

The Bromley Messenger

August 2008

Volume 22 No 5



Over thirty ladies from Great Bromley and the surrounding villages took to the floor in the Village Hall in April to enjoy a day of Fun, Fitness and Frolics led by Debbie Miller. It was organised by Great Bromley Women's Institute from part of the grant received from Awards for All to benefit the community. The day started with some Line Dancing and was followed by a lovely healthy Buffet Lunch, provided by Richard and Brenda from the Cross. Then Maureen Carrington gave us a talk on Healthy Living with the emphasis on exercise. The day finished with an enjoyable session of Tap Dancing (see above). It was all much appreciated and there have been requests for a repeat. Watch this space!

EDITORIAL

On the following pages is the eulogy to Jean Harding given by one of her sons at her funeral and I make no apology that I have printed it in full. I first met Jean through books at The Wivenhoe Bookshop many years ago before we moved to Great Bromley when she helped me find obscure volumes that the larger bookshops, at the time, did not want to bother to help me find. Since then she, and Robert, wove in and out of our lives in numerous ways. My children remember her through events such as the Teddy Bear's Picnic and the Mad Hatter's Tea Party. She gave a lot of her time, ideas and enthusiasm to local groups, the church, associations and charities through her zest for life and compassion for others and will be hugely missed.

We missed the Tendring Show this year for the first time in ages as we went instead to Goodwood, courtesy of our children, and what a glorious (sorry about the pun) day it was. The joy of a family outing, which is a rare event in itself getting them altogether on the same day, along with sun, the excitement of noise and bustle as the cars (old and new) made their runs, was spiced by seeing the likes of Lewis Hamilton and Jason Button - or rather a blur - as they raced past in their F1 cars.

This week, when I should have been

hunched over the computer completing this magazine for printing, we stayed with our son and visited Art in Action, near Waterperry, where the best of the country's craftspeople gather, to demonstrate and exhibit their work. It is always exciting to see some of the old crafts being worked in the traditional way alongside the modern, innovative approach demonstrating how the arts and crafts never ossify. The weather, in this unpredictable summer, was again kind unlike last year when the ground resembled a bog. The dog too was allowed to enjoy the day out as, like at the Tendring Show, dogs are accepted and allowed around the marquees and grounds. She also enjoys the attention from other visitors and her tail never ceases to wag, with the only time that becoming a concern being in the glass marquee!

The schools have now, or will soon, be breaking up for the summer and I trust you will all have a happy healthy time during the coming weeks before we all settle back after the holidays.

Leonie Henderson



MATERIAL for the **SEPTEMBER 2008** edition of 'The Messenger'

should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **Monday, 18th August, 2008** please. Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed. Whilst the editor welcomes contributions, photographs etc this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to publish, that the item may be edited and that there is no breach of copyright. Publication is in good faith and neither the editor nor the publisher accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement, including any error or omission, responsibility for which remains with the author.

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JEAN HARDING

A REMEMBRANCE BY GRAHAM HARDING FOR HER FUNERAL ON 16TH JULY 2008

Six years ago I stood here to testify to the life of my father Robert. Now Jean has come – in joy rather than sorrow – to join him in Bromley Churchyard, looking out over the Essex countryside that she came in time to love.

For, as many of those here today will well know, she was not a native of these parts. The Tendring Hundred was a later love affair after the mountains that had captivated her heart as a girl.

She was born just over 85 years ago in Manchester, the youngest child of Liberal freethinking parents and she retained a lifelong sympathy for the oppressed and exploited.

Her father, Duke, was a brilliant chemist and later one of the founders of ICI. Jean was thrilled to discover earlier this year that his ground-breaking and highly successful book on Organic Medicinal Chemicals has just been re-published. Her wise and warm mother, Thea, was the beautiful daughter of Captain Thomas Wood, a South Seas trader captivated by the youngest daughter of a family emigrating to New Zealand. They married in Wellington and sailed back to Scotland, where Jean's mother was brought up.

That combination in her background made her a romantic at heart – as she herself said “I enjoyed and grew up into a mind world of art, poetry, criticism, discussion, literature, joy of nature and the countryside” – but she was a romantic with a sharp and very practical intelligence and a strong infusion of her mother's thrifty Scottish nature. All toothpaste tubes were squeezed for the very last drop and the paper stock for her printer invariably consisted of the unprinted sides of official

letters and documents.

She left school at 16 in 1939 and believing that university would be an irrelevance at such a time went instead to a train in domestic science in Manchester. She became one of the Ministry of Food's demonstrators talking to audiences across the country about healthy eating.

First in Manchester and then in Harpenden where her parents had moved to after her father's first stroke she was celebrated as an amateur actress of great beauty and great potential. She gave up the possibility of a professional career to marry Robert and returned to acting only in recent years when she inspired and organised play readings in Wivenhoe.

She had had both passionate relationships and offers of marriage during the war years but in the end it was Robert who swept off her feet after a first meeting at a dance for returning heroes in Harpenden in June 1946. Three months later they were engaged, married three months after that and living in Great Bromley at the Hollies (a name she hated all her life) by the end of the freezing winter of 1947 – the worst of the 20th century. To live in the country was what they both wanted but after the urban comfort of Manchester and Harpenden it was a shock to Jean in particular.

There was no hot water and the lavatory was, as a friend eloquently, described it, a ‘short bicycle ride down the garden’.

With three children and a driven, workaholic husband, life was hard at times. The household budget for food was 10 shillings a week and when money was short she turned to the wartime staples of nettle soup and herrings in oatmeal.

But there was still time for all night dancing and parties and a whole set of memories could be constructed around the food that we were brought up with – the hundredweight and more of marmalade she made every year, the near daily deliveries of bread from the bakery at Ardleigh, the thick cream bought direct from Barbara Earith at Vinces Farm in Ardleigh, the ribs of beef and the hams cooked for the annual Tendring Hundred Show parties.

As a mum she was wonderful. We ran wild in the woods around Bromley, we skated on frozen water meadows (with skates bought at auctions by Robert), we sailed at Wrabness, where we once spent a cramped but idyllic summer living in a 9 ft by 5 foot cabin. We feasted off fruit from the garden. We acquired a taste for grown-up parties and the conversation and food and wine that went with them.

We went on epic holidays to South of France and Italy that started with all night drives across Europe in a tiny Austin A30 with children sleeping across the back seat and floor. Once a helpful French policeman had to be prevented from getting into the backseat to provide midnight directions out of Lille or Amiens.

But a change was coming. As we grew older, so Jean had more time and energy for other interests. She began to find her voice as a woman in her own right – not without some struggles with my devoted but occasionally jealous father. It took some time but in the process she and Robert found a deeper love and deeper partnership – each supporting and challenging the other to the end.

In 1971 she started an Open University degree – eventually graduating with a 2:1 in Humanities. She became an entrepreneur in her own right, starting the Wivenhoe Bookshop with Penny Bell. The bookshop still thrives under her successor – indeed it has just been

nominated as best independent bookshop in the country.

That marked the real start of her long association with Wivenhoe where they moved in 1999 when Robert's Parkinson's started to make the Hollies too much of a burden for both of them.

Jean became in this period a campaigner and organiser. She had joined Robert in the 1960s as one of the founders of the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, the 11th in what is now a worldwide chain of hundreds. In line with the philosophy of the founder, war hero Leonard Cheshire, she scrubbed floors, cared for patients, raised money and fought to establish the home as a going concern.

This dedicated service was inspired by the sufferings of a family of close friends – seven of whom eventually died of an incurable hereditary neurological condition. Jean became the inspirational founder of the Essex branch of the Huntington's Disease Association, with great support from Robert during the early years of his struggle with Parkinson's.

As the Parkinson's worsened, Jean became his life support system – caring for him devotedly, deciphering his increasingly spiderish writing, helping to bring to life the parties and celebrations that they dreamed up for every occasion.

Just a few days ago was the 90th anniversary of Robert's birth and over the weekend I went to the Tendring Hundred Show, which he and she played such a role in developing. Jean was never part of the formal committees but in the suppers and glasses of whisky after committee meetings at the Hollies her contribution was vital. She started the Art Show and helped start the process which turned the Show from a traditional agricultural show into a county-wide organisation that focused on linking the vibrant local

agricultural community to a wider world and in the process made it the best one day agricultural show in the country.

Such is a sketch of her life. It omits so much: her travelling (by banana boat, by bucket shop airline, by classic train), her eye for colour and beauty evinced in the dozens of local paintings that fill every serene yet vital room in her house in Wivenhoe, her intuitive skill as a gardener and much more besides.

Above all it omits her greatest gift. This was the ability to inspire others to believe that they too could change their lives. A friend of hers and mine said to me at the Tendring Show on Saturday that she had the capacity to throw off sparks of inspiration. That gift crossed the generations. Like her beloved mother Jean had a remarkable ability to form deep and long-lasting relationships with younger people – often those distant from their own parents and families. She loved the diversity of views and experiences they could relate to her and they drew love and strength from her.

There are many here today who were changed by knowing Jean. She believed in dreams but knew that making dreams come true demanded effort and commitment. She was a very down to earth visionary.

Her unerring ability to cut straight to the heart of every and any issue was both inspirational and terrifying. She had great personal power – though she did not always acknowledge it and always shied away from fully exercising it. Several times in the course of her long life she was picked out from the crowd as someone with the power of healing in her hands or the power of second sight. Less than a year ago she was taken by American friends – part of the Stone Family connection that she initiated and which has done so much for Bromley Church – to a Hopi Indian ceremony in the mountains of New Mexico. She was

instantly recognised by the elders of the tribe and inducted into their inner circle. Only Jean!

With her energy, her intelligence and her charisma, she could, in other times and other circumstances, have become something very different. Would she have had such a full and satisfying life? I'm not sure.

She was never afraid to challenge convention. She never accepted mediocrity for herself and no-one could spend time with her and fail to be infected with that same sense of possibility. To deal with her you needed to find your own sense of conviction and your own sense of self.

I found on Saturday a few lines in her handwriting on old age (which she disliked). The last line was this: 'old age is dying your hair purple'. And that's what she did. She never gave in to age or conventions.

She had beauty, style and attitude – and a wonderful smile – to the very end.

We loved her.



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Fourteen members managed to choose the only wet evening at the very beginning of July for their visit to Stour Valley Organic Lavender at Ramsey – but they enjoyed it all the same! This lovely two acre farm is tucked away among the trees down by the Stour estuary. It took several gates, a level crossing and contact with the signal man at Parkeston to reach this delightful spot. The owner, Mark Deroy showed us his tightly packed field of different coloured lavenders with their different uses, both cosmetic and medicinal. Harvest usually takes place in mid – July and he has a portable still to distil the oil.

Rearing geese is another of Mark's interests and we saw some tiny goslings. He is hoping to extend this venture on some land at Stones Green. We were

able to take a walk along by the river though mist – and trees ! - restricted the views of the estuary . Our visit finished with a welcome cup of tea or coffee and a look at the many products in which lavender is now used. Do you fancy marmalade or a scone with lavender in it? Actually they were very tasty.

On Wednesday 6th. August in the Village Hall between 10.00a.m. and 1.00p.m., members are going to try their hand at Water Colour Painting for Beginners led by Marsha Heath. There are still a few places left, so if you would like to join us (cost £7) please ring Sue on 251949 or Ann on 230563. You will be most welcome.

Sue Orriss



KITCHEN CORNER

Lavender Honey Ice Cream

Serves 6

If you have some lavender in flower, add half a dozen sprigs to the milk when you bring it to the boil to intensify the flavour. This is a rich and delicious ice cream which can be served with a fruit tart or a pile of summer berries.

6 sprigs lavender
1 pint/600ml full-cream milk
6oz/180g honey
4 egg yolks
½ pint/300ml double cream (Jersey if possible)

Put the lavender in the pan with the milk and bring it to the boil slowly, then cover with a lid off the heat to infuse for 30 minutes or so. Heat the honey in a jar in a pan of boiling water so that it becomes

liquid and malleable, then pour it into a bowl and whisk it with the egg yolks.

Strain the milk into another pan and reheat it to boiling, then pour it over the honey and egg yolk mixture. Return it to the pan and stir it over a gentle heat until it thickens and coats the back of a spoon (5-10 minutes). Leave to cool before stirring in the double cream. Freeze, either in an ice-cream maker or in the freezer, beating every so often to break down the ice crystals.

Transfer to the fridge 20 minutes before serving.

Jill Frostick



ST GEORGE'S PCC

The churchwardens and Parochial Church Council are delighted to announce the appointment of a new priest for the parishes of the Bromleys and Ardleigh. He is the Revd. Robert Farrell and is currently vicar of St Augustine's church in Thorpe Bay, near Southend. Revd. Farrell is 54, a widower with a 19 year old son, Adam, who is studying at University. We do not have an exact date at the moment for Revd. Farrell's Institution and Induction to the Benefice but it is anticipated that this will take place in mid-November.

In the meantime services and other activities continue as normal. Many of you will have seen the photograph and report that appeared in the July 11th edition of the *Essex County Standard* so

will know that the Fabric Committee is working hard to address the urgent tasks associated with the upkeep and maintenance of the church building. It is most encouraging that people from the village who are not regular churchgoers but who, nevertheless, care about the church have come forward to help us with this challenge. It is a real pleasure to be working together in this way.

A Bring and Buy/Coffee Morning will be held at Fryerning, (next to the Rectory) on Saturday, August 2nd from 10.30am to 12.30pm. We are hoping to raise money to help pay for the recently repaired altar cushions and you are warmly invited to join us for a cup of coffee and friendly chat.

PEAL BOARDS

Peal boards are put up in church towers to mark the ringing of a peal (a long length of bell-ringing), usually for a special occasion. They record the detail of the peal, the names of the ringers and the names of the vicar and churchwardens at the time.

At Great Bromley there have been 57 recorded peals over the last 100 years, but there are only two peal boards - you can see them in the lower part of the tower. The first one records the ringing of the first peal in the tower, on 13th April, 1907; the second marks the ringing of the first peal with the new tenor bell and is dated 1930.

Last year, on 21st April, we rang another peal at Bromley to mark a very special occasion: not only was it for the Patronal Festival service with the participation of the Bishop of Chelmsford, but it also marked the centenary of the first peal. Five of the six ringers who rang the peal

learned to ring at Great Bromley, and it was rung in exactly the same "methods" as the first peal. We believe that this performance merits a third peal board to complement the other two.

Clearly, the making of a peal board is not cheap - probably around £500 for a good one (we know of one or two board-makers). Also, of course, a faculty would be needed. We think that we could find about half the required sum through tower funds or donations by the ringers but further donations would be most welcome.

Philip Erith



GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall committee met on 10th June and were due to meet again on Tuesday, 22nd July.



The Village Hall Trustees would like to thank

Charles Weeley and family for kindly donating a good quality upright piano to the village hall to replace the existing one which is worn

out. Also, for donating a piano stool which has now been reupholstered free of charge by Paul Hodgson of Country Covers at Raydon in Suffolk. These kind deeds are very much appreciated.

August is the month when things are slightly different at the hall. Lots of you go away to pastures new for a few weeks to recharge your batteries and this leaves a few free days when some extra maintenance etc can be undertaken. However, some organisations just change their pattern of events for this month only and “do different” (the motto of the University of East Anglia). Other Clubs and Groups continue their programme of meetings through this month and their members enjoy a regular gathering of friends and colleagues.

Can you start a new club or group of interest for the local residents, thus taking up a spare space in this busy hall schedule? If so, please speak to our bookings person, Lynda Allam. Perhaps you would like to take up an activity already available at the hall. If so, please speak to the secretary of the club or group concerned, who I am sure would welcome your interest.

We hope you enjoyed our Coffee Morning fund raising event held on 26th July

hosted by the VH Committee and friends at the village hall. Our grateful thanks to the organisers and helpers and to those of you who most importantly came along on the day to support the function.

The next committee meeting will be in September at 7.30pm in the village hall.

Have you booked your tickets for the Musical Murder Mystery Evening, “The Golden Girl” at the village hall on Saturday 18th October? If not, then why not give Fred Nicholls a ring on 01206 230688 and secure your seat for this special event.

To book the Hall, contact Mrs Lynda Allam on 01206 230375 who will advise on availability and cost.

Bevan Willgress

From the July issue of the e-zine Upbeat

Tending District Commander -
Chief Inspector Jonathan Hayter

Your business, keep crime out of it
Essex Police is fully committed to tackling business crime and its causes. ‘Your business, keep crime out of it’ is a handy guide from the Home Office which gives simple advice to make life more difficult for potential offenders by reducing the opportunities for crime. If you have any questions or concerns about how to keep your business safe or if you would like a copy of the leaflet, contact your local crime prevention officer via the Essex Police non-emergency number 0300 333 4444. Local businesses can approach their neighbourhood policing teams by visiting beat surgeries or contacting their neighbourhood specialist officers for advice and to ensure their priorities are made known.



St. George's (C of E) School, Gt. Bromley

Head teacher: Pat Fitzgerald
Telephone: 01206 230305

Flora Tokens

Flora are giving 40p tokens for kitchen equipment for your school when you buy their spreads.

You enter your number from the

greaseproof paper top using

www.cookingwithschools.com

Use Colchester as the schools area and "s" search for "St. Georges Church of England Primary School"

If you have not got a computer please give the tokens to Denise at the School for her to enter.

School in the Community

The pond in the school has now been fully reconstructed by the Prince's

Trust. It now needs some TLC to ensure it stays a feature and an area for children to use in lessons for art, nature and the environment.

The WI recently obtained funding to send some of their members on courses which included embroidery. They have approached the School and next term they will spend half a day telling Year 6 what they learnt and how they can use some of the techniques in other disciplines.

LBC



Great Bromley & Frating Playgroup

At Great Bromley Village Hall.
Monday & Thursday 9.30-12 noon
Wednesday 9.15-11.45am
& 12.15-2.45pm

Session Tel No: 0785 7503103
(Lunch time session also available)
Children: 2 years to 5 years. £5.50 per session. Ofsted inspected.

For more details/visits, please contact Group Secretary-Debbie on 01206 250183

We had lots of fun with last term's theme 'Growing and Weather'. We planted various crops including potatoes, peas, carrots and strawberries. The children were very excited to see and taste the results. We also enjoyed getting messy with our painting activities- handprints (to make a rainbow) and footprints (for a sun).



These were among the display at the Tendring Hundred Show on 12th July along with some of our plants. A very big thank you to the children and staff for all their hard work in preparing the display and to the volunteers who helped 'man' the stand on the day.

Finally we would also like to thank those people who have kindly donated toys and equipment to Playgroup. They are much appreciated.

We hope you enjoy the summer holiday – Playgroup returns on Monday 8th September.

Jane Calderbank (Deputy Supervisor)



Scallywags

At Great Bromley Village Hall
Friday Mornings 9.30-11.30am
0-5years.Parent and child group.

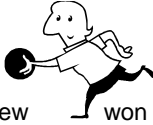
Activities/themed sessions/play equipment etc.
For more details or visits please contact 01206 230625

CARPET BOWLS

Two home matches played last month but we unfortunately lost both, 6-3 down to Walton and 5-4 to Wix. Two more away matches to go for another summer league behind us, albeit a not very successful one.

Blackpool

At the English Carpet Bowls Association champion of Champions 2008, our triples team, Jayne, Linda and Andrew won 6 of their matches bringing the placing for Essex in the tournament to 7th out of 12. The teams representing Essex: in the Fours were from Elmstead Market, Pairs from Wimbish and the Singles player was from West Bergholt. The teams taking the Champions Trophy were from Durham. Well done! to our Essex players.



Quite often Joe's son, Gerald, brings him over from Brightlingsea. We are always pleased to see him and he puts in a full evening's bowling, setting a good example to us all.

Nancy Kempster

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Members

Please make every effort to be at the Auction on 21st August, bringing your "not wanted any more" articles. Anyone reading this who is not a member we would welcome you - it is an **OPEN AUCTION** - to come along to the village hall at 2.00pm and join in the fun. All proceeds are for Club Funds to help us to keep the monthly "Friends-Get-Together" going.



Members/Non-members

Please note: NO competition, NO Raffle, NO Entertainment but we hope you will have an enjoyable afternoon and maybe, just MAYBE, you will want to join us again by becoming a member.

It was not decided at the committee meeting if there would be another outing but we have the Christmas Dinner to look forward to in November. You may be saying "It's a bit early to talk about it" but have you noticed how time flies and we are already in to the second half of the year?

Maybe it is time to give our thanks to Leonie for all the hard work she does during the year making sure our reports go into the Messenger each month.

Vicky Griffiths

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Great Bromley Parish Council

www.essexinfo.net/gbpc

Report of the parish council meeting held on 10 July 2008

Planning

The Council considered the following planning applications and had no objections:

Hill House, Harwich Road – roof repairs, new dormers and building consent.

Camelot, Ardleigh Road – two storey side extension and front porch.

Furze End, Furze Lane – domestic store.

Brundells, Brundells Road – rear conservatory.

The Council considered and objected to the following planning application:

Little Paddocks, Frating Road – erection of three holiday chalets.

Tendring District Council has approved the following planning application:

Kia Ora, Brook Street – replacement front porch.

Slough Farm reservoir

Essex County Council has now published its formal directive on what must be included in the environmental impact assessment. A copy of this document is being circulated to those residents who might be particularly affected by this proposal.

Policing

There have been recent incidents of vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the Hare Green area. These have been reported to the police who are investigating. The council is exploring with the police the best ways of dealing with this kind of behaviour. Residents are reminded that they can discuss any concerns they may have with our Police Community Support Officer – Les Barnes. You can either telephone PCSO

Barnes on 01255 862843 or 07967 4666876, or meet him personally at his monthly 'surgeries' at the village hall. These are between 7 and 8 pm on the following dates: 7 August, 4 September, 8 October, 6 November and 10 December 2008. See also Les's regular pieces in the *Messenger*.

War Memorial Custodian

Mr Bloomfield has recently retired as the custodian of the village's war memorial, to be succeeded by Mr Paul Knappett. The council acknowledges with thanks the devotion to the memorial by Mr Bloomfield over many years.



The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 14 August 2008 at the Village Hall Great Bromley.

Forthcoming Events

AUGUST

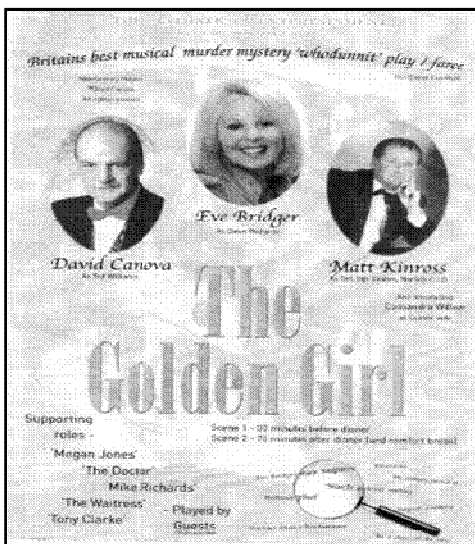
- 2 Coffee Morning, Fryerning, Hall Road, 10.30am
- 3 Colne 25 Cycle Ride, Colne School, Brightlingsea, from 11.00am
- 6 WI Watercolour painting morning, 10.00am
- 7 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm
PCSO Les Barnes 'Surgery', Village Hall, 7.00-8.00pm
- 14 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21 Dedham Run, Dedham Playing Fields, 11.00am
Friendship Club Auction, Village Hall, 2.00pm

SEPTEMBER

- 4 PCSO Les Barnes 'Surgery', Village Hall, 7.00-8.00pm
- 8 Playgroup new term starts
- 13 Essex Police Choir, St George's Church, 7.30pm

OCTOBER

- 2 WEA Course "Spanish Mosaic", Ardleigh Village Hall, 2.30pm
- 8 PCSO Les Barnes 'Surgery', Village Hall, 7.00-8.00pm
- 18 Musical Murder Mystery Evening, Village Hall



BRIGHTLINGSEA & DISTRICT ROTARY CLUB

COLNE 25 CYCLE RIDE - 5, 25, 40 miles

3rd August at the COLNE SCHOOL
Start between 11.00 and 1230 hrs.
You can either raise money for your
chosen charity or for Rotary Charities,
which include Air Ambulance and local
Hospice.



Application forms on the net
(www.colne25.co.uk)
or ring John on 313135
Entrance fee to cover
expenses (£2-7)

TOUR DE TENDRING is not on this year
so come to ours instead.

GT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL Saturday, 18th October

Murder Mystery tickets for The Golden Girl are now on sale from Village Hall committee members.

The price of £13.50 includes supper, and a wonderful evening's entertainment.

Orders have already been taken for tickets for what is sure to be a great evening.

WEA Course
Ardleigh Branch



Spanish Mosaic

Tutor Catherine Dell

10 weeks commencing

2nd October 2008

Ardleigh Village Hall, Station Road,
Ardleigh

2.30 p.m. - 4.15 p.m.

Fee £43

Contacts Jill Frostick 01206 250263 or
John Terry 01206 230490

This course will explore Spain, its country and its culture, each week being on a different theme and will touch on several different topics such as the pilgrimage to Compostela, the legacy of Al-Andalus and painting from El Greco to Goya, the Civil War, the Legacy of the Islamic Presence to Spanish Music and Spain at Leisure. So a wide range of topics relating to Spain will be covered, and as each week will be on a different topic it is felt that you will not have missed something if you have to miss a week of the course for any reason.

Unfortunately the fees have had to increase again this term but to try and keep the cost around the same, the tea, coffee and biscuits in the break which takes place around 3.15 p.m. will be free for this term.

Do come along and give it a try, the first week is free so you can see what the course is about, and ask the Tutor and Committee questions etc. The course fee has to be paid if you come along to the second week. The only concession is if a couple come along together.

We have met the Tutor, Catherine Dell, and she is very enthusiastic about her subject and has been to Spain many times. We are confident that you will enjoy her course.

We hope to see you in October
John Terry (Chairman WEA Ardleigh Branch)

St George's Church, Great Bromley

ALTAR AND PRIEST CUSHIONS

Bring & Buy/Coffee Morning

Saturday 2nd August

10.30am to 12.30pm



Please join us in the garden at
"Fryerning", Hall Road, Great Bromley

*To raise funds to refurbish the altar and priest
cushions in the church*

AUCTION

of

'Not wanted any more' items

Thursday, 21st August

in the Village Hall

2.00pm

ALL WELCOME

*In aid of the
Friendship Club funds*



ESSEX POLICE CHOIR

13th September
St George's church
Great Bromley

7:30 pm

Tickets £8 including refreshments

Telephone: 01206 230089 or
01206 230673

Dedham Run 2008

Sunday 21st August

11.00am start

Dedham Playing Fields

10k Race (measured) & 2.2m Fun Run

Come & join us for a great day of sport
and family fun

Entry forms & more details from
www.dedhamrun.co.uk or Glenys 01206
322358

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

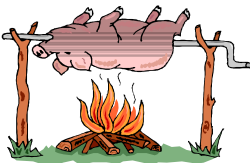
Little Bromley Parish Council

Report of Parish Council meeting held on 26th June at the Haywain.

1. **The proposed reservoir** at Gt Bromley was discussed. As yet planning permission has not been submitted. It was agreed that we should keep a close watch on Gt Bromley's council notes on the subject. A comprehensive report is in circulation and any person wishing to read it should contact Lt Bromley Clerk.

2. **Possible Rural Path.** Councillors Neil Stock/Sarah Candy have been investigating the possibility of a rural path (walkway), a cost effective pathway through the village hopefully through to Paynes Lane. A meeting is being arranged sometime during July.

3. **Amenities Committee Business.**



The Hog Roast was discussed and it was agreed that it had achieved its aim as a non-profit making function, a

letter had been

sent to the caterers and the matter was now closed.

Carol Cordwell wishes it to be known that she is not associated with this letter.

The Firework Display. It was agreed that we should purchase fireworks now (to include sparklers and necklaces) as this would provide us with 25% extra free, an initial outlay of £600.

A total of six volunteer stewards are required and possibly at least one other person to assist with the ignition of fireworks - preferably someone with a knowledge of pyrotechnics.

4. **It was agreed** by the police that they would take action when possible to enforce speed restrictions through the village and beyond. They also confirmed

the weight restrictions on the road through the village were still in existence and enforceable. They also reported that Lt Bromley was a low crime area and only seven crimes have been committed during the year.

Permission has now been given for the Council to hold future meetings in the Functions Room at the Haywain Public House providing that no alcohol was sold or consumed during the meeting.

Therefore as this was the most convenient venue for the parishioners of Lt Bromley the council agreed to hold future meetings there, subject to there being no clash with the owners' commercial needs.

Litter Picking. Anita Spall has arranged for a litter picking day on 19th July. The Clerk agreed to speak to Mr Ray Coote (waste disposal) to arrange for collection of bin bags.

The subject of a Tesco store for Manningtree was raised and the spectre of excess heavy duty traffic through the village causing disruption and noise was discussed. However it was agreed that there should be no need to pursue the matter because of the weight restriction already in force. It should be noted that any infringement of this weight restriction is reportable to the Trading Standards Department simply by supplying the registration number of the vehicle concerned.

Finance The Annual Return was submitted by the Chairman for approval. There were no observations and will be forwarded for external audit.

The date of the next meeting will be 7th August, 2008 at The Haywain.

AC Downes MBE, Clerk

GARDENING TIPS FOR AUGUST

Leylandii If your leylandii hedge is dying back it can be caused by one of two things. Either too much enthusiasm with the shears or a small aphid. The aphids can be controlled by spraying, so if you spot brown patches appearing, lock the shears away and get out the sprayer.

August is the time to plant the seeds of spring cabbage. Sow the seed ½” deep and they will be ready to transplant from September to October. The distance between rows 1’ 6”, distance between plants 1’. The cabbage will be ready to harvest June to July.



Freesia corms for December flowering can be planted early in the month. Plant in pots and placed outdoors in a shady place. You can also use the same planting method to plant hyacinths, which should then be ready to flower by Christmas. Make sure you get the hyacinths that have been “**prepared**”.

If you are growing **tuberous Begonias** you will get bigger flowers if you remove the small single flowers either side of the main bud.

Update on the Fig Tree No. 4 The branches are growing fast and I shall be putting the canes in place soon to form a fan shape. I am also feeding once a fortnight.

Frank Griffiths

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES FUND (YOUTH)

YOUTH groups across Essex are being urged to apply for their share of a £2m bonanza.

The Community Initiatives Fund (Youth) builds on Essex County Council’s trailblazing Community Initiatives Fund which, in its first three rounds, granted £5m to 600 vital community projects across Essex worth more than £38m. That was so successful further funding has been made available this year.

That fund was so successful it has pledged a further £1m for it to continue this year as well as inspiring this new funding venture.

The fund is split between the county’s 12 districts and boroughs, with £155,000 available for each one for youth projects in the financial year 2008/09 with any grant needing to be spent by 2010.

The money will be given to capital schemes only with a minimum grant of

£15,000 set to help really worthwhile projects get off the ground. Young people will be involved in the decision-making process while applicants must provide strong evidence of consultation and involvement of young people in their application process.

There will be two funding rounds for this new grant - the first deadline for applications will be **12 September 2008**, with decisions being made from mid-October to the end November. The second deadline for applications will be **16 January 2009** with decisions being made in March 2009.

Application forms and guidance notes are available on the website

www.communityinitiativesfund.co.uk

For further information, please contact co-ordinator Beverly Davies on 07929 543523 or email info@communityinitiativesfund.co.uk.

THANKS

I have been sent a copy of a letter sent by Mr Russell Dick on behalf of Colchester & District Branch of the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association by way of a special thank you to all those of you who contributed to the comforts sent to the troops in the Helmond theatre and in particular the three mentioned in the letter.—Ed.

Dear Gloria, Pat and Mandy
The Members of the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association, Colchester & District Branch would like to thank you for your kind donation towards the Creature Comforts Appeal that Colchester Garrison has launched to send out to our troops in Afghanistan.

Your donation will help to keep up the morale of our brave comrades out in a most inhospitable terrain.

Signed Russell Dick

Great Bromley W.I. would like to thank

all those who supported their Strawberry Tea on Saturday 21st June at Fryerning, Hall Road. Just over £250 was raised, half of which has been sent to Macmillan Nurses.

Sue Orriss



FROM THE PAST

Highway Repairs 1565

It was the duty of parishioners in Elizabeth I's time to keep the road outside their own property in good repair.

By her will in 1565 Margery Harding of Great Bromley left twenty shillings "to the making and amending of the highway between Scode Cross and my gate in Great Bromley".

To the poor of the parish she left 13s 4d.

To Joan, her daughter, went 40s and a featherbed, a brass pot, a kettle and six pieces of pewter.

To Gregory, her son, she left her tenement called "Horsepittes" with eight acres of land belonging to Stanway and the residue of her goods. (The Horsepit family were from Great Horkesley and had land there as well as at West Bergholt and nearby villages).

Gregory was her executor.

Witnesses to the will were William Church and Joan Holland

John Appleby



POLICE



Incidents in Gt Bromley for the month of June

- Nuisance Youth - Harwich Road
- Back Lane East
- Theft Other - Chase Road
- Criminal Damage - Chase Road
- Mary Lane North

Things to look out for in your area

In St Osyth a lady reported having a man call at her door requesting to repave her front. Despite her reply that her husband was a construction engineer and could do it himself the man was very persistent. He was wearing a distinctive T shirt emblazoned with 'JP Roadworks' and said that he was from Ipswich. No vehicle was seen so he was probably a 'scout' touting for work.

Our advice - have nothing whatsoever to do with any door to door salesman trying to sell groundwork, double glazing, alarms, hedge trimming etc. If you feel that you want home improvements or gardening work, get local tradesmen and/or ask your friends if they can recommend one.

I am also receiving loads of letters handed in from 'lucky' winners of El Gordo - the Spanish Lottery. The people of Tendring must be the luckiest people in the world with all of the millions flooding in from Spain! Please don't reply to these pathetic attempts to con you out of your money.

This Internet Scam must be successful, because it is still being sent.

*"Dear Valued Customers,
It has been reported to our online security team that there has been a false natwest message sent to all our customers. And we are now trying to rectify and protect all our online customers account from any unwanted transactions. We have Programmed our Security and Database systems to alert us When any unauthorised transactions is about to take place. We now require of you to register details to our upgraded security system to avoid Your account from being disabled by our security systems. A confirmation of this will be sent*

to your residential address after 7 days of registration. We want to assure you that Your account will be safe guarded by our security new systems immediately you register. To do this Pls click on the link below to register your details and remain secured online.:

[\[NatWest Security login\]](#)

*Thanks,
National WestMinster Bank Plc"*

I have just received a call from Keith Pike, Essex Trading Standards (his direct telephone number 01245 341909) regarding some dodgy characters that he saw laying paving in Clacton yesterday, details are: J&D Groundworkers using a red Transit vehicle index no VA54 LFU, this vehicle is professionally sign written 'J & D Goundworkers' so if its in your area you should be able to spot it. The vehicle may be 'in company' with another flat bed 'scruffy' white 'M' reg. flat bed Transit. These people are of great interest to Northants Trading Standards and come from Kettering. What are they doing in Tendring? Is there no work in Kettering? Or are Trading Standards making it too hot for them there? You can be sure that their work will not be of the same standard as a local tradesman's, but I bet that they charge more. If you see them can you please contact Keith or me. (01255 254020)

We had three incidents in the Harwich area of 'distraction burglary' reported to us. The common denominator for these three incidents was that on each occasion the man involved asked the victim to change money. The descriptions are so varied that we can only say that he was male, 5'8" - 6'0" tall, slim, aged 30's to 40's wearing a cloth cap and navy clothes. Please be aware of any strangers visiting any elderly or vulnerable people in your area and if you see anyone suspicious please call us.

Les Barnes, PCSO 71909
Thorpe Le Soken Police Station.
[07967 466876](tel:07967466876) or [01255 862843](tel:01255862843)

FROM THE DOCTORS' SURGERY

There has, not surprisingly, been an upsurge in the number of people expressing concern about the confidentiality of their medical records following the theft a couple of weeks ago of a hospital laptop containing information about thousands of local people. After the public uproar following other recent instances of lax personal data security, it seems incredible that such a mistake could happen again at this time. It does seem to raise once more the question of whether we are really ready for the proposed national NHS database or spine. The thought of patient records being accessible from thousands of computers around the country when this type of lapse can still happen, despite all the promises of improved performance, is worrying.

Reassuringly, patients are still entitled to say that they don't want their medical records accessible over the spine. Names and addresses can't, it seems, be excluded, but medical records can.

If anyone feels unhappy about security and confidentiality at this stage, they can opt out by writing to their surgery (and any other NHS facility where they have been treated) to say that they refuse permission for their data to go onto the spine. People can always change their minds at a later stage once it seems that security issues have been tackled and resolved but maybe peace of mind is better for the moment.

I hope that patients are now finding that they don't have to wait quite as long in the waiting room to see their doctor once they have booked in here at the surgery. The receptionists tell me that many people have now got used to asking for a longer than standard appointment if they have a complicated issue to deal with or if they need to talk about more than one thing.

This really does help us to provide a better service, as one of the main reasons that the doctors end up running late is that they find they need to spend more than the allotted time – some times much more – with a particular patient. I know that this is sometimes absolutely unavoidable and unexpected, but if you do have an inkling that you need more than ten minutes, please tell the receptionist when you book your appointment. You will then be allocated more time. Nobody will worry if you are in and out more quickly than anticipated, as the doctors can always return a few telephone calls or check

blood test results if they have a few minutes to spare. It's when they end up keeping later patients waiting for 30 or 40 minutes that it becomes a problem.

Next to another subject that I know I have covered before quite recently. One feature of the last few months has been the increase in the number of people asking to see a doctor about dental problems. I'm sorry to have to labour the point, but the doctors simply aren't qualified to deal with them.

If you have a dental problem – toothache, an abscess or something wrong with your gums – please save yourself time, pain and stress by arranging to see a dentist straight away. Please don't get cross with our staff when they tell you this – it is just not fair on them and won't change things at all. Nobody would expect a dentist to deal with backache as it isn't his area of expertise and the principle is exactly the same.

The telephone numbers for anyone who can't find an NHS dentist are 0800 389 7238 or 0800 328 5620, either of which will get you through to PALS, the Patient Advice and Liaison Service. They will give you the names and addresses of NHS dentists locally.



Out of hours, i.e. 6.30pm – 8.00am weekdays, and at weekends, the Harmoni operator on 0845 602 5238 will be able to tell you which is the NHS duty dentist locally the next morning and how to contact them.

Finally for this month, (I haven't really got space for a Disease of the Month but I'll make sure there is one in September), the dedicated cancellations line has made a slow start but is being used. The number again is 01206 255071 and the attached answering-machine is on duty 24 hours a day. Whether people who have used the number to date would have cancelled their appointments by another means anyway is impossible to say, but if we can just get everyone who is going to miss an appointment to tell us that they aren't coming, it will mean that everyone else will be able to get to see the doctor or nurse of their choice that little bit sooner.

As an example of what happens, a family of five recently failed to attend for a block of appointments they had booked so that they could have holiday immunisations. This meant that one of our nurses had a full hour – six ten minute appointments – wasted. They will know who they are and I hope they are feeling guilty.

Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager

Get into the Zone this summer!

Tendring District Council (TDC) has worked with local sports clubs to come up with an exciting and expanded range of summer activity programmes for youngsters across the District.

Also included in the scheme will be five free swims for anyone aged 16 and under who lives in Tendring.

Skills Zone, Creative Zone, Aqua Zone, Extreme Zone and Youth Zone will provide fully supervised sessions for those aged five



to 16 - run from TDC's own leisure facilities as last year.

They include a whole host of sports, games, arts and crafts, bouncy castles and much more to keep children

occupied over the long school holiday.

However, this year for the first time, the Council is working in partnership with sports clubs and organisations under the banner of Active Zone to increase the range of opportunities for young people.

TDC has pumped £25,000 into this new initiative and clubs came up with their own bids for a chunk of the cash to provide these activities for youngsters.

Among those involved are Clacton Cricket Club, St Osyth Cricket Club, Clacton Golf Club, Clacton Rugby Club, Roding Schools of Karate, Kirby Tennis Club, Frinton Golf Club, Frinton Tennis and Squash Club, Wick Lodge Squash Club, Ardleigh Squash Club, Lawford Junior Football Club, Mistley Cricket Club, and many more.

The entire scheme will run from July 19 to August 31, 2008 at centres in Clacton, Dovercourt, Harwich, Manningtree, Brightlingsea and Frinton and Walton and the clubs involved.

Pierre Oxley, Portfolio Holder for Leisure at TDC, said he was delighted with what the Council was able to offer youngsters.

"There really is something for everyone and at venues right across the District - this is the biggest programme we have ever come up with for young people," he said.

"The £25,000 will mean even more activities and has allowed clubs to get involved and

provide specialist facilities and coaching. It is really exciting and I hope these opportunities to join the various programmes will be snapped up."

Cllr Oxley said that a number of the activities have limited capacity and advised parents to book early to avoid disappointment.

All they have to do is choose the activities they wish to book and then turn up at the relevant centre to register.

Brochures - which contain a registration form and details about the cost of sessions - are available from all TDC's six indoor sites at Clacton, Frinton and Walton, Harwich, Dovercourt, Manningtree and Brightlingsea as well as from Tourist Information Centres. Brochures will also be distributed through some schools and other outlets.

Clubs providing activities will take their own bookings and the various contact numbers are in the brochure. Those wanting to claim their five free swims will need to register at the Council's pools at Clacton, Walton, Dovercourt or Brightlingsea.

Many thanks

Kirsty Horton, Leisure Projects Officer

Tendring District Council

Town Hall, Station Road

Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, CO15 1SE

Tel: 01255 686622

khorton@tendringdc.gov.uk

Fax: 01255 686411

Minicom: 01255 475566

Emergency Out of Hours: 01255 222022

www.tendringdc.gov.uk

www.essex-sunshine-coast.org.uk



VEOLIA WASTE COLLECTION

Tendring District Council does not have a contract with Veolia to remove garden waste. The reason for this is that green waste is very expensive to remove as it is so heavy, and the District Council wants to continue to offer a weekly rubbish collection.

If you wish to have your garden waste removed by the dustman you need to purchase special (purple) sacks from Veolia. These cost £11.16 for 10. The reason these cost £11.16 is because Veolia are charging the purchaser/householder to remove and dump their garden waste as this is not part of Veolia's contract with the Council. Veolia's telephone number is 01255 435615.



Tendring District Council has Home Composting Bins for sale at a substantial discount. A 220 litre bin costs £17 and a 330 litre bin costs £20. If you would like to buy one of these please ring the Council on 01255 686868 and ask for Environmental Services.

The nearest Essex County Council recycling centres are at Martins Farm St Osyth or in Lawford near the Manningtree station.

Cllr Peter Scott and Cllr Rosemary

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Join the World's Biggest Coffee Morning and make a difference

Macmillan Cancer Support is urging people in Essex to join the World's Biggest Coffee Morning at home, work or school on Friday 26th September and help raise money for people affected by cancer.

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is Macmillan's flagship fundraising event. Last year 1,925 people in Essex registered and helped raise over £280,000 in Essex that contributed to a staggering £7.5 million across the UK.

Macmillan Cancer Support improves the lives of people affected by cancer. Each year over 7,000 people in Essex will receive a cancer diagnosis. Macmillan want to help all of these people by providing them with the emotional, practical, medical and financial support they need. So every cup of coffee really does count and every penny raised can really make a difference to help people through their cancer journey.

Everyone can make their cuppa count by holding a coffee morning, at home, at work or at school. This year we aim to break past the £8 million mark so urge you and your friends to get involved. To register to take part in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning you can call 0845 602 1246 or log on to www.macmillan.org.uk/coffee. You can also support by making a donation to Macmillan Cancer Support by cheque or online or paying by debit and credit card on the number above.

Help create a huge stir - register now and make World's Biggest Coffee Morning 2008 the greatest yet!



ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Services for August

Sunday 3rd	8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 10th	8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Friday 15th		The Blessed Virgin Mary	
	7.30pm	Patronal Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 17th	8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 24th	8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 31st	8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

Holy Communion every Friday at 11.00am at Seven Rivers, Hall Road, Great Bromley.