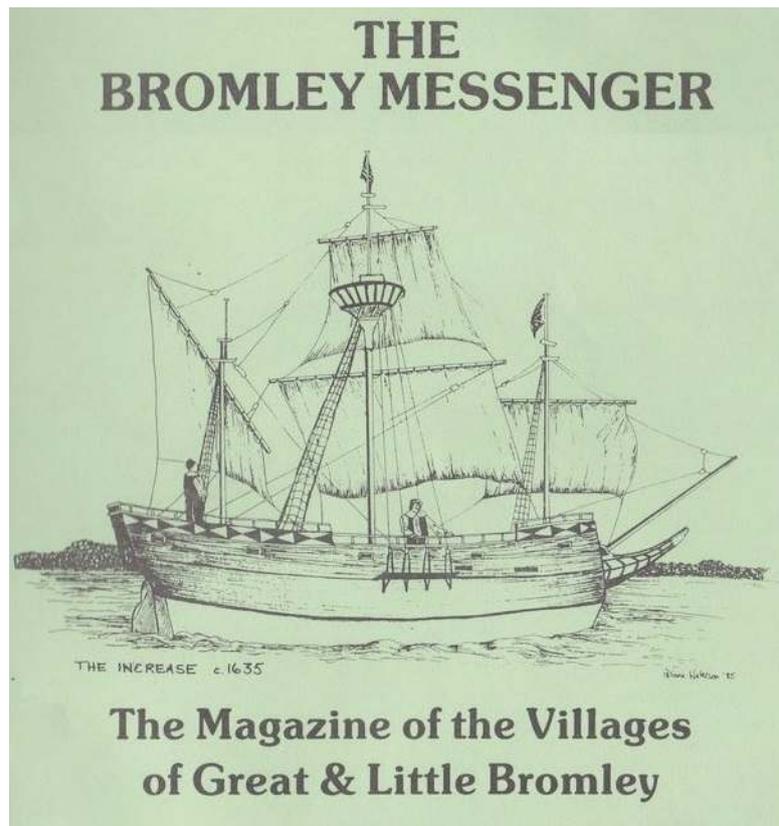


THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

The Magazine of the Villages of Great & Little Bromley
January to December 1988



These old magazines have been scanned and converted to text for historical reference by Dr Hugh Frostick, Historian for Great and Little Bromley.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

Gt. Bromley Parish Council	Mr H.P. Booty, Church Cottage	230473
Lt. Bromley Parish Council	Mr J. Osborn, Cirrus, Lt. Bromley	392656
Essex County Council	Cllr D. Pallett, 15 Lushington Ave, Manningtree	395500
Tendring District Council	Cllr S. Pound, Cliphedge Farm, Lt Bentley	250312
S. George's School	Headmistress Mrs P. Fitzgerald	230305
Manningtree School PTA	Mr R. Knott, Paynes Cottage, Paynes Lane, Little Bromley	393787
	Mrs C. McGuinness, 3 S. Georges Close	230671
Parish Church	The Rector, The Rectory	230344
Burnt Heath Methodist Ch.	Mrs G. Newman, Old House, West St, Wivenhoe	226178
Balls Green Methodist Ch.	Mr P. Howard, Ballabeg, Haggars Lane, Frating	250047
Lt. Bromley Methodist Ch.	Mr R. Whitman, Wheatfields Lt. Bromley	392656
St. George's Repair Fund	Mr R. Harding, The Hollies, Colchester Rd	230425
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Women's Institute	Mrs S. Ward, Tyrone, Back Lane	250674
Ladies Circle	Mrs P. Knappett, Whitby, Chase Rd	250674
Playgroup	Mrs L. M. Tingey, 4 Meadow Close	250143
Garden Club	Mrs V. Booty, Church Cottage	230473
Carpet Bowls Club	Mrs G. Hubbard, Hiskeys Farm	393274
Carnival Association	Mrs J. Wright, 1 S. Georges Close	230663
Pantomime Group	Mrs B. Rowe, 2 Hall Cottages	231067
Bromley Buskers	Mr P. Wenden, The Pippins, Burnt Heath	230613
Gt. Bromley Guides	Mrs J. Landon, Gt. Bromley House	230385
Gt. Bromley Brownies	Mrs J. Terry, The Nook, Colchester Road	230490
1 st Ardleigh Scout Group	Mr J. Terry, The Nook, Colchester Road	230490
Hamilton Lodge Vol. Ass.	Mrs M. Hart, Pondfield, Parsons Hill	230419
Civil Protection Contact	Mr I.D. Anderson, 8 Meadow Close	251091
Essex Co. Standard Corr.	Mrs V. Biddis, Berriedale	230506
East Anglian Daily Times Corr.	Mr S West, Fryerning, Hall Road	230584
Local History Recorder	Mrs I. Wilkinson, 11 Meadow Close-	250287
Treasurer, Bromley Messenger	Mr L. Christodoulides, Magnolia House Bromley Road, Frating	251264

THE PARISH OF THE BROMLEYS

The Parish Church of S. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

RECTOR: The Revd. Paul Davies, The Rectory, Great Bromley. Tel. 230344

PAROCHIAL READER: Mr John Appleby Little Pitchbury, Brick Kiln Lane, Great Horkesley Tel. 271458

CHURCH WARDENS:

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

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

P.C.C. SECRETARY (Acting): Mrs Meriel Davis, The Rectory Great Bromley Tel. 230344

P.C.C. TREASURER : Mr D. Rogerson, Apple Lodge, Fratign Road, Great Bromley Tel. 250228

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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MAY

The Parish Councils of Great and Little Bromley

JUNE

The Seven Rivers Cheshire Home. Telephone 230345

JULY

Colchester & East Essex Co-operative Society (Fuels) Ltd. Telephone 864035 .

AUGUST

Michaelmas House Vineyards (Wines), Great Bromley. Telephone 231115

SEPTEMBER

Carless Petroleum Eastern Region (Fuels), (Formerly Torch Petroleum) Telephone Halstead 472341

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NOVEMBER

The Wivenhoe Bookshop. Telephone Wivenhoe 224050
Wightman Electrical Services, Great Bromley. Telephone 250926
Blackheath Garage, Mersea Road, Colchester. Telephone 66787

DECEMBER

Great Bromley Pantomime Group. Telephone 230442 .

JANUARY 1988

Tiptoe Ltd. (Transport) Great Bromley. Telephone 230442

FEBRUARY

Greenacre Cattery, Briar Road, Great Bromley. Telephone 230436
T & F Motors, Horsley Cross. Telephone 392219
Great Bromley Post Office & General Stores. Telephone 230243

MARCH

Residents and Organisations of the Villages

APRIL

The Parish Church and PCC of the Parish of The Bromleys

The Bromley Messenger JANUARY 1988. Volume 2 Number 9

A Happy New Year to all our readers. We all hope that the year we are now entering will be one that will be better than any other we have known. We think this every New Year's day. What we can be sure of is that the year, as it unfolds, will present us with opportunities to be of service to others, with challenges in our own lives. It is a time for nostalgia, and sometimes for regretting the past. Rather than doing this, let us accept the gift of the present and the future and make the most of every moment. every challenge, every opportunity as it comes. Someone once said 'today is the first day of the rest of my life'. The author of the Book of Psalms said 'this is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.'

The future is sometimes worrying. but not so worrying that it cannot be faced. King George VI in his Christmas broadcast in 1939 used words which can be a guide for us:

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, 'Give me a light that I may travel safely into the unknown'. And he replied 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand in the hand of God. That shall be better to you than light. and safer than a known way'.

This month the 'Messenger' Comes to you through the generosity of William Cory and Sons, Ltd., Distributors for BP and Shell Mex, Ltd. Our grateful thanks go to them for their help and interest in our village.

May I have contributions etc., for the February issue of the 'Messenger' by Wednesday. 13th January, please.

We will shortly have to make up a list of sponsors for the year 1988-1989 to enable the continued production of this magazine. If anyone can suggest any companies etc., or can undertake sponsorship themselves, the Treasurer, Len Christodoulides would be pleased to hear from them. It costs £90 to pay for a complete issue. We invite sponsors either to undertake the whole amount or to share on a half or third basis. Without this help, it would be impossible to continue the production of this magazine.

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH.

The 'Bromleys' Branch of ARC held a coffee morning at Great Bromley House on 11th November. Over £400 was raised for research and the Committee would like to thank all those who supported the event and made it a financial success and an enjoyable occasion.

J. Landon.

TENDRING CARELINE.

What is it? This is a community service set up by Tendring District Council to provide emergency assistance.

Who can use it? It is hoped that as many people as possible will be able to benefit from Careline. It is available to the elderly. disabled and anyone who has a need of it, whether living in Council or private accommodation in a flat or a house.

How does it work? Careline is a means of communicating in an emergency with an operator who, at any time of day or night. can summon help from a Mobile Warden Service. neighbours. a doctor or the 999 emergency services. Those participating in the scheme will be provided with a special telephone handset and a separate alarm pendant which can be worn round the neck or clipped to clothing. The telephone handset will replace the existing handset and can be used in normal circumstances in exactly the same way as a normal telephone. In addition to the usual features of a normal telephone. the Careline handset has a two-way loudspeaker with a large red emergency button. The pendant has an emergency button.

To get help all that is necessary is to press the red button on the phone or the pendant and you will be put into immediate two-way voice contact with the operator who can deal with the emergency. whatever it is. There is no need to dial a number! As soon as you make your call. details about you appear on a screen monitored by the staff. If a distress situation is apparent the operator will summon immediate help.

How much does it cost, and how is it installed? There is nothing to buy. Participants simply rent the Life Line Unit from Careline for a weekly charge which includes monitoring, maintenance. and a Mobile Warden Service. For residents in the Tendring District the charge

is £2.01 per week (including VAT). If you decide to take advantage of this service. the equipment will be installed for you and you will be shown how to use it. In order to have it, all you need to have is an existing modern British Telecom telephone socket and a 13 amp power point.

How can I get more information? Simply by ringing Frinton 79988 or by writing to Careline. Control Centre and Equipment. 5 Greenfields, Edenside, Kirby Cross, Essex CO13 0TQ.

Special note. For anyone who is registered disabled and who will be asked to make a declaration to that effect. the equipment may be provided exempt of VAT.

1st ARDLEIGH SCOUT GROUP.

The group, which aims to provide scouting activities in Ardleigh, Dedham and Great Bromley, continues to go from strength to strength. The scout troop is well established and should soon have three patrols. But of course. there is still an urgent need for leaders, male or female. To help finances the barbecue in July made £150, the Hallowe'en Disco made £120 and the profit from Christmas cards will hopefully add further money to our funds. As the size of the group increases. so do our commitments. Each year we have to pay membership fees to Scout Headquarters of £10 per member. With a possible membership of seventy boys, this means that a sum of £700 has to be found for this outlay alone.

The Beavers are continuing to enjoy their meetings. shortly the first birthday of this section will be held. In the Autumn eight Beavers 'swam' up to join the ranks of the Cubs, and they and the other Cubs are very busy in preparing for badgework. On a very cold weekend during the school half-term, some very brave scouts enjoyed a late Autumn camp in the grounds of Seven Rivers Cheshire Home. Four Cubs are now attending Scout meetings working for their Link Badge; it is hoped to be able to invest them as scouts during the open evening on 22nd December.

John Terry - Group Scout Leader.

1st GREAT BROMLEY GUIDES.

In November we started a Conservation project collecting foil for Guide Dogs, used stamps for the RNLI and Mars Bars tokens for Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children. We are also trying to find someone to take newspapers for re-cycling. We have all planted several pots of different tree seeds to try to help in the aftermath of the great storm. Helen J. and Claire passed on some of the craft skills learnt at the International Fun Day to the others, and everyone has made a soft toy. Some games and challenges are just for fun, and we had some wonderful newspaper creations of 'Garfield' and 'Spottyman'.

Brown Owl took one meeting for me and all were busy with First Aid and crawling around the room in the dark for Fire Drill and rescue practice. Sorry about the dirty knees and socks Mums, but it is well worth learning what to do in an emergency.

Our Christmas good turn is knitting blanket squares for Oxfam and we shall be going carol singing with the Brownies.

I would be very glad if someone would like to join me as an assistant on a regular basis. Occasionally I need a Friday off for other events or to be with my family. and it would make this commitment a great deal easier. I have already spent fifteen years with Great Bromley Guides and another three-and-a-half years before that with the Brownies. Also an older teenager of between fifteen and eighteen would be most welcome as a Young Leader. Many thanks to Brown Owl for her help when I was unwell, but if anyone else could offer to help, I would be more than pleased to hear from them.

J. Landon.

THE CHURCH ARMY.

In October collection envelopes for the Church Army were delivered with the 'Messenger'. I am very pleased that the total sum received from the returned envelopes is £53.67 which has been forwarded to Church Army Headquarters. I would like to thank all who contributed so generously to this very worthy cause.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

We were very sorry that our guest speaker was unable to attend our November meeting. However, some of our members, with two friendly pianists, stepped into the breach with songs, monologues, piano duets and some favourite community singing. We quite enjoyed ourselves. The speaker in January will be one of the members, the competition will be a candlestick complete with a candle! We wish everybody a Happy 1988.

Mildred Purkis.

GREAT BROMLEY W.I.

At our recent Annual General Meeting, the Officers and Committee were elected for 1987-1988. Our new president is Mrs. Jill Frostick, Mrs. Sylvia Ward remains as a very able secretary and a new Committee Member, Mrs. Rose Field is Treasurer, who is to be aided and abetted by Mrs. Phil Burch. Mesdames Jean Wright, Paula Bradshaw, Margaret Aldous, Beryl Hurst, Doreen Petchey and June Willgress complete the line-up. Grateful thanks go to Mrs. Sue Orris, retiring President, and Mrs. Dawn Taylor, retiring Treasurer, for their sterling work during their terms of office.

Visitors are always welcome at our monthly meetings in the Village Hall on the first Wednesday in each month, starting at 7.30pm. If you have never been to a WI meeting why not give it a try? Our programme this year looks interesting and varied and our outside activities enable members to be involved in village life.

COMING SOON AT THE VILLAGE HALL NEAR YOU ...

6th January. Philip Crummy from Colchester Archaeological Trust will reveal all when he tells us about the recent 'digs' under the new Colchester precinct.

3rd February. Ever wondered about what Rotary Clubs are? Now is the time to find out when David Taylor pays us a visit.

PLAYGROUP.

The Christmas party held on 16th December was very well attended. And the children all seemed to have an enjoyable time. Entertainment was provided but the highlight was the arrival of Father Christmas who gave each child a present. Thanks must go to all the mums who provided food and helped to make it an enjoyable party.

Over the past few weeks we have been pleased to welcome several new children, including some who attend both Monday and Wednesday mornings. This is most encouraging; we now seem to be increasing week by week. Please note that the contact for the Playgroup is now Mrs. L. Tingey, 4 Meadow Close (Telephone 250143). If you require any information, we always welcome any new children. *L. Tingey.*

CARPET BOWLS CLUB.

Following the arrangement Mr. George Kempster made for a demonstration by the Weeley Carpet Bowls Club, it was decided to start a club in the village. The first task will be to arrange for the loan of a carpet and bowls, and for the hire of the Village Hall. To start, club nights will alternate between Mondays and Wednesdays. Further details about the club can be obtained by attending a club night or by contacting Ken Stokes, Gill Hubbard, Andy Anderson or Keith at the Cross Inn.

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME.

Don't forget MOTHER GOOSE will be presented at the Village Hall on 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th January. Tickets can be obtained from Betty Rowe (231067).

GARDENERS CORNER.

Jobs for January. Remove dead, diseased and untidy branches from trees and shrubs that have been damaged by wind. Hand prune hawthorn and privet hedges.

Examine dahlia tubers for mould and spray with captan or thiram.

Prepare sites for spring sowings of annuals, then sit with your feet up and go through the seed lists and try something new!

Remove faded flowers and leaves from house plants and move from window ledges at night.

Prune all fruit trees and feed strawberries and trees with sulphate of potash.

Happy New Year! *Fred Wickham.*

HISTORICAL JOTTINGS.

It is interesting to note that the pond adjacent to what was once a forge has a practical value. Indeed it was essential to the black-smith's work. I have mentioned before the surmise that if the Black Boy garage was originally a Smithy, horseshoes and felloes (the outer metal rims of cartwheels) may have sizzled in the pond there.

Mrs. Warboys, helping in the preparations for a nephew's wedding. Has dressed a little bride doll, continuing, or reviving, a very old custom. Before the days of photography the dressmaker would save scraps of the bridal gown material, dressing a small doll (sometimes two) for the bride's family (and perhaps the groom's). This doll was delightful; her dress and veil trimmed with tiny pearls and carrying a bouquet of minute red roses made of ribbon - a lovely old custom.

In view of the forthcoming 125th anniversary of S. George's School, old scholars' remembrances would be very welcome. *I. Wilkinson.*

RESOLUTIONS.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Let's give of our best in all that we do.
We do not know yet what does lie ahead
As into the next year we tentatively tread.
But if we walk with God along the way
We surely know we shall never stray.
Let us be caring, helpful and kind,
Fellow being have feelings, show that we mind.
Then at the year's end we can truly say,
God is the light, the truth and the way.
Betty Rowe.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

For us the new year, 1988, promises to be a year of action and opportunity. The arrangements for the repair of the Tower are going on apace; possible contractors have been invited to tender for the work and all is set for a start in the spring. The pastoral re-organisation of the parish is nearing the end of the legal preliminaries and within a short time. S. George's will become the Parish Church of the new parish of The Bromleys, Great and Little Bromley. When more information is to hand arrangements will be made to inaugurate the new parish with a special service, and to arrange a Parochial Meeting to elect Churchwardens, officers and a new Parochial Church Council.

The PCC of S. George's has considered and approved, a plan which will come into operation with the inauguration of the new parish, of holding a monthly specially designed Family Service which we hope will supply the needs of many in the villages who at present, find our services a little daunting. In particular we hope that the parents of our Sunday School children will want to join their children at this service. Our desire is that by this means our Parish Church will become even more than it is at present. the Parish Church of the whole community.

On a practical level thanks are due this month to two persons in particular, Mis Flo Orman has had a shelf put in place at the back of the church for the hymn books, something we have needed for a long time, and Mr. Goode of The Pylons has made a generous gift to the church of a shed for the churchyard in response to a request in the October 'Messenger'. Thank you both for your kindness.

We have received information from the Diocese that our annual contribution to the Diocese for 1988 (the Quota or Family Purse), is to be £6,260. This is quite a large increase on the amount paid for 1987 (£4,470), but it reflects growth in the work and support of the church, as it is assessed solely on the number of people who attend Sunday worship. In being asked to raise such a sum is a great challenge to us, but as in past years, there is no doubt but that the parish will rise to the challenge. In case there is confusion in people's minds about the size of this contribution, it is worth saying that every parish in the Diocese of Chelmsford is asked to pay a similar sum, some smaller, some much larger. Of this money a portion (a small one) is retained by the Diocese to finance its own working, but the largest part goes to the Church Commissioners for the stipend (pay) of the clergy. Without such parochial support there would be far fewer clergy working full time. and many, many more parishes would be joined together to be served by one Priest.

THE NEW BISHOP OF COLCHESTER.

Archdeacon Michael Vickers is to be consecrated Bishop of Colchester by the Archbishop of Canterbury on Tuesday. 2nd February. 1988.

On Friday, 12th February at 7.30pm at S. Peter's Church, North Hill, Colchester, there is to be a service of commissioning and welcome to the new Bishop. All are welcome to this service, but as it is necessary to issue tickets, will anyone who would like to attend please ask the Rector for tickets no later than Sunday 10th January.

CHURCH REPAIR FUND.

Our thanks go to all who helped in any way to make the S. Nicholas Fair. held on 5th December such a success. A profit of just over £450 was made which has been handed over to the Repair Fund. Especial thanks go to Mrs. Jean Wright for her customary enthusiasm and leadership, to Mr. Robert Harding and of course, to Santa Clause who managed to spare some of his valuable time to pay us a visit.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

The term came to an end with all the customary celebrations, the plays (a separate note about this appears later), the carol service and the visit to the pantomime. That these very successful and happy events can be enjoyed by so many is due entirely to the hard work and dedication of the staff of whom the whole village can be proud. It was unfortunate that Mrs. Fitzgerald had to go into hospital for an Operation and so was forced to miss the Christmas events of her first year with the school. We all hope now that she will be well and able to return to school for the start of the new term.

Many will know by now that 1988 is the 125th Anniversary of the opening of our Parish School. It was in January 1863. that the present school building (the hall, still very much in use) was opened.

Readers might be interested too in the following newspaper report of the actual opening. Records which have recently come to light show that this is not the first school in the village. Before that time there must have been a school somewhere in the village, perhaps in a private house, since we now know that in 1848 a Miss Eliza Wilkin is recorded in a year book as being 'School Mistress at Great Bromley'.

If anyone has any information about this earlier foundation. we would be very pleased to hear about it.

As January is a difficult month for the school, especially in which to have a celebration, we are planning to mark the occasion of the 25th Anniversary at S. George's tide in April. The PTA are making plans for the school and its children to take part in some commemorative events which will include a special service of thanksgiving in the church on Friday. 22nd April at 11.00am, at which the Bishop of Chelmsford, the Right Reverend John Heine will be making his first visit to the school and parish. More details of other events will be announced later.

EXTRACT FROM THE ESSEX STANDARD AND EASTERN COUNTIES ADVERTISER.

Wednesday 14th January 1863.

A parochial school-room, which has long been needed in this extensive parish, has just been erected on a plot of ground near the church, kindly granted for this purpose by the Hon. and Revd. F. Baring. The building designed by Mr. H. W. Hayward, architect of Colchester, is in the perpendicular style of red brick, with Caen stone dressings. The builder was Mr. Capon of Manningtree, and the cost defrayed by subscriptions has been about £260. The schoolroom stands in a large playground suitably laid out and presents a very neat and pleasing appearance. The ceremony of opening the new building on Wednesday last was preceded by morning service in the parish church, the prayers being read by the Rector, the Revd. H. E. Graham. and an appropriate sermon preached by the Right Revd. the Lord Bishop of Rochester.

Alter service the clergy and the principal parishioners walked in procession to the schoolroom where there was a short form of prayer in which the Bishop assisted, and at which there were present:

E. Williams, Esq.. M.D., Mayor of Colchester (a member of the building committee), The Revds. H. R. S. Smith, Rural Dean, H. B. Newman, James Todd. J. N. Chapman, E. T. Walters. W. T. Smythies, D. Fisher etc., the churchwardens Mr. Carrington and Mr. G. Wenden; Builders Committee Mr. J. Sparling, Mr. G. Sergeant. etc., the architect Mr. H. W. Hayward and several ladies.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Bishop and to the Building Committee, the latter being acknowledged by Dr. Williams, and at the close of the proceedings the Bishop, clergy and principal visitors adjourned to the Rectory where they were entertained at an excellent cold collation by the Rector and Mrs. Graham. The only toasts drunk were the health of Her Majesty and the Royal Family. the health of the Bishop and that of Mr. and Mrs. Graham.

THE KINGS MAGICIANS.

What a delightful evening the Rector and I had when we went to see S. George's School play 'The Kings Magicians'. Congratulations to Mrs. Fitzgerald and her staff. the children who painted the scenery and the mothers who made the costumes; but most of all congratulations to the children who performed with great aplomb and confidence. It was a most enjoyable evening.

Meriel Davis.

LENT 1988.

Over the past years it has been the custom at S. George's during Lent to hold special weekday services.

In 1987, instead of services, some very well attended House Study Groups were held. This is to be repeated in 1988, Lent commences with Ash Wednesday on 17th February. The groups are to study a book 'Who on Earth Are You?' published jointly by the British and Foreign Bible Society, The British Council of Churches and the Catholic Truth Society, and designed for use on an ecumenical basis. It is the follow-up to a national Lent Course in 1986 entitled 'What on Earth is the Church For'. Like the 1986 course. this year's study is to be supported by broadcasts by local radio stations.

I would like very much for this to be an ecumenical venture in the villages - members of all churches will be welcome to join in. The first of the five meetings will be on Wednesday, 24th February - on Ash Wednesday 17th February. there will be a service in church at 7.30pm. The meetings will continue weekly on Wednesdays until Wednesday 23rd March as, if a number of people wish to take part, it might be necessary to have two or more groups. Would anyone who would like to attend please let me know by the end of the month. Also if anyone is willing to host a meeting in their own home, I would be pleased if they could contact me. Those participating will need a copy of the study book which can be obtained either from The Sign of the Fish Bookshop, Eld Lane. Colchester. The Church Information Centre. Tower Street, Ipswich, or from me. The cost of each book is £1.00. I do hope that representatives of other churches (and I already know of some who have said that they would like to take part) will join the people of S. George's. I am sure that this would be a far more meaningful ecumenical activity than anything else we have done in the past.

Paul Davis - Rector.

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY.

Please note that in 1988 the dates for the Harvest Thanksgiving events at S. George's will be: Thanksgiving Service Thursday. 29th September at 7.30pm; Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday. Sunday 2nd October. and the Harvest Supper, Saturday, 8th October in the Village Hall. The World Women's Day of Prayer Annual Interdenominational Service for all women in The Bromleys, Ardleigh and Dedham will take place in S. George's Church on Friday, 4th March at 3.00pm.

SIDESMEN.

8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm

Sunday 3rd Mr. P. Rowe Mr. H. Fairley

Sunday 10th Mrs. N. West Miss F. Orman Mr. G. Kempster

Sunday 17th Mr. J. Clapham Major Heaney Mr. D. Sparling

Sunday 24th Mrs. J. Harding Mr. D. Rogerson Mr. P. Walker

Sunday 31st Mrs. N. West Mr. J. Brown Mr. H. Fairley

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH - JANUARY.

Sunday 3rd CHRISTMASS 2 10.30am Family Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 6th THE EPIPHANY 7.30pm Parish Eucharist

Sunday 10th EPIPHANY 1 8:00am Holy Communion

10.30am Sunday School resumes '
10.30am Mattins and sermon
6.30pm Evensong
Sunday 17th EPIPHANY 2 8.00am Holy communion
10.30am Sunday School
10.30am Parish Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong
Saturday 23rd 3.00pm Church Children's Party
Sunday 26th EPIPHANY 3 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Sunday School
10.30am Martins and sermon
6.30pm Evensong
Thursday 28th 7.30pm PCC - Rectory
Sunday 31st: SEPTUAGESIMA 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Sunday School .
10.30am Parish Eucharist '
6.30pm Evensong
Sunday 7th SEXAGESIMA 10.30am Family Eucharist - coffee in school
6.30pm Evensong

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 3rd Burnt Heath 10.45am Balls Green 11.00am
Sunday 10th Burnt Heath 10.65am Balls Green 11.00am
Sunday 17th Burnt Heath 10.45am Balls Green 11.00am
Sunday 24th Burnt Heath 10.45am Balls Green 11.00am
Sunday 31st Burnt Heath 10.45am Balls Green 11.00am
Sunday 7th Burnt Heath 10.45am Balls Green 11.00am

FLOWERS - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

Sunday 3rd Mrs. L. Brown
Sunday 10th Mrs. J. Jolley
Sunday 17th Hrs. B. Hall
Sunday 26th Mrs. R. Heaney
Sunday 31st Mrs. P. Greenfield
Sunday 7th Mrs. J. Wright

SERVERS.

Sunday 3rd 10.30am John Clapham
Sunday 10th 8.00am James Heaney
Sunday 17th 10.30am Robert Harding
Sunday 24th 8.00am Bill Kempster
Sunday 31st 10.30am John Groom
Sunday 7th 10.30am Robert Harding

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The Bromley Messenger FEBRUARY 1988. Volume 2 Number 10

Over the past few weeks Bromley has been very much in the news, proving what we all know, that this is indeed a very lively village. Just before Christmass the Harwich and Manningtree Standard published a most interesting article about activities in the village. The visit of BBC Television to S. George's Church to record George Grange's carol on 18th December brought the existence of the village into the homes of thousands of people in the Anglia Area. Further publicity comes with the news of the winning of a prize of £250 by the Great Bromley Brownies from the County Standard Community Award. What excitement can we expect next?

Congratulations to all who have helped to bring our activities to the attention of a very wide public.

You will notice from the fact that this issue is number 10 of volume 2 that we are nearing the end of our second Year of publication. In order to be able to continue publication into volume 3, we are now having to seek out sponsors to help pay for the production of the Bromley Messenger. The Treasurer, Len Christodoulides, will be pleased to hear of any concerns who may be willing to support us by offering sponsorship. Last year we asked if any residents who receive the Messenger would like to make a contribution to the costs, and we were delighted to receive enough money to cover the costs of two issues, July 1987 and April 1988.

It would be a great help to us if we received the same support for the next year of production: It was particularly pleasing that many of the organisations who report their activities through the monthly magazine were able to use some of their resources to help in this sponsorship. We would be very pleased to receive similar support again.

Any contributions to the Messenger can be sent either to the Editor, (the Rector) or the Treasurer (Len Christodoulides. Magnolia House, Bromley Road, Frating). We have already received one donation of £10!

This month the Messenger is sponsored by the Parochial Church Council of S. George's Church. As February is a short month, can contributions for the March edition be received not later than Wednesday, 10th February please.

BBC LOOK EAST.

Thursday, 17th December and Friday, 18th December, were really red letter days for two groups of people in the village; George Grange and the residents of Fernside, and the children of S. George's School.

A telephone call from the BBC in Norwich two days previously was the start of an exciting, yet very demanding day spent in the church recording the carol written by George which the schoolchildren had very hastily to learn.

The result of George's composition and the children's singing was there for all of us to watch (and very many to record on video recorders no doubt!) on the BBC programme, Look East. Our congratulations go to all who provided this memorable occasion and in particular to George Grange and the teachers and children of the school. It is pleasing to know that George is now a most welcome member of the Church Choir.

After the recording the children wrote their own accounts of the event; a small prize was given to the best account written by Julie Twilley, which I am sure many will be interested to read.

TELEVISION IN GREAT BROMLEY by Julie Twilley.

It was an ordinary day at school and we had just had assembly. The two top classes had to sit on chairs in a row because we were going to be told something very exciting. Mrs. Tilbrook said to us 'the BBC want us to sing a carol in the church so that they can record it and show it on Look East on BBC1 on Friday, 18th December! I was really excited I was going to be famous! But there was one problem. We had to perform it the next day! We practiced it a lot and got to know the words and the tune. The next day we all came in smart school uniform. Everyone was very excited. At last the time came to walk over to the church, it was about 1.10pm when we arrived. When we went into church there were three lights with double ones. The lights were very bright, you could hardly see. The first time we sang the carol the sound team took a recording of it. The organist was very good at playing the organ, his name was Mr. Cole. A blind person wrote the song, his name was Mr. Grange. When the man started to film he looked through a hole in the top of the camera and turned it ever so often. It was 2.15pm before they actually took the real

shot but we had to sing the carol about seven times! It was 3.00pm when they had finished filming and we all had quite sore throats. I am really looking forward to watching myself on television.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

By the time this edition reaches you a contractor will have been selected for the repair work on the tower which we have been preparing for, for such a long time. We expect to see work actually commencing early in the spring. This has been made possible by the wonderful support the church has received from the village. A most generous anonymous gift of £1,000 has recently been made to the fund which we acknowledge with very many thanks.

Over the past three years several persons have made 'memorial' gifts of money to the church, asking that it should be put to a specific use, and not lost in the general funds. This has amounted to just over £400. It was decided that this should be used to provide an Aumbry and Lamp in the Lady Chapel.

An Aumbry is a small safe in which is kept the consecrated Bread and Wine of Holy Communion so that it may readily be taken to any who are ill or unable for any other reason to come to church to receive the Sacrament. The lump which will be kept perpetually burning, reminds us of the particular purpose of the Aumbry and also tells us that the church is no place of darkness, but always contains light, the Light of the Glorious Gospel of Christ.

LENT 1988.

The season of Lent commences on Ash Wednesday, 17th February. In the parish church there will be a parish Eucharist and the ceremonies of the Ashes at 7.30pm.

As announced in the January Messenger, a series of Lent Meetings will commence on Wednesday, 24th February, and continue weekly until Wednesday, 23rd March. The course of study will be based upon the booklet issued by the British Council of Churches and the Catholic Truth Society, entitled 'Who on earth are you?' I very much hope that members of other churches in the villages will be able to join with us. The first meeting will take place in the Rectory, commencing at 7.30pm. A leaflet will be issued giving the locations for all the meetings and a detail of the topic to be covered. It would help if I could have an idea of how many persons will be able to attend. Would those people who would like to take part let me know, either by signing the list in church, or by giving me their names.

CONFIRMATION.

I would be pleased to hear of anyone who would like to be prepared for confirmation, adults or youngsters. There will be a preparatory meeting to arrange times of meetings after the Family Eucharist on Sunday, 7th February.

THE BROMLEYS AND LITTLE BENTLEY CONSERVATIVES.

At a recent meeting the following events were approved for our 1988 social calendar.

AGM: Friday, 19th February at Lt. Bentley Village Hall.

Strawberry Tea: Sunday, 3rd July at a new venue.

Barbeque: Sunday 4th September - Brundells Farms.

A joint event with Wivenhoe was also to be looked into.

The Secretary, Madeleine Pound, resigned due to pressure of her nursing work and it was left to find a successor by the AGM. More support was needed for our functions and greater use of the Bromley Messenger was agreed as a way of informing members and friends of events.

THE BROMLEY BUSKERS.

Arrangements are now well in hand for the annual function on Friday and Saturday, 8th and 9th April. As in previous years, admission is by ticket only and these are strictly limited so an early booking is advised.

A completely new programme is being arranged for the cabaret, otherwise the function will be similar to previous years: bingo, supper, raffle, which appears to have been popular.

Unfortunately in previous years some people have been unable to obtain tickets and members have been, on odd occasions, subjected to criticism by local people. We would like to point out that money raised by our functions is in aid of local charities, church, village hall etc., and tickets are sold as requested. May we again therefore, advise all interested to book early. We all value your support and encouragement and look forward to seeing you.

Tickets will be available shortly and contact should be made to Mr. G. Nicholls (Col. 251254) or any member.

THE GARDEN IN FEBRUARY.

If worm casts are a problem scatter them and brush them with a birch broom.

Rooted suckers from lilacs etc., may be severed and planted out, also the annual pruning of roses can be carried out in mild and sheltered gardens.

Remove all dead stems from perennials before new growth starts. Fork in between and plant any new ones.

Sow half hardy annuals in the cold frame or greenhouse at the end of February, cut onions, garlic, leeks and broad beans at an early date.

Complete the routine pruning of fruit trees and burn the prunings.

In the greenhouse to get things going, try a soil heated cable – use it for seed sowing and cuttings - I find them very successful.

Fred Wickham.

BROWNIES.

We are still meeting in the hut. A big thank you to all the parents who have worked on it, the donors who gave so generously, Pete at the Black Boy for choosing us to be his charity, and Eleanor Henderson for her marvellous letter to the newspaper which won £250 for the Brownies; we shall have our loo!

Eleanor's letter had been chosen from thirty letters as one of five finalists and we had to attend, late on a wet Tuesday night, a gathering to select the three winners.

After answering questions about how much it costs to run Brownies - £250 per year approximately - how much a loo will cost and sand and cement, which we did not know, and whether we were doing anything as Brownies to raise money, we left feeling that we had definitely not won.

You can imagine our surprise and delight when we had the telephone call announcing Eleanor a winner. The cheque will be presented at a meeting on 13th January. You will be able to read about this in March as I am writing this in December.

We sent a cheque to UNICEF for £42 which the Brownies and Guides had raised carol singing. The weather was very kind to us that evening and so were all the people to whom we sang. We were treated to food and lubrication on our way round which made it all the more enjoyable for us. The little ones were really tired from walking and singing for two hours; I am sure they slept well that night.

We have said 'good-bye' to Julie who left us to join Guides. Clare has gained her Jester badge and Elizabeth her Swimmer badge. Hannah is our new Imp sixer. I think that with a bit of work several Brownies should complete a Journey. Perhaps a word of explanation here would be useful. In Brownies we work on three Journeys, the Footpath, The Road and the Highway. These are age-related so that an older girl joining us is not expected to start with the seven year olds. Likewise, if a Brownie takes too long, or does not seem interested, I move her to the suitable age-related Journey, although of course, she does not receive the badge unless all the work is completed. Interest badges are, as their name says, a badge on a topic which interests a Brownie and not the complete Pack.

Future events planned are Thinking Day, Sunday, 1st February, 2.00 to 3.30 Lawford, and a District Pack Holiday weekend for nine year olds at Thorrington 20th to 22nd May.

Jacqui Terry.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Many of our members and two tea-ladies enjoyed a Christmas lunch in December. The day was warm and the hall filled with happy folk, ex-changing greetings, time to relax and enjoy ourselves. Frank Griffiths had arranged an Historical Quiz so we tried to get the correct answers; Mrs. Wilkinson was the winner. It was soon bingo time, then 'The Claytones' entertained us. We joined in community songs and carols; Christmass had begun. The long awaited cup of tea was served with mince pies.

A collection taken raised £26. 84 pence for Colchester Hospice. Our thanks to all who helped to arrange and give us a very happy afternoon.

Grace Gould.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

I must comment on how much I enjoyed the recent television broadcast of the local school children singing 'George's Song'. When interviewed George expressed his love of music. The fact that he is blind and handicapped to be able to listen to the children sing must have given him great pleasure and, now that he has joined S. George's church choir, he must feel very much part of the church and local community.

Good luck George and well done.

Angela Prior.

GREAT BROMLEY FOOTPATHS.

It is hoped within the next month or so to be able to organise a programme of Footpath walks. Watch for details in the Messenger, or notice boards, or ring Colchester 230640.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

I would like to draw the following dates and speakers to your attention: 23rd February, 1988 - New Varieties. Speaker: Mr. M. Thrower of 'Thompson and Morgan'.

The meeting will be held at the Cheshire Home Chapel commencing at 8.00pm and non-members are warmly invited. The entrance fee is 50p. (including tea/coffee) and any further information concerning membership (£4 per person per annum) may be obtained from the Secretary: Mrs. V. Booty, Colchester 230743.

V. Booty.

PRAYER FOR THOSE GROWING OLDER.

Lord, thou knowest better than I know myself,
that I am-growing older, and will soon be old.

Keep me from getting talkative, and particularly
from the fatal habit of thinking I must say
something on every occasion.

Release me from the craving to try and straighten
out everybody's affairs. '

Make me thoughtful, but not moody, helpful, but not bossy.
With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all.

But thou knowest Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind from the recital of endless details.

Give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on my many aches and pains; they are
increasing and my love of rehearsing them is
becoming sweeter as the years go by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it
is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint ~
some of them are hard to live with -

but a sour old man or woman is one of the works of the devil.

Harold Varney.

PANTOMIME 1988.

The headline by the Essex County Standard's drama critic, Jimmy James, sums up this year's production of 'Mother Goose' - **Group triumphs in excellent panto!** Our heartfelt congratulations must go to the Director Dave Underdown and the cast, for a most entertaining

evening. But it must not be forgotten that almost as many other persons were involved in this production as those who were seen over the footlights. The whole company, including all the backstage and back-up crews added up to over seventy-five persons! These unseen participants deserve our thanks and congratulations, as well as the 'stars'. In a few weeks time the Committee will be meeting to prepare for next years production, for the pantomime we see is the result of many months preparations. We look forward with enthusiasm to the 1989 panto!

SIDESMEN - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm
Sunday 7th Sunday School Mr. H. Fairley
Sunday 14th Mrs. M. West Miss F. Orman Mr. G. Kempster
Sunday 21st Mr. D. Rogerson Mr. D. Sparling
Sunday 28th Mr. G. Kempster Mr. A. Lock Mr. J. Clapham
Sunday 6th Major J. Heaney Mr. H. Fairley

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH - FEBRUARY.

Tuesday 2nd 7.30pm PCC Meeting - Rectory
Sunday 7th SEXAGESIMA 10.30am Family Eucharist and Holy Baptism. Coffee in Saint George's school.
6.30pm Evensong
Sunday 14th QUINQUAGESIMA 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Sunday School
10.30am Mattins and sermon
6.30pm Evensong
Wednesday 17th ASH WEDNESDAY 7.30pm Parish Eucharist
Sunday 21st LENT 1 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Sunday School
10.30am Parish Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong
Wednesday 24th 7.30pm Lent House Meeting - Rectory
Sunday 28th LENT 2 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Sunday School
10.30am Mattins and sermon
6.30pm Evensong
Wednesday 2nd 7.30pm Lent House Meeting
Friday 4th 3.00pm Womens' World Day of Prayer Annual Service
Sunday 6th LENT 3 10.30am Family Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 7th 10.45 Burnt Heath 11.00 Balls Green
Sunday 14th 10.45 Burnt Heath 11.00 Balls Green
Sunday 21st 10.45 Burnt Heath 11.00 Balls Green
Sunday 28th 10.45 Burnt Heath 11.00 Balls Green
Sunday 6th 10.45 Burnt Heath 11.00 Balls Green

FLOWERS- S. GEORGES.

Sunday 7th Mrs. J. Wright
Sunday 14th Mrs. J. Wilgress
NO FLOWERS DURING THE SEASON OF LENT.

SERVERS.

Sunday 7th 10.30am Robert Harding
Sunday 14th 8.00am .Major James Heaney
Sunday 21st 10.30am John Clapham
Sunday 28th 8.00am Bill Kempster
Sunday 6th 10.30am Robert Harding

The Bromley Messenger MARCH 1988. Volume 2 Number 11

As we will be celebrating the great Christian festival of Easter in the first days of April, our thoughts are very much inclined towards the joys of that time, a time of awakening from the sleep of winter when nature tells us that life is continually being renewed and refashioned. The joy of seeing the opening of spring flowers underlines the Christian teaching of joy and happiness at the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. It reminds us that life is not a candle to be blotted out when the wick is consumed, but that it is continually being renewed in this world and the next. The cry, 'He is risen, Allelujah' is a confident cry, reminding us, not only of the resurrection of Jesus, but of the promise made to us, 'In Christ shall all be made alive'. A happy and joyous Easter to all our readers.

It is good to learn from the Treasurer that sponsorships and donations to enable us to continue the publication of 'The Messenger' for a further twelve months from May of this year are coming in. We cannot overemphasise our gratitude to all who make the publication and free distribution of this magazine possible. At the Parish Assembly, the annual public meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Thursday, 17th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, the 'Messenger' is to be on the Agenda. The Treasurer will give a financial report and you, the readers, will be able to question the editorial team about its contents and policy. We hope that the interest you show by your reception of the magazine will be matched by your comments at the meeting.

Please will societies and associations please continue to send in reports and news for publication. It would help if contributions for the April issue could reach the Editor by Sunday, 13th March at the very latest. In the May issue it is intended to revise completely the list of Associations and groups and their representatives printed on the inside of the cover. Please send the Editor note of any changes that you would like to have made in your entries or, of course, any new entry that should be included. It would help if such information could be sent by the end of March.

This month the magazine has been sponsored by the Great Bromley Parish Council. We thank them for their support.

BROMLEY BUSKERS.

Do not be disappointed - book now for the new show, Friday and Saturday, 8th and 9th April at the Village Hall. Tickets at £3.50 each may be booked from Peter Wenden (230613) or G. Nichols (251254).

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

The really good news is that a contract has been made with Bakers of Danbury for the repair work to be put in hand on the tower. It is expected that the work will commence at the end of April or the beginning of May. After such a long time of collecting money for this work, it is good to know that the efforts of so many in the community will begin to bear fruit. As was to be expected, the cost of the work exceeds the amount we expected it would cost. Although, with the grant from English Heritage we have nearly £52,000 available for the work, we still need a considerable sum more. The whole operation is to cost in the region of £69,000 so our fund raising has to continue.

Apart from the tower, much activity is now directed at the preparations for the inauguration of the new parish of 'The Bromleys' All that now remains is for the necessary documents to be signed and published by Her Majesty's Privy Council for the Parish to come into being. At the moment a new Electoral Roll is being produced. All those whose names are on the Electoral Rolls of Great and Little Bromley will be transferred onto the new Roll. Additional names are being sought - anyone who is over sixteen years old and worships at the Parish Church has a legal right to be on the Roll, thus being qualified to be elected on to the Parochial Church Council and to serve as Officers of the Church. The revision is open until 12th March - application forms are available from the church or the Rectory, and should be returned to the Rector.

The first Annual Meeting of the new parish is to be held in S. George's School on Thursday, 24th March at 7.30pm. At this meeting two Church-wardens for the parish and twelve members of the Parochial Church Council are to be elected. It is the decision of the PCCs of Great and Little Bromley that at least three members of the former parishes shall be elected to the Council to ensure that representatives of both villages are involved in the administration of the Parish.

From the PCC a Secretary has to be elected. Neither Mrs. Pauline Greenfield or Mrs. Joyce Fairley, secretaries of Great and Little Bromley PCCs wish to be appointed as Secretary of the new Council, thus it is important to find someone else to take over this responsibility. The Rector would be most pleased to hear from anyone who would be interested in filling this most vital role in the work of the church.

Owing to a clash of dates it has been necessary to alter the date of the Harvest Services and the Harvest Supper. These are now:

Harvest Service Thursday, 22nd September

School Harvest Friday, 23rd September

Harvest Supper Saturday, 24th September

Harvest Sunday Sunday, 25th September

SPECIAL SERVICES.

Mothering Sunday.

On 13th March, 1988, a special Mothering Sunday Service will be held at 10.30am at which flowers will be blessed and given to all mothers. After the service coffee and soft drinks will be available in the school for the congregation. A warm welcome is made to all families to attend, especially to any who have not been before.

Palm Sunday.

27th March at 10.30am. Blessing of Palm Crosses and Parish Eucharist.

Maundy Thursday.

31st March at 7.30pm. Parish Eucharist to commemorate the Last Supper of our Lord with his disciples.

Good Friday.

10.00am The Liturgy of the Day.

7.30pm Devotional Service of Music and Readings.

Holy Saturday.

2nd April at 8.00pm.

Blessing of the Easter Candle.

Easter Day.

3rd April 8.00am -Holy Communion.

10.30am Family Eucharist, Blessing and distribution of Easter Eggs.

6.30pm Festal Evensong.

EASTER LILIES.

If anyone would like to make a gift of an Easter Lily in memory of a departed loved one, Mrs. Margery West would be pleased to receive any contributions.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

Preparations are now well in hand for the celebration of the 125th birthday of the school to be held in April. On Friday, 22nd April, there is to be a Thanksgiving Service in S. George's Church at 11.00am at which the Bishop of Chelmsford will be present. A particular welcome will be made to all old pupils of the school to attend. Other activities are being arranged which will be announced in the next issue. Pupils are to be given a commemorative gift, and Mr. John Appleby is preparing an interesting leaflet on the history of the school.

The Annual Meeting at which the Governors present their report on the school for the past year to parents is to be held on Monday, 14th March at 7.30pm. The school closes for the Easter holiday on Friday, 28th March and re-opens for the Summer Term on Monday, 11th April.

GREAT BROMLEY FOOTPATHS.

Our first footpath walk has been arranged for Sunday, 10th April. Footpath 18 which is from Badley Hall Road, opposite Peace Cottages, in a southeasterly direction to Lee Corner, Mary Lane. Please park vehicles in Church Meadow and we shall then commence our walk from the meadow at 2.30pm.

Everyone is welcome for any further details, do not hesitate to ring Colchester 230640. Copies of footpath maps may be viewed on request.

BROWNIES.

It is wonderful, the floor of the hut is dry even after all the rain. Thank you so much everyone. Mr. Peter Hills, County Standard Newspapers, visited us in January to present the cheque. It was raining hard of course. We were expecting him at 5.30pm but the time passed and no visitor came. Then at 6.40 a photographer arrived who assured us that Mr. Hills would arrive at any moment. We arranged ourselves suitably; Eleanor was perched on the back of a chair which proved to be too uncomfortable. We sang songs and entertained the photographer. At 7 o'clock the parents arrived and it was decided to use a dummy cheque for presentation, which Mrs. Henderson provided. Just at the crucial moment in stumbled a decidedly wet and muddy Mr. Hills. He had been searching the area since 5.40pm. So the photographer worked very quickly and went away as he had another assignment. Mr. Mills said that he usually made a little speech but declined to do so that night. We said we would ask him back when the but was finished, loo and all, and he jokingly (?) replied 'In two years time?'. So hopefully this summer we shall have an Event.

Our Brownie numbers have increased to eighteen so we have re-started the Elves Six with Elizabeth as the Sixer. At the moment we are working on two badges. craft and toymaker, so that everyone will have the chance of gaining one of these, though a bit of effort at home will be required. Scrapbooks are being made to be presented finally, to the hospital. We have started them with pictures of the countries which we are studying for Thinking Day, then will expand them.

Eleanor and Isabel have both gained their Footpath; we have welcomed a new Brownie, Eleanor Parker (Ellie), who has just made her Promise and several Brownies have gained badges, namely: Eleanor, Angela, Zoe - Animal Lover. Emma, Lynn, Susannah, Sarah, Zoe - Jester. Jenny - Hostess. Clare - Rambler. May I also say 'thank you' to all the testers who so willingly give their time and help to our Brownies. The new Brownie Handbook is now available at £1.35. This takes the place of the old handbook and pocket books and the Brownies record the tests and journeys directly into it.

The badge requirements are listed separately in another booklet at 25 pence. I would recommend all Brownies having these books although the nine year olds can manage without.

Jaqui Terry.

NEWS OF THE CHILDREN.

On 23rd January a party was held in the village hall for the children of the church. Many of the thirty present were dressed so well as clowns and appeared to enjoy themselves immensely. The games were arranged by Mr. Douglas Rogerson and his wife Linda, and these were followed by tea which was quickly consumed with great relish. The children then watched two cartoon slide films kindly loaned by Peggy Boyne, after an enthusiastic face painting session where hardly anyone escaped red noses and cheeks. The children had a lucky dip gift before going home. Many thanks to all the kind mums and friends who contributed food for the party fare.

Mrs. Jean Wright recently gave to the Sunday School a hand-made Noah's Ark complete with animals, two by two, and a delightful Mr. and Mrs. Noah. The smallest children have already enjoyed a morning during which they played with the ark whilst hearing the story of the great flood. Visual aids do help children to understand, and they absorb stories so much more readily. Thank you very much Jean for a gift which had obviously been made with great care, we will treasure it.

Olive Sparling.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

The next meeting of the club will be held in the Cheshire Home Chapel on Tuesday, 22nd March, commencing at 8.00pm. The subject will be 'Growing Soft Fruits for Pleasure', and the speaker will be Mr. Ken Muir. Mr. Muir, whose nursery is at Weeley Heath, has been propagating soft fruits for more than thirty-five years so why not join us for what I am sure will be a most interesting evening. Admission is fifty pence per person which includes tea or coffee.

Mrs. V. Booty,

Church Cottage. Tel: 230743.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

It is the intention of the members of the Parish Council to walk as many of the footpaths as possible that lie in Great Bromley in order to keep them open. The walks will take place during the summer months.

The first such walk will take place on Sunday, 10th April, when Footpath 18 will be crossed. All parishioners are welcome to take part and the meeting point will be at Church Meadow at 2.30pm. The Essex Association of Local Councils has advised the Parish Council that all villages will be entered for the 'Best Kept Village Competition' for 1988.

The Parish Council request that all parishioners pay particular attention to the area immediately surrounding their property in order that our village may be successful in this competition. It is hoped that in this way the village may present a neat and tidy appearance when the judges make their tour of inspection. Your co-operation in this matter would be very much appreciated.

Please note that the Annual Assembly of the Parish will take place on Thursday, 17th March, in the Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm. All parishioners are invited to attend and to put any questions they may have to the members of the Council.

H. Booty. Clerk to the Council.

GREAT BROMLEY FORGES.

My conjectures about the Black Boy and a forge, based on the finding of an anvil at the garage, were quite wrong. Dick Hayward reminded me that Great Bromley's other forge (Vera has written about her grand-fathers at the Cross) was at Hare Green at the end of Mary Lane. The building survived until a few years ago in the cottage owned by the late Honor Thomas, called The Old Forge, and the name was retained by one of the houses built on the site. I remember it chiefly for the host of golden daffodils beneath the trees which were the real old double ones like miniature suns.

I. Wilkinson.

THE GARDEN IN MARCH.

Owing to the wind and rain of January and February, it is time to catch up with the sowing and planting in the garden. I have made full use of my unheated greenhouse by sowing a small amount of seeds in peat pots ready to plant out under cloches when the ground is workable.

Rake all lawns and mow with blades set high and feed with fertiliser.

Complete rose pruning and start dahlia tubers at 61°, also cuttings of chrysanthus and fuchsia, and hope for a better month than January and February!

Fred Wickham.

KITCHEN CORNER.

A S. David's Day rhyme from East Anglia:

First comes David, Then comes Chad,
Then comes Winnold, roaring like mad.

S. Chad and S. Winnold were popular saints in Norfolk, their days are the 2nd and 3rd March.

A leek dish for S. David's Day.

1 ½ oz plain flour
2 oz butter or margarine
½ pint milk
4 oz grated cheese
3 medium leeks
2 or 3 hard-boiled eggs
6 oz long-grain rice
Seasoning

Make a white sauce in the usual way and add cheese. Chop and cook leeks until tender and add to sauce, seasoning well. Put cooked rice in the bottom of a well-greased oven dish, arrange sliced eggs on top, pour over the sauce. Sprinkle with grated cheese and brown under grill, or bake in oven for 15 minutes.

Jill Frostick.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

This will take place at S. George's church on Friday, 4th March, at 3.00pm. You are invited to the Rectory afterwards for a cup of tea.

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

The Annual General Meeting of the Pantomime Group will take place on Wednesday, 9th March, at 8.00pm in the Billiard Room of the Village Hall. All will be welcome.

LITTLE BROMLEY PLAYING FIELD.

The Little Bromley Parish Council have been able to secure an area of land south of the Post Office and store for the use as a Playing Field. The land has been kindly granted to the Parish Council by a local farmer, Mr. C. Tabor, for as long as the Parish requires it, and provided that it is kept clean and tidy and used solely as a Playing Field.

Tendring District Council has granted planning permission for the Change of Use and for the erection of a boundary fence and a pedestrian access barrier.

The Parish Council is now looking for willing volunteers to form a Playing Field Committee and to assist in the erection of the fence and barrier. There are also some children's swings and see-saw which were removed from the old playing field that need renovating and re-erecting on the new field. Most of the fencing materials are available for immediate use and there is a small sum of money in the TSB for use on the field. Will any parents or other willing persons please contact Mr. R. T. M. Poulter, 'Rivoy', Shop Road, Little Bromley (Tel: 393645) or any other Parish Council member, as early as possible in the hope that some work can be carried out during the summer of 1988.

R. T. H. Poulter.

GREAT BROMLEY CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION.

This year the format of the Carnival Day, 4th June, is to be changed. Instead of a carnival procession there is to be an 'Old Tyme Country Fayre 1863', the day to be concluded by an Old Tyme and Modern Dance.

Organisations are asked to run stalls dressed in the costume of the era. A prize will be awarded for the best decorated stall. There will be a competition for the best dressed doll of 1863. The monies raised will be given to S. George's School which celebrates its 125th anniversary this year. Mrs. Jean Wright (230603) will gladly furnish further information.

GREAT BROMLEY AND DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB.

The AGM was held in November, 1987, in the Village Hall, Great Bromley.

The following officers were elected: President - Mr. Dick Hayward.

Chairman - Mr. Brian Wright. Secretary - Mrs. Lynda Allam.

Treasurer - Mr. James Wild. Fixture Secretary - Mr. Nigel Rowe.

Captain - Mr. Philip Allam. Vice Captain - Mr. Peter Brinkley.

It was decided that the club will play league cricket this season and consequently, it has entered the Lancaster Garages Cricket League. We have a very full fixture list this season, about forty games, some being League, some Friendlies. We are looking for new players of any age, so if there is anyone interested, please contact Mr. Philip Allam (230375) or Mr. Nigel Rowe (230398).

Lynda Allam.

THE BROMLEYS AND LITTLE BENTLEY CONSERVATIVE BRANCH.

The AGM was held on Friday, 19th February, at Little Bentley Village Hall. Those elected were:

President - Major H. Varney.

Chairman ~ Mr. D. Taylor.

Secretary ~ volunteers wanted!

Treasurer - Mr. L. Christodoulides.

A Coffee Morning has been organised for Tuesday, 12th April from 10.30am to 12 noon. at Brundells Farm by courtesy of Mrs. Dawn Taylor.

Admission 35 pence with raffle and bring-and-buy. All are welcome.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

In January one of our members, Mrs. Purkis, was a guest speaker telling us of her recent holiday in the Netherlands. Mrs. Sallows entertained us with films at our February meeting, and this month, March, we are looking forward to Chief Superintendent Bill Pirie telling us about 'A Policeman's Lot'. The competition ~ sugar tongs. The Friendship Club is again happy to donate £10 to help sponsor the 'Bromley Messenger'.

Mildred Purkis.

PLAYGROUP

After the long Christmass break playgroup is in full swing and we have already reached the half term! A few Playgroup children have already left to start school and the commencement of the new term at Easter will see the departure of a few more. This leaves the Playgroup rather short of children to replace those leaving. We need children in the age group 2½ -3 years. Can anyone help? Fund raising in the New Year got off to a very good start with a very successful hairdressing day held in January which raised £30. Thank you to Mrs. C. Edmonds who allowed her house to be used as the salon for the day, and made all the arrangements.

Mrs. L. Tingey.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH - MARCH 1988.

Wednesday 2nd 7.30pm Lent Group-Copley Dene

Friday 4th 3.00pm Women's World Day of Prayer

Sunday 6th LENT 3 10.30am Family Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 9th 7.30pm Lent Group - Southerndown

Sunday 13th MOTHERING SUNDAY 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Service with coffee in S. George's School

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 16th 7.30pm Lent Group-The Hollies

Sunday 20th PASSION SUNDAY 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Sunday School

10.30am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 23rd 7.30pm Lent Group-Apple Lodge

Thursday 24th 7.30pm Parish Annual Meeting - S. George's School

Sunday 27th PALM SUNDAY 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Blessing of Palms and Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Tuesday 29th 10.30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 30th 7.30pm Holy Communion

Thursday 31st MAUNDY THURSDAY 7.30pm Liturgy of the Last Supper

Friday 1st GOOD FRIDAY 10.00am The Liturgy and Holy Communion

7.00pm Devotional Service

Saturday 2nd HOLY SATURDAY 8.00pm Blessing of Paschal Candle

Sunday 3rd EASTER DAY 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Eucharist

6.30pm Festal Evensong

It is the rule of the Church that all who have been confirmed are expected to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion at Easter Tide.

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 6th Burnt Heath 10.45am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 13th Burnt Heath 10.45am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 20th Burnt Heath 10.45am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 27th Burnt Heath 10.45am Balls Green 11.00am

HOLY BAPTISM.

Sunday 7th February Chloe Reanne Stantou

MARRIAGE BLESSING.

Saturday 13th February Thomas Anthony Catesby and Andrena Christina Faulkner.

The Bromley Messenger APRIL 1988. Volume 2 Number 12

This is the last issue of our second year of publication, and the first year in which we have provided a monthly edition. The good news is that we are assured of sufficient sponsors to continue a free distribution of the Messenger for another twelve months, until April 1989. Our thanks go to all who support us in this way. Our hope is that residents will if possible, use our sponsors for trading in order to give them a return for their help and to assure them of our appreciation. This month local organisations and residents have sponsored the Messenger by private donation. In next month's issue there will be a list of organisations and individuals who are sponsoring us for the forthcoming year.

As most readers will have read in the local press, Her Majesty's Privy Council issued an Order in Council on 17th February for the reorganisation of the Ecclesiastical parishes of Little and Great Bromley, for the setting up of a new parish, the Parish of the Bromleys, and for the redundancy of S. Mary's Church, Little Bromley. This order came into effect on 1st March, 1988. This, the start of a new parish, ought to make us consider those Clergy and faithful Lay people who over a period of up to eight hundred years have served both parishes so diligently. We must ensure that in the new Parish we never forget the labours and efforts they put into the work of the churches, and to ensure that whatever we do in the new Parish is worthy of their great examples.

During the month of April there occurs the Festival of S. George, the Patron Saint of our country, and of our beautiful Parish Church. This year we have a special reason for celebrating S. George as we are combining S. George's Tide with a celebration of one hundred and twenty five years life of S. George's School. The Headteacher and staff of the school are arranging a series of events to mark the birthday. On Wednesday, 20th April, there is to be a party in the school to which will be invited former pupils of the school, some of whom were pupils prior to 1914, and others who were pupils at the time of the 100th birthday in 1963. On Thursday, 1st April, there is to be a Victorian Day at the school when the staff and pupils are asked to dress as in 1863, and the day will be spent as it would have done in that year.

In the afternoon the children will be given a tea of the sort boys and girls one hundred and twenty five years ago would have had. On Friday 22nd April, there is to be a Thanksgiving Service in the Parish Church at 11.00am at which the preacher will be the Bishop of Chelmsford. During this service all present pupils are to be given a beautiful commemorative mug provided by the school PTA.

For those interested in the fascinating history of the school, Mr. John Appleby has prepared a small booklet describing the events of the one hundred and twenty five years. These will be available from Mrs. Fitzgerald at the school.

S. GEORGE'S DAY - 23rd APRIL.

I have been sent the following rhyme written by the famous author, G. K. Chesterton:

S. George, he was for England,
And, before he killed the dragon,
He drank a pint of English ale
Out of an English flagon.

PARISH CHURCH NEWS.

To mark the beginning of the new Parish, the PCC has agreed to make changes in the pattern of Sunday Services at S. George's Church, and this will commence in April. The most important change is to have a monthly Family Service on the first Sunday in the month at 10.30am. This will not be the Family Eucharist, but will follow the pattern of the service we used on Mothering Sunday. It is our intention that children and their parents will be able to take a large part in the ordering of this service. The first of these services will be on Sunday, 1st May, and after the service coffee and soft drinks will be available in S. George's School for the congregation. We hope that this will fulfil a need for a simple enjoyable service at which all families in the parish will be welcome. There will be a celebration of Holy Communion each Sunday at 8.00am. The new pattern of services will be:

First Sunday: 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong
Second Sunday: 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Parish Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong
Third Sunday: 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Mattins
6.30pm Holy Communion with Hymns
Fourth Sunday: 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Parish Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong
Fifth Sunday: 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Mattins
6.30pm Songs of Praise and Compline

On the first Sunday the children will attend the Family Service, on the other Sundays they will join the Sunday School meetings in S. George's School as is the present arrangement.

S. George's Day. This year this day is Saturday, 23rd April. As mentioned before, S. George's School will be having a special thanksgiving service in the church on Friday, 22nd April at 11.00am. On Sunday, 24th April, a special Eucharist of Thanksgiving for the school will be held at 10.30am especially for those who are unable to be at the school service on Friday. At this service we will welcome to talk to us Canon Patrick Appleford, the Diocesan Director of Education, and a very well-known hymn writer.

THE MODERN 'THROW AWAY' SOCIETY.

Much time has spun since Bromley won against strong opposition
The Shield and Crest of the Best Kept Village Competition,
And though we've tried, with civic pride, this honour to regain,
So far it seems our hopes and dreams have somehow been in vain.

In spite of splendid gardens tended, and lawns all trim and neat,
With flowering trees so sure to please and blooms with perfume sweet,
Plus well tilled fields with good crop yields, fair meadows lush and green,
With sense of peace to never cease to bless this rural scene.

This seems just where, in spite of care, our efforts come to nought,
Just walk today, our main highway: it gives one food for thought.
The roadside grass is full of glass, waste paper, cans and plastic,
Bottles abound and rubbish found is simply quite fantastic.

The passing motorist persist in throwing out each day
Every sort of rubbish brought from places far away.
The hedgerow brambles in their rambles clutch this windswept litter,
And plastic wrapping madly flapping creates an obscene glitter.

Now if we make with broom and rake a cleaning up campaign,
The wayside green will soon be seen to be as bad again.
For every village suffers spillage of trash from passers-by,
Roadsides, I fear, can't be kept clear however hard folk try.

It seems to me a fantasy to claim a place 'Best Kept',
When very soon more trash is strewn, just after it's been swept.
Thus 'Best Kept Village', mid such spillage is a title quite unsuited,
So one thing's vital, change this title to 'Village Least Polluted'.

P.S.
Just one point I'd like to stress,
I hope we 'clean up' with success!

A.H.C.

GREAT BROMLEY JUBILEE CARNIVAL.

The Old Tyme Carnival Country Fayre (1863) is going ahead for Saturday, 4th June, and several demonstrations of various crafts have been booked. Offers are awaited for the following stalls which it is hoped will be run. Woodcarving, jumble, white elephant, bran tub, hot dogs, hamburgers, treasure hunt and books. If any organisation can arrange any of these the Secretary will be pleased to hear from them.

The Crazy Sports and Car Boot Sale will be held on Monday, 2nd June. Bookings for the Boot Sale (£4.00) can be made by phone (230663). On the day the fee will be £5.00. Games to take place will be: egg throwing, water game, sack race, wheelbarrow race, flour power and tug of war. Entry to all races will be 10 pence. It is hoped that all pupils of the school, those who have recently left and older former ones, and others, will take part. The Races and Games will be held in the School grounds and the Car Boot Sale will be held on Church Meadow.

The Over-Sixties Tea arranged by the Carnival Association will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 26th March at 3.00pm. A Sponsored Cycle Ride is to be held on Sunday, 17th April. Sponsor forms will shortly be available. Perhaps parents who do not wish to cycle, may like to offer to act as Marshalls on the route. This and all other events are to raise funds for this year's charity - S. George's School.

The Association has made two donations. £10.00 to the Bromley Messenger, and £20.00 to S. Helena Hospice, Colchester.

Jean Wright, Secretary.

GREAT ORMOND STREET HOSPITAL - WISHING WELL APPEAL.

Sincere thanks to the Pantomime Group for donating the proceeds of their Valentine Disco to the Wishing Well Appeal. Special thanks also to those who kindly gave prizes for the raffle, or made donations, and to all those who so generously supported the Disco to make it such a success. The final amount raised was £335.95 pence and we will present the cheque to the Hospital when Mark makes a visit shortly. Many, many thanks.

Gill Hubbard.

THE GARDEN IN APRIL.

Lawns - sow seed, protect with cotton any worn patches, feed poorly growing grass with Sulphate of Ammonia. Roses - spray against pests and apply a general fertiliser. Support tall perennials with twigs and canes. Feed all border plants with a general fertiliser. Complete sowings of hardy and half-hardy annuals. Plant out cabbages for summer. Also try a few calabrese. These vegetables are expensive from the shops but lovely from your garden.

Fred Wickham.

KITCHEN CORNER.

Rhubarb is a welcome addition to the kitchen in April, and it becomes cheaper and plentiful. Rhubarb Fool is one of the quickest and easiest puddings to make. There is no need to sieve the fruit, just chop it finely, toss into a pan of boiling sugar and water syrup, bring back to the boil, then cover it and let it stand a few minutes until softened. Strain off the juice and mix the fruit with whipped cream or a mixture of cream and custard. If you are weight watching you can use yoghurt or fromage frais instead of cream for an equally delicious result.

Try a rhubarb crumble mixing sliced orange with the chopped rhubarb, sweeten with demarara sugar and use oats or muesli in place of flour for the crumble topping.

Jill Frostick.

ONE OF OUR LOCALS.

I have never heard it called anything but 'The Spread'. and now of course it is no more. Although not the house, but the site is probably very ancient. It is known that the Hall (now Seven Rivers Cheshire Home) was in existence at the NW of the churchyard before the Normans came. It is possible that there was an earlier church on the site of S. George's (built in the twelfth century). It is most likely that there was an inn near this earlier church (on the site of The Spread?). for inns were often found near religious foundations, be they churches, monasteries or nunneries. Norah Lofts, the Suffolk novelist, wrote a trilogy round the history of an inn which began as an alehouse when the Romans were here, and Spike Mays (who wrote Reuben's Corner) says that his local in Steeple Bumpstead is older than the church which is 16th century. The Spread, the

present building, may be late 17th century, possibly about the same age as the Thatched Cottage (the old Post Office), and next to the church is one of the oldest buildings in the village.
I. Wilkinson.

VILLAGE FOOTPATHS.

The Great Bromley Parish Council is arranging a number of occasions when residents will be given the opportunity to walk some of the official footpaths in the Village.

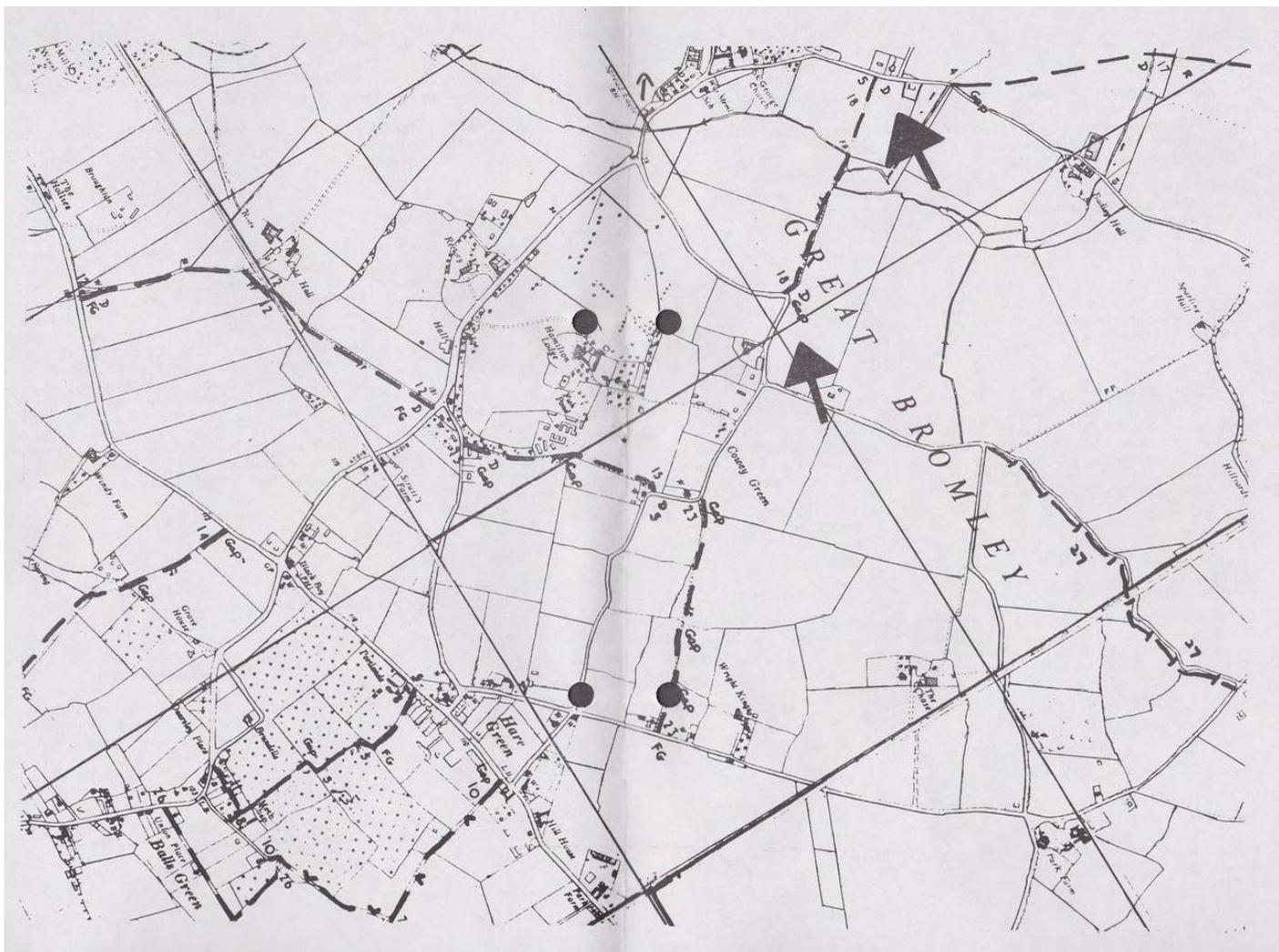
The first walk is to be on Sunday, 10th April, meeting at 2.30pm in Church Meadow to walk Footpath No. 18. This path starts from Badley Hall Road, opposite Peace Cottages, and moves in a south-easterly direction to Lee Corner, Mary Lane. It is marked by two large arrows on the map of Footpaths which is the centrefold spread in this issue of the magazine. Please remove this map from the magazine and keep it as a handy reference for other walks. Everybody is welcome to join these walks - as can be seen from the map, this first walk is not very long.

On the map signs are used to indicate the various Footpaths, Bridleways and Byways. These are as follows:

FOOTPATHS - - - - -

BRIDLEWAYS -1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-

BYWAYS ~v-v-v-v~v-v-v-v~v-v-v-



PLAYGROUP.

At the start of the new term after the Easter break, we are pleased to say that there will be an additional morning playgroup. This will be held on Thursday mornings from 9.00am to 12 noon on a trial basis for one term only to see if enough support can be gained to make it worthwhile to continue. At the recent Table Top Sale we raised a few pounds for our funds. The competition for naming our doll was [won by] our own playgroup leader, Sally. The correct name was Harriet - we promise it was not a fix!

Our Children's Clothes Party held on 8th March was very successful. Thank you to Val Wightman for holding the party and for providing endless cups of coffee.

The children have been busy making their Mothering Sunday cards and pretty boxes of tissue paper Flowers. I am sure that all the mothers. were very pleased.

Mrs. L. M. Tingey.

FOR PLANT LOVERS.

There is a 'Silver Jubilee Show' by the Clacton Cactus and Succulent Society at the By-Pass Nurseries, Colchester, on Saturday and Sunday, 21st and 22nd May. There will be a large exhibition of plants, trade stands and crafts. There will be a draw with many large prizes including a portable TV, greenhouse staging, heated propagator and many others. Entrance is free. There is also an exhibition of plants at The Brotherhood Hull, Clacton, on Saturday, 30th July.

Kath Doyle.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

On Tuesday, 26th April, at 8.00pm, the speaker will be Mr. Roger Claydon, who with the help of slides will talk about the cultivation of dahlias and, if possible, he will bring some plants along for sale. This meeting is in the Seven Rivers Home Chapel, entry 50 pence. This meeting is additional to our advertised programme. .

V. Booty, Secretary.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

The Parish Council asks if this important message can be brought to our attention.

Would all equestrian riders please ensure that they use Bridleways designated for the use of horse riders, and not to ride along footpaths.

H. Booty. Clerk to the Council.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

This month Mr. Howard will be talking to us about his work as a Probation Officer. The competition (hot from the press) will be a pepper pot! Please remember and support our Spring Sale on Saturday, 23rd April in the Village Hall - we hope with your help, to make this a success. We welcome any offers of goods for our various stalls: cakes, grocery, tombola, plants, handicrafts, fancy goods, jewellery, books, toys, white elephant and jumble. Please contact Mrs. Vera Biddis if collection is needed. Thank you in anticipation.

Mildred Purkis.

GIRL GUIDES.

Our work towards the Conservation Badge continues, and we are also into exercise and good health, and hoping to pass the Fitness Badge in due course. Sophie and Tracy have passed the Rambler Badge. Some Friday evenings have included Craft (our knitted blanket squares have gone to Oxfam) and another was an International Meeting with clothes, souvenirs, pictures, food and drink to represent our chosen countries of Spain, Germany, Taiwan and Japan. At half-term we enjoyed a day's outing to the Commonwealth Institute in London, and we also attended the District Thinking Day celebrations at Lawford. Tracy is teaching us to play a Yamaha keyboard and Sophie is teaching us how to crochet!

Joan Landon.

1st ARDLEIGH SCOUT GROUP.

The group continues to expand and, at the annual census, we have sixty members of the group. - The Scout Troop that we formed in June last year now has thirteen members and it should increase to sixteen at least by the end of the month when some more boys are coming up from Cubs. We would like to expand further, but until we can find more leaders we are unable to do so. We have just lost our Beaver Leader so we have only one leader in that section. To get us over this for the present we are fortunate that two older Scouts have volunteered to help. This is only a short term answer as they are only allowed to do it for three months as a service project.

Therefore, if there is anyone in the village willing to help, please contact me. We are holding a Table-Top Sale on Sunday, 10th April in Ardleigh Village Hall from 2.00pm to 6.00pm. Tables for this are £4.00 booked in advance or £5.00 on the day. We, as the Scout Group, will be having several tables for ourselves. We would welcome any help to stock our tables. Please contact Mrs. Pat Newton, 53 Harwich Road, Lawford. Telephone 230437.

The Scout Group is also trying to arrange a regular collection of newspaper. This is a fund raising activity as we can sell the paper for £18 a ton for a minimum collection of three tons. The paper has to be newsprint Only (no magazines, staples etc.) and it is recycled for egg boxes, apple trays etc., and therefore, is a way of conservation. We are hoping to raise three tons over a period of two months and would therefore, be able to collect at this interval if any can make it available to us. It can also be given to any Cub or Scout or Brownie living in the village, or it can be dropped off in the car port at The Nook, Colchester Road. Your help in saving as much paper as you can will be much appreciated. We could collect £300 per year for the running of the group in this way.

John Terry.

BROWNIES.

The Brownies went to Ogilvie Hall, Lawford, on 1st February for the Thinking Day. After a short service and tea and orange squash, a quiz game was played. Every two correct answers allowed an item of uniform to be put on a doll. As befitted the occasion the theme was international. On the following Wednesday we had our own Thinking Day. On the magic carpet we visited other countries and found out that Greek Brownies are called 'Pouli' - birds, and Iranian Brownies are called Angels. We all tried foreign food nibbles, feta cheese, Greek biscuits, Turkish delight and Jaffa oranges.

With regard to the new Handbook, I have obtained ten copies. If anyone would like one, come to me, Brownie funds will profit. Several badges have been gained. Pony Rider, Animal Lover, Writer, all awarded to Zoe. Rambles to Clare, Pathway to Angela and Roadway to Rebecca, Emma, Sara and Lynn.

Here are some diary dates. 17th April Sponsored Cycle Ride.

20th-22nd May District Pack Holiday for sixers only.

4th June Old Time Carnival, our stall will be a bottle and tombola and roll-a-penny. We will need parents to help man the stall.

5th June Brownie ramble for our next Pack Badge which entails keeping a log of at least four rambles and learning the country code.

Brown Owl.

S. HELENA HOSPICE, COLCHESTER.

Readers will know I expect, that the new Day Centre at the Hospice is now open. It may be that some people from the villages suffering from a terminal illness will use the centre. The Hospice would like to know whether there are any kind persons in the villages who would be able to transport patients to the Hospice if, and when, this is necessary. If there are any persons who would be willing for their names and phone numbers to go on a list kept at the Hospice to help in this way, could they please first contact me so that I can pass on the information to the Hospice.

Rector.

SERVERS.

Sunday 3rd 10.30am John Groom

Sunday 10th 10.30am John Clapham

Sunday 17th 8.00am James Heaney

Sunday 24th 8.00am Bill Kempster

10.30am James Heaney

ROGATION SUNDAY - 8th MAY 1988.

Each year on Rogation Sunday we have, in the morning, a service of Blessing of the Fields, visiting a different farm in the parish each year. This year, because we are asked by the Bishop to consider the difficulties of those who live in the Urban (London) part of the Diocese, we want to share this service with a parish which does not have the advantages and the beauty of the countryside around them. On Rogation Sunday this year we are to be joined by the Vicar and congregation of the parish of S. Francis, Barkingside, for the service which is to be held at Norman's Farm, Little Bromley, at the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fairley. Because of the distance the visitors have to travel, the service will commence at 11.00am, and as in 1986,

when we visited Harris Farm, the service will be a shortened Eucharist and Blessing of the Crops. I am expecting about twenty-five visitors and 1 will be asking whether any parishioners can offer Sunday lunch after the service to two visitors each. After lunch we will arrange a farm visit for them and after a cup of tea, end the day with Evensong at 5.30pm before they return to their homes. I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who might be able to offer hospitality to our visitors on that Sunday.

Rector.

LAUGHLINE - AN ARGUMENT.

First boy: my daddy is a teacher, and he makes me clever for nothing!

Second boy: my daddy is a doctor and he makes me well for nothing!

Third boy: my daddy is a vicar and he makes me good for nothing!

MAY ISSUE.

May I please remind leaders of organisations etc., that the list on the inside of the cover will be revised next month. Any changes or alterations should be sent to me no later than 5th April.

May I have contributions for the May issue of the Messenger by Tuesday, 12th April please.

Editor.

PARISH CHURCH - APRIL 1988.

Sunday 3rd EASTER DAY 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Eucharist and Blessing of Easter Eggs

6.30pm Festal Evensong

Sunday 10th EASTER 1 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 17th EASTER 2 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Sunday School

10.30am Mattins and Sermon

6.30pm Holy Communion with hymns

Friday 22nd 11.00am School Anniversary Service

Sunday 24th S. GEORGE, PATRON SAINT (EASTER 3) 8.00am Holy Communion .

10.30am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Festal Evensong

Sunday 1st EASTER 4 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Service, coffee in school after service

6.30pm Evensong

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 3rd Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 10th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 17th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 24th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 1st Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

CHURCH REGISTERS.

Cremation: 6th March, 1988 - Robert George William Norrington. aged 83 years.

Holy Matrimony: 13th March, 1988 - Barry Eaton and Valerie Charlotte Waterman. .

CHURCH FLOWERS.

3rd April Easter 24th April Mrs. G. Could

10th April Mrs. Y. Cobbold 1st May Mrs. M. Purkis

17th April Mrs. P. Wright

SIDESMEN. 8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm

3rd April Mr. G. Kempster Mr. P. Rowe Mr. P. Walker

10th April Mrs. N. West Mr. J. Brown Mr. H. Fairley

17th April . Miss F. Ormam Mr. D. Sparling

25th April Major Heaney Cmdr. Catesby

1st May Mr. G. Kempster Children Mr. P. Walker

The Bromley Messenger MAY 1988. Volume 3 Number 1

The third year of the production of this village magazine commences with this issue. Its production depends wholly on the generosity of the sponsors who make the 'Messenger' possible financially. We are most grateful to those sponsors who have supported us in the past year, and who are continuing their sponsorship for another year. The Seven Rivers Cheshire Home. the Colchester and East Essex Cooperative Society, R. G. Gwinnell and Sons. The Great Bromley Pantomime Group, The Parochial Church Council and The Parish Councils of Little and Great Bromley. In addition we welcome as sponsors this year Michaelmas House Vineyards, The Wivenhoe Bookshop, Wightman Electrical Services, The Blackheath Garage, Tip Toe, Ltd., The Greenacre Boarding Cattery, T and P Motors and The Great Bromley Post Office and General Stores. A number of residents and groups have sent in individual contributions for which we thank them most sincerely.

This enables us to have one month, March 1989, when the issue is sponsored by Residents and Associations in the villages. In that month's copy those who have contributed will be listed. It is the hope of the editorial committee that residents will show their appreciation of the sponsors by, wherever it is possible, to use them for trading. The details of the various organisations and associations in the villages have been updated. If there is any error in this list, can amendments please be given to the Rector as soon as possible so that any corrections can be made without delay.

This month we are sponsored by the Little and Great Bromley Parish Councils. Our thanks go to them for their support. Will organisations and residents who have contributions and news for the June edition please send their material to the Rector by Wednesday 11th May please?

TOWER REPAIRS - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

We have now heard that English Heritage (who have made a grant of £22,000 towards the cost of repairs) have given their approval to the specifications drawn up by our architect for the work. As has been reported, Bakers of Danbury have been given the contract for the works and we expect them to commence work towards the end of May. Unfortunately, although magnificent efforts have been made to raise money for this work - and over £31,000 has been raised by the village and friends of the church - we are still needing to find a further sum of approaching £20,000 to reach our target.

LOOKING AT MAPS.

When I saw the centre spread in the April Messenger, I was grateful that Dick Hayward had lent me two maps of the same 6" scale. But earlier, the 1924 edition. They were probably the Badley Hall estate maps as the field acreages are entered in by hand. On them Hamilton Lodge is still Great Bromley Lodge (I believe the name was changed because of Mrs. Palmer's Barbados connection) but Grove House was not marked as it was not built until 1926. What old residents call the New Road, that part of Frating Road from the Black Boy by-passing Brundell's Farm is not shown on these maps. All wells and pumps are indicated: who remembers Priming the pump on an icy winter morning with a kettle of water heated on an oil burner or the fire?

The Black Boy was a public house. but the Spread Eagle was a mere beer house and the Tailors Arms was too lowly to be named (or perhaps it hadn't a license then). More next month. Does anyone know of any field names in the parish?

I. Wilkinson.

THE GARDEN IN MAY.

Lawns - mow at least once a week and apply weedkiller if necessary.

Feed poor growing grass with Sulphate of Ammonia.

Roses - spray against pests and diseases and also apply a general rose fertiliser.

Plant out young dahlias from cuttings after the last frost, also halt hardy annuals. Sow biennials, Canterbury Bells, Foxgloves, Sweet William etc.

Plant out tomatoes, marrows, ridge cucumbers and keep the lettuce going by sowing once a fortnight. Sow the main vegetable runner beans, give them plenty of water when dry and a good mulch.

Fred Wickham.

CARNIVAL.

Don't forget the Jubilee Carnival on Saturday, 4th June, to raise funds for S. George's School - and the Crazy Sports on Bank Holiday Monday, 2nd May, on the School Ground. Please contact Mrs. Jean Wright for information (telephone 230663).

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

At our next meeting on 31st May, the speaker will be Mr. Roger Pawsey of Cants of Colchester. His talk will commence at 8.00pm in the Cheshire Home Chapel and will be entitled 'The Production and Market-

ing of Roses'. Important. Would members please note that on this occasion the actual meeting will commence at 7.30pm in order that notices and minutes may be read and discussed. V.

Booty.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Our old friend, the Reverend John Robinson, will be entertaining us this month at the meeting on Thursday, 19th May. The competition will be 3 china or porcelain vase, not more than 6" high. Also at the

meeting we will be holding an extra special raffle, with gifts provided by members, in aid of the S. Helena Hospice.

In April four members helped to serve teas at Heath Hospital, taking along with them more hand knitted blankets which are always appreciated. We are hoping for good weather for our first outing of the year which is to be a visit to Canterbury on Thursday, 5th May. The coach will leave Elmstead at 10.00am.

M. Purkis.

METHODIST CHURCH NEWS.

Please note that the time for Sunday Morning Services at Burnt Heath Methodist Chapel has now been changed to 11.00am. The Burnt Heath Chapel Anniversary weekend will be on Saturday and Sunday, 14th and 15th May. On Saturday evening, 14th May, there will be a concert by The Colne Singers commencing at 7.30pm. A special welcome is extended to residents to attend. On Sunday, 15th May, there will be special services in the Chapel at 11.00am and 6.30pm.

The Burnt Heath Harvest Thanksgiving services will be held on Sunday, 18th September, at 11.00am and 6.30pm. The congregation of the Parish Church have been invited to the evening united service.

PARISH CHURCH NEWS.

At the first Annual Meeting of the new Parish of The Bromleys, Mr. Robert Harding and Mr. George Kent were appointed Churchwardens for the year. Members appointed to the Parochial Church Council were: Mrs. Joyce Fairley, Mrs. Anne Fairley, Mrs. Pauline Greenfield, Mrs. Betty Rowe, Mrs. Mary Bush, Mrs. Elizabeth Lennox, Mrs. Jacqui Terry. Mrs. Meriel Davis, Mr. Douglas Rogerson, Major Harold Varney, Major James Heaney and Mr. Peter Rowe. The two Churchwardens, the Parochial Reader, Mr. John Appleby and the representatives of the Deanery Synod, Mrs. Olive Sparling and Mr. John Groom are all ex-officio members of the council. Mr. Douglas Rogerson was elected as Treasurer of the Council and Mrs. Meriel Davis agreed to be Acting Secretary until a permanent appointment could be made.

Preparations are going ahead for the visit of the members of the parish of S. Francis, Barkingside, on Sunday, 8th May. Rogation Sunday. The visit will commence with the Rogation Service of Eucharist with the Blessing of Crops at Norman's Farm, Little Bromley, at 11.00am. After lunch farm visits are being arranged for the visitors and the day will end with Evensong at the Parish Church at 5.00pm. A number of people have offered to give lunch to the visitors. I would like to hear of anyone else who could also make a similar offer. We are expecting to welcome up to fifty visitors on the day.

Ascension Day - Thursday 12th May. This is the last day of the Easter Season when we remember the final parting of Jesus from His Disciples. There will be a Parish Eucharist at 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

Whitsunday - Sunday 22nd May. The disappearance some years ago of the Whit Monday Bank Holiday means that it is easy to forget that Whitsun is one of the major Christian Festivals and is as important as Christmass and Easter. It is of course. the day when the disciples were gathered together and the Holy Spirit came upon them to change them from timid persons frightened for

their lives into the bold and courageous Apostles who all later gave their lives rather than deny the Faith of the Crucified and Risen Christ. On that day the Church as we now know it came into being, so it is sometimes known as 'the Birthday of the Church'. The services will be 8.00am Holy Communion, 10.30am Parish Eucharist and 6.30pm Festal Evensong.

Confirmation. On Friday, 6th May, the Bishop of Chelmsford will be holding a Confirmation Service at All Saint's Church, Dovercourt, at 7.30pm. A number of persons from the parish are to be presented for confirmation: Rachel Elizabeth Walker, Daniel Simon Guy Walker, Fiona Alexandra Horsey, Christopher Nicholas Morrell Horsey, Tristan Jon Twilley, Eleanor Ruth Terry, Matthew Nicholas Stanton and Mrs Christine Patricia Stanton. On Sunday, 29th May, at S. Mary's Church, Wivenhoe, Vanessa Isobel Heaney is to be confirmed by the Bishop of Colchester. It would be a great encouragement to them if members of the congregation could be present with them at the Confirmation Services, but, if you cannot attend, can you please pray for them, particularly on the day and at the time of the Confirmation?

JOAN GURNEY AND THE SUNDAY TIMES.

[Note: in the original article 'Joan' was incorrectly printed as 'Jane']

Joan Gurney who lives in Mary Lane South recently made the front cover of the Sunday Times Magazine. We are pleased that The Sunday Times has given us permission to reprint the picture and write up in case you missed it.

Joan has for some years now been supportive of our Playing Field Committee at Hare Green and has involved herself in several fund raising events. Besides being a very competent Market Researcher for which she has the gift of a silky tongue with the necessary flattery to bring out the 'I must confess all' syndrome she is also an expert on wines, which expertise she acquired with Grants of S. James, though she has not stooped to making her own home-made wines yet.

Joan commuted daily to London to do her job. I hope that one of her next assignments might be with Clarkes so that she can research on what sort of shoes to wear next time she has her photograph taken.

Well done Joan, and we hope that your next assignment will also reach the heights Of our National Press.

If we have any other famous people in our villages, please let me know and we will include a profile of them in a future issue.

Len Christodoulides.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on 17th March when Essex County Councillor D. Pallett was present. The caravan site at the end of Briar Lane was discussed and it was reported that the Environmental Health Officer and the Rodent Operative have been advised of the unsatisfactory situation.

A Parishioner had contacted the Council to ask whether the telephone kiosk opposite the school could be moved to a more central situation. Enquiries have been made and it is regretted that this is not possible but English Heritage have been contacted in an effort to preserve the existing kiosk.

The village sign is to be cleaned as soon as possible and an effort will be made to cut and generally tidy up the plot of land on which the sign stands.

The proprietors of the local riding schools have been visited and requested to ensure that horse riding takes place only on designated bridle paths.



Future Parish Council Meetings will be held on Thursday, 5th May, Tuesday, 19th July and Thursday, 22nd September. Parishioners are reminded that they are welcome to attend these meetings.

Following the Parish Council Meeting there was the Annual Parish Assembly attended by five members of the public in addition to the members of the Council.

Councillor Pallett reported on his activities at Essex County Council meetings. The main points of his report were:

1. He is working towards the removal of the caravans from Briar Road.
2. He is exerting pressure to ensure that large heavy vehicles be prevented from using the village roads as a short cut.
3. He opposed the rate rises.
4. He opposed the giving of grants from ratepayers money to groups well able to raise funds themselves.
5. He voted to retain 11-18 secondary schools.

Councillor Pallett finished his report by saying that he always endeavours to represent the views of his ward to the best of his ability, but he can only do this if residents contact him personally on matters which worry them and need bringing before the Council..

(To make this possible, Councillor Pallett's name, address and telephone number are included in the list of representatives on the inside front cover of the 'Messenger', as well as the name and details of Councillor Sam Pound, our representative on Tendring District Council. Ed.).

Other matters at the assembly included the presenting of the accounts of the 'Bromley Messenger'. The meeting was pleased to note a highly satisfactory financial position.

The problem of damage caused to the verges in Chase Road by contractors vehicles was discussed and the dangerous parking of vehicles (ambulances) at Crossways Garage was mentioned. Major Varney is to discuss this with the proprietor.

SERVICES AND MEETINGS - THE PARISH CHURCH.

Sunday 1st EASTER 4 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Service

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 4th 7.30pm PCC Meeting - the Rectory

Friday 6th 7.30pm Confirmation - All Saints, Dovercourt

Saturday 7th 2.00pm Deanery Quiet Afternoon at Elmstead

Sunday 8th ROGATION SUNDAY 8.00am Holy Communion

1.00am Eucharist and Blessing of Crops - Normans Farm, Little Bromley

5.00pm Evensong

Wednesday 11th 7.30pm Flower Festival Meeting - Southerndown, Gt. Bromley

Thursday 12th ASCENSION DAY 7.30pm Parish Eucharist

Sunday 15th ASCENSION 1 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Sunday School 10.30am Mattins and Sermon

6.30pm Eucharist and Hymns

Tuesday 17th 7.30pm Guild of Servers of the Sanctuary - Office and Benediction

Sunday 22nd WHITSUNDAY 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Sunday School

10.30am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 29th TRINITY SUNDAY 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Sunday School 10.30am Mattins and Sermon

6.30pm Songs of Praise

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 1st Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 8th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 15th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 22nd Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 29th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

HOLY MATRIMONY - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

23rd April Gordon Arthur Spurgin and Anthea Helen Christodoulides

CHURCH FLOWERS - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

1st May Mrs. M. Purkis 22nd May WHITSUN

8th May Mrs. J. Frostick 29th May Mrs. P. Deere

15th May Mrs. M. Bush

SIDESMEN

8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm

1st May Mrs. N. West Children Mr. H. Fairley

8th May Churchwardens Mr. G. Kempster and P. Rowe

15th May Mr. G. Kent Miss F. Orman Mr. D. Sparling

22nd May Major H. Varney Mr. P. Walker

29th May Mr. J. Clapham Mr. A. Lock Cdr. A. Catesby

SERVERS

1st May 8.00am Mr. John Clapham .

8th May 11.00am Major James Heaney

15th May 8.00am Major James Heaney

22nd May 10.30am Mr. Robert Harding

29th May 8.00am Mr. Bill Kempster

DEANERY QUIET AFTERNOON.

The Deanery Synod has arranged a Quiet Afternoon to be held on Saturday 7th May, at Elmstead Parish Church from 2.00pm until 5.00pm.

The afternoon will start with a short act of worship followed by addresses by The Revd. Robert Horsfield of Kidderminster. Tea will be served and there will be periods for quiet meditation. The day will end with a celebration of the Eucharist at 5.00pm. There will be the small charge of 50 pence for those attending. All are welcome - but names to the Rector, please.

SERVICES AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

As it was announced in last month's 'Messenger', we have started the revised arrangement of services for an experimental period. On the first Sunday, the Family Service is followed by coffee and soft drinks in the School. We hope that all who attend the service will join us for this. .

As there are five Sundays in May, instead of Evensong on 29th May there will be a 'Songs of Praise' followed by Compline. As it is Trinity Sunday, the theme for the hymns will be 'The Churches Year'.

If anyone would like to help choose the hymns, please put your choice on the list which is at the back of the church.

CHURCH URBAN FUND. .

The Bishop of Chelmsford is calling on all parishes in the Diocese to help in raising the sum of £1,000,000 to provide for the presentation of the Gospel in deprived Urban Areas. We are asked to endeavour to provide £1,600 in the present year. As a start to this, the collections at all the services on Rogation Sunday. when we receive visitors from London, will be given to this fund.

The Bromley Messenger JUNE 1988. Volume 3 Number 2

The month of June heralds many traditional village activities in this Parish. The Old Tyme Fayre on 4th June, the successor to the carnival held for very many years. opens 'the Season'. This year it is hoped to raise money For our village school. Anyone with a little knowledge of the work that goes on there will realise that any financial help that we can provide will be appreciated by the staff and children, and will be used to good effect. The following Saturday, 11th June, is the annual Cheshire Home fete. This is one of the days when we in the village are accustomed to receive very many visitors from the surrounding area who come to support the work of the home. It is good to realise how much this is supported by the village in providing much needed help in manning stalls and other necessary work to make this a success. All offers of help for both the Olde Tyme Fayre and the Cheshire Home Fete will be gratefully received by the organisers. For the Fayre the organiser is Mrs. Jean Wright and for the Cheshire Home Fete the organiser is Mrs. Pippa Hardy.

This month the Messenger is being sponsored by the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home. We thank them for their support and help which I am sure will be returned to them.

In order to give them the maximum amount of publicity in future, commencing with this issue, the sponsor's advertising page will now be at the beginning of the magazine, on page two, instead of at the back where it can be overlooked.

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH.

The House-to-house Collection made recently in Great and Little Bromley and Elmstead by the members of 'The Bromleys' Branch of ARC, raised £221 20 pence. The committee would like to thank everyone for their generous support, and also our thanks to those who helped as collectors; Mrs. Lewis in Elmstead and Mrs. D. Taylor, Mrs. A. Christodoulides and Miss Tracey Wright in Bromley.

PARISH CHURCH BANK ACCOUNT.

As a result of the re-organisation of the Parishes of Little and Great Bromley, the Church Bank Accounts of the parishes have been closed and a new account has been opened in the name of 'The Bromley's PCC Account' The account number can be obtained from the Treasurer, Mr. D. Rogerson, Apple Lodge, Frating Road. (Tel: 250228).

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

ANNUAL FETE

Saturday 11th June at 12 noon Official Opening by 'TIMBO' OF BBC ESSEX

* Blue and White Streamers Majorettes *

* Royal Hospital School Band *

* Missouri Raiders Western Club *

* Bows & Belles *

* Morris Men *

* Disco Bounce *

* Knobbly Knees Competition *

* Darts Competition *

* Clock Gold *

* Stalls and Sideshows *

* Pony Rides *

* Boating on the lake *

* Raffles *

* Plant sales tent *

* Refreshment Marquee *

Entrance 50p Children Free

Free Parking

Cheshire Homes are all about caring - in so many ways. Please help us to go on caring - and expanding our care

THE GARDEN IN JUNE.

Mow lawns at least once a week. Take softwood cuttings of Euchsias, cottoneaster and various shrubs, root in peat and sand.

Keep hedges trimmed. spray roses against greenfly and diseases.

Stop outdoor flowering Chrysanthemums, also pinch out leading shoots of dahlias and spray against pests.

Water and feed houseplants, cover fruit with netting against damage from birds and peg down strawberry runners.

Keep runner beans watered and feed with liquid manure. plant winter cabbage and keep the hoe and spray going.

Fred Wickham.

KITCHEN CORNER

A Rhyme for S. John's Day.

Then doth the joyful feast of S. John the Baptist take his turn,

When bonfires great with lofty flame in every town do burn;

And young men rounds with maids do dance in every street,

With garlands wrought of motherwort or else with vervain sweet.

Thomas Kirchmeyer, 16th century.

June is the month when we welcome the new young vegetables from our gardens and it is also the time of nature's bounty. So long as we avoid gathering along the roadsides where there is lead pollution from motor exhausts, young nettle tops make an excellent substitute for spinach in soups and other dishes, while the delicate flavour of hedge garlic is a tasty addition to salads. The deliciously scented elderflowers can be added to home-made cordial for a refreshing drink, as well as making the well-known wines and sparkling fizz. You might like to try this home-made ice.

Gooseberry Delight (serves 6).

Dissolve 6 ozs. sugar in 1 pint of water, boil together until reduced a little. Add two or three heads of elderflowers and infuse a minute or two. Remove heads, add 1 lb prepared gooseberries to syrup and cook gently till just softened, not broken. Lift out carefully with slotted spoon and keep aside. Strain syrup and when cooled, freeze in a tray. To serve, divide fruits between six glasses and top with a slice of the sorbet.

Jill Frostick.

MORE ABOUT MAPS.

This month I wandered eastward past Bromley Thicket, woods which on Chapman and Andres 18th century map stretched from Hare Green to Frating, and whose western edges thinned out into heathland or tough pasture, perhaps accounting for Balls 'Green'.

On the other side of the Harwich Road, Park Wood reached what is now Chase Road and a remnant of it remains in The Grove, still part of Park Farm land. Sheltered by it. and just into Little Bentley, are the cottages of Monkey Street, such an odd name - but wait - on a map of 1834 the same spot is written as Monks Eleigh. Is the former a corruption of the latter? and why does the name of a Suffolk village near

Lavenham crop up here? Delving into local history is like exploring a maze, there are so many paths. each leading on to others, and sometimes to dead ends.

1. Wilkinson.

FOOTPATH WALKS.

Date: 5th June. Meeting in Mary Lane alongside the Recreation Field at 2.30pm.

Paths to be walked (weather permitting) a group at Balls Green side of the village. Numbers: 10, 7, 26, 11 and 8.

Further date: 10th July. Meeting at the Black Boy public house at 2.30pm.

Footpath number 14 from Elmstead Road in a south-west direction to Morehams Hall at the parish boundary with Frating.

All welcome. Maps and details available from Colchester 230640.

Angela Pryor.

TRAVELLERS TALES.

Parishioners will be interested to learn that whilst holidaying in New Zealand, Robert and Jean Harding called on Stewart Appleby and his family of three who live in North Island. Teddy Bear T-shirts from Great Bromley were handed over to the much approving children, one shirt having been stripped from the wearer's back! The Hardings then went on to stay with Judge Eliot and Betty Pownall at their home in California, who have twice visited Bromley in the past to see the church, and in particular, the Stone Family Memorial Window. Their church in California, St. George's, Laguna Hills, is a modern building with a large congregation, having a throbbing office complete with word processor. a staff of secretaries and an abundance of curates led by the delightful Father Sandy who hopes to be in Bromley before very long.

PLAYGROUP.

The additional Thursday morning playgroup is proving quite successful and will continue after the half-term break which commences on Monday, 6th June. The Wednesday morning sessions are now very well supported with several new toddlers now attending. In fact we will soon have to invest in some additional small chairs for milk time. At the recent Crazy Sports and Car Boot Sale we raised some more money for funds selling cakes and a variety of clothes, toys and books. Thank you to those who helped and supported us.

The Playgroup is very sorry to learn that Sally Aldous is leaving the village at the end of the summer. We therefore, need a new playgroup leader to carry on the good work that Sally has put in over the last year. We currently have twenty-four children on the register and it would be a great shame to deny these children the opportunity of attending playgroup. Anybody, whether qualified or not, who would be interested in undertaking the job. please contact Sally Aldous on Great Bentley 251123 for further details.

L. Tingey.

CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION.

An Olde Tyme Fayre on Saturday. 5th June, from 11.30 to 5.00pm is to be opened by Percy Edwards.

The PCC is having an Ancient and Modern Stall at this event and gifts will gladly be received by Mrs. Joyce Fairley, Mrs. E. Lennox of Little Bromley. by Mrs. Betty Rowe or the Rector. Mrs. Betty Rowe would like to thank all those who donated items for the Tombola at the Crazy Sports.

1st GREAT BROMLEY GUIDES.

Sophie, Tracy and Helen have passed Fitness Badge with flying colours after taking part in several interesting discussions and challenges.

During the Easter holidays we went to Aldeburgh for a hike. We cooked our lunch on the edge of the marshes and as afterwards the weather was stormy, we changed our plans and instead of striking out along the embankment round the marshes, we explored the narrow streets round the town looking at the old houses with their different styles of architecture. We went to Snape and toured the old Maltings and other buildings of interest by the river, We brought back several bags full of stones collected on Aldeburgh beach; some we have since varnished and some painted as well, and made some attractive paperweights.

On another morning in the holidays we visited Lawford churchyard and looked at the flowers and other wild-life there with Mr. Rose. A special area is kept for conservation in the churchyard and we are also

looking at other unspoilt areas in Great Bromley. We have not forgotten about celebrating our 40th anniversary and we plan to invite past members who are interested to the special evening, when our new improvements to the but are finished. Please get in touch with me if you would like an invitation.

Unfortunately I have had no response whatsoever to my plea for a regular helper which I wrote in the January issue of the Messenger, and because of this, I have regretfully decided to give up as Guide Guider at the end of the summer term. Numbers are small in the company at the moment so we are going into abeyance (not closing) and hope someone will come forward to keep the company going and certainly by January, 1989, when several Brownies will be flying up. We do want to keep the Guide company in the village, don't we?

Joan Landon.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

The first weeks of the summer term were busy and exciting. We were celebrating the 125th anniversary of the building of our school. On Monday, 18th April, Mr. John Malseed brought some of his antique bikes

to show us. He gave a brief history of the bicycle and skilfully demonstrated how to mount and ride a penny-farthing bicycle. He also allowed the children to ride on a very old 'boneshaker'. On Tuesday the children were entertained Victorian style with a magic Show and Punch and Judy. Former pupils visited the school on Wednesday afternoon to see how the school compared to their memories! They were shown around the classrooms, then served tea in the school hall.

Some of the junior children entertained them with Victorian songs.

Thursday, 21st April, will be remembered not only by our school, but by many astonished passers-by! It was our Victorian day and staff and pupils dressed in Victorian style. The morning began with a very formal assembly then the children were put into groups or 'standards' for the day. The morning consisted of Victorian lessons - Mrs. Tilbrook taught singing, Mrs. Stokes supervised 'drill' in the playground,

Mrs. Tucker took very formal art classes and Mrs. Fitzgerald taught the Three R's. The children marched between classes singing hymns. Although the food was definitely 1988 style, the dinner ladies and mid-day assistants had entered into the spirit of the day and all were in costume. The afternoon saw a return to 1863, but this time for Victorian games. The children were organised into groups to enjoy the pleasures of marbles, fivestones, tiddlywinks, battledore, croquet, hopscotch and hoops and sticks. Parents helped not only with the games, but many had sent in a superb array of food for the children's tea-party. Victoria sponge cake, figgy pudding and many other goodies. Each child

had to taste a spoonful of gruel first though! It was certainly a day to remember, and many photographs were taken. Some were shown in the local press. When we have all the photographs from the official photographers we will display them for parents to see and copies could be printed if required.

The service in the church on Friday, 22nd April, was the culmination of the weeks events. It was attended by pupils and staff, past and present, and parents and friends. Children from every class read prayers, stories and poems, played recorders and sang hymns. The Bishop of Chelmsford gave the address and later visited the children in their class-rooms. At the end of the service each child was presented with a commemorative mug which was specially designed for the occasion, and paid for by the PTA. The rest of the congregation was presented with dried flower tokens which the children had been busy making. We are sure that the children gained a lot from the weeks experiences and we would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone who helped us.

The rest of this term is packed with events which we will tell you about next month - but here are two dates to keep free!

Friday, 15th July - Barn Dance at Park Farm. Ron Coxall, caller. Live music from 8.00pm until midnight. (Tickets from school).

Sunday 18th September - car rally and barbecue in the afternoon (details yet to be arranged). Your support is greatly appreciated.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Our Spring Sale was again a success making a total of £700 which will be a great help to our funds, as the Friendship Club costs £50 per month to run. Our grateful thanks to everyone who contributed in any way.

Our speaker at the June monthly meeting will be Mr. John Appleby. His subject 'Essex Dialect'. The competition is an old Bible. We enjoyed our outing to Canterbury with its lovely historical cathedral, and the sunny weather allowed us to wander about the interesting city. We hope the weather will again be kind to us for our trip on 15th June to Felixstowe with tea at Stowmarket. The coach will leave Elmstead at 10.00am.

Mildred Purkis.

JIM BIDDIS.

Very many people were saddened to hear of the death, after a short illness of Jim Biddis on 28th April. Jim was through and through a Bromley man. He was born in the village in November, 1912, where his father had come to settle after retiring from the Metropolitan Police Force. He was baptised in the Parish Church in April, 1913, attended the village school and grew up as a

young man in the village. On the outbreak of war in 1939 he was called up and served for some years in the RAF. It was at this time that he married, in 1941, Vera Cole in the Parish Church. After his war service he worked for a long time as a buyer for Moys, a local fuel firm. At the same time he and Vera made their home at Berriedale where they lived happily throughout their married life.

After the war he became very much involved in the village life. He was for many years a most efficient Clerk to the Parish Council. On the arrival in the village in 1958 of a new young rector, the Revd. James Ransom, Jim became one of his great friends and supporters, and after being confirmed in the Parish Church, Jim was elected as one of the two Churchwardens - in which office he continued for almost thirty years. During this time Jim became involved in many other parish and village activities. Until the time of his death he continued as Secretary to the Jacob's Charity Trustees, and as the village representative on the Dedham Educational Foundation. His activities and interests were not confined to committee work. He was very much a 'doer', and he was prepared to undertake any job in the village or church which needed doing. One particular task which I am told that he undertook was on one occasion when there was a problem in putting up the church flag on the tower of the church, Jim took his life in his hands and shinned up the pole to put a new rope in place. The very large number of persons who attended his funeral in the Parish Church bears eloquent witness to the esteem in which he was held. Vera asked that instead of flowers, donations should be given for Heath Hospital where Jim died, and for S. George's Church. The monies given to the church by Vera are to be used to purchase a new lectern Bible which will be inscribed with his name in his memory. The sympathy and support of all of us goes to Vera in her loss, and we pray that Jim may rest in peace.

RON RADFORD.

As we go to print we have heard of the death, after a long illness, of Ron Radford, for all his life a loyal supporter of Burnt Heath Methodist Chapel. An appreciation of his life will be included in next month's Messenger.

FIELD NAMES IN GREAT BROMLEY.

From research carried out in the Manorial Court Rolls, Title Deeds and Maps, I offer this list of names in response to a question posed recently by Mrs. Wilkinson. The list is not exhaustive. Acre Pightle, Alder Carr, Angle Field, Ash Field, Barbary Croft, Bat Plantation, Belcher Wood, Great and Little Bibbins, Black Boy Field, Great and Little Blaggs, Blaggs Meadow, Bodel Field, Boulge Hill, Great Brook, Bromley Meadow, Broom Hills, Burdocks, Bush Field, Calf Pasture, Chase, Causeway, Chuntis, Church Field, Upper and Lower Claps, Cook Field, Corner Field, Cricksey, Crooked Meadow, Cross Path Field, Drill Field, Dunninghams, Earth Field, Great and Little Fen, Fenn Field, Finchams Lay, Firmans Field, Fish Pond Field, Flat Field, Frost Field, Large and Small Gale, George's, Girlings Gate Field, Goochs, Gravel Pit Meadow, Grove Field, Grove Five Acres, Hanging Field, Heath Field, Holy Piece, Honey Berry, Jacobs Field, Kiln Field, Kitchen Field - Eight Acres, Kitchen Field - Two Acres, Leaping Bar, Lone Barn Field, Great and Upper Lee, Mays Six Acres, Mill Field, Moat Field, Moor Field, High Oak Field, Ozier Ground, Pale Gate Field, Parks, Peartree Field, Rookery Thirteen Acres, Round Meadow, Sallow Lane Field, Sandpit Field, Shoulder of Mutton, Shun Field, Silvesters. Slough Field, Smiths Field, Smythers, Smythies Close, First and Second Sparrows, Spring Field, Stone Field, Stony Field, Thicks Field, Little Thistle, Thoroughfare, Three Corners, Tom Howard, Vauxhall Field, Walnut Tree Field, Well Field Close, Wilkins Ten Acres, Willmotts, Wood Close Francis and Workhouse Field.

In a later issue of the Bromley Messenger it may be possible to give more details of some of these fields and, who knows, add to the list.

John S. Appleby.

BROWNIES.

Since the last magazine we have welcomed two new members to our pack; they are called 'Tweenies' until they have made their Promise and become Brownies. At the same time some of the older Brownies are learning about Guides ready to take the next big step in Guiding. In the next meetings we are busy painting and hammering our Roll-a-Penny board for the Olde Time Fayre on 4th June. So far we have not covered each other with spots of paint but some of us

have had the chance to use tools not usually found in Brownie meetings. Sunday, 5th June, will see the Brownies in church for the Family Service, reminding us of our duty to God, and afterwards we are going a-rambling.

Don't forget your packed lunches Brownies! Several badges have been gained after all the hard work earlier this year: Craft badges to Rebecca, Susannah, Elizabeth, Isabel and Angela. Toymaker to Hannah, Sarah, Emma and Lynn. Cyclist to Susannah. Well done all of you. The sections for the toilet have now arrived and are lying on the floor inside the hut, but soon I hope, they will be erected. Hopefully before the summer is over we shall be able to use it. I am sure the Brownies look forward to that day.

Brown Owl.

PARISH CHURCH NEWS. '

On the first Sunday in May we had the first of the new 'Family Services' which was very well attended and which was appreciated by very many people. The next similar service is to be on the first Sunday in June, the 5th, when the Great Bromley Brownies will be attending and taking part. As this is a Family Service and not a Children's Service, I was pleased to see a number of parents of our children as well as our regular congregation present. It would be most encouraging to the Brownies who will be with us on 5th June, and the children of the Sunday School. If their parents could support them not by just bringing them to the service, but also by coming and taking part with them. After the Family Service coffee and soft drinks are provided in the Parish School for those who come.

The Rogation Services on 8th May and the arrangements for the whole day made that a Sunday to remember. I would like to thank Tom and Joyce Fairley for allowing us to use their farm for the morning service of Eucharist and Blessing. All those parishioners who made the guests so welcome and who provided lunches for them and to Anne and Henry Fairley who not only arranged a most interesting farm visit in the afternoon, but also provided tea for all the visitors and their hosts. Without such help the day would have been very different.

I received a letter of thanks from Father Eastoe on behalf of all the visitors from Barkingside for whom the day was very different and most enjoyable. As theirs is an urban parish, the Blessing of Fields was something they had never before experienced. The parish of S. Francis, Barkingside, would very much like to offer us a reciprocal visit to enable us to see their parish and to join in with them in their worship. Father Eastoe has suggested that we visit them on SUNDAY, 16th OCTOBER. I have accepted this invitation and in due course, I would like to know the names of those who would like to take part so that I may order a coach to take us there. I hope that it will be possible for us to make this visit. I understand that several of the hosts are hoping to visit the homes of their guests, and this is being arranged.

THE BISHOP'S URBAN FUND.

On 24th April a Pastoral Letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury was read in all Anglican Churches in the country (including here in Bromley) outlining the setting up of a fund to provide urgent relief for the very underprivileged people and churches in the inner cities areas in this country. In our own Diocese such areas are to be found in the Deaneries of Barking and Dagenham, Newham, Ilford and Waltham Forest.

To direct the concern, our Bishop has appointed Canon Timothy Stevens to be responsible for co-ordinating our efforts. Each parish has been given a target for raising money for this Fund and we, here in The Bromleys, have been asked to raise £1,600. As there is a lot of confusion in peoples minds about how this money is to be used, each deanery is to have a meeting at which it will be explained and clarified. The meeting in our deanery of Harwich is to be held on Wednesday, 8th June at 7.30pm, in the Parish Room at All Saints Church, Dovercourt. It is hoped that at least five members of each parish will attend who will then be able to report back to their own churches. I expect that members of the PCC will take this opportunity to attend to find out about this appeal.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL.

Two meetings of the PCC have been arranged. The first is on Thursday 16th June. At which an in-depth look at our finances and the implications of the Bishop's appeal will be made. The second will be on Tuesday, 19th July at which the Revd. Norman Issberner, Director of Evangelism in the Diocese will be attending to direct our thoughts about evangelism in our villages. Both meetings take place in the Rectory at 7.30pm.

CHURCH REGISTERS (contd.)

Burial Wednesday, 4th May Peter Richard Squire aged 52 years.
Tuesday, 10th May James Edwin Biddis aged 75 years.

CHURCH FLOWERS.

5th June Mrs. G. Hayward 19th June Mrs. E. Sutherland
12th June Mrs. J. Harding 26th June Mrs. A. Clapham

SIDESMEN.

8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm
5th June Mrs. M. West Brownies Mr. G. Kent
12th June Mr. D. Rogerson Mr. H. Fairley
19th June Mr. J. Brown Mr. D. Sparling
26th June Mrs. L. Davey Mr. P. Walker

SERVERS.

5th June 3.00 Major Heaney 12th June 10.30am Robert Harding
19th June 8.00 Bill Kempster 19th June 10.30am John Clapham

DIARY FOR JUNE - THE PARISH CHURCH OF THE BROMLEYS.

Saturday 4th Olde Tyme Fayre
Sunday 5th TRINITY 1 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong
Sunday 12th TRINITY 2 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Sunday School 10.30am Parish Eucharist 6.30pm Evensong
Thursday 16th 7.30pm PCC Meeting - The Rectory
Sunday 19th TRINITY 3 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School
10.30am Mattins 6.30pm Eucharist with hymns
Sunday 26th TRINITY 4 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School Parish Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong
Wednesday 29th SS PETER AND PAUL 7.30am Holy Communion

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 5th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am
Sunday 12th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am
Sunday 19th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am
Sunday 26th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

CHURCH REGISTERS.

Holy Baptism
Sunday 1st May Charles Albert Pirie
Friday 6th May Rachel Elizabeth Walker
Daniel Simon Guy Walker

Confirmation

Friday 6th May Rachel Elizabeth Walker
Daniel Simon Guy Walker
Fiona Alexandra Hornsey
Christopher Nicholas Morrell Hornsey
Tristan Jon Twilley
Eleanor Ruth Terry
Matthew Nicholas Stanton
Christine Patricia Stanton

At All Saint's Church, Dovercourt. by the Bishop of Chelmsford

Sunday 29th May 'Vanessa Isobel Heaney At S. Mary's Church, Wivenhoe, by the Bishop of Colchester

The Bromley Messenger JULY 1988. Volume 3 Number 3

None of us needs reminding of the very wet and cold weather which marked the Olde Tyme Fayre on the first Saturday in June. Sadly this seriously affected the number of persons who came along; it also adversely affected the sum which was hoped to be raised for the benefit of S. George's School. However, the rain and wind did not, and could not, affect the real feeling of community which was so evident on the field and in the Village Hall on that day. It was so encouraging to see all the village organisations working together for the good of the village. If the day was not as great a success financially as it had been hoped, then it was really a great success in fostering the sense of community and Concern in the village. We hope that the Carnival Association Committee will accept our congratulations for organising this very happy event. Surely we can expect better weather next year!

From time to time we find ourselves having to accept the fact that an era has come to an end. This is very true, and we are reminded of it by the death of Mrs. Kathleen Palmer. It was over thirty years ago that Mrs. Palmer came to the village and commenced her work of caring for the mentally disadvantaged in Bromley Lodge, which she re-named Hamilton Lodge. The reason for her starting the home was because of the difficulty she had in finding a warm and accepting home for her own son, who was mentally disabled. With a great deal of faith she commenced her work with twelve 'boys'. Over the years this family has grown from twelve to well over fifty. The residents are well known in the village, and we can all see how well they are cared for and loved. Any visitor to the Home is immediately struck by the warmth of the welcome and the friendly and affectionate way in which the residents greet the visitor.

This has not happened by chance. It is the result of the care and concern shown to them by Mrs. Palmer and by the staff which she engaged to assist her. Although in latter years she had to hand over the running of the Home to others, the residents were always her 'boys' whom she treated as members of her family. Her work with the Home has now been completed: others now carry on the labours which she started.

She will always be remembered with affection and gratitude not only by those for whom she cared, and their families, but also by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

This month the Messenger comes to you thanks to the Sponsorship of the Colchester Co-operative Society Fuel Department. Our thanks go to them for their assistance.

May I please have contributions for the August issue of the 'Messenger' by Tuesday, 12th July.

GREAT BROMLEY CARPET BOWLS CLUB.

Our first meetings began in the Autumn of 1987 with a borrowed carpet and woods. We have now been able to purchase a new carpet and woods from funds raised by members. Club evenings are held in the Village Hall on various Monday or Wednesday evenings. There are seventeen paid up members. Membership fee is £8.00. We have visited Frinton Carpet Bowls Club and also the Club at Little Clacton, having on both occasions very enjoyable evenings. It is hoped that we will be able to join the Area League next season when we are looking forward to the floor in the Village Hall being repaired and we will be able to play a little more accurately than at the moment. Now it is like 'crazy golf' whichever way the carpet is laid. We are also hoping to host the visits of other clubs in the area.

Please come and give us a look anyone who is interested in playing. We play for fun: there is no need to be shy! and we have no age limits! At present our membership can span approximately seventy years!

Gill Hubbard.

TENDRING SHOW 1988.

There is to be a difference this year, things aren't as they were. The lay-out has been changed. Where the Grand Ring has been for the last twenty-eight years or more, at the east side near the Little Bromley Road, there will now be three Horse Rings, including the Jumping Ring. The President's Enclosure and Ring has gone west to where the Pony Ring was in 1987. Car parking around the President's Ring is being restricted, the livestock (cattle, sheep and pigs) are being given a more prominent place near the Horse Rings, making use of the three tree clumps in the middle of the ground near where Radio Orwell and the S. John Ambulance have stood for years past.

The changes have been made to improve the safety of visitors by keeping the horses and people apart; to lessen the chance of accidents through manoeuvring cars around the Rings, as well as greatly enhancing the visibility of events and classes, both in and out of the President's Ring.

This year's President is Charles Bolton and, with his wife's abiding interest in youth work, there will be a host of youth activities to be seen. There will be demonstrations and exhibitions in the President's Ring as well as static displays in the Youth Encampment area which is sited nearby. In all we are hoping to have more than five hundred representatives of youth organisations. Guides, Scouts, Brownies and Cubs on the ground showing off themselves and their paces. These events are being sponsored by the National Westminster Bank, to whom we are very grateful as we are also to Kent Blaxill and Co., Ltd., whose 150th Anniversary falls this year, for providing the display in the Art Tent of leaded and stained glass work, besides sponsoring the Art Tent. There are many others who Sponsor events and help with the preparations, to all of whom we are most grateful. The Show is on Saturday, 9th July, at the Showground at Lawford.
Robert Harding.

THE GARDEN IN JULY.

Lawns: water on dry spells and mow at least once a week.

Take semi-hard cuttings of camelias, cistus, hydrangeas and other shrubs.

Give hawthorne hedges a first clipping, continue clipping privet and and *Lonicera nitida*.

Remove dead rose heads and apply fertiliser and keep the spray going.

Disbud Chrysanthemums for larger blooms, also tie in young shoots on dahlias and remove faded flowers.

Remove faded flowers on rock plants, spray house plants with water and feed with Bio.

Prune plum trees and layer blackberry and loganberry bushes.

Fred Wickham.

STILL MORE FROM MAPS.

Dick Hayward has kindly lent me a facsimile of one of the old series of ordnance survey maps originally published in 1805 and reproduced in 1828. Contours are indicated by hatching, which when I was a child, still survived in atlases, but not I think, in the OS maps of the twentieth century. On this map Monks Eleigh (see my June Messenger notes) seems to be attached, not to the cottages of Monkey Street, but to the barn which still stands as part of a group of buildings opposite the junction of the A604 with the A120. Half a mile further on through Little Bentley, besides the Tendring Heath Road, stands a long low building with a lovely sweep of a pantiled roof, not more than 10-12 feet to the ridge, whose use I have long pondered. On this map it is named 'Malt Kiln', on the 1924 map it is 'Malt House' (disused).

Did the owner of Maltings Farm brew ale from his own barley, malted in his own Malt House? Many houses, even cottages, had their brew houses - the one at Bay Trees in Great Bromley survived until a few years ago.

I. Wilkinson.

LOCAL NAMES.

In her notes in the June Messenger, Mrs. Wilkinson wondered why Monkey Street is so named, and queried whether it had any reference to Monks Eleigh. There is another explanation. At one time the land belonged to Gonville and Caius College. Cambridge. In speech Gonville is frequently shortened to Gon and Caius is always pronounced as if it were spelt keys. Add these two together and we get Gonkeys which by mispronunciation can become Monkey(s). This could explain the curious name.

In Great Bromley part of the village has been known for years as Balls Green. Its older name, and the one used in the Great Bromley Enclosure Act, 1843, and its award in 1846, is S.Balls Green. In the Middle Ages the Priory of S. Botolph's, Colchester, had land in that area. and this name probably refers to this. S. Balls was the normal way in which the name S. Botolph's was pronounced. Today Colchester people refer to this church as S. Bottles. or Bottles. It would seem that there is quite a strong link between Great Bromley and the Ancient Priory of S. Botolph's in Priory Street, Colchester. *John Appleby.*

THE BROMLEYS CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

The Bromleys and Little Bentley Branch of the North Colchester Conservative Association will be holding its annual Strawberry Tea on Sunday, 3rd July at 3.00pm. Tickets are £2.00 each and children under eleven years. £1.00. The tea takes place at Brundell's Farm. Frating Road, Great Bromley. As a special attraction this year there will be a display of Highland cattle.

L. Christodoulides.

S. GEORGES CHURCH PLEA.

I have stood in your midst for many a year,
But what does my future hold I fear?
My roof leaked, my tower is falling asunder
Will you meet my repair costs I wonder?
So come, save your church, fill my pews
And willingly pay to me your dues.
Give to God's House as much as you can
For within its walls lies the salvation of man.
Please don't let S. George's fall into decay,
Remember - where there's a will there's a way.
Betty Rowe.

GREAT BROMLEY CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION.

The Carnival Association would like to thank all those who helped in any way at the Olde Tyme Fayre on Saturday, 4th June. Sadly, due to the inclement weather, takings were well down. As the proceeds were for the much needed and appreciated S. George's School, if anyone feels inclined to give a donation, Mrs. Jean Wright of 1, S. Georges Close, the Secretary of the Association, will gladly receive them.

BROWNIES.

Five Brownies went to Thorrington in May for the District Pack Holiday. The weather was lovely and the girls enjoyed finding clues and following trails on Saturday, as well as making 'gluckies' and flowers. In the evening they had the chance of taking part in Maypole dancing. Sunday was open day for Brownies at Thorrington and, after being shown all the events, they were free to please themselves. Brown Owl had a very realistic cut hand with glass protruding from it, but by the end of the day it had miraculously healed.

At the beginning of June we joined in the Old Tyme Fayre with our newly made 'Roll-a-Penny' board. It looked very colourful and people had the chance to win money from us - which they did. Thank you for your support in spite of the weather. The following day we went to church with our Pennant where everybody appreciated the Brownies singing. After a drink and a biscuit in the school, the Brownies changed smart shoes for boots, gathered their lunches and went for a ramble. The first stop was Michaelmass House where games were played and lunch was eaten. After lunch they all joined the Parish Ramble which started from Mary Lane. The Brownies enjoyed walking old footpaths and they discovered an easy way of 'serving the Queen'.

We said goodbye to Clare who has gone on to Guides, whilst three other Brownies are sampling the older section. Congratulations go to Hannah, Elizabeth, Susannah and Zoe on completing their Highway Journeys. There will be 'Farmyard Frolics' on 2nd July at Park Farm for all the District Brownies, from 2.30 until 4.30, and a small tea will be needed by each Brownie taking part.

At the Tendring Show on 9th July, the Brownies and Guides are giving a display in the Ring from 2.30 to 3.00. Please come along and see the variety of activities in which the girls can take part.

Brown Owl

WINDSOR SCHOOL, CLACTON-ON-SEA.

Mrs. Elizabeth Drewery and the staff of the Windsor School, Clacton-on-Sea wish to thank everyone who sponsored her on her thirteen mile walk to raise £265 in aid of Windsor Special School. The event took place on Thursday, 16th June. Mrs. Drewery pushed her son Daniel, in his wheel-chair from their home in Ardleigh Road, Little Bromley to his school, leaving at 6.00am and arriving at Clacton at 9.30am. A special thank-you go to the local police and everyone who helped her on her way. Our hearty thanks must go to Mrs. Drewery for undertaking this massive event. The following verse, 'Heaven's very Special Child' has been very helpful to Mrs. Drewery and is worth sharing with the readers of the Messenger:

A meeting was held quite far from earth,
'It's time again for another birth'
Said the Angels to the Lord above
'This special child will need much love.'
His progress may seem very slow

Accomplishments he may not show
And he'll require extra care
From the folks he meets way down there.
He may not run or laugh or play;
His thoughts may seem quite far away.
In many ways he won't adapt,
And he'll be known as handicapped.
So let's be careful where he's sent,
We want his life to be content.
Please, Lord, find parents who
Will do a Special job for you.
They will not realise right away
The leading role they're asked to play
But with this child sent from above
Comes stronger faith and richer love.
And soon they'll know the privilege given
In caring for this gift from Heaven.
Their precious charge. so meek and mild
Is Heaven's Very Special Child.
Author Unknown.

THE BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

We are all delighted to learn that in the June Birthday Honours List, the Queen has honoured Len Christodoulides by granting him membership of the Order of the British Empire (the M.B.E) Len earned this award as a result of many years of-work with the Suffolk and North East Essex Safety Group. We offer him our congratulations on this signal honour.

JAMES EDWIN BIDDIS.

The sum of over £400 has been received by S. George's Church as memorial gifts to Jim Biddis. As was mentioned last month, the money is to be used to purchase a new Lectern Bible for the church, which is to be inscribed with Jim's name.

Mrs. Vera Biddis would like to offer her thanks to all who have so generously given to this Memorial Fund, and to thank all who have helped her in the sad time she has been experiencing. In addition to the gift to the church, other monies have been given to Heath Hospital, Tendring, in recognition of the devoted nursing care given to Jim in the last weeks of his life.

HERBERT RONALD RADFORD. '

Herbert Ronald Radford, Ron as he was known to everybody, died on the 14th May, and his funeral service took place in Burnt Heath Methodist Chapel on 20th May. Born in Burnt Heath, he had been carried to the Chapel as a babe in arms, attended the Sunday School, became a member of the Burnt Heath Silver Band and served the Chapel as Steward, Caretaker and general factotum in ways impossible to describe, right up to the time of his death. He beautified the little church with his choicest blooms, for gardening and nursery work had not only been his livelihood for much of his working life. but was also his engrossing hobby. With a strong sense of duty. and impatient of injustice, he was well known for speaking his mind without fear or favour. It was all laced however, with a fine sense of humour, for he liked nothing better than a good story, or the chance to reminisce and, after the death of his wife Ivy, and facing his own increasing weakness, he displayed that Christian courage and fortitude that was the hallmark of his life.

John Robinson.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

As the Village Hall will be closed in July, our monthly meeting has been cancelled. However, instead we are to have a coach trip with tea at Belchamps S. Paul on Thursday. 28th July. The coach will leave Elmstead at 10.00am. A stall was provided by the club and manned by some of our members at the Olde Tyme Fayre held at the Village Hall for the school's 125th birthday celebrations.

Mildred Purkis.

TO ALL PARISHIONERS FROM THE RECTOR AND CHURCHWARDENS.

First of all we would like to thank all of our parishioners who in the past have so generously contributed to the work of the Parish, both in supporting the general funds of the church for its day-to-day running expenses, and also in helping the Repair Fund in its task of raising money for the urgent restoration of the building. All of us who live in the villages of Great and Little Bromley have legal rights in our ancient Parish Church: here we can bring our children for Baptism: here we can come for our marriages to be solemnised; here we can be buried in our Churchyards. The Church, the oldest, the most beautiful and the most significant building in the Parish, represents to us all the Spiritual values of so great importance in our lives, and it reminds us of our reliance on the past generations of the villages and the cohesion of life in the community today. Many hundreds of years ago our ancestors thought it important enough to build the church as a witness of their love of, and their dependence on God. To us in our present generation, has been given the responsibility of ensuring that this sign of faith endures for future generations yet to come. As you have helped us in the past, so we need your continuing help now to maintain the running of the church and to repair and preserve the building.

Just as in our home lives, inflation means that we need an ever increasing income in order to make ends meet, so we need this in a similar fashion to cope with the ever increasing expenses of the church.

Our biggest outgoing now is the money we have to pay to the Diocese, to pay in part, some of the Rector's stipend. This year the sum we have to pay is just over £6,400. In order to pay this, and all our other expenses: we need an income of £11,000 each year. This if of course, a massive sum, and in order to see the demand of it upon the Parish it can be represented in various ways.

£11,000 per year = £920 per month

= £212 per week

= £30 per day

= £1.25 per hour

= 2 pence per minute

Shared amongst a large number of people, this sum should be attainable.

For example, if two hundred people could pay regularly only £1 per week this would produce £10,400 - and if some of this money were to be covenanted, the money we would receive from the Inland Revenue would bring this up to well over the £11,000 that we need.

We do urgently require a number of people who can undertake to pay a regular sum like this. If you can, and would like to help us in this way, our Treasurer, Mr. Douglas Rogerson. Apple Lodge, Frating Road,

Great Bromley (telephone 250228) would be pleased to hear from you.

If you pay Income Tax and would be prepared to covenant your contribution (this would cost you no more and does not affect your Income Tax position), he will gladly advise you on this point.

As the church is not having a major fund raising event this year. it has been decided to have a Gift Day. This is to be held on SATURDAY, 16th JULY. On that day the Rector will sit in the Lych Gate at the entrance to the churchyard to receive gifts. We are enclosing with his issue of the Messenger, an envelope into which your gift may be put. Every gift we receive will be greatly appreciated, whatever its size.

If you cannot come to the church on that day your gift can be left at the Rectory at any time, but it will help if you can use the envelope!

We do hope that many of our friends and neighbours in the villages will support us in this way. The sad and salutary fact that we have to bear in mind - and this we know only too well - is that churches which cannot pay their way are likely to find themselves joined to another parish, and thus lose their resident Priest - or closed down completely. We are determined that this will not happen here.

It is not easy to have to ask for money. but as it is for your church we are confident that you will wish to help in whatever way you can. Thank you for your concern.

Robert Harding Churchwarden.

George Kent Churchwarden.

Paul Davis Rector.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING.

The next meeting of the PCC will be at the Rectory on Tuesday, 19th July at 7.30pm. and not on 5th July as announced at the last meeting.

PARISH CHURCH NEWS.

After yet more delays we have now been informed that the contractors will commence the work of repair on the church tower in August. At the same time we learn that the cost of the work will now be in the region of £75,000. When the work was first considered over three years ago, the cost was estimated at £25,000! Thanks to the unstinting efforts of very many people in the village and elsewhere, we now have £31,600 in the Repair Fund. To this must be added the grant of £22,000 from English Heritage. We are hoping to receive grants from some other bodies, but it will still leave us to raise a further substantial sum.

A start has been made on clearing and tidying up the new cemetery opposite the churchyard. A group of members of the church with strimmers have begun to cut down the grass. It is a very long and difficult task. We hope to be able to restore this as a peaceful and well cared for part of our churchyard.

On Tuesday, 19th July, there will be a meeting of the FCC at which the Revd. Norman Issberner, the Diocesan Advisor in Evangelism will come to talk about ways in which we can extend the work of the church, and on Wednesday, 27th July, members of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament are coming to S. George's for their Service and Benediction at 8.00pm.

The Sunday School will close for the summer holiday. The last meeting will be on Sunday, 24th July, and meetings will recommence with the Family Service on Sunday, 4th September.

SIDESMEN.

8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm

3rd July Mrs. N. West Children Cdr. A. Catesby

10th July Mr. G. Kent Mr. J. Clapham Mr. G. Kempster

17th July Mr. R. Harding Major Varney Mr. H. Fairley

26th July Mrs. N. West Mr. D. Simons Mr. D. Sparling

31st July Mr. G. Kent Miss F. Orman Mr. P. Walker

SERVERS.

3rd July Major Heaney 8.00am

10th July Mr. R. Harding 10.30am - .

17th July '

24th July Mr. J. Clapham 10.30am

31st July Mr. W. Kempster 8.00am

DIARY FOR JULY 1988.

Sunday 3rd TRINITY 5 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am The Family Service 6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 10th TRINITY 6 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School

10.30am Parish Eucharist 6.30pm Evensong

Tuesday 12th 7.30pm Deanery Synod – School

Saturday 16th GIFT DAY

Sunday 17th TRINITY 7 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Sunday School

10.30am Mattins

6.30pm Eucharist with hymns

Sunday 24th TRINITY 8 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School

10.30am Parish Eucharist 6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 27th 8.00pm CBS Office and Benediction

Sunday 31st TRINITY 9 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Mattins 6.30pm Evensong

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 3rd Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 10th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 17th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 25th Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 31st Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

CHURCH REGISTERS.

Holy Baptism

12th June Thomas Edward Daniel

12th June Jonathon David Baker

12th June David Joh Baker

Funeral

28th June Charlotte Kathleen Truelove Palmer, aged 93 years

Church Flowers.

3rd July Mrs. M. Hart 24th July Mrs. A. Fairley

10th July Mrs. B. Rowe 31st July Mrs. M. west

17th July Mrs. V. Biddis

The Bromley Messenger August 1988. Volume 3 Number 4

The good news this month is that the old and very badly worn floor of the Village Hall has been taken up and a new floor has been laid. It is to be hoped that all who use the newly refurbished Hall will find that their activities will be much improved. The Hall Committee has worked hard to find the very large sum of money which was necessary and we congratulate them on their efforts. A Village Hall is a most important feature of a small community such as ours, and we are most fortunate to have the hall that we do, due to the generosity many years ago, in the 1930's, of the Crossman family who then lived in Bromley Hall (now the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home). It is important that it is used and valued by the village. Our appreciation of the efforts of the Hall Committee must be that we will all endeavour to support the events which are planned to raise money for the running of the Hall, for the expenses of the Hall do not end with the fitting of their new floor.

This month our thanks go to Michaelmas House Vineyards, and Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Simons for Sponsoring this issue of the 'Messenger'. There can be only a few villages in the country with a vinery producing its own wines!

Because of the holiday month, would contributors of items for the September issue of the 'Messenger' please provide their 'copy' earlier than usual. Items for inclusion should be sent (for this month only) to Mr. Len Christodoulides, Magnolia House, Bromley Road, Frating.

TENDRING HUNDRED FARMERS CLUB.

The very many people who attended the Tendring Hundred Farmers' Club Annual Show on 9th July will have been delighted at the variety of exhibitions and very many activities taking place. This must be surely one of the very best local Agricultural Shows. The undertaking of such an event required a great labour of love from a large number of dedicated workers. Our congratulations go to all who worked so hard to provide such an interesting and worthwhile show. For many years the Show's enthusiastic Director has been Mr. Robert Harding and readers will be delighted to know that Robert has been elected as President of the Club for next year and will therefore, be presiding over the Show in 1989 which we will all look forward to with even more interest than before. For those who keep twelve month diaries the date will be Saturday, 8th July, 1989.

Michaelmas House English Table Wine
Perfect for every occasion
£3.50 a bottle £40.00 a case Available from the vineyard
Cases delivered free locally
Telephone DENNIS & PRU SIMONS on Colchester 231115

FLOWER FESTIVAL.

Over the week-end 3rd and 4th September there is to be a Flower Festival in S. George's Church at which the theme is to be 'Village Life'. All the flower arrangements will depict the various activities in the village and the Church. Tea, scones and cakes will be on sale in Church Meadow during the afternoon of Saturday and Sunday, as well as Cake and Book Stalls. There is also to be a children's activity area and a quiz competition into which all children will be able to enter. Commencing at 7.30pm on Saturday evening there is to be a Giant Barbecue with entertainment provided by 'Track Seven', a Jazz Band with an outstanding reputation, comprising of a group of young people from the locality (including Great Bromley). There will be a Raffle and also a Bar. During the barbecue the church will remain open for visitors.

Tickets for the barbecue and entertainment can be obtained from Peter and Betty Rowe, or the Rector, price £4.00 each. The Sunday morning Family Service will be followed by coffee on Church Meadow and, instead of Evensong, there will be Community Hymn Singing on the Meadow with coffee to follow.

We do hope that these events will be well supported: all the proceeds will go to the Church Repair Fund (see below).

There will be an important meeting to finalise the arrangements for the week-end on Monday. 22nd August at 7.30pm in Church. Can all those who are helping please try to attend?

CHURCH REPAIRS.

AT LAST! The tower is now shrouded in scaffolding and the long awaited tower repairs are now in hand. This project to repair the tower was first decided upon just before Canon Picton left the parish. Now over four years later the work commences. What was originally thought to cost £25,000 has now trebled in price and we now have to face the sum of £75,000. We have £55,000 available at the moment towards this sum, but in the next twelve months we have to find an extra £20,000. Although we hope to obtain further grant aid, we will still have to find the larger part of this money ourselves. I do hope that all in the village who value this treasure of ours, our beautiful mediaeval church, will support the money raising activities we will be arranging to help to achieve our objective. Please support the Flower Festival and Barbecue.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Our thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. D. Wright and Mr. and Mrs. S. West for not only allowing us to visit their gardens in June, but also for the lovely refreshments they provided. It was a most enjoyable evening. On Tuesday, 30th August, we visit the trial fields of Thompson and Morgan at Ipswich. The meeting point will be the Village Hall at 6.45pm. *V. Booty - Secretary.*

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY OPENS NEW SHOP IN CLACTON - CAN YOU HELP?

The Children's Society has opened a new charity shop in Clacton at 25 Pier Avenue (opposite McDonalds). This will be a permanent venture to provide funds to finance the Society's work with over 11,000 children, young people under pressure and families in need. The shop is open for business Monday to Saturday between the hours of 9.30am to 4.30pm. We are in urgent need of volunteers to help in this shop on a regular basis, preferably from 9.30am to 1 pm or 1 pm to 4.30pm. Obviously if anyone is happy to help for longer periods this will be very much welcomed! This can be very interesting and rewarding work and great fun too. so if you feel able to help us in this way please contact our Clacton shop (telephone Clacton (0255) 221823) or write to Edward Allnutt. Appeals Manager for East Anglia, Area Appeals Centre, The Barn, Station Road. Elmswell, Bury S. Edmunds, Suffolk IP30 9HA. (Telephone (0359) 41882.

Alternatively if you are unable to help in the shop we would appreciate your help in securing donated goods to sell which should be in good condition, clean or in working order. The aim is not to establish a permanent jumble sale, but a 'good as new' shop where people can buy with confidence. So any unwanted articles of clothing, books, toys, jewellery, bric-a-brac, pictures, glass, china, household items etc., you may have will be welcome. Please tell your friends too and start collecting now. I do hope as many people as possible will be able to help us with this new exciting venture in Clacton and we look forward to hearing from you.

Edward Allnutt. Appeals Manager for Church of England's Children's Society.

1st GREAT BROMLEY GUIDES.

In May and June we enjoyed the out-of-doors to the full. We have had two different hikes round the fields of Great Bromley, one round the village of Dedham and another from Wivenhoe to Alresford Creek. Each time we made a fire and cooked a different delicacy. Also in May we prepared for camp, and during the Spring Bank Holiday I took two of the Guides to Terling to join Guides, Rangers and Guiders from Frinton, Walton, Kirby and Thorpe for five nights camping. We had all the usual fun of camp and swimming and ice skating besides. (No, the weather was not that bad, we went to Chelmsford Ice Rink!). We had a bit of rain and quite a lot of sun too. Sophie and Tracy worked for, and passed, Agility Badge and we hope to have some Hikers Badges soon. I hope that you all saw the displays at the Tendring Show, in the Youth Marquee, and the half-hour of activities in the Main Ring. All sections of the Guide Movement from Brownies to trefoil Guild took part and it was the first public occasion for the new section for five to seven year olds called Rainbows. Guiding in the Tendring Hundred covers the Guide Divisions of Tendring and Elmstead.

Great Bromley Guides will be holding a three day camp in August and will also be taking part in the Parish Church Flower Festival at the beginning of September, which will be my last occasion with the company.

There are three Brownies ready to come up in September and ten altogether between now and Easter 1989. I do hope that someone, or better still, two friends together will consider taking on the worthwhile job of leading the company. Please get in touch with me soon and I will give all the help I can. Training is available and our District Commissioner is always ready to give advice and help with problems. Don't think that you have to take it on for sixteen years just because I

have! We are always grateful for any length of time our leaders can give and I am quite sure that any Leader will find it as rewarding and as much fun as I have.

Joan Landon.

THE DIOCESAN CYCLE RIDE.

The Annual Diocesan Cycle Ride is to take place this year on Saturday, 10th September. Throughout the country cyclists will be taking to the roads to visit as many churches as possible to gain sponsorship money. Are there any people, young or old who will take part on behalf of our parish? Half of the proceeds of the Ride go to the Friends of Essex Churches and half comes to our Parish Funds. This year all the money we receive will go to the Repair Fund. As the Friends of Essex Churches are prepared to give a grant towards our Tower Repairs, all that we pay to them we will probably receive back and more, so we really must make an effort to take part and raise as much money as we can. In order to receive an official Cycle Ride badge and Sponsorship form, please contact the official Parish Organiser who will be pleased to welcome you into the squad and to give you all the information that you will need.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING.

This year the Harvest Thanksgiving at the Parish Church will take place at the end of September. The details are as follows and more details will be available next month. .

Thursday 22nd September 7.30pm Thanksgiving Service.

Preacher The Revd. Gordon Stinson, Rural Dean.

Friday 23rd September 2.30pm School Harvest Service. .

Saturday 24th September 7.30pm Harvest Supper in the Village Hall.

Sunday 25th September Sunday Harvest Services.

At Burnt Heath Methodist Church the Harvest Thanksgiving Services will be on Sunday, 18th September. The Evening Service at 6.30pm will be a United Service at which the Rector will preach. On that Sunday there will be no Evening Service at S. George's Church.

GIFT DAY.

The Rector and Churchwardens would like to thank all who contributed to the Gift Day on Saturday, 16th July when a large sum was given to support the running of the Church. It was most encouraging to receive such widespread support. Thank you everybody for your help. The total will be reported next month.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

The last half term of the school year is always the busiest, with outings, exhibitions and sports meetings, and this term is no exception. The Area Rounders Tournament took place at Manningtree Secondary School on 16th June and our school was represented by Nicole Abbott, Rebecca Knappett, Deborah Matthews, Emma Peck, Julie Twilley, Mathew Berry, Andrew Golding, Sam Locking, David Mann, Matthew Newnham and John Sustr. They played well and won three of their five matches, gaining third place in the Tournament.

Some of the children returned to Manningtree two weeks later to compete in the Primary Schools Area Sports. The team consisted of twenty-two children. Everyone tried their best and was a credit to the school but notable successes were in the Relay Races - all four relay teams romped home to win their races, a great example of teamwork. Our own Sports Day is to be held in a few days time and we are keeping our fingers crossed for fine weather.

All classes have been on their outings now. Classes 1 and 2 went to Windsor in connection with their work on the Victorians. Class 3 went to Walton-on-Naze to explore the beach and to Castle Park boating pond to sail the model boats they had made. Class A enjoyed a visit to Colchester Zoo and were given a talk on 'Fur, Feathers and Scales'. A disco and barbecue took place at school last week as a party for the children leaving our school this year. 2nd, 3rd and 4th year juniors enjoyed the disco run by Andy and Madeleine Terry and tucked into hamburgers and hot dogs.

We all wish Samantha Brown, Andrew Golding, Rebecca Knappett, Sam Locking, Deborah Matthews, Emma Peck, Stuart Simons, John Sustr and Julie Twilley every success when they start at secondary schools in September.

Those parents who missed seeing our display of work in the Schools Tent at the Tendring Hundred Show will have another opportunity on Open Evening at the end of term. Children will

show their parents the work on display in their classroom and have a chance to wander round the other classes to see the work that has been going on throughout the school.

As the school year comes to an end we would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who give up their time to come into school to help us. We are very appreciative of the loyal support of parents, governors and friends. This year we have not only received funds from the PTA but also from the Great Bromley Carnival committee, so we are busy ordering new books and equipment for the school.

May we wish you all a happy holiday and remind you that school re-opens on Tuesday, 6th September.

PS - if you would like to spend an enjoyable Sunday afternoon driving round country lanes and meeting up for a delicious barbecue ... don't forget the PTA Car Rally and Barbecue on Sunday, 18th September. Tickets are available from school.

PLAYGROUP.

This year's summer outing was a trip to Brightlingsea for fun and games on the beach. The weather was quite kind to us and thirteen children and several mums made the journey with packed lunches. The children had an enjoyable time playing on the beach and paddling in the sea. The following week at the Wednesday Playgroup morning the children were excited to find that Carol Cordwell had bought some week old chicks for them all to see.

We are relieved to say that following the departure of Sally at the end of the summer term, Carol Cordwell has agreed to help Eve run the Playgroup and will be attending the appropriate training course in September. Sally was presented with a gift from the Playgroup to wish her all the best and to show our appreciation for the work done over the past year.

Will all mothers please be reminded that the AGM will be held on Monday, 12th September.

Please attend if possible as your support is needed. Another date to make a note of is Wednesday, 14th September, when the photographer will be coming to take photographs between 9.30 to 10.00am. Anybody wishing to have their child photographed is welcome whether they attend the playgroup or not.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank playgroup for the gift given on the birth of my son Neil, it was a very nice surprise. *Lynda Tingey*

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

For our 1989 production we shall need chorus girls, men and a choreographer. Anyone interested please ring Colchester 231067.

Casting meeting - Tuesday, 27th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

GREAT BROMLEY JUBILEE CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION.

The AGM was held at Linda Pinhey's on 27th June, 1988. The profit from the 'Country Fayre' was approximately £40 due to the bad weather. Luckily this was counteracted by good financial fund raising events for 1987-1988. Great Bromley School are to receive £350 towards screen and language books as they requested. A further donation might be possible later in the year if funds are available. £25 is to be donated to Hamilton Lodge and £20 to S. John's Ambulance Brigade. Officers elected were: Chairman G. Phelps, Treasurer N. Rowe, Secretary L. Pinhey. Committee: B. Rowe, J. Terry, A. Terry, N. Thompson. Mrs. Jean Wright resigned after eleven years on the Carnival Committee.

Date for 1989 Carnival Day is 3rd June, 1989, and the theme and charity are yet to be decided.

GREAT BROMLEY AND DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB REPORT.

On Saturday, 18th June, Great Bromley and District Cricket Club held their fourth annual Chairman's Day with a Chairman's XI playing against a present Great Bromley XI for the Pirie Family Trophy.

Ninety Life Vice-Presidents, Vice-Presidents and players were invited to the Village Hall for lunch and tea by the Chairman of the Club, Mr. Bryan Wright, for an event which is proving increasingly popular with both players and guests alike.

In perfect cricketing conditions the Chairman's XI were invited to bat and scored an impressive 183 runs for 6 wickets lost, with Paxmans players Johnson and Black both scoring half centuries. After tea Bromley scored 187 for 5 wickets lost with the main contributors being Phil Wright (65 NO) and Bill Kempster (50), therefore giving captain Phil Allam victory in an eagerly contested match enjoyed thoroughly by both sides.

At the time of writing Great Bromley has completed about a third of their fixtures. In the friendly fixtures Great Bromley have won 5, lost 1 and drawn 1. whilst in the Lancaster Garages League the club is proving to be a major contender for honours. At the end of June Great Bromley are currently lying in third place having won 5 games and lost 3. Please note that the club will be holding a barbecue and disco at Ilex Farm, Burnt Heath, Ardleigh on Saturday 10th September (tickets £3), and a Fashion Show and Sale at the Village Hall on Wednesday, 12th October. Tickets can be bought before the event or at the door and will be priced at £1.00. For any more details of both events please contact Mrs. Linda Allam at Bluegates Farm, Great Bromley or on Colchester 230375.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Mr. and Mrs. Looser will be showing us films of the River Stour at our meeting on 18th August. The competition is a country scene picture postcard.

The Windsor outing starts from Elmstead at 10.00am on Tuesday, the 16th August. We would be grateful for any oddments of wool for our ladies to continue knitting blankets for the hospital.

These are greatly

appreciated but we are very short of wool. Please help - thank you.

Mildred Purkis.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Full many a tale Mrs. Orriss has come up with. 'The Dog and Fiddle', one of the Chase Farm fields, so called from the inn of that name which, a hundred years ago, stood there. How surprising it is that Great Bromley's then much smaller population than now, could support half-a-dozen inns. They were truly 'locals' for farm workers weary from many hours labour and with only their two feet for transport, sought company near at hand. For their women, tied to the home by children and chores, their social life was in the church or chapel on Sunday.

Mrs. I. Wilkinson.

THE GARDEN IN AUGUST.

Lawns - mow regularly and water in dry spells. Apply a fertiliser and weed-killers.

Take semi-hard cuttings of flowering shrubs including hydrangea for pot culture.

Dead head perennials that are not needed for seed, keep Chrysanthemums supported and disbud as necessary.

Plant daffodils when available, take semi-hard cuttings of heathers with a heel, propagate in peat and sand.

Cut down raspberry canes after fruiting and tie in new canes. Plant out rooted strawberry runners. .

Keep feeding tomatoes in the greenhouse with tomato fertiliser, also cucumbers and melons.

Fred Wickham.

ALEXANDRA ROSE DAY COLLECTIONS FOR EPHA.

Many thanks to all who gave a donation to this. The total collected so far is £51 which will go to assist in providing holidays for handicapped children. *Jill Frostick.*

KITCHEN CORNER.

The 25th August is S. Bartholomew's Day, a martyr reputed to have been flayed alive in the 1st century. He is the patron saint of butchers and tanners. A dish associated with his Feast Day is:

Bartlemass Beef.

3 lbs. brisket of beef.

½ teaspoon each of ground nutmeg, ginger, cinnamon, cloves and mace.

1 tsp. salt.

Rub the meat well with spices and salt. Put in a close-fitting earthenware dish, cover with water. Braise for 30 minutes per pound until tender. Serve hot with parsnips and potatoes or cold with spiced mustard.

A simple fruit sorbet is ideal for hot weather and a good way to use up oddments of fruit from the garden. Any mixture can be used. Press the fruits through a sieve to make 1/2 pint of puree, pour into a container and freeze until beginning to get firm, beat well. Stiffly whip two egg whites with 4-6oz icing sugar and fold in the fruit puree. Pour into container and freeze. Move to the fridge 20-30 minutes before serving. *Jill Frostick.*

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

Before the meeting held on Thursday, 5th May, all present stood in memory of Mr. James Biddis, a former Clerk to the Council. The Parish Council agreed to send a donation to the Parish Church for his memorial

fund. As a request by a parishioner that the telephone kiosk opposite the school should be moved from its present position was not practicable, the Clerk was asked to apply to English Heritage to have the kiosk preserved. Mrs. A. Prior agreed to arrange for the manufacture of a Parish Council Notice Board.

At the next meeting on 1st July a representative of Tendring District Council would be present to discuss future planning proposals to the village.

The following payments were agreed. Subscription to Essex Association of Local Councils £74.16. Rent for the Village Hall £110.50 pence. Donation re Mr. J. Biddis £20.00.

The Clerk is to look into the possibility of erecting a sign regarding the fouling by dogs of the cricket pitch and the Recreation Ground. The 'No Entry' sign has been obliterated from Back Lane West - this is to be dealt with. Mrs. Prior reported that the Footpath Walks had been well attended and that further walks would be planned.

SUMMER ROADSHOW PLAYScheme.

Calling all children!

The Mobile Sports team will be visiting Hare Green Playing Field on two occasions during the summer holiday when they invite all children in the village to join with them in a variety of activities.

Football * Volleyball * Short tennis * Cricket * Rounders * Badminton * Frisbees

The days are Thursday, 28th July 9.30am-12 noon, Wednesday 10th August 1.00pm - 3.30pm.

All activities are free! This is organised by the Tendring District Council Sports Council.

SERVICES AT THE PARISH CHURCH - AUGUST.

Sunday 7th TRINITY 10 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Mattins and Sermon NO EVENSONG

Sunday 14th TRINITY 11 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Parish Eucharist NO EVENSONG

Sunday 21st TRINITY 12 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Mattins and Sermon 6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 28th TRINITY 13 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Parish Eucharist 6.30pm Evensong

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 7th, Sunday 14th, Sunday 21st, Sunday 28th: Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green 11.00am

PARISH CHURCH FLOWERS.

7th August Mrs. A. Prior 14th Mrs. J. Thornton 21st Mrs. J. Rowe 28th August Mrs. E. Walker

HOLY BAPTISM: 17th July Karl Waldbauer, son of Gillian and Martin Waldbauer.

BURIAL: 14th July Grace Alice Prestney aged 78 years.

SIDESMEN.

8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm

7th August Mrs. M. West Major Varney No service

14th August Mr. R. Harding Mr. D. Rogerson No service

21st August Mr. J. Clapham Mr. F. Brown Mr. G. Kempster

28th August Mr. O. Kent Mr. A. Lock Mr. H. Fairley

SERVERS.

7th August 8.00am Mr. R. Harding

14th August 8.00am Mr. J. Clapham 10.30am Mr. R. Harding

21st August 8.00am Mr. J. Groom

28th August 8.00am Mr. W. Kempster 10.30am Mr. J. Clapham

There are no meetings of the Sunday School at the parish church during the month of August.

The Bromley Messenger September 1988. Volume 3 Number 5

This month once again we are indebted to Carless Petroleum (Fuels) Ltd, which formerly traded as Torch Petroleum from their old premises in Great Bromley for their sponsorship of this issue of "The Messenger". we thank them for their interest.

Material for the October edition of the magazine should reach the Editor at the Rectory by Sunday September 11th, please.

Same time ago, Major Varney gave we this poem, entitled "Prayer for those growing older". The thoughts would seem to be applicable to all of us, whatever our age!

"Lord, thou knowest, better than I know myself, that I am growing older, and will soon be old. Keep me from getting talkative, and particularly end the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every occasion. Release we from the craving to try and straighten out everybody's affairs.

Make we thoughtful, but not moody, helpful, but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all. But Thou knowest Lord, that I want a few friends at the end. Keep my mind from the recital of endless details. Give we wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on my many aches and pains, they are increasing, and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken. Keep we reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint - some of them are hard to live with - but a sour old man or woman is one of the works of the devil".

ROGATION DAY 1988

A very large number of parishioners took part in the Rogation Day service at Norman's Farm in May, when we welcomed visitors from the Parish of S. Francis, Barkingside. The Vicar and people of S. Francis have invited us to make a return visit to them on Sunday 16th October, when we will be able to join them in their worship, and share the hospitality which we were very happy to offer them. A coach has been booked to take us to Barkingside, leaving (probably) at 9.00am on the Sunday morning. The cost will not be more than £3.00 per person. Will all those who would like to join us on this visit please put their names on a list which is prominently displayed at the back of the Parish Church, or give names directly to the Rector. More information next month.

CARLESS - YOUR LOCAL OIL COMPANY

THE GARDEN IN SEPTEMBER

Sow new lawns aerate and top dress existing lawns.

Plant evergreen hedging shrubs towards the end of the month.

Dead head roses, tie in new shoots on climbers, watch for disease.

Water dahlias in dry seasons and make sure plants are properly supported.

Sow annuals for flowering next spring plant out biennials.

Plant daffodil bulbs put up bulbs for indoor flowers.

Divide and transplant rock plants which are spreading too much.

The cuttings of Camelia, Hydrangea, Mock Orange and Cottoneaster I took in June are all rooted and ready to pot up, cuttings are now taken of Fuschias and Geranium too over winter in the Greenhouse.

Thanks to a wet July my runner beans, marrows, broad beans, lettuce etc. , have been a huge reward.

Keep hoeing and watering when dry.

Fred Wickham

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

On 26th July we visited the gardens of Mr. & Mrs. P.Wickham, Major & Mrs. Varney, Miss M. Elder and Mr. & Mrs. B. Wright. We were most fortunate that the weather stayed dry and even more fortunate that, thanks to refreshments provided by our kind hosts, we ourselves did not! All agreed that it had been a lovely evening. On 29th July we held a Barbeque to raise funds for the Club and were again grateful that the rain left us alone, although there was a strong wind. However, this did not deter our three stalwarts who were doing the cooking nor the several helpers involved with serving the food etc. The evening was very well supported and sincere

thanks are due to all who worked so hard to make it the success it was, raising £123. A tombola run by Mrs. J. Wright in aid of Leukaemia Research, raised £17.

On Tuesday 13th September the A.G.M., will be held at Fen House, by kind permission of Mr. & Mrs. B. Wright commencing at 8pm, a charge of £1 per person will be made. Nominations for office will be required, would members please consult the person they wish to nominate for Office to ascertain whether they agree to such nomination. On Tuesday 27th September our speaker will be Mr. E. Ratliff who will.

talk about the cultivation of Sweet Peas. The venue will be the Cheshire Hares Chapel, commencing at 8pm.

V. Booty - Secretary

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

For our 1989 production we shall need chorus girls, men and choreographer. Anyone interested please. ring Colchester 231067. Casting meeting - Tuesday 27th September at 7.30m in the Village Hall.

Is there anyone who could give up a little of their spare time to play cards and boardgames with the residents at Seven Rivers? Please contact Bert or Mary Smith – TEL 231423

LEN'S COMMENTS

It again befalls me to produce this month's magazine while Paul and Merill take in the delights of sunshine and paella in Ibiza. Fortunately I have managed to persuade a delightful lady at Carless - Sheena - to type up this issue so there should not be any typing errors (which were numerous in my last effort). We are looking for a reporter in the village, someone at School, who might like to make this a project for their G.C.S.E. If anyone is interested please contact me

LOOKING FOR A JOB?

The Parish Council has had a letter from the G.P.O. asking if anyone would be interested in being a part-time postman. They are looking for someone who knows the area with some idea where people live and who would step in (sometimes at the last moment) if the full time postman went off sick or when he goes on holiday. Anyone who may be interested call on myself or Mr. Booty who have a letter with more information and an application form.

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our trip by coach to Belchanp St. Pauls, with tea at a delightful thatched house, was enjoyed by everyone. We are looking forward to being entertained at this month's meeting by the Charatones, always popular with our own members. The competition - an animal ornament. We are going to the Westcliff Theatre on Thursday September 8th, the coach will leave Elmstead with the first pick-up at 6.15pm. *Mildred Purkis*

BROWNIES

We welcome Elisha who made her promise - and say goodbye to Zoe who has left us to join the Guides. Elisha has made pack history by also being presented with the Hostess Badge as did Zoe and Lynn.

Susannah has gained her Water Rescuer, Emma her Sixer Badge, Lynn and Sarah their Seconders Badge - well done all of you. We have enjoyed District Revels which were held at Park Farm. We made new Brownie friends played games and created a mini farm with potato animals, though we didn't win the shield this year. Finally we went to the Tendring Show where we were joined by the Manningtree Brownies. We performed dancing and sang our "Red Man" song, dressed up Indian fashion, war paint and all.

COLCHESTER CAT RESCUE

Little Bromley are holding a Childrens' Fancy Dress and Fete on Saturday 24th September, 1988 at 2-4pm at Pensomis Pet'otel, Rosewood House, Ardleigh Road, Little Bromley (Tel.No. 393527) All proceeds from this will go to the Colchester Cat Rescue - a registered charity who need £19,000 to run the sanctuary. Dave Monk of BBC Essex will open the Fete. You can enter your cats photograph in a competition and items for some of the stalls are still needed (contact Mr. & Mrs. Peachey at the above address).

CHRISTO'S - CROSSWORD .

Last time I gave you a crossword , I only received one solution.

I am going to try again, and again I will donate a prize.

Completed entries to me by September 30th.

OLD TYME FAYRE - COMPETITION RESULT

Thank you to the 90 people who attempted to guess the date of the purchase of my great great grandmother's Sewing Machine. No one guessed the correct date, but the prize went to Mrs. J. Cave of

Aingers Green who was the nearest to the actual date which was February 9th 1866. Don't forget, if you are throwing anything out which is on the old side, remember me, as I am trying to make a collection of interesting old time objects.

James B. Wild

PARISH CHURCH NEWS

Now that the work on the Tower has been started, it is most important to support the Repair Fund. We still need nearly , £20,000 to pay for the work. All the money from the Flower Festival and Barbecue are to go to the Fund.

The Parish Harvest Thanksgiving takes place this month. The Services are:-

Thursday 22nd 7.30m Harvest Service - Preacher. The Revd. Gordon Stinson, Rector of Dovercourt and Rural Dean.

Friday 23rd 2.30pm S George's School Harvest Festival

Sunday 25th 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Thanksgiving Eucharist

6.30m Festal Evensong

The Harvest Supper this year is on Saturday September 24th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. In addition to the usual excellent meal and raffle, the entertainment is to be given by a Ladies Barber Shop group, Colne Harmony. Tickets are available from the Rectory, Mrs. A. Fairley and Mrs. L. Brown at £3.00 each. This is always a most enjoyable evening, which I am sure will be supported very well.

Gift Day The warmest of thanks go to all who contributed to the Gift Day Funds which raised the sum of £625.50. This was a really excellent result - and a great help to the Church running costs.

SEVEN RIVERS RESIDENTS AND STAFF SOCIAL COMMITTEE

invite you to a WINE & CHEESE EVENING

at the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Great Bromley

on FRIDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 1988 7.30pm.

Music * Grand Raffle

Ticket £1.50 (inc. glass of wine and buffet)

SERVERS AT THE PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 4th 8.00am Robert Harding

11th 8.00am Major Heaney 10.30am John Clapham

18th 8.00am

25th 8.00am Bill Kempster 10.30 Robert Harding

JAMES BIDDIS MEMORIAL

A new Red Lectern Authorised Version of the Bible in Leather, and a New International Version for use when a modern version is to be preferred have been purchased from the money given in memory of Jim Biddis. The Authorised Version Bible has been lettered in gold leaf on the cover "S. George's Church, Great Bromley. James Edwin Biddis, 1912 - 1988. Churchwarden 1950 - 1980".

The books are to be blessed at the Parish Eucharist on Sunday, September 11th at 10.30am. I hope that representatives of the many organisations Jim was associated with and his many friends will be able to attend the service.

Rector

SIGNPOSTS

How dreary they are, these anonymous artificial monoliths, not even decently clothed in lichen and moss. Few people find "PUBLIC FOOTPATH" inviting, and the path itself is usually obscure, and quite longstanding residents have often no idea where these untrodden ways lead, though occasionally our W.I. and other groups have walked them. I was asked only the other day about the post by the bridge over the A120. Once a favourite walk, the path to Cold Hall lay across the middle of the field it now skirts, and by the Hall one could either take the track to the village or walk on towards Elmstead. Crossing the brook I would gather watercress in Spring or Autumn, who would risk it now in these polluted days? and go on to Bouge Hill Wbod, a marvellous place for blackberries. I regret that I never lingered till evening, to see if badgers still lived in the holt there, now beset by the thundering traffic of the 120, they must be long gone.

I Wilkinson

BURNT HEATH METHODIST CHAPEL

The harvest Thanksgiving Services are to be held on Sunday September 18th. The morning Service will be at 11.00am and in the Evening the Service will be at 6.30pm. This is to be a United service, and the members of the congregation of the Parish Church are cordially welcomed, as well as members of other churches. The Preacher will be the Rector, the Revd. Paul Davis.

PARISH CHURCH - SEPT 1988

Saturday 3rd FLOWER FESTIVAL, BARBECUE & JAZZ EVENINGS

Sunday 4th TRINITY 14 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Service with Holy Baptism.
6.30m Service of Hymns in Marquee

FLOWER FESTIVAL - CHURCH OPEN, REFRESHMENTS

Saturday 10th DIOCESAN CYCLE RIDE

Sunday 11th TRINITY 15 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Sunday School

10.30am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Thursday 15th 7.30pm PCC Meeting - Rectory

Sunday 18th TRINITY 16 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School

10.30am Mattins & Sermon 6.30pm NO EVENING SERVICE

Thursday 22nd 7.30pm HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Friday 23rd 2.30pm School Harvest Service

Saturday 24th 7.30pm Harvest Supper-Village Hall

Sunday 25th TRINITY 17 8.00am Holy Communion

HARVEST SUNDAY 10.30am Sunday School 10.30am Eucharist of Thanksgiving 6.30pm Festal
Evensong

METHODIST SERVICES

Sunday 4th 11.00am Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green

11th 11.00am Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green

18th 11.00am Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green

6.30m United Harvest Service - Burnt Heath

25th 11.00am Burnt Heath 11.00am Balls Green

PARISH CHURCH FLOWERS

Sunday 4th Flower Festival Sunday 18th Miss F. Orman 11th Mrs. L. Brown 25th Harvest
Festival

SIDESMEN

Sunday 4th Mrs. M. West Children Mr. G. Kempster

11th Mr. G. Kent Miss F. Orman Mr. H. Fairley

18th Mrs. J. Harding Mr. D. Rogerson No Service

Thurs. 22nd Churchwardens

25th Major Heaney Mr. R. Harding Mr. G. Kent

The Bromley Messenger October 1988. Volume 3 Number 6

A continual topic of conversation this year has been the summer weather. All will agree that it just did not come up to expectations. and that things were always better in the 'good old days'. We may have had more rain than we wanted, more winds, less sun. but at least we were and always are spared the extremes of weather conditions experienced in other parts of the world. For us there was no drought to kill off all our crops as in the Sudan, no floods to wash away our homes and completely destroy a way of life as in Bangladesh, no killing and destroying hurricanes as in the West Indies and the United States. This should put our own moans and groans into perspective. We have much to be grateful for in England's green and pleasant land for its temperate climate, and absence of extremes of weather. Of course we would like things to be different but we should be thankful that we do not have to live in continual fear of the elements as do people who live in other parts of the world. Perhaps we should do more than be thankful for our own creation, preservation and all the blessings of life by doing what we can to provide aid for those who do not share the comfort and privilege we have by living in this country of ours.

The Messenger this month is sponsored by R. Gwinnell and Sons. Funeral Directors of Manningtree. We thank them for their generosity that enables us to continue this publication and to deliver it to your home. Contributions for the November edition should reach the Editor at the Rectory by Monday 10th October please.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

Term commenced on 6th September with eighty-three pupils on the roll, including the five year olds who start their school careers. Already many interesting activities have taken place. On 14th September, John Ryan, the creator and author of 'Captain Pugwash' spent a morning in the school and on the following Sunday the PTA organised a Car Rally and Barbecue. Later in the month many parents and friends joined the children in S. George's church for the Annual School Harvest Service. This was followed by the children visiting and taking harvest gifts to some of the elderly of the parish.

There has been a small change in the membership of the School Governors - Major Harold Varney and Mr. Richard Gurney both decided that they ought to resign and Mr. Robert Harding and Mr. Douglas Rogerson have been appointed in their place. At the Annual Meeting of the Governors, Mr. George Kempster was re-elected as Chairman of the Governors.

PARISH CHURCH FESTIVAL.

This Festival held on the first weekend in September proved to be a greater success than anyone imagined. The weather was excellent, the flower arrangers surpassed themselves in the way in which they depicted the village life in flowers, and the Barbecue and concert held in Church Meadow was a high point in the event. Those who attended were entertained by a concert of jazz of the highest quality by the young and very talented Trak 7. We most certainly hope to be able to bring them to the village again. We were very much helped by the provision of the large tent by the MCTC in Colchester.

All the proceeds of the event went to the Church Repair Fund, and this year it amounted to the sum of £1,027.17 pence. Thank you all who helped to arrange this event and who worked to make it such a success. Thank you too, all who came along and supported it. It was most encouraging to have such a splendid result.

ERNEST 'BUNNY' AUSTIN.

Many in the village were shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden death on 10th September of Bunny Austin. Having lived in the village all his life, Bunny was a member of a family that has lived here for many generations. On leaving the village school his first employment was at the Old Rectory where he worked for Rector Gurney. After his service in the Royal Artillery during the war, Bunny returned to work at Mr. Hayward's farm where he continued until his retirement some six years ago. Since retirement he gave his time and enthusiasm to the League of Hospital Friends at the District Hospital where his bright and happy personality cheered many a patient in taking a trolley of goodies around the wards. Bunny was a friend of everybody, always smiling and happy whatever he was doing. He will be very much missed by his family and friends. His funeral service, attended by a large number of people was held in S. George's Church where

many years before he had been a choirboy, was on 20th September. Our sympathy goes to his widow Jean and all his family.

May he rest in peace.

VISIT TO BARKINGSIDE - SUNDAY 16th OCTOBER.

Following their visit to The Bromleys on Rogation Sunday, we have been invited to make a return visit to S. Francis Church, Barkingside. A coach has been ordered which will leave the Church at 9.00am in order to get as there for the service at 11.00am. The families who visited us will provide lunch in their homes, and after the afternoon with our hosts, the visit will end with tea in the Church Hall at 4.30pm and Evening Service at S. Francis Church at 5.30pm. The coach will pick us up at 6.30pm for the return journey. The visit is not restricted to those who took part on Rogation Day - all are welcome to take part. I do hope that we will be able to muster as large a party as the party who came to us. The cost of the coach will be £3. Please sign the list in church if you have not already done so. as I will have to give definite numbers and names to our hosts by 10th October.

The Rector.

1st GREAT BROMLEY GIRL GUIDES.

We spent most of the summer term outdoors. as you will have read in the August Messenger, and enjoyed it very much. As a result some Hiker Badges were tested and awarded in July. At the beginning of August we held our second camp of the year, three days camping in Great Bromley not far from home. We had a picnic supper at the Naze one evening and a day out visiting Kessingland Zoo. We also toured the Nature Reserve at Newhouse Farm. At the end of camp Tracy and Sophie were awarded their Red Trefoil Badges and Helen the Yellow Trefoil. Our conservation project has been going on all the year and we are now trying to arrange the badge test. It has proved a very interesting study and we learnt a lot from it.

We took part in the Church Flower Festival again and. as usual, our corner to decorate was the Rood Steps. Guiding covers such a wide range of interests and activities so we were not tied to any particular colour scheme and the small flower arrangements which go so well on the narrow steps, are ideal for us and each person can do several.

Great Bromley Guides will not be meeting this term but we hope to re-open in the Spring. My thanks to all those who have helped the Company in so many ways during my time as Guider and to all Great Bromley Guides, past and present.

Thank you for the fun and friendship and good wishes to all of you.

Joan Landon.

HARVEST HOME.

Our harvest festivals are usually held in late September or early October but they originated in the Loaf Mass, Lammass. which was celebrated on 15 August.

In the London suburb where I grew up. the Lammass Lands stretched from the confines of the old village to the left bank of the River Lea, now playing fields. they were common land, used by the people after the harvest was gathered in, to fatten up their grazing animals until winter turned the fields into marsh. Administered by the Local Council, income from the playing fields provides funds for various purposes, notably prizes for essays on topics related to the Lammass Lands.

I. Wilkinson.

KITCHEN CORNER.

Windfall apples! Use these for chutney and pies, or stew them to store in the freezer for future use. Marrows keep well if hung in a dry shed (use old onion or orange mesh bags). Onions also keep best if hung in strings in a cool place. Surplus tomatoes make a good chutney or ketchup. Homemade is much better than any you can buy. Sloes and elderberries make delicious wine or sloe gin for Christmass. Elderberries also make a nice jelly as a change from the usual blackberry type. Use crabapples for this as well as windfalls.

Welsh Blackberry Pudding.

Put a thick slice of white bread at the bottom of a pie dish. Cook blackberries with sugar and a little water till soft. Pour over bread and leave to cool. Top with fresh cream.

Jill Frostick.

GREAT BROMLEY W.I.

Members were welcomed back after the summer break at our September meeting with beautiful slides of China which Dr. and Mrs. Kidd took on their recent visit. We all wished we could have been there with them walking the Great Wall - did you know that this can be seen from the moon? - and visiting the amazing Terracotta Army, a few of which have been on view in England this year.

We were not totally out of action during the summer, members and friends had a super evening cruising and dining on the River Deben. Our WI joined forces with other local WI's for an outing to the Frinton Summer Theatre which was a great success. The FST is really worth a visit, too late for this year, but do go next year and you will be impressed with the quality of the acting.

Coming soon! Wednesday, 5th October: monthly meeting in the Village Hall at 7.30pm - wholefood cookery. Visitors are very welcome.

Monday, 21st November: to Norwich by coach for the day. There may be seats for non-members if you are interested - please phone Pippa Hardy (230341).

Thursday, 15th December: Constable Group Activities. Carol Service in Lawford Church at 7.30pm. Coffee and mincepies after in the Ogilvie Hall.

Have you any material, wool, silks etc., to spare to use at the sewing evenings Jean Wright is holding on Monday evenings to make goodies for the Christmass Sale? All contributions gratefully received.

Pippa Hardy.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

October is a special month for us as it will be our 27th birthday. We are looking forward to a happy meeting on 20th October with the 'Ever greens Concert Party' to entertain us. The competition - a perfume bottle or Spray.

New members are always welcome. If you would like to join us come along to one of our meetings. These are held every third Thursday in the month at 2.30pm, or contact Mrs. Vera Biddis who will be pleased to tell you all about the Friendship Club.

We enjoyed our visit to the theatre in Clacton to see the Cascade Revue, alas our last outing of the year. *M. Purkis.*

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 Frank Battong, 37 Butt Road, Colchester C03 3BZ, Clerk to the Governors. Closing date 15th October, 1988.

THE BROMLEY BUSKERS.

At the recent AGM of The Bromley Buskers it was agreed that the following donations be made. £1,000 towards the new village hall floor.

£ 200 for clearance of village hall drains.

£ 200 to Scanner Appeal.

£ 200 to Bone Marrow Appeal.

£ 200 to Heath Hospital.

£ 200 to Fernside, Harwich Road, Great Bromley, home for the handicapped, for a television.

£ 200 to Windsor School, Clacton. for soft toys for handicapped children.

£ 200 to the Hospice.

£ 25 to the Bromley Messenger.

All members of the Buskers wish to place on record their sincere appreciation for the continued support from the public which made the above donations possible.

Don't forget the next function, the Christmas Buffet Supper with Cabaret on Saturday, 10th December, 1988. One night only, so tickets are very limited. '

METHODIST CHAPELS AT ELMSTEAD MARKET, BURNT HEATH AND BALLS GREEN.

Following concern about the future of the Chapels a full discussion was held on 27th June about the plans for our services. it was finally resolved that we should unite for worship for a trial

period beginning in October this year. for a six month period until March. In practical terms it will mean that we shall worship together at 11.00am in the following chapels on these dates.

Elmstead Market: 2nd October (Harvest), 23rd October. 13th November, 4th and 25th December.

Balls Green: 9th October. 20th November, 11th December.

Burnt Heath: 16th October, 6th & 27th November, 18th December.

The importance of planning preachers who can also provide some transport for the congregation at Balls Green was stressed and every effort will be made not to let our loyal members there suffer by these changes. In addition it was proposed that we take only one service a month at the Cheshire Home, on the fourth Sunday in the month; i.e. 23rd October, 27th November, 25th December if required.

Let me assure you that I do understand how distressing it will be to have 'our own Chapel' sometimes closed on a Sunday. My own 'home church' has just been bull-dozed to make room for a new development in Braintree and it hurt, really hurt, to see it go. In our instance however. I hope that it will just mean widening our circle of Christian friends, although we do know each other pretty well already. don't we?

John W. R. Robinson.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Our trip to Thompson and Morgan's trial fields proved most interesting. We were also shown the packing sheds by Mr. Thrower and his colleague who were ready and willing to answer all questions put to them. Coffee and refreshments afterwards were kindly provided by Mrs. V. Biddis which rounded off a very pleasant evening. When this magazine is published our AGM will have been held and a new committee appointed. The current Chairman. Mr. Booty, would like to thank all those who have supported and helped the Garden Club during his three years of office. *Secretary.*

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

I have received notification from Essex County Council that the number 79 bus service will be withdrawn as from 30th October, 1988. Commencing on 31st October the service 105 will be revised covering the former 79 route and will be operated by Hedingham Omnibuses. I have received the new timetable starting 31st October and will gladly let anyone have sight of this on request. *H. Booty - Clerk.*

GARDEN IN OCTOBER.

Lawns. this is the ideal month for a new lawn, weed killers on established lawns, and increase the height of mowing.

Plant new shrubs, plant new roses at the end of the month and also take cuttings of roses.

Dahlias, when blackened by frost, cut down to 6" then lift tubers, remove all annuals from the ground and plant bulbs.

Take hardwood cuttings of currants and gooseberry and plant new fruit trees.

Start digging for winter frosts, dig in plenty o compost and start storing onions, beet and apples: beware of mice! *Fred Wickham.*

THE BROMLEYS CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

The Committee has decided to run a China Stall at this year's Conservative Christmas Fayre in November at the Town Hall, Colchester. A coffee morning has been arranged at Brundells Farm on Saturday, 8th October, at 10.30am to 12 noon. Bring and Buy, Raffle. Admission at the door 30 pence. The Bromley Buskers gave us £25.

LOOKING FORWARDS AND BACKWARDS.

1989 is Essex Heritage Year - OUR YEAR!

In the County planning is at an advanced stage. Details are being collected for the years' programme of events, and we are joining in. Here in Great Bromley we plan to produce a Pageant in sound and colourful costume to show our history. The Pageant will be staged in Saint George's Church on a weekend in June 1989.

The script is ready and we invite you and organisations to take part in the production. No words have to be learned, we shall have narrators. Details of authentic costumes are available. Come on parishioners and take part. The Rector will be pleased to take names of individuals and

organisations and we have several months to perfect costumes etc., but we need volunteers - NOW!

All proceeds will help swell the Repair Fund. More information will be announced monthly in The Messenger. Would any volunteers to help in this production please contact the Rector as soon as possible.

John Appleby.

REDISCOVERY OF A MYSTERY.

When scaffolding was erected at S. George's recently, the turf near the tower was disturbed and a small flat gravestone under it discovered. Mrs. Margery West has cleaned the stone, now quite worn. The grave-

stone originally was inscribed:

'The Revd. H. Yeomans'.

It marked the grave of the reverend gentleman. Mr. Yeoman was not Rector of Great Bromley, so who was he? On the South Hall of the Tower an inscription reads: 'To the memory of the Revd. Henry Yeomans, late Rector of Little Wigborough in this County who departed this life in the 29th year of his age. His remains were interred near this place on the 29th August, 1815'. *John Appleby.*

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE TOWER REPAIRS.

Work commenced on the Tower on 6th September, the contract being for twenty weeks though a variety of problems could extend the time. The cost is to be £73,415 though if further problems are found, this could increase. It is of interest to know that the cost of the scaffolding (included in the contract price) is almost £10,000.

The preparatory work is well advanced: this involves taking off all the old rendering and cutting out the bad pointing. The baffles in the bell chamber have been taken out and these are to be replaced with new baffles and anti-bird netting. The work now in progress is bringing to light the poor stonework which has to be replaced, on the tower battlements, the buttresses and in particular, the mullions in the bell chamber windows which, with the tracery, have all to be replaced.

Although the work is in progress. the Repair Committee is still actively engaged in fund raising. There is a short-fall at the moment of just over £13,000 in the money available to pay for the work. This money can be provided by loans which have been negotiated, but as a loan is only a loan, money must be obtained to pay these back.

We have been very much helped by grants - English Heritage made a grant, already reported, of £22,000 and in the last fortnight, we have been notified of a grant of £2,000 from the Historic Churches Preservation Trust. We hope to obtain further grant aid from the Diocese and the Friends of Essex Churches.

Of recent donations to the fund, the Committee acknowledge with grateful thanks, the sum of £158 given in lieu of flowers in memory of the late Jack Taylor.

The Pageant. mentioned by John Appleby in this issue. is being planned to provide funds for the appeal and, among other things, it is proposed to hold another Flower Festival and Barbecue evening next year.

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY.

In clearing out the Bell Chamber a rather bent and obviously old coin was found on a window sill. This has now been identified as a half-penny minted in 1720. It shows on one side Britannia, and on the other the head of King George II. In the middle of the 18th century this coin would have had a far greater value than a half-penny of today.

It would probably have purchased goods to the value of fifty pence today - it could have been quite a loss to its owner. It possibly was lost by the Captain of the Tower whose job it was to inspect and keep the bells in order. Could it have belonged to the owner of the oldest of our hats - the one dated 1760?

Sadly, because of its condition this coin has no monetary value today but to us it certainly has considerable interest and value. I wonder if anything lost today will turn up in two hundred and fifty years time - and what the finder would make of it?

FLOWER FESTIVAL.

Village activities this year's theme, What a busy week this has been.

Should this arrangement go here or there?

Did the colours ought to have been chosen with more care?

At last finished - a sigh of relief, Result for all. beauty beyond belief.

The sun shone, visitors came. Stalls and barbecue did very well.

Result - success - our hoped for aim.

Betty Rowe.

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

The newly formed Residents/Staff Social Committee held a very successful Wine and Cheese Party last month. Over 70 people attended this first event and over £150 raised towards the Residents Fund.

The next event will be a FIREWORKS NIGHT BARBECUE PARTY on Saturday 5th November. Everyone welcome.

PARISH CHURCH - OCTOBER 1988.

Sunday 2nd TRINITY 18 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Service 2.30pm Holy Baptism

6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 9th TRINITY 19 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School 10.30am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 16th TRINITY 20 8.00am Holy Communion

VISIT TO BARKINGSIDE

Monday 17th 7.30pm Deanery Synod-Elmstead Church

Tuesday 18th S. LUKE Ap. 7.30am Holy Communion-Hamilton Lodge Chapel

Sunday 23rd TRINITY 21 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School 10.30am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 30th TRINITY 22 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School 10.30am Mattins and Sermon 6.30pm Evensong

CHURCH FLOWERS.

Sunday 2nd Mrs. O. Sparling Sunday 23rd Mrs. G. Rudd

Sunday 9th Mrs. P. Stennett Sunday 30th Mrs. E. Lennox

Sunday 16th Mrs. A. Twilley

SIDESMEN. 8.00am 10.30 am 6.30pm

Sunday 2nd Mrs. M. West Children Mr. H. Fairley

Sunday 9th Hr. G. Kent Mr. A. Lock Cdr. A. Catesby

Sunday 16th Mr. G. Kempster NO SERVICE NO SERVICE

Sunday 23rd Mrs. N. West Mr. P. Rowe Mr. D. Sparling

Sunday 30th Hrs. J. Harding Mr. D. Simons Mr. P. Walker

SERVERS.

Sunday 2nd Robert Harding

Sunday 9th James Heaney John Clapham

Sunday 23rd Robert Harding

Sunday 30th Bill Kempster

HOLY BAPTISM.

September 4th Emily Hay Phelps

September 18th Lucy Louise Gaffney

September 25th Tobias William Thornton.

HOLY MATRIMONY.

September 3rd Brian John Cutts and Tracey Lorraine Felgate

September 17th Robert David Malcolm and Suellen Joan Kelly

The Bromley Messenger November 1988. Volume 3 Number 7

A quick glance at the list of organisations on the cover of the magazine shows a wealth of activity in the village, but a closer look will show that there is an important area of possible activity that has been overlooked. Although Cubs and Scouts are catered for in Ardleigh, there is no other provision for Youth Activities. I hope that at long last this can be remedied. The Parish Church intends to sponsor the setting up of a Youth Club in the Parish which will be open to all young people between the ages of ten and sixteen, to commence meetings in January, 1980, on a weekday evening in S. George's School Hall.

For this to be successful (and we must ensure that it will be), there must be a sufficient number of adults who will be prepared to help in leading the group. The Rector would like to hear from anyone in the parish who would like to help in any way. We are most grateful to the Head of S. George's School, Mrs. Pat Fitzgerald, and the County Education Department for making the school available for this purpose.

This month we have to make a threefold thanks for the sponsorship of this issue. The Wivenhoe Bookshop, 23 High Street, Wivenhoe; Nightman Electrical Services, 6 Hall Cottages, Church Road, Frating, and The Blackheath Garage, Mersea Road, Colchester. We very much hope that readers will support these traders as a return for their support of The Messenger.

Contributions for the December issue should reach the Rector by Thursday, 10th November please, and for the January issue which must be prepared early because of the Christmass holiday, not later than Monday, 5th December.

Len Christodoulides promises another Prize Crossword Competition for the December edition.

THE WIVENHOE BOOK SHOP, 23 High Street

Wivenhoe - opposite S. Mary's Church. Wivenhoe 4050

For YOUR choice of books. A wide range stocked - any books ordered.

Ask for our Christmas Catalogue - books can be delivered free to the Bromleys.

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S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

We are most grateful to Mr. Good of Coodwood Timber Products, The Pylons, Park Lane, for his gift to the church of a new shed for storage which he has erected in the churchyard. It will be very useful and it is very much appreciated.

Sunday, 13th November, is Remembrance Sunday and at the Parish Eucharist at 10.30am we will have our annual Act of Remembrance, and after the service, lay wreaths on the War Memorials in Great and Little Bromley.

The last Sunday in November is Advent Sunday, the first day of the church's year . The season of Advent is not only a preparation for the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child at Christmass, but is also a time when we are reminded that our faith is not only a historical faith, looking back to events of 2,000 years ago, but is also a looking forward faith to the fuller life we shall share when we pass from this life to the next. In Advent we are reminded that there is a spiritual dimension to our lives and that, in the words of the creed, God 'will come to judge both the quick and the dead'. Perhaps we can make this Advent a time for renewal when we all make a real effort to make this spiritual dimension the important part in our lives that it must be if we are to live as Christians in the fear and service of God.

Our thanks go to all who helped us to have a most successful Harvest Festival this year. In particular I would like to thank all who made the Harvest Supper so successful, with especial thanks to the Colne Harmony Singers who provided such an excellent entertainment without any charge. The event raised the sum of £257.30 pence towards the general running costs of the church.

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME GREAT BROMLEY RESIDENTS & STAFF SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Presents GRAND FIREWORK DISPLAY and BARBEQUE

Saturday 5th November 6.30 pm. 1988

Followed by MUSIC, TEA, COFFEE, SOFT DRINKS & XMAS STALL

Tickets £1.50, Children half price, available from Seven Rivers Cheshire Home or telephone 231428

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Lots of events took place during October, the Talent Contest in Clacton, a week's holiday together in Torquay for some of our members and our 27th birthday meeting. As this report has to be in just before the events, I shall have to tell you about them next month. We received a very nice 'thank you' letter from Heath Hospital for our gift of knitted shawls made by some of our members.

On 17th November Mr. Pinch is coming to our meeting to talk about pot plants. The competition - a miniature autumn arrangement not more than 6" overall. *Mrs. M. Purkis.*

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME.

The residents of Seven Rivers Cheshire Home at Great Bromley will be 'At Home' on Thursday, 10th November from 10.30am until 12 o'clock. There will be coffee and a Bring and Buy Stall.

THE GARDEN IN NOVEMBER.

Make your final cut of lawns and then fertilise.

Plant hedges and take hard wood cuttings of shrubs.

Prune climbing roses and plant new ones as they arrive.

Finish planting tulips, give houseplants plenty of light but remove from window sills at night.

Cease feeding and water sparingly.

Begin winter pruning of fruit trees (not stone fruit), protect fruiting buds from birds.

Keep turning the ground over ready for the frosts and watch stored fruit against mice and rot.

Fred Wickham.

KITCHEN CORNER - NOVEMBER 1988.

Guy Fawkes Day is one of our most popular celebrations in which most families take part. As a change from the usual hot-dogs, here is a recipe for tasty Guy Fawkes Pasties:

1 lb. puff or shortcrust pastry. Beaten egg to glaze.

Filling:

1½ lbs. sausagemeat, pork or beef.

8 oz. Streaky bacon or pieces de-rinded and chopped.

1 onion finely chopped.

2 teaspoons dried sage.

Salt and pepper.

Roll pastry thinly and cut into 5-6 inch rounds.

Mix Filling ingredients together and place a good spoon ful on each round. Damp edges of pastry, bring together at the top and press well and crimp the edges. Place on a damp baking sheet, brush with the beaten egg and bake for 25 minutes till golden brown. Temperature 220C, 425F or gas mark 7. Cool on a rack and serve warm or cold. Makes 12.

Don't forget that the Sunday before Advent is stir-up Sunday, a reminder that it is time to make your Christmas pudding. Each member of the family should stir (clock- wise) and make a wish!

Jill Frostick.

THE FIRST ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS.

You may have seen recently in the press, advertisements of Victorian Ordnance Survey Maps.

These are reprints of 1" maps surveyed in the late 18th and early 19th centuries by the Corps of the Royal Military Surveyors and Draftsmen. The Colchester sheet was first published in 1805, but an improved edition appeared in 1838.

The first is very difficult to read as the hatching is so dark - that bordering the Bromley Brook covers our village centre, though a black blob just might be the church. Buildings such as Newhouse, Cold Hall and the Black Boy can be seen because they stand on higher ground. The

substitution of contour lines in the early 1900's made maps both more accurate and easier to read. I want to write more about this but I think the above is quite enough for now.

I. Wilkinson.

FROM THE BROWNIES.

Welcome to an open evening on the 2nd November at 5.15pm to 7.00pm. An invitation is extended to everyone to try their hand at various brownie activities. Past members are especially welcome and it is not even a fund-raising event.

This term we have been very busy. A sponsored swim was held and the sum of £120 was sent to help the seals, a really magnificent effort. Well done everyone and thank you for supporting us. At the meetings cars have been cleaned, washing sorted and a lot of effort has been put into 'doing our best' in things we do not like doing. Several badges have been gained, namely six swimmers to Jenny, Rebecca, Lynn, Elisha, Ellie and Lindsay. Hostess to Eleanor and Ellie, photographer to Lynn; Craft to Ellie.

Jenny has her sixer badge, Rebecca and Caroline their seconds. Goodbye has been said to Elizabeth who has joined Guides.

We have welcomed Hannah, Lindsay, Emma and Chloe as Tweenies and also Dormouse who is back in a new uniform as an Assistant Guider.

We are now at the recommended minimum number of adults with a pack, namely two warranted leaders, one unit helper and one young leader. If any mum would like to lend a hand do please come; the first meeting is the worst!

Future events: Church parade this term is the first Sunday in December, a Family Service followed by coffee served by the Brownies, and nearer to Christmass, we will be carol singing again though the location has not yet been decided.

Jacqui Terry.

1st ARDLEIGH SCOUT GROUP.

Being some time since I have written in the Messenger, I felt that I should let you know of some of the events that have taken place. The group has expanded to a situation where we have enough boys in all three sections and we must seriously look at opening another Beaver Colony of boys who want to join. We would be more than willing to do this if only we could find Leaders. I do feel it is a sad state of affairs when so many youngsters want to go along to a youth organisation, or their parents want them to belong, that out of the eight Leaders we now have, the majority of them live outside the area, and we only have one Leader who lives in Great Bromley (myself) and one in Ardleigh and one in Dedham.

The Scouts have now got twenty boys and have had a very interesting programme. They attended the Essex International Jamboree at Great Leighs in July and had a very enjoyable time doing a variety of activities, including abseiling and ice skating. They are away in camp again this weekend, the fourth camp of the year. The Cub section also now are able to go to camp, two of the leaders having obtained their camp certificates. Eighteen boys went to Thorrington in June and had a weekend on an Olympic theme, taking part in a range of activities and being awarded medals. The Beavers also continue to have several activities, but here is our main problem, with only one leader and a waiting list that we just cannot cope with. The Beavers only meet for one hour on a Wednesday between 5.30 and 6.30 in the Vicars Room, Ardleigh, and we would like to increase our numbers from sixteen to twenty-four in the new year but it does depend on finding people who are willing to become Leaders.

On the fund raising front the group now has a set pattern of events where in all cases we hope to clear £200 profit. The barbecue in July in my garden achieved this target where everyone who attended had a most enjoyable time even if it did rain towards the end of the evening. Along with two table tops and a Disco for Halloween at the end of this month this sets the pattern of events. We also collect newspaper which I do ask all of you to continue to collect and drop off if possible in my car port, and Christmas cards. This year ending in April we will be expected to find around £800 for our annual subscription to Scout Headquarters and we are pleased to say that this year we are already in the happy state of having this money. We have just had the money donated for a Mess Tent which we now have and I am sure that this will prove a useful piece of equipment not only for ourselves, but for other organisations in the area.

John Terry.

Group Scout Leader.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

On 27th September at the Annual General Meeting a new Committee was elected.

Mr. F. Wickham as Chairman.

Mr. F. Griffiths as Assistant Chairman.

Mrs. V. Griffiths as Treasurer.

Mrs. R. Field as Secretary.

On 25th October we have our Annual dinner at Goodmans Restaurant in Manningtree at 7.30pm prompt.

Our next meeting will be held in the Cheshire Home Chapel at 7.30pm on 29th November. The speaker will be from Rolts Nurseries and the subject is propagation of seeds.

R. Field.

CORRECTION.

There was some misinformation in the October edition of ' the Messenger. The Bromley Buskers gave £25 to the Bromley Messenger, not the Bromley Conservatives, and this money is in the Messenger's account.

CHRISTO'S CROSSWORD.

There were four winners to the crossword. Mary Smith, of Seven Rivers, Jill Frostick, Nigel Austin and Meriel Davis. They will all receive a small prize.

THIS ENGLAND.

In the October issue the Revd. Paul Davis in his editorial comment made reference to 'are things really as bad as we make out' syndrome. It is also noticeable that in villages like ours it is always the few that are the doers while the rest either accept the situation or cannot be bothered to do anything to change that which may not be acceptable. We live in probably the most civilised country in the world even if we are not the richest or the best academically. Let us be reminded of the words of Shakespeare in Richard II and be thankful.

This royal throne of Kings, this sceptered isle,

This heaven of majesty, this seat of Mars;

This other Eden, demi-paradise;

This fortress built by nature for herself,

Against infection and the hand of war:

This happy breed of men: this little world;

This precious stone set in a silver sea,

Which serves it in the office of a wall,

Or as a moat defensible to a house,

Against the envy of less happier lands;

This blessed plot, this earth, this realm,

This England.

GLADYS AND JACK REAGAN.

Anne and I recently went to see the Reagans at Seaton Sluice. They both send this card, a copy of an old advertisement from the Beamish Museum with their best wishes to all their friends.



Len Christodoulides.

HOLY BAPTISM AT S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

Sunday, 2nd October, 1988 - Oliver Michael Albert Rimmell.

METHODIST SERVICES - NOVEMBER.

Sunday 6th Burnt Heath Chapel 11.00am

Sunday 20th Balls Green Chapel 11.00am

Sunday 27th Burnt Heath Chapel 11.00am

CHRISTMAS WHIST DRIVE.

A whist drive will be held at Great Bromley Village Hall on Thursday, 1st December at 7.30pm. Tickets are 75 pence each and include refreshments. These can be obtained from Mrs. G. Hurst on Colchester 230578. This is in aid of the Village Hall Funds. Please try and support it.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR SATURDAY 3rd DECEMBER AT 2.30pm.

There will be plenty of great bargains at the Village Hall and NI Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, 3rd December. When having your 'Autumn Clean' and you find books, nearly new clothes, toys, games and bric-a-brac in really good condition, we would be delighted to collect them from you for sale at the Bazaar. Please phone Jill Frostick (250263) or Pippa Hardy (230341).

Don't forget to make a note of the date and come.

GREAT BROMLEY CRICKET CLUB LOTTERY.

Prizes of £25, £15 and £10 are offered each month for a subscription of only £1 per month. The Lottery has been running for three years and the new lottery year commences in November. Payments can be made for six or twelve months. East last Wednesday in the month a draw is made to select the month's winners. Please contact Bill Kempster, Newhouse Farm (230376) or Peter Sauvary at the Black Boy to join. A membership card, the receipt for the fee, will be issued when payment is made. By joining you will help us to run the club on a sounder financial footing and you will have the chance of winning a prize.

The Club is registered with the Tendring District Council under the Lotteries and Gaming Act.

DIARY - NOVEMBER 1988.

Tuesday 1st ALL SAINTS DAY 7.30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 2nd ALL SOULS DAY 7.30pm Requiem for the Departed

Thursday 3rd 7.30pm PCC - Rectory

Sunday 6th TRINITY 23 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 13th TRINITY 24 8.00am Holy Communion

REMEMBRANCE DAY 10.30am Sunday School

10.30am Parish Eucharist and Remembrance 6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 20th SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School

10.30am Mattins and Sermon 6.30pm Eucharist

Sunday 27th ADVENT I 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School 10.30am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 30th S. ANDREW Ap 7.30am Holy Communion

PARISH CHURCH FLOWERS.

6th Mrs. Heather Brown 13th Mrs. Heather Brown

20th Mrs. Lorna Brown 27th Advent - no flowers

SIDESMEN. 8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm

6th Mrs. M. West Children Mr. G. Kent

13th Mr. G. Kent Mr. J. Brown Mr. G. Kempster

20th Mrs. J. Harding Miss F. Orman Mr. H. Fairley

27th Mr. G. Kempster Mrs. L. Davey Cdr. A. Catesby

SERVERS. .

6th 8.00am John Clapham

13th 8.00am James Heaney 10.30am Robert Harding

20th 8.00am Robert Harding

27th 8.00am Bill Kempster 10.30am John Clapham

The Bromley Messenger December 1988. Volume 3 Number 8

Excitement, worries, presents to buy, food to prepare - these are some of the thoughts that go through our minds at this time of the year as the Festival of Christmas approaches. It would be the greatest pity if these thoughts about the keeping of this festival in our homes were to blind us to the real reason why we all engage in such feverish activity in the month of December. There is a spiritual dimension to our festivities and we are reminded of this even while Christmas shopping by the carols we hear being played in the stores and shops we visit. The plain fact is that at Christmas we celebrate an historical and world shattering event - the birth of the Son of God. Jesus Christ, in a stable in the tiny and insignificant Palestinian town of Bethlehem. World shattering because this single event has affected the lives of men and women for the past 2,000 years in every country in the world. Throughout the world this birth is commemorated by us in our high tech and sophisticated civilisation, by others in the far less elaborate way of life in African villages. by others behind bars for proclaiming their faith in countries where a belief in God is against the laws of the state, by others in every part of the world, in many different ways to ours. We have the opportunity of joining with men, women and children of good will throughout the world, not only of feasting and looking for a special kind of happiness, but of sharing with them in praising God for this wonderful birth in the words of the Angels who met the shepherds on that bleak hillside, 'Glory to God in the Highest'. In our own villages in the Parish Church and in the Methodist Chapels, this joyous cry will be sung. Will you be there to add your voice to that of millions of people the whole world over? This month the Messenger is sponsored by the Great Bromley Pantomime Group. Please support them at their production, Dick Whittington on 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th January. These productions are always of a very high standard. Don't forget to order your tickets for yourselves and for all your friends.

GI. BROMLEY PANTOMIME 1989.



THE ADVENTURES OF
'Dick Whittington'

Book Early

JAN 11th - 13th TICKETS :- COL 231067 "NOW!"

GI BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP



Xmas Disco

Saturday 17th December 8pm » 12

GI BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL

£3 £3

"COOL CATS DISCO"

BAR BUFFET RAFFLE TICKETS :- COL 231067 "NOW"

The January edition will have to go to print earlier than usual. Please can I have contributions no later than Sunday 5th December, so that we can have the magazine ready for distribution well before the end of the month. My wife and I extend our best wishes to all our readers for joy and happiness at this season. May the peace and happiness of the Holy Family be in your homes and your hearts.

Rector.

TOWER REPAIRS.

The preliminary work on renovating the faces of the tower has now been completed and the repositioning of the old and new stones should now be in progress. Because of this some of the staging of the scaffolding which is not now needed has been removed in order to save us hire charges. The contractors now hope to complete the project by February. The good news in that, having received a generous grant of £10,000 from a private Trust Fund, the whole of the original contract sum has almost been raised, leaving only £3,000 to find, and this has now been promised us there is, however, bad news. A close inspection now only possible has revealed more work than was expected. The pinnacle on the South East corner of the tower has been found to be in a dangerous condition and must be rebuilt, and some of the mediaeval work on the buttresses is of such a poor quality that more radical remedial work than was expected must be put in hand. Because of this, sadly for us, the contract price will have to be increased. Although their work has not yet been completely priced, the builders advise us that the extra cost is likely to be in the region of an extra £10,000. Instead of being able to sit back and congratulate ourselves on reaching our target, we now have to brace ourselves to raise this additional sum. The Repair Fund Committee has decided on two events for 1989, but more may be needed. On a Saturday in February the Rector is to have a Gift Day when he will sit under the scaffolding to receive gifts towards the repair. An anonymous donor has offered to give to the Fund £1 for every £1 collected on that day and thus double the proceeds. In July there is to be a 'Mad Hatters Tea Party' at Copley Dene (please see the special article).

In addition we are hoping to have response to a special appeal we are making to the Stone Family in the USA. We are confident that we will be able to find the necessary money which will ensure that the tower will be good enough to withstand the winds and rains of another two to three hundred years.

PAGEANT AND TABLEAUX OF OUR HISTORY.

In the October issue of the Messenger, it was reported that a historical pageant, specially written for us by John Appleby, would be produced in June, 1989. In order that this might be a really excellent production,

it has been considered that more time is necessary for its preparation and production. It has been decided that it shall be put back for a year and will now be presented in September, 1990. We look forward to having help, interest and participation from many persons and organisations in the villages.

POOR LANDS AND JACOB'S CHARITIES.

The Poor Lands and Jacob's Charities are, according to ancient custom, to be distributed on Monday, 2nd January, 1989, at 10.00am in S. George's Church, to needy and elderly residents of Great Bromley. It is proposed to pay the money to all those who customarily receive it, but if any other resident of pensionable age wishes to be considered for inclusion in the list, will they please apply to the Rector, the Chairman of the Trustees, not later than Sunday, 11th December. Following the distribution, there will be a meeting of the Trustees at which a Clerk must be appointed in succession to the late Jim Biddis, and an additional Trustee must be elected. Later in January the Nicholls Coal Charity will be distributed to those whose names are on the list of recipients.

CHRISTMASS AT S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

The services at S. George's Church for Christmass will be as follows:

Tuesday 13th December 2.00pm School Carol Service

Sunday 18th December 6.30pm Parish Festival of Carols

Saturday 24th December 11.30pm Midnight Mass of Christmass

Sunday 25th December 8.00am Holy Communion, 10.30am Family Eucharist with carols, NO EVENSONG

Sunday 1st January 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong

This year the annual Children's Party is to be extended to include all members of the Parish. It will take place on Saturday, 4th February, 1989, in the Village Hall. It will commence with tea and activities for the children in the afternoon and will continue in the evening as a 'Parish Knees-Up' with food, drink, music, dancing and entertainment for all. More details will be in the January magazine.

NOTE: This event is to be FUN raising, not FUND raising!

GLADYS REAGAN.

In last month's Messenger we were able to include a message of good wishes from Jack and Gladys Reagan. It is very sad therefore, to have to record that Gladys died on Sunday, 13th November, after radical heart surgery in Newcastle. For some years Gladys suffered from serious heart problems, but this did not prevent her, or Jack, from taking a very full part in the life of the village. It was with reluctance that they moved to Tyneside when Jack retired, but he tells me that now he is glad to be living near his family and to have their support in his sadness at losing his wife. The funeral took place on Friday, 18th November, at Seaton Sluice, Tyneside, their home town. We pray that Gladys may now rest in peace and that Jack will be comforted in his loss.

CHURCH YOUTH CLUB.

As a result of the notice given last month, four people have offered to help run a Church Youth Club. There will be a meeting for them, and anyone else who would like to help, in the Rectory on Wednesday, the 7th December at 3.00pm. It would help if those who would like to attend could let the Rector know beforehand.

FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE.

Have you heard - yes you! There is going to be a local Youth Club. It is being organised to run from January. Now: how about letting me, or the Editor know what you would like to do, where you would like to go etc? Drop a line now before 6th December and have fun at your youth club!
Pru Simons, Michaelmas House.

BUCK HOUSE' INVESTITURE.



It was with some trepidation that my wife, son and daughter and I set off to Buckingham Palace on 12th October. We had decided to take the car as this was deemed to be the most reliable transport for a 10 o'clock appointment.

We arrived exactly on time and had to undergo a thorough search of the car by the Army. In true British tradition, it was recipients to the right, guests to the left. Guests being directed to the Ballroom where the band of the Coldstream Guards were playing mellifluous music from the balcony. Recipients lining up in the corridor where paintings of, and for, Kings and Queens hung from the walls provoking one to silence by their enormity and proximity.

The Queen's Equerry described the procedure: queue up, when called by name walk forward five paces, turn left, bow, walk forward five paces, stop for medal fitting, speak if spoken to, use 'Maam' if necessary, shake hands, back off five paces, bow, turn right, walk off and go to back of ballroom to watch the rest of the investiture. This is exactly what happened, my chat with the Queen was of a compendious nature lasting some fifteen seconds, and unfortunately being

toward the end of the investiture when finally seated in the ballroom, saw the last ten recipients being presented. The splendour of the event is more appreciated by the guests some of whom were overcome with emotion at their spouses award. We left after much taking of photographs to

view the city, where yours truly strutted about in top hat and tails with no effect. Was I newly married, the Commissionaire from Harrods asked, or wearing the latest wayout gear?

We rounded the day off with a royal meal at a local restaurant, wearing the medal, proud in the knowledge of its commendation - service to Health and Safety in Industry.

L. B. Christoudoulides MBE

P.S. - I would like to thank all those people who sent me their good wishes which contributed so much to the establishment of what was a memorable day.

Advertisement. WIVENHOE BOOK SHOP.

Wivenhoe Late Night Shopping on Thursday, 8th December. Meet the author Jonathan Gash, creator of Lovejoy, at 7.00pm at the |Wivenhoe Bookshop, 23 High Street, Wivenhoe. Put a signed Lovejoy in the Christmas stocking!

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH.

The 'Bromleys' Branch of ARC held a coffee morning at Great Bromley House on 9th November and raised £315. The Committee would like to thank all who supported this event so generously. Raffle prizewinners were Mrs. J. Rowe, Mrs. B. Webb. Mr. Dick Hayward, Mrs. B. Stewart, Mrs. H. Hayward. Mrs. V. Guiver. Mrs. P. Wright, Mrs. June Fairley, Hrs. Lungley, Mrs. Joyce Fairley, Mrs. B. Bolton, Mrs. J. Frostick, Mr. F. Griffiths, Mr. Stan West, Mrs. J. Landon and Miss A. Guiver.

Mrs. E. Varney has recently resigned as Chairman of the 'Bromleys' Branch position she took on at the formation of the Branch in June, 1987. During this time £920 has been sent to ARC Headquarters towards research. The Committee is very grateful for her leadership during this first year.

At the Branch meeting on 9th November, Mrs. Carole Eugster was elected Chairman, Mrs. Joan Landon Secretary and acting Treasurer, Mrs. Joyce Fairley ARC Sales Representative and Hrs. Pam Wright and Mrs. June Fairley as Committee members.

BROWNIES.

We have nearly finished the autumn term and probably our most exciting event was our Official Toilet Opening combined with an Open Evening when we welcomed many parents and friends. The evening was quite different from our usual as the Brownies had suggested that parents joined in with them. Many crafts were tried though I did not see any mums skipping or using the timetables. We shall remember not to use sparklers next time in a ceremony, the smoke nearly choked people and we came close to using Mr. Anderson's first-aid for real. No, not really! It was a lovely evening and a real celebration and we do thank all the people who came. By the way, we hope you like the green toilet door which Isabel and Elisha had painted.

We have welcomed a new Tweenie, Beth, Lindsay, Chloe, Emma and Hannah have all made their Promise to be a Brownie and Jenny and Isabel have their first year birthday badges. Susannah has gained her cooks and house orderly badges and Jenny has her highway badge.

Madeleine Terry.

GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

At our well attended Annual Meeting Mrs. Susan Baines V.C.O. (for the uninitiated this stands for Voluntary County Organiser - a special member well versed in WI matters) was present to help with the election of the new committee and ballot for President. The successful candidates were Mesdames Barvell, Burch (Secretary), Field. Harvey, Hurst, Taylor, Willmott, Willgress and Wright (Minutes Secretary), with Jill Frostick serving a second term as President.

Our monthly meeting on Wednesday, 4th January, is to be an open evening for friends, husbands and guests so do join us for a talk and display of badges and crests by Mr. Derek Taylor with coffee and mince-pies afterwards. 7.30 in the Village Hall. Hope to see you there!

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Our holiday in Torquay was a great success, the weather was kind, we enjoyed the outings, our hotel, food and our happy companionship. We now look forward to our next venture. Once again Mr. Stan West won a prize at the Talent Contest in Clacton. Well done Stan!

Our 27th birthday celebration held on 20th October was a happy occasion we had a delicious birthday cake and enjoyed the Evergreen Concert Party who entertained us.

We are having our Christmas lunch on 15th December when the Brantham Over 60's Concert Party will be along to entertain us. The coach on this special day will start the pick-up from Elmstead at 12 noon.

Now, an advance notice - other organisations please note. The Village Hall has been booked for our Annual Spring Sale on 22nd April, 1989.

Mildred Purkis.

GREAT BROMLEY JUBILEE CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION.

A meeting was held at 'Heathdene', Burnt Heath, on Monday 25th October. Fund raising activities were discussed and it was decided to hold a 'Knit In' at the Cross Inn on Monday, 28th November at 8.00pm for one hour.

Sponsor forms can be obtained from G. Phelps (250953) or L. Pinhey (230126). We will also be carol singing on Wednesday, 21st December. This will start at 6.30pm at the Cross Inn and proceed through the village and return to the Cross Inn. Your support for these activities will ensure a great Carnival Day as well as benefitting Great Ormond Street Hospital and the Playgroup who are this year's worthy causes. Many thanks to Sherry and Keith for the use of the Cross Inn.

We are also having another of the popular May Day Mayhem (Crazy Sports Days) on 1st May, where this is your chance to enter the Village Idiot Competition, to win free entry to the Caribbean Evening on Carnival Day, 3rd June, to limbo to Ipswich Steel Band in a marquee, eating a pig roast - do not miss it!

MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY - 23rd JULY 1989.

There will be a meeting at the Hollies, Colchester Road, on Sunday, 11th December at 11.45 to discuss and plan for this original idea. We would like as many people as possible, young or old, either sex, church-

goers or not, with or without ideas, to attend and help get this off the ground.

So far ... mad hat contest. Alice competition, Smiley Cat show, fancy dress, croquet game, disappearing rabbits, Alice-related books, jam tarts and of course, teas on sale for the 'Tea Party'.

There will be a role for every one of us for this village festivity. Please, please come to help this really big shove towards the repairs of our beautiful and historic church. In the meantime, if you cannot come to the meeting, please ring Jean Harding with comments, suggestions etc. (230425).

PS - Free drink to all who come and children welcome.

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE.

The Mobile Library now visits Great Bromley and Little Bromley on Thursday mornings each week. It makes three stops, two at Great Bromley and one at Little Bromley. Burnt Heath 9.30~9.40, Back Lane (opposite the Village Hall) 9.45-10.15 and Little Bromley Village Shop 10.20-10.40. Readers are always welcome to come along at these times to see the books and borrow those they would like to read.

YESTERDAY.

When I was young the school days seemed long and endless. holidays short and over much too soon.

The fields, the trees, the rain, the sunshine that turned one brown and frost and snow that nipped the ungloved hands. The street that was empty save for horse and cart, the open-top bus, the milkman that delivered milk from a can. The muffin man whose Sunday cries brought people to their doors, the street criers, the tinkers, the goldfish we had for years. When the market place was open late and shops ablaze with light and did not close 'til the last customer had gone. The lamplighter we would follow as he moved from lamp to lamp, lighting our world with a soft glow. When all was quiet from dusk to dawn and not a sound to disturb the very old or very young. When television was still a dream and cats whiskers moved across the crystal to find the sound so magic to us all. The day at the seaside looked forward to for weeks, the paddling, the ice cream, the donkey rides enjoyed as only children can. But that was yesterday and now tomorrow is here, alas the children yet to come will miss these things and I feel sad.

Frank Griffiths.

GARDEN IN DECEMBER.

During mild spells prepare lawns for spring sowings.

Plant new trees and shrubs. Also it is still possible to take hardwood cuttings, complete the planting of roses.

Order perennial plants and seeds for spring sowing and planting.

Examine dahlia tubers for rotting and withering.

When potted bulbs have shoots 15" to 2" remove them to the house or cold greenhouse.

Continue to prune fruit trees and tie in the new growth of blackberry and loganberry.

Check the fruit store for rats and mice and keep a few back for the birds.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmass as you go through your seed lists for 1989.

Fred Wickham.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Quite a lot for this village in The Black Boy. Though it does not perhaps smell as sweet as a rose or as the maybush or the cherry tree, it is a piece of our history and is named on Chapman and Andres map of 1784. The name is right for the inn's building period, the 18th century, when little black boys were trailed around as pages by great ladies who even had their portraits painted. Of course slavery was, and is wrong, but connecting an ancient inn sign with racialism is absurd. The Sign only recently replaced the one lost in the hurricane. Long may The Black Boy's jolly face continue to adorn The Black Boy corner.

I. Wilkinson.

KITCHEN CORNER.

Timely reminders for Christmass: if you have frozen turkey or chicken, do make sure that it is completely thawed out and thoroughly cooked. No-one wants to be ill over the festive season!

Better not to stuff the cavity, just the neck. This makes for better cooking through, but a bunch of herbs. or an apple or orange put inside the bird gives a nice flavour without affecting cooking time. It also helps the gravy.

Home-made mincemeat is easy to make. I use half-a-pound of each of these items:

Raisins, sultanas, currants, apple, candied peel, suet and brown sugar.

Half-a-teaspoonful of each of these: mixed spice, cinnamon, nutmeg, salt.

The juice and grated rind of two lemons, a glass of brandy and a glass of sherry or rum.

Mince altogether and store in jars, old coffee jars are ideal. Do not use juicy cooking apples or it will ferment! Dryish russet types are best. Happy Christmass.

Jill Frostick.

PLAYGROUP

With Christmas fast approaching we are busy with the organisation of the party which will be held on Monday, 12th December. The entertainment this year will be 'Penny's Puppets' which we hope will prove popular. The food list has been drawn up and a good time should be had by all. I think we will also be getting a visit from a certain gentleman! The Playgroup Post Box will again be open for all the children's cards so get posting.

Fund raising activities are starting to happen and by the time this is published we will have had a Perfume Party and a Bran Tub at the Christmas Bazaar which we hope will prove to be successful. Numbers attending the Playgroup continue to be good and Eve and Carol are certainly kept busy twice weekly. The Wednesday Toddler Morning is well attended with several mums staying around for coffee and a chat. We will only lose one child after Christmas, Tom, who will be starting school in the new term and we all wish him the best.

Anybody wishing to know more details of the Playgroup who might have children they wish to attend. please do not hesitate to contact me on 250143 or at 4 Meadow Close.

Lynda Tingey

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Our Annual Dinner was a success and enjoyed by all who attended. Do not forget the December meeting will be our Christmas Party, to be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. Wright at 8pm on Tuesday 20th

December. The Garden Club would be very pleased to welcome new members, so why not come along and join us, give us a try, we do have some interesting speakers and you will be in good company.

We extend our greetings for Christmass and the New Year to you all.

R. F. Field.

CHRISTO' S CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD [Ommitted]

REMINDER.

Don't forget the Village Hall and WI Christmas sale at the Village Hall on Saturday, 3rd December at 2.30pm for Christmas Goodies, Bargains of all sorts and - yes, Santa!

SEVEN RIVERS RESIDENTS & STAFF SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Presents BEETLE DRIVE

Friday 9th December

Admission by ticket owing to limited number, Price £1 .50 including refreshments

RAFFLE * BRING & BUY STALL

For tickets telephone Colchester 237428

SERVICES - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH - DECEMBER.

Sunday 5th ADVERT 2 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 11th ADVENT 3 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday School

10.30am Parish Eucharist 6.30pm Evensong

Tuesday 13th 2.00pm School Carol Service

Sunday 18th ADVENT 4 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Mattins and Sermon

6.30pm PARISH CAROL SERVICE

Saturday 24th CHRISTMASS 11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS OF CHRISTMASS

Sunday 25th 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am FAMILY EUCHARIST WITH CAROLS

No Evening Service

As the school will be closed the Sunday School will not meet on Sundays 18th and 25th December. Children are asked to join us at the church.

There will be a Family Service at 10.30am on Sunday, 1st January.

SERVICES - METHODIST CHAPELS.

Sunday 4th 11.00am Elmstead Sunday 18th 11.00am Burnt Heath

Sunday 11th 11.00am Balls Green Sunday 25th 11.00am Elmstead

SERVERS.

4th December 8.00am John Clapham

11th December 8.00am James Heaney 10.30am Robert Harding

18th December 8.00am Bill Kempster

24th December 11.30pm John Clapham

SIDESMEN. 8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm

4th December Mr. G. Kent Brownies Mr. P. Walker

11th December Mrs. N. West Mr. D. Ragerson Mr. G. Kempster

18th December Mrs. J. Harding Major H. Varney Churchwardens

24th December 11.30am Mr. R. Harding, Mr. P. Rowe. Mr. H. Fairley

25th December Mr. G. Kent Miss F. Orman

REGISTERS.

Baptisms.

2nd October Oliver Michael Albert Rimmell

23rd October Simon Charles Michael Ray

Confirmation.

23rd November At Elmstead Parish Church: Andrew Fairley

Funerals.

18th November Lilian Norrington (at Colchester Crematorium).