

AUGUST: Greenacre Boarding Cattery , Briar Road, Great Bromley

THE WIVENHOE BOOKSHOP

BRITISH WILD FLOWERS Essex House, Great Bromley

OCTOBER: TORCH PETROLEUM LTD, GREAT BROMLEY

DECEMBER: S. GEORGE'S CHURCH, GREAT BROMLEY

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The Bromley Messenger JUNE/JULY 1986 VOLUME 1, No.1.

EDITORIAL.

At last the initiative of the Chairman and members of the Great Bromley Parish Council has come to fruition, and we offer you this, the first edition of 'The Bromley Messenger'. Our hope is that it will bring to you news of all the many events that take place in these two villages of Great and Little Bromley. As a comparative newcomer to the Bromleys, I am amazed at the variety of organisations and activities that go on here. I understand that for many years these were described as 'dead villages'. If they are still dead, then I would like to see a live one! The magazine can only be as good as the news it prints. Please send in any items for publication very promptly for each issue. I could do with about twice as much as I received for this issue.

You may be wondering why the particular cover drawing has been chosen. It might seem that it is strange for two land-locked villages to have the picture of a boat on the cover. There is of course, a very good reason for this.

The boat which is depicted is the good ship The Increase, about which we know quite a lot, and which is very significant to both our villages. The Public Record Office in London records that in the year 1635, in April, the ship, 'The Increase', left London for Boston in Massachusetts under the command of Captain Robert Lea. It was an immigrant ship taking settlers from these shores to the new territories in America. All the passengers on this ship are listed. They include Simon Stone. husbandman, aged 50, Joan his wife, aged 38, and their children, Frances 16, Ann 11, Simon 4, Marie 3, and John, five weeks. The Stones arrived at Boston in July, 1635, shortly after settling in the town of Watertown.

Later that year Simon's brother Gregory travelled to Boston, finally finding a home in Cambridge Massachusetts. Both of these brothers became prominent citizens in their new country and from them many thousands of citizens of the United States are descended. The link for us is that they belonged to a family which lived for several centuries in the villages of Little and Great Bromley. The famous window in S. George's Church commemorates them. Just as the ship, 'The Increase', took news and information on its long journey, so we hope that 'The Bromley Messenger' will bear news and information wheresoever it goes.

As Editor, I must acknowledge our great debt to our very kind sponsors who have made the production and distribution of this magazine possible. Each issue will have a page to be used by the month's sponsor. On the back page there is a list of them.

Please support them as much as you can, this can be our way of thanking them.

S. GEORGE'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL.

The school summer term is now well under way, and we are looking forward to a number of activities. The school sports will be held on Tuesday, 3rd June, and this will be followed on 11th June by the Inter-Primary Rounders Rally, and the District Sports on 18th June. Our open evening is to be on Tuesday, 15th July from 5pm to 8pm - and finally the school closes for the summer holidays on Friday. 18th July when eighteen of our present pupils will be leaving to join their Secondary Schools. Recently a very large number of pupils took part in a competition arranged by the Tendring Hundred Farmer's Club to design a bookmark for the Tendring Show. Of those who entered the competition. Ben Lucking won a prize as the runner up, and Nicole Abbott, John Sustr, Keely Huxhum, Jessica Lucking, Darren Webb and Andrew Golding won 'Highly Commended' Certificates. Well done - these results are a credit to the school.

BROMLEY BUSKERS

Following the recent successful Supper with Cabaret evenings at the Village Hall, the sum of £500 has been given to S. George's church Repair Fund. At a meeting held of those responsible, it was agreed to form an organisation to be known as 'The Bromley Buskers'. A function similar to that recently held will take place each year and other concerts for other causes will be held, up to a maximum of three a year. All monies raised by this organisation will be donated to charities and causes to be agreed upon at an annual meeting. Enquiries would be welcome. Please telephone Mr. Peter Wenden on Colchester 230613, or Mr. Gerald Nichols on Colchester 251254.

GREAT BROMLEY AND FRATING PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup meets at Great Bromley Village Hall every Monday and Wednesday morning from 9.15 until mid-day. Additionally on Wednesday mornings there is a Toddler Group. The charge is £1 per child, each morning and 50 pence for each toddler. There is plenty of room for more children, so do please come along. Mrs. Carol Simons, 5 Meadow Close (250163) can provide all information.

GREAT BROMLEY LADIES CIRCLE

The Ladies Circle would be pleased to welcome new members. The meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at a different members home. Members are informed a week in advance where the meetings are held. If you would like more information about this, please telephone the Secretary, Sylvia Ward, Tyrone, Back Lane (250674). In future editions of the magazine it is hoped to include new of the meetings.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL

There are three groups within the Sunday School which meets at 10am each Sunday. Under fives, who are cared for by Sarah Cameron, under eights who are guided by either Mrs. Yvonne Cobbold or Mrs. Angela Prior, and an older group who work with Mrs. Olive Sparling. The contents of the teaching is varied to each age group and reflects the Church's year. On the first Sunday in each month we all attend the Family Service when we hope that all parents will join us. We enjoy an annual Christmas party and gather together different times of the year for special occasions. Sometimes we have a bonfire or a barbecue, or maybe both. On another occasion we may have tea in a garden, or just gather together to work on a project. Often there is the excitement and satisfaction of a Christmas production involving all the children, and we also make the Easter Garden in church each year. This year we have also helped with the Easter Service at Hamilton Lodge, and more recently joined in the Rogation Service at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rowe, Harris Farm. The boys played Five-a-Side football in March against other Sunday School teams and this year raised £45 for famine relief from kindly sponsors. For those who have grown beyond Sunday School there is a Bible Study Group which meets on alternate Thursdays at the home of Mrs. Olive Sparling. The youngsters arrive straight from school to enjoy, first of all, refreshments for the weary. They are all safely delivered home between [5] and 6 o'clock. For those interested in joining us there is always a warm welcome. Please contact Mrs. Olive Sparling, Greenacre, Briar Road, Great Bromley (230436).

CONFIRMATION 1986

It was a very great pleasure to welcome the Bishop of Colchester on 29th April, to administer the rite of Confirmation. Those confirmed were Sarah Cameron, Elizabeth Thompson, Catherine Hart, Jenny Clapham and Sylvia Davis.

TALENT PROJECT

At Harvest Time last year the Rector persuaded members of the church to take a pound to trade with, and return at S. George's tide. So far £65 have been returned, together with a profit of £1,050! This is a remarkably splendid result - and our thanks go to all who took part, not only those who took the talents, but also all those who supported their efforts and enabled such a large sum to be achieved. This a most welcome addition to the Repair Fund.

TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

A NOT TO BE MISSED coming event is the Teddy Bears Picnic to be held in the grounds of Seven Rivers on Sunday, 29th June in aid of the Church Repair Fund. Don't forget that Superted and Spottyman THEMSELVES are to be there together with lots of other attractions. Sideshows, competitions and stalls as well as a hot air balloon, a Winnie the Pooh balloon race and a Bear Revue by the Pantomime Group. A letter has been sent to the Lords of Commons Bears Den (yes, even politicians are bear fans!) inviting Peers of the Realm or M.Ps who are arctophiles (bear lovers) to join us. Make sure you are there too, but meantime, PLEASE ring Mrs. Greenfield or Mrs. Hatt urgently with offers of supplies for the picnic, and Jean Harding (230425) or the Rectory (230344) for gifts for the Tombolas. Offers of help on the gate, car park, erecting signs, anything please!

SPECIAL SERVICES - JUNE AND JULY - S. GEORGES.

Family Services - Sunday, 1st June and Sunday, 6th July at 10.00am

Sunday, 15th June - Songs of Praise to celebrate the Flower Festival at 6.30pm

Sunday, 29th June - Short service of hymns and prayers on the Cheshire Home Field to end the Teddy Bears Picnic at 5.30pm

Wednesday, 11th June - S. Barnabas Day, Holy Communion at 7.30am

Tuesday, 24th June - S. John the Baptist Day, Holy Communion at 7.30am

Tuesday, 22nd July - S. Mary Magdalen, Holy Communion at 7.30am

Friday, 25th July - S. James the Great, Holy Communion at 7.30am

Do not forget the Service of Evensong held each Sunday at 6.30pm at S. George's, except for the first Sunday in each month when it is held at S. Mary's, Little Bromley.

THE BISHOP OF CHELMSFORD.

The Right Reverend John Waine was enthroned as seventh Bishop of Chelmsford on 31st May. In order that as many persons as possible may meet him, there is to be a gathering on Tuesday, 24th June, at S. Paul's Church Clacton, when the Bishop will speak and people will have the opportunity of meeting him. I do hope that as many people as possible from Great and Little Bromley will be able to attend this meeting to greet our new Bishop.

THE TENDRING SHOW - SATURDAY 12th JULY - LAWFORD.

Many of you will recall the years when the Tendring Show was held at Great Bromley and was often known as the Bromley Show. Immediately after the war, when it was restarted, the show was held on what was then meadow at the back of the Cricket Ground. After that, because more space was needed, it was sited for a year at the Park, thereafter it moved to Lawford where it has been since 1959. The original show ground at Bromley was farmed by the late Charles Pirie and was then, as now, owned by Jesus College, Cambridge, whilst the park belonged at the time to the late Herbert Hayward who had been President of the Tendring Hundred Farmers Club in 1954 and was Chairman at the time of his death in 1957.

It was during the early post war years that Ernie (Bunny) Austin was the show's 'man' and he was wise enough to commit to a notebook the number of stables required for each ring, the length of rope used and a multitude of other measurements which were far more useful than plans drawn on paper, for he knew where the hills and hollows were which would swallow up a lamb's foot to the distress of exhibiting shepherds. After Herbert Hayward's death, and the show's move to Lawford, there was no foreman until Fred Soames took the job on four years ago to prove that there is life after retirement yet!

Since the move to Lawford the emphasis has been more strongly directed to 'what goes on in the Hundred' where so many crafts go generally unseen, yet beautiful handwork is produced which is all too rarely shown. something the Show is trying to remedy.

Many will say that farming is at the crossroads, from being the welcome provider of food towards being the unrelenting stockpile of unwanted produce. The Show faces much the same challenge in its attitude towards criticisms levelled at farmers. It tries, not dramatically, but steadfastly. to open a window onto the World of farming, conservation - believe it or not - and efficiency, to be judged not only on the production of Britain's food, but in its contribution to a whole host of industries whose bread and butter depends on the farmer's prosperity.

Come to the Show this year. You will be fascinated in seeing livestock of all kinds, including examples of breeds now rare, machinery in colourful profusion, show dogs, some with ribbons, rabbits. poultry, a Tug-of-War competition, embroidery, costumes, dolls houses and a whole variety of other interests.

Car parking is free and the cost of admission for the whole day event is a very moderate £2.50 an adult with children and OAP's at reduced prices. The day is at Lawford, not all that far from its original home at Great Bromley.

S. MARY'S LITTLE BROMLEY NEWS.

At the Annual Parochial Meeting Mr. George Kent and Mr. Bill Walker were both re-elected as Churchwardens for another year. This can be quite an onerous office so we are grateful that they are both willing to serve for another year.

Members of the PCC, all re-elected, are Mrs. Joyce Fairley, Mrs. Elizabeth Lennox, Mrs. Enid Nicholson, Mrs. Cynthia Walker and Mr. Eddie Soames. Mr. John Appleby continues as an exofficio member. Mr. Bill Walker was re-elected as Vice-Chairman of the Council, Mr. George Kent as Treasurer and Mrs. Joyce Fairley as Secretary.

SERVICES.

Morning service will be at 9.00am each Sunday. On the second and fourth Sunday it will be Mattins, the other services will be Holy Communion. On the first Sunday of each month there is Evensong and Sermon at 6.30pm. It would be most encouraging if more parishioners were to be able to attend the services.

It is very difficult not to be able to use the organ at our services. If anyone can play, or knows anyone who could help in this way, the Rector would be pleased to hear from them. The organ is a fairly simple instrument: anyone who can play the piano would be able to play it. Please help if you can.

RESTORATION FUND.

The newly formed Restoration Committee has very quickly got down to business. Various events are being planned for this year which we hope that the village will support. A Strawberry Tea is to be held early in July, there is a possibility of a Ploughing Match, and a Harvest Supper is to be held. As details of the dates of these events have not yet been finalised, they will be announced as soon as possible. Look out for notices on the Village Notice Board, in the Post Office and in the Wheatsheaf.

As well as looking at ways of raising money, the Committee has looked at the condition of the church and they have made a list of various small but important jobs which can be tackled now without any, or much, expenditure of money. These include such things as cleaning out gutters, removing weeds and growth from the church walls etc. The Chairman, Roly Knott, will be asking different people to help in this way. We will all be very grateful for any help that you may be able to give.

Mrs. Elspeth Knott raised £356 for the fund from sponsorship in the London Marathon. It was an excellent effort, thank you Elspeth, very much. '

METHODIST CHURCH NEWS.

BURNT HEATH.

The weekend of 19th/20th July is the Church Anniversary. There will be a musical evening at the Church with a bring-and-buy stall at 7.00pm, and on Sunday, 20th July, there will be a united service at 6.30pm.

Each Sunday, morning service is held at 10.45am.

BALLS GREEN.

The little Chapel in Chapel Lane celebrated its 150th birthday in April. It still continues to be a centre for worship and praise. Each Sunday, morning service is held at 11.00am.

On Saturday, 5th July, there is to be a garden party at Ballaleg, Haggars Lane, Frating, from 3.00 until 5.00pm. There will be teas and a wide range of stalls. All who can attend will be most welcome.

LITTLE BROMLEY.

Morning Service is held each Sunday at 10.45am, except Sunday, 1st June, when it is at 9.30am.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

A visit to Dean's Garden Centre was enjoyed by all members on Thursday, 24th April.

The next meeting is Thursday, 22nd May, which is to be a visit to Layer Mill Mushroom Farm. On Thursday, 25th June, members will be visiting the New Ruaton Garden Company. The tour starts at 7.00pm. Would anyone interested in joining us please advise Sue Lucking (250534) as she has to inform the company how many to expect by 9th June.

24th July. This will be the Annual General Meeting, to be held at White House, Hilliards Road, Great Bromley, starting at 8.00pm. It is hoped to have a Barbecue, weather permitting, when it is hoped that a large number of interested gardeners will be able to be present.

MANNINGTREE SCHOOL.

Parents and. in particular, former pupils might like to know of the following events planned for Manningtree at which they will be very welcome. The School PTA Treasure Hunt and Barbecue is to be held on Sunday. 8th June, the School Sponsor Day is Wednesday, 25th June, and the School Sports Day is to be on Wednesday. 9th July. More details of these events can be obtained from the school PTA representatives listed on the cover of the magazine, or directly from the school (392852).

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

The Annual Spring Sale in April was a great success, and we wish to thank everyone who helped in any way. The speaker for the June meeting. Thursday, 19th June, will be Mrs. Taylor. On Wednesday, 25th June, there is to be a picnic lunch in Thetford Forest, followed by tea at Diss. A choir will be entertaining members at the July meeting, and a visit to Stonham Barn for a strawberry tea has been arranged for Thursday, 24th July.

In August, Mr. Forder of the Mercury Theatre, will be the speaker and on Thursday, 14th August, members are off on a trip to Windsor. Any odd knitting wool which members knit into blankets and capes for Heath Hospital, Tendring, would be most welcome.

New members are always welcome to the meetings held on the third Thursday afternoon of the month. The Leader, Mrs. Vera Biddis, will be pleased to hear from anyone who might be interested.

GREAT BROMLEY BROWNIES.

We start on a sad note - Badger no longer helps at Pack Meetings, but we have had volunteers to help the Brownies maintain the garden. Don't the daffodils look lovely round the village seat.

We recently ran a First Aid Course for ten weeks, culminating in over half the pack gaining their Interest badge. and having a great deal of fun in trying to put an adult into the recovery position. We say goodbye to Claire, Wendy and Eleanor who are all ten years old, and as two more are leaving at the end of the summer term, we will have some spaces for new Brownies in September.

It was decided in 'pow-wow' to go on a summer outing as there would not be a pack holiday this year. The places suggested by the Brownies are Hatfield Forest because of the frogs. Pleasurewood Hills because once you are in it is free, Colchester Castle and Zoo for no reason, France because it is foreign (the pack has been before), and London to experience the variety of transport, including the river boat. We will have our customary democratic vote - i.e. sitting with thumbs behind the back - thumbs linked means yes, not linked means no. We will let you know the outcome and the date, cost etc.. which will be offset by the two stalls we run at the Carnival. Our major project this year must be the Brownie and Guide Hut- in its present condition it will scarcely last another winter.

GREAT AND LITTLE BROMLEY BRANCH CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

Two events have been arranged for June and July. On Sunday, 22^{nd} June at Brundells Farm, there will be a strawberry tea at 3.00pm, and on Sunday, 27th July, also at Brundells Farm, there will be a Barbecue Lunch commencing at 11.30am. More information can be obtained from Dick Hayward, Badley Hall Cottage, Great Bromley, (230016).

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

The Pantomime Group are presenting a performance of two short plays, 'Murder Play' and 'Nudes in a Waning Light' at the Village Hall on Friday and Saturday, 13th and 14th June at 7.30pm. Tickets are £1.50 each and are still available from Betty Rowe, Harris Farm, Great Bromley (230398).

GREAT BROMLEY WOMENS INSTITUTE

Have you ever been to a W.I. meeting? If not, get your diaries out and write in on Wednesday 2nd July - W.I. We are having an open meeting and hope to welcome many visitors. Details of the speaker will be posted round the village later, so, watch out!!

If you are too shy to come on your own, give our Secretary 8 ring and she will arrange for a member who lives near you to bring you with her. Belonging to the W.I. is a grand way of meeting people and getting involved in the village life, so why not give it a try.

Members of the W.I. are taking an active part in the production of this magazine by folding and stapling it before delivery.

Forthcoming events are as follows:

4th June - Members meeting at 7.30pm in Village Hall.

7th June - Carnival Day.

14th June - Cheshire Home Fete - WI Pantry Shelf Stall.

2nd July - Open meeting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

24/25th July - Two day W.I. event at Writtle.

No meeting in August - outing to be arranged later.

3rd Sept.- 'Mountains and Mountain Flowers' at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Please contact Mrs. Carol Halsall, Chapel Grove, Chapel Lane, Crockleford Heath, Elmstead (864455) for all further information.

RECREATION GROUND.

A Working Party will meet on Sunday morning 1st June, when volunteers will be welcomed to help clean and repair the swings etc. Please come if you can.

S. GEORGE'S REPAIR FUND.

The balance in hand at the moment of this fund, now stands at £13,713.91 pence. This is an increase of £1,215.58 pence since February. The additional money has been made up of the following items:

Easter Concert and Art Show &369.93 Donations &345.65 Buffet and Concert &£500.00 &1,215.58

To this will be added the Talent money and (hopefully) a very large profit from the Teddy Bears Picnic.

We are still awaiting a decision from English Heritage about our application for a state aided grant for the work on the church. As soon as we know this we hope to be in a position to decide on the first stage of the work to be put in hand. We are all longing to see the scaffolding go up and some work commence.

SERVERS - GREAT BROMLEY

1st June - 10.00am - Robert Harding

8th June - 8.00am - James Heaney

15th June - 8.00am -

10.45am - John Clapham

22nd June - 8.00am - Bill Kempster

29th June - 8.00am - John Clapham

6th July - 10.00am - Robert Harding

13th July - 8.00am - James Heaney

20th July - 8.00am -

10.45am - John Clapham

27th July - 8.00am - Bill Kempster

FLOWERS - GREAT BROMLEY.

1st June - Mrs. M. West 6th July - Mrs. E. Varney

8th June - Mrs. G. Hayward 13th July - Mrs. J. Harding

15th June - Flower Festival 20th July - Mrs. A. Clapham

22nd June - Mrs. Sutherland 27th July - Mrs. A. Fairley

29th June - Mrs. J. Holley

FLOWER FESTIVAL.

Do not forget the Flower Festival to be held on 14th, 15th and 16th June, the weekend of the Cheshire Home Fete. The arrangements are to represent Cheshire Homes all over the world. On Sunday, 15th June, teas and stalls will be available in the Rectory Garden.

DIARY - JUNE AND JULY.

Sunday 1st TRINITY 1 9.00am Holy Communion LB.

10.00am Family Eucharist GB

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon LB

Saturday 7th GREAT BROMLEY CARNIVAL

Sunday 8th TRINITY 2 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Mattins LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Mattins and Sermon GB

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon GB

Wednesday 11th S. BARNABAS 7.30am Holy Communion GB

Saturday 14th CHESHIRE HOME FETE AND FLOWER FESTIVAL

Sunday 15th TRINITY 3 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

6.30pm SONGS OF PRAISE GB

Sunday 22nd TRINITY 4 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Mattins LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Mattins and Sermon GB

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon GB

Tuesday 24th S. JOHN BAPTIST 7.30am Holy Communion GB

Sunday 29th SS PETER AND PAUL 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

5.30pm Evening Service GB

JULY

Sunday 6th TRINITY 6 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Family Eucharist GB

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon LB

Saturday, 12th HAMILTON LODGE FETE

TENDRING SHOW

Sunday, 13th TRINITY 7 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Mattins LB

10.00am Sunday School CB

10.45am Mattins and Sermon GB

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon GB

Sunday 20th TRINITY 8 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon GB

Sunday 27th TRINITY 9 8.008m Holy Communion GB

9.00am Mattins LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Mattins and Sermon GB

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon GB

SPONSOR'S PAGE.

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME.

Our Home has been open since 1958 and is now well involved in local events, while we always welcome visits from our friends and supporters. We have twenty-six residents, many of whom are known to you. How about getting more involved in our activities? Please come to see our Chapel and Physiotherapy extension which was opened by Group Captain Leonard Cheshire on

the 17th May. We are very grateful to the Rector for all his involvement with our Home and thank everyone who supports us in any way.

The following events are to be held at the Home:

Saturday, 14th June - All Day - ANNUAL FETE

Apart from the usual wonderful attractions, there is to be a 'Beautiful Baby' contest. Do please support this and come along and have a really fun-filled and worthwhile day.

Sunday, 15th June - 10pm until mid-day - Car Boot Sale (£3 a car)

Thursday, 13th November - 10pm until mid-day - Coffee morning including Good-as-New Clothes Stall

If you are able to help with our street collection in Colchester on Saturday, 5th July, at any time between 8.30am and 1.00pm, please come and collect a tin from Barbara Bolton who will be near Berriman's China Shop. We would welcome any helpers - the only condition is that they must be over sixteen years old.

CHESHIRE HOMES ARE ALL ABOUT CARING ~ IN SO MANY WAYS PLEASE HELP US TO GO ON CARING - AND EXPANDING OUR CARE

The Bromley Messenger AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 1986 VOLUME 1, No.2.

Editorial.

As harvest time approaches and the summer wends on its very usual English way, the season of holiday making is well under way. It is possible that we do not always realise how privileged we are to live in this second half of the twentieth century. We do not have to go very far back in history to find that for ordinary working men and women, the annual holiday of two weeks or more was non-existent. Travel, as we know it, was something no-one undertook except for very special reasons. A resident in the village told me recently of an elderly person he had known just before the war who had never been to Colchester. He had spent every single day of his long life in the village! I doubt if this person was an exception. Today, time off and the opportunity to roam through the world (funds permitting) broadens our horizons and extends our knowledge in a way quite unknown for our fore-fathers. What ever the weather we may experience, holidays are not only a time of rest and recreation, whether we stay at home or travel far and wide, but they also present to us experiences and knowledge which enable us more fully to understand and cope with this very complex world in which we live.

Many events have taken place in the village in the past two months: many are planned for the coming months. It is only possible to report on them and announce them if information is given to the Editor. Please may we have contributions, announcements and reports for Issue No. 3 to be published on 1st October no later than Monday 8th September.

I am pleased to include a letter I have received from a resident: I will welcome 'Letters to the Editor' on any subject of interest to the Village. The last date for receiving any is as above.

PRINTING ERROR.

Unfortunately there is a printing error on the inside cover of the magazine. The telephone number of the Essex County Standard correspondent, Mrs. V. Biddis, should read 229506.

REDECORATION OF THE VILLAGE HALL.

Those of you entering the Village Hall lately will immediately notice the splendid work of Mr. Jack Regan who has been extremely busy painting and decorating. If any member of the village feels able to assist him in 'finishing off' please phone 251290 and volunteer. May we take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Regan and other helpers for this fine work. Please continue to support the village hall activities; the next event being a German evening on Saturday, 27^{th} September.

LITTLE BROMLEY CHURCH RESTORATION CAMPAIGN.

After a visit to the church by the Architect, a report has been received detailing the sort of urgent repairs needed to the church and a forecast of the sum of money needed to put the work in hand.

Three areas of restoration are necessary, work on the tower which is likely to cost £37,000, external work on the nave and chancel £9,000 and internal work on the nave and chancel £13,000: this all adds up to £59,000. We have been informed that English Heritage will not be able to give us grant aid so that, apart from a few small grants which may be available to us, the large part of this sum will have to found from the village.

At the time of writing, neither the Parochial Church Council, nor the Restoration Committee have met to consider the situation. However, it does seem that if we want to retain our church in Little Bromley then every person in the village will have to help in some way or other to raise the massive sum of money necessary. Events are being planned which we hope will be well supported; a strawberry tea was held in June, the first of many activities which, little by little we hope, will enable us to reach our target.

S GEORGE'S CHURCH REPAIR FUND.

At last we are getting somewhere! Most people will have heard the good news that we have been offered a grant of £22,000 by English Heritage towards the first stage of the restoration, the repairs to the tower. This is likely to cost £55,000 so the grant available is 40% of this sum. As a result of many magnificent efforts by the village, the funds available to the Repair Fund now stand at £17,000; this includes the £2,000 raised at the Teddy Bear's Picnic. We will need a

further £17,000 to pay for this work, but we are confident that with the almost certainty of obtaining funds from other grant awarding Trusts we will be able to raise this sum by the time the work is completed. We are now preparing to go forward; the architect has been instructed to draw up specifications for the work, the necessary legal preliminaries are being put in hand, and by November we hope to be able to make a contract for the work to commence in April 1987. We understand that the contractor will require to be on site for up to six months. This is a most exciting stage to have reached; at last we will be able to see a result from all the demanding fund raising we are engaged in.

As we have to keep on with our fund raising to meet the balance for the tower work and to provide finance for the next stage which is work on the nave, we must keep up the momentum of activities.

The Sponsored Cycle Ride will take place on Saturday, 6th September. Last year we raised £139; this year we hope for more. For sponsor forms please contact the Rector or Mrs. Jean Harding (230425). The Rector is to launch another Talent Project at the Harvest Supper; a giant Auction Sale is being planned for the spring.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Seven Rivers Cheshire Home,

Great Bromley.

1st July, 1986.

May I crave a little space in your magazine to convey my thanks to all the kind people who help to find the hymns during Church Service and kindly take me home to Seven Rivers after the Service. I am sure the church going residents join me in saying 'thank you' to everyone who has helped us over the years to make Sunday a Happy Day. *Pamela Griffiths*.

1st GREAT BROMLEY GIRL GUIDES.

The summer term has been full of activity. In May eight Guides gained the Guide Friendship Badge (an interest badge on an international theme), and one Challenge badge was awarded. Six of us took part in the Carnival sponsored Bike Ride. We had an outing in the Spring Bank Holiday week to Walton, visiting a private Nature Reserve to see the Green Winged Orchid on the way, and counting eighty-five blooms, and going on to the Naze for a picnic and for shell collecting on the beach.

In June we had a stall at the Carnival, decorated the Rood Stairway in the church for the Flower Festival and put up tentage for the Teddy Bears Picnic. We also visited Hythe Quay for a conducted tour and went to the Customs House.

We shall be taking part in the District Swimming Gala in July and joining the District Guide Camp at Freston for five days at the end of the month, as well as holding our own week-end camp later in the holidays.

Our regular meetings on Fridays, from 6pm to 8pm start again in September with the opening of the Autumn school term. *Joan Landon*.

BROMLEY BUSKERS.

Early warning notice. For one night only there will be a Special pre-Christmas show on Friday, 5th December, 1986, at the Village Hall. Further details will be in the next edition of the 'Messenger'. EARLY BOOKING ADVISED.

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

Great Bromley Pantomime Group proudly present 'Aladdin' on the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th January, 1987.

Bookings taken as from now - please telephone 230398.

The casting meeting is on 23rd September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Great Bromley's 'panto' is a village tradition,

To continue it still is our firm decision.

But good people all, your support makes the 'show',

so bring all your friends, let's see the seats go,

Thus assure 'Aladdin' will be a GOOD SHOW!

GREAT BROMLEY JUBILEE CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION.

The Jubilee in our title derives from the year in which we were formed, 1977, the year of Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee.

This year, 1986, our carnival day, the tenth, was a fine and most successful occasion in spite of the worries many had over the wet weather in the week before.

When it was formed, the Carnival Committee consisted of two representatives from each organisation in the village; this band of support would still be much appreciated. The floats in the procession from the Cheshire Home grounds to the Village Hall field were originally entered by the majority of organisations; now, sadly, fewer seem able to take part. We are most grateful to the support given in the Adult Class by the Pantomime Group and the Women's Institute, and in the Junior class by S. George's School and the Brownies. We would welcome far more entries, especially from village organisations. There appears to be a growing interest in the Open (non-village) Class.

We are fortunate in being able to attract into participating in the procession, visiting Queens from other Carnivals. At the Village Hall field we have always had Country Fayre Stalls, to these have been added in the past two years, a Car Boot Sale.

In the Hall, a horticultural exhibition, this year of a very high quality has been held. All these activities attempt to offer interest to suit all ages.

From funds raised in past years, various village projects have been undertaken. In the first year two seats were placed in the village. In subsequent years a village sign has been designed and erected, a beautifully engraved book containing the names of all the inhabitants in Jubilee year has been placed in S. George's church for continual

display. In addition over the past nine years, major contributions have been made by the Association to Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, Hamilton Lodge, S. George's Church, S. George's School, Great Bromley Village Hall and the Essex Cancer Scanner Fund. Smaller donations have been made to the Playgroup, the Cricket Club and S. John's Ambulance Brigade.

In this year 1986, the aim is to supply funds for the repair of the Guide and Brownie Hut. The amount we can give and details of other donations will be decided at the A.G.M. of the Association to be held on 28th July.

This very well established Association which works for the village, needs, and deserves, your support. Please help, not only at Carnival time, but also by ensuring that your organisation is represented on the Committee and takes its part in the planning of future events.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

The Friendship Club which meets every third Thursday in the month is looking forward to the trip to Windsor on 14th August, and this months speaker is Mr. Forder of the Mercury Theatre. Our September speaker, Mrs. Allgrove, was an Australian nurse confined to a Japanese camp during the war. To avoid any inclement weather, as in previous years, the Annual Party will be held on Saturday, 13th September, when the Charatones will entertain us. Mrs. Biddis is always pleased to hear of any potential new members. Why not come along to one of our meetings? Don't forget, any odd wool is wanted for knitting for Heath Hospital.

GERMAN EVENING.

An event which must not be missed is a German Evening to be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 27th September from 8.00pm until midnight. There will be dancing to the 'Die Kellerguister' German Band. Tickets can be obtained from members of the Village Hall Committee. All the proceeds will be in aid of the Village Hall funds.

GREAT BROMLEY W.I.

We do hope the visitors to our July meeting enjoyed themselves. Mrs. Capper gave a very interesting talk on wholefoods, explaining the ways to use grains, nuts, pulses, seeds and oils in a healthy diet. The dried seaweed caused some raised eyebrows; liquid seaweed works wonders as a fertiliser on crops, why not on humans!

Mrs. Ruby Starling of Erdelega WI gave her report on the recent A.G.M. at the Albert Hall which reminded us that the W.I. movement is involved in many important national affairs.

It seems a long way off but the weeks slip by, so on THURSDAY 2nd OCTOBER at 4.30 for 5.00 (please note new time) in the VILLAGE HALL we are holding our annual party for the over 60's of the village. All elegible are cordially invited, so please do come. Transport can be arranged - please telephone Mrs. P. Hardy (230341).

Dates for your Diary.

6th August - Outing to Frinton Summer Theatre.

3rd September - 'Mountains and Mountain Flowers' 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

1st October - 'More History of Great Bromley' 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

2nd October - Annual Party (see above).

And in conjunction with the Village Hall Committee:

29th November - Dance in the Village Hall with 'Beaney'.

6th December - Christmas Fair in the Village Hall.

GREAT BROMLEY MEN'S SOCIAL CLUB.

The Annual Club Snooker Final was held recently between Mr. Stanley Handslip and Mr. Roger Kynaston, the winner being Mr. Handslip. Mr. Bill Knights was the referee.

The cup was presented by the Chairman, Mr. Norman Skeet.

FAREWELL.

A brief note to express many, many thanks to all who have welcomed me so warmly into Bromley life. I have numerous happy memories to take with me of a busy year, enriched by the various village events at different seasons, and by your friendship and hospitality. I hope to return in the future and to hear reports of happenings in Great Bromley.

Gillian Cummins.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

During August the service times have had to be slightly altered: on Sundays 3rd, 10th and 17th there will only be one service each day: on 3rd August the Family Eucharist will be at 10.00am, and on 10th and 17th August there will be 8 Parish Eucharist at 10.45am; on these Sundays there will be a service of Holy Communion at 8.00am or Evensong at 6.30pm.

For many years we have used a little green book, 'The Parish Communion Book' at services. As these have mostly worn out, or gone astray, it was decided to replace them. However, the book is now out of print and unobtainable. Because of this the FCC has had it own service book printed - this is very similar to the old one with a few minor alterations in the light of modern liturgical changes. It has been decided to commence the use of this new form of service on Sunday, 7th September. For those who would like a copy of their own, it will be possible to order a book with the name of the owner printed on it.

A sample will be on display in the church during August; orders can be given to the Rector or Churchwardens at a cost of £1 each. It is to be hoped that the congregation will find it useful to have a book with the words of the service to follow and they will find this 'new book' a worthy form of worship.

There will be a meeting in the Rectory on Tuesday, 9th September, at 8.00pm when this new form of service can be discussed and when the Rector will be able to explain the detail and reason for the changes. Anyone who is interested will be most welcome. Perhaps this could develop into a regular meeting for study and discussion of our faith.

Sunday 21st September.

At Evensong on 21st September we are pleased to welcome the 'Camarata Singers', 3 group of ten singers based in Chelmsford, who are coming to sing the service for us. Like the visit of S. Catherine's College Choir earlier this year, it will give us the opportunity of worshipping with a Cathedral type of music. I do hope this will be well supported.

Harvest Thanksgiving.

Thursday, 25th September, is the day of our Harvest Thanksgiving. The Thanksgiving Service will be in church at 7.30pm when we welcome as preacher Mr. Ronald Blythe, Reader at Wormingford and Little Horkesley churches, author of many books including the novel "Akenfield".

The school harvest service will be on Friday, 26th September, at 2.00pm and on Sunday, 28th September, the Thanksgiving for the harvest will be continued.

Gifts of flowers and produce for the decoration of the church will be most welcome as also will be help in the actual decorating.

The Harvest Supper will take place in the Village Hall on Saturday, 4th October starting at $7.30 \, \mathrm{pm}$. There will be the usual splendid meal followed by an entertainment - the charge for each person will be £2.50. Tickets will be available early in September. Please book your seat soon.

SPECIAL EVENTS - FLOWER FESTIVAL AND TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC.

What a splendid display was put on for the flower festival by the very clever ladies of the village. Their handiwork was very much appreciated by the large number of visitors who made donations totalling £205, split between the Repair Fund and general church expenses. Sunday visitors enjoyed a very happy tea in the Rectory garden. Our thanks go to all who worked so hard to prepare the church, sit in church on the festival days and helped to provide the teas.

If we thought the weather was kind to us on the flower festival, it was superb for the Teddy Bear's Picnic. The sun, and the hundreds of people who poured in, made this one of the most successful events held by the church. Success means £2,000 to the Repair Fund - it also meant agonisingly hard work to those who planned it - especially the catering staff! Everybody who helped - and there were so many that they could not be counted - contributed to this happy day. Our thanks go to everyone - but especially to Jean Harding who had the original idea and who master-minded the planning and day itself. What a stroke of genius it was of her to invite Mike Young and Super Ted! Those who came loved the day - so also, apparently, did the local Press! Without the help and consideration of the Cheshire Home we could not have held the event - our grateful thanks to the Management Committee, Staff and residents for putting up with us.

There are still a few T-shirts left in most sizes though the small ones are in very short supply. Put some by for the future at the very competitive prices of £2.50 for children's, £3.95 for adult's. Apply to the Rector or Jean Harding.

S. MARY THE VIRGIN, LITTLE BROMLEY NEWS.

As Mr. John Appleby is still recovering from his recent operations (and we are pleased to know that he is making very good progress), the services at Little Bromley will remain at 9.00am each Sunday during August and September. There will be no Evensong on Sunday, $3^{\rm rd}$ August.

On Saturday and Sunday, 6th and 7th September, there is to be a FLOWER FESTIVAL at which displays of flowers will illustrate a number of well-known hymns. The proceeds of the Festival will go towards the general church funds. I am sure you will all want to come and visit us during this week-end. If you can help in any way, particularly as a steward, the Churchwardens will be pleased to hear from you. As Saturday, 6th September, is also the Diocesan Sponsored Cycle Ride we expect a large number of visitors, and hope for a number of cyclists to ride for us to beat last years total of £38. The Patronal Festival of the church is the 8th September, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will celebrate this in church on the Sunday of the Flower Festival with Holy Communion at 9.00am and Festal Evensong at 6.30pm.

The Harvest Thanksgiving this year will be on Sunday, 5th October: we will very much appreciate gifts of flowers any produce for the decoration of the church - and help in the actual decorating on Saturday, 4th October.

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES.

Sunday morning services at Burnt Heath take place at 10.45am each Sunday through August and September; at Balls Green the time of the service is 11.00am. The service on Sunday, 3rd August, at Balls Green will be the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

At Little Bromley the morning service is held each Sunday at 10.45am except on 3rd August and let August when it will be at 9.30am.

HAMILTON LODGE.

Don't forget to tune in to Radio 4 on Sunday, 7th September, at 8.50am. Mr. Bobby Robson, the England's Football Team Manager has kindly agreed to speak on 'The Week's Good Cause' with an appeal for funds for Hamilton Lodge.

PAINTERS WAY - HAMILTON LODGE WALKING GROUP.

On 1st July six pairs of well exercised (polite term for weary!) legs paraded down the High Street of Manningtree proudly announcing the completion of a twenty-six mile walk all the way from Sudbury along the River Stour. Not all at once we hasten to add: we had done the walk in five stages; Sudbury to Workhouse Green, Workhouse Green to Bures, Bures to Nayland, Nayland to Stratford 8. Mary and Stratford S. Mary to Manningtree. Nevertheless, we had followed the guidebook step by step (literally) through meadows, along paths, on roads and tracks, over stiles along the riverbank, through great fields where the crops came up to our shoulders ... and we made it! En route we had also seen many interesting and scenic places - sleepy little villages such as Wormingford and Withermarsh Green, historic houses and inns in Bures, Nayland, Stoke-by-Nayland, Stratford, Dedham and East Bergholt and, most memorable of all, beautiful village churches dotted along the way, most of which we visited ... Nayland church, Stoke-by-Nayland with its great tower, Stratford S. Mary and the lovely parish church at Dedham which remained in view all the way to the sea at Manningtree. All in all, it made a memorable journey, enjoying the sights, smells and sounds of the Essex/Suffolk border country rural heritage. We are now working on a display to indicate our route from Sudbury to the coast and mount our many photographs and souvenirs.

The walkers were: Walter Bird, John Hall, Derrick Lawson, Jeffery Manley, Chris Medley and Gillian Cummins.

FLOWERS - GREAT BROMLEY.

August 3rd Mrs. Brinkley September 7th Mrs. B. Hall

August 10th Mrs. M. Hart September 14th Mrs. J. Rowe

August 17th Mrs. B. Rowe September 21st Mrs. J. Thornton

August 24th Mrs. V. Biddis September 28th Mrs. G. Hayward

August 31st Mrs. L. Brown

REGISTERS...

Holy Baptism

13th July ~ Lauren Wright

Holy Matrimony

19th July - Glynn Charles Cheeseman and Margaret Elizabeth Fairley

Holy Burial

24th May - Isabella Rob Wensak

2nd June - Margaret Ann Pirie

DIARY - AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1986

Sunday 3rd TRINITY 10 9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Family Eucharist GB

Sunday 10th TRINITY 11 9.00am Mattins LB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

Sunday 17th TRINITY 12 9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

Sunday 24th TRINITY 13 S. BARTHOLOMEW 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Mattins LB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

6.30pm Evensong GB

Sunday 7th TRINITY 14 NATIVITY OF BVM 9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Family Eucharist GB

6.30pm Evensong LB

Sunday 14th TRINITY 15 HOLY CROSS DAY 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Mattins LB

10.00am Sunday School CB

10.45am Mattins GB

6.30pm Evensong GB

Sunday 21st TRINITY 16 S. MATTHEW 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

6.30pm Evensong - Camarata Singers GB

Thursday 25th HARVEST THANKSGIVING 7.30pm Evensong CB

Friday 26th 2.00pm School Harvest GB

Sunday 28th TRINITY 17 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Mattins LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

6.30pm Festal Evensong CB

Monday 29th S. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS 7.30am Holy Communion GB

SERVERS - GREAT BROMLEY.

August 3rd 10.00am Robert Harding

August 10th 10.45am James Heaney

August 17th 10.45am John Clapham

August 24th 8.00am Bill Kempster

August 31st 10.45am John Clapham

September 7th 10.00am Robert Harding

September 14th 8.00am James Heaney

September 21st 10.45am John Clapham

September 28th 8.00am Bill Kempster

THE WIVENHOE BOOKSHOP.

The Wivenhoe Bookshop has a wide range of interesting books.

Any book ordered.

Delivery free to Great and Little Bromley.

Wivenhoe Book Shop,

23 High Street, Wivenhoe. Telephone: Wivenhoe 4050.

GREEN ACRE BOARDING CATTERY

BRIAR ROAD, GREAT BROMLEY, COLCHESTER 230436

Leave your cat in experienced, capable, caring hand at this long established cattery which is open all year round.

Personal attention of Olive and Dennis Sparling.

BRITISH WILD FLOWERS

ESSEX HOUSE, HARWICH ROAD, GREAT BROMLEY,

Help to save our floral heritage by planting a few wild plants in an odd corner, or start a wild flower garden. Over 50 species. Lists available.

The Bromley Messenger OCTOBER- NOVEMBER 1986 VOLUME 1, No.3.

EDITORIAL.

You will notice that this month's issue of 'The Messenger' has been increased in size; this is because the Editor has been inundated with contributions! He is of course, not complaining about this; on the contrary he is absolutely delighted. It speaks volumes about the rich variety and amount of activity in the Bromleys. Not only is this magazine distributed throughout the villages, but copies are also sent to a number of people living far from us - including copies sent as far as the United States. A comment from one of the recipients of the first issue in America is of wonder that in such a small village as ours such a lot of activity, friendship and good will are apparent. Please keep your contributions rolling in, it will help if articles for the next issue are received at the Rectory by the first week-end in November.

It becomes obvious that at the end of this, the first trial year of the magazine, we will have to endeavour to make this a monthly publication - but that will depend entirely on sufficient funds being available - we will need twice the amount we now receive - see the article 'Treasurer's Tantrums'.

Our thanks this month go to Torch Petroleum for their sponsorship which enables this magazine to come to you free of charge.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

The Council met on 24th July when Mr. Henry Fairley was re-elected as Chairman. Others elected were: Vice-Chairman Mr. G. Kempster, Representatives to the Tendring Association of Local Councils - Mr. L. Christodoulides and Mr. G. Kempster. It was decided to make the following grants: Essex Association of Parish Councils £66.20,

Village Hall £300, Parochial Church Council £200, Tendring Association of Local Councils £4, Bromley Messenger £100.

The following matters were reported: The footpath of B1029 is to be repaired by Tendring D.C. Horses still using the footpath between the Village Hall and Back Lane - this must stop or further action will be taken. Consent for heavy goods vehicles operating from Crossways Garage had been granted for two-and-a-half years instead of five so that objections that have been made can be assessed. The County Council are being pressed to erect a Great Bromley sign on the A120 from the Harwich direction. A new committee has been formed to take responsibility for the playing field and some volunteers are needed for maintenance work. County Councillor Pallett is to follow up the vote taken at the Public Meeting concerning the Motel Complex. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 2nd October, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

If any persons in the parish wishes to speak at a Council Meeting, they should let the Clerk to the Council know the subject beforehand. At each meeting a short period will be set aside by the Chairman for discussion on any matter that may be requested.

THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL.

It was with much regret that the Council received notice of the resignation of Mrs. Mary Hart. Mary has been the Clerk since March 1978 when she took over from Jim Biddis. She has established a liaison with Tendring and Essex Authorities that has proved successful in producing results when needed. Her resignation was due to extra commitments with the family farm. She regrets having to leave this position since she found the job both interesting and satisfying.

The Council are therefore, looking for a replacement and would ask anyone who may be interested in this position to contact the Chairman, Mr. Henry Fairley.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

With great difficulty, owing to the presence of builders, term resumed on 2nd September. During the holidays many improvements have been made to the building which must make life easier in the months to come.

Prior to the above work being commenced the Summer Term was very busy. The Sports Day, having been postponed because of bad weather, was eventually held and despite an overcast

sky, the event was enjoyed by all and congratulations go to the children who participated so sportingly. Children represented the school at the Inter-Rounders Tournament and the District Sports at Manningtree. Twelve children also attended an exhausting but exhilarating Country Dance afternoon in Colchester.

Other activities included the Art Competition 'Holiday Camps' at the Cheshire Home Fete and the school won the overall Schools Cup for the most imaginative painting; congratulations are due to Ben Lucking in this respect.

A runners-up prize was won in the Tendring Hundred Show's competition for a bookmark, and the school also mounted a display at the Tendring Hundred Show.

With the new term commencing, the days are once again full with all school activities and the preparations for Harvest and Christmass. More about these activities and many others in the next issue.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

CHURCH BELLS.

Having moved to East Bergholt, Mr. Simon Rudd has felt it necessary to give up his appointment as Captain of the Bell Tower at Great Bromley. He has held this position since he was a boy of fifteen years and has served the church well. We are most grateful to him for all his help over the past years. He hopes to come over from time to time to help ring our bells.

A member of the congregation, Mr. John Groom of Longridge Park has agreed to take over the responsibility for the bells and we welcome him most heartily. We are most anxious to get a team of ringers from the village so that we can ring the bells each Sunday without having to rely on the ringers from Ardleigh who, from time to time, have come to ring for us. There will be a bell practice every Wednesday at 7.30pm, and we would welcome anyone who would like to come and learn this ancient and very English craft. Anyone can learn to ring, at almost any age. -

THE RECTORY.

Many of you will have noticed that the weather boarding on the Rectory has recently all been replaced and the exterior of the house completely repainted. The total cost for this work has been met by the Diocese who are legal owners of the house. Every five years the Rectories and Vicarages are inspected by the Diocesan Surveyor and any necessary work put in hand. It is a great relief to know that the parish does not have to bear any of the cost of this maintenance work.

HARVEST SUPPER - SATURDAY 4th OCTOBER.

Do not forget to obtain tickets and attend the Harvest Supper at the Village Hall on Saturday, 4th October at 7pm for 7.30pm. In addition to the supper there will be a musical entertainment. Tickets, £2.50, can be obtained from the Rectory.

REMEMBRANCE DAY - 9th NOVEMBER.

There will be a Remembrance Service for both parishes at S. George's church at 10.50am, to be followed by the laying of a wreath on the Great Bromley War Memorial. There will be no morning service at Little Bromley, but Evensong for Remembrance Day will be at S. Marys, Little Bromley at 6.30pm.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

Last October a visitor from the United States to the village and church called at the Rectory. Unlike most American visitors he was not a member of the Stone family. Since then several letters have been exchanged and telephone calls have been made. Since June some very considerable donations from this visitor have been sent to the Repair

Fund and the promise of more to come. With the last donation came the following letter: "I imagine that your parishioners wonder as to my involvement, not being a Stone. They may understand it a little if they were to see it from this side. In this country if we have a building that in one hundred years old it is a historical site. Two hundred years old and it is ancient. To see your church and the time that it has been there and what it means to the community is a pleasure. A pleasure that I do not wish to see ended.

I wish to thank you and all of the members of your congregation for giving me the privilege of helping.'

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

All members of the village, especially those with youngsters, are invited to a meeting at S. George's church on Tuesday, 7th October at 8.00pm to consider how the church can undertake its work among the young. We hope to talk about, and plan, for the Church Sunday School and the possibility of undertaking work for the youth of the parish. The meeting will be addressed by Mr. Brian Beattie, Archdeaconry Religious Education Advisor. Please do make an effort to come and share in our planning.

CONFIRMATION.

The Bishop of Colchester has asked if he can come to Great Bromley on Sunday, 25th January at 10.45am for a confirmation service. As this will be the last visit Bishop Roderick will pay us before his retirement in April, 1987, I hope we will be able to take up his offer. I will be pleased to hear from anyone, young or old, who would like to be presented for confirmation so that preparation meetings can be arranged.

AUTUMN FESTIVAL ~ ALL SAINTS TIDE.

Arrangements are going along for the Festival to be held over the week-end of 1st and 2nd November. The church will be decorated with autumnal flowers and leaves by the ladies of the parish, whilst the Brightlingsea Crafts Group are arranging for demonstrations and display of some of their activities amongst which are calligraphy, quilt patch-work and lace making, and these will be demonstrated during the Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Plans are in hand for a concert in the church on Saturday evening. Details will soon be published and tickets for the concert will be available from the Rectory. On Sunday evening, 2nd November at 6.30pm, the Festival will conclude with a service of Songs of Praise. The proceeds of the week-end will be put to the S. George's Repair fund.

S. MARYS CHURCH NEWS.

A highly successful flower festival and Patronal festival was held at Little Bromley on the first weekend in September. The sum of £360 was raised to boost the funds of the church. Our grateful thanks go to all who worked so hard to decorate the church and to arrange the refreshments and stalls, and of course, to the very many people who came and visited the church and who contributed so generously.

The Church Restoration Committee are continuing their programme of events to raise money for the repair and restoration of the church. A Barn Dance is to be held on Friday, 26th September at Holly Lodge Farm with music by 'The Barnacles'. This should be a very happy and enjoyable event which we hope will be well supported.

After serving a number of years as Churchwarden of S. Mary's, Mr. Bill Walker feels that he is no longer able to continue in office and, consequently, has resigned. We are very sorry to lose him in this office and we would like to express our thanks to him for his efforts and work on behalf of the church.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING - S. MARY'S LITTLE BROMLEY.

The Harvest Thanksgiving will be held on Sunday, 5th October. There will be Holy Communion at 9.00am and Festal Evensong at 6.30pm. We will be grateful to receive gifts of flowers and produce to decorate the church on Saturday, 4th October.

VISITORS.

Over the week-end many people visited both our villages in connection with the Diocesan Cycle Ride and Flower Festival at Little Bromley. Amongst those who came we were delighted to welcome three persons with a very special relationship to us. Miss Mary Wood from Wickham Market, a daughter of the Revd. C. B. Wood, Rector of Little Bromley from 1926 until 1948 was welcomed, together with Mrs. Daphne Pemberton from Earl Soham whose grandfather, Cannon Abbay was Rector of Little Bromley from 1878 to 1883. Both of them recalled their young days at the Old Rectory. A visitor to both parishes was the Revd. Paul Richmond, Rector from 1977 to 1981, who is now living in retirement at Ringmer, Sussex.

BROWNIES.

Not much has happened since last time I wrote. We attended a District Swimming Gala held at Manningtree. As only three Brownies came we did not do well overall but the three all gained first and seconds in their races. Clare has her Pony Rider Badge and Elizabeth her Footpath. The nine year olds, and over, are going to a District Park Holiday week-end and will report on that in the next magazine. At the moment we are working for a Handicraft Exhibition to be held at the Ogilvie Hall on the 4th October. Please come and support it.

As predicted our numbers have reduced, so any girls of seven years old - come and see what we do on a Wednesday evening - my telephone number is on the cover of the magazine if you have any questions. The subs are now 25 pence per week in line with the Guides.

The Hut suffered in the summer storms and is filthy, possibly a 'new' carpet is needed as I do not think the present one will ever shed its layer of mud, so if anyone has one to spare we would be grateful, the floor is cold and damp in the winter which makes us think of false flooring as well as re-roofing. Working parties will be necessary.

Jackie Terry

1st GREAT BROMLEY GUIDES.

In July some of the Guides attended the District Swimming Gala. No records were set up, but one or two 'personal bests' were achieved. We also practised tent pitching ready for camp. This was held at Little Clacton at the end of July when, during the five days of mainly sunny weather, we enjoyed all the usual outdoor and camp activities - cooking, tracking, hikes, campfire singing and camp games and challenges.

A day out in Frinton included shopping, sandcastle building and a visit to Mrs. Garrad, the Frinton 'Bird Lady'. We spent over an hour at her house hearing all about her bird rescue work and she showed us the birds in her care, some of which will be returned to the wild and some which will live permanently in her care as, due to their injuries, they can no longer fend for themselves if released. We saw her pet owl and the puffin, razorbill, gull, curlew and other birds in her house and garden.

We are now making plans for the new term which started on 5th September and hope to have a weekend camp before the end of October.

Joan Landon.

VILLAGE HALL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

Everyone who has been to the Village Hall recently will have admired the bright new paintwork and curtains that have transformed the interior. But what about the outside?' The Cricket Club keep the grass beautifully cut, but it has been suggested that the W.I. and others might help by creating a garden along the front. This would take the form of a three foot wide planting of evergreens and other plants along the north side of the building.

Beth Chatto has kindly advised and assisted in drawing up a list of suitable subjects for a dry north wall. These are mostly popular plants that many people will have in their gardens, so please look through the list and see whether you have any and could spare a small clump, seedling, or rooted cutting from your patch. If you do have anything you could offer, please contact Mrs. Jean Wright, Broadlands, 230663. We should also be glad of offers of help with cleaning and preparing the site - and a bit of muscle-power needed here plus a sharp spade or fork! Offers too, of manure or peat etc would be welcome.

Variegated and small leaved ivies.

Hedera helix - 'Buttercup' and Sagittifolia.

Hedera Colchica - 'Dentata Variegata' and 'Paddy's Pride' Marda's Crested and Invalace .

Hostas. Royal Standard or any variety.

Pyracanthus. (firethorn).

Mahoina.

Epimedium

Alchemilla Mottis. 'Lady's Mantle'.

Vinca minor. (Periwinkle) Elegantissima.

Bergenias.

Skimmia. Rubella (male and female plants).

Symphonicarpus. (snowberry) V. Mother-of-Pearl.

Ferns.

Eronymus. Silver Queen and Emeraldia.

THE VILLAGE POST OFFICE.

In September Charlie Pirie gave up his position as Village Postmaster after looking after our needs for a number of years. We welcome Michael and Barbara Hall to the Post Office and Store and wish them happiness and success in their new venture.

CHRISTMAS DANCE.

The Great Bromley Pantomime Group is arranging a Christmas Dance to be held on Saturday, 20th December, at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. Further details will be in the next edition of The Messenger – please book the date.

WHIST DRIVE.

The monthly whist drives in aid of the Village Hall Funds will resume on Thursday, 9th October, at 7.30pm. Admission will be 50 pence, and as well as prizes, there will be a raffle. The whist drives will be held regularly on the second Thursday in each month.

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GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Members visited Hall Farm on 28th August where they were welcomed by Mr. Fryer. During an interesting tour of the conifer section, the various stages from taking cuttings to being ready for sale were explained. This was followed by a tour of the orchards. Members were most grateful to Mr. Fryer for his welcome and for arranging the visit. The September meeting is to be held on Thursday, 25th September at Broadlands, S. George's Close when Mr. Pierce from Nottcutts Nurseries will be the speaker. On Thursday, 30th October, Mr. Cowan of Poplar Nurseries, Marks Tey, will give a talk about winter hanging baskets and on Thursday, 27th November, a visitor from Sylvia's Florists, 41 High Street, Wivenhoe, will talk about Christmas flowers.

GARDEN DAY 1987.

A meeting was held on 1st September between members of the Garden Club and the Village Hall Committee to discuss the possible Garden Open Day to be held on Sunday, 5th July 1987, the proceeds to be given to the Village Hall for its necessary and urgent repair.

It is hoped to have a display and sale of paintings at the Village Hall, flowers in church, a stationary steam engine display and a Car Boot Sale. It is hoped that the day could end with a United Service of Songs of Praise . If there is the same tremendous support as was given to the Garden Day in 1985 this could be a great success, which would be a great help to both the Village and all who use the Hall. All offers of help will be gladly received by the Garden Club.

GREAT AND LITTLE BROMLEY WARD LABOUR PARTY.

An enjoyable social evening was held on 5th July at the Red Lion, Manningtree. Rod Green, our prospective parliamentary candidate was present, musical entertainment was provided by Philip and Caroline Cunningham (guitar and vocal) and a not too serious political quiz and an appetising buffet rounded off a pleasant evening.

A Christmas Bazaar will be held at the Colchester Labour Hall on the 15th November at which we shall be running the bread, cake and pie stall. A Christmas Social will be held at the Red Lion on Friday, 12th December. Monthly branch meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. For further information please contact Stanley Cooper, Byways, Chapel Lane, Great Bromley (250434).

GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

The newly spruced up Village Hall was much appreciated when we held our September meeting. Miss Anne Guiver showed us her slides of Greek mountain flowers which she had photographed on several expeditions. It was lovely to see plants, many of which we have in our own gardens, growing in their natural state.

Whilst on the subject of gardens, the W.I. are planning to make a border in front of the Village Hall which we hope will be pleasing to the eye.

Forthcoming Events.

A Dance on 29th November in the Village Hall, tickets only £2.50 from the Post Office and W.I. members. Why not make up a party and come?

Super Christmas Fair on Saturday, 6th December, in the Village Hall.

Sewing evenings, starting on Monday, 8th October, at Broadlands, S. George's Close, are being held to make items for stalls. Anyone interested in helping will be very welcome. Also we would be delighted to receive books, jewellery, games, toys, dried flowers etc in good condition to sell.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

We enjoyed out July outing to Felixstowe, the sunshine encouraging some of us to paddle in the briny before tea and a wander around the Garden Centre at Stonham Barns. The trip to Windsor in August proved very popular giving us another chance to visit all the lovely interesting places there.

The Optimists are entertaining us on 16th October and Mrs. Moulding will show us how to make Christmas crackers on 20th November.

A Talent Concert at the Princes Theatre, Clacton, is to be held on 4th October. Three of our members are entering the contest with support from fellow members.

Here is an advance notice - our Spring Sale in 1987 will be held on Saturday, 25th April. As this is our one only yearly money making effort we hope other organisations will not clash with us.

THE BROMLEY BUSKERS.

For ONE night only the Bromley Buskers present their Christmas Party Night, including hats, novelties, buffet and cabaret on Friday, 5th December 1986. Tickets (very limited) at £4.00 including supper and wine are obtainable from Mr. P. Wenden (230613) or Mr. G. Nicholls (251254).

DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION.

Exhibitions and Maintenance Grants for Educational purposes are offered to young people resident in Ardleigh, Bradfield, Great Bromley, Dedham and Stratford S. Mary. Application forms may be obtained from Dennis R. Cockram, 13 Harvest End, Stanway, Colchester CO3 SYX, Clerk to the Governors. Closing date 15th October 1986.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY.

What a thrill to be invited to a Buckingham Palace Garden Party to take place on Thursday, 17th July, from 4-6pm. The red letter day dawned fair and sunny and I could not wait to set off. After an early lunch and rush of staff and residents to inspect the outfit with photographs to record the event, we left about 12.30pm with plenty of time to reach the Palace, we thought. After a good journey to the outskirts of London we found ourselves going over the Thames to South London completely the wrong direction, but it is very difficult to follow a map of London with all the one-way systems. Returning over Tower Bridge we stopped to ask a gentleman posting a letter, the way to the Mall. After giving us detailed instructions he decided the only way was to climb aboard and come with us. On reaching our destination the gentleman left us refusing any offer of payment for his taxi home.

Queuing up the Mall we were among more Daimlers and Rolls Royces than I have ever seen. We swept in the Palace gates leaving many spectators pressed up against the railings. We felt very grand.

We unloaded in the Inner Court before being ushered through into the Palace whilst our drivers departed with the vehicles. I waited with one or two other wheelchair occupants to be carried up a flight of stairs by red-coated guardsmen before Audrey pushed me through a corridor lined with glass cases full of china etc. We had more time to stop and admire these on our return. There were more guards waiting to carry us down another flight of stairs into the garden. The Yeoman of the Guard led us onto the lawn to await the arrival of the Royal Family. We found ourselves in an avenue of people awaiting the arrival of the Duke and Duchess of Kent. I had a very close view of the Duchess as she stopped to speak to the lady in front of me. She wore a

filmy blue and white coat dress revealing a white skirt underneath. Her hat was wide brimmed with beautiful roses secured under the brim.

Shortly after the Duke and Duchess passed we moved on to a semi-circle of three rows of chairs for people to have a good view of the Royal Family entering the Royal Tea Pavilion. However, as soon as the Queen arrived, everyone around me stood in respect for her and obliterated my view for a few seconds until an opening was made for me and I was pulled forward just in time to see the back view of the Queen disappear into the pavilion followed by Prince Philip, the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Kent.

The Queen was dressed in blue with a white hat with blue trimmings. The Princess of Wales was wearing a black and white outfit with a large black straw hat. At this stage Audrey and I thought we should make our way for tea via the lake and one of the two bandstands from which echoed military music. Whilst Audrey joined the queue for tea I had a long conversation with a stage manager from a London theatre with whom I discussed the large cross-section of the public who had been invited to this very interesting occasion. There were V.I.P's, sheiks, ladies in beautiful saris, expensive outfits, wonderful hats and men in uniforms or morning dress. We felt that 6pm came round far too quickly but it was a memorable day.

Pamela Griffiths, Seven Rivers Cheshire Home.

TREASURER'S TANTRUMS.,

This third edition of the Bromley Messenger proves beyond doubt that the philosophy of a free magazine to the villages of both Great and Little Bromley is correct. However, its success can only be measured by the support of you, the residents of our villages. Contributions of local news by organisations, articles by local people and letters to the editor etc, are the foundation of its success. Even quizzes, puzzles, funny stories would be most welcome. A history of the village, reminiscences of the past, odd photographs (yes we can print pictures) to add some more general interest to our readers.

However, as the treasurer, I must also ask for more sponsors, we only have enough for six issues. The price for a page is £80 (but you can share a page). If anyone is interested please contact me. I am also starting a small 'for sale' section at two pence a word. If you have a bicycle, fridge, lawn mower for sale, then advertise in The Messenger (we distribute five hundred copies). Your response is therefore important if we are to continue for another year.

L. B. Christodoulides.

Old Fore, Mary Lane South. Great Bentley 251264.

GREAT BROMLEY PLAYGROUP. .

The Playgroup meet every Monday and Wednesday morning, 9.30 to 12.00 in the Village Hall. We would welcome new members (over three years old both mornings; mothers and toddlers on Wednesdays only).

We are holding a Coffee Morning/Clothes Sale on Wednesday, 1st October. Please support our fund raising, there is a very good selection of ladies and children's clothes at reasonable prices. On Wednesday, 26th November, the photographer will be coming at 11.00 and this is open to anyone with children under school age. The photographs are excellent and make very nice Christmas presents. Please support your local Playgroup and come along whenever possible.

GREAT BROMLEY JUBILEE CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION.

Table Top and Auction Sale on 11th October at 2.30pm at Great Bromley Village Hall. Table Top £4.00(booked prior to the event), £5.00 on the day. Twenty-five percent of any goods auctioned will be taken for Carnival Funds. Please contact Jean Wright (230663).

OBITUARIES.

Mrs. Margaret Pirie

The village was shocked in June to hear of the sudden death of Mrs. Pirie. She had lived in the village since before the war when she and her husband came from Scotland to farm in the village. Her kindly interest in everything in the village continued right up to the day of her death; her friendliness and concern for her family and anyone in the village led her to be described as 'Everybody's Aunt'. The very large number of people at her funeral service bears witness to the affection and love she was held in by so many people. We all miss her very much; we are all richer for having had the privilege of knowing her.

Miss Florence Pitman and Miss Vera Cornish.

In the last month two very well known and much loved residents of the Cheshire Home have died. Florence, blind since she was fifteen years old, led a very full life as a teacher of the blind until multiple sclerosis set in and brought her to Seven Rivers Home over twenty years ago. Vera, whose illness came to light as a very young woman, was the last remaining resident of those who came to Seven Rivers when the Home opened in 1958. Both of them showed immense courage and cheerfulness in accepting the disabilities they shared. To all of us who lead normal healthy lives they were great examples of courage, and from them we learn a great deal about accepting pain and sadness.

Mrs. Helen Waldock.

The death occurred in September of Mrs. Helen Waldock, wife of the Revd. Arnold Waldock. On two occasions when the parish was without a Rector, Mrs. Waldock came each Sunday from Clacton to the parish with her husband who, by conducting the services, ensured that the life of the church was maintained. She became a friend of many people in both parishes who will remember her with thanksgiving and joy.

DIARY - OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 1986.

Saturday 4th 7.00pm Harvest Supper ~ Great Bromley Village Hall

Sunday 5th TRINITY 19 9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Family Eucharist GB

6.30pm Harvest Evensong LB

Tuesday 7th 7.30pm Meeting to discuss Sunday School and Youth Work - S. Georges Church Sunday 12th TRINITY 20 8.00am Holy Communion GB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Mattins and Sermon GB

11.00am Mattins LB

6.30pm Evensong GB

Saturday 12th 10.30am Bring and Buy Sale

Normans Farm, L. Bromley LB

Sunday 19th TRINITY 21 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

6.30pm Evensong GB

Sunday 25th TRINITY 22 8.00am Holy Communion GB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Mattins and Sermon GB

11.00am Mattins LB

6.30pm Evensong GB

Saturday 1st Autumn Festival of Flowers and Crafts GB

7.30pm Concert GB

Sunday 2nd ALL SAINTS TIDE 9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Family Eucharist GB

6.30pm Songs of Praise

Monday 3rd ALL SOULS DAY 7.30am Requiem Mass GB

Sunday 9th REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion GB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.50am Service of Remembrance GB

6.30pm Evensong LB

Sunday 16th TRINITY 25 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

6.30pm Evensong GB

Sunday 23rd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT 8.00am Holy Communion GB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Mattins and Sermon GB

11.00am Mattins LB 6.30pm Evensong GB Sunday 30th ADVENT SUNDAY 8.00am Holy Communion GB 9.00am Holy Communion LB 10.00am Sunday School GB 10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

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CHURCH FLOWERS - GREAT BROMLEY.

5th October Miss F. Orman . 2nd November Mrs. H. Brown 12th October Mrs. Walker 9th November Mrs. H. Brown 19th October Mrs. L. Brown 16th November Mrs. L. Brown 26th October Mrs. L. Brown 26th November Mrs. L. Brown

SERVERS - GREAT BROMLEY.

5th October 10.00am Mr. Robert Harding 12th October 8.00am Major James Heaney 19th October 10.45am Mr. John Clapham 26th October 8.00am Mr. Bill Kempster 2nd November 10.00am Mr. Robert Harding 9th November 8.00am Major James Heaney 16th November 10.45am Mr. John Clapham 23rd November 8.00am Mr. Bill Kempster 30th November 10.45am Mr. Robert Harding

REGISTERS.

Holy Baptism

31st August - Richard Denis Charles Chilver

5th September - Jamie Elizabeth Cordwell (at S. Mary's, Little Bromley)

Holy Burial.

24th July - Florence Edith Pitman, aged 77 years, of Seven Rivers Home 9th September - Vera Elsie Cornish, aged 68 years, of Seven Rivers Home 15th September - Helen Waldock, aged 69 years.

The Bromley Messenger DECEMBER 1986 - JANUARY 1987 Volume 1, No.4.

EDITORIAL.

The approach of Christmass and the New Year, 1987, is probably uppermost in most people's minds as they read their copy of the Messenger. All the organisations will be celebrating this season in traditional manner and no doubt, with great enjoyment. I am reminded of the lady who was heard to say whilst choosing Christmass cards - 'look at that, they are even bringing religion into Christmass!' First and foremost Christmass is a holy season, albeit a very happy one: without the birth in Bethlehem of the child Jesus, there would be no Christmass - the word itself means 'The Festival of Christ'. In church and chapel throughout the land people will come 'to adore Him'. This will happen in our villages as well as elsewhere.

A happy Christmass to all our readers, but please do not forget the one whose birthday we will be celebrating - Jesus the New Born King.

It would help in the planning of events for the New Year if we all were to know the dates and times of as many of the village activities as are already planned. I would be happy to include an extra pull-out page in the next issue in a Diary form giving this information. If any organisation, association or group has planned any event for 1987 could they please let me have a note giving time, date, place and event so that it can be published? It would help if this information could be supplied as soon as possible, preferably not later than 1st January. Information, articles, letters etc. for the February issue should arrive on the Editor's desk not later than Monday, 5th January.

This month the Messenger comes to you through the generosity of the Parochial Church Council of S. George's church, Great Bromley.

REGISTERS AND RECORDS.

In 1903 a new Baptismal Register with spaces for eight hundred and ten entries was purchased for the use of S. George's church. On the first page is recorded the baptism, on 9th August 1903, of George Sutton Hall. On other pages are recorded the baptisms of his sister, later his children and finally, the very last entry on 19th October 1986, of his two grand-children, Adam and Zara Ardley. The book which makes most interesting reading is signed by all the Rectors of the parish from Rector Graham to the present, and includes the names of very many persons who were very active in the village and church. It is interesting to note that the 1903 book bound in calf leather cost nine shillings: a new book we now have to purchase, bound in cloth boards, will cost over £16!

S. GEORGE'S (Church of England) SCHOOL.

The sad news this issue is of the departure of the Headteacher, Mrs. Sylvia Wilson who has been appointed Head of Parson's Heath Primary School. While we congratulate Mrs. Wilson on her well deserved promotion, we are very sorry indeed to see her go. In the five years she has been Head, S. George's School has maintained its standard of excellence and happiness. The atmosphere of any school reflects the attitude of the Head, and the way in which our school is run, and the real happiness of the pupils shows quite clearly the way in which Mrs. Wilson has carried out her responsibilities. Her cheerfulness and her readiness to be involved with all the children and their parents and the village in general will be greatly missed. We all wish her joy and happiness in her new post. Until a new Headteacher is appointed Mrs. Tilbrook will be acting Headmistress.

This term ends on Friday, 19th December, after the customary round of Christmas activities. The annual school play, this year an intriguing one about good (and naughty!) angels, will take place on Friday and Saturday, 11th and 12th December at 7.00pm. Tickets can be obtained from the school.

Parents, families and friends of the pupils are invited to the Christmas Carol Service to be held in S. George's church on Tuesday, 16th December at 2.00pm.

CONFIRMATION.

On Sunday, 25th January, instead of Mattins at 10.45am, there will be a service of Confirmation and first communion. A group of young people are being prepared for this, but there is still time for any adults to offer themselves. The Rector will be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to be confirmed at this service. This will be the last occasion when we will be able to welcome the

Bishop of Colchester before his retirement in April, so it will be as well as an important day for those to be confirmed, a day when we all will wish to come to say goodbye and thank you to Bishop Roderick for all he has done for the parish in the last twenty-one years.

VILLAGE HALL.

Now that the main hall has been so beautifully decorated, the Committee are anxious to decorate and freshen up the Billiard Room. No bookings for the Hall will be taken for the period from Monday, 12th January, to Sunday, 18th January, and during that time it is hoped to clean and paint the whole of the Billiard Room. Volunteers are required to help with this project. If you can give any time to help in this work, please ring Peter Rowe (230398 or 231067). All offers of help will be gladly received: the more people who will take part, the quicker and easier will be the job. It is most important that this work is done: it is very much in the Interest of the village that the whole of our hall looks neat and tidy. We were most grateful to those who painted the main hall please help us in this next project.

GARDEN CLUB.

There will be a Cheese and Wine Evening on Friday, 12th December, at Broadlands. S. George's Close, to raise funds for the Open Garden Day being arranged for Sunday, 5th July, 1987. The Garden Day, similar to the successful event held in 1985, is being held to help raise money for urgent repair work to be done to the Village Hall. The next meeting will be a Christmas Social to be held at Fenn House, at the invitation of Mr. & Mrs. Frostick on Thursday, 11th December at 8.00pm. The January meeting will be on Thursday, 22nd January, at Broadlands, S. George's Close when Mr. Colwill, Leisure Works Manager of Tendring District Council will talk about the care of shrubs and bushes.

CARNIVAL 1987.

A Carnival Queen and Princesses are sought for the Great Bromley Carnival Day, Saturday 6th June, 1987. Will anyone interested in being selected to fill these privileged positions please telephone Mrs. Jean Wright (230663). The Queen and Princesses will be representing the village in our own carnival procession and other local carnivals.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 2nd OCTOBER 1986.

- 1. Essex County Council is to be asked to clear up the litter in Chapel Lane.
- 2. Urgent help is needed with refurbishing the swings etc. on the Village Playing Field. Will anyone who can help please telephone Mr. A. Aldous (251123). The cost of cutting the grass on the field for 1986 was £210.45.
- 3. The Clerk to the Council now has a list which can be consulted by anyone of trees in the village on which there is a Tree Preservation Order.
- 4. An Operators License has been applied for, for Hazell's Garage. Tendring D.C. have been asked to investigate.
- 5. The 1985 Bus Act has removed subsidies from rural routes. Our bus situation will be closely monitored.
- 6. Tendring D.C. is to be asked to use the Village Hall as a Polling Station for the elections to be held in May, 1987.
- 7. One person has so far shown an interest in the vacancy for a Clerk to the Council caused by the resignation of Mrs. Mary Hart. An appointment will be made at the next meeting to be held on 27th November in the Village Hall.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH REPAIR FUND.

The good news is that the fund now exceeds £20,000! In fact we now have a total in hand of £21,079. The increase is in part, due to some very generous contributions from the U.S.A. together with a lot of local effort and interest which has accrued from our bank deposits. We are still planning to commence the work of the Tower in a few months time, in 1987. Our most grateful thanks go to all who have in the past, and are still, supporting our efforts to maintain our magnificent parish church.

CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

The North Colchester Conservative Association has a branch covering Great and Little Bromley and Little Bentley. There are members and Committee members from all three villages working for the return of Conservative members at parliamentary, county and district council elections.

There are opportunities for political discussion in Colchester. Part of our funds are raised from member's subscriptions and part from social functions.

In 1986 we held a strawberry tea in June and a barbecue lunch in July, both at Brundells Farm, followed by a barn supper in September at Park Farm. We were represented with distinction but without success, in the inter-branch quiz. Members will be manning the poultry stall and turkey raffle at the Christmas Fair at the Moot Hall on Friday and Saturday, 12th and 13th December. Please ask for more information from the Secretary Dick Hayward, Badley Hall Cottage, Great Bromley 231016.

CHRISTMAS SALE.

DO NOT miss the Christmas Sale in the Village Hall on Saturday, 6th December at 2.30pm. All the fun of a Christmas event, stalls. raffles, refreshments and Father Christmas. The proceeds are to be divided between the Village Hall funds and the Women's Institute.

BROWNIES.

In October we went to the moon and came back safely I would like to add!!. Dormouse organised a Lunar (loony?) Evening complete with a massive silver rocket which reached the apex of the roof. After severely taxing ourselves on a trail, blindfolded, we restored our energies with mooncakes and lunar pop.

Several Brownies are now proficient in making, not cooking, wagga-wagga biscuits which taste absolutely delicious. These were part of our well-filled table arrangement at the District Handicraft Exhibition.

Victoria went on the Pack Holiday week-end and pronounced it super, though bed time was not so popular. Her main delight was the huge camp fire which was lit by a flaming arrow. About a hundred people sang, chanted, acted and listened to stories sitting around the camp-fire circle at Thorrington. She also made stilts and became expert at walking on them and made a kite but we had no wind to test that!

Two journey badges have been gained: Zoe has completed her Footpath and Clare her Roadway, also two Interest badges. Julie completed her Craft Badge and Clare her Writer's Badge. All the Pack are working on their Conservation and Pathfinder Badges so please have patience Mums, with the requests for empty containers and 'How do I get to the nearest garage'?' etc.

The roof has been done, thank you, and tested. Unfortunately more water now comes in the door and the sides. Luckily we thought to fold up and leave on a table-top our 'new' carpet so kindly donated, so that it keeps dry. Timely reminder: now the winter months are here all Brownies need to come in wellies and change into indoor shoes suitable for playing games and skipping.

THE BROMLEY BUSKERS.

The Bromley Buskers wish to apologise to all those people who were unable to obtain tickets for our Christmas Show on 5th December, but take heart, our annual function has been arranged for Friday and Saturday, 4th and 5th April next. This will be a completely new programme but please remember, tickets are strictly limited and early booking is advised. For reservations please contact: P. Wendon (230623) or G. Nicholls (251254).

On behalf of the Bromley Buskers may we wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmass and a Happy New Year.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

We enjoyed our trip to Clacton and the Talent Contest at the Princes Theatre where, we are happy to record, one of our members, Mr. Stan West won not only the first prize in his class, but also the Cup for the over-all winner in the show. Well done Stan! Our 25th Birthday in October was celebrated with a cake and sherry party. We were entertained right royally by the Optimists, to the enjoyment of everyone.

After our Christmas Cracker making in November we are looking forward to the 'Mac Music Makers' entertaining us with popular songs for the December meeting where we shall no doubt sing all the better for our Christmas mince pies and sherry.

In January we shall be transported to Old Colchester (perhaps remembered by some of us) with Mr. and Mrs. Redgroves interesting slides. We wish you all a Merry Christmass and a happy New Year.

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

There will be a Christmas Disco on Saturday, 20th December at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. Ultra-sonic music, buffet, licensed bar and raffle. Tickets £2 each available from Betty Rowe (230398).

Do not miss that magic lamp! Tickets for 'Aladdin' available NOW. 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th January. Saturday the 10th, Matinee at 2.30pm. Evenings at 7.30pm. Tickets £2 adults, children 75 pence available from Betty Rowe.

FAITH.

Hold on to faith as hard as you can, For 'tis such a worthy possession of man, Let it go and you will surely find Chaos in the windmills of your mind. You've then no guide your path to steer, And life becomes full of doubt and fear. So have faith in God to show you the way And your life will improve with every day. Betty Rowe.

S. MARY THE VIRGIN LITTLE BROMLEY.

Restoration Committee.

I moved into Little Bromley three years ago from a larger village with a lively community and was surprised to find that little similar kindred spirit seems to exist here. I made 'nodding acquaintances' with a number of dog walkers and cyclists but really did not feel part of the village at all. Although I know very little about architecture or for that matter, about history, I have always had an interest in old buildings. I am caused to think of the many generations which have contributed to, or taken away from, the buildings.

I was therefore pleased at the beginning of this year to receive the Rector's letter inviting everyone from the village to attend a meeting regarding the future of S. Mary's. Here I could see a project involving an 800 years old building and an opportunity to become part of the community. With these thoughts in mind I became inveigled onto the Restoration Committee.

A small, but optimistic committee was created with very little idea of what lay ahead. Our first task seemed to be one of finding out what kind of problem we were dealing with and to halt the further deterioration by carrying out some basic tasks. At our first meeting we each undertook a job. In the nine months since our formation, gutters have been cleared, bricks on the tower parapet cemented in place, young trees removed from the tower wall, buttresses made good, the bell chamber cleaned and bird guards fitted.

These jobs have varied from the filthy to the exhilarating. We are grateful to friends of Mike Bambridge who have dangled over the tower to carry out work on the buttresses. We are also grateful to John Drewery for his help and advice with repairs. Without John's efforts the recent barn dance could not have been such a financial success.

I think we were all stunned by the enormity of the architect's most recent estimate for the repairs of £59,000. The time when major repairs could be carried out was now well into the future, if not out of sight for many of us. I am sure that we all went along to our last meeting with a certain amount of despondency. We felt we should make our contribution to history and yet we were over-awed. To completely restore the church would require an £800 gift from everyone in the village, or the committee had to raise £2,000 per year for the next thirty years. To consider either of these as solutions would be living in Cloud-Cuckoo-Land. We obviously need outside help. A number of other ideas were put forward by the Rector concerning the future of the church and the parish. A meeting of the P.C.C. is therefore, to be held with the Archdeacon in attendance to discuss the possibilities.

On the fund raising front we have held a strawberry tea - £30 profit, and a barn dance - £200 profit, both of which were enjoyed by those who participated. A customer of the Wheatsheaf, Geoff Murray, rode 300 miles on his tricycle whilst taking part in a twenty-four hour time trial along the Great North Road. He raised £60 in sponsorship and Elspeth raised £445 through sponsorship of her London Marathon Run.

The Committee does have fund raising ideas for the future. A concert in the church on 12th December is planned. Also Christmas cards are available from committee members or the Post Office. All of these need your participation and support.

One bonus for me over the last nine months is that I have got to know far more people in the village and I no longer have to just nod!

Roly Knott. Chairman, Restoration Committee.

1st GREAT BROMLEY GIRL GUIDES.

We are very grateful to the Carnival Committee for the work they have done towards repairing the roof of the Hut, though (would you believe it?) the heavy rain in October still found a tiny hole to get through. Once the roof is watertight and the windows and frames replaced, we plan to put up new ceiling panels on the inside. As the weather has been rather disappointing, we have not been outside as much as we would have liked or managed the overnight camp we hoped for. However, we have done some tracking and had a successful cook-out day.

In the hut we have tried several new challenges. Did you know that if you light an almond, the heat will boil enough water to make a cup of tea? We made several cups but I would not recommend this method if you are in a hurry, but it could be useful in a power-cut! One evening we all went outside to watch the eclipse of the moon, followed by energetic singing games in the Hut to warm up again. Sarah has gained her Rambler Badge and Claire is soon to be enrolled. We should like to see some more members, so, come on you ten to fourteen year old girls, pay us a visit on a Friday evening and tell us what interests you and we will tell you about Guides.

DIOCESAN CYCLE RIDE 1986.

Cyclists enthusiastically oiled and dusted their machines in readiness for the annual Saturday ride in September. Many churches were visited by riders from Great Bromley who raised the sum of £139.50 between them. Half of this sum goes to the Friends of Essex Churches and half returns to S. George's church funds. Thank you all who took part. A cheque has been received for Little Bromley church funds from the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust. A group of riders, led by Gregory Frostick from S. Mary the Tower, Ipswich, asked that their share of the money should go to Little Bromley Church. This was a most generous gesture for which we are most grateful. In addition £25 has been received as a result of sponsored riders from Little Bromley itself.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY.

The Annual box opening took place recently and the sum of £163.19 was then sent to the Society. I am asked to thank everyone who supports this work of enabling children to be cared for. If anyone would like a box for 1987, or who would like to know more about the Society, Mrs. Nancy Kempster, New House Farm, will be pleased to give help and information.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

We are delighted that Mr. Ernest Denny, who has recently retired as Organist and Choirmaster at S. James the Great, Colchester, has agreed to come to Great Bromley to train the choir and help Mrs. Sutherland with the church music. We would welcome any new comers to the choir. Choir practices are in the church each Monday at 7.00pm. In addition we would like to encourage children to join, boys or girls of eight years and over. The Rector would be pleased to receive the names of any who are interested. It is hoped that we can arrange a special practice for Juniors if a sufficient number of young people is forthcoming.

NOTICE.

Jacobs and Poorlands Charities will be distributed on Thursday, 1st January, 1987, at S. George's church, Great Bromley at 10.00am to all elderly people who are eligible to apply. *J. E. Biddis, Hon. Secretary.*

WATCH THIS DATE.

Saturday, let February for an entertaining evening with the Bromley Buskers, a buffet supper and raffle. All in aid of the Turner Village Children's Association which is run by parents and staff for the mentally handicapped. Tickets, very limited, £4 each. Licensed bar available. Tickets from Mr. P. Stennett (250236) or G. Nichols (251254).

ADVERTISEMENT.

Help in the house wanted. Two half days per week. Please apply to Mrs. Harding (230425).

ENDPIECE.

Two-timers.

Duettists, called Edward and Harold,

At home unremittingly carolled,

Till a neighbour, at last,

Ended both, with a blast,

From a shot-gun, of course, double-barrelled!

DIARY - DECEMBER AND JANUARY 1987.

Monday 1st S. ANDREW 7.30am Holy Communion GB

Friday 5th 11.00am Colne Valley Wives Group Carol Service GB

Saturday 6th 2.30pm Christmas Sale - Village Hall GB

Sunday 7th ADVENT 2 10.00am Family Eucharist GB

6.30pm Evensong LB

Thursday 11th 7.30pm School Play-Village Hall GB

Friday 12th 7.30pm School Play-Village Hall

Sunday 14th ADVENT 3 8.00am Holy Communion GB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Mattins GB

11.00am Mattins LB

6.30pm Evensong GB

Tuesday 16th 2.00pm School Carol Service GB

Sunday 1st ADVENT 4 8;00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

6.30pm Carol Service GB

Wednesday 24th CHRISTMASS EVE 11.30pm Midnight Mass of the Nativity GB

Thursday 25th CHRISTMASS DAY 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Holy Communion SEVEN RIVERS

10.45am Mattins GB

Sunday 28th CHRISTMASS . 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

6.30pm Carol Service LB

Thursday 1st NEW YEARS DAY 7.30am Holy Communion GB

10.00am Jacobs Charity GB

Sunday 4th CHRISTMASS 2 10.00am Family Eucharist GB

6.30pm Evensong LB

Tuesday 6th EPITHANY 7.30pm Parish Eucharist GB

Sunday 11th EPIPHANY 1 8.00am Holy Communion GB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Mattins GB

11.00am Mattins LB

6.30pm Evensong LB

Sunday 18th EPIPHANY 2 8.00am Holy Communion GB

9.00am Holy Communion LB

10.00am Sunday School GB

10.45am Parish Eucharist GB

6.30pm Evensong GB

Sunday 25th S. PAUL THE APOSTLE 8.00am Holy Communion GB

10.00am Sunday School CB

10.45am Confirmation and first GB Communion

6.30pm Evensong GB

CHURCH FLOWERS - S. GEORGE'S GREAT BROMLEY.

December No flowers in Advent

25th December Mrs. L. Brown

4th January Mrs. G. Haywood

11th January Mrs. J. Harding

18th January Mrs. A. Clapham

25th January Mrs. E. Varney

SERVERS - GREAT BROMLEY.

7th December 10.00am Robert Harding

14th December 8.00am James Heaney

21st December 10.45am John Clapham

24th December 11.30pm Robert Harding

25th December 8.00am

28th December 8.00am Bill Kempster

4th January 10.00am Robert Harding

11th January 8.00am James Heaney

18th January 10.45am John Clapham

25th January 8.00am Bill Kempster

10.45am James Heaney

(Confirmation)

REGISTERS.

Holy Baptism

19th October, 1986 - Adam Jason Ardley, Zara May Ardley, Craig Edward Gladwin

Holy Matrimony

25th October, 1986 - Rebecca Jane Eldridge and David Anthony Cooke

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES.

Burnt Heath. Sundays 7th, 14th let and 28th December – morning service at 10.45am. Sunday let December - Sacrament of Holy Communion. Evening service at Seven Rivers Home at 6.30pm on 14th and 28th December.

Balls Green. Sundays, 7th, 14th, let and 28th December at 11.00am.

Little Bromley. Sundays 7th, 14th and 28th December at 11.00am.

Sunday, let December - Communion service at 9.30am.

Details for January 1987 are not yet available.

SPONSOR'S PAGE - S. GEORGE'S PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL.

IS THIS YOUR CUP OF TEA?

Until some years ago, there was a thriving Free Will Offering Scheme in operation in Great and Little Bromley. Now it is intended to restart the scheme from 1st January, 1987. You are invited to apply for the details and envelopes now, to the Rector or to the P.C.C. Treasurer. The scheme is completely confidential between the donors and the Treasurer. Each donor has a number allocated which will be on the envelope to be filled weekly or monthly or quarterly. The envelopes can be placed in the collection bags at church services or, if requested, they can be collected regularly from your homes.

REGULAR GIVING HELPS OUR CHURCH.

Will you be one of our constant helpers.

John Appleby, P.C.C. Treasurer, Little Pitchbury, Brick Kiln Lane, Great Horkesley. Tel: 271458