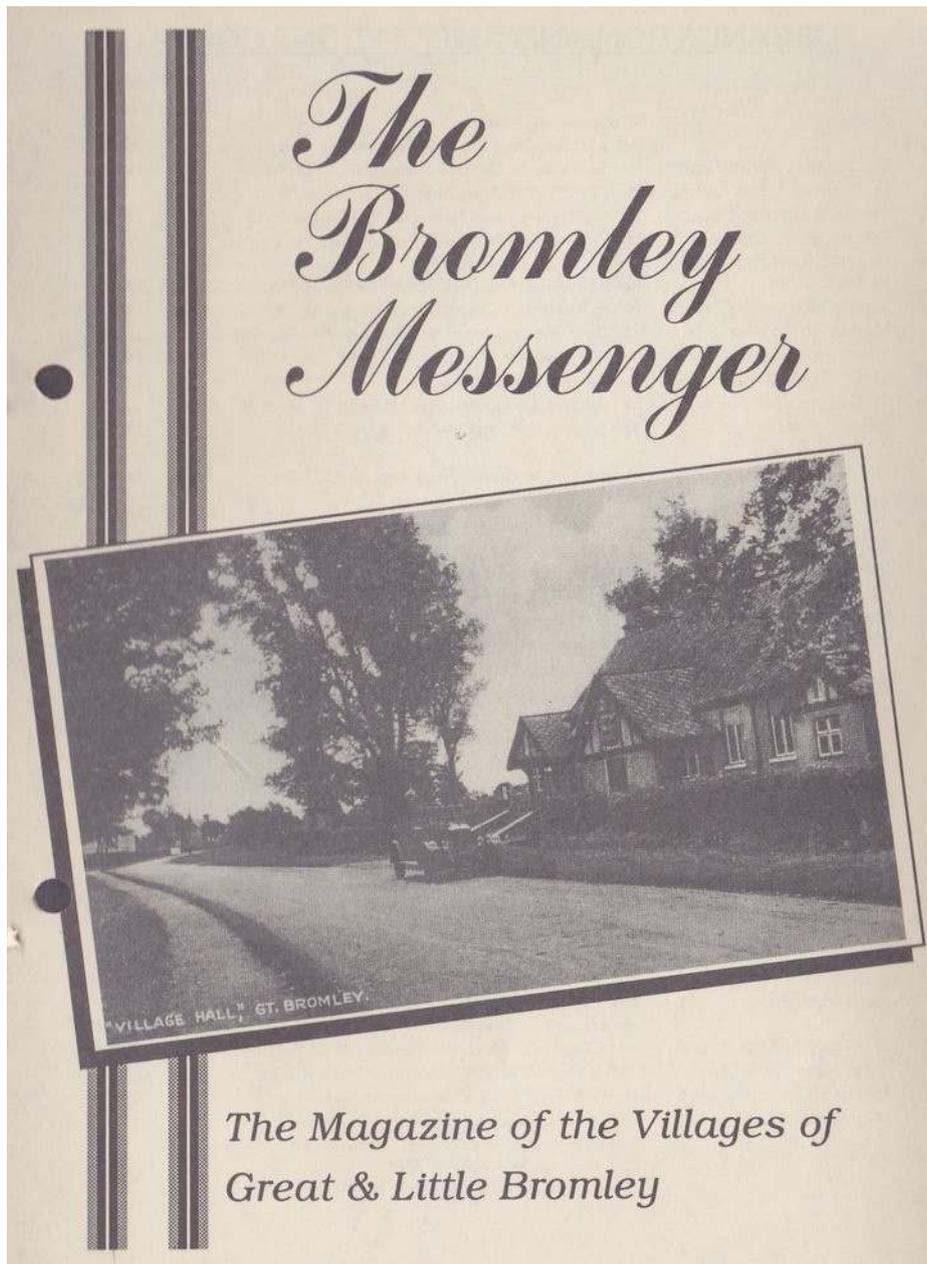


THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

The Magazine of the Villages of Great & Little Bromley
January to December 1999



These old magazines have been scanned and converted to text for historical reference by Dr Hugh Frostick, Historian for Great and Little Bromley.

Tel: 07722 253962 Email: hugh@greatbromley.org.uk
December 2021

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

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

Police PC Christopher Phillips Police House, Chase Road
Gt. Bromley Parish Council Mrs Sandra Shute, Dewberry, Shop Road, Little Bromley
Lt. Bromley Parish Council Mr R. T. M. Poulter, Rivoy, Shop Road, Little Bromley
Tendring District Council Cllr. Nigel Rowe, Lilleys Farm, Carrington Rd, Great Bromley
Essex County Council Mr. K. Hawkins, 18 Middlefield Road, Mistley
Parish Church The Revd Fr. Nicolas Spicer, The Rectory, Hall Rd
Trinity Methodist Church Mrs G. Newman. 1 Conway Close, Wivenhoe
Methodist Minister The Revd. Simon Coleman 4A Ladysmith Avenue, Brightlingsea
Manningtree School Mrs D E Hollister, Headteacher
S. George's School Mrs Pat Fitzgerald, Headteacher
S. George's School P.T.A. Mrs A Rowe, Lilleys Farm, Carrington Road, Great Bromley
Medical Practitioners The Surgery, Dedham Road, Ardleigh CO7 7LD
1st Ardleigh Scouts, Cubs & Beavers Mr R. Talbot, 30 Gurnon Road, Ardleigh
Badminton Club Mrs J. Golding, Meadowcroft, Kings Farm
Bromley Messenger Treasurer Mr L. Christodoulides, Magnolia House, Bromley Road, Frating
Bromley Messenger Editor Mrs L. Henderson, Badley Hall, Gt. Bromley
Carpet Bowls Club Mrs J. Bates Dolphins, Colchester Road, Gt Bromley
Cheshire Home Homes Manager 230345
Cricket Club Mr T. Biscoe, 30 Bignall Croft, Highwoods Colchester
East Anglian Daily Times Mr S. West, Fryerning, Hall Road
Essex County Standard Mrs V. Biddis, Berriedale
Friendship Club Mrs V Griffiths, Trevelyan, Mary Lane North, Gt Bromley
Gt. Bromley Brownies Mrs L. Henderson, Badley Hall
Gt. Bromley Guides Mrs J. Terry, The Nook, Colchester Road
Hamilton Lodge Vol. Association Mrs M. Hart, Pondfield, Parsons Hill
Huntingdon's Disease Assn. Colchester & District Branch Mrs Jean Harding, The Hollies
Ladies Circle Mrs D Taylor, Brundles Farm, Ball Green Gt Bromley
Men's Club Mr G. Hurst, Arethusa, Ardleigh Road
Pantomime Group Mr N. Rowe, Lilleys Farm, Carrington Rd
Playgroup Mrs C Prince, 2 Ash Grove, Gt Bromley
Recreation Committee Mrs V Harris, Dairy Farm Cottage, Chase Road West, Hare Green
St. George's Repair Fund Mr J Clapham, Copley Dene, Parsons Hill
Touchstone Folk Dance Club Mr R. Mears, Meronash, Colchester Road
Village Hall Committee Mr R Harding, The Hollies, Colchester Rd
Women's Institute Mrs M. Clarke, Bedfords, Frating Road, Gt Bromley
Youth Club Mr M Beauchamp, The Beeches, Colchester Rd, Gt Bromley
 & Mrs E Kemp, Bleatarn, Mary Lane South, Gt Bromley

THE PARISH OF THE BROMLEYS

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

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

MEETING VENUES & TIMES

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

All contributions should be sent to the Editor.

Mrs Leonie Henderson, Badley Hall, Badley Hall Road, Gt. Bromley. Tel: 01206 231262

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JANUARY

GREENACRE CATTERY
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LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

FEBRUARY

PERSONAL AND CLUB DONATIONS

MARCH

?

The Bromley Messenger January 1999

QUIZ Just to keep you amused over the holiday period see if you can answer the following questions. The answers have all appeared in the Bromley Messenger during the last 12 months.

1. Which Great Bromley family migrated to the USA and still pop back for visits?
2. Which young group enjoyed a picnic with their teddy bears on the beach?
3. Whose association does this feather represent? 
4. Who prints our magazine each month?
5. For which project are the Millennium Committee helping to raise money?
6. Which MP for Essex in 1654 was much involved in witch-hunting and who often sat on the Bench as a magistrate to give a ruling against someone he had brought to court, mostly on a trumped-up charge?
7. Who opened the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Fete in July?
8. Which pantomime was performed in 1998?
9. Who won the Douglas Wenden Batting Trophy (1st XI Batting Award) in 1997?
10. Who organised a Blue Peter Bring & Buy Sale in aid of Cystic Fibrosis?
11. Who came to open the Lakewood houses officially in April?
12. And which village was their next port of call?
13. Where did Gt Bromley Carpet Bowls team come in the league results as reported in June?
14. Which of our Sponsors also presented the 4th Tendring Steam & Vintage Fayre?
15. Hello. Hello. Whose band came to visit recently?
16. Who needed a large wedding dress and veil and for what?
17. To which group would you belong if you had enjoyed a weekend exploring, water diving and eating over almond fires?
18. Which class visited the Wrabness Nature Reserve during April?
19. Who had stalls at the Bypass Nursery Primrose Festival at Capel St. Mary this year?
20. To which group does this logo belong  ?

No prizes - but answers next month!

WE THANK GREENACRE BOARDING CATTERY and LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL for sponsoring the January edition of 'The Messenger' and for their continued support of the magazine.

TENDRING HOST FAMILIES

Tendring will be celebrating the 30th Anniversary of its twinning with Valence in August 1999. We need 200 host families to entertain our guests from France, Germany and Poland.

If you are interested in hosting please contact Jean Pound (Host Family Secretary) of the Tendring Twinning Association at West Bays, 23 Queens Road, Clacton-on-Sea C015 1AA

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**LITTLE BROMLEY
PARISH COUNCIL**

**The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council
will be held at the Methodist Chapel School on
Thursday, 21st January at 7.30pm.**

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA 21 FUND

ECC has established a fund of £5,000 for 1998/99 to support sustainability projects in Essex as part of its commitment to Agenda 21. The grants will be used to fund partnership projects between the County Council and local organisations. Applicants will be expected to Show their contribution to the project is at least equivalent to 50% of the contribution made by the Council, This does not necessarily mean match funding, the contribution can be labour, expertise, use of equipment or materials etc. These grants can be used for a wide range of environmental projects. As a guide, the Council will be awarding grants of up to £500. If your group, school or organisation has an idea, send for an application form to Kevin Jones, Policy Planner, Essex County Council on 01245 437524. Deadline for applications is 15 Jan 1999. Decision will be made by the end of January.

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

School re-opens on Monday, 4th January and joining us in the Reception Class we welcome: Rebecca Baird, Aaron Neville, Catherine Skinner, Thomas Steward, Ryan Wheatstone.

We are also joined on 11th January by our Ofsted Inspectors. More on this after their visit. Looking back to our Festive Fayre, many thanks to the helpers, sponsors, organisers and those who supported it and made it a success - £450 was raised! Looking forward, 30th January is our Quiz Night - tickets are £4 to include a supper, available from committee members or the school office. Meanwhile, please may we wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

P L A Y G R O U P

Playgroup - Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9.30am-12 noon :£2.75 per session

Toddler Group - Wednesdays 9.45am-11.40am £1.00 per session

Our Christmas party, held on 16th December, was as usual lots of fun. Entertainment was provided by Magic Marvion and the children sang Christmas songs to the parents. We played games and had a lovely buffet. Festivities ended with a visit from Santa, amidst much excitement, with a present for everyone. Due to children leaving us to start school we have a few spaces available for this term. If you would like to register your child for playgroup or would like any further information please contact our secretary, Carolyn Prince on 01206 251858 who will be pleased to help. Our Toddler Group, held on Wednesdays in the smaller hall is informal and friendly and always pleased to see new faces. Just come along - your first visit is free.

Dates for your diary:

Monday, 18th Jan Playgroup return Wednesday, 20th Jan Toddler Group return.

DO YOU NEED A BABYSITTER? My name is Sarah Lawson. I am 15 years old and I am willing to babysit children aged 3 years and upwards. I have experience, am reliable and like children.

CHILDREN'S CORNER - BALLOON BLOW GAME

CHILDREN'S CORNER

BALLOON BLOW
(2 or more players)

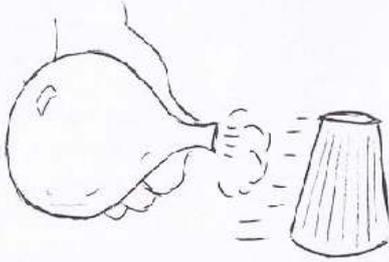
Each player needs:

- A balloon
- A paper cup weighted with two lumps of plasticine inside the rim.

HOW TO PLAY
Mark a finishing line. Go to the other side of the room. Turn the cup upside down. Now propel the cup across the room without touching it.

How? Blow up the balloon, then let the air out slowly, and the draught will push the cup.

You must keep the cup upright - or you will have to start again.



1st GREAT BROMLEY BROWNIES

Lucy, Robyn, Rosie, Imogen and Rebecca took their Promise during the term swelling our numbers back up to 17 but we say goodbye to Emma and Lauren and wish them well for the future. The term included cake marzipan modelling, fun at a Division Water Day, craft and games ending on a high note with a Parents Open Evening with the brownies providing the entertainment in the form of solo pieces and a short play - "The Gigantic Star" They all performed very well and it was a good evening which raised over £36 for a children's charity of their choice next term. The new term will start on 21st January unless parents are notified to the contrary. *Brown Owl*

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Council will be held at the Village Hall on 28th January, 1999 at 7.30pm

VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

As we start the New Year, may I on behalf of the Members wish everyone a very happy and prosperous 1999. We were due to meet in December but due to several members finding they would not be available, we have deferred our next meeting to Saturday, 23rd January, 1999, 10.00am at the Hall. Very many thanks to Jean Wright, ably supported by Great Bromley Women's Institute and Village Hall members and friends in staging the Christmas Fayre at the end of November. Also, many thanks to those of you who came along to browse and buy, all to the benefit this year of the W.I. And the Hall. Our next fund raising event is on Friday, 26th March, 1999 at 7.30pm when Peter Wenden invites you to a Three Course Supper with After Dinner Speaker and Cabaret. Tickets (limited) at £10 can be obtained from Peter. *B
evan Willgress, Secretary*



FRIENDSHIP CLUB

A party of our members with friends were at the THURSFORD CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR on 26th November - such a wonderful show. Well worth a second visit which is being arranged again for 1999. The list of names is already quite full so if you are interested please give me a ring on 230086 or Mr Wenden on 230613 as soon as possible. Our January meeting is the A.G.M. - subscriptions are due - and the entertainment will be Mr Bill Pirie relating to us some of his experiences of the Police Force. The Grange Ladies Co-operative Choir came to our November meeting and their delightful singing was very enjoyable and we hope to have them again next year. *Vicky Griffiths*

CHRISTMAS FAYRE 28th November, 1998

I would like to thank everyone who helped make this function once again a success. By either giving items for stalls or tame and even attending the function. A profit of £362.25 was raised for both the W.I. And the Village Hall Association. Thanks *Jean Wright*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our December meeting was our Christmas Party. Mrs Rita Baxter, our President, opened the evening by welcoming everyone, especially our guests from several other Institutes and some husbands of our members. The President then thanked the retiring Committee members starting with special thanks to Mrs Vera Biddis who had been a Vice- President and Committee member for a number of years and held the monthly committee meetings in her home. Also retiring was Vice-President Mrs Margery West, and Committee member, Mrs Heather Brown. Each received a pot plant in recognition of their work. We then enjoyed the gorgeous buffet provided by the Committee, and were entertained by "The Essex Storytellers" and a trio of musicians and singers aptly named "Twinset and Pearl" I think everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Our first meeting of 1999 is on Wednesday, 6th January at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, when Mr McGain is going to talk about "Customs and Excise" It promises to be an interesting evening so do come along and join us if you wish. A very Happy and Prosperous New Year to you from all our members. - *June Willgress*

DIARY 1999

JANUARY

- 10th Huntingtons Disease annual party, Village Hall
- 13th-16th 'Robinson Crusoe' pantomime, Village Hall
- 21st Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel School, 7.30pm
- 28th Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 30th School P.T.A. Quiz Night

FEBRUARY

- 11th Sponsored swim for HD by Gemma, 11 yrs,
supporting her mum, Shirley, who lives at Seven Rivers and others with HD

MARCH

- 5th An Evening of Nostalgia: a walk into the past with Bernard Polley.
Film Show, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 12th Line Dancing Evening with Womens Institute, Village Hall
- 18th Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 25th Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel School, 7.30pm
- 26th 3 Course Supper & Cabaret, Village Hall, 7.30pm

APRIL

- 28 Mar-4 Apr Holy Week and Easter with visit of Fr Crispin Harrison CR. preacher for the week
- 16th Huntingtons Disease Association AGM Seven Rivers 7.00pm
- 22nd Flower Arranging Demonstration, St. Georges' Church
Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel School, 7.30pm
- 23rd St. George's Day, 7.30pm Patronal Festival Eucharist
- 28th Annual Parochial Church Meeting, 7.30pm

MAY

- 20th Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

JUNE

- 18th Essex Police Choir concert in the church
- 19th-21st St. Georges Church Flower Festival & Art Exhibition
- 20th Garden Open Day

JULY

- 10th Tendring Hundred Show, Lawford
- 17th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Fete

SEPTEMBER

- 26th St. Georges Church Harvest Festival

NOVEMBER

- 11th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Coffee Morning
- 16th-25th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

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NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN

I am always looking out for more local information. I read all small print, too. A local newspaper of 1901 has small ads just like those of today.

“NEW oscillating TREADLE SEWING MACHINE, extending table, cost 9 guineas (£9.45), sacrifice for £4 10s. 0d. (£4.50). Reliable bargain 24 Creffield Road, Colchester”

“NEARLY new HAND-SEWING MACHINE, lock stitch, vibrating; latest makers accessories; sacrifice 22s. 6d. (£1.13) Colchester”

“LARGE BELL TENT FOR SALE ... Elmstead”

VERMIN DESTROYER - To Farmers and Landowners. Rats, Moles, Mice, Large Farm promptly attended; prices on application - Wardley Hill Cottages, Great Bentley (1853).

SECOND HAND FURNITURE wanted. See that you get the highest price before parting with cast-off household furniture, antique and modern furniture, pictures, carpets, gold lace, bedding, wardrobes, antique clocks, trinkets, artificial teeth, Sheffield plate, old china, tools guns, old snuff boxes, cut glass, knick knacks, Everything purchased for cash. JOHN HATFIELD, 2 St. Johns Street, Colchester. [1501] (The forerunner of Hatfields of Colchester today).

LOANS, .£10 upwards, to Householders, Tradesmen, etc. repayable monthly by post. - Apply GOULD, Bishopsgate, Guildford. (1403)

£2 to £10,000 advanced on Note of Hand, without delay, fuss or publicity. Distance no object. Easy payments arranged. Write (stamp for reply) W MASSINGHAM, 35 Fawcett Road, Southsea. (b. 1842)

What's new? *John Appleby*

MONEY MATTERS Are you interested in where the Parish Church gives money away to? Do you think charity begins at home or away? Do you put money on the plate so the Church Council can give it away to a charity? Have you a charity you think the Church should support? If you have any views on this, then let us know by coming to the Rectory on 20th January at 7.30pm or 22nd at 1.30pm or by writing them down and giving them to a member of the Church Council. Thank you because money matters.

FLOWER FESTIVAL 19th, 20th & 21st June 1999
GARDENS OF YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW

Programme so far arranged will include

18th June - a concert by the Essex Police Choir
Art Exhibition

Entrance fee will be £1.00 including a programme and all moneys raised will be shared between the Church General Fund and the Village Millennium Fund.

Any donations to help meet the cost of the flowers and the preparation of the floral arrangements would be gratefully received. Please make cheques payable to PCC of The Bromleys and send to David Skinner, Hon. Treasurer at Griffins, Shop Road, Little Bromley.

ARDLEIGH WEA

The Spring Term will commence on Thursday, 14th January at 2.30pm in the Village Hall, Station Road, Ardleigh. Tutor for the 10-week course will be Peter White from Pleshey, who will have as his subject "London and the Thames". The course will introduce students to the physical and historical role of the Thames in determining the site, changing functions and developing human landscape of London, using evidence from a wide range of sources. The course will also focus on the interpretations and understanding of the riverside landscape of today. The lectures will be illustrated with slides. and will cover the period of time from Pro-historic and Roman London right up to the present time and into the Millennium. It is hoped to organise a field trip sometime during March.

Fees: Full £22.50; Concessionary £20.00; Unemployed - free. Further details from Secretary (01206 230476) or Chairman (01206 230473)

KITCHEN CORNER

A recipe for this month for ONION SAUCE, which is delicious served with either boiled rabbit, or lamb. Peel 6 Spanish Onions and cut in half. Boil 3/4 hour in salted water. Drain well and chop them up. Put into a clean pan, dredge with flour. Add salt, 1 oz butter and 2 tblsp of cream. Heat gently till it boils, then push through a sieve. Pour over the pieces of rabbit to serve (or over the sliced lamb). Jointed rabbit needs about an hour to simmer (+ bay leaf). A whole leg of lamb will take 1.5 hours. Add a sprig of rosemary. *Jill Frostick*

NANCY STONE

Many parishioners will remember a visit from Nancy and her photographer cousin, Suzanne, who were with us a few years ago. A flying visit from Nancy, just for lunch, while accompanying her a husband on a lecture tour recently, was a delight. She met Father Nicolas and plans are being hatched for him while on holiday in the US in 1999, to meet some Stones on their own home ground. 250 letters have gone out with Christmas greetings from our parish to known Stone family members. It is hoped that he can foster enthusiasm and maybe some funds towards the Church roof repairs. The long felt dream is to have a Stone get together here in the parish, mooted at present for the millennium year. We'll see what response the newsletter brings.

ST. GEORGES CHURCH, GT. BROMLEY

COFFEE MAKING *after 9.30am Service*

A Fairley	3 January
B Welham	10 January
A Wild	17 January
P Hughes	24 January
J Harding	31 January

CLEANING

O Sparling
A Wild & J Harding
H Brown & S Rampling
B & J Welham
P Greenfield & M Bush

Dear Parishioner,

This time next year the Third Millennium will have begun and I think I shall be wondering (presuming that the threatened computer bug has not sent our mechanical devices back to 1900 and caused chaos, that is) what all the fuss has been about. It is a bit like New Year Resolutions. I have yet to be personally convinced that 1st January gives me any more help in starting afresh or giving something up. I still have to want to do the thing and my New Year exhaustion is never conducive to dieting or exercising! The Church can hardly be blamed for creating the hype surrounding hitting the 2000 mark, indeed there seems to be a lack of enthusiasm for events

planned. The majority line seems to be if it's worth doing in the year 2000, why wait? Do it now, get on with it! There will be celebrations and projects and events planned around the year and I would be dishonest if I didn't admit that I shall be probably turning the millennium crank up to give that extra weight to my arguments for getting things done! I do like to think though that the things already planned and being looked at are things we would be doing anyway.

On the weekend of 16th/17th Brother William Nichol of a religious community in Mirfield, West Yorkshire will be visiting. The reason I have invited him is to help us look realistically at what we as a Church congregation might be doing in the year 2000. As I have said, I would be doing this anyway by now, the Millennium just helps! The word Mission is out of fashion at the moment and indeed many of the old practices of getting people to Church and God are outmoded. Brother William, who has a wide experience of helping parishes in this way, will through his talks, asking and answering of questions, and preaching at all the Eucharists on the Sunday, give us some ideas to focus on and begin to help us formulate plans and ideas.

Plans and ideas about what? Well, about how this beautiful Church of ours, and the beautiful folk who populate it week by week can serve God, the parishioners and themselves more faithfully. If you would like to be involved from the beginning, or simply hear more, then come to Church that Sunday or drop in at the Rectory Saturday morning between 10.30am and 12.30pm. Yes, I know his pantomime weekend, but I'm sorry trying to fit all these things isn't easy! God bless you in 1999, encourage you in your givings up and takings on, in your hopes and plans, in your goings out and comings in. Amen. *Fr Nicolas*

**ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR
GREAT BROMLEY**

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Services for January



Sunday 3rd CHRISTMASS 2

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

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

Wednesday 6th EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

7.30pm PARISH EUCHARIST St. George

Sunday 10th BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

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

9.30pm PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 17th EPIPHANY 2

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr

8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 24th EPIPHANY 3

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

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 31st EPIPHANY 4

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

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Weekday Services as announced in the Parish Newsletter

The Bromley Messenger February 1999

YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

You all know the expression - "Sometimes I sits and thinks and other times I just sits?" No doubt we all do this but is it a good idea?

Think about yesterday. Among other things what a delight it was to hear the sounds on grandfather's crystal set - now we have CDs and the like. The baker brought bread to the door - no thoughts of having wrapped bread and no thoughts about hygiene. Horses were working on the farm. The coalman had the best coal at just over a shilling (5p) a hundredweight. Best butter was a shilling per pound. There was poverty though in the 1920s and 30s. One could go on but lets razzle the fire unless you have a gas or electric one now.

Today we can see that Arthur Mee, editor of Children's Newspaper and an Encyclopaedia, was right, even if I thought he was a silly old man (and was clouted for saying so), when he said in 1934, "Soon we shall see across the world" but now we see into space and beyond - there seems the probability that there will be humans living on another planet, having been taken there by jet propulsion. BT has set up a telemedicine link so that today doctors and nurses can deliver high quality care in a Deptford centre supported by the experts at London's major hospitals and soon no one will have to go to hospital for scans. The supermarkets parry with each other for our custom - but we need the local village store still and must support it. Wivenhoe, once a home of shipbuilding, has the first teleworking centre at its Council Offices. It's all happening locally, nationally and world-wide. Again one can wander on but look how we have progressed we are told. Do you believe it?

But what of the future? Luckily we cannot see into this even if the astrologers tell us so. Do you dream about a world where there is peace and co-operation? Where families stay together. Where all have enough to eat and drink and a roof about their heads. But is that perfect world, that new Utopia, a far way off from what we can see today?

So where are we now? Why waking up to the fact that we all have to work to bring about a new world in the 21st Century which is not too far off. Machines and inventions are all well and good but there is nothing like a human being.

King George V quoted Minnie Louse Haskins to add the finishing touch - "Put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be better to you than a light and safer than a known way."

Mark Twain wrote, "Methuselah lived to be 969 years old... you boys and girls will see more in the next fifty years than Methuselah saw in the whole of his lifetime".

Jim Bouton wrote, "the older they get the better they (times) were when they were younger".

I'm going back to staring into the coal fire. I know when I'm well off. It's a wonderful world. We must keep it so. *John Appleby*

WE THANK all the donations, both PERSONAL and CLUB, given to sponsor the February edition of 'The Messenger' and for the continued support of the magazine by the community.

REMINDER That the cover of The Bromley Messenger will be changed in April. Please would ALL the CONTACTS for the VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS and ASSOCIATIONS let the Editor have any changes by 16th March. The covers are changed only once a year

BROMLEY MESSENGER ADVERTISING RATES 1999

SPONSORSHIP per page	1	1/2	1/3
	£105	£65	£47

Gives you one month with your advertisement BUT your name on the back cover every month.

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Advertisements depend on the number of months you would like it printed.

Eg. 1/3 page One issue £30 Two issues £45

1/2 page One issue £40 Two issues £60 Other rates subject to negotiation

BUSINESS CARDS £22 for 12 issues.

Reply to: Mr L. B. Christodoulides MBE, Magnolia House, Bromley Road, Frating

The answers to last month's QUIZ 1. Stone Family; 2. Playgroup; 3. The Cheshire Home; 4. Hot-Line Printers; 5. Village Hall Millennium Lounge; 6. Thomas Bowes; 7. Liz Mullen of BBC Radio Suffolk; 8. Jack & the Beanstalk; 9. Matthew Pirie; 10. 1st Gt Bromley Brownies; 11. Princess Royal; 12. Bradfield; 13. 4th out of 10 teams; 14. Rotary Club of Brightlingsea & District; 15. Essex Police Band; 16. The Dame in Robinson Crusoe; 17. 1st Great Bromley Guides; 18. Class 4; 19. St. Georges Church and Huntingtons Disease Association; 20. Womens Institute

AN EVENING OF NOSTALGIA

Come and take a look into the past in an evening of nostalgia. A show of some of the early films of this area assembled and presented by Bernard Polley. Chairman of the Colchester Cine Club can be seen at the Village Hall on Friday, 5th March. Tickets £2.50 from Post Office Stores, Gt. Bromley, Jean Harding or James Wild.

GT. BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will now be held with the kind permission of Mr and Mrs Clapham at Copley Dene on 25th February, 1999 at 8.00pm and not on 4th February as previously advertised. Date for your Diary 26th June Chairman's Day *P Allam*

JIM STUBBINGS A regular visitor to Gt Bromley

One could not let the passing of a formidable Elmstead cricketer, Wivenhoe Town footballer and a competent table tennis player go by without acknowledging JIM STUBBINGS' contribution to local sporting activities at Elmstead and Wivenhoe spanning the years from 1945-1975.

Jim was a legend in his own time, strategist without equal, a real sportsman in the true sense of the word, never sanctioning any infringement of the rules, but never puritanical, always fair. As the skipper of Elmstead he now joins his Elmstead's school and cricketing pals who have prematurely died.

Jim Stubbings' proficiency as a batsman was locally unsurpassed, as many a frustrated bowler knew to their expense; his deft touches, his flashing well-timed cover drives, while he patiently waited for the inevitable bad ball, and would despatch this to the boundary at the blink of an eye. Jim was a real sportsman, a nice guy, without malice or prejudice, a batsman who would walk, if he knew he was out. Jim Stubbings' name is synonymous with the original meaning of the words THAT'S CRICKET. His sense of humour is typified in that, if on the rare occasion he was out to a catch, he would shyly say "A four on the ground is worth six in the air", a grin spreading across his normally expressionless countenance. From the late forties to the mid sixties Jim's dedication with his friend and near neighbour, Tom Wyman, in the upkeep of The Meadow is well documented. Had it not been for these two the beloved turf would have probably been gobbled up by developers, North East Essex and specifically Elmstead Market have must to thank Jim Stubbings for in preserving Elmstead Vicarage Cricket Meadow.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The following planning applications have been considered by the Parish Council and their comments have been forwarded to the District Council. Planning Application Number TEN/98/1617-F Site of March Cottage, Mary Lane South. Two detached bungalows and garages. The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

Land adjacent to the Old Spread Eagle Public House. Action is still awaited by the District Council to get this site tidied.

Refuse near Strutts Farm Lay-by Dumping of refuse at this location is an on-going problem. The Parish Council have now written to the County Council who will investigate preventative measures.

Millennium Tree It has been agreed that a Millennium tree will be planted. Suggestions for tree type and planting position will be gratefully accepted. Please contact the Parish Council with your ideas.

Mobile Library Times Some mobile library schedules have been adjusted Great Bromley, however, has not been affected by these changes. The mobile library times remain unchanged as follows: Back Lane East Thursday Arrives 0915 Departs 0945 Chase Road West Thursday Arrives 0930 Departs 0945

The next meeting of Great Bromley PC will be on 18th February at the Village Hall at 7.30pm.



WANTED by *The SNOOTY FOX*

Has anybody any photographs or postcards of the Taylors Arms, inside or outside, that I could borrow, copy and return. Please ring Sue on 01206 251065 or bring them in.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the council was held on 19th November, 1998. A new Parish Notice Board is being construction which will be sited in the area of the Car Park and it was agreed that the area surrounding the Car Park should be cleared of weeds and rubbish and be planted up with bulbs. A footpath connecting the War Memorial with the village centre is being looked into as is the need for a shelter for children and parents waiting at the War Memorial for school transport. It was agreed that a Self Help system would be employed to improve the general appearance of the War Memorial. Concern was expressed at the lateness of mail deliveries in the village area and it was agreed that a letter be sent to Royal Mail expressing parishioners displeasure.

CARPET BOWLS

Writing this in the middle of January so far we have played just over half the league matches scheduled. I think I can say that everyone has enjoyed their bowling this season and some nail biting has been done on a few occasions. We have met three new clubs this year and a lot of newcomers to the game. They all gave us a warm welcome and some pleasant evenings bowling. Due to winter ills etc. it has sometimes been difficult to field a full team, but for those who could play they managed some very good results. During one match in December the pairs team of Ron Copp and Richard Bates surpassed themselves by making all their 8 woods score on one end (a full house in bowling terms) then, to their amazement and everyone else's they did it on the next end too. An achievement unknown in this club before. The latest tables show that Gt Bromley has 103 points out of a possible 136. Our best performance since the club was formed. Good luck in 1999. *Nancy Kempster*

The Great Bromley MILLENNIUM FUND

Looking towards the 1999 New Years Eve celebrations, we have a great number of events for you. We would like to thank all those who are organising the forthcoming events and ask everyone to support these, they need your support.

DISCO Friday, 26th February St. Georges Youth Club 9-15 yr olds 7.00pm-10.00pm Tickets £2.00 . All ticket profit for the Millennium Fund

LINE DANCING EVENING Friday, 12th March in the Village Hall at 7.30pm Tickets £3.00 Organised by the WI.

POEMS & PINTS NIGHT Friday 23rd April in the Village Hall Organised by Gt. Bromley Pantomime Group Any sketch/song/poem/mime etc.

CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST Sunday, 14th May in the Village Hall Children welcome

MASKED BALL 1999 New Year's Eve In the Village Watch this space for details

OTHER EVENTS Dates to be arranged: Quiz Night, Fashion Show, BBQ and Swim, Clay Pigeon Shoot

VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

Sometimes people ask, "Who uses the Hall?" or maybe you are travelling by and wonder, "Who's in the Hall today?"

Well, on Mondays it's the Playgroup, Carpet Bowls Group and the Badminton Club. Tuesdays you will find the Men's Social Club and, in the autumn, the Pantomime Group. Wednesdays are taken by the Toddler Group, Playgroup, Youth Club and either the Women's Institute or Carpet Bowls Club. Thursdays again the Playgroup, sometimes the Friendship Club, Carpet Bowls Club, Parish Council and, in the autumn, the pantomime Group. Fridays again the Badminton Club. The Hall Committee usually meet on a Saturday.

At other times, there are Bellringers meetings, Carpet Bowls Competitions, - Concerts, Dances, Discos, Fayres, Film shows, Lunches, Meetings, Parties, Quiz Evenings, Supper with Cabaret, Talks, Wedding Parties, Whist Drives. Also, when the whole Hall is committed for a full week, to the performance of the Pantomime.

Our next fund raising event is on Friday, 26th March, 1999 at 7.30pm when Peter Wenden invites you to a 3-Course Supper with After Dinner Speaker and Cabaret.

Bevan Willgress, Secretary

THE ELIZABETH WARREN TRUST The moneys have been distributed to recipients in time for Christmas. This is the last time as the funds are now exhausted and the Trust now closed. We would like to thank all those concerned over many years who have made it possible. All papers appertaining to the Trust are to be lodged with Little Bromley Parish Council.

LETTERS

The following is an extract from a letter from Mrs S M Reilly who lives in Oxfordshire.

The "Bromley Messenger" is sent to me each month so that I can keep in touch with the parish in which I spent my childhood - at the Rectory which is now known as Copley Dene. My father, James Henry Ransom, was Rector for many years and my mother taught at the school. My twin sister and I find it very difficult to come back to Bromley - it still features fairly prominently in my dreams! We had a fabulous childhood there - we had all married by the time my parents moved to Church House - but memories of super evenings carol singing with the Piries and Jim and Vera are very strong at this time of year - also the Gt Bromley Pantomime which was such fun!

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our January meeting proved to be as interesting as I had thought it would. Mr McGain gave us a very good insight into his job as a Customs & Excise Officer, dealing mainly with drug smuggling along the Essex and Suffolk coast line and in the ports of Felixstowe and Harwich. Mr McGain brought along a case full of examples of the different drugs that are brought into this country, together with photographs showing some of the devious methods the drug dealers use to try and outwit the Customs & Excise. The cost of the drugs is almost unbelievable, a few grains for £20 to £30. The consensus of opinion is that Heroin is the most potent drug but all of them are very dangerous and should be avoided. Many dealers are caught and sentenced but there is much more to be done in this respect.

On 3rd February we are having Mrs Jane Morgan to tell us about "Hearing Dogs" and promises to be another enjoyable evening. You will be made welcome if you wish to attend in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Just to remind everyone about our Line Dancing evening, in aid of the Millennium Fund: on Friday, 12th March in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are £3.00 each, please bring your own drinks and nibbles.

CAROL SINGING Thank you to everyone who sang, listened or donated to the Carol singers. £202 was donated to the Children's Society.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our Christmas Dinner at the Waverley Hotel was very enjoyable. If anyone has any idea of a different venue for this Christmas where they could cater for approximately 60 people do let us know as soon as possible - it is surprising how early in the year one has to book. Many thanks to everyone who contributed towards our Bumper raffle at our December Social meeting. The Rondo Singers were excellent and the Bingo was an added entertainment with Mrs Biddis as the "caller". 18th February is the date of our next meeting when we will have Mr Bob Young to talk to us on "Entertainment at Clacton Theatres". *Vicky Griffiths*

STAN WEST

Just as we were about to go to press we learnt of the death of Stan West who will be much missed by the village. Our sympathies go to Margery and his family.

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

There is no report from Ofsted at the time of going to press, so this will be reported next month. Thank you to Nicky Robinson for organising the Webb Ivory Christmas Catalogue - £185 has been donated to the PTA. The Spring catalogue is now in circulation so if you haven't already seen one, please ask Nicky. Don't forget 25% of orders taken goes to the school. Finally well done all our footballers and netballers. Friendly matches were played with Dedham School recently. The boys won 1 - 0 and although the girls lost 8 - 4, they did extremely well considering our team is a mixture of years 4, 5 & 6.

PLAYGROUP

If you would like to register your child or would like any further information please contact our secretary, Carolyn Prince on 01206 251858 who will be pleased to help. We accept children from the age of 2 years 9 months. For the younger ones the Toddler Group is held every Wednesday morning in the small hall. It is informal and friendly, just come along.

Dates for your diary: Mon 5 Feb Half term week Mon 22 Feb Playgroup return
Wed 24 Feb Toddler Group return

WANTED STAFF - at HAMILTON LODGE. Gt Bromley
CARERS F/T and P/T * CLEANER * HANDYPERSON/GARDENER
Please apply to the Manager. Mr Ernie Curtis-Oram on 012.06 230298

DO YOU NEED A BABYSITTER?

My name is Sarah Lawson. I am 15 years old and I am willing to babysit children aged 3 years and upwards. I have experience, am reliable and like children.

DIARY

FEBRUARY

- 3rd WI Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9th New Policing Proposals meeting, Ogilvie Hall, Lawford, 7.30PM
- 11th Sponsored swim for HD by Gemma, 11 years, supporting her mum Shirley, who lives at Seven Rivers and others with HD
- 18th Friendship Club Meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 22nd Flower Arranging Demonstration, St. Georges Church
- 25th Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club A.G.M., Copley Dene, 8.00pm
- 26th St. Georges Youth Club Disco 9.15yr olds, Village hall, 7.00pm

MARCH

- 5th An Evening of Nostalgia. Film Show, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 12th Line Dancing Evening with Womens Institute. Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 18th Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 25th Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel School, 7.30pm
- 26th Three Course Supper & Cabaret, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 23rd April Poems & Pints Night, Village Hall
- 16th May Champagne Breakfast, Village Hall
- 31st December Masked Ball, Village Hall

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NATURE WATCH

The following article has been received from David Wilkin, Voluntary Area Advisor, Barn Owl Conservation Network, Hawk & Owl Trust (01255 862374) and who has been made "Advisor of the Year" by the BOCN.

I have had an interest in wildlife all my life, but my interest in Owls really started in the summer of 1995, when we accidentally uncovered a Little Owl nest. Fortunately we managed to rebuild the straw stack in which they were nesting and spent the following months watching the chicks slowly appear from inside their home. During the next few weeks we saw the five young owlets make their first tentative attempts at flying, after which they slowly dispersed to start life as adults.

In December 1995 a Barn Owl was seen regularly in two buildings on our farm and this gave me the incentive to put up internal Barn Owl nest boxes in these buildings. The boxes have since been used as occasional winter roosts, but I felt there was too much day to day farm activity to attract them to nest. It was around this time that I brought the "Boxes, Baskets and Platforms" booklet by the Hawk and Owl Trust, which showed plans of all the types of boxes for Birds of Prey. During the winter of 1995-96 I spent a lot of time looking for suitable trees to place nest

boxes on, two in particular caught my eye as Barn Owl "whitewash" marks were found on the branches and pellets on the ground. In August 1997 two A-frame Barn Owl boxes which I had made earlier in the year were positioned in these trees and it was expected that it would take up to three years for them to be used, if at all. Much to our surprise both boxes were used during the summer of 1998 by one pair of Barn Owls. who had one brood in each box, comprising of two chicks and three chicks. At another nest site a box had collapsed and a visit was made by us in January 1998. This was a nest site that had been used for several years but only came to my attention the year before. The box was repositioned and a second box was put up in the other end of the building. During the summer both boxes were used by the pair of Barn Owls and seven young Owlets were born from the two clutches.

I am only allowed to carry out this work as I obtained Schedule One Disturbance Licence from English Nature with the help of Sue Dewar and Colin Shawyer of the Hawk & Owl Trust. Anyone who is found disturbing a Barn Owl nest site without a licence is liable to be lined up to £2,000 per egg or chick at the nest. During January 1998 Kevin Marsden, Conservation Officer for Tendring District Council, and I visited Holland Haven Country Park to see if some Barn Owl nest boxes could be put up somewhere on the reserve. As there were not many trees available, it was decided that pole boxes would be our best option, in September four of these boxes were erected in places that had been decided upon earlier in the year. A site visit was made in early December and there was evidence of Little Owls and Barn Owls using the boxes. I am reasonably optimistic of breeding success at these boxes during 1999, though I cannot guarantee this will happen. Also a Kestrel nest box was positioned on the radar mast on the sea front at Holland Haven.

Another long term project has been started with the help of Exchem Organics, at their Bramble Island site, in which several types of nest boxes will be used, internal Barn Owl boxes have been put up recently and there have been signs of them being occupied, a small group of employees have formed a conservation team to help get the project started, and to monitor its progress in years to come. Inevitably our work has resulted in casualty Birds of Prey being reported to myself and Pam Garrad, our local Raptor rehabilitator, and we will attempt to treat and release these birds back to the wild if possible.

As a Voluntary Barn Owl Conservation Advisor I am available to offer advice on habitat creation and how to make your own Owl boxes. Can I take this opportunity to thank the local farmers and Tendring District Council for allowing me onto their land to inspect existing nest sites and also create new sites using nest boxes. I am also a trainee ringer which allows me to ring the Barn Owl chicks, so we can monitor their progress in future years. We know that only one in three chick will survive their first winter, so there is no room for complacency and a lot more work is needed to safeguard this beautiful bird. A Barn Owl was regularly seen and heard near the Black Boy. If you have any sightings of Barn Owls in your area please contact David so that he can keep a record for the Tendring Hundred area.

GARDENERS CORNER for FEBRUARY

Once again we start the gardening year. I hope all had a good Christmas and the New Year has started well for you.

CLIMBERS If a climbing or rambling rose flowers only at the top of upright woody stems, retrain the branches as horizontally as possible, Flowering shoots will then appear on its outstretched arms? Shorten **WISTERIA** shoots by a THIRD. If the weather stays mild start to prune hybrid **TEA ROSES**. At the end of the month cut off dead flowers of **HYDRANGEAS** and prune down to the first buds. **CLEMATIS** can also be pruned this month. Look for the green buds which should be showing now and prune just above them. **BEGONIA TUBERS** can be set in a mixture of 50% compost and 50% sharp sand - water in a place on a warm window sill. **DAHLIAS** that have been saved during the winter can be planted in boxes of moist peat or old potting compost - place in the greenhouse or garden shed - shoots will soon appear. If you grow **PEAS** or **BROAD BEANS** place a cloche where they are to be planted for a week or so to warm the soil. **SEED POTATOES** are now available in most garden centres - I find B & Q to be the cheapest. Whilst the ground is still very wet now is the time to place a mulch around the base of **FRUIT TREES and FRUIT BUSHES** but keep it a couple of inches away from the main stem or it may start to rot. *Frank Griffiths*

HUNTINGTONS DISEASE CHRISTMAS PARTY

60 plus family members and a few friends spent a very happy Sunday meeting each other, lunching, laughing and sharing experiences, at the Village Hall recently. Wonderful support came from six young volunteers who organised games and fun for the 16 children amongst us, allowing the parents and carers space to talk together. These are the people who help at our special Kinds Fun Days held four times a year, and sometime funded by BBC Children in Need. The following week 45 HD members enjoyed their annual visit to the Gt Bromley village pantomime. But WHERE are any new helpers?! To meet with us, or offer support or transport at times? We have friendly monthly meetings in the village trying to help and inform each other. PLEASE make contact if you are prepared to be interested. Phone Jean on 230425.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

It is now some months since I wrote in the magazine, the main reason being we have been very lucky on the crime front. Throughout 1998 the Bromleys did not suffer the level of crime some of the surrounding villages did. Let's make sure 1999 is not our year. You have probably read in the newspapers by now that the Gt. Bromley Police Office will be closing later this year. This won't mean that you will be losing your village police officer! (Some of you may wish you were!) Essex Police are proposing new ways of policing the rural community and those proposals will be for the better. I have lived in the parish for about nine years now and if I felt the new proposals were going to diminish the service we give I would not support them. A meeting is being held on 9th February at 7.30pm in the Ogilvie Hall at Lawford where the proposals will be outlined. Please come along if you can.

A small problem has recently come to my notice which I feel I must warn you about. Some of you exercise your dogs in the field which extends from the end of Back Lane East to the B1029 at Strutts Farm. The owner of this field has recently threatened a villager whilst he was walking his dog. A civil trespass is not an offence with which the police deal, but to be safe my advice is to stay out of this particular field and walk dogs etc. where you have permission so to do.

Finally I will be holding a cycle coding session on Saturday, 6th March, 2.00pm at Gt Bromley Village Hall car park. Please bring along your cycle, new or old and get it coded. The service is FREE! - *C J Phillips, PC 1061*

KITCHEN CORNER

This is a recipe for special occasions! It is rich and delicious and the quantity given will easily serve 12 people.

SACHERTORTE

5 oz plain good quality chocolate. 4 oz unsalted butter.

4 oz caster sugar .4 oz ground almonds.

4 eggs separated. 2 oz fresh brown breadcrumbs

(2 tablesp melted apricot jam)

Use a 9" springlip cake tin, greased, lined, greased again.

Melt the chocolate over hot water. Cream butter and sugar, stir in egg yolks, almonds, breadcrumbs and chocolate. Whisk whites till stiff and carefully fold in. Pour into prepared tin. Bake 350F (moderate oven) for 40-45 minutes. Cover with a damp towel and cool for 5 minutes then turn onto rack to cool.

Icing (or sauce)

7 oz plain chocolate 7 oz double cream

Melt chocolate over hot water, stir in cream.

You now have two options:-

To serve the cake cold, brush top with the warm jam and ice with the chocolate cream. Leave to set and serve cold.

To Serve as a dessert A slice of cake. scoop of vanilla ice cream and the hot chocolate cream poured over the top. This is how our family enjoyed it for our New Year party - totally delicious!

Jill Frostick

ST. GEORGES CHURCH, GT. BROMLEY

Dear Parishioner

There is a law still on the statue book, which forbids people to drive to church on Christmass Day! Intended to stop rich people showing off their large expensive carriages which thankfully no one sees fit to enforce it any more. Maybe the people of Ardleigh think differently though, since this year traffic was at its heaviest and parking nigh impossible just before Midnight Mass.

Indeed any of the Christmass celebrations were well attended joyous occasions. Thank you to everyone who prepared and supported and to all who came. I began the New Year feeling how good it had all been, yet well reminded that there are still a lot of faces and names I don't know so no sitting back just yet!

Then last month Br William visited from Mirfield to help us to focus on the church's role in the next few months and years. I write this before the Church Council has met to decide the next step, but whatever that is, the Church will continue to be alive and active in our community, meeting all sorts of needs for all sorts of people. Again and again Br William said there were no blueprints, every parish is different, and although he can advise and guide, it will be up to us to sort out what direction we would like to be heading in. Daunting is what one person called it! Daunting yes, but exciting too! Even more frightening would be the thought that we had no plan or idea of what we hope to be happening in the near future.

So we come to this month, the now, and that means Lent. A time of growth, new life, change and looking forward, Lent allows those of us who choose, six weeks of spiritual training for Easter and beyond. Morning Prayer is said and the Eucharist celebrated quite simply on most days in one of our churches. Sundays have a variety of times and ways in which to worship God and meet fellow Christians. There will be opportunities to meet regularly in groups and so grow not just as individuals. All of us in the church need the support and encouragement of others; God does not expect us to survive on our own.

Past, future, and present, known and unknown faces, consolidation and change. May God continue to sustain and bless us, to the glory of his name, and to the peace of all people on earth.
Fr Nicolas

COFFEE MAKING *after 9.30am service*

A Fairley

7 February

B Welham

14 February

J Harding

21 February

A Wild

28 February

CLEANING

O Sparling

A Wild & R Roberts

H Brown & S Rampling

B & J Welham

Service for February

Sunday 7th

2nd before Lent

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

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

3.00pm CHILDREN'S CANDLEMASS CELEBRATION, St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 14th

Next before Lent

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

9.30pm PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Wednesday 17th

ASH WEDNESDAY

8.00pm BENEFICE EUCHARIST St. .Mary the Virgin

Sunday 21st

LENT 1

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

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 28th

LENT 2

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

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Weekday Services as announced in the Parish Newsletter

The Bromley Messenger March 1999

WALKING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

When I was a boy there were fields and farms all around me, and I suppose that helped to induce in me a love of the countryside and everything in it. I have since walked thousands of miles in many countries. The benefits are many; it keeps you reasonably fit, it gives you a wonderful sense of freedom to walk across open country safe (to some extent) from the danger and noise of busy roads, and it brings you into close contact with flora and fauna in all its forms. If you are lucky you may disturb a hare and watch it race away from you, or perhaps even a deer. On some green lanes and by-ways it can also give you a glimpse into the past when the only wheeled transport was horse drawn. Cock Lane between Hilliards Road and Stone Road may be one such example but an even better example is Monks lane to the north of Lamb Comer, Dedham. Since retiring I have become more familiar with the public footpath network, and as spring is just around the corner (I have already seen my first primroses in full flower!) I thought it might be useful to make more of you aware of the many paths on our doorstep and thus tempt you into using them.

Thanks to the efforts of The Ramblers' Association and others the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act was passed 50 years ago. As a result, all the public footpaths in England and Wales are clearly defined on "Definitive Maps". These are public rights of way and where they meet roads are clearly marked with finger posts. They are all shown in red on the Ordnance Survey "Landranger" maps and much more precisely in green on the new "Explorer" maps. Did you know that Gt. Bromley is well endowed with many such footpaths? There are more than 20 distinct paths within the parish shown on these maps, and the farmers and the Highways Authority do their best to maintain them, but undoubtedly the best way of keeping our paths clear is for more people to use them.

The possibility of short (2 - 3 miles) circular walks from the village are limited if too much road walking is to be avoided, but if you are prepared to walk 4 or 5 miles then there are two circular walks possible in the Lt Bromley direction. If you are happy to retrace your steps then a walk to Elmstead Market would be about 4 miles via Boudge Hill Wood. If you are prepared to undertake longer walks then the possibilities are almost unlimited; two examples of circular walks are Bromley-Ardleigh-Elmstead-Bromley, and Bromley-Lawford-Manningtree-Bromley, both about 10 miles. Another possibility is to use a bus to the start of a walk and walk back to the village. I would be prepared to lead a 4 or 5 mile walk one afternoon if enough people are interested. Call me on 230791 if you are, and I'll see what can be arranged.

Finally, whether walking, cycling, riding, or driving remember the Country Code:

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work
- Guard against fire
- Fasten all gates
- Keep your dogs under close control (and clean up after them!)
- Keep to public footpaths across farmland
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
- TAKE YOUR LITTER HOME
- Help to keep all water clean
- Protect wildlife, plants, and trees
- Take special care on country roads: follow the Highway Code
- Make no unnecessary noise.

Happy walking! *Alan Sievewright*

HUNTINGTONS DISEASE ASSOCIATION

A very big thank you to those who supported Gemma and eight friends in their sponsored Swimathon at Clacton County High School. Gemma did 102 lengths, having started the day with a live interview on BBC Essex. These plucky girls are giving all the money they collect to the local branch to support HD families. There is still time to swell the total, which is as yet unknown, by sending to the Treasurer George Henderson, Badley Hall, Great Bromley, cheques being made out to Colchester & District H.D.A. Thank you. *Jean Harding*

AN EVENING OF NOSTALGIA

Come and take a look into the past in an evening of nostalgia. A Show of some of the early films of this area assembled and presented by Bernard Polley, Chairman of the Colchester Cine Club can be seen at the Village Hall on Friday; 5th March. Tickets £2.50

PLAYGROUP

This term and next the theme in playgroup is the alphabet, concentrating on a different letter each week. There have been no shortages of ideas for our theme table. The children have been busy finding things to bring in beginning with the appropriate letter. We had lots of fun with "B" by blowing bubbles using different objects. We nearly ended up having a "bath" as well! We've been cooking again, pancakes this time, for Shrove Tuesday. I'm not sure which the children enjoyed more - making or eating them.

With Mothers Day and Easter looming were going to be busy for the rest of the term too. If you would like any further information about playgroup please contact our secretary, Carolyn Prince who will be pleased to help. Our Toddler Group is held on Wednesday mornings, just come along. your first visit is free. Dates for your diary: Thurs 25 Mar last day of term Mon 12 April- Return to Playgroup Wed 14 April- Return to Toddlers

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

We're collecting tokens again at the school!

* Tesco Computer Vouchers

* Walkers/The Sun/The Times Free Books Tokens

If you have any of these please give them to someone who visits the school or give them in at the office thanks.

A recent non-uniform day, where children have to give a donation to UNICEF for not wearing a uniform, raised £60. Well done.

Other fund-raising events have done well too:

The Christmas Fayre raised £540

The sale of school tea towels £60

Christmas Disco £101.50

Quiz Night £296 - this money was donated to the Memorial Fund for Jenny Stokes.

Forthcoming fundraising events include a Ladies Fashion Evening on Thursday 18th March 7.30pm. To be organised by Alice Matthews, one of our mums. who has a quality nearly new ladies clothes shop. Tickets are £1.50 available from PTA members.

GUIDES

Another of our occasional writings. Our "Light Lunch" held before Christmas was a most enjoyable occasion. The Guides had made and decorated mini Christmas cakes, unusual tree decorations and beautiful cards, we made £108 profit, thank you everyone for your support. Still on the money theme, February is census time when we pay £11.50 per Guide and Leader to the Guide Association. Our cheque for £195.50 has left the account almost empty. We have planned the main Guide events to the end of July and would like you to make a note of them in your diaries, More information will follow.

29th March & 5th April No Guides

8th April London visit. France is too costly and passports are needed for everyone.

29th April Fish and Chip ramble - short walk ending at Fish and Chip shop, 6 pm at Co-op car park, Manningtree

3rd & 31st May No Guides

22nd/23rd May weekend Try Surviving - build and sleep in a bivvy, catch and cook your supper! Distil water, follow trails, be original

7th or 14th June Possibly PC Phillips to talk and check bike safety

27th June Our Longest Day Cycle Meeting - mend your punctures and brakes before please

11th July Grand Barbecue party for parents and Guides past and present to say Goodbye to Jazz and Els.

The time has come for us to leave, me because I'm old and Els to continue Guiding where she lives, instead of travelling so far. So - talk to neighbours, try twisting someone's arm to come and be your new leader.

COFFEE MORNING

At Dairylands, Chase Road West, Gt. Bromley

Saturday, 13th March 10.00am - 12 noon - Bring & Buy Stall Raffle

Proceeds towards Flowers for Flower Demonstration at St George Church.

Tickets 50p including Coffee and Biscuits

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL A meeting of the Parish Council was held on 28 January.

Crossways Garage - Frating Road The Parish Council have requested a meeting with the Chief Executive of Tendring District Council, to discuss the disturbances caused to neighbours by the unsociable working hours of this garage and to see if there has been a breach of the planning conditions.

Land Adjacent to the Old Spread Eagle Public House Legal proceedings are now being taken against the owners of the site to get it tidied.

Hare Green Recreation Ground The new football posts will be erected as soon as ground conditions allow. The Parish Council have employed a professional tree surgeon to carry out safety work on the oak and willow trees on the recreation ground. The hedge along the northern side of the ground has now been cut to encourage new strong growth and to aid access to the ditch. This will be re-dug and re-instated where necessary, later in the year, to assist drainage of the ground.

Flower Tubs Two additional flower tubs will be purchased this year, bringing the total to 10. They will be situated throughout the village as follows:

2 at the Shop near the footpath

2 at the War Memorial

1 at the Cross Inn cross roads

1 at Balls Green

2 at the Village Hall at the base of the village sign

2 near the front entrance to the Village Hall .

Community Care Services Booklet The Parish Council have been sent two copies of the Community Care Services booklet. This booklet shows the community care developments in the Tendring and Colchester area and some of the changes that are taking place which it is hoped will improve the services. The booklet covers housing, sensory services, learning disabilities, mental health, substance misuse and carers needs among other issues. There are also telephone numbers and a list of useful contacts. If you would like a copy it is available free of charge, ring 01245 434134.

The next meeting of Gt. Bromley Parish Council will be held on 18th March at the Village Hall at 7.30pm

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 25th March at the Methodist Chapel School at 7.30pm

VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met on Saturday, 23rd January and it was with much regret that we learned of the death the previous day of Stan West, our Hall Custodian. Stan had served the hall and indeed the village well. Those present stood in silence for one rule as a mark of respect our thoughts with Margery and their Family. On a temporary basis, Nigel and Amanda Rowe have offered to undertake custodian and caretaker duties at the hall. We are very grateful to them for taking on these tasks. The village sign has been erected by the Hall car park entrance, although the sign picture has to be put in place and some concrete is needed around the base to complete the job. A framed photograph of Princess Anne's visit to the village, presented by the Parish Council, has been hung in the hall. The external drains have been blocked and were cleared. A suspected mis-aligned pipe is being investigated further. The surface water drain in the south car park has been looked into and action will be taken as soon as the conditions allow. The north parking area has been very wet and soft of late, various means of improving this area are being considered including ways of funding any work. The next meeting of the Trustees is on Saturday, 20th March at 10.00am at the hall. Our next fund raising event is on Friday, 26th March at 7.30pm when Peter Wenden invites you to a 3-course Supper with After Dinner

Speaker and Cabaret. Tickets (limited) at £10 can be obtained from Peter. - *Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

P.S. Contrary to all popular beliefs, Peter Wenden has not yet asked me to be the Cabaret act on the 26th March! (*February Messenger*)

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

All our members were absolutely devastated to hear that Stan had died the day after our meeting when we had spent such a happy afternoon listening to the escapades and adventures of Mr Bill Pirie who did not fail to include Stan in some of them. I am sure I saw him blush occasionally! He will be sadly missed. At our next meeting on 18th March we are to be entertained by a singing group called "Sharps and Flats" - the competition is a paper knife.

OUR SPRING SALE is to be held at the Village Hall on 24th APRIL commencing at 2.00pm. As this is our only fund-raising event of the year PLEASE support us to enable us to keep the Club going for another year. *Vicky Griffiths*

KITCHEN CORNER

LAMB SHREWSBURY (serves 4)

12 thick lamb cutlets, trimmed of excess fat
1 tablesp dripping or oil 4 tablesp redcurrant jelly
2 tablesp Worcester sauce juice of 1 lemon
4oz button mushrooms 1 level tablesp flour
Salt and pepper grated nutmeg
1/2 pint stock or water

Use a heavy, lidded casserole or flame-proof one. Brown the cutlets in the fat till well-coloured and any remaining fat has been rendered. Melt jelly, sauce and lemon juice in a small pan. Pre-heat oven 300F/150C. Remove cutlets to a plate, pour off all but one tablesp fat, cook mushrooms in this till golden, then add the flour. When it has coloured slightly, add the jelly mix and stock. Cook till thickened to a gravy consistency (whisk away any lumps). Add meat, bring to simmering point, grate in the nutmeg, put on lid and cook in oven for 1.5 hours. Turn oven down if it cooks too fast. Serve with potatoes sliced up with onions and baked in the oven with a little stock.

Jill Frostick

DIARY

MARCH

3rd WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

5th An Evening of Nostalgia. Film Show. Village Hall, 7.30pm

12th Line Dancing Evening with Womens Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm

13th Coffee Morning. Dairylands, Chase Rd West, Gt. Bromley, 10.00am

18th Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2,00pm

Ladies Fashion Evening. St. Georges School, 7.30pm

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

25th Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel School, 7.30pm

26th Three Course Supper & Cabaret. Village Hall. 7.30pm

APRIL

23rd Poems & Pints Night, Village Hall

24th Friendship Club Spring Sale, Village Hall, 2.00pm

MAY

16th Champagne Breakfast, Village Hall

GARDENERS CORNER for MARCH

HOSTAS Lift clumps - use a sharp knife to split into nicely rooted chunky sections. Don't forget slug protection **ROSES** Give roses a boost with a rose fertiliser - a good one is "Bio Toprose".

SEEDS The following can be planted now in a sheltered spot or in seed boxes - **Calendula, Candytuft, Clarkia, Cornflower, Godetia, Larkspur, Virginia Stocks. Sweet Pea** can also be planted in situ. At the end of the month, if the weather starts to warm sow **Beetroot, Broad Beans, Parsnips, Peas. EARLY POTATOES** can be planted. If you have a cold frame raise some lettuce plants - "Arctic King" is a good variety. **LAWNS** Don't be too eager to mow but if you do, keep the blades high, just take the top off the grass with the first cut. *Frank Griffiths*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We all enjoyed our February meeting. Mrs Jane Morgan came along with her friend, Mrs Jill Street, to tell us about their work with the "Hearing Dogs for the Deaf". The charity was started in 1982 and has grown in strength each year since then. Mrs Morgan also showed us slides which illustrated the patience and care needed by the trainers. The dogs are carefully chosen for temperament and a willingness to please from several sources such as rescue centres, breeders and may be unwanted pets so they benefit from having a good caring home. This training lasts about 4 months and by then a special bond should be formed between the dog and its new owner. The deaf person chooses which everyday sounds they want the dog to alert them to i.e. telephone, doorbell, alarm clock etc., the dog tells its owner by touch, then leads them to the sound source or will lie down to indicate danger. Deaf people who have a "Hearing" dog find their lives are enhanced, because often they can feel isolated and lonely.

Next month Mrs French-Owen will be showing us some Easy Exercises, so if any one would like to come and try these out with us we start at 7.30pm in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 3rd March. Tickets are now available for Our Line Dancing Evening on Friday, 12th March in the Village Hall from 8.00pm to 11.00pm. Please bring your own drinks and nibbles. The tickets are £3 and can be obtained from either our Vice President. Mrs Ann Jones, all committee members or Gt. Bromley Post Office. All proceeds to go to the Great Bromley Millennium Fund. - *June Willgress*

LONGEVITY IN LITTLE BROMLEY

Mrs Sarah Frostick of Little Bromley celebrated her one hundred and first birthday on 5th May, 1906. She had many visitors and was able to recall many incidents in her life. Asked by one visitor if she remembered Queen Victoria's Coronation, she promptly replied, - "Oh yes - and that old war" (The Crimean War, 1854-1856). When asked what happened then she again replied - "Well, my father came home one night and told us that on their way home from work his mate had been "pressed" and they must not be surprised if during the night they (the press gang) came for him" The old lady added, "But they didn't".

Someone remarked that if she had lived in Little Bromley all her life then she must have seen many changes among the parishioners. Regretfully the old lady replied - "Yes, they are all gone. I nursed them all and did for them all."

Sarah said that when she was young the women worked in the fields but they did not now and they did not glean after harvest as they used to do. She said that in days gone by the parishioners were glad to have the gleanings and she used to gather about two coombs which was very handy as she had eleven children. *[1 coomb = 4 bushels; 1 bushel = 4 pecks or 8 gallons dry measure; and 1 peck = a quarter of a bushel or 2 gallons dry measure. The bushel is an almost disused measure for fruit and grain.]*

Of course the next question was - "Are the children still alive?"

"No", was her reply. "One son, a sailor, fell from the masthead, struck his head and must have died as he fell into the water and was never seen again. Another son was in the Artillery, was thrown from his horse, a gun went over his chest killing him. My only son, alive, is 76 and cannot get here and even if he was brought would not be able to climb the stairs". She added, "I have two 'girls' left, one is 67 and the other is 73."

The old lady had lost an eye but was able to see well with the other. She was greatly annoyed because she had paralysis of one side and that prevented her from doing needlework and sewing. Sarah, at 101, was able to read and from her bedroom window overlooking a busy road was amused with the goings on of passers-by and was particularly interested in motor cars with lady passengers or even drivers. I wonder how many there were of these.

The 1841 Census for Little Bromley gives these details -

Mulberry Farm	James Frostick	Aged	30	Ag. Lab.
	SARAH		36	
	James		13	
	William		11	
	Mary		5	
	Elizar	3		
	George		4 months	

All born in Little Bromley, Essex.

From the Burial Register, Little Bromley:

Sarah was buried 3rd February, 1907, aged 101. The son who was too ill to attend her 101st birthday was buried at Little Bromley on 18th September, 1906, aged 76. Daughters Mary and Elizar were still alive in 1906. Part of a wonderful family history is told. *John Appleby*

TWICE IN A BLUE MOON Look out for the full moon on 31st March. A blue moon occurs when there are two full moons in the same month and unusually we have already had one this year on 31st January The blue moon is the second full moon to occur in a calendar month. You will have to wait until the year 2018 for the next double blue moon although a single blue moon occurs on average approximately every three years.

STAN WEST

One of Great Bromley is best known and well-liked residents, Stan West of Hall Road died suddenly on 22nd February. He was 80. Actively involved in many activities in the parish where he was the village bobby for nine years, Stan had celebrated becoming an octogenarian in December with a party attended by about 100 people. As well as his family and friends, those present included representatives of all those organisation of which he was a member. Stan completed 30 years in the Essex Police, retiring as a sergeant at Colchester in 1969. He then worked for nearly 20 years for estate agents, Abbotts, in Colchester. A talented singer, Stan sang in the choir of St. Georges Church, Great Bromley, and had won trophies for singing, coming top in a variety concert stages by Essex Age Concern at Clacton ten years ago. He had been vice chairman of the Village Hall Committee, chairman of the Pantomime Group, a member of the Friendship Club, the Gardening Club and Great Bromley Buskers concert party and also did a great deal of voluntary work for his next door neighbours at the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home. Stan leaves his wife, Margery, to whom he had been married 58 years, two daughters, one son, five grandchildren and four great grandchildren. *Courtesy of Essex County Newspapers*

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

As Robinson sails away into the sunset it is with very mixed emotions I sit and pen this note of thanks and appreciation to all who sailed aboard the MARY BELLE in one of the most successful and happy pantomimes for many years. We had a great team of volunteers who each gave their very best all culminating into . splendid performances in the singing, dancing, staging, lighting, costumes and scenery. The overall enthusiasm of cast and crew came together to peal at exactly the right moment.

We will shortly be presenting a cheque to Hamilton Lodge for £1,000 raised through your generosity. Thank you to all who came and cheered. After all the adulation and excitement it then came as a great shock to hear the news of Stan the Man who from the outset of the group took the lead role be it on the stage or as the Chairman of our happy band. Many a tear was shed at our sad loss but how appropriate that many had been part of his celebrations in December then to share in his excitement as his little show brought a large smile to his face as he danced round the hall in the arms of Dai, as only Stan could, to entertain. Thank you Stan. You will be greatly missed and our love goes to Margery. May the show go on in his honour. - *Producer*

A FLOWER DEMONSTRATION "WHOSE GARDEN"

By Robin White from Kent Thursday, 22nd April, 1999 7.00pm for 7.30pm
At St. Georges Church * Cake and Plant Stalls * Tickets £5 including Wine and Nibbles From Ann Wild & June Wenden All proceeds to Church Funds

FLOWER ROTA April

4th , Easter Day 11th Easter flowers 18th Helen Atkinson 25th A Wild

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH GT. BROMLEY

COFFEE MAKING

P Hughes
A Fairley
B Welham
J Harding

CLEANING

7 March 0 Sparling
14 March A Wild & J Harding
21 March H Brown & S Rampling
28 March B & J Welham

EASTER LILIES

Anybody wishing to give a donation towards Easter Lilies please contact Mrs Margery West at Church or telephone

Services for March

Sunday 7th 3rd SUNDAY IN LENT

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

Sunday 14th 4th SUNDAY IN LENT MOTHERING SUNDAY

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

Sunday 21st 5th SUNDAY IN LENT

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

Thursday 25th ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD

8.00pm Benefice Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 28th PALM SUNDAY

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr
11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Service of Reconciliation St. Mary the Virgin

Weekday Services as announced in the Parish Newsletter

The Bromley Messenger April 1999

Easter is the climax of the Christian year. More attention and celebration is probably attached to Christmas yes, but when it comes down to it the keeping of Holy Week, as it is called, is really what it is all about. The yearly remembrance of the Last Supper, the death of Jesus and the discovery of the empty tomb and Jesus been seen again, risen from the dead, is celebrated world wide as the ultimate experience in a Christian's life. This year we are privileged to have Fr. Crispin Harrison of the Community of the Resurrection with us to give a brief talk each day, details of which can be found in Church. In church the week is celebrated in ways that often date from as early as the 4th century: the priest washing the feet of twelve people on Thursday night in solidarity with Jesus who came to serve, not to be served; the kissing of the crucifix on Good Friday to venerate the way in which Jesus gave himself for all; the lighting of the Easter fire early on the Sunday morning heralding the dawn and the celebrations, often quite noisy and boisterous, of the people who have Alleluia as their song, are ways in which the Christian community enters into the mystery of the Faith.

The Christian community enters into the mystery in actions, not because Jesus or God dies again, nor because by doing so the Good we call it somehow gets better, but because in our humanity it helps, it strengthens, it sustains us. Over the past twenty years or so there has been a great simplifying of traditions and ritual so that what can be seen and experienced is more than just an action. Things we do and say in Church are important, but however much you explain or simplify, there has to be a moment when the human lets go and the divine can take over. Sunday by Sunday, day by day, the Eucharist is celebrated, in various ways, but each time there has to be that moment of dropping to one's knees and letting go, letting God sense the other, entering into the mystery.

The mystery of Easter, of the Cross, of the Eucharist, is not one which can be solved by a Miss Marple or Inspector Frost, or by any of our human thinking. One day, Christians believe, it will become clear, all will be understood and well. Until then we continue to celebrate in our human ways, Holy Week year by year, and our Christian faith day by day, simply or elaborately, hopefully with increasing confidence and joy. May God bless us in our offerings and our entering ins and our letting gos. *Fr. Nicolas*

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

GOOD UPRIGHT PIANO Wanted for Residential Home. Telephone Jill Frostick 250263.

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL A vacancy has arisen for a "WARDEN/CARETAKER" at the above Hall. Would any person wishing to be considered for this post please forward their name and address to Mr B Willgress, Lee Cottage, Great Bromley by 18th March, 1999

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

I think it is true to say that a good time was had by all at our March meeting, when Mrs French-Owen had us going along with her easy exercises! She gave us lots of useful hints to keep ourselves as we tackle various jobs around the house, for instance, when climbing the stairs use the ball of your foot rather than all of it to strengthen your calf muscles. When sitting watching the television or even waiting in traffic you can flex your ankles, wrists, gently move your head from side to side or stretch your arms and legs. Those of us not so active can do a lot of these exercises from a chair, for example, take your shoes off and roll a rolling pin or something similar under your feet. Mrs French-Owen also showed us an easy way to get out of a low armchair! She was a very pleasant lady who made us laugh as we tried out her easy exercises. Our next meeting promises to be very different as it will be Mr Sutton telling us about his visits to Romania. Please feel welcome to come along to hear him on Wednesday, 7th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Many thanks to everyone who supported our Line Dancing evening. It was very encouraging to see so many of you there. You will no doubt be pleased to know that we made £250.00 towards the Great Bromley Millennium Committee fund. *June Willgress*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB "Entertainment at Clacton Theatres" was the subject for the talk by Mr Bob Young at our February meeting when we also saw slides of many artistes who we knew in our younger days. JEAN MORGAN will be with us for our April meeting telling us about DOGS FOR THE DEAF. The competition has to be a small picture of a dog. Is your calendar marked for the 24th? Our SPRING SALE commences at 2.00pm at the Village Hall - we look forward to seeing you. *Vicky Griffiths*

The Great Bromley **MILLENNIUM FUND**



QUIZ NIGHT
Thursday, 8th April
The Cross Inn
Tickets £1.00

B.B.Q. and SWIM
7th August, 12 – 6.00pm
Pytle Lodge, Colchester Road, Gt. Bromley



POEMS & PINTS NIGHT

Friday 23rd April in the Village Hall
Organised by Gt. Bromley Pantomime Group
Any sketch/song/poem/mime etc. phone Amanda (230398) if you are interested



RACE NIGHT

At the Village Hall
(date to be confirmed)



CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST

Sunday, 16th May
In the Village Hall
Quality Continental Breakfast
1 glass each of Champagne & Bucks
Fizz included in price
11.00am
Tickets £10 Adults £5.00 children
Available from Linda Pinhey (230126)

Why not fill a table of 8
and have a family/
friends get-together.



FASHION SHOW

16th September
In the Village Hall

NEW YEARS EVE MASKED BALL

In the Village Hall
8.00pm – 1.00am
Tickets £15.00

HUNTINGTONS DISEASE ASSOCIATION COLCHESTER & DISTRICT BRANCH

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Friday, 16th April at the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home. Lord Braybrooke, the Patron, will be present and the speakers will be Pam Davies, Regional Care Adviser and Christopher Pertwee, DL, Chairman of the Colchester Catalyst Charity. All are welcome

CARPET BOWLS

Our annual fund raising day, organised as usual by Pat and Jayne, was a huge success. At 1.00pm on 6th March 16 teams set forth to do battle, the "Brumbella" Trophy in their sights. Some close and some not so close games ensued until just four overall winners reached the semi-finals. The draw was Gt. Bromley versus Walton (the current holders) and Gt. Bentley versus Lt. Clacton. Gt. Bentley came out the clear winners of their match and Gt. Bromley v. Walton had a drawn match after seven ends. A deciding end had to be played with Gt. Bromley managing a four shot win. In the Final Gt. Bentley could not adjust their game to the mat and lost by 12 shots to 8 giving the host club the Cup for the first time. Well done to Linda and Brian Francis, Thomas Bates and Andrew Childs (Skip). Thank you to Pauline and her helpers for a continuous supply of food and drink. It was very much appreciated. A special thank you to the visiting teams and local residents who donated raffle prizes. In all £163 was raised toward the Village Millennium Fund. Our position at the top of the league must be very much in doubt now. Although we picked up six points against Walton on 10th March, just prior to that we lost 8-0 to Wix and also the same score to Thorpe, but for all that we have enjoyed the whole season. Best wishes for a good recovery to Evelyn suffering a broken wrist and also to Michael for continued progress. They are both missed.

Nancy Kempster

PLAYGROUP

The children were very busy last month preparing for Mother's Day and Easter. Some beautiful cards were made and the children really enjoyed making chocolate nests in the kitchen. Included in the playgroup sessions we have a Rising Fives group. This starts the term that a child is 4 years old. It involves encouraging concentration skills, pencil control, letter and number formation and recognition of colours, shapes and their own name. The aim is to assist in preparing the children for the more formal approach to activities found in the classroom. We would like to wish good luck to Ben, Jonathan, Matthew, Mia, Nathan, Robert and Zach who will be leaving playgroup after Easter to start school. Forthcoming fund-raising events include CAR BOOT SALE on Sunday, 6th June at THE SNOOTY FOX, Frating Road, 10.00am - 4.00pm. Cars £6. Please contact Nicki on 01206 250652.

If you would like any further information about playgroup please contact our secretary, Carolyn Prince on 01206 251858, who will be pleased to help. Our Toddler Group always welcomes new faces. Why not come along for a chat and a coffee? Your first visit is free. Happy Easter from all at playgroup. Dates for your diary: Mon 12 April - Playgroup return after Easter holidays Mon 31 May - Half term week Sun 6 June - Car Boot Sale at "The Snotty Fox", Mon 7 June - Playgroup return.

BROWNIES

The term has ended as it began on a yummy note with Easter eggs. The brownies made buns (which we all enjoyed) for their Hostess badge as well as beautiful and varied table decorations. Posies were made for St. Georges Church for Mothers Day. The potatoes planted in tubs are growing well and we are looking forward to a good crop and beans planted in jars have been planted on at home. The pack gained First Aid badges after St. Johns Ambulance volunteers came for three weeks to teach and finally test resuscitation and basic essentials of first aid. All the brownies did extremely well. The pack now numbers 14 and there is no longer a waiting list. If your daughter is aged between 7 and 10 years and would like to join us we meet on Thursdays during term time between 5.30pm and 7.00pm. - Brown Owl (231262)

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

MATCHES The football and netball teams have participated in three matches recently, against Ardleigh, Langham and Wix. The football team managed a win against Langham and the netball team have excelled themselves with three wins. Keep up the good game, the rally is at the end of April!

PTA NEWS They are hoping to arrange a Table Top Sale soon. Date and venue will be advertised in the village shortly.

OFSTED The full report is now available at the school and local library should you wish to read it. We are delighted with the high praise given to the behaviour and attitude of the pupils, also that the school fully meets the Government's required standards by providing a sound standard of education for the pupils. The Governors' Annual Report has now been issued to the parents.

ST GEORGES YOUTH CLUB

The 20th January was our visit to Rollerworld. 45 Club members came along and a great time was had by all. 58 9-15 year olds enjoyed the youth Club Disco held on 26th February in aid of the Millennium Fund. Our thanks go to Nathan, Joseph, Michael and Jack for being fantastic DJ ,5! And also a very big thank you goes to Rod and Greg of Harwich Radio & Cycle Stores, South Street, Manningtree for donating the use of the disco equipment. We are pleased to announce that we managed to raise £86 towards the Millennium Fund. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Adult helpers who assist with the smooth running of the Youth Club and all its events. Dates for your diary This year the Summer Camp at East Mersea has been booked for 3rd-4th July. Details Will be given out at a later date.

KITCHEN CORNER - EASTER BISCUITS

250g/8oz flour 50/2oz white sugar 50g/2oz soft brown sugar 125g/8oz currants

125g/4oz unsalted butter 1/4 teasp grated nutmeg 1 egg yolk

1 tablesp milk 1 tablesp sherry or water

Rub fat into flour, mix all together to a dough. Roll out ½" thick and cut into rounds or shapes.

Bake on a greased tray 20-25 minutes at 180C/350F Cool on a wire tray.

GARDENERS CORNER for MARCH

March winds and April showers, so the old saying goes, but not any more, we have to take our seasons as they are thrown at us so with luck April may be like it used to be?

Pinch out the growing tip of SWEET PEAS to encourage side , shoots to form.

SUMMER BEDDING PLANTS raised in boxes can now be hardened off ready for planting out at the end of the month.

Plant NASTURTIUM seeds where they are to flower.

GLADIOLA can go in this month - plant about 5" deep with a little sharp sand in the bottom of each hole which should be made with a trowel NOT a dibber.

Plant TOMATO seeds in pots or trays, also RUNNER BEANS can be raised in boxes - keep in a cold frame or unheated greenhouse until May, when I hopefully the frosts will be no more.

If you have the odd potato in the bottom of the bag that has started sprouting plant it in a large pot or bucket, keep in the shed or garage but on mild days bring it outside - you should get an early crop - KEEP IT WATERED. If you can get some old land drains or 4" pipe these are ideal for growing CARROTS in. Sieve the soil or compost to get rid of any stones or lumps, add a little sharp sand; you'll have prize winning, exhibition produce. *Frank Griffiths*

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on. Thursday, 22nd April at 7.30pm at the Methodist Chapel School

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held on Thursday, 22nd April at 7.30pm in the ' Village Hall.

VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

We are approaching the time when the Village Hall Management Committee will be holding their Annual General Meeting, normally in mid May. This is the meeting which the public may attend and take part in, offering themselves or others for election as members for the ensuing year. The Committee of Management consist of five Elected (at the AGM) and seven Representatives (appointed by certain organisations) and may include (additionally) up to three Co-opted Members. Those currently holding Office (Elected) are Pat Petchey, Bevan Willgress (Secretary), June Willgress, Peter Wenden (Chairman) and a vacancy. Representative Members are Linda Allam (Treasurer), Simon Baines, Vera Biddis, Gill Christmas, Beryl Hurst, Nigel Rowe and Jean Wright. Robert Harding has been Co-opted as an Assistant Secretary. A Warden/Caretaker is appointed by the Committee to deal with the Hall on a day to day basis.

Bevan Willgress, Secretary

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB NEWS

During the winter months Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club compete in the Royal London Indoor Cricket Alliance. As explained in previous Messenger articles, 6-a-side indoor cricket is a shortened version of the outdoor game and is cricket's equivalent to indoor 5-a-side football. The Royal London sponsors and provides local clubs with a competitive indoor league with three divisions, based at their Sports Centre near Highwoods in Colchester. Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club have a strong pedigree in the indoor league and this season has been no exception. At the time of writing the team has just been crowned champions of the 2nd Division and is one victory away from completing the league season with a 100% record of 12 wins out of 12. The club has also reached the final of the Knock Out Trophy (restricted to 2nd and 3rd Division teams) and reached the quarter finals of the Knock Out Cup (1st 2nd and 3rd Division teams). Victory in the Knock Out Trophy final will be the team's third consecutive title in this competition.

The Clubs AGM was held on 25th February at Copley Dene and the following officers were appointed for the coming season:

President John Clapham

Chairman Phil Allam

Secretary Tim Biscoe

Treasurer Matthew Foley

Fixture Secretary Fraser Eadie

1st XI Captain Peter Brinkley 1st XI Vice Captain Pip Allam

2nd XI Captain Matthew Foley 2nd XI Vice Captain Andy Trussler

Committee Members Justin Whittaker Bill Kempster Merv Foulkes

The AGM also saw the regrettable but inevitable decision made to withdraw the 2nd XI from the Osborne Garages League for the 1999 season. This unfortunate decision was made on the strength that the club does not have sufficient playing resource to justify the running of two XIs on a regular basis. Last summer saw Gt Bromley regularly take the field with less than a full complement of players and this could not be allowed to continue especially as this season saw an increased number of league games for both teams. The 2nd XI will remain as part of the club but will play a reduced fixture list consisting of friendlies.

I apologise for the lack of publication regarding the winners of our yearly 100 Club draw. To bring everyone up to date below are the results of the draws made to date.

MAY 1998 1st R Jones 2nd P Petchey 3rd S Wilkinson

JUNE 1998 1st G Smith 2nd B Wright 3rd V Biddis

JULY 1998 1st N Kempster 2nd R Eadie 3rd J Boulton

AUGUST 1998 1st S Calvert 2nd R Xmas 3rd M Frostick

SEPTEMBER 1998 1st Marion Lewis 2nd Peter Herring 3rd Mary Hart

OCTOBER 1998 1st I Rickman 2nd P Herring 3rd M Heaton

NOVEMBER 1998 1st James Wild 2nd A Mead 3rd G Kempster

DECEMBER 1998 1st F Eadie 2nd R Prior 3rd M West

JANUARY 1999 1st Leo Foley 2nd John Boulton 3rd Heather Brinkley

FEBRUARY 1999 1st H Brinkley 2nd R Xmas 3rd B Fuller

- Fraser Eadie

DIARY

APRIL

7th WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

8th Quiz Night, Cross Inn, 8.00pm

22nd Flower Demonstration, St. Georges Church,
7.00pm

23rd St. George's Church Patronal Festival with visiting
preacher

Poems & Pints Night, Village Hall

24th Friendship Club Spring Sale, Village Hall, 2.00pm

28th Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Seven Rivers,
7.00pm

MAY

6th Fashion Show at Venture 2000, Lawford, 7.30pm

16th Champagne Breakfast, Village Hall

JUNE 19th-20th FLOWER FESTIVAL, St. Georges
Church

AUGUST 7th BBQ. and Swim, Pytle Lodge, 12-6.00pm

SEPTEMBER 16th Fashion Show, Village Hall

DECEMBER 31st New Years Eve Masked Ball, Village
Hall, 8.00pm



Ardleigh Used
Quality Nearly New Clothes
Monica House, Colchester Road/Dead Lane,
Ardleigh
presents
A Fashion Show
In aid of
The N.S.P.C.C.
Thursday, 6th May - 7.30pm
At Venture 2000
Lawford, Nr Manningtree
Tickets: £10 (to include glass of wine and cheese)
On sale now from shop or telephone 01206 230498

ONE OF THE LITTLEBURY FAMILY OF GREAT BROMLEY

Michael Littlebury, husbandman, made his will on 4 March, 1599. He left his daughters, Joan and Grace, a milch cow each. Faith, his wife, was left the rest of his goods for life but on her death his goods remaining were to be given equally to the daughters but Faith's belongings, that she brought to the family on marriage to Michael, he said she was to deal with in her own way. William Ravens, the elder, was made an executor and left 10 shillings (50p). Witnesses to the will were Stephen Rich, William Ravens and Giles Raymond. The will was proven on 5 September, 1600. *John Appleby*

MILLENNIUM TREE

The Parish Council are considering the planting of a Millennium tree. Please send your views to the Parish Clerk as to where it might be planted and what type of tree it should be.

THANK YOU to all those who have kindly offered their services as a proof reader. You will be pleased to know that the post has been filled and henceforth the risk of errors will be considerably reduced. L.H.

FLOWER FESTIVAL

19th-21st June Anyone who would like to help to arrange flowers at this year's Festival please contact me before 30th April.

THANKS On behalf of the Colchester Harriers Athletic Club and the residents, staff and Trustees of Hamilton Lodge I am writing to ask you to kindly record our appreciation to the residents of Great Bromley for their support and encouragement with regard to the races run in the village on 14th February.

David Heather, Colchester Harriers Athletic Club

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting with the election of Churchwardens, Deanery Synod and Church Council members will be held at Seven Rivers on 28th April at 7.00pm

ST. GEORGES CHURCH, GT. BROMLEY

COFFEE MAKING *AFTER 9.30AM Service* CLEANING

W A Wild	4 April	P Greenfield & M Bush
P Hughes	11 April	O Sparling
B Welham	18 April	A Wild & R Roberts
A Fairley	25 April	H Brown & S Rampling

FLOWER ROTA

May 2nd Vera Biddis 9th Heather Brown 16th Grace Gould 23rd Wedding 30th Wedding flowers

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

Services for May

Thursday 1st **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

8.00pm Celebration of the Last Supper with Watch of Prayer until midnight St. Mary

Friday 2nd **GOOD FRIDAY**

3.00pm Celebration of the Passion of our Lord St. George the Martyr

Sunday 4th **EASTER DAY**

5.00am The Easter Vigil, 8.30m Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 11th **SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

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

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 18th **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

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

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Friday 23rd **ST. GEORGES DAY** 2.15pm School Celebration St. George the Martyr

8.00pm Patronal Festival Eucharist St. George the Martyr

Sunday 25th **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mazy the Virgin

9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr

11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Weekday Services as announced in the Parish Newsletter

The Bromley Messenger May 1999

"A RAMBLE" Far East to Great Bromley

When the Editor approached me to volunteer the penning of a Forward [foreword] for the magazine I was mortified. I unsuccessfully tried to duck out of the chore, pleading lack of original thought and I am very busy and even the very cowardly Fred would do a much better job etc. etc. Well, worm as I may I have not been able to avoid this duty so I'm hoping that the foregoing introduction, like writing an essay at school. has used up at least a quarter of the contribution required. Unlike all previous month's Forwards no pearls of wisdom will be forthcoming and certainly no practical advice of any use can be offered. Remember I'm the guy who after arriving in the village from one of the World's most exciting and populous cities promptly took up rural life by planting shallot sets upside down! Impossible you say. Idiot you are more likely to say, but it simply struck me that the pointed end of the vegetable should pierce the ground and not the blunt end. The poor disoriented sets were eventually upturned and to everyone's surprise, and my delight, produced a crop of some quality of which I was quite proud. Since that time, you will be relieved to hear, I have learned much about gardening and living rurally. Some knowledge has come naturally but much more has been freely shared by neighbours in Burnt Heath, that delightful part of the World sitting between Ardleigh and Great Bromley. Burnt Heath officially falls within Ardleigh but for some reason many of us consider ourselves Bromleians, supporting its school, village hall and church where we can and what a pleasure it is too. It is truly a blessing to be here and long may we be permitted to remain. M.R.

GT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

The Annual General Meeting of Great Bromley Pantomime Group will be held on 11th May at Gt. Bromley Village Hall in the Committee Room at 8.00pm. All are welcome to attend. Come and help plan and put together the programme of events for 1999 culminating with the show in January 2000. *Producer*

**COLCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL
INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL**

(Boys 3 - 16 years; Girls 3 - 11 years)
Principal: Andrew Moore MA (OXON) PGCE
NURSERY 3 - 5 years; PREP 4½ - 7 years
JUNIORS 7 - 11 years; SENIORS 11 - 16 years



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



You are most welcome to visit the school
For further details please telephone (01206) 573389

**LITTLE PADDOCKS
GARDEN CRAFTS**

For a wide selection of unusual 'antique' finished

- statues and ornaments
- fountains and water features
- bird baths & sundials
- planters, vases, pots and tubs
- garden benches, seats and tables

And many more unusual items including gargoyles, arches, arbours and sundial brasses displayed in our garden and Barn.

Come and visit us any day (except Tuesdays) at:
'Little Paddocks', Harwich Road, Great Bromley.
Phone/Fax: 01206 251759

CARPET BOWLS WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

Thank you to the readers who have been following our progress in the league table over the winter months and you will be pleased to know that we managed to stay in first place after all - 10 points ahead of WIX who at one time were in serious contention. As a result of having this honour, we now face a play-off at Braintree on 9th May between all six league winners in the County. Here is hoping! We have supported the Essex Air Ambulance Fund in two competitions recently:- on 11 April at Gt. Bentley two teams played in the annual Charity Fours, missing the second round by one shot. The following Sunday one team entered the High Woods Team Competition (a team consisting of 1 singles player, a pair and a triple). As a team we reached the quarter finals knocked out by Langtoft. There is also an individual competition run in conjunction in which Richard Bates, our singles player, also reached the quarter final. This is a big event with 64 teams of six starting out. Some of the players were from as far afield as Cambridge, Peterborough and Norfolk, which proves just how popular this game is. It was introduced by local councils some 12 or so years ago to bring a leisure activity into village halls for people of any age. We are only a small club for the size of this village - there must be a few more active people out there somewhere. *Nancy Kempster*

DIARY

NOTE: 29th APRIL Parish Assembly of Lt Bromley Parish Council Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm

- 1 May Village Hall Committee meeting, Village Hall
- 5 May W.I. Meeting, Village Hall, 7,30pm
- 6 May Fashion Show at Venture 2000, Lawford, 7,30pm
- 9 May Carpet Bowls county match at Braintree
- 11 May Gt. Bromley Pantomime Group A.G.M., Village Hall, 8.00pm
- 12 May Village Hall Committee A.G.M., Village hall, 8.00pm
- 15 May PTA table Top Sale, Venture 2000 Hall, 2.00pm
- 16 May Champagne Breakfast, Village Hall
- 18 May June copy, for Messenger to Editor please
- 20 May Gt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 29 May Coffee Morning in aid of Kosovo, The Nook, Gt. Bromley, 10.00am
- 29-31 May Open Weekend, The Nook, Gt. Bromley, 10.00am
- 25 May-20 Jun Gt. Bromley Church hassocks to Munich
- 6 June Playgroup Car Boot Sale, The Snooty Fox, 10.00am
- 18 June Essex Police Choir, St. George's Church, 7.30pm
- 19-21 June Flower Festival, St. Georges Church
- 26 June PTA Barn Dance, Park Farm, 8.00pm

GARDENERS CORNER for MAY

SWEET PEAS - If you want long stems pinch out all side shoots and cut off tendrils. BIENNIALS - Sow this month for flowering next spring: wallflowers, sweet Williams, canterbury bells, antirrhinums and pansies. DAFFODILS - Wait until they have died down before digging them up- TOMATOES - Plant this month in the greenhouse but have a dunce's hat made of newspaper ready to drop over the plants if frost is forecast. VEGETABLES - Carrots, beetroot, peas, beans, radishes and lettuce can now be planted. WATCH OUT for "baddies" - green and blackfly- spray at the first sign. Don't forget slug pellets especially around your hostas. *Frank Griffiths*

FEIENDSHIP CLUB

"A friend in need is a friend indeed" - we have all heard that saying but what better Friend could you have if you are deaf and need someone to tell you if the phone rings, the doorbell rings, the smoke alarm goes off and in some cases senses that something is not quite right, although he or she has not been trained for that event, and can go to his or her owner and place a PAW on the knee? Yes, I you have guessed it is THE DOG. Our speakers from the "Hearing Dogs for the Deaf" gave us a very interesting talk on the subject at our April meeting. Wishing you luck at our BINGO session at our May meeting. *Vicky Griffiths*

THE BROMLEY MESSENGER STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS Due to pressure on space the Statement of Accounts and Treasurer's Report for the Bromley Messenger will appear next month. Ed.

Coffee Morning in aid of Kosovo

Saturday 29th May, 10am - 1 pm **Also** Open Weekend Saturday 29 May to Monday 31 May At The Nook, Colchester Road. Gt. Bromley.

Coffee and nibbles 10am - 6pm Wine and nibbles 6pm - 10pm

To view Inspirational ideas for walls and crockery. I am starting up my own business & would welcome everyone to view and give their opinions. *Els Connelly*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mr Sutton gave us a very interesting talk illustrated by slides about his many visits to Romania for the "Life to Romania" charity. He has taken van loads of items to the North Eastern part of the country where the community is one of the poorest. The villages are often isolated with no roads so horses and carts are the main means of transport. If a family is lucky enough to own a car there can be one and a half miles of queuing for petrol which is contracted to Russia. The people grow as many vegetables as they can in the summer but in the winter their staple diet is maize made into a sort of porridge for each meal. The core of the maize is dried for kindling. One village has managed to build themselves a little church quite plain on the outside apart from the roof, but inside it is very beautiful with lots of wood work. Mr Sutton told us about a small local

hospital which Life in Romania was able to purchase for the equivalent of £8. Working together with other voluntary organisations in Europe, it has been refurbished and now has 18 beds. Hepatitis and tuberculosis is very common so supplements to the peoples' diet are very much needed. He said that as improvements are slowly coming to the region he does not need to visit quite so often. Mr Sutton, who lives in Dedham, is always pleased to accept unwanted plants and flowerpots, which he sells for Life to Romania. His address is: Hewitt Hall Cottage, High Street, Dedham, telephone number 01206 322237.

We have our Resolutions meeting next month, when we consider how to vote on Resolutions put forward for the National Federation of Women's Institutes Intermediate General Meeting which is to be held in June. Our representative will report back to us in July. 5 - *June Willgress*

PLAYGROUP

We were kindly donated a lovely box of chocolates to be rattled at Easter along with some Easter eggs. Thank you to everyone who bought and also helped to sell the tickets. 1st prize - Helen Fairley, 2nd prize - Daniel Farrar, 3rd prize - Mandy Ratcliffe, 4th prize - Kelly Searl

We look forward to welcoming some new faces this term. We are continuing our theme of the alphabet, concentrating on a different letter each week with activities to match. If you would like any information about playgroup please contact our secretary, Carolyn Prince, on 01206 251858 who will be pleased to help.

Toddler Group is held on Wednesday mornings. New faces are always given a warm welcome. Your first visit is free, so why not pop along? Meanwhile the fundraising continues: **PLAYGROUP CAR BOOT SALE** At **THE SNOOTY FOX** . Frating Road Sunday 6th June 10.00am-4.00pm Cars £6 Telephone Nicki on 01206 250652 Diary dates: Mon 31 May - Half term week Sun 6 June - Car Boot Sale Mon 7 June - Playgroup returns Thurs 15 July - last day of term Mon 13 Sept - Playgroup returns

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GUIDES

On 8th April we went to London on a trip. Jazz had reserved seats on a train for us. We went to Tower Bridge and had a tour. We walked across the top of the bridge and saw Canary Wharf and the Millennium Dome. Some people took photos. After that we sat down in the sun and had our lunch. Then we went on a tube to Oxford Street and did some shopping. It was very crowded. We had to leave by 3 o'clock to catch another tube back to Liverpool Street. We had more time to shop here before coming home. The trains were fast and didn't stop between London and Colchester. - *2 Guides*

REMINDER FROM JAZZ 9 July is fast approaching when I Sign off as Gt. Bromley Guide Leader after eleven years. It sounds a long time, but some of my Guides from the first six years will be old enough to run the unit. You have to be 18 years old and over to be an Adult Leader in Guiding. Lots of help and training can be given and you get to do a variety of exciting activities if you want, or, if you are more craft orientated - then lead the unit in that direction. Please don't let the unit die, I'm waiting to hear from you. *Jacquie (01206 230490)*

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

FORTHCOMING PTA EVENTS

TABLE TOP SALE Saturday 15th May 2.00-4.00pm Venture 2000 Hall, Lawford Tables £6 Phone Jacky 251070 or Sue 396673 Refreshments & Raffle -- donations of cakes gratefully received

CHILDREN'S QUIZ NIGHT Friday. 21st May 6.00-8.00pm Years 3 - 6 Tickets £1 Prize for winning team Tuck Shop available

BARN DANCE Saturday, 26th June 8.00pm By kind permission of Mr & Mrs H Fairley at Park Farm, Gt. Bromley £5 including Ploughman's Supper

FAMILY FUN DAY Sunday, 18th July 3.00pm at the School £6 family ticket or £1.50 per person Bring your own meat and drink - salads & BBQ provided

THE FAB FOUR live band at the Village Hall, Gt. Bromley Saturday. 2nd October Tickets £5.00 Thank you to everyone who came along to the Easter Fayre £258.23 was raised and the Ladies Fashion Show also raised another £40.

£15,000 Appeal

As a lot of the villagers will know, our temporary classrooms have been around for over 25 years and look set to be there for quite a while longer, so we are launching a £15,000 appeal to help build new washroom facilities for these classrooms and improve the security in the school. Government funding is not forthcoming so we are asking for help in the community. If you are able to give a donation, we are happy to discuss advertising if it is appropriate. Please contact either Nigel Rowe on 01206 230398 or Nicky Robinson on 01206 230229.

TENDRING'S BENEFIT TAKE-UP LAUNCH?

Are you a pensioner? Might you be eligible for

- Attendance Allowance?
- Disability Living Allowance?
- Income Support?

Don't know? Then make an enquiry! Ring Liz Turner - Benefits & Revenues Services, Tendring District Council Telephone: 01255 254148

LETTERS

From: Mr R. G. Parrott, Scanfreight UK, Gt. Bromley Re: Crossways Garage - Frating Road, Gt. Bromley

I was somewhat disturbed to see the Parish Council article relating to alleged disturbances at the above site, particularly as no-one has made any effort to contact us, as the site owners, direct. When I initially read the article I took the trouble to contact the Parish Council Contact, who was unable to speak to me, so I left my telephone number and a message requesting the opportunity to discuss whatever the problem may have been. To date, I have not received the courtesy of a reply. I have also had several of our immediate neighbours come to me with copies of the letter which has been sent out from the District Council asking for confirmation that they are a complainant and willing to act as a witness. These neighbours have assured me that they have no intention of complaining and are particularly annoyed that they were included on a list without either their consent or knowledge. I have also spoken to Mr Gary King at Tendring District Council who was responsible for sending these letters out, and he said that he was under the misapprehension that he was being approached by the Parish Council to take this action as a last step resort, because they had already taken a common sense approach by contacting us and after making their concerns known, nothing had been done. A little communication would have saved an awful of time and trouble. Over the last seventeen years that we have had ownership of the site, we have always tried to work with the local council when any problem has arisen. We are fully prepared to look into any alleged nuisance that might be caused by any of our tenants and will make every effort to minimise the problem. We must point out, however, that full planning permission exists for the site, which was granted in 1982 and a Section 52 agreement was taken out to cover the alter hours movements on and off the site and as the current usage is far less than it was ten years ago I would be surprised if this has been exceeded. I trust this will help clarify the situation. It is also worth remembering that the Bromley Road carries a considerable volume of commercial traffic these days, particularly for vehicles making their way to Harwich. This route could have been avoided completely if the council had listened to the arguments when the Harwich dual carriageway was built and made it possible to turn right to Harwich rather than come through the village.

1995 - 1999

Four years ago you gave me the privilege of acting as your District Councillor and now as I come to the end of my term as I shall not be seeking re-election I feel it only right and proper that I sign off by saying a big thank you for your support during that time. In four years there have been many changes in the working practices of the Council some of them worthwhile, others I am sure are there at the whim of the majority party which hopefully before too long will be revisited. One of the biggest changes has been that although we are part of a Rural Council alas at times it acts as anything but with a great misunderstanding of how a Rural Community sustains itself. From this came the biggest task of my tenure fending off the proposed developments at either end of the village and thanks to your efforts and voice of opinion behind me both Gt. Bromley and Lt. Bentley live to fight another day and unfortunately we will have to keep on our guard. On my election the majority of opinion wanted speed restrictions and weight restrictions. I am pleased to say I have two thirds success on this as only Lt. Bromley awaits its

speed restriction although I do have to say that there are a few who now wonder at the speed limits having been pulled over for a ticket. Oh dear!

As we approach a new term our Parish bails now have more say in planning matters under the Rural White Paper about to be published. It will give you, the local people, far more say in new developments - something I have always tried to put across when on the planning committee. After all we have to live with the consequences. It has given me immense pleasure to be able to instigate and assist in the housing and re-housing of families. To see a young child smile at his new home is a memory I shall long treasure. Finally may I say thank you to the Parish Councils for their support in often frustrating circumstances and I am afraid the biggest lesson I have learnt in four years is why Rome was not built in a day. It obviously had to go through official channels which sometimes seem to meander as if in a maze. *Councillor Nigel Rowe*

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

GT. BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Last month Tendring District Council gave Notice of Election of District and Parish councillors. Nominations were invited on Parish notice boards with details of how to stand for election and how to nominate anyone who wanted to stand. Nominations have now closed and there will not be a Poll in Gt. Bromley as only three nominations were received and our Parish has nine seats on its Council. The new Parish Council will have to co-opt people into these vacancies. If you would like to be considered please contact Mrs Sandra Shute. Clerk to the Parish Council, Mrs Val Harris, Chairman, or any other councillor. The work is not onerous and is unpaid. The Parish Council is made up of people from all sections of the community of differing ages who are interested in local affairs. The work is interesting and the meetings are usually lively. Full Parish Council meetings are held monthly at present but it is up to every parish council to determine the frequency and, to some extent, the workload. If you would like to know any more please ring me. Val Harris (01206 251691) The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held on 20th May in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

LT. BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Council met on 25th March, 1999. The planting of daffodil bulbs on grass verges has been costed and agreed (£3 per 10 kilos). It now has to be decided whether or not this purchase can be afforded. A letter from the auditors demanding money for unpaid fees was to be looked into. Council Elections - No further applications had been received to date. The present members agreed to continue in their present appointments. The subject of the Playing Field once again was much discussed but the meeting was told that nothing can be done until the discussion document from the Planners is received. It was also reported that the Neighbourhood Watch Signs have arrived. NOTE: The date of the Parish Assembly of Little Bromley Parish Council has been changed to 29th April.

The Great Bromley MILLENNIUM FUND

Our thanks to The Snooty Fox, The Cross Inn, the Women's Institute, the Bowls Club, the Youth Club, and the Playgroup for raising funds recently, we are truly grateful. Sadly the Poems and Pints Night had to be postponed until the Autumn. We are looking for anybody with enthusiasm and a little time to join the Millennium Committee (it's only for a year) to help with fund-raising. Contact Paul Bishop (231529)

CONTINENTAL CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST Sunday, 16th May In the Village Hall at 11.00am

Tickets £10 Adults £5 children includes 1 glass of Champagne & 1 glass of a Bucks Fizz Available from Linda Pinhey This breakfast is something not done before. It will be a fun morning with background music for your pleasure. Do support this if you can.

B.B.Q. and SWIM 7th August, 2-6.00pm Pytle Lodge, Colchester Road, Gt. Bromley .

FASHION SHOW 16th September In the Village Hall

RACE NIGHT 22nd October At the Village Hall Tickets £5 including a Ploughman's Supper

The EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES is looking for someone to be the Village Correspondent for Great and Little Bromley. If anybody is interested please contact Jane Berry at the East Anglian Daily Times on 01473 282248.

BARN OWLS

David Wilkin, Voluntary Adviser of the Barn Owl Conservation Network for the Hawk and Owl Trust would like to thank everyone who responded to him with sightings of Barn Owls. Information as to how to build nest boxes has been sent to those who enquired which he hopes will be of help to them and that their efforts will be rewarded.

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Committee of Management met on 20th March with Peter Wenden in the Chair. 10 members were present, two sent their apologies and one sent a letter of resignation. We accepted Frank Griffiths' resignation with regret appreciating that he had worked hard for the village hall, the Secretary being asked to write a letter of thanks. Planning permission for the Millennium lounge was expected to be achieved by the end of June. The hall piano had been tuned in early March and it was agreed for the emergency lighting batteries to be replaced. Hall hire charges for the summer months were reviewed and a small increase from 1st May was agreed. A splendid evening was had at the fund raising function in the hall on 26th March. Our thanks to all those involved in this top class village entertainment ably lead by Peter (Tina T) Wenden. We also thank our Women's Institute members who tended the garden area along the front of the hall on 22nd March. The Millennium Committee will be hosting a Champagne Breakfast in the hall on 16th May (Sunday). The Hall Committee next meet on Saturday, 1st May. You are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Great Bromley Village Hall Charity on Wednesday, 12th May commencing at 8.00pm in the Committee Room at the Hall. If you wish to put forward a person for the Committee, please send their name together with the names and addresses of the Proposer and Secunder to the Committee Secretary by 10th May. *Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

I would like to take this opportunity to I thank all those people who made the "Supper Evening" such a great success, especially to the ladies who worked so hard in organising and providing such a marvellous spread. To Bill Pirie for his excellent and entertaining After Dinner Speech and to those who took part in the Cabaret; also to everyone who came along to support this event which realised a magnificent profit of £1,554 for Village Hall Funds. Many thanks.

P Wenden (Chairman)

GT. BROMLEY HASSOCKS to MUNICH.

Munich's "Haus der Kunst", one of the most important art institutes in Germany, is dedicated to the presentation of 20th Century art, From 25th May until 20th June they have an exhibition on called "Repraesentatio" by the artist Christoph Brech. The project includes about 400 hassocks, in their original and unaltered condition, placed in rooms on the floor just as in churches of their origins and a selection of inscriptions found in English cemeteries, screenpainted on the walls of the exhibition room. The title "Repraesentatio" brings the hassocks, representing the community in the church and the quotations, representing the dead among the living, in a complex relationship: images of mortality and eternity, of presence and absence are evoked. 40 of our hassocks have been chosen and insured to be part of this exhibition, which is a great compliment to our community and those who made them. They will be packed and transported sometime alter 14th May and returned by 25th June. If anyone is planning to be in the Munich area during the exhibition and would like a ticket or more information the Churchwardens have a contact number and address.

FLOWER FESTIVAL 19th - 21st June

This year in the Church Meadow we are having a variety of craft and stalls. If anyone would like to contribute or help with any of the following please contact: Anne Fairley (01206 250229) - Cakes and Preserves Mary Hart (01206 230417) - Plants Heather Brown (01206 250349) - Refreshments (small cakes) Anyone who has a hidden talent and would like to show their Craft for one or two days contact Keith Hughes (01255 862544) We are restricting the number of pew ends at this year's Festival to 12 at £5.00. If you would like to book one in memory of a loved one contact Betty Rowe (01206 231067)



ESSEX POLICE CHOIR Friday, 18th June St. Georges Church, Gt. Bromley At 7.30pm
Tickets available at Adults £4 Children £1 From: John Appleby, James Wild , Gt. & Lt. Bromley

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL & ART EXHIBITION

19th-25th June, 1999 10.30am - 5.30pm

Theme: Gardens of Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

In aid of Church Funds and Village Millennium Fund

Saturday 19th June * Crafts, Stalls, Hand Bells

Sunday 20th June * Garden Open Day 11.00am - 5.00pm Map/tickets from church

* Crafts and Stalls

Monday 21st June * Flower Festival and Art Exhibition

REFRESHMENTS Entrance £1.00

Dear Parishioner.

By the time you are reading this the Annual Parochial Church meeting will have been and passed unnoticed I expect by most! That is alright because it is mainly an information sharing exercise for those interested in the life of the Church of England in the Bromleys. We will have elected two Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for a year, and two people to serve on Harwich Deanery Synod (the next stage on in the C of E's governing procedure) for three years. One of the items required at the meeting is the Rector's "state of the nation address" for the year 1998 and so here are some of the edited highlights!

In May three of our number, residents at Seven Rivers were confirmed in Chelmsford Cathedral at a wonderful celebration of our Christian life. Commitment, not a popular word these days, is a hall mark of the year in that what we have seen is a growth in numbers, in financial giving and in involvement in daily Christian life. Whether it be one of the two Saturday mornings we held doing a spring clean, or sitting in the dark early on Easter day awaiting the dawn, (which unlike this year we could actually see!) or enjoying the Parish Barbecue, climbing the tower, celebrating St. Georges Day and Harvest Thanksgiving with the school, or simply faithfully being in church, Sunday by Sunday, it all takes and shows a deepening level of commitment to the Christian life as experienced in the Bromleys. On the financial side of things the amounts of money received increased markedly, meaning we could pay around 50% of our share towards the running of the diocese and national church and provision of clergy. Whilst still on the Archdeacon's "hit list", it is an incredible achievement that all can be proud of. Numbers, money, successful events, whilst being important are not top of my priority list. What makes us a living church is how we are continuing to see Christ in each other and in our lives. Church is nothing if not Christ-centred and I think in 1998 we were. Alleluia! *Fr Nicolas*

On Sunday afternoon, 9th May, the church bells will ring for about half an hour to celebrate the family reunion of Mr Jack Dyer. On the sad death of his wife Sandy, Jack set about tracing his relatives and now they are having a get together. Jack has recently returned to bell ringing after a number of fallow years, and so this seems a fitting way to celebrate something good coming from sadness.

FLOWER ROTA May 2nd Vera Biddis 9th Heather Brown 16th Grace Gould 23rd/30th Wedding

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

This year has the theme "Living with Uncertainty". Last year your donations raised £150, which is an excellent amount. Thank you! Again you will find an envelope with this magazine and if you would like to make a donation please return the envelope to either the school or church or either Great or Little Bromley Post Office. Thank you. - *Fr. Nicolas*

Services for June

**ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR
GREAT BROMLEY**

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Services for May



Sunday 2nd		FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	9.30am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	11.00am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 9th		ROGATION SUNDAY	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.00am	Rogation Eucharist and blessings at Blyth Farm	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Thursday 13th		ASCENSION DAY	
	7.00pm	for the United Parishes at	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 16th		SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	9.30am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	11.00am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	7.00pm	Royal Hospital Band Concert	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 23rd		PENTECOST	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	9.30am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	11.00am	PARISH EUCHARIST and BAPTISM	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 30th		TRINITY SUNDAY	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	9.30am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	11.00am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>

Weekday Services as announced in the Parish Newsletter

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Since I last wrote there have been changes in the Mistley Police Section that took place on 26th April, 1999. As you may have read some time ago, Essex Police have been carrying out a review into the way rural areas are policed. This was brought about by the recent Crime and Disorder Act, which required Local Authority boundaries and police boundaries to be the same. As a result the Mistley Police Section lost the parishes of Dedham and Langham, which fall within Colchester Borough. Also the police offices at Gt. Bromley and Ardleigh have now closed. Myself and PC 1194 Pudney will now work from Mistley Police Station along with PC 351 Barber and PC 1257 Coley to form a new Community Policing Team, together with the response officers. Each parish will have a nominated and designated Police Officer from the Community Policing Team, but when that officer is unavailable any officer from the team will be able to assist. The designated officer for each parish is as follows:

Gt. Bromley, Lt. Bromley & Bradfield - PC Phillips

Wix & Ardleigh PC Pudney

Mistley, Manningtree & Lawford - PCs Barber and Coley

The telephone number for Mistley Police Station will remain 01206 392611, but there will also be a dedicated number for the Community Team - 01206 395555. This should only be used for Non Emergencies. There is a Call Minder Service on this number where messages can be left for any member of the team. The amended opening hours of the Mistley Police Station front office are 0800 - 0900 hours and 1900 - 2000 hours each day. On the crime front parts of the Mistley Section have been hit with a large number of thefts from motor vehicles and burglaries of garages and sheds. Most of the garages were insecure, so please make sure all your outbuildings are securely locked. *C. J. Phillips,*



Offers of help on Fete Day are urgently required and volunteers will be warmly welcomed - it doesn't have to be for the whole day!

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB NEWS

By the time of publication, the new cricket season should be well and truly underway. As mentioned in a previous Messenger article, the Cricket Club only has one eleven competing in the Osborne Garages league this season. This will be the 1st XI who will be playing in the first division under the command of newly appointed Captain Peter Brinkley. The 2nd XI still remains an important part of the Club despite its withdrawal from the league and after some hard work by 2nd XI Captain Matt Foley, a reduced fixture list has been created consisting of Friendly fixtures against local clubs.

The indoor season ended on a highly successful note as the Club retained the Knockout Trophy for the third consecutive year. No other team in the history of the Royal London Indoor Cricket League has achieved this level of success and the Club can be justifiably proud of their achievement. For the record, Gt. Bromley defeated Lloyds Bank in the final with Gt. Bromley's Fraser Eadie being nominated as the Man of the Match. The Club added this success to the Second Division Championship, which was won on the back of an undefeated run throughout the winter realising nine wins out of nine. Apologies In the last Messenger article, it soon became apparent that the author had made a couple of errors with regards to the surnames of some well-known individuals from in and around the village. My apologies to Messrs Perry and Christmas for this sleight of hand.

Date for the Diary: Please note - that this season's annual Chairman's Day lunch and Invitation Cricket Match will take place on Saturday, 26th June. As this will be the last Chairman's Day of the Millennium, it is hoped that we can enjoy some glorious sunshine for a change.

Forthcoming Fixtures

JUNE	Opponents	Venue	Start
Sat 5	Boxted	H	2.00pm
Sun 6	Bures	A	2.00pm
Sat 12	8 Ash Green	H	2.00pm
Sun 13	Col. & E.E. II	H	2.00pm
Sat 19	Chappel & W.C.	A	2.00pm
Sun 20	West Bergholt	A	2.00pm
Sat 26	Chairman's Day	H	Midday
Sun 27	Bacton	H	2.00pm

An additional fixture has also been arranged against a touring side from Nottinghamshire. The opposition is the Retford branch of the NFU who will be playing against a Gt. Bromley XI in an evening match on Tuesday 8th June. The match will start at 6.00pm and will be 20 overs a side. The following people are the lucky winners for March and April's draw of the Cricket Club's 100 Club.

	March	Win	April
1st	Katherine Foley	£25	J Austin
2nd	Mrs N Kempster	£15	Mr R Prior
3rd	Lynda Allam	£10	Mr F Eadie

This completes the draws for the 98-99 100 Club. As organiser and on behalf of the Cricket Club, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who was a member for the last 12 months. The club is extremely grateful for your support. *Fraser Eadie*

ST. HELENA HOSPICE BARNCROFT CLOSE, HIGHWOODS, COLCHESTER CO4 45F

VOLUNTARY SERVICES Do you have any spare time? Does being a member of a team appeal to you? Would you like to be part of a caring organisation? Would you like to make new friends? If you can answer YES to these questions, why not consider joining our team of volunteers. We have a wide variety of roles for volunteer staff, some which do and some which do not require direct patient contact. Volunteer work is available evenings and at weekends as well as during the week, so if you can spare approx. 4 hours weekly or fortnightly and would like to be involved, please contact the Voluntary Service Department for more details on 01206 845566 during office hours, Monday-Friday- Listed below are just a few areas where help is needed:-

- Making teas and helping in the kitchen area, particularly during the evenings 5.00-9.00pm and at weekends 4 hours between 9.00am-9.00pm.
- Qualified volunteers to massage patients - times to be agreed
- Fit, able gardeners available on a Tuesday morning
- Hairdressers, 2 hours a morning weekly or fortnightly - all materials supplied
- Owner drivers during the day to drive patients to and from the Day Centre or on a Monday evening once a month.

FOR SALE: Bendix Washing Machine £40; A single bed with white headboard £60; Ladies double wardrobe with long glass mirror £80; Gentleman's wardrobe, single with draws £50; Kitchen table with two chairs, blue check £30; Folding lounge table with 2 folding leaves £30 needs varnishing. Please ring Evenings on 01206 231659 if interested.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB SPRING SALE

The weather was not kind to us but we had a very successful sale due to our SUPPORTERS who braved the elements, the DONATIONS we received and not forgetting all the HELPERS to whom we send our heartfelt THANKS for their wonderful efforts to ensure the Club can continue for another year. At our June meeting we have Mr Bendall, the Gamekeeper, to talk to us and the competition is A FRIDGE MAGNET. *Vicky Griffiths*

CARPET BOWLS

We set off for Braintree around 8am on Sunday, 9th May fully aware that it was going to be a tough day. Six regional winners were competing for the Essex Championship. Games of fours and pairs were played as in the league matches making a total of 20 games of 9 ends for each club. By the end of a long, tiring day, after making a good start and having some encouraging results, we gradually faded and finished with two other clubs in joint 4th place. High Easter took the Championship Shield for the third year running with Langham runners-up and Chelmer Village third. Our Captain, Ron Copp, was presented with the Eastern Region Shield which we won over the winter, and also an individual medal for each team member. A very enjoyable day - everyone felt it was an honour to get to that stage and were happy with our performance. It was a great experience. Club evenings are still held on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. Anyone wishing to join us please feel welcome. - *Nancy Kempster*

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION STOUR VALLEY BRANCH

On 23rd April, 1999 a new branch of the GDBA was formed. Your village is included in this area and we would welcome new members and anyone willing to help this worthwhile charity. If you are interested please contact one of the following people:-
Marjorie Culham, Myrtle Horlock, Rhoda Crisp

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Last month, with the help of Mrs Shelia Gunson, our VCO for the evening, we discussed this year's Resolutions. Our views go forward as guidance to our representative, from Wivenhoe WI, as to how to vote at the National Federation of Women's Institutes Intermediate General Meeting. This is being held on 2nd June in the Royal Albert Hall this year. In June we have our Members' Meeting when members organise the meeting giving the President and her Committee a well deserved break. Just a couple of reminders to members - if you know of anyone who could be a potential member please bring them along. They will be very welcome, also don't forget items for the Auction. - *June Willgress*

SHAME

The Guide Association with its guides and brownies is still a wonderful organisation. It fosters sharing, team spirit, individual thinking and self-confidence. It helps girls to learn new skills and provides challenges to achieve new aims. All in an evening and without their realising they are doing it - with fun. What a shame it is that Guides has closed. According to the rules of the Guide Association Jacquie had to retire and nobody came forward to take over. Where are the guides to go? Where are the brownies to go when they are ready to move on? There is Ardleigh, Dedham, Lawford and Bradfield in our District but it is not the same as our "own" unit. Also in July 2000 I shall be leaving. Having been Brown Owl since 1989 I feel it is time for someone else to take over. Are you going to let brownies close also? I have in our pack 16 lively, cheerful and enthusiastic girls with a waiting list of girls just waiting for the magic age of 7 to be old enough to join. We meet on a Thursday but that is only because when I started that evening was convenient to me. Please think about becoming a Leader. Yes it takes up a certain amount of time, yes it is hard work and yes it is very satisfying and yes it is also fun. Help, training and always lots of support is given by the District and beyond as well as ex-Guiders and friends in the village. It is not too late to re-open Guides and it is never too late to come forward as a Leader. L.H.

Playgroup

This year we are holding a car boot sale to raise funds for playgroup. Please come along and support us.

LATE RISERS CAR BOOT SALE At THE SNOOTY FOX

Frating Road, Gt. Bromley Sunday 6th June Cars £6 FREE PARKING Face Painting Cake Stall

For any information about playgroup please contact our secretary, Carolyn Prince, on 01206 251858 who will be pleased to help. Toddler Group is held on Wednesday mornings, just come along - your first visit is free. Dates for your diary: Mon 7 June Playgroup returns after half term Wed 9 June Toddler Group returns Thurs 15 July Last day of term Mon 13 Sept Playgroup returns after Summer holiday.

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

FORTHCOMING PTA EVENTS [As last month]

£15,000 Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has donated to this Appeal - approximately £1,000 has been raised so far. If you would like to donate to our appeal which will provide new washroom facilities and improve the security in the school, please send a cheque payable to St. George's School Fund direct to the school. For more information do not hesitate to contact either Nigel Rowe or Nicky Robinson.

SPORT The netball and football season came to a close with the Small School Cluster Rallies.

Unfortunately we weren't able to win back the netball trophy but both teams did very well.

Thank you to Sue, Julie, Nicky, Nigel, Kevin and Clive who help coach these teams and now it's time to start training for Rounders and Scatterball!

TABLE TOP SALE Our recent sale raised £200. Thank you to everyone who helped.

MILLENNIUM FUND

Thank you every body who supported the Champagne Breakfast and who made it such a success. We raised approximately £400. [Other events as last month]

THANKS On behalf of Vera Biddis, Heather Brown, Betty Rowe and Ann Wild, I would like to thank all those people who made the recent Flower Arranging Demonstration such a great success. Thanks to all who made cakes etc, and gave plants for the sales tables, helped with food and drink and staging. We are particularly grateful to those who supported us and the generosity of those who were unable to attend the second sitting! Despite inconvenience caused, through your generosity and the generosity of Robin White, a magnificent profit of £1,060.66p for the general running costs of St. Georges Church was made. Many thanks, *June Wenden*

DIARY

25 May-20 Jun Gt. Bromley Church hassocks to Munich

Cricket Club - entry for details

5 June Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, 10.00am, Village Hall

6 June Playgroup Car Boot Sale, The Snooty Fox, 10.00am

15 June Copy for July edition of Messenger to Editor, please

17 June Lt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Church, 7.30pm

18 June Essex Police Choir, St. Georges Church, 7.30pm

19-21 June Flower Festival, St. Georges Church

26 June PTA Barn Dance, Park Farm, 8.00pm

17 July Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Fete, Noon

18 July PTA Family Fun Day, 3.00pm, School

7 Aug BBQ. and Swim, Pytle Lodge, 12-6.00pm

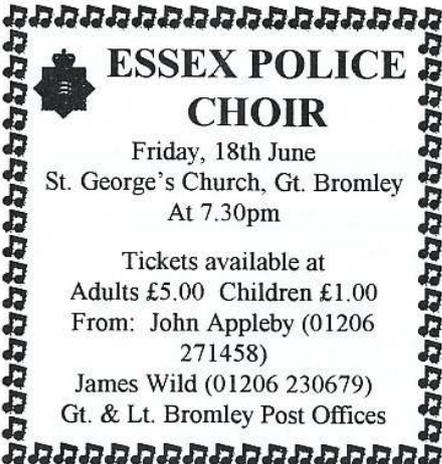
16 Sept Fashion Show, Village Hall

2 Oct The Fab Four band - PTA event, Village Hall

11 Oct Race Night, Village Hall

31 Dec New Years Eve Masked Ball, Village Hall, 8.00pm

12-15 Jan Gt. Bromley Pantomime - Aladdin



**ESSEX POLICE
CHOIR**

Friday, 18th June
St. George's Church, Gt. Bromley
At 7.30pm

Tickets available at
Adults £5.00 Children £1.00
From: John Appleby (01206
271458)
James Wild (01206 230679)
Gt. & Lt. Bromley Post Offices

GARDENERS CORNER for JUNE

ALL BEDDING PLANTS should now be planted out.

SWEET PEAS: Should start to flower this month. If you want a long season of flowering do not let them go to seed - pick off the seed as soon as they start to form and do not let the soil dry out as this will cause bud drop. HYDRANGEA: Take cuttings this month - cut below a leaf joint and leave two pairs of leaves on, dip in hormone powder to assist the cutting to root. Plant in a mixture of sand and peat. Another method is to put the cuttings in a jar of water with the ends of the cutting just below the surface of the water. FUCHSIA: June is a good month to take cuttings - about 3" long - cut below a leaf joint, these also root very easily in water.

TOMATOES: If they show signs of yellowing of the leaves

spray with EPSOM SALTS - 2. ounces to a gallon of water. VEGETABLES: Most can be planted out this month including MARROWS and the CABBAGE family. It looks as if we may have a warm Summer (we hope!) so keep the watering can handy as it is the kiss of death if vegetables dry out - *Frank Griffiths*

LEONARD CHESHIRE
SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE
HOME 

Is there a kind, artistic volunteer who would be prepared to help our residents with their Art/Painting for a couple of hours on a Monday morning? Please telephone the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home on 01206 230345 if you are able to assist.

From: GORDON JESSOP O.B.E., Councillor for Tendring Rural West

Following the retirement of Nigel Rowe as your Tendring District Councillor, may I express my thanks and appreciation for the support given in electing me as your new representative. I am conscious of the responsibilities involved which I intend to conscientiously undertake; as my first duty is to the whole of the community. and in particular to the Parishes of Gt. And Lt. Bromley and Lt. Bentley I now represent. So if there is anyone who wishes to speak about a problem involving the Council please contact me - Tel: 01206 252222 - and I shall do my best to help.

DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS I am already concerned to find that legislative proposals are under consideration for substantial local government re-organisation which could have a far reaching effect. The proposals involve such matters as a directly elected Mayor with an appointed Cabinet of not more than 10 members, or a Leader with a Cabinet, or a Mayor with a Council Manager. Councillors would make proposals to whichever form is decided upon. The Government have asked the Council for their initial response to the proposals by 21st May. Whilst I consider it important to always be open to new ideas and forward looking, I am apprehensive that when proposals for executive decision extend well beyond the present high level, democracy can be the loser. - *Gordon Jessop OBE*

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Committee met on Saturday 1st May with Peter Wenden as Chairman and eight Members present; apologies being received from a further four. Members heard that a meeting to try and progress the main hall floor insurance claim would be held on 11th May, they also agreed that water saver "Hippos" were to be fitted in the toilets to reduce the water usage together with the main hall lights being given new starters. Thanks were expressed to Mr and Mrs Petchey for the gift of a new clock for the main hall. The Annual General Meeting of the Charity was held on Wednesday 12th May with 10 members and five public persons present, with apologies from two other members. Peter Wenden took the Chair. The meeting was sorry to hear that Robert Harding felt unable to stand for re-election, having served the Charity so well for several years. We wished him well. Thanks were expressed to the Committee, the Hon. Auditor Mr Simons and to all those people who have supported the Village Hall Charity in any way throughout the year. The Hall was adjudged to have had a satisfactory year although much needs to be done to maintain and improve facilities.

We welcomed two new people as members to make a Committee of 13 Trustees. Carol Cordwell, Martin Frostick, Pat Petchey, Peter Wenden and June Willgress being elected members: Linda Allam, Simon Baines, Vera Biddis, Gill Christmas, Beryl Hurst, Nigel Rowe and Jean Wright are representative members, together with Bevan Willgress who was co-opted. Peter Wenden was re-elected Chairman, with Linda Allam as Treasurer and Bevan Willgress as Secretary for the ensuing year. The new Committee will first meet on Saturday, 5th June at 10.00am in the Hall.
Bevan Willgress, Secretary.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL A meeting of the Parish Council was held on 11 May, 1999. Major James Heaney has been elected as Chairman and Mr Simon Baines is the Vice-chairman. As there are still some vacancies for Parish Councillors it is hoped that the Parish Council will be in a position to fill all the vacant posts by co-option at the next meeting.

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

R & D Kynaston. Erect Dutch barn, Hazels Farm, Carrington Road. There were no objections to this application.

Mr & Mrs Bennett. Erection of replacement dwelling - Detail only. There were no objections to this application.

Mr J Marshall. Kitchen/Diner extension and garage. 1 Chase Road. There were no objections to this application.

Mr F Mijangos. Satellite dish. 25 Ransom Court, Chase Road. There were no objections to this application.

Bentley Developments. Two storey extension. Jasmine Lodge, Frating Road. There were no objections to this application.

Mrs M Neal. Rear extension. Everest, Ardleigh Road. There were no objections to this application.

Mrs M Durrell. Bungalow - land to front of 19-25 Ransom Court.

The Parish Council have considerable reservations of the suitability of this development on this site. The dwelling is out of character with the surrounding properties and is too near the road.

Crossways Garage - Frating Road A questionnaire has been sent out by Tendring District Council to gauge the problems arising from the activities being carried out at the garage.

Village Sign All work is now complete

Hare Green Recreation Ground Essex Grounds Services have been contracted to cut the grass at Hare Green during the 1999 growing season. Grass cutting during April proved very difficult due to the very wet conditions but now the ground has dried, grass cutting has commenced. The new goal posts will be installed in the very near future.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 17th June at the Methodist Chapel at 7.30pm.

BROMLEY MESSENGER

Statement of Accounts

	1998/99	1997/98
	£	£
<u>Income</u>		
Carried forward	52.58	248.63
Creditors	0.00	0.00
Donations	137.10	93.08
Advertisements	561.00	257.00
Sponsorship	995.00	741.00
Interest	7.71	7.46
Debtors	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total	1,753.29	1,347.17
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Printing	1,473.92	1,273.76
Postage	12.00	6.00
Expenses	47.23	14.83
Debtors	0.00	0.00
(Loss)/Gain	<u>279.37</u>	<u>52.58</u>
Total	1,753.29	1,347.17
Honorary Treasurer		
L.B. Christodoulides MBE		9 April 1999

Report: I thank all our sponsors for their continuing support, which still brings in the majority of the funds. We made a gain this year mainly due to the bi-increase in advertisements, and at mid year, when we were having a cash flow problem, the Parish Council gave us an extra £250. The increase in expenses and postage is due to some being left over from the previous financial year, which was seen to be down on that previously recorded. Overall the expenses are minimal. Thanks again go to our Editor, Leonie, who has now some new software, for the great effort she puts in producing the Messenger, but has still not managed to win that elusive Village Magazine Competition which we religiously enter every year and attend the presentation ceremony. A big thanks to Ann Fairley together with all the delivery people for their always timely work in getting the Magazine to our houses. Thanks finally to all the people who write the articles and reports for their contributions. However as I almost learnt from bitter experience when Leonie nearly went away on holiday, try to get the copy to her early and not leave it to the last minute. If anyone has any questions about these figures please let me know, and I will do my best to answer them.

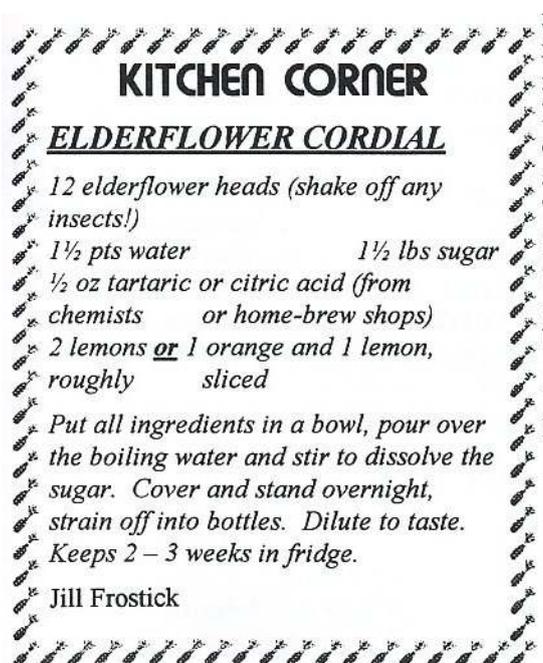
GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

The A.G.M. of the above Group was held in the Village hall Committee Room on 12th May. Elected Chairman, N. Rowe, welcomed Mrs West to present the £1,100 cheque to Mr Curtis Orin, Hamilton Lodge Manager, who received it with grateful thanks. Our willing Committee was elected *en bloc* with the addition of M Gaffney and we have a Wardrobe Mistress - thank you, J Gillibrand. Production year "2000" 12th - 15th January is Aladdin. Let us see the LAMP shine at its best as a tribute to our late Chairman, Stan, who devoted so much time and talent to the Group. Our thanks also to the public for their support. - *Secretary*

Dear Parishioner, Recently the Dalai Lama has been visiting England. As spiritual leader of the Buddhists, and temporal leader of Tibet, he had a varied number of things to say. Heightening awareness of the plight of the Tibetan people and their culture is one of his aims. Deepening the spirituality of all people is another. So many were surprised to hear him discouraging conversions to Buddhism. The way to peace on earth, and after, is in conversion of heart and life. So each person's starting point should be of their own culture and heritage. The call was to become faithful Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Christians, Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists and so on. For those who have strayed from their Christian roots, it can be an exciting path of re-discovery and spiritual enlightenment to look afresh at what the Church has to offer. To realise that Christianity is a life of peace, joy, gentleness, patience, kindness, love, self-control, goodness and faithfulness is often a relief when we have memories of negatives, boredom and life-denying ways some of us were brought up with. To find in Christianity an awareness of self, of neighbour and of God within a framework of quiet contemplation can be a surprise and a relief. To discover that being part of a Christian community can fill voids in our lives, and give new meanings to our relationships and actions can be a deep source of blessing. This month we continue to celebrate with eight of our number who have recently been confirmed in their faith journeys and admitted to receive Holy Communion. We all have choices. Life choices which determine all sorts of things for us and for our society. If it takes a Tibetan monk in exile to help us to see those choices and encourage us to make a deeper commitment to self, neighbour and God, then praise be! Amen
Fr. Nicolas

FLOWER ROTA June 7th Wedding flowers 13th Wedding flowers 20th Flower Festival 27th Flower Festival flowers

KITCHEN CORNER



KITCHEN CORNER

ELDERFLOWER CORDIAL

12 elderflower heads (shake off any insects!)

1½ pts water 1½ lbs sugar

½ oz tartaric or citric acid (from chemists or home-brew shops)

2 lemons or 1 orange and 1 lemon, roughly sliced

Put all ingredients in a bowl, pour over the boiling water and stir to dissolve the sugar. Cover and stand overnight, strain off into bottles. Dilute to taste. Keeps 2 - 3 weeks in fridge.

Jill Frostick

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



Services for June

Sunday 6th	TRINITY 1	
7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
8.30am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
9.30am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
11.00am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 13th	TRINITY 2	
7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
9.30am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
11.00am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 20th	TRINITY 3	
7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
9.30am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
11.00am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	and BAPTISM	
6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 27th	TRINITY 4	
7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
9.30am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	and BAPTISM	
11.00am	PARISH EUCHARIST	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

Weekday Services as announced in the Parish Newsletter

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, GT. BROMLEY

COFFEE MAKING

AFTER 9.30AM Service



A Fairley	6 June
B Welham	13 June
J Harding	20 June
A Wild	27 June

CLEANING

O Sparling
A Wild & R Roberts
H Brown & S Rampling
B & J Welham

The Bromley Messenger July 1999

ARE COMPUTERS THE MAIN PROBLEM?

Men think computers should be referred to as females, just like ships, because:

1. No-one understands their internal logic
2. The language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else
3. The message "Bad command or file name", is about as informative as "If you don't know why I am mad at you, I'm certainly not going to tell you"
4. Your smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory for later retrieval
5. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your salary on accessories for it.

Women think computers should be referred to as male. Here's why:

1. They have lots of dates but they are still clue-less
2. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they are the problem
3. As soon as you commit to one, you realise that if you had waited a little longer you could have obtained a better model
4. In order to get their attention you have to turn them on
5. A big power surge will knock them out for the rest of the night.

ONE FOR THE MASTER, ONE FOR THE DAME and more

Susannah Stevens of Great Bromley must have been grateful to her master and mistress as she left the former a bullock in consideration of his charges and the other her best hat. To Elizabeth Steven she bequeathed her gown and one neckerchief. To Mary Steven came her best petticoat, one neckerchief, four porringers, a dozen spoons and a hutch. To Audrey Steven she left her other two petticoats, a waistcoat and her old hat. Her dictated will was undated but witnessed by William Pecksaull, Elizabeth Steven and Mary Steven. *John Appleby*

[Sponsor:] N. B. & D. M. SMITH - Oil fired boiler heating maintenance service.
'Sandown', 37 Wivenhoe Road, Alresford

THE COLCHESTER COUNTRY FESTIVAL

Sat 3rd & Sun 4th July at Home Farm, Clacton Road, Elmstead Market

Adults - £4 Children & Concessions £2.00

Times: Festival 10.00am - 5.00pm Country Music Event 6.00pm - 11.00pm

James Dylan's Stunt World - Traction Engines - Fun Fair - Classic Car Show - Craft Show

SGRfm Road Show (Saturday only) plus lots more in 2 days of non-stop entertainment

Presented by The Rotary Club of Brightlingsea and District.

Saturday Evening, Colchester's Premier Outdoor Dance and Country Music Event, Music by Kane & Co. and Ramblin Fever with Amber Radio's Nigel Rennie as Compere

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE On 11th September there is going to be a Sponsored Cycle Ride. You can start from wherever you like but the aim is to visit as many churches and chapels as you can. Refreshments are often available at the churches. If you would like more information or a sponsor form phone Nicky Robinson on 01206 230229.

THEFT OF THE FLOWERS

It has come to the attention of the Police and the Parish Council that seven of the flower tubs placed around the village have been stolen. These were stolen during broad daylight on Tuesday, 8th June. Ardleigh Parish Council have suffered a similar loss at the same time. If anybody can recall seeing any vehicles around the Village hall or School area would they please contact P.C. Phillips.

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Committee met on Saturday, 5th June with Peter Wenden as Chairman and 11 Members present, apologies being received from a further two. This being the first meeting of the new committee, we were pleased to welcome two fresh persons, Carol Cordwell and Martin Frostick. Committee members were told that a meeting had been held to try and progress the main hall floor insurance claim and to discuss the Hall alterations. Funding for the hall was

reviewed and hire charges for the forthcoming winter rate were agreed. Members were also pleased to hear of a possible additional regular booking. Outside repairs to the Hall together with repainting is also becoming a priority. It is sad to report that the flower tubs placed outside the Hall have been stolen together with others in the village. The next meeting of the Committee will be on Tuesday, 20th July at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. - *Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

TENDRING SHOW Saturday, 10th July At Lawford, Near Manningtree

As usual, there will be a CHURCH STAND with refreshments, a bookstall, a place to sit down and feeding and changing facilities for families with young children, provided by The Mothers Union. DO VISIT US . **EVE OF SHOW SERVICE** will take place at the show ground at 7.00pm An ecumenical service on the theme of "WATER" (The show's theme this year) Do join us for this act of worship - everyone welcome, from any area of denomination. THANK YOU to those churches who so kindly support the Church Stand financially. It is an important part of church outreach in the area.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We all enjoyed our Members meeting last month, including one guest. A quiz was held with those attending allocated to one of five tables identified by colours. The winners were the Brown table, a Raffle was then drawn and refreshments taken, followed by an Auction. This was all very enjoyable, Jill Frostick being a very able auctioneer. Our stall at the Hamilton Lodge Fete made a profit of £84.44. We thank everyone who contributed towards making a very successful effort once again. This month our meeting will be held on Wednesday, 7th July in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. Our speaker is Tricia Hughes who is to tell us about Cake Decorating. Visitors are always made welcome, so don't be shy about coming along! *June Willgress*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our next meeting - 15th July - we will have Mr Padwick to talk to us on IVOR NOVELLO with music on tapes. The Competition is a SOUVENIR SPOON. Our Mystery Tour on 10th June had a running commentary by our driver who pointed out places of interest - especially the farm where the "loo" was on the other side of the road; something which does not bear thinking of during winter nights! Now no longer in use! *Vicky Griffiths*

GARDENERS CORNER for JULY

To prolong the flowering of ROSES etc., take off the dead flowers regularly. CHRYSANTHEMUMS can now be stopped in mid-July. This will give you flowers at Christmas - disbudding needs to be done every few days. WISTERIA can be lightly pruned this month, just cut back to a leaf joint on a third of all new growth. NEW POTATOES for CHRISTMAS?? Yes, it is possible if you plant a potato in a large pot or bucket NOW - keep well water. *Frank Griffiths*

DIARY of EVENTS

JULY

3rd & 4th Colchester Country Festival, Home Farm, Elmstead Market

10th Tendring Show, Lawford

7th Women's Institute meeting, Village hall, 7.30pm

15th Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm

17th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Fete, Noon

18th PTA Family Fun Day, St. George's School, 3.00pm

18th Guides Barbecue, The Nook, Colchester Rd, 3.00pm

20th Copy for August 'Messenger to Editor, please

20th Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

22nd Lt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist. Chapel, 7.30pm

AUGUST

7th BBQ. and Swim, Pightle Lodge, 12-60pm

SEPTEMBER 11th Sponsored Cycle Ride, 16th Fashion Show, Village Hall

OCTOBER 2nd The Fab Four, band - PTA event, Village Hall. 11th Race Night, Village Hall

DECEMBER 31st New Year's Eve Masked Ball, Village Hall, 8.00pm

JANUARY 2000

12th - 15th Gt. Bromley Pantomime Group - Aladdin

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 22nd July in the Methodist Chapel at 7.30pm

**CONSERVATIVE
SUMMER
SUPPER**
At Park Farm
Saturday, 14th August
At 7.30pm

Tickets
£7.50
from Henry
Fairley



**Carolyn's School of
Dance** are opening a
new class in Gt.
Bromley Village hall
on Friday nights 7 – 8 pm for all
ages from 6 –66! Come along and
see how much fun is had. For
more information phone Lynne on
01206 271379.

KITCHEN CORNER

STRAWBERRY PUDDING

Pkt sponge fingers 1 lb strawberries Castor sugar

For the Creme a l'anglaise 1/2 pt milk 3 eggs 2 tablesp sugar 1/2 teaSp vanilla

Meringue 2 eggs whites 2 tablesp castor sugar

Halve the berries and leave to stand sprinkled with sugar. Make the egg custard (a little cornflour added helps to prevent it from curdling). Make sure you whisk well and do not allow to boil. Butter an oven proof dish, put in a layer of sponge fingers, then strawberries, and pour over the creme a l'anglaise. Make the meringue and pile on top. Bake in a woven for 1 hour. Serve warm or cold
Jill Frostick

PLAYGROUP

Summertime is always a fun time at playgroup. With the better weather we are able to use our outdoor play area more and we also have our Summer Outing to look forward to, this year we are visiting the Zoo. Our alphabet theme continues this term. The week that covered P, we went for a PICNIC IN THE PARK at Hare Green playing field. S was for SIREN and we were treated to a visit from PC. Phillips with his police car and also the St. Johns Ambulance. The children really enjoyed this - a big thank you to you both

Despite the rather wet weather, our car boot sale held on 6th June raised £127.44. A very big thank you to Dennis and Sue at the Snooty Fox for providing the venue. Thank you also to everyone who helped and supported us on the day. Please contact our secretary, Carolyn Prince, on 01206 251858, if you would like any further information about playgroup. Toddler Group is held on Wednesday mornings. It is informal and friendly, just come along - your first visit is free. Dates for your diary:

15 July - Last day of Summer term 13 Sept - Playgroup returns after Summer holiday

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

FORTHCOMING PTA EVENTS

FAMILY FUN DAY Sunday, 18th July 3.00pm at the School £5 family ticket or £1.50 per person
Bring your own meat and drink - salads & BBQ provided

“THE FAB FOUR” live band at the Village Hall, Gt. Bromley Saturday, 2nd October Tickets £5.00
School Sports Day - Tuesday, 6th July. Last Day of Term - Friday, 23rd July

£15,000 Appeal A few more cheques have come in from The Black Boy Public House, Abbots Estate Agents, Nicholas Percival, Bentley Contracts, Maynard Heady Accountants and Nevill Developments. Thank you to all those who have donated, every little bit helps. Terry Marshall from The Black Boy holds a lottery every Saturday night and all the profit from this goes back into the village. He has donated £2,500 over the last 5 years to village charities and was delighted to be able to help the school. If you would like to donate to our appeal which will provide new washroom facilities and improve the security in the school, please send a cheque payable to “St. George's School Fund” direct to the school. For more information do not hesitate to contact either Nigel Rowe or Nicky Robinson.

ST, GEORGE'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL, GT. BROMLEY - SELF HELP

You will no doubt be aware that from this year all Schools will be totally responsible for their financial budgets? This means that Essex County council (ECC) allocates a sum of money based on a head count of pupils attending the School. This money has to pay for teachers and other staff salaries, including extra curricula, stationery, equipment, maintenance of the buildings and premises, etc. The budget is less than that indicated by the ECC for previous years. In order to meet this requirement, various actions will have to be taken to keep the costs within budget. Some of these measures are already in hand, but leave no room for any significant additions or major repairs. The governors of the School are therefore looking to see if there are any readers (parents will already have received a similar letter) who would be willing to offer their services, either on a one off or on an on-going commitment to assist in some of the activities listed below. The School will provide the materials/equipment, once the action has been agreed. If you think you will be able to help, please contact me, Len Christodoulides - School Governor in the first instance, so that I can co-ordinate the different [offers].

Area	Activity	1 = one off 2 = on going
Gardening	Flower beds	1 & 2
	Grass cutting	2
	Hedge cutting	2
Building	Paint Oil Tank	1
	Paint Shed	1
	Internal Painting	2
	External painting	2
	Pointing brickwork	1 & 2
	Bricklaying	1
	Carpentry	2
	Roofing tiles	1 & 2
	Damp proofing	1
	Electrics	Appliance testing
General replacement e.g. switch		2
Boiler Maintenance		2
Glazing	Replacing broken glass	2
Plumbing	Blocked drains	1
	Repairs	1 & 2
General	Odd jobs	1 & 2

GUIDES

Our thanks to the new owners of our Guide and Brownie hut for allowing us to continue. There is no place like home. I'm sure that someone has been giving serious consideration to becoming the new Guide leader - remember, the night can always be changed to suit you. I have had years of laughter and enjoyment and learnt new skills as well as making many friends around the country, all through Guiding. It really is great. There will be a barbecue at The Nook, 18th July 300 - 6.00 pm to give us a chance to say Thank You to all who have been Guides, Brownies, Badge testers, Helpers, and Parents/chauffeurs during our 21 years. We ask that you let us know beforehand please, or the catering might be up the creek. We really look forward to seeing you there. *Jacquie, John and Els*

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND STOUR VALLEY BRANCH

The branch had a most successful afternoon at the Bradfield Car Boot sale when £40 was raised for funds. On 24th and 25th July at the West Bergholt Vehicle Show the branch will be manning a stall for local funds. This starts each day at 10.00am so why not treat yourself to a day out and look in at the stall for the Guide Dogs. On 18th September at the Ogilvie Hall, Lawford there is to be a Quiz Night starting at 7.30pm with each team having a maximum of six members. Please bring your own drinks. The cost is £2.50 each including supper. There will be prizes and a raffle. Please book your team by ringing one of the following: Marjorie Culham, Myrtle Horlock or Rhoda Crisp. 3rd October sees the Church Service at Lawford Church to celebrate the work of the Guide Dog. This is an afternoon service with refreshments afterwards and everyone will be most welcome. We are still looking for people to serve on the committee. If you do not feel you can do this any kind of help would be appreciated at any event. Please ring one of the above members and have a chat.

MESSAGE from BISHOP EDWARD

The word "Millennium" could become a great turn-off, but at Pentecost in Colchester we took our first Millennium-step as Churches Together. I believe it could be a very important one that could speak to all of us. Clergy and representatives of all denominations and churches gathered at the remains of the first-century Roman church, which is possibly the earliest Christian site in the country, and there we made an act of repentance and reconciliation.

In Colchester, throughout the years of the Reformation and later, there was much persecution of Christian by Christian and, in a strange way, this competitiveness, this unchurched of others, is still a feature of inter-church life in the town, and it harms our life and work - Jesus Christ told his followers to love one another as he has loved us. So we believe that if we are to enter the third Millennium in a way that is creative, we need to clear the decks of this history of mutual animosity and lack of love and make a fresh start together. As St. John said, "How can we say we love God when we hate our brother and sister?" and hating involves not only burning people but also disregarding them. I believe that what we have done is a very positive thing in order that when we get to the 1st January, 2000 we are in a condition for a new beginning. Of course, it is something that needs to affect our hearts and our future lives as well as being an act we perform together now. Repentance was the keynote of John the Baptist's preaching, and of Peter's preaching at the first Pentecost. It is a pre-condition for God's work to begin and to be carried through. Nothing much can happen if we are not realistic about our own needs for forgiveness and for reconciliation as the people of God. Renewing the church is an essential first step if we are to contribute to renewing the world. The actual date of the Millennium is neither here nor there, it has no more significance than we choose to give it, but it would be a bit of a tragedy if the world gives it a bogus significance and we fail to draw out of it the opportunity for a new beginning that is offered to us by the connection with the birth of Jesus Christ.

We must beware of being triumphalist about the past or naively hopeful about the future. Repentance, reconciliation and new commitment seem to me to hit exactly the right note.

Edward Colchester

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

FLOWER ROTA

July 4th Mary Bush 11th Annie Clarkson-Webb 18th Wedding 25th Wedding flowers

COFFEE MAKING

after 9.30am Service

P Hughes	4th July
A Fairley	11th
B Welham	18th
A Wild	25th
P Hughes	31st

CLEANING

P Greenfield & M Bush
O Sparling
A Wild & J Harding
H Brown & S Rampling
B & J Welham

Dear Parishioner,

I'm told that certain national newspapers have been running articles saying that Church going is the new fashion! Whilst I can't say that I've noticed many on a Sunday presenting themselves as a fashion statement, it's an interesting thought. There have always been churches where some go to be seen and to see, but I've never been called to serve in them or felt like worshipping alongside them. Few who know me would say that I'm known for my fashion consciousness, but then it is risky analysing the motivations or reasons behind causing any of us worshipping God Sunday by Sunday, day by day.

At the moment in Church and in the Housechurches (small groups that are meeting at different times during the week in people's homes) our focus for discussion, thought and prayer is "Lifestyle Choices - What's yours?" Working on the basis that all of us make choices and have the capacity to say yes or no, we are concentrating on what difference it makes calling ourselves Christians. Believing that the world we inhabit was created and is sustained by God; a belief in Jesus Christ as more than merely a historical figure, but as God made man; a belief that through the Holy Spirit, God gives life to those who call upon his name. From these three flow desires to meet regularly with others who are attempting to live Christian lives, to show compassion to those in need, to share experiences of forgiveness and love amongst all people.

How the local Christian community expresses these desires varies. Here I am trying to show that the Church, by which I mean the building and the congregation, are there to serve. An Archbishop once said that the Church is one of the few institutions that exists primarily for those who aren't its members. Keeping the building open as a place for quiet for all. Seeking to encourage and enable the congregation to play an active part in life, through times of prayer and through more obvious active ways lies at the base of a Christian lifestyle. Practically everyone has something to offer, something to share, something to respond with to God and others. Finance plays its part, but I believe that will follow on from other offerings. At a recent Church Council meeting it was decided to pledge paying 100% this year of our contribution to the life of the diocese and wider church. Our share this year is just over £10,000 and at the moment the monthly contributions of the congregation fall short of our expenditure, so there is a reliance upon fund-raising and other donations. Honouring our pledge will take work, commitment and faith and may involve in the end using money saved in previous years, but it will happen, and is something we can rejoice in. May God continue to guide us in his ways, fashionable and unfashionable, to his glory and the blessing of all. *Fr Nicolas*

Services for July

Sunday 4th TRINITY 5

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

Sunday 11th TRINITY 6

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

Sunday 18th TRINITY 7

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

Sunday 25th TRINITY 8

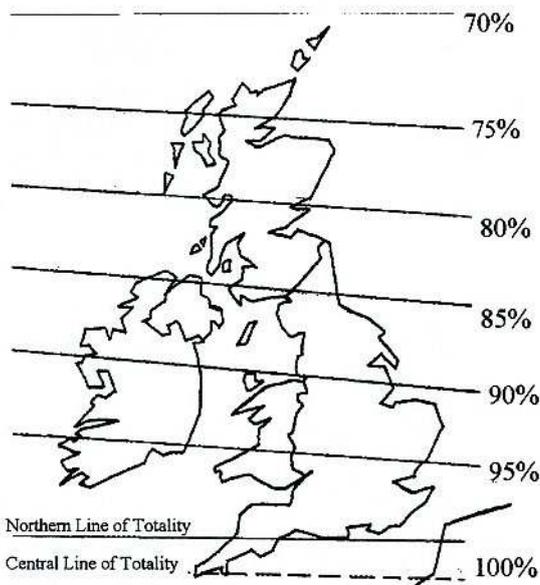
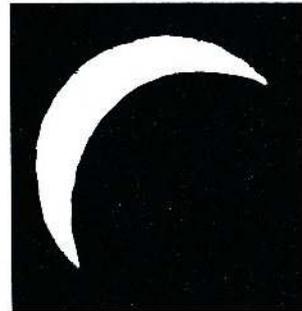
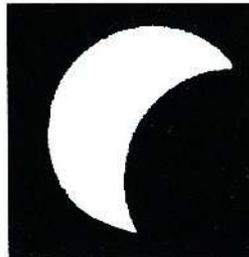
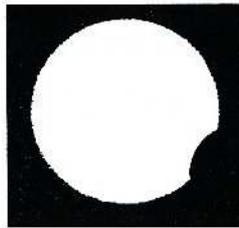
7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin
8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST St. George the Martyr
11.00am PARISH EUCHARIST St. Mary the Virgin
3.00pm United Service Ardleigh Methodist Chapel

Weekday Services as announced in the Parish Newsletter

The Bromley Messenger August 1999

OUR SOLAR ECLIPSE

On 11th August this year we will be able to see the first total solar eclipse visible from Britain for 72 years; the next one will be in 2090. Here in Great Bromley we will have a better chance of viewing this phenomenon as the sky is less



likely to be cloudy but in Cornwall and South Devon more of the sun will be eclipsed. Here the sun will be more than 95% eclipsed by the moon's shadow and many of the effects of an eclipse will be experienced. It will become colder and the birds and animals will grow quiet and settle down as if it were night. An eclipse of the sun happens approximately every eighteen months but cannot always be observed from the land. The eclipse will begin in England at 10.00 am on 11th August, 1999 and the maximum will be reached at about 11.15 am. If you are in the path of totality then just as the sun is completely covered the effect called Baileys beads will be visible. You may then view the sun directly and will see the corona and maybe solar flares; the end of totality is heralded by the spectacular Diamond ring. *Val Harris (BSc Hons, BA)*

See page 11 on how to view the eclipse safely.

KITCHEN CORNER

COURGETTE and PINENUT LOAF

This delicious recipe was given for the W.I. Show this year. It came (with permission) from the National Trust at Ickworth House. I made one loaf to enter the class but did not win a prize! However, we have certainly enjoyed eating it.

Ingredients: (for one loaf)

1 oz Pinenuts, 8 oz caster sugar, 3 eggs, 10 oz SR flour, 8 fl oz vegetable cooking oil,
1 teasp cinnamon 8 oz courgettes, unpeeled and grated

Mix dry ingredients except pinenuts together. Mix wet ingredients and add to dry, stirring well. Pour into a greased and lined 2 lb loaf tin. Sprinkle the pinenuts on top and bake approx 45 minutes at 190C. *Jill Frostick*

GARDENERS CORNER for AUGUST

Most flowers and vegetables are well on the way now, so keep the watering can handy. Take semi-hard cuttings of Hydrangeas this month - suitable cuttings are those with three pairs of leaves out below a leaf and take the bottom pair of leaves off, plant in a 3" pot with a mixture of sand and peat - place in a shady part of the garden and keep moist. Once they have rooted and are growing away, pot on to a 6" pot and pinch out the growing point to encourage side shoots and you will have three or four blooms next year. Sow Spring Cabbage seed this month, transplant when big enough to handle - protect from birds. Winter lettuce - Arctic King - can be sown this month, transplant and cover with cloches in October to be ready for cutting in March. Watch out for slugs and put a few slug pellets around the plants. *Frank Griffiths*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

On 9th September we have an outing to Felixstowe followed by tea at Stowmarket - cost £9.50. If you are interested please phone me by 21st August. This applies to Non-members. At our next meeting Elaine Barker will entertain us with guitar and songs. The competition will be a small bell. - *Vicky Griffiths*

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

On Saturday 26th June, the Chairman of Gt. Bromley & District Cricket Club, Phil Allam, hosted the annual Chairman's Day Lunch and Invitation cricket match. Brilliant sunshine and warm temperatures greeted the guests who sat down for lunch and heard speeches from the Chairman and John Clapham, the Club's President. Bill Pirie closed the lunch proceedings with his usual mixture of wry observations and anecdotes, much to the amusement of all present. For once the cricket match was played in weather befitting the end of June and a stronger than usual Chairman's XI batted first. Good contributions from Andrew Prestney, Nigel Rowe, Merv Perry and Martin Bromfield saw the Chairman's XI score a very competitive 200 for 8 off their allotted 40 Overs. The Gt. Bromley XI started their chase for the winning total after the tea interval and against an opening attack comprising of former Gt. Bromley players, Simon Fielding and Steve Foley, made heavy weather of their assault on the 1st innings total. Club stalwart and Chairman's XI guest, Bill Kempster, was introduced into the Chairman's attack and soon made inroads into the home batting order. Despite a steady 53 from Peter Brinkley and 35 from Tom Rowe, the home side finished well short of the winning total leaving the Chairman's XI Captain, Andrew Prestney to collect the Pirie Family Trophy.

On the League front, Gt. Bromley & District Cricket Club continue to struggle in their quest to avoid relegation from the 1st Division of the Osborne Garages Cricket League. At the time of writing the club has only managed to win one of its league fixtures so far and is becoming increasingly marooned at the bottom of the table alongside near neighbours Gt. Bentley who are currently bottom of the table. Please note that if anyone is reading this and would like to play cricket, then please do not hesitate to contact us. The men to get in touch with are Peter Brinkley or Matt Foley. The club is currently holding practice nights on Thursday evenings (subject to numbers) and it is an ideal chance for new members to come along and introduce themselves.

Forthcoming Fixtures in August

Sun 1st Col. & E.E. II A 2.00pm	Sun 8th Bures H 2.00pm
Sat 14th Chappel & W.C. H 1.00pm	Sun 15th West Bergholt H 1.00pm
Sat 21st E. A. Green A 1.00pm	Sun 22nd St. Osyth H 1.00pm
Sat 28th Gosfield A 2.00pm	

QUIZ NIGHT 9th October At the Village Hall 7.30pm

Fraser Eadie

DIARY of EVENTS

AUGUST

4th WI outing to Peters' Ice Cream Factory, Ipswich
5th Gt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
7th BBQ. and Swim, Pightle Lodge, 12-6.00pm
11th Eclipse of the Sun
14th Conservative Summer Supper, Park Farm, 7.30pm

SEPTEMBER

8th Youth Club re-opens
9th Friendship Club outing to Felixstowe
11th Sponsored Cycle Ride
15th Photographer at Playgroup
16th Brownies re-start, Pirie Hut, 5.00pm
16th Fashion Show, Village Hall
27th Playgroup AGM, Park Farm, 8.00pm

OCTOBER

2nd The Fab Four band - PTA event, Village Hall
9th Quiz Night, Gt. Bromley Cricket Club, Village Hall, 7.30pm
22nd Race Night, Village Hall

NOVEMBER

27th Sale of Work, Village Hall

DECEMBER

31st New Years' Eve Masked Ball, Village Hall, 8.00pm

JANUARY

12th-15th Gt. Bromley Pantomime Group - Aladdin

THANKS

Dear Friends I would like to thank you ALL for kindness shown to me while in hospital, for prayers, gifts, beautiful flowers, visits and cards so many not yet counted. I have a Cottage Garden indoors. God bless you all. *Grace Gould*

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The first full meeting of the newly appointed Council was held on 1st July. The members are as follows:

Major J Heaney Chairman

Mr S Baines Vice-Chairman

Mr H Fairley

Mrs S Rampling Co-opted, Mr C Phillips Co-opted, Mr K Robinson Co-opted

Mr A Sievewright Co-opted, Mr P Richardson Co-opted, Mrs N Halsey Co-opted

Mrs S Shute Clerk

Hare Green Councillors have met with the grass-cutting contractor as the quality of the work has been very poor. Improvements have been made since the meeting and Cllr Phillips will monitor this closely over the following months.

Flower Tubs Although nine out of the ten tubs have been stolen, the council have agreed to participate in the Tendring in Bloom scheme again next year. Security aspects are currently being reviewed.

Road Signs A 'School' warning sign has been requested from the County Council for Badley Hall Road, and reinstatement of the 'Bend' warning sign has been requested near Pond Farm.

Millennium Mugs The Parish Council will be purchasing special millennium mugs for all the children at St. Georges Primary School. A competition was recently held for all the children to design one side of the mug. Entries were judged by the Parish Council and a sample mug is now awaited from the manufacturers.

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

Great Bromley Village Hall. Extension to provide lounge and storage facilities. The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

Mr & Mrs Mason, 5 Mary Lane South Conservatory The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

Mrs Kemp, Blaetarn, Mary Lane South. Erection of 1.8m high fence. The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

Mr & Mrs Bennett, Strutts Farm, Frating Road Renewal of outline permission TEN/96/0662 The Parish Council objects to this application for a second dwelling at this location. The original building was burnt down several years ago and Mr & Mrs Bennett applied for permission to build an alternative dwelling within the plot but located some distance from the original site. When supporting the application, the Council emphasised that it was agreeing to the relocation as an alternative to the original site. It is unacceptable to the Parish Council to allow two dwellings on this plot and therefore objects to this application.

The next meeting of Gt. Bromley Parish Council will be held on 5th August in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Trustees held a meeting on Saturday, 5th June chaired by Peter Wenden. 11 members were present and a further two sent their apologies. Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed. Their next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 20th July and will be reported upon next month. Items due for discussion are: testing of hall electrical system, main hall floor and billiard room doorway repairs, hall alterations, hall external repair and painting, future fund raising events and financial matters.

One fund raising event for your diaries is our Sale of Work on Saturday, 27th November. This year the proceeds will be split between the Church and the Village Hall.

Bevan Willgress, Secretary

HELP TO FIND PLEASE The following three books: At Home with Michaela, Maid of Money, The Voice of the Lark. Author Michaela Denis Armand & Michaela Denis the famous husband and wife explorers, filming in Africa for the BBC TV series in the 1950s. Please contact 01206 251453

The Great Bromley **MILLENNIUM FUND**

We, the Committee, are appealing once again to the village for more support on the committee. We need enthusiastic and able people to help achieve the projects we have planned, leading up to the New Year's Eve Ball. We would like to put on a Medieval Banquet in 2000 on Midsummer's Day but we cannot do this without more help and support. Please contact Linda Pinhey 01206 230126

B.B.Q. and SWIM

(heated indoor pool)

**7th August,
12.30pm onwards**

Pightle Lodge, Colchester Road,
Gt. Bromley

Tickets £5.00 – Adults
£2.50 – Children
£12.00 – Family ticket
Bring your own drinks



Tickets available
from P. Bishop
(231529)

FASHION SHOW

16th September In the Village Hall

RACE NIGHT

22nd October At the Village Hall

Tickets £5 including a
Ploughman's Supper

Contact Paul Bishop (01206
231529)



NEW YEARS EVE MASKED BALL

In the Village Hall 8.00pm – 1.00am

Tickets £15.00 – Adults
£5.00 Children – limited tickets

Contact: P. Bishop (231529)

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

The end of term saw lots of sporting events take place.

- The Rounders team did very well at the rally organised by Gt. Oakley school.
- The Scatterball team won all their matches against eight other participating schools at Mistley Norman school - quite an achievement!
- School Sports Day was another glorious day with lots of fun and excitement. We are not sure who is more exhausted after these events, the children or their parents!
- The PTA Fun Day was extremely well organised with enough activities to keep everyone amused i.e. wet welly race, 3-legged race, egg throwing and a pancake race. Also what a lot of fun was had throwing wet sponges at a teacher!

Sadly the end of term meant farewell to 18 of our Year 6 pupils who have now departed Gt. Bromley for Manningtree High, Sir Charles Lucas, Mancet Fields, the Girls High, the Gilbert and the Colne Community School - good luck to you all.

Buildings We were delighted to hear that the County have agreed to fund the toilets between the two relocatable classrooms. They will include a new cloak room area and will be the main entrance for the children with a security lock. We are hoping that this will take place in October subject to planning permission. The money raised by our appeal will be needed for security and redecoration in the school. Don't forget - school starts back on Tuesday, 7th September.

PLAYGROUP

Our Summer outing this year was a trip to Colchester Zoo. This also concluded our alphabet theme nicely. Everyone had a lovely time and even the weather stayed nice! This term seems to have passed very quickly and it is time again to say some goodbyes. We would like to wish good luck, to Andrew, Jake, Lucy, Emma and Sophie, we hope that they enjoy their new schools. Looking ahead, on Wednesday 15th September the photographer will be coming to Playgroup: She will be at the hall from 10.30am-12.30pm. Everyone welcome - just come along. Our Annual General Meeting will be held on 27th September at 8.00pm at Mrs H Fairley's house - please come if you can. We return to Playgroup on Monday 13th September. If you would like any further information please contact our secretary, Carolyn Prince, on 01206 251858 who will be pleased to help. Toddler Group return on Wednesday 15th September. Please feel free to come along - your first visit is free. Have a great Summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you next term. Dates for your diary: Mon 13 Sept Playgroup return Wed 15 Sept Toddler Group return Wed 15 Sept Photographer at Playgroup Mon 27 Sept A.G.M. All welcome.

ST. GEORGE'S YOUTH CLUB

The Youth Club has had a very busy term with archery and air rifle shooting, organised by the Essex Association of Boys' Clubs being very popular. Richard Lawson has been awarded the Jack Petchey Achievement Award of the Association, which he is going to put towards disco equipment for the youth Club. The award is sponsored by Jack Petchey of Petchey Properties for outstanding contribution to the Youth Club. Well done Richard!

We had 47 club members attending the youth camp at East Mersea, and unusually the weather was kind to us. We enjoyed a speedboat ride, go-karts, orienteering and the aerial runway etc. Unfortunately owing to her other commitments Estelle is leaving at the end of this term. To run the Youth Club we urgently need a replacement for her, any enquiries to Mark on 01206 230196. The Youth Club hopes to re-open on 8th September.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We were welcomed to our July meeting, in the absence of our President, Mrs Rita Baxter, by Mrs Ann Jones, Vice President, who dealt with the formal business of the day. Afterwards we were introduced to our speaker, Mrs Tricia Hughes, who came along to tell us how she became interested in Cake Decorating. Mrs Hughes showed us some beautiful examples of her work, together with books on the subject. She then had us all involved in making a rose with the use of an electric light bulb, which we had previously been requested to take along. Mrs Hughes made it all sound easy, but speaking only for myself, you understand, I think I produced a completely new species of rose! As the old adage says 'practice makes perfect'. We all enjoyed the evening with many laughs. This month which, of course, is August we have our annual outing on the 4th and are visiting Peter's Ice Cream Factory in Ipswich with refreshments provided afterwards. -

June Willgress

TENDRING Adult Community College Widening Participation and Outreach Centres						
In November 1998 a project was set up to help increase awareness of education in the Tendring area. Working with local parish councils and groups in the villages the college has been trying to make its services and opportunities more accessible to residents in the outlying villages. This has been achieved by offering courses to local residents in village halls and primary schools and courses due to run in September are listed below. You may enrol at any of our main centres or by post using the enrolment form in the back of the prospectus (ring Susan Craggs at the Harwich Centre on 01255 502467 for a prospectus). The courses are chosen bearing in mind local need and demand so if you have ideas or suggestions please let us know. Eventually we would like to see courses in all of the villages on a weekly basis and if you would like Gt. & Lt Bromley to take part in this project contact Susan Craggs. Remember it does not have to lead to qualifications – you can sign up for a leisure course for fun or an exercise class to keep fit or use it as a good excuse to get out and meet new people. Whatever the reason with your continued support the project will go from strength to strength enriching your own lives as well as that of the community.						
13/09/99	Yoga for Beginners	25 weeks	7-9 pm	Fee – £86, over 60- £50 Benefit £15	Jean Davies	Methodist Church Hall, Weeley
16/09/99	Patchwork & Quilting	25 weeks	2-4 pm	Fee – £86, over 60- £50 Benefit £15	Leslie Harwood	Weeley Village Hall
16/09/99	Spanish for Beginners	30 weeks	10-12pm	Fee – £94, over 60- £55 Benefit £15	Carmen Griffith	Weeley Village Hall
24/09/99	Patchwork & Quilting	25 weeks	9.30-11.30am	Fee – £86, over 60- £50 Benefit £15	Leslie Harwood	St. Osyth Village Hall
24/09/99	Patchwork & Quilting	25 weeks	1.30-3.30 pm	Fee – £86, over 60- £50 Benefit £15	Leslie Harwood	St. Osyth Village Hall
15/09/99	Spanish for Beginners	30 weeks	1.30-3.15 pm	Fee – £94, over 60- £55 Benefit £15	Carmen Griffith	St. Osyth Village Hall
16/09/99	Spanish Beginners/ Improvers	30 weeks	12.45-2.45 pm	Fee – £94, over 60- £55 Benefit £15	Carmen Griffith	Venture Hall 2000, Lawford

ECLIPSE SAFETY

Looking at the sun directly at any time is very dangerous, the heat from its rays can kill optical nerve endings and result in blindness or serious eye damage which may not become apparent until later. There are two main ways to view the eclipse safely, the safest method is to project the image of the sun onto a light coloured surface such as white card or paper. The second method enables you to look at the sun by using an Optical filter and this should be manufactured to conform to EU council directive 89/686/EEC and should carry the CE mark. You should ensure that your viewer is not scratched or damaged and you should put it on before looking towards the sun and not remove it until after looking away from the sun. Make-shift filters should NOT be used to view the sun. DO NOT use sun glasses, smoked glass or old photograph negatives as these will NOT provide protection from the radiation. You should not look through binoculars, a camera or a telescope unless these are properly fitted with a special filter. If you want to photograph the eclipse you should use a mounted filter especially designed for this purpose and guides are available giving full details of all that you need to know to obtain good photographs. If you want to view the solar eclipse directly I have a small number of UK made, aluminised polyester film viewers which conform with both the Council Directive and the UK Eclipse Safety Code. The viewers cost £2 and have been made for this year's eclipse. Telephone me if you want more details on the viewers or on how to view the eclipse safely. *Val Harris* (BSc Hons, BA)



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SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE

On 11th September there is going to be a Sponsored Cycle Ride. You can start from wherever you like but the aim is to visit as many churches and chapels as you can. Refreshments are often available at the churches. If you would like more information or a sponsor form phone Nicky Robinson

THANKS - ESSEX POLICE CHOIR CONCERT

Held on 18th June made a profit £411.24 which has gone to PCC funds.

Thank you to all who assisted in any way. *John Appleby*

THANKS - FLOWER FESTIVAL

Many thanks to all who helped and supported the Flower Festival and Garden Open Day in June. In spite of the many other events taking place that weekend we raised £1,800.

GEORGE'S CHURCH, GREAT BROMLEY

FLOWER ROTA August

1st Betty Rowe Wedding 15th Wedding flowers 22nd Wedding flowers 29th Mrs Richie

SIDESMAN DUTIES for August

	8.00am	9.30am	6.30pm
1 st	J Clapham	D Skinner/H Fairley	D Sparling
8 th	Ardleigh	A Fairley/C Pirie	Ardleigh
15 th	G Kempster	J Clapham/A Clapham	E Lennox
21 st	Ardleigh	B Welham/ H Brown	Ardleigh
29 th	G Kempster	D Simons/P Simons	E Lennox

COFFEE MAKING

after 9.30am Service

A Fairley
B Welham
A Wild

AUGUST

1st
8th
15th
22nd
29th

CLEANING

M Bush
O Sparling
A Wild & R Roberts
H Brown
B & J Welham

Dear Parishioner,

All clubs, societies, businesses and organisations have their own jargon.

Some of it is simple for the 'outsider' to understand, the instances demand a greater understanding of the situation or institution. The Church is no different in this, and often is a major culprit in being inaccessible. Striking the balance between lowering everything to the simplest, and allowing



people to learn, and develop is no easy thing. Coming to a new place, learning the language, whilst occasionally saying 'Well this is what others call it and here's why' is at times an exacting though pleasant experience. So we call the Holy Communion the Eucharist, reclaiming an ancient Greek word used for centuries by the Church meaning Thanksgiving. The monthly group's meeting throughout the parish are called 'Housechurches' simply because they are the Church, meeting in people's houses. The title 'Baptism' is preferable to 'Christening', because it says more than just a naming ceremony. Through Baptism a child or person becomes a Christian, enters into a new relationship with God, through the power of the Holy Spirit. In October 2000 nine people will visit our parishes for a Mission. Straight away on using that word some people will shy away, have negative feelings, so let me explain. The visitors, led by a layman in a religious community called Br. William, will be a mixed bunch, probably a parish priest, a nun, a vicar's wife, a retired head teacher, a student or two. The purpose of their time is to give a boost to the Christian life of our Churches. Before they arrive every house will receive a card explaining about the Mission, and asking if there is anything you would like to be prayed for. The 'team' as they are known will then endeavour to collect as many of these cards as possible. You can choose to do nothing about the card, give it back, or have someone call to talk with you. During the evenings other events will take place such as a questions and answers evening, a Songs of Praise, children's activities and socials.

Br William will be spending the first weekend in September here helping us to plan and prepare for this major undertaking. One of the things he will ask us, is what we want to call the fortnight. What sounds less threatening, more friendly and approachable. Another thing is for us to create a Mission prayer which sums up what we are expecting from God, others and ourselves during this time. If you have any thoughts on any of this, then let myself, the wardens or a member of the congregation know them. Anyone is welcome to come along to the preparation meeting on the morning of 3rd September. This is your parish church, this is your mission, your opportunity, how would you like to use it. May God bless you. *Fr. Nicolas*

Services for August

Sunday 1st TRINITY 8

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

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr

11.00am Parish Eucharist & Baptism St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 8th TRINITY 9

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

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr

11.00am Parish Eucharist & Baptism St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Saturday 14th ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY MARY

12 noon Patronal Festival Eucharist St. Mary's, Little Bromley

5.00pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 15th ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY MARY

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

9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr

11.00am Patronal Festival Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 22nd TRINITY 12 7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

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

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 29th TRINITY 13 7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

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

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

Weekday Services as announced in the Parish Newsletter

The Bromley Messenger September 1999

ONLY TWO MORE KILOMETRES TO GO, HONEST!

If I could give you just one piece of useful travel advice it would be do not believe a China man who tells you that your destination is only 2 kms away. He is being economical with the truth, as they say, and you are actually about 10 kms away. How can I be so sure of my facts I hear you cry? Well, I know because it happened to me when I took part in the Great Walk: a 100 km trek on the Great Wall of China to help raise funds for The Children's Society. I am pleased to say that I managed to raise just over £3,000. The 2000-year-old Great Wall is an amazing structure stretching 7,300 kms across northern China. It is one of a few man-made objects visible from Space. It was built for defence but today welcomes millions of visitors from around the world. Although, I would not consider myself an avid walker, the Great Walk caught my imagination. I had visited China before and was fascinated by the country. Yes, the sights, sounds and smells can be overpowering, and with a population in the billions it can be hard to find your own space but China is a country that draws you in. Its rich history, the people and its sheer size make it unforgettable. I was keen to get back and immerse myself in the Chinese experience. The Walk itself was broken down into five, day-long sections. The itinerary included both well-preserved and derelict parts of the Wall. The weather was excellent and while the temperature climbed during the day, the views and the company took my mind off the heat. And what views they were, quite simply breathtaking. In places the Wall sits on top of high mountains and you can see for miles. On one day we were blessed with an amazing view out to Mongolia. You feel a strong sense of history on the Wall. Millions of Chinese were drafted in to build the structure and thousands of them died completing it. The Wall, which is still an imposing structure, protected the people through the ups and downs of China's numerous Dynasties. Today, it plays an important role in the economies of the towns and villages close by. It is true to say that certain parts have been over-exploited. The number of vendors on some parts of the Wall make it feel more like Oxford Street! But, you know they are trying to make a living, and it can be great fun haggling. The Chinese are a warm and friendly people. Their desire to learn English and my very basic Chinese led to a few funny moments and a lot of laughs. So what about my travel advice? Well, it is based on scientific evidence. One of our guides, who regularly bound off with ease up steep slopes, would tell me "only 2 km to go, honest" I would haul my tired body another 10 km to the end of the walk! As I staggered in he would be there smiling "Only 2 km HA, HA." You have been warned. There was really only one low point and that was the fact that I returned to the UK with a ruptured Achilles tendon. How it happened is a long and amusing story. Ask me if you see me around the village, I'm the one on crutches. I was hoping for a starring role in this year's Panto but live discovered it's Aladdin! Doesn't Long John Silver make a guest appearance in that one? - Alex Wise

ARDLEIGH WEA

Autumn Term will commence on Thursday, 16th September at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Tutor for the 10 week course will be Mr William Tyler whose subject is "Bonfires, Vikings and Mazes" This is a wide-ranging look at Essex Folklore and it is hoped some of the following will be covered - Black Shuck, Ploughs, Parsons, Oysters, Calendar Customs, Witches and Witchcraft, Dragons, Fairies, Folktales and Folksongs, Rhymes, Customs and Traditions of the Land and Sea. There will be a half-term break on 28th October. Fees - Full "23, Concessions "20. For further details ring - Chairman (01206 23 0473) or Secretary (01206 230476)

HAMILTON LODGE COFFEE MORNING

Saturday, 30th October, 1999 10.00 am - 11.30 am
STALLS selling hand made items * RAFFLE * EVERYONE WELCOME

THE PARISH OF THE BROMLEYS HARVEST LUNCH 1999

Sunday 26th September At 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm
Gt. Bromley Village Hall
Tickets Adult £4 Family £7 Obtainable from James Wild & Great and Little Bromley Post Offices
Please buy tickets before the date and bring your own cutlery, wine, juices. Glasses will be provided.



KITCHEN CORNER

Autumn is the time for pickles and chutneys. This recipe for plum chutney is very good, especially with cheese.

PLUM CHUTNEY

4 lb plums, 1¼ pt wine or cider vinegar, ½ lb apples 2 lb brown sugar ½ lb onions
 2 oz root ginger 1lb raisins ¼ oz allspice 1 tablsb salt 1 oz stick cinnamon 3 chillies 4 cloves.
 Wash, stone and cut up the plums. Finely chop apples, onions and raisins. Tie spices in muslin and lightly crush. Put all these in a pan with enough of the vinegar to cover fruit. Put rest of vinegar in a bowl with the sugar to dissolve while the fruit is cooking. Cook gently with lid on, till all is a soft mush. Add sugar and cook gently, stirring to prevent it sticking. The consistency should be like jam. Pot into clean warm jars.

Jill Frostick

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Boarding Kennels and Cattery

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*Quality care and attention for your Dogs, Cats and Small Pets
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GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met on Tuesday, 20th July chaired by Peter Wenden. Nine members were present and four apologies for absence received. It was with much regret that we learned of the death during the previous night of Derek Wright, Carpenter and Joiner, of Gt. Bromley. Derek served the hall - and indeed the village - well, always being there to give a helping hand when something needed making, mending or fixing. He will be sadly missed. Those present stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect our thoughts with Jean and their Family.

You will see that the problem drain in the South car parking area has been attended to, thanks to Peter, Rob Christmas and Ashfern Surfacing. Also some material has been delivered and spread on the North parking area for which we are most grateful. A repair to the brickwork surrounding the main hall/billiard room doorway has been carried out. Reluctantly, the overall painting of the outside of the building has been put on hold for the time being with a view to completing that task next year. The plans for alterations to the hall to provide a lounge and storage area, submitted to Tendring District Council at the end of May, have been approved subject to one condition. The next stage is for our detailed plans to go back to Tendring to apply for Building Regulation consent.

Another date for your diary is Saturday, 27th November for the Christmas Sale in the Village Hall organised by Jean Wright for the benefit of the Village Hall and the Church. The committee next meet on Tuesday, 14th September at 7.30 pm at the Hall. *Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

DIARY of EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

1st WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm
2nd Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm
8th Youth Club re-opens
9th Friendship Club outing to Felixstowe
11th Sponsored Cycle Ride
14th Copy for Messenger to Editor
14th Village Hall Management cttee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm
15th Photographer at Playgroup, 10.30 am
16th Brownies re-start, Pirie Hut, 5.00 pm
16th WEA course, Ardleigh Village Hall, 2.30 pm
26th Harvest Lunch, Village Hall, 12.30 pm
27th Playgroup AGM, 8.00 pm
30th Casting meeting, ALADDIN (Panto Group), Village Hall, 7.30 pm

OCTOBER

2nd Fire Swim, PTA team, 2.00 pm
2nd The Fabs band - PTA event, Village Hall
9th Quiz Night, Gt. Bromley Cricket Club, Village Hall, 7.30 pm
22nd Race Night, Village Hall
30th Coffee Morning, Hamilton Lodge, 10.00 am

NOVEMBER

27th Christmas Sale, Village Hall
27th Poems & Pints, Village Hall, 7.30 pm

DECEMBER 31st New Year's Eve Masked Ball, Village Hall, 8.00pm

2000

12th-15th Jan Gt. Bromley Pantomime Group - Aladdin
20th May Hamilton Lodge Annual Fete, 2 - 4.30 pm

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

DON T FORGET TO BUY YOUR TICKETS FOR: "THE FABS" Live band at the Village Hall, Great Bromley Saturday, 2nd October Tickets £5.00 from Jackie Platt

FIRE SWIM, 2nd October at 2.00pm If you would like to be in a team please contact Jackie
SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON TUESDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER at 8.30am At the end of last term our Chair of Governors, Jacquie Terry, retired after numerous years as a Governor at St. Georges School. Pat Fitzgerald thanked Jacquie for all her hard work and commitment to the school and wished her well in her retirement!

Julie Fahy was elected as Chairman from 1st September, 1999.

BROWNIES

We welcomed to our pack Charlotte and Eleanor R who took their Promise during the term and say goodbye to Eleanor D who is leaving the village. The term has been varied and much time has been spent outdoors. Most of the pack tried for, and gained, their Agility badge and other interest badges have been gained by individuals during the term. We visited the pigs at Hazels Farm and the lambs, chicken, calves and ponies at Badley Hall Farm which was much enjoyed. Our thanks to Mr and Mrs Kynaston and Mrs Robinson who showed us round their farms. Mrs Garrad took us round Pedlars Wood at Frinton where we saw the bluebells and learnt all sorts of things before we went back to her house to see and stroke her Long-Eared Owl and have some welcome refreshments. Victoria and Shona ably organised a most enjoyable disco which was held at Tawny Owl's and we learnt all about bee keeping when Mr Baines and his son visited us. We have made windmills, done some origami, made stalagmites and stalactites and fashioned sponges into various shapes as well as make fizz to transform squash, harvest our potatoes, planted in tubs last term, to enjoy them by cooking and finally eating them before ending the term with a treasure hunt and barbecue. Term starts again on Thursday, 16th September at 5.30pm in the hut. We welcome anyone who would like to join us who is aged between 7 and 10 years. *Brown Owl (01206 231262)*

LOOK AFTER THE CHILDREN

William Manning of Little Bromley was the good husband of Joan. They had a family - Joan, Ellen, "Francys" and an unbaptised child when Joan, now a widow, dictated her will on 28th May, 1600, to the Rector of Little Bromley. The children were left all Joan's possessions to pay for a good education and bringing up until the ages specified in their father William's will. [There is no evidence of this will. Perhaps it will come to light in the future.]

Joan's father, John Weaver, and her brother-in-law, Thomas Rand were made executors and guardians. Ralph King, the Rector of Little Bromley, was asked to oversee and advise the executors and he was a witness to the will along with Richard Gostlyng, Alice Rand and Joan Thomas.
John Appleby

PLAYGROUP

On 21st July a social evening was held at the Snooty Fox for parents and friends of playgroup and toddler group. We had a very enjoyable evening and participated in the weekly quiz. We would like to thank the winning team who donated their prize money to playgroup funds, the proceeds of the rattle were also donated to us - a grand total of £49. A very big thank you to Dennis and Sue for their hospitality. Playgroup return after the summer holidays on 13th September and we are looking forward to welcoming some new faces. Toddler Group returns on 15th September when the photographer will be at playgroup. She will be at the hall from 10.30am-12.30pm. She is wonderful with the children and produces some lovely photos. Everyone welcome - just come along. Our Annual General Meeting will be held on 27th September at 8.00pm at Mrs Helen Fairley's house, we look forward to seeing you there.

Dates for your diary: Mon 13 Sept Playgroup returns Wed 15 Sept Toddler Group returns Wed 15 Sept Photographer Mon 27 Sept A.G.M.

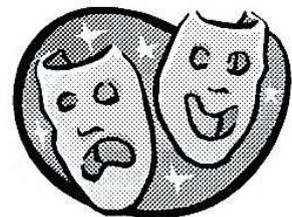


POEMS & PINTS

Saturday, 27th November
7.30 pm at the Village Hall

In aid of the Millennium Fund by the Pantomime Group
Come and let your light shine with a poem, reading, song,
play an instrument.

Tickets £5.00 including food from 01206 230398



IT'S PANTO TIME AGAIN

(Oh yes it is)

The Pantomime Group will be holding
its casting meeting for
ALADDIN

In the Committee Room at the Village
Hall

30th September at 7.30 pm

GARDENERS CORNER for SEPTEMBER

ANEMONES : Can be planted this month for early Spring flowering - choose a sunny position. ROSES : Prune out the old stems of RAMBLERS when they have finished flowering - new young strong growths will then be ready for next year. HYACINTHS : Plant in pots and bowls this month using a light rich compost - I use sifted gro-bag compost. Start them off in a cool dark place. TOMATOES : When they start to turn colour, pick and place in a brown paper bag to finish ripening in a day or two. *Frank Griffiths*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Welcome to Pat Petchey who joined us on our a Committee this month - it's good to have another male voice! Sadly we lost another stalwart member (Fred Wickham) who will be greatly missed. Our outing in July was a very restful day, a gentle Cruise where we saw plenty of Wildlife on the water, also from the coach a fox, rabbits, pheasants, and of course other peoples gardens which you don't see from a car. The countryside is especially beautiful just now, there are so many different shades of green everywhere, the cornfields so golden when the sun shines. We are to have the Rev. John Robinson at our next meeting to entertain us with his witty stories and songs. The competition is a small animal ornament. *Vicky Griffiths*

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The next meeting of GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL will be held on 2nd September in the Village hall at 7.30pm.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our visit to Peters Ice Cream Factory in Ipswich on the first Wednesday in August made a very interesting evening, hearing the history of the company accompanied by a video. The company has been producing ice cream since 1897 after Napoleon Zani and his wife, Marie, came to England from Italy and due to a lack of money, had the idea using a recipe which is still a secret. To sell his produce, Napoleon used to push his barrow to Felixstowe and back each day. There is still a Peters Ice Cream stall on the spot where he stood. We were then asked to put on protective aprons and caps (and very fetching we all looked too!) in order to watch the ice cream being produced. Each person was invited to fill a tub from one of the machines and taste the finished product; how very delicious it was. We then returned to the conference room and sampled more of the many ice cream flavours that Peters produce. Afterwards, in the Restaurant, we enjoyed beautifully presented suppers of our choice. To end a pleasant evening we were able to purchase ice cream and sorbet from the factory shop. We have Mrs Jean Ward coming along to tell us about Bangladesh at our next meeting. That will be in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 1st September. If you would like to join us, please do. *June Willgress*

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION

We were given a wonderful welcome by Val and Paul Bishop when 30 HD family members with a few helpers had a joyful day in and around the pool, and enjoying a great barbecue prepared by our hosts. Volunteer swimmers to help at our monthly sessions at Gt. Bentley Leisure Park, starting again in September, would be very welcome. Phone Jean Harding to know more.

THANKS

Robert and Jean Harding and family have left the Hollies after 51 years with a multitude of happy memories. They thank everyone who contributed to these remembrances and for all the many good wishes. We hope that John and Pam Pitkin and family who have moved into the Hollies will be as contented there as we were. Please come and see us at 43 West Street, Wivenhoe (near the quay) where we are settling in well and would warmly welcome you.

Readers will have noticed that for some months now the front page to the Messenger has been provided by different people. The variety of topics upon which people have written provide only a small insight into the many different interests that are alive within the village. I would like to thank everyone who has so willingly contributed in this manner. *L.M.H.*

FLOWER ROTA September

5th Pat Hughes 12th Margery West 19th Mrs Jolly 26th Harvest Festival

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, GREAT BROMLEY

SIDESMAN DUTIES for September

	8.00am	9.30am	6.30pm
5th	J Clapham	D Skinner/A Fairley	D Sparling
12th	Ardleigh	M Rowe/H Fairley	Ardleigh
19th	J Clapham	A Clapham/J Clapham	D Sparling
26th	G Kempster	B Welham/H Brown	E Lennox

COFFEE MAKING

after 9.30am Service

P Hughes
A Fairley
J Clapham

5th
12th
19th
26th

CLEANING

O Sparling
A Wild & J Harding
H Brown
B & J Welham

Dear Parishioners,

I'm writing this just after a wonderful celebration in St Mary's complete with music written by Palestrina and a picnic in the sunshine! As always it was lovely to have the doors wide open and see the place full of life. I understand from the Charity which now looks after the building, that it is in hand to replace the roof tiles as soon as possible. Thinking of the parish's past many of you will know of the Stone family and their connections with the area. In 1636 two brothers with their families emigrated to the United States where in good biblical tradition they went forth and multiplied (the window in the north wall commemorates this). Over the years the Stones have been good friends to St Georges and many of you. They are wanting to celebrate the Millennium by developing their family association and have asked us here to be involved. As a response an invitation has been extended for them to come here for a weekend next June. Hopefully this will coincide with a village celebration and other visits and events will be organised. Already some people have offered accommodation, but if you would like to host someone I'm sure it can be arranged. It promises to be a fun weekend when the history of our villages will be at the fore. As a result of this I am planning to take a holiday in the States next month during which I shall meet some of the Stones. A number of gatherings have already been arranged and it all promises to be good fun. The Stones are well aware of the financial needs of the Church building and I hope some of them will respond generously. Also I plan to talk to a number of Church trusts and charities in the hope of financial contributions. It's not quite a case of there being riches for the taking in the new world, as no doubt Simon and Gregory Stone hoped, but maybe this will give us the final push financially to complete the Church repairs. There is a real possibility that we will see scaffolding going up in the Church next spring and work commencing. This will be as a result of all the hard and generous responses of many people, and equally generous response from grant giving bodies such as English Heritage. A lot of time and effort has been put into this and there is now a glimpse that the end is in sight, and we can channel our energy elsewhere. As school begins again, the harvest is gathered in and celebrated, I am much aware of our rich heritage and God's blessings. May they strengthen our present lives and fill us with hope and joy for the future. *Fr Nicolas*

Services for September

Sunday 5th TRINITY 14 7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
9.30am Parish Eucharist & Baptism St. George the Martyr 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 12th TRINITY 15 7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Harvest Festival Ardleigh Methodist Chapel

Sunday 19th TRINITY 16 7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

Sunday 26th TRINITY 17 7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr
9.30am Parish Harvest Eucharist St. George the Martyr
11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin
6.30pm Harvest Evensong St. Mary 's, Little Bromley

Weekday Services as announced in the Parish Newsletter

The Bromley Messenger October 1999

CROSSING THE BAY

“The sun came up upon the left, Out of the sea came he!
And he shone bright, and ere the night Went down into the sea”

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

The Bay of Biscay is regarded by some people as a place of tempestuous seas and the graveyard of many ships. However, a perusal of a nautical almanac will tell you that in summer gales are infrequent and the sea is often calm. True, but the sea, like our weather, is unpredictable. When I told a former work colleague that I intended to take up sailing during my retirement I was promptly invited to crew his boat to Vigo, in Spain, and back during July of this year, an invitation I accepted with alacrity.

So, with several sailing courses under my belt, I set off on 6th July from Chichester for Torquay where we were to pick up two other crew members. I had debated whether I should take sea-sickness pills; our first day out made the decision for me, the boat pitched and rolled so much. Indeed, the Solent was the roughest part of our passage to Spain and the Bay was not what I had expected. In fact, the most exciting events were the whale which glided past, ten feet from our boat, some ten miles off Cape Finisterre and the frequent visits of the dolphins who put on many displays of welcome by swimming under our bow, jumping in twos and threes and squealing. These delightful creatures again performed for us on our return passage across the Bay. Before our return, however, we were to rescue a Spanish naval officer whose sailboard had dismasted some three miles from the mainland, in Vigo bay. We also visited Sir John Moore's tomb at Carunna whose death during the retreat there in the Napoleonic War also inspired a famous poem, and the Cathedral of St. James at Santiago de Compostela which is still visited by thousands of pilgrims every year.

Would you believe we were becalmed for two days in the Bay of Biscay? Our outward passage from Torquay to Vigo, a distance of 600 miles took five nights and six days sailing. Vigo to Chichester, a distance of 740 miles took eight days and nine days sailing. It has been suggested to me that my nautical skills must have improved enormously having spent so much time afloat. Unfortunately, they have not because crossing a 500 mile stretch of water without a meaningful shift in wind direction meant that there was not a great deal for the crew to do. However, being along in the cockpit during the night watches in the busy shipping lanes certainly honed my skills in determining whether we were about to be run down by a massive container ship or even a modest trawler. I confess to being very nervous during my first night watch, but after that it was plain sailing (sorry!).

Would I do it again? Yes, of course I would. But, as the only meal I enjoyed on board was breakfast, a fried egg and two rashers of Streaky bacon, I would choose a boat whose galley produced better food!

James Heaney

GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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

Lobby & W.C. link between relocatable classrooms at St. George's Primary School. The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

Tree Planting Scheme Councillors are looking into the feasibility of participating in the tree planting scheme this year. The problem is that there is very little parish land in the village which is suitable for tree planting purposes. The scheme is subsidised by the District council. The purchase and positioning of a Millennium Tree is also under consideration.

School Warning Sign A new sign has now been erected in Badley Hall Road.

Church Meadow Negotiations have recommenced with the Pirie family to purchase Church Meadow for the parish.

Millennium Mugs The design of the millennium mug has been finalised and a sample mug is still awaited for approval from the manufacturers.

New Developments ' Gt. Bromley Parish Council will continue to oppose proposed new developments in the village. Major Heaney attended a recent meeting of several neighbouring parish councils along with Mr Colley of Tendring District Council and Mr Tootal, District Councillor and Ardleigh Parish Councillor. The meeting was very uplifting in that Essex County Council, Tendring District Council and Colchester Borough Council are all opposed to development in Tendring West and their objections reflect those of our local parishes. Mr Tootal

represented Gt. Bromley at the meeting on 7th July at Essex County Council and re-stated all our objections. The outcome of this meeting has not yet been notified to Gt. Bromley Parish Council.

The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held on 7th October in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

NOTE: The date for the December Council meeting has been changed to 16th December, 1999.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 1st October at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Chapel.

LETTER

The following has been received from a member of staff at Foundry Court Residential Home

"I would like to bring to your attention the proposal by Social Services to close Foundry Court Residential Home in Manningtree. Foundry Court was purpose-built seven years ago in response to public demand, a demand that is still there and increasing, as is our elderly population. Foundry Court does have a high running cost due to being unitised but this is the future as we move away from large institutional buildings. What will happen to the residents if the closure goes ahead? - Well, they are facing the trauma of a move to no one knows where! The community needs Foundry Court and I urge you to write to Essex County Council and encourage them to look at ways to "improve" not "remove" Foundry Court.

The consultation period ends on 10th November, 1999 so please write before then to: Roger Sinden, County Manager, PO Box 297, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1YS"

Great Bromley Parish Council has asked our County Councillor, Mr Kevin Hawkins, to explain Essex County Council is point of view at the next Parish Council meeting on 7th October.

SEED GATHERING SUNDAY

10th October Please gather your tree seeds and any help required with germination contact Kathy Hayward on 01206 231546

DIARY of EVENTS

OCTOBER

2nd Fire Swim, PTA team, 2.00 pm

2nd "The Fabs" band - PTA event, Village Hall 6th

WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm

7th Gt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

9th Quiz Night, Gt. Bromley Cricket Club, Village Hall, 7.30 pm

20th Fashion Show by Red Hot Designs, Cheshire Home, 7.30 pm

21st Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.30pm

21st Lt. Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm.

22nd Last day for applications for Dedham Educational Foundation

22nd Race Night, Village Hall, 8.00pm

30th Coffee Morning, Hamilton Lodge, 10.00 am

NOVEMBER

5th Guy Fawkes Night, The Bromley Cross Inn

16th-25th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

27th Christmas Sale, Village Hall

27th Poems & Pints, Village Hall, 7.30 pm

DECEMBER

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

18th Concert of Christmass Music, St. George's Church, 7.00pm

22nd Christmass Carol Service, St. George's Church, 8.00pm

24th Children's Christingle service, St. George's Church, 5.00pm

24th Midnight Mass, St. George's Church, 11.30pm

31st New Year's Eve Masked Ball, Village Hall, 8.00pm

2000

1st Jan Celebration for the Millennium in all 3 churches, 12 noon

12th-15th Jan Gt. Bromley Pantomime Group - Aladdin

20th May Hamilton Lodge Annual Fete, 2 - 4.30 pm

KITCHEN CORNER

This month, a vegetarian recipe which everyone can enjoy! Very tasty, and good - hot or cold.

LENTIL and NUT CAKES

8 oz cooked brown lentils, mashed; 2-3 tablesp vegetable oil; 1 teasp finely ground cumin; 1 teasp clove-based garam masala; 1 teasp ground turmeric; 4 oz finely chopped onions; 1 clove garlic, peeled and chopped; Salt; 1oz fresh root ginger, peeled and chopped; 4 oz finely ground mixed nuts; 2 tablesp wholemeal flour; 1 egg, well beaten; Oil for shallow frying

Heat the spices in the oil for a few moments. Add onions, garlic, ginger and salt to taste and fry gently until onion is softened. Stir in lentils and nuts and sprinkle on the flour. Add the egg and mix thoroughly. Drop large spoonfuls of mixture on to a well-floured plate and roll into 8 balls. Flatten slightly and fry on both sides. Serve with a bowl of natural yoghurt.

(These will freeze well) *Jill Frostick*

CARPET BOWLS

This year our league has been split into two sections thus giving us fewer matches. During the first few weeks of 1999 we had so many fixtures and what with illness and the odd holiday popping up we were unable to fix up our Annual Dinner. However, not to be outdone this year, our worthy Chairman suggested we held it before the winter programme started. SO on 10th September 21 members and their guests enjoyed an evening at the Wooden Fender at Ardleigh. This was a double celebration, firstly, our 1998-99 league win but also, very importantly, we honoured a founder member, Joe Canham, who had his 90th birthday that weekend. He was presented with a card signed by all club members and a splendid looking (and very tasty) cake made by Linda Francis. Apart from a spell in hospital and the odd off-day or two, Joe has rarely missed a club night or a match. He still bowls a mean wood and is looked on with great affection not only by this club, but by many people from visiting teams who have come to know him over the years. Well done Joe! And many congratulations.

Club nights continue on Wednesdays at 7.30pm (except the first in the month) and new members are welcome. *Nancy Kempster*

PLAYGROUP

Playgroup returned for the start of the Autumn Term on 13th September and was pleased to welcome some new faces. Included in the playgroup sessions we have a Rising Fives group. This starts the term that a child is 4 years old. It involves encouraging concentration skills, pencil control, letter and number formation and recognition of colours, shapes and their own name. The aim is to assist in preparing the children for the more formal approach to activities found in the classroom. If you would like any further information about playgroup please contact our secretary, Carolyn Prince who will be pleased to help. Our Toddler Group is held in the smaller hall on Wednesday mornings -just come along, your first visit is free.

THE LITTLE GIRL AT GREAT BROMLEY HALL

In the Patron's or South Chapel of St. Georges Church alongside the brass of William Bishopton, Rector in 1325, is a black and fairly worn stone. The inscription reads - "Here lies interred the body of Elizabeth Giels, daughter of John and Mary Giels, citizens of London, who died June ye 23, and of ye worshipful Sir Thomas Bowes, house of Bromley Hall, aged 6 years and five months, Anno Domini 1609.

She loved the Esq and all ye Ladys and her Aunt. Farewell Father and Mother and all For I must goe when Christ doeth call."

John Appleby

DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Exhibitions and Maintenance Grants for Educational purposes are offered to young people resident in Ardleigh, Bradfield, Great Bromley, Dedham and Stratford St. Mary. Application forms may be obtained from Christopher Barlow, Clerk to the Governors at 47 Butt Road, Colchester Essex CO3 3BZ. The closing date for applications is Friday, 22nd October, 1999.

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

The school term started in September with lots of new faces in the classrooms. After school clubs are now up and running, including Netball on Mondays, Art Club on Wednesdays. Extra music

lessons are also available for a wide range of musical instruments. Although it only seems like school has just started, don't forget Half Term is from 25th - 29th October. Jackie Platt has been busy organising the Fire Swim teams which are a mixture of children, parents, teachers and governors. They all have to swim for an hour and can be sponsored per length or an overall amount. If you have not already done so, please sponsor someone as all the money goes to local charities and last year the school received £250 for their hard work. Nicky Robinson is circulating the Webb Ivory Christmas Catalogues again so if you have not already seen one, ask for a copy - again 25% of all orders is profit for school funds. The Fabs live band will be entertaining the village in the hall on Saturday, 3rd October - to obtain tickets phone Jackie on 01206 251070.

ST. GEORGES YOUTH CLUB

The Youth Club was from 1st July officially an associate member of the NABC - Clubs for Young People. We hope that our club members will take advantage of the opportunities and events they organise, as did three of our 15 years olds. They spent a week in the Lake District in August at Keswick and by all accounts had a brilliant time with activities such as canoeing, rock climbing and gorge walking to name but a few. I'm pleased to announce that the disco equipment fund had a welcome boost by way of a quiz evening held at the Cross Inn on 13th September when over £100 was raised. On behalf of all the Youth Club members I would like to thank everyone that participated for their generosity especially Dick and Brenda of the Cross Inn for their hard work in organising such a fun evening. The winners of the coveted "Chinese bone cup" were the "Hotdogs", whose knowledge of laundry symbols was awesome! Whilst on the subject of disco equipment if any reader has surplus to requirement equipment of "megawatt" spec i.e. amps, mixers, speakers, lights etc. please call Mark on 01206 230196. Dates for your diary: Last Youth Club before half term 20th October - Return 3rd November - 15th December.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

"AN APPEAL"

I, as the President Leader of the Friendship Club, with the Committee, are appealing to anyone who feels they could come along to the monthly meetings and become members. The age is 60 years or over but if a couple are interested in joining, as long as one of them is 60 they are both able to join. Unfortunately members have depleted this past year due to illness and bereavements. We meet in the Village Hall just once a month - the third Thursday from 2.30pm - 4.30pm. Tea and biscuits are served - there are Trading stalls (nearly new clothes, plants, magazines, birthday cards, envelopes etc.) a Raffle, Speakers and Entertainers. This is NOT A DARBY & JOAN CLUB. It is a FRIENDSHIP CLUB so please this is an APPEAL to all FRIENDS who can help by coming along and joining and keeping the Club still running. If you need any further information please phone Mrs Biddis. *Vera Biddis*

REPORT

Sun, sand and sea - at Felixstowe a perfect combination to make a perfect day out for our September outing followed by a delicious tea at the united Reform Church at Stowmarket. Our next meeting is 21st October at the Village Hall when we will have Mrs Scoles who will talk to us about Life At An American Air Base. The competition is a small Coaster. *Vicky Griffiths*

GARDENERS CORNER for OCTOBER

Winter Pansies The nurseries have plug plants for sale now - this is a good way to plant the pansies as it gives them a head start. **Cyclamen** It is rather surprising but these can be planted outside in tubs or large pots in a sheltered position such as a porch. **Perennials** Cut them down as soon as they have finished flowering. Now is the time to divide any large clumps and replant. **Roses** Take cuttings of rambler and climbing roses this month. Several cuttings can be placed in a large pot - use a mixture of sand and peat. **Bulbs** Once again bulb planting time is with us. Daffodils, hyacinths, snowdrops and crocus can all be planted outside.
Frank Griffiths

ADVICE FROM AGE CONCERN

If you are being pestered by unwanted telesales calls you can be placed on a Telephone Preference service Register by phone 0845 0700707

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mrs Jean Ward came along to our September meeting and told us about the voluntary work she does in Bangladesh for a charity called "The Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed" or CRP. Its objective is "Ability not Disability" and strives to make the patients as mobile as possible and, hopefully, build new lives in order to earn a living back in their own communities. Valerie Taylor, a young British physiotherapist was on Voluntary Service Overseas in Bangladesh in 1969 and was concerned about the lack of specialised treatment for patients with Spinal injuries. In 1979 she managed to set up a simple unit in the grounds of a hospital in Dhaka. CRP has gone from strength to strength since then and now has a large centre with 100 beds which has helped many hundreds of people paralysed through accidents, diseases or strokes. There is also a "Mother and Child" unit where children with cerebral palsy or spina bifida can go so that their mothers can be taught how to help with their treatment, together with some workshops to teach patients, who can only use their arms, skills such as weaving, tailoring, shoe repairing, farming to name but a few. The CRP now have trucks which enable their social welfare workers to visit the remote villages in order to monitor ex-patients as to their health and progress.

A date for your diary, Wednesday, 20th October, when we shall be holding a Fashion Show by "Red Hot Designs" with clothes for all age groups. Entrance is 50p (including coffee) at 7.30 pm at the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, everyone welcome. Our next meeting is on Wednesday, 6th October at 7.30 pm when we are having an "Auction and Plant Exchange". If you are interested, why not come along and see what bargains there are to be had. *June Willgress*

CAROLYN'S SCHOOL OF DANCE

Fridays 7.00 – 8.00pm at Gt. Bromley Village hall



The street dancing class has resumed again after the summer break with a few new faces and lots of new dances to learn. Lyn warmed us up with lots of the old dances we knew like 'Tragedy' and 'Bring it all back' and then went on to teach us new ones.

There is a wide age range that come along from 5 year olds to Mums that think they're 21! It's great fun and a chance to get fit and sing your heart out – give it a go!

Brenda and Dick, your hosts, invite you to visit them at "THE BROMLEY CROSS INN"
For fine ales, good food and a warm welcome in a homely atmosphere.

* GUY FAWKES NIGHT - Friday, 5th November - bring family, friends and a few fireworks.

Burgers and hot dogs will be available.

* REGULAR MUSIC (unplugged) night, last Wednesday of each month. Watch, singalong or play if you can.

* CHARITY QUIZ nights by arrangement.

* Meals and snacks available each lunch time and evening EXCEPT TUESDAY, unless by arrangement. Sunday set price 2-course Roast dinner

* B & B available - twin rooms - en suite

Brenda & Richard Perry, "THE BROMLEY CROSS INN", Ardleigh Road, Great Bromley, CO7 7TL
(Telephone 01206 230282)

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, GREAT BROMLEY

SIDESMAN DUTIES for October

	8.00am	9.30am	6.30pm
3rd	Ardleigh	D Skinner/S Clarke	Ardleigh
10th	Ardleigh	A Fairley/C Pirie	Ardleigh
17th	G Kempster	P Simons/D Simons	E Lennox
24th	Ardleigh	M Rowe/H Fairley	Ardleigh
31st	J Clapham	B Welham/H Brown	D Sparling

FLOWER ROTA October

3rd Harvest Festival Flowers 10th Jill Frostick 17 Ann Clapham

24th Liz Lennox 31st Joyce Golding

COFFEE MAKING
after 9.30am Service

A Wild	3rd
P Hughes	10th
B Welham	17th
A Fairley	24th

CLEANING

M Bush
O Sparling
A Wild/R Roberts
H Brown

Dear Parishioner

“Celebrate together”, is what has been decided as the theme for October 2000 and our preparations for the visit of ten people to the parishes. There seems to be all sorts of reasons that we should celebrate together. On 1st January we shall enter the year 2000, the year marked by the Churches as a celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. It is planned that all the bells in the land be rung at 12 noon with people gathering in the churches to greet the New Year and celebrate our Christian Heritage. All three Churches in the parish will mark this occasion and I extend an invite to all to join the congregations at this time. Christianity has regularly celebrated special or holy years, sometimes known as jubilees. A year of favour or jubilee in the bible is a time for reconciliation, forgiveness, a wiping out of debts, and of special generosity to the poor. Christians have spear headed the reform of world monetary policy and how countries with debts are to be treated. It is hoped that in the New Year we see great progress and generosity, marked with a good sense of realism in achieving goals on World inequality and poverty. The fund raising work of the village towards an extension and redevelopment of the Village Hall is a cause for celebration. As I write I'm unsure of the amount so far raised by village organisations and the Millennium Committee, but much hard work and co-operation (and fun) has gone into events this year, securing better facilities for all in the village.

In June descendants of the brothers Stone who emigrated from Great Bromley in 1636 will be gathering to celebrate their family ties and history. They will be delighted simply to be returning to their place of family origin and seeing the village, some of them for the first time. For us who are privileged to live here it will be an opportunity to forge links with others and to learn something of our village's past and to celebrate with them. The year 2000 is being celebrated as the Jubilee of Jesus birth. Christians everywhere are being called to see it as a time of returning in faithfulness to God. As churches there will be a celebrating together; between church and village, there will be a celebrating as individuals continue to come for baptisms, marriages and funerals. Marking these times of passage, times of joy and sorrow, life and death, will be central to all our lives.

How ever we choose to celebrate or mark the year 2000, let us hope and pray it will be a year of favour, a year of celebrating together. May God bless you. - *Fr. Nicolas*

Services for October

Sunday 3rd TRINITY 18

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

Sunday 10th TRINITY 19

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

Sunday 17th TRINITY 20

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

Sunday 24th TRINITY 21 **[as per 10th]**

Sunday 31st ALL SAINT'S DAY

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

Weekday Services as announced in the Parish Newsletter

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

The Bromley Messenger November 1999

AN ENGLISHMAN IN NEW YORK

I vividly remember my wife's first reaction when I told her I was thinking of running the New York Marathon. "You run a marathon? The only thing you can run is a bath?" This acerbic remark helped spur me in to action and the next day, which was sometime in July, I applied for the race. At this time my wife's cruel jibe did have a semblance of truth as I had never done any serious long distance running in my life. Now I was committed it was time to start the training for the race which was to take place on 1st November. Although I consider myself fairly fit as a result of practising martial arts for the past fourteen years I found that distance running required a different kind of fitness and mental attitude. Starting off with gentle three mile runs on the beach at Frinton I gradually built them up and a week before the race ran to Frinton and back which is a distance of twenty one miles. I now felt reasonably confident of at least being able to finish the race.

My wife and I left for New York on Friday morning and arrived at Newark airport at 6.30pm. On arrival we were met by a driver with a stretch limousine - all part of the package - and taken to our hotel "The Plaza" which may be familiar to those of you who have seen the film "Home Alone 2" as some of the hotel's suites were used in this. After a good night's sleep we were up early to take our first really good look at the city as we hadn't seen much on arrival since it was dark and rush hour time. The sights didn't disappoint. The skyscrapers seemed even bigger than I had imagined and the whole place seemed vibrant and alive. We continued our day with a helicopter ride over the famous Manhattan skyline and followed that with a boat tour around the city ending the day with a luxurious dinner at a restaurant called "Windows on the World" which is on the 102nd floor of the World Trade Centre and has superb views as one wall is entirely glass. Up early next morning to catch the bus to the start of the race which began on Staten Island. Because of the logistical problems of getting 32,000 runners organised you are required to get to the start three hours before the start. This results in a long restless wait with people eager to get running although this eagerness tends to wear off some 20 miles on and is replaced with a stronger urge to stop! Eventually the race started and we made our way from Staten Island and in to Brooklyn which provides 13 miles of the distance of 26.2 miles and gives the runners a good illustration of the varied districts and population that inhabit a borough so large that if it were given separate city status would make it the fourth largest in the US. Having seen a good deal of Brooklyn I cannot fathom why the Beckhams named their baby after it but there is no accounting for taste! From Brooklyn we headed in to Queens then Manhattan and on to the Bronx. The Bronx has for a long time endured an unenviable reputation which obviously wasn't lost on some of the local spectators who carried a banner with "Run faster you're in the Bronx!" emblazoned on it. From the Bronx we ran back in to Manhattan and through Harlem and eventually to the very welcome sight of Central Park which supplies the finish. I finished my first marathon in 4 hours 57 minutes, after running 26.2 miles in a race which took in all five boroughs of New York city and enabled me to see parts of the city that would usually never get looked at on a normal trip. My wife had spent the 4 hours 57 minutes in her own private marathon which took place in Maceys, Bloomingdales, Saks and various other stores on 5th Avenue but as she had raised £1,600 in sponsorship for Imperial Cancer Research I reckon she deserved it. This year as I can now run more than a bath I will be running the New York marathon again in aid of Imperial Cancer Research hopefully finishing an hour earlier.

Gary Skinner

[Sponsor Ad] R. GWINNELL Funeral Directors

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 1999

This year Remembrance Sunday falls on 14th November. It is planned to hold Acts of Remembrance at each of the three War Memorials at 10.50 am. At Ardleigh and Great Bromley there will then follow a service in Church. Last year it was encouraging to see so many of the Village organisations represented, and laying wreaths. If you would like to order a wreath this year, please contact Mr Gladwin on 01206 822070. The simple wreath costs 12.50 plus any donation to the British legion. Wreaths can be supplied with specific inserts on request.

CALENDAR 2000 Please would all organisations send in dates for Annual Calendar by 7 Dec

KITCHEN CORNER

A recipe from Ireland this month. The hotel in Macroom, where I stayed recently, served delicious home-made bread, and the chef kindly gave me the recipe. It is quick and easy to make, the ingredients can be found in health food stores or some supermarkets.

CASTLE HOTEL BROWN BREAD

¾ lb coarse ground brown flour 1/2 lb white flour 1 teacup bran
1 teacup wheatgerm 1 teacup pinhead oatmeal (porridge) 1 teasp soda (bicarb)
up to 1/2 cup soft brown sugar (this makes it rather sweet I only used ¼ cup)
1 pint buttermilk 1/2 cup flora oil (sunflower) 1 teasp sesame seeds (optional)
Mix dry ingredients except soda, then sift soda into mixture, make a well in the centre, put in oil and milk and mix well. It should be a good wet consistency. Put into well-greased tins and bake at 150C for 1-1¼ hours. (Sprinkle seeds on top if liked)

Jill Frostick

The Great Bromley
MILLENNIUM
COMMITTEE
presents
NEW YEAR'S EVE
MASKED BALL

At Great Bromley Village Hall
On Friday, 31st December, 1999
8.00 pm until 1.00 am.
Dancing to "CONTRAST"
Finger Buffet and Midnight
Tipple included
Bring your own Drink
Raffle

Tickets Adults – £15.00,
Children (limited) – £5.00
Contact Linda Pinhey (01206 230126)

CHRISTMAS
FAYRE

In aid of St. George's Church and
Gt. Bromley Village Hall

To be held on
Saturday, 27th November

2.00 pm
At Great Bromley Village Hall
Free visit for children to see Father
Christmas
All the usual stalls
Grand Raffle

Any items for stalls
would be very
welcome. If
collection needed
ring 230663



BROMLEYS & LITTLE
BENTLEY
CONSERVATIVES CURRY
LUNCH

Sunday 7th November at 12.30 pm
At Filde Hall, Little Bentley

Tickets Adults
£10 inc. drinks
Children under 11 £2
Contact Henry Fairley
(01206 250229)



Diary of Events

NOVEMBER

3rd WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm
4th Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall 7.30pm
7th Conservatives Curry Lunch, Filde Hall, Lt Bentley, 12.30 pm
9th Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm
11th Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Coffee Morning, 10.30 am
13th Autumn Fayre (Guide Dogs), Ogilvie Hall, Lawford, 2.00 pm
14th Remembrance Sunday
18th Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00 pm
26th PTA Festive Fayre, Gt. Bromley School, 6.00 pm
27th Christmas Sale, Village Hall, 2.00 pm
27th Poems & Pints, Village Hall, 7.30 pm

DECEMBER

1st WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm
10th Mannintree Christmas Late Night Shopping, 6.00 pm
31st New Year's Eve Masked Ball, Village Hall, 8.00pm

2000

12th-15th Jan Gt. Bromley Pantomime Group - Aladdin
20th May Hamilton Lodge Annual Fete, 2-4.30 pm

PTA FESTIVE FAYRE

Friday 26th November at 6.00 pm at the School. There will be a Grand Raffle, mulled wine, mince pies, cakes, lucky dip, Father Christmas, children's games, tombola, stalls and much more.

[Ad] FARM FRESH TRADITIONAL TURKEYS and CHICKEN. Most weights available. Contact Phil Allam, Bluegates Farm, Great Bromley (Telephone 01206 230375)

Tendring LETS... make life easier!

Co-ordinator: Mike Rothwell Telephone: 01255 435566

Tendring LETS is a group of people who are willing to share skills and resources with each other as an alternative to using cash. Membership to this cash-saving society is of course FREE!

- LETS enables us to get our car repaired or lounge decorated ... FREE!
- LETS members loan anything from a caravan to a good book ... NO COST!
- LETS allows access to various alternative therapies/medicines ... FREELY!
- LETS encourages the savouring of locally produced foods ... NO CHARGE!
- LETS means our new business ideas are market tested ... FREE!

LETS systems are growing all over the world and an increasing number of local authorities, including Tendring District Council, have shown interest in LETS systems. Tendring LETS have now been trading for four years. The current levels of part time working, early retirement and unemployment result in many skills going to waste. LETS allows us to minimise this waste, utilise this spare time by keeping, or even improving, our skills, whilst benefiting others. Thus we obtain the specialist skills (or tools) needed to get jobs done immediately, instead of waiting, perhaps for an upturn in our cash resources. This saving of cash frees us to spend more on things otherwise unaffordable to us which in turn enriches the business community of Tendring. An account is kept by the Tendring LETS accountant to enable the system to be monitored and for this purpose we write cheques in our currency - "sokens". We are happy to be "in debt" as interest is never charged! Our LETS Directory doesn't yet rival "Yellow Pages" but we are growing fast and have over 200 skills and loan items available to us!

We hold social events to enable us to get to know each other, which makes the requesting of a 'favour' easier. This is a considerable bonus in these anti-social times! Indeed, many of us are interested in the scheme purely with a view to rebuilding our communities. Our long term aim is to have our own shops/play schools/community halls etc. to further enhance our lives.

LETS LOCAL EXCHANGE TRADING SYSTEMS 62 Station Road, Clacton on Sea, C015 1SP

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met on Tuesday, 14th September with Peter Wenden as Chairman and all members present.

The repairs to the Main Hall floor, subject of an insurance claim, are expected to commence on Monday 25th October, with the area out of use for a week. Tests have been carried out on the Halls electrical installation, which was found to be satisfactory subject to some remedial work currently being undertaken. A variation to our Public Entertainment Licence has been granted by Tendring District Council to allow the New Year's Eve Masked Ball to continue into the early hours of the next day. The annual renewal of this Licence is also due before the TDC Sub Committee in November.

Detailing of our plans for the Hall alterations to provide a Lounge and Storage area are in progress and should go back to Tendring for Building Regulation consent shortly. A date for your diary is Saturday 27th November for the Christmas Sale in the Village Hall organised by Jean Wright for the benefit of the Village Hall and Church. The Committee next meet on Tuesday 9th November at 7.30 pm at the Hall. Could we remind all users of the Hall that before any event takes place, the area required must be pre-booked and agreed with our booking point, Mrs Lynda Allam. Any variations or cancellations must also be agreed with Mrs Allam, otherwise we may charge you for unused reservations. *Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our October meeting was begun with our President, Mrs Rita Baxter, leading a minute's silence in respect of those who lost their lives in the rail crash at Ladbroke Grove, London. After dealing with the WI business and using the expertise of Mrs Vera Biddis as our Auctioneer for the evening, we held an Auction of various items and a Plant exchange. We had a large range of goods and lots of garden plants. With everything sold we raised about £28 for our funds. On the first Wednesday of November we will hold our annual Meeting. Mrs Rita Baxter is retiring after three years as our President, so we will be electing a new President and the Committee for the ensuing year. Mrs Sheila Gunson will be our VCO for the evening to guide us during the election process. Our Members' Christmas Party will be on Wednesday, 1st December. *June Willgress*

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Shaftesbury House, Briar Road Open storage of agricultural equipment This is a residential area and the Parish Council objects to storage of business equipment here as there would be loss of Amenity to the neighbours. As the access roads are narrow, movement to and from the site by this large equipment would cause damage to the grass verges.

Shaftesbury House, Briar Road Retention of domestic storage building The Parish Council has no objections to this application subject to the following conditions:- The building is used solely by the occupants of Shaftesbury House for storage of domestic equipment only

PARISH NEWS

Tree Planting Scheme The Parish Council has now applied for a subsidy from Tendring District Council for the planting of two trees in the village.

Warning Signs in Badley Hall Road it was reported that the school warning sign and the 30 mph Sign are too high and are not clearly visible to motorists. Essex County Council Highways Department will be notified accordingly.

Fly Tipping Refuse has been dumped in Lilleys Lane and in Stone Road. This will be reported to Tendring District Council to request collection.

Public Footpath A member of the public reported that the footpath between Crossways Garage, Frating Road and Balls Green is very narrow. Overgrown vegetation has made the path impassable in places for pushchairs and wheelchairs. This is particularly dangerous and will be reported to Essex County Council, Highways Department as a matter of urgency.

Foundry Court Older Peoples Home Councillor Kevin Hawkins gave a detailed report to the council regarding the proposed closure of Foundry Court. The home is just seven years old and was purpose built as an older people's home. It is the most expensive home in the region to run and is now faced with closure. A final decision regarding its future will be made on 10 November, 1999. The Parish Council fully supports the campaign to keep this home open and a letter will be sent to the County Manager, Mr Roger Sinden, to express the concerns of the council. The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held on 4th November at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

LETTERS

The following is an exchange of letters between Gt. Bromley Parish Council and Mr R Colley, Head of Planning and Building Services at Tendring District Council on Strutts Farm, Great Bromley

To Mr Colley from Gt. Bromley Parish Council 7th September.

My colleagues on Great Bromley Parish Council and I are dismayed to learn that the Bennetts have won their appeal and consequently will be allowed to build a second dwelling at Strutts Farm. At the time when this council agreed to the erection of a replacement dwelling in place of the original one, but not on the original site, it expressed its reservations to the planning Officer that the Bennetts might still attempt to build a dwelling at the original location. Our Council was reassured by your planning officer that this situation would not arise. The Planning inspector's report (Ref: T/APPX/P1560/99/1018294/P2) on this case indicates that your department failed in its duty. This being so our council wish to be informed regarding how this situation which allows the Bennetts to build two dwellings in place of one, was allowed to happen and what steps you intend to take to prevent a recurrence.

To Gt Bromley Parish Council from Mr R Colley 22nd September

Firstly, may I state that this authority shares your dismay at the results of this appeal. The Council fully contested the case at the Public inquiry, including the appointment of counsel to assist in the presentation of its case. My officer Mr Le Grys had previously informed Members of your Council that this authority would vigorously defend its position, and I can assure you that every effort was taken in this regard. The difficulties in this case relate back to the original scheme for a caravan and camping ground and associated replacement dwelling. You may recall that this authority supported the two planning applications, although the application was called in by the Secretary of State for a Public inquiry. Subsequently planning permission was refused for this element, although planning permission granted for the dwelling in its revised location. During the Public inquiry into the caravan and camping ground the land owners wanted to protect their rights towards the site of the original dwelling. and therefore renewed the consent first granted in 1987 in this respect. Following the refusal of permission for the caravan and camping ground, they decided to submit details for the original site. At this stage the Council requested that the applicants enter into a legal agreement to ensure only 1 dwelling be erected.

This procedure was initially agreed by the applicants, but subsequently they declined to complete the agreement and lodged an appeal instead. The inspector determining the recent appeal was not prepared to accept that the dwelling granted permission in relation to the caravan and camping ground scheme was an alternative to the original replacement dwelling, hence consent being granted for the second proposal. I must conclude by stating that this authority has faced considerable expense and staff resources in resisting this proposal and clearly opposes any further residential development in the countryside. However, no realistic ability exists to be able to contest the inspectors judgement in this case.

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

2nd October was a busy day for the school fundraisers. Firstly 38 children, parents and governors took part in the Colchester's 24 hours Fire Swim to help raise money for the Fire Benevolent Fund and other local charities. This is such a fun event as during our time slot of 2.00 - 3.00 pm the whole pool and seating gallery are filled with Gt. Bromley people cheering, clapping, dancing and of course, swimming. The adults then had to summon some energy for our evening's entertainment "The Fabs" who were singing live in the village hall. Again a superb evening, with the dance floor packed from start to finish. Many thanks to Malcolm Ruffell for helping to organise this event and donating his services for free - £285 was raised for school funds.

Don't forget the **PTA Festive Fayre** on Friday, 26th November at 6.00 pm at the school. There will be a Grand Raffle, mulled wine, mince pies, cakes, lucky dip, Father Christmas, children's games, tombola, stalls and much more. We look forward to seeing you there.

STAFF Marina Brown has left the school after nine years of her service, due to her husband's change of job and her long journey. We all wish her well. Gillian Davies has been appointed to teach class 4 for 2.5 days on a job share with Mrs Fitzgerald, starting after half term. Amanda Rowe and Janet Warren will be increasing their hours at the school and further their training to include welfare, special needs together with literacy and numeracy support.

TOKENS/VOUCHERS Free Maths equipment is now being offered with vouchers from McVities biscuits/cakes, KP Hula Hoops and Skips or from The Mirror, Sunday Mirror or Sunday People. Also Nestle cereal are offering tokens for education. If you have any of these or any others you think we might be interested in, please drop them in at the school office - thank you.

PLAYGROUP

Our AGM was held on 27th September, and thank you to everyone who attended. Nicki Halsey and Carolyn Prince resigned as Chairperson and secretary respectively. Sue Clark was elected as the new Chairperson and Helen Fairley as new secretary while Melanie Everett continues as treasurer. A very big thank you to Nicki, Carolyn and Melanie for all your hard work over the last year. Thanks also go to Helen Fairley, who stepped down as Toddler Representative, for all the time and effort she has put in. Karen Beattie was welcomed on to the committee and was elected to succeed Helen. Jane Calderbank continues as Messenger and Grapevine representative. We are pleased to report that the new children who started playgroup in September have all settled in really well and are enjoying our new topic.

Our topic, in playgroup, for the first part of the term has been "All About Me". The children have been discussing and making a special booklet about themselves and their family. Our theme table is a popular as ever, with the children bringing things in that are Special to them. On Thursday, 7th October Playgroup visited St George's School. The children enjoyed a tour of the school led by year 6 pupils, played some games and were able to use the computers. They finished by each making a finger puppet to take home. Thank you to the school for their hospitality.

Dates for your dairy Mon 25 Oct - HALF TERM Mon 1 Nov - HALF TERM Please note, it will be a two week half term Mon 8 Nov - Return to Playgroup Wed 10 Nov - Return to Toddler Group

GT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUP SITUATION VACANT - PLAYGROUP ASSISTANT

Days required to work - Wednesday & Thursday Times - 8.45 am to 12.45 pm No experience is necessary, as long as you interact well with children. Wages on application. Please apply in writing to the secretary: Mrs H Fairley, Richmond House, Paynes Lane, Little Bromley, Manningtree CO11 2PJ Applications should reach us no later than 22nd November 1999.

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND Stour Valley Branch

On Saturday, 18th September 12 teams took part in the Branch's first Quiz Night. Quiz Master Geoff Hawkins kept a light hearted approach to the evening entertainment. After a mid session interval the Woodentops from Ardleigh were leading and went on to be overall winners. £177 was raised for branch funds. We thank all teams who took part and look forward to seeing them early next spring when we hope to stage another Quiz Evening. The annual service to celebrate the work of the Guide Dogs for the Blind took place at St. Marys Church, Lawford on 3rd October. Leading the worship was Reader Margaret Southgate, with five working guide dogs and two retired guide dogs joining the congregation. Carrie Reilly, Regional Fundraising Manager, from Redbridge Training Centre gave a moving account of the faith she has to have as she is at present training with a new guide dog. Despite this being her fifth guide dog its back to basics, as all guide dogs like their owners are individuals. The newly formed Stour Valley Branch members and officers were present. After the service most of the congregation gathered in the Church hall where the dogs enjoyed meeting each other and making friends whilst their owners chatted over tea. Old acquaintances were united and many new friends made. If you would like to make new friends, have fun fundraising, whilst helping visually-impaired people, then why not join the Stour Valley Branch. If you are interested, please phone Marjorie 01206 393504, Rhoda 01255 870194 or Myrtle 01206 303059. Everyone's help is greatly appreciated. The "Guide Dog Family" offers you a warm welcome. Future events: 13 Nov 2.00 pm Autumn Fayre at the Ogilvie Hall, Lawford (Many stalls including cakes, plants, white elephant, tombola, raffle, Christmas cards and Guide Dog merchandise). 10 Dec 6-8.00 pm Manningtree Christmas late night shopping. Come along to visit our stall and enter the competition to name our king size dog.

HISKEYS FARM KENNELS

Boarding Kennels and Cattery

Open 8am to 8pm – 7 days a week – 365 days a year

Quality care for your Dogs, Cats and Small Pets

Playtimes & Country walks for dogs – Cuddles for cats

Competitive rates – Inspection invited

Tel: Anne, Pete or Stuart on 01206 95657

Spratts Lane, Little Bromley, Essex CO11 2PR

WIX & DISTRICT YOUNG FARMERS' CLUB

Wix Young Farmers Club has had a busy and eventful year which draws to a close at the end of September when we have our AGM and the Chairmanship of the Club is handed over to the current Vice-Chairman, Torn Canham. Wix members have had some interesting club meetings during the year, including talks on photography, hypnotherapy, BBC Essex, visits to Bradwell Power Station, St Helena Hospice, Ernest Doe & Sons and taken part in a cricket match at Tendring, a ten-pin bowling match with Thorpe Discussion Group and a pool and darts competition against Colchester YFC.

Wix has also been active in County competitions winning the Farm Valuation Shield and also the Hockey League, coming 2nd in the Hockey Tournament and football competition and winning the Raft Race which took place this year on the River Stour. Other activities the club has taken part in are public speaking competition, netball, basketball, tug-o-war, clay pigeon shooting and "quasar". Young Farmers' Clubs always put a major effort during the year into fund raising for charities and Wix has had a successful year raising £3,000. A Christmas Log Chop, Christmas Party, Raffle and Spring Ball were some of the way we raised this money which we will donate to charities at the end of September. The charities chosen this year are CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young), Hamilton Lodge Trust at Great Bromley, Essex Air Ambulance Service, St. Helena Hospice and the Huntington's Disease Association. Wix YFC has currently 45 members with 16 new members this year. Although the club is called Young Farmers, many members do not have a farming background, but enjoy meeting with other young people, working hard, playing hard and having fun. Wix is one of 16 YFC Clubs in Essex and there are many opportunities during the year to meet up with the other clubs through the competitions, The Young Farmers' Show at the Essex Showground, Gt. Leighs and almost weekly parties.

We are always pleased to have new members join the Club, so if you are aged between 16 and 26, why not come and see what we are about. Wix YFC meet on a Thursday evening at the White Hart Public House, Wix at 8.00pm. Tom Canham, our new Chairman, would be pleased to welcome you along, or if you would like more information first, please telephone him on 01206 250443.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported us and been involved with the Club during the year, especially our Club President, Mrs Janet Little, our subscribers and members. *Robert Black, Chairman Wix YFC*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The November meeting is on the 18th - a musical afternoon with Mavis Baker and The Bandbox Singers. The competition is a small decorated gift box. *Vicky Griffiths*

HARVEST WEEKEND

I would like to thank most sincerely all those who contributed towards the Harvest Festival and Harvest Lunch and to all those who worked so hard to make the weekend so enjoyable. *AW.*

GARDENERS CORNER for NOVEMBER

This is the last "Gardeners Corner" for this century - I'll be back in February. The garden work for this month is very limited but this is a good month for laying a new lawn. Turfs are the ideal way for a quick lawn - seed takes a little longer. Now is about the time for the last out of the year for established lawns - don't forget to keep sweeping dead leaves off as these can harbour grubs, slugs etc. **CHRYTHANTHEMUMS:** Once the outdoor varieties have finished flowering, cut them down to leave about 4 inches of the old stems and as a protection against heavy frost cover the roots with ashes or old potting compost.

DAHLIAS: As soon as the frost blackens the plants dig them up and clean off all the old soil, put them in a cardboard box in a frost free place. To avoid the tubers getting mildew dust with Sulphur Powder which you can buy from the chemists.

I close "Gardeners Corner" now wishing all the "Messenger" readers a Very Happy and Prosperous entrance into the year 2000. - *Frank Griffiths*

BRITISH CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE

2 ft to 7 ft height * All potted or cut * PRICES FROM £5

* OPEN DAILY FROM 27-11-99 10am to 4 pm

* OLD SHIELDS FARM, WATERHOUSE LANE, ARDLEIGH . TEL. 01206 230251

THE SIGN OF THE WHEAT SHEAF

This year, the cover of The Bromley Messenger has featured the former Wheatsheaf public house in Little Bromley which had already been in business for nearly 100 years at the time the photo was taken. Standing in the "shell" of the old house on our first visit three years ago, we could only picture the atmosphere and the generations of people who had frequented its once cosy interior. Locals tell us how it used to be a nice little country pub but can you imagine the scene in 1843 when shoe-maker, John Church and wife Mary, lived in the original two up, two down wooden cottage with their five children and none of the mod-cons we know today! The Tithe Award of 1838 described the house as a "beer shop" on land owned by William Sparling and occupied by John Church. As was common in those days, Mary was probably the brewer of the beer, which was considered a healthier alternative to some sources of drinking water at that time. After she died in 1887 the business transferred to Ishmael and Harriet Southgate.

By 1902, Harriet was in charge and in 1908 bought the freehold of the property when it was put up for auction, and had built the "new club room" on the front of the house as seen on the right hand side of the photo. She re-married in 1912 to a farmer, George Manning, who continued to run The Wheatsheaf after her death, but sold out to Daniell & Sons Ltd., brewers of East Bergholt, in 1920.

During the 1920s, when the photograph was taken, the pub was run by John and Emily Cole and throughout the 1930s by Bertie John Garrod who, by all accounts, was a very popular landlord. The pub was further extended in 1938 by an infill between the front extensions but this and the left hand extension which, beneath it, housed the old flood-prone cellar, were demolished in 1967 as part of modernisation plans by Trumans providing the luxury of indoor lavatories within the next extension.

In 1982, The Wheatsheaf and its adjoining land were sold off. Mervyn and Joan Butcher became the new owners of the pub and the land destined for village housing. The pub sold again a few years later to Tom Smith who was to be the last licensee before it closed its doors in the early 1990s. He died whilst converting the building back to a private house and by the time we saw it, it was empty, almost derelict and in desperate need of structural repair. After much work (more than we first envisaged!), The Wheatsheaf is now a home once more and we would welcome any further information about the pub, in particular seeing any old photographs than anyone may have. Anyone who misses the pub can at least still see the old pub signs, now adorning the front of The Wheatsheaf public house... at Wrabness! *Paul & Claire Quilter*

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Shoebox Project

The Samaritan's Purse is a Christian charity operating all year round to bring the love of Christ and practical relief to people who are victims of war, famine, disease and natural disasters. This project is just one of many that they run. Decorated shoeboxes are collected from children and their families - each one lovingly packed with toys, sweets and other gifts are delivered to needy children throughout Eastern Europe. Just like the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10 25-37) Jesus asks us to "Go and do likewise". What better way to celebrate the birth of Jesus than to give a present to a child who could otherwise have nothing!

DEADLINE for gifts for despatch in time for Christmas is 10th November. For further details please contact Amanda Watts, Elizabeth Young or the churchwardens. [Instructions omitted]

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Parishioner, November is a month when we are reminded of death. The countryside around us seems to be dying, the days are shortening. Our keeping of Remembrance Sunday, (this year 10.50 am at each of the war memorials) calls us to remember those who have died as a result of war and in the pursuit of peace. In Church we keep two festivals: All Saints Day, a celebration for those who have been recognised as being close to God whilst on earth; and All Souls Day, when we remember our own families and friends who have died. Just as on earth we ask for prayers and pray for others, so we believe that even though divided by death, we can still be prayed for and indeed pray that those who have gone before us will be welcomed into the presence of God. If you would like a name to be mentioned in the prayers at the 7.00 pm Eucharist in St. Marys, Ardleigh on 2nd November please write it on the list in church or let me know. It is one of the privileges of a priest to be involved with people at the time of their death or in their grieving. According to the law everyone has a right to a funeral in St. Georges and then burial in the churchyard according to residency. I am always honoured to be involved in helping people with decisions regarding funerals whether I'm to officiate or not, in the Church or at the Crematorium. Some make their requests known in advance, whilst others leave it to family and friends. There is a leaflet in church that might be of use to you in this. One point worth noting is that there are strict guidelines laid down by the chancellor of the diocese as to graves and stones, which are different to Local Authority places. So for example whilst a flower receptacle is allowed, the planting of bulbs or plants is not. Full copies of the regulations can be obtained from the Church or Funeral directors. It can be very positive to air and discuss funerals; they are after all something we all experience. It can be peace bringing and a release to know that things have been planned. For the Christian, death is not the end, but a significant moment in our pilgrimage towards God. Whilst tinged with sadness it can be an occasion of joy and peace. May all of us know this peace, especially if we are grieving now. Fr Nicolas

SIDESMAN DUTIES for November

	8.00am	9.30am	6.30pm
7th	J Clapham	D Skinner/S Clarke	D Sparling
14th	Ardleigh	A Fairley/C Pirie	Ardleigh
21st	G Kempster	J Clapham/A Clapham	E Lennox
28th	Ardleigh	S Clarke/H Brown	Ardleigh

FLOWER ROTA 7th Wedding 14th Wedding flowers 21st June Wenden

Services for November (St George, Gt Bromley & St Mary, Ardleigh)

Sunday 7th 3rd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT 7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. George 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George

Sunday 14th REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 10.50am Act of Remembrance St. George 10.50am Act of Remembrance at Little Bromley War Memorial 10.50am Act of Remembrance & Parish Eucharist St. Mary 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary

Sunday 21st CHRIST THE KING 8.00am The Eucharist , 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary 6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George

Sunday 28th ADVENT SUNDAY 7.30am Morning Prayer, 8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary 6.30pm Advent Readings & Music St. Mary

Weekday Services as announced in the Parish Newsletter

The Bromley Messenger December 1999

I am writing this on the eve of the parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Although this will be my fifth visit, and third as a leader, there is still that sense of wonder and expectation. Places change, people alter, new places are discovered and opened up, old familiar places closed down! One of the pleasures in travelling in a group is experiencing things with other people. The Holy Land is an emotional place. For many of us the town of Bethlehem is one of the first names we learn alongside our own address. So to be there, actually walking and breathing in the air promises maybe disappointment, maybe, satisfaction. A visit to the Holy Land often forces some realities onto folk, the images of tea towel wearing, sandal shod people, sitting around talking come to the truth of the hardness of the life now, let alone two thousand years ago. In my experience this allows the Bible to come alive, brings many details into focus.

When Jesus walked the streets of Jerusalem it was a city under occupation, for some that is still the view. What ever one thinks of the rights and wrongs, it is obviously a divided city. On the Mount of Olives there sits a church modelled in the shape of a teardrop and silver to match. Here pilgrims remember that Jesus sat and wept over the city, wept over the stubbornness, and pride of humanity. The view he had is pretty much the same as today if one removes the TV aerials and some high rise buildings to the West. It is a famous view, one that often appears on our screens - the walls of the city, the remains of the Jewish Temple, the two beautiful domes of the mosques. Sacred to the three major world faiths, politically claimed by many as their capital, their rightful home. One cannot help but look at the same view almost 2000 years later and weep over the city, over the stubbornness and pride of humanity.

The Church has played its part in this scandal and to an extent continues to do so, once trenches are dug they can be hard to climb out of or alter. There are new approaches being made, the Pope hopes to visit next year, discussions are taking place at all levels between the religious. People like us go on pilgrimage and are much more likely now to meet people who actually live there, call it home, who are trying to make sense of the tensions.

Come to think of it there is not much difference between Jerusalem, some of our own cities, towns, even dare I suggest our villages and communities. Tensions, disagreements, pride over who has rights where and why, these can all be hallmarks of daily life for any of us. Twenty of us will return from Jerusalem touched by the Holy City, changed hopefully for the better. As we tell our stories - show our holiday snaps may we bring back with us some sense of peace to those who know us. For those who will be celebrating this Christmas as extra special, may it be learning from the past and apologising where necessary, living life to the full in the present, and with renewed faith and hope in the future. As Jesus wept, and we have shared in that, may we bring him joy and share in that. May God bless you, *Fr Nicolas*

THE MESSENGER, sends Christmas Greetings to our readers and thanks everyone for their support over the last year.

Tendring District Millennium Wood Appeal at Kirby-le-Soken

To mark this historic time we want to work with you to create a new wood for Tendring. This will be your millennium wood - a lasting way to commemorate our shared moment in history, and a gift to all future generations who will live within the district of Tendring.

The Background. The Woodland Trust is the UK's leading woodland conservation charity.

Woods on your Doorstep is our national millennium project - its aim: to create 200 new woods, each within easy walking distance of a town or village in England and Wales. The project is backed by the Millennium Commission with National Lottery money.

The Location The potential site for the Millennium Wood is along Maltings Lane, Kirby-le-Soken. The Plan Together with local people from all over Tendring District, we want to raise enough money to buy the 10 acres of land. We want to work with you to design and create a unique native wood to mark the new millennium. You can be involved throughout the project. You can even help plant the trees. The Woodland Trust will then look after the new wood, making sure it is well cared for and always open for quiet enjoyment.

84% of the total project cost is already in place. We don't need your money today; we just need a promise from you - a pledge. We will only ask you to redeem your pledge if our campaign is successful. Please contact David Payne, 4 Crabtree, Briarfields, Kirby-le-Soken CO13 OHF for a Tendring Millennium Wood Appeal at Kirby-le-Soken Pledge Form or ring Andrea Miles (Woodland Trust Regional Fundraiser) on 01 892 513733 if there are any aspects of the pledge or the project you would like to discuss.

FESTIVAL OF WINTER WALKS

The Tendring Group's contribution to the above countrywide festival of the Ramblers' Association is on Thursday, 30th December.

Two Scenic Walks in the DEDHAM VALE AONB

Both start at Dedham Mill free car park in Mill Lane.

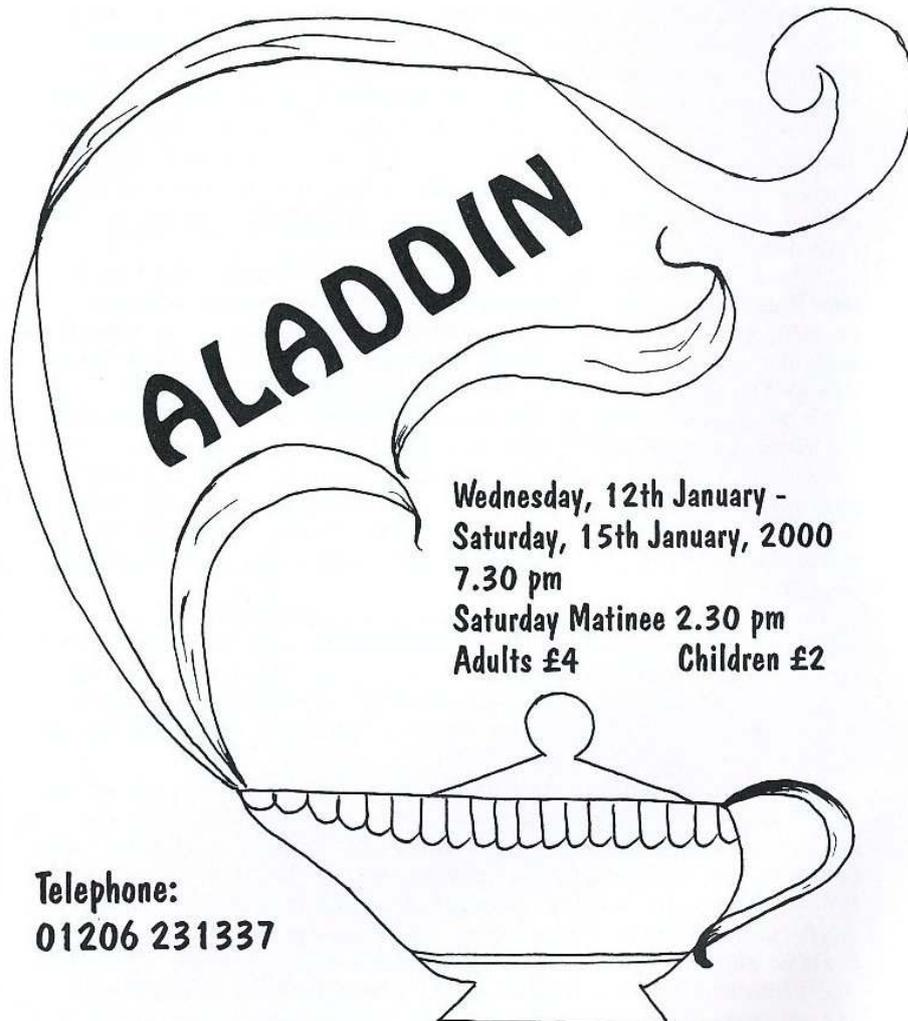
Walk 1 Start 10.00 am sharp. Walk out towards Langham on the Stour Valley path. Return on the Essex Way. 6 miles

Walk 2 Start 1.45 pm sharp. Walk to Flatford using more of the Stour Valley path. 5 miles ALL members of the public are a welcome to come along to either or both walks. For more details phone 01206 230791 or 01255 432027

	BRITTAN's 'Ceremony of Carol' JANACEK's 'Our Father' Sung by the Kelvedon Singers 18th December St. George's Church at 7.30 pm Tickets £7.50 including refreshments Obtainable from James Wild (230679), Olive Sparling (230436), Post Office and on door In aid of the Church Repair Fund	
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The Great Bromley MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE would like to thank the following people for their sponsorship and contributions to the recent Race Night. Race Sponsors - The Cross Inn, Hiskeys Kennels, Oscars Pet Foods, Bromley Carpets, The Denham Family, Gaffney of Tiptree, The Vigus Family and Bob Steward. Prize Donations - Cavity John Insulation, Gaffney of Tiptree, Bevan and June Willgress

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP ***Present***



Wednesday night charity show in aid of St. George's School

FOR SALE FAX MACHINE - Panafax UF-121. Full working order ideal for home use £50. Please call 01206 231203 (Ardleigh)

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

In November, we held our Annual Meeting when we elected our new President and Committee. After dealing with all the business, our retiring President, Mrs Rita Baxter, introduced Mrs Judith Rose who replaced Mrs Sheila Gunson, our V.C.O. (Voluntary County Organiser) for the evening. The election process for our new President and Committee was soon underway with the guidance of Mrs Rose. This resulted in Mrs Jill Frostick agreeing to be our new President, with a committee of Mrs Gwen Barrell, Mrs Paula Bradshaw, Mrs Mary Clarke, Mrs Beryl Hurst, Mrs Ann Jones, Mrs Sylvia Mangan and Mrs Rene Roberts. After the elections we expressed our appreciation to Mrs Rita Baxter for all her hard work over the past three years. Mrs Judith Rose then gave us an interesting insight and informative talk on how the W.I. County Show is planned and organised. The Show Committee, of which she is a member, work hard most of the year, booking the venue, judges and entertainment, compiling the entry schedules to name but a few of the many tasks that go towards making the event a success. A reminder to all W.I. Members attending, please bring along two plates, a knife, fork, spoon and glass to our Christmas Party on the first Wednesday in December. On behalf of the Great Bromley W.I. Members, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a "Very Merry Christmas and Good Luck in the new Millennium Year" - *June Willgress*

<i>Ideal Dutch</i>	
Conservatory Furniture Gifts & Accessories Teak & Hardwood Garden Furniture	
Showroom opening times: Monday - Saturday: 9am - 5pm Sunday: 10am - 2pm	Colchester Road, Elmstead Market, Essex CO7 7EA. Tel: 01206 242366 Mobile: 07771 510805

CARPET BOWLS

We are three matches into the league season and have managed to lose one, win one and had one drawn game. Several of the games had only one point separating the teams at the final score, which made the play very interesting, and we hope, entertaining for the spectators. We welcome new member, Tony Wilsher, to the Club and hope he enjoys his carpet bowls. Although Tony is an experienced player on short-mat (45 ft), he is unfamiliar with carpet which is a slightly different game. Already he has proved an asset and we look forward to his company for a long time to come. We are looking for more people to play on a Monday afternoon; this is more of a social get together whilst playing carpet bowls. Anyone who fancies an afternoon game will be most welcome, membership of the club is not necessary. It doesn't matter if you have never bowled a wood before. We look forward to hearing from you. A happy Christmas to all our members and fiends. *Nancy Kempster*

DIARY of EVENTS

DECEMBER

1st WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm
7th Copy for Messenger to Editor, please
7th Charity Quiz Night, Cross Inn
8th Gt Bromley Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, Hall, 10.00am
9th Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
10th Manningtree Christmas Late Night Shopping, 6.00 pm
16th Friendship Club, Village Hall, 2.00pm
16th St. Georges School Christmas Discos
16th Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Methodist Chapel, 7.3 0pm
17th Youth Club disco
18th Brittan & Janacek Concert, St. George's Church, 7.30pm
20th Susan Tilbrook Farewell evening, St. George's School, 7.00pm
21st Carol Singing. Meet Church Meadow, Gt. Bromley, 6.00pm
22nd Music Night, Cross Inn
23rd Carol Singing. Meet Car Park opp. Shop, Lt Bromley, 6.00pm
30th Ramblers Association walks in Dedham Vale
31st New Year's Eve Masked Ball, Village Hall, 8.00pm
31 st Millennium Night party, Cross Inn
2000 12th-15th Jan Gt. Bromley Pantomime Group - Aladdin
5th Feb PTA Quiz Night
20th May Hamilton Lodge Annual Fete, 2 - 4.30 pm

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

This month we have our Christmas Social on the 16th when we have our BUMPER Raffle so if you have anything to contribute it would be appreciated. The Competition is - a home made fancy hat. Our entertainers are to be The Grange Ladies Co-operative Choir. *Vicky Griffiths*

PLAYGROUP

Fireworks were the theme for the first week in November. Some beautiful pictures were made using lots of glitter and sparkles, very popular with the children. The following weeks covered Autumn and Winter. Our OFSTED Inspection took place at the end of November. Copies of the report will be available from January, via the committee. December is a busy and exciting month in playgroup with all the preparations for Christmas. As well as the cards and decorations to be made, we are also looking forward to a visit from Father Nicolas, who will be telling us the story of Christmas. We finish of course, with our Christmas party, which is always lots of fun and hopefully Father Christmas will have time to pop in too! We would like to wish good luck to Hannah, Stephanie, Allie, Bradley, Kester and Mitchell who will be leaving us to start school in January. If you would like any further information about playgroup please contact our secretary, Helen Fairley who will be pleased to help. Our Toddler Group always welcomes new faces. Why not come along for a chat and a coffee - your first visit is free.

Dates for your diary: Wed 15 Dec Last day of term Mon 17 Jan Return to playgroup Wed 19 Jan Toddler Group returns

ST. GEORGE'S YOUTH CLUB.

Well done Lawrence Barker who with Steve Clyde of the Silver End drop in centre was chosen by the Essex Association of Boys Clubs to represent the County at the National Youth Achievement and Message Bearer's Ceremony at the Commonwealth Institute in London on 18th September. Lawrence and Steve took a letter of goodwill from the Mayor of Colchester and the chair of Braintree District Council to the Duke of Gloucester and handed them to Steve Cram, who was the Duke's representative on the day.

At the disco held on Friday, 12th November we raised £82 for the cricket club. This is by way of a thank you for letting the Youth Club use the cricket field during the summer months. We hope to hold another disco on 17th December. Don't forget that the last Youth Club night of 99 (and talent contest) is on 15th December and we return in the new year on 19th January. Lastly from all at Youth Club we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new millennium.

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

The school opened after the half term break with Mrs Gillian Davies teaching, with Mrs Fitzgerald, class 4. Years 3, 4 and some of 5 took the coach to Lavenham for the day to see Tudor houses, in particular Little Hall around which we were given a guided tour. Football in the Community has started training our eager footballers on a Tuesday night and Netball and Art Clubs continue on Monday and Wednesday respectively.

"The Fabs" evening was so successful that a provisional date of 4th March has been set for a return visit. We'll keep you posted. Thanks to the funds raised by the PTA, we have been able to purchase Maths equipment to the value £650 and help fund the coach to the pantomime at the Mercury Theatre to see Mother Goose. Finally, Mrs Fitzgerald and all the staff would like to thank all their helpers and parents for their help during the year and wish you all a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

FUTURE DATES The children's Christmas Disco will be on Thursday, 16th December. Reception to Year 3 will be 4.30-6.00 pm at £1.50. Years 4 - 6 will be from 6.30-8.30 pm at £1.00. Tickets can be purchased from the school office. Quiz Night - 5th February, 2000 - get a team together!

FAREWELL to SUSAN TILBROOK

After 23 Years Gt Bromley School says Farwell to Susan Tilbrook.

All parents (past and present), and friends of St. Georges C of E Primary School are warmly invited to join us in a farewell mulled wine and mince pie evening for Susan Tilbrook on Monday 20th December, 1999 from 7.00 - 8.30 pm in the school hall. Tickets available from the school (£1.00 per ticket to cover costs). Please apply for tickets by Wednesday, 8th December, 1999. Anyone wishing to contribute towards a retirement present for Sue please contact Mrs Pat Fitzgerald at the school.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

GREAT BROM LEY PARISH COUNCIL

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

Balls Green, Methodist Chapel - Change of use to dwelling house No objections to this application.

Planning Application Number 99/01519/FUL 3 peace Cottage, Badley Hall Road. Proposed single storey extension to form conservatory. No objections to this application.

Planning Application Number 99/01588/FUL Drumnascamph, Chase Road. First floor extension above existing garage. No objections to this application

PARISH NEWS

Recreation Ground Councillor Baines has now installed the new football posts at Hare Green Recreation Ground. The Parish Council thanked him for his efforts. An application has been submitted to the District Council for free basketball posts.

Warning Signs in Badley Hall Road It was reported that the school warning sign is at the minimum height and cannot be lowered. Highways Department has agreed to cut away overhanging vegetation to improve visibility.

Public Footpath - Frating Road A site meeting has been held with the highways Department to look at ways of improving this footpath. A report is awaited.

St. George's School Following the recent incident whereby a stolen vehicle crashed through the school railings, the Parish Council will once again request crash barriers outside the school. Parking outside the school is an ongoing problem as parents continue to park on the "School - Keep Clear" areas instead of parking on the Church Meadow. A report will be forwarded to the Police.

The following meeting dates for the year 2000 were approved: 6 January, 17 February, 16 March, 27 April and 25 May- Annual Parish Assembly. The next meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council will be held at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on 9th December.

FOOTPATHS

House occupiers are reminded that it is their responsibility to prevent their hedges from encroaching on to public footpaths. Neither District nor Essex County Council is responsible for keeping footpaths clear of brambles, hedges etc. growing on private land.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 16th December at the Methodist Chapel, Lt Bromley at 7.30 pm.

GT. BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Management Committee met on Tuesday, 9th November with Peter Wenden as Chairman and all members present except one, Simon Baines. Repairs to the Main Hall floor commenced on Wednesday, 27th October and were concluded the following week. Although a couple of small items need our attention, the floor, with good maintenance and treated with respect (purchased locally!), should now last for many years and give all users good service for their chosen activity. Our detailed plans for the Hall alterations to provide Lounge and Storage areas have been sent to Tendring District Council for Building Regulations consent and should be agreed soon. An application for assistance with funding has been submitted to the "Millennium Festival Awards for All" programme. Thanks are expressed to the Play Group for re-organising their storage area in conjunction with the alterations. Renewal of the Halls insurance took place in October, providing satisfactory cover the Building, Contents, Public and Employee Liability. A proportion of the cost of the floor repair mentioned above is being met by the insurance company. Our thanks are expressed to Jean Wright and her many helpers in organising and running the Christmas Sale on 27th November for the benefit of the Village Hall and Church. Also to the public for coming along and buying, without whom we could not succeed. We hope that you will support the Gt. Bromley Millennium Committee at their New Year's Eve Masked Ball. It is a special effort to start the new millennium in the village and perhaps we could bring dances back to the Hall on a regular basis. May I, on behalf of the Trustees, wish everybody "A very happy Christmas and Good Fortune in the year 2000". The committee next meet on Saturday, 8th January at 10.00 am at the Hall. - *Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

CAROL SINGING

This year we are carol singing around Great and Little Bromley. Anyone is welcome to join in, carol sheets are provided and thick coats and torches are recommended! On Tuesday, 21st December at 6.00pm we will start from the Church Meadow, Gt. Bromley and on Thursday, 23rd December at 6.00pm we will begin at the car park Opposite the shop in Little Bromley. We try and visit as many houses as possible but if you would like us to sing to you please contact Nicky Robinson on 01206 230229. We will be collecting for Mencap this year which provides homes, holidays, employment opportunities, leisure services and information to people with a learning disability and their families.

HOST HOSTING for OVERSEAS STUDENTS

An inviting opportunity! HOST is a national charity, founded by the British Council and the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. We offer adult international students at universities and colleges in the UK the opportunity to stay, for just a weekend, with friendly individuals or families. This gives the students a unique insight into the way of life of this county, and helps them to feel welcome here. The hosts, who offer one or two invitations a year, benefit by making friends from different parts of the world and learning about other countries in a very personal way. The exchange of ideas and mutual understanding will, we hope, play a small part in fostering better international relations. Invitations are particularly welcome at Christmas and New Year. If you think you might be interested in becoming a volunteer host, please call HOST's Voluntary Regional Organisers for an information pack Heather Allison 01473 710272

TENDRING MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

As we approach the year 2000 and that very special birthday, what better way to celebrate than to share a little of your precious time with someone in need. Our charity works with a wide variety of people. We run a day centre in Clacton, outreach groups in Walton on the Naze, Brightlingsea and Manningtree. Advocacy Projects for mental health and Learning Disabilities plus 2 workshops - woodwork and a garden site. This is a plea for volunteers to help our service for people with a learning disability. The clients would like someone to visit them who is not paid to do so - someone who likes them for themselves. One hour per fortnight could make that difference to someone, and what a 5 special hour that could be. I Could you help? You need no qualification - except that you care. Could you be that special friend - help and support is always available for our volunteers. For details please ring Avril O'Sullivan on 01255 429778

CHURCH MAGAZINE

In January the Churches are launching a combined magazine for the United Parishes. The aim is to compliment the Messenger and Ardleigh Advertiser, both of which serve us well, and provide a publication which is informative to all looking to the churches. The Church Council is fully committed to continuing financial support to the Messenger. There will be the regulars - (yes a letter from the Rector!) service and activity announcements. Other articles include a "from the Church Register spot", ones from central church sources, and a spiritual commentary on the month, a children's page, financial details and updates, and much much more! It is hoped that the majority of people will collect their copy from church, some can be delivered, and some posted. Please sign up in Church if you would like to subscribe. The magazine will cost £3.50 for the year with an additional £3.50 if you would like it posted to you.

Message from Bishop Edward

Happy Christmas! A Happy and Prosperous New Year! No, I think we will have to do better than that this year. It is the Millennium - indeed two millennia since the birth of Jesus Christ and it is his birth we celebrate, and the wish for happiness and prosperity is inadequate. After all, we follow one who ended up on a cross, stripped of everything - freedom, health, wealth, friends, life itself. He was there knowingly for the sake of love, for love of the Father and love of

KITCHEN CORNER

BACON PUDDING for 4

6 oz fine chopped bacon
8 oz SR flour
3 oz suet
1 medium onion, chopped
1 tblsp mixed chopped herbs
Seasoning
1 egg + milk to mix

Mix all to a soft firm dough. Put into a well-greased basin, cover and tie down. Steam for 2 hours. Serve with a good gravy or a tomato or espagnole sauce.

Jill Frostick



mankind. He gave everything for love and calls us to do the same. Too often Christians have seen wealth and success and health as signs of Gods favour, a reward for good living - but the cross contradicts this: we are called to a way of sacrifice. This is the meaning of Jubilee 2000. Our happy prosperity has often meant the unhappy poverty of others, the gospel call of Jubilee is that we will put the forgiving of debts and restoration of peace and life to others first, and our own prosperity second. But, in fact, the cancelling of debt to the so-called Third World will make very little difference to our material prosperity and will do much for us all spiritually - recalling us to the fact that under God we are one world. But there is more, for we are being called to live like this daily. Jesus was born to convert the world, to recall us human beings to the knowledge that God is, that he is our creator and loving Father and has a purpose for us; and that purpose is to live with that same sacrificial love that we see in Jesus. I do not wish you a Happy Christmas, nor a Prosperous New Year, but rather that we may all together rediscover the child Jesus in our lives and learn to live in his way of open, vulnerable, self-giving love for the Father, and for his created world and people. Let us live with the Christmas call of Jesus every day in this new Millennium.

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

Sunday 5th ADVENT 2

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



Sunday 12th ADVENT 3

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

Sunday 19th ADVENT 4

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

Wed 22nd

- 8.00pm CHRISTMASS CAROL SERVICE St. George the Martyr

Friday 24th CHRISTMASS EVE

- 5.00pm Christingle Service St. George the Martyr
- 11.30pm Midnight Mass St. George the Martyr

Saturday 25th CHRISTMASS DAY

- 8.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr
- 11.00am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

Sunday 26th HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY

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

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