

# THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

*May 2015*



**SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE  
HOME**

*Report inside*



## THE FIRST PAGE

Once again, I have had computer problems, with the

District Councillors if you live in Little Bromley.

Both parish councils are holding their AGMs this month with a public meeting to which everyone is welcome. They work very hard on our behalf throughout the year but, even so, are still accountable to us and reports are given by, including the Messenger, various village representatives.

programme crashing upon a certain command being used and I lost - because I hadn't saved my work - an almost entirely completed Messenger. Both. The printers are off on holiday at the end of the week so I shall not be getting this proofread as it will be going straight to them as soon as I have finished this. So please excuse any typos that may have crept in and I am just hoping that I have not left anything out as my transferral system rather fell apart when it crashed.

I did miss the donkeys on Palm Sunday at the church and I wonder if Edward gave of his opinions as loudly as he did last year. However I am sure I will see them at some other village event and as you will see from the centre pages a lot is about to happen over the summer months. You will have to look around the magazine for some of them as I simply couldn't fit them all in there has been so much copy sent in.

I can hear my father saying 'These things are sent to try us' which I have never considered to be very helpful!

Thank you to everyone for being so efficient and sending me news, views and photographs each month. This magazine is only as good as the content I receive.

The dominant message this month is to vote on Thursday 7th May. It is the day of the General Election and it is important that we all vote - I was brought up to think that one has no right to moan about a government or your local councils if you fail to vote. There is an MP, District Councillors and Parish Councillors to vote for this year in the Village Hall if you reside in Great Bromley or in the Haywain for your MP and

I am going outside to enjoy the garden as from the window by my desk I see the sun, a wren is singing (I have yet to hear the cuckoo!) and a short while ago another molehill industriously being created - I have quite a number in the garden and as fast as I flatten them another one appears!

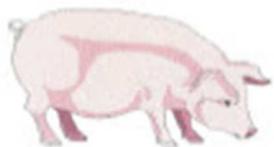
In haste, I have to get this to the printers  
Leonie

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***Please support the sponsors of our magazine.***



# Primrose Farm

Free Range Pigs Outdoor Reared



**Open Day at Primrose Farm**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

**10am – 3pm**

**Make a sausage stall, farmers market stalls, Tendring Agility Dog displays, Food from Tendring Enterprise School.**

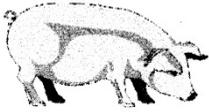
**All Free Entry.**

For any additional information contact us on:

01206 230454 or 07860774729

**Primrose Farm, Hall Road, Great Bromley,  
Colchester, Essex, CO7 7TR**

***PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS & ADVERTISERS***



# TAILS FROM PRIMROSE FARM

With the cold and blustery winter behind us, spring is now upon us with lots of activity happening all over the farm. From many daffodils now blossoming to the ducks visiting the pond and the wild geese gathering in the surrounding fields. Robert is still feeding the wild birds as part of the higher stewardship scheme attracting many different species. This morning I sighted a very large barn owl flying across the fields and resting in one of our large trees opposite.

We are now in the final planning of the **Open Day on 30<sup>th</sup> May**. The very popular **'Make a Sausage'** stall is still number one on the list as well as many local farmers' market stalls. The **Tending Agility Dog Group** will be putting on two displays during the day which will be fantastic to watch and not just for the children! **Tending Enterprise School** are once again cooking and providing lunch, always a hive

of activity on this day. **Tending Tree services** are demonstrating their skills by scaling the large tree and chain sawing wood, they are well known for their collection of ferrets as well. We are receiving replies from local organisations now to have a stall, so if you are a local business or organisation and you would like to come and support the local community with your stall contact Robert or pop into the shop.

We are now going to re instate the **farmers markets** on the **second Saturday of the month**, the first one being on the Fantastic morning to see a great selection of English produce.

With the weather warming up we are now preparing for the BBQ season with our famous 'Pork and Apple' burger and this year the 'Exploding Burger' too. We can also make Gluten free products so just give us a call.

*Karen Moss*

## KITCHEN CORNER

### Gammon and Leeks

For 4 people.

- 4 thin gammon rashers
- 4 leeks, white part only
- 1 tbs Tomato puree
- 1tsp Worcester sauce
- A pinch of cayenne pepper
- 1 tsp salt
- 1½ oz butter

#### Method

Wash leeks thoroughly Bring 2pt water to the boil with a little salt and boil the leeks for 5 or 6 minutes.

Lift out with strainer spoon and drain in a colander. Save the liquid. Melt butter in a pan, add flour and blend well then add 1 pint of the liquid and the tomato puree. Bring to the boil and simmer and stir

3-4 minutes. Season with Worcester sauce and cayenne.



Roll the leeks in the gammon rashers and arrange in an oven dish, Spoon over ¾ of the sauce, keep the remainder to add after cooking.

Bake 170C 25 minutes Meanwhile boil potatoes in the rest of the leek water. Drain and mash and use to pipe or spread round the of the dish . reheat the remaining sauce to pour over the gammon.

*Jill Frostick*

### Crickets Club 100 Club Winners

for March

- |      |                     |
|------|---------------------|
| 1st. | Mrs. Marion Britton |
| 2nd. | Mr. Hugh Frostick   |
| 3rd. | Mr. James Pirie     |



# GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

## A True Essex Bird!

We were delighted to report in last month's Bromley



Messenger that Great Bromley's very own 15-year-old county cricketer Jessica Bird made a stunning contribution in the ARCH Trophy tournament in the United Arab

Emirates (UAE) capital of Abu Dhabi representing the Essex Ladies Under 19 team.

Jessica has now been officially named in the full Essex Women's Cricket Squad for

the 2015 season. This is another fantastic achievement for both Jessica and Great Bromley Cricket Club.

Jessica would like to thank the Committee, Coaches and Volunteers at Great Bromley Cricket Club for all the support provided.

The lofty ambitions of Jessica are matched by the club and demonstrated as the Club House extension is now drawing to completion with the last push being made before the start the season. The improved facilities for players and spectators see larger changing rooms and improved catering and bar area.



The Club House is another great step

## Kwik Cricket for 6 to 11 Year Olds

Great Bromley and District Cricket Club will start its weekly Kwik Cricket for 6 to 11 Year olds on **Friday 1 May 2015**. The sessions start at 5:45pm and finish at 7pm. Each session costs £2.

This is a great opportunity for boys and girls to get an introduction to cricket with the added benefit of getting them active. It also gives parents the opportunity to take advantage of the newly refurbished facilities at the Club whilst their children enjoy the Kwik Cricket.

The club has a great friendly atmosphere and seen Ed and Finn O'Reilly, who both started playing Kwik Cricket at the club, be selected for District for the 2015 season. A

great achievement for both boys and the club.

Kwik Cricket is not just for the boys; Jessica Bird and Beth Dodd were both selected for Essex Girls, at Under 17 and Under 15 respectively, for the 2015 season. Again, like the boys, they were both introduced to Cricket through Kwik Cricket at the club.

The children then get the opportunity to play in a Kwik Cricket Tournament on **Friday 19 June 2015** at Great Bromley and District Cricket Club where they get the chance to play other local clubs. This is always a great social event which is always popular with children and



## WALTER THORNTON - D. 9TH MAY 1915

Walter Thornton was born at Chapel Lane, Ball's Green on 29th July 1890, the son of John, a farm labourer from Danbury and Sarah Sparrow, a Great Bromley girl born and bred. With his 8 brothers and sisters, Walter attended the village school then worked as a farm labourer. On 29th August 1914 Walter went to Colchester to volunteer, and chose the Northamptonshire Regiment. After training, on 10th February 1915, Walter disembarked in France as part of a draft of replacements to the Regiment's 1st Battalion that had been serving in France and Flanders for a year. The Battalion was billeted just behind the lines, at Allouagne (near the town of Bethune in the Pas de Calais).

Walter's first experience of the front line was probably 14th March, when they moved into the trenches at Festubert for four days. The Battalion's War Diary describes each day as being "Quiet". The Battle of Aubers Ridge was on 9th May 1915. Just after dawn a two pronged attack was intended to take control of a low lying ridge and break a key German supply route. The 1st Northamptonshire were part of the Southern attack, near the village of Richebourg L'Avoue.

The Battalion's War Diary says:  
*"At 5.40 a.m. precisely the Bombardment ceased & the Battalion with the Royal Sussex rushed to the assault. Our first companies got close up to the German barbed wire & Capt. Dickson & about 20 men reached a gap made by the guns in the trenches. Here these men [were] all shot down. The enemy had opened a heavy rifle and machine gun fire from their trenches before our men could get near them, and we were mowed down".*

The attacks were a disaster as the artillery bombardment was insufficient, leaving the German defences intact. No ground was taken, and there were more than 11,000 casualties on that one day. One of those

reported missing after the attack was Walter, though his family were not officially notified of this until early June. (In such cases, there was a delay whilst the Army investigated the man's fate, including the possibility of enemy capture.)

The Thornton family had to wait until the end of September before they were notified that Walter had been Killed in Action, aged 24.

Almost none of the officers and men of the 1st Northamptonshire who were killed during the Battle of Aubers Ridge have a known grave. They are officially commemorated with their names inscribed on the Le Touret Memorial, near Bethune.



### **More about Walter on the Website.**

Information about Walter was kindly provided by Walter's Great Nephew, Jim McKay. I have lost touch with Jim, who was in Coppins Rd Clacton until 2011.

I am also trying to trace his relative Grace Rudd (daughter of Grace Marven). Would be very grateful for news of either!

Hugh Frostick 07722 253962

[hugh@greatbromley.org.uk](mailto:hugh@greatbromley.org.uk)

# SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

On Wednesday 18th I brought students from the University of Essex to Seven Rivers to help clean up the area around the lake so that the residents would be able to walk or use their wheelchairs to visit the surrounding area. The students are all volunteers from what is called the V-Team. This is part of the Students Union and we carry out many projects for charities in the area. The team are driven by me to the projects where we enjoy doing a service to the community and the fresh air away from the classroom is always a welcome bonus. On this day we had students from four different countries who all felt a sense of achievement when they had finished the

project in the knowledge that the residents could enjoy the lake environment.

They were also grateful for the refreshments supplied by Pauline at Seven Rivers who looked after us well.

As someone who lives in Little Bromley and have visited Seven Rivers many times on the days they have fetes etc I know that every little helps and they are always looking for help and people to volunteer to help provide the wonderful service they do.

The front cover shows pictures of the team.

*Bob Middleton*

*V team University of Essex Students Union*

## LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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

The Parish Council elections are upon us again and we are pleased to announce that all your Parish Councillors have been returned unopposed to serve for a full four year term.

Many of you should have received your letters from the Parish Council asking for your views on the offer to have mains sewerage installed in our Village. If you haven't received a letter and want a copy then please email us and we will send one over. Quite a few people have responded but if you haven't already done so, please email us with your views on [littlebromleypc@gmail.com](mailto:littlebromleypc@gmail.com) or drop a note into The Haywain addressed to the Parish Council.

The Parish Clerk, Karen, has stepped down from her role with us and we are very sad to lose her. Karen achieved a huge amount for us in a very short space of time, developing new policies and procedures and bringing our Standing Orders up to date thus ensuring that we go forward in a much better position than we started and we would like to publicly express our grateful

thanks to Karen for all her hard work and help. Karen is now helping Ardleigh Parish Council, acting as their Clerk, and we wish her every success in that position.

As we are now without a Clerk, if anyone would be interested in offering their services to help us with the agendas and minutes etc then we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please contact us in the first instance using our email address above.

*Little Bromley Parish Council*

**RNLI & TENDRING CHURCH**  
*Spring Bank Holiday Weekend*  
**THE HALL, TENDRING**

**GARDEN OPEN**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> & Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May  
2pm – 5pm

Bee keeping                      Classic cars  
Photo competition Trade stalls  
Plant stall                      Ice creams  
Hunt the hedgehog

*Homemade teas in the village hall*

EXHIBITION of PAINTINGS & ARTISTIC  
PHOTOGRAPHY with FLOWERS in church  
*Free parking CO16 0BL*

# GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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

This month, I have two months' worth of Parish Council news to bring. A longer than anticipated period of illness last month meant I couldn't write in readiness for the deadline. Thank you for bearing with me!

## **Hare Green Play Equipment**

A grant has been received from the Big Lottery fund and other funding has been granted for which payment is awaited. Cllr. Hardy has been very busy meeting contractors and receiving quotations, identifying suitable proposals and undertaking costs assessments. Suitable projects have been identified and the PC are seeking views from the School Council - what better judges than the children themselves? Having sought their views the project will be placed again before the PC for a final decision to be made, and it is intended that the equipment will be installed by the summer. Thank you to Cllr. Hardy along with Martin Frostick for their input into this project

## **Village Maintenance**

This remains a monthly agenda item and a separate fund has been made available for the purposes of undertaking repairs within the village. Cllr. Perry and Cllr. Hardy have formed a small working party with the intention of undertaking some repairs themselves at nil labour cost to the PC. The first port of call has been the screens by the recycling area at Church Meadow. There is a question mark at present as to whether the PC is responsible for maintaining them or in fact TDC, so clarification is being sought before work commences. Church Meadow itself also requires some repair work and suitable contractors are being investigated for this purpose. Like any project, the village repairs will not be completed overnight, however by the end of the fine weather the PC hope to have crossed most of the repairs off the list! The litter-pick recently went ahead and a number of bags of rubbish were collected,

albeit with a lower turnout than usual likely due to the inclement weather. Thank you to everybody who volunteered.

## **Damaged Road Signs**

These are actually the responsibility of Highways at Essex County Council. The damage to the signs, whether that be as a result of the red paint or sign not set correctly have been reported by me piecemeal over the last few months, but it's clear that the problems haven't been rectified. Councillors therefore are patrolling the village to provide me with a full list of damaged signs with their location which will be reported individually via the Highways online portal. This will be followed up with a letter on behalf of the PC expressing their frustration over the inactivity at County level .

## **Grants to Parish Organisations**

The Parish Council was glad to be able to provide grants to all village organisations that requested a grant, including the Village Hall, the Cricket Club, the Church, the Pre-School, and the Friendship Club.

## **Flower Tubs**

Many thanks to Cllr. Strowbridge who once again has used her powers of persuasion to secure sponsorship of the tubs from a number of generous sources! The PC chose to keep the red, white and blue flower tub theme running again this year.

## **Bus Shelter**

The Bus Shelter was installed very suddenly when the contractors had a last-minute slot available to them to do so. I hope you have all seen it by now, installed at the Ardleigh end of the village. The Bus Shelter is in fact a most generous gift bequeathed by a late resident of the village and therefore I will be writing a separate piece on the bus shelter in the next edition of the Messenger

continued .../

### **Grounds Maintenance Contracts**

Every year, the Council is required to tender the maintenance of the verges and hedges to different companies. A number of organisations were contacted with a tender pack and three replied. The PC awarded the tender to the company which had offered the cheapest quotation, the same company that has undertaken the works in previous financial years

### **Parish Council Elections**

A Parish Councillor's term runs for four years, and this expires this year in line with the general election. This year there are more nominees than there are vacancies and therefore this will be a contested election and voting will take place at the Village Hall on 7th May. A list of nominees has been placed on the PC website and will be placed on the noticeboards shortly.

### **Next Parish Council Meeting**

This will take place on Wednesday 13th May at the Village Hall, starting at 7pm. This is the time of year when we hold three meetings in one, the AGM, the Parish Assembly and the regular meeting. Are you from a local village group or organisation who would wish to address the meeting as to what you have been doing to over the past year? Your attendance would be welcomed and perhaps you could kindly let me know in advance so your attendance can be included on the Parish Assembly agenda

Lastly - thanks to all who have been reporting to me the u-turning lorries at Hare Green. I am continuing to press for a no u-turn sign on behalf of the PC.

Until next month.

*Laura Austin*

*Clerk to Great Bromley Parish Council*

### **Village maintenance**

As a result of a survey undertaken around the village a number of projects have been identified.

The following work needs to be carried out at Church meadow, the area around the bins needs clearing and tidying, the hedge needs to be secured along Badley Hall Road, the parking bay sleepers need re-marking and the ruts and potholes need filling with road planings (which the PC will purchase). Volunteers from the parish council are actioning the work on the screens as well as on the village benches.

Our grass and hedge cutting contractor will carry out work to clear and tidy the closed church yard. The dog litter bins will be cleaned by Veolia (the emptying contractor).

Whilst it is hoped that much of this work can be carried out by volunteers some work will need to be paid for out of Parish funds. If you are able to help in any way, either in a voluntary capacity or with an offer of paid work, please contact the Parish council. Please continue to send in any further village maintenance issues.

*Councillor David Hardy*

### **Great Bromley Litterpick**

Our thanks to those hardy souls braving the wind at the end of March to help clear the litter around Great Bromley. Sadly, we were again short of numbers but Mark, Lesley, Jim, Sheena, Ernie, Martin and both Richards variously put up safety signs,

filled bags with litter and generally made our village look an awful lot tidier. Thanks also to Jon Hamlet at Tendring District Council for his help in providing the bags and equipment.

*Owen Blowers*

## Hare Green Recreation Ground update

Progress is being made on the refurbishment and replacement of play equipment. Hopefully work will start in May and should be finished in the summer. The project comprises of improving the drainage to the area around the play equipment and clearing the ground's drainage ditches, installing a tarmac footpath around the periphery of the ground improving the access and signage, then finally removal

and replacement of the old play equipment.

St. George's school is to be involved in deciding on the design of the new equipment which will be suitable for children aged approximately 3-12 years and will either be of steel construction or wood. All the work is to be paid for by grants which have been received from Tendring DC The Big lottery fund and the Community Initiatives fund.

*Councillor David Hardy*

### PLANNING

#### Planning Decisions

APP REF	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
15/00276/AGRIC - prior approval not req'd	Glenmead, Frating Road	Steel framed barn with profiled cladding
15/00191/FUL - approval, full	Morants Lodge, Colchester Road	Construction of detached garage with store over
15/00186/FUL - approval, full	Park Farm, Hilliards Road	General purpose farm storage building
15/00116/OUT - application withdrawn	Land adj. Morants Cottage, Colchester Road	Erection of a detached three bedroom dwelling house with off-road parking
15/00098/FUL - approval, full	Marks Farm, Frating Road, Gt Bromley	Single storey side extension to form bedroom/en suite bath & WC - modification of design approved under 12/00539/FUL
14/01176/ADV - split decision	Hazelwood Estate, Parsons Hill	7 fascia signs and 1 hanging sign

#### Planning Applications

APP REF	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
15/00299/FUL	Cold Hall, Cold Hall Chase, Harwich Road	Two storey rear extension and addition to dormer
15/00312/LUPROP	1 Meadow Close, Gt Bromley	Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension

**Planning Applications *continued***

APP REF	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
15/00350/NMA	Land adj. The Cross Inn, Colchester Road	Non-material amendment to application 14/00973/FUL - increase in amount of rendered external walls in lieu of facing brickwork
15/00358/FUL	Land adj. Morants Lodge, Colchester Road	Proposed development of one detached house and garage
15/00403/COUNOT	Blue Gates Farm, Carringtons Road, Gt Bromley	Change of use of agricultural building to residential use (C3)
Clerk to object on behalf of the PC to planning ref 15/00358/FUL on the ground that it represents overdevelopment at that site and would create too many entrances on Colchester Road.		

**FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

On 7<sup>th</sup> May you will have an opportunity to elect your Parish Council. Neil Skinner and Suzie Burnby are standing down due to their work pressures and I would like to thank them for their support and contributions to the Parish Council. We also have three new nominees, Jane Coster, Hugh Frostick and Rob Lord, as the rest of the existing councillors are re-standing this means that we have ten candidates for nine places so there will be an election to allow you to choose who you want on the council. Please do come out and vote for your Parish Council on 7<sup>th</sup> May, the polling booth is in the village hall and it is open all day.

The first meeting of the new council, on 13<sup>th</sup> May, is an important one, there will be three separate meetings, The Parish Council Annual General Meeting, when the Chairman, Vice Chairman and other office holders are elected for the coming year and some routine administrative matters are dealt with, The Parish Assembly where you have an opportunity to bring up any issues around the community that you would like the council to look at over the next twelve months and finally the usual Parish Council Meeting. Because of these two extra meetings we will start at 7pm in the Village hall, I do hope that as many of you as

possible can attend this meeting as it sets out how the council will operate for the coming year.

On the matter of the A120 / Harwich Road junction, this has been greatly improved since the 50mph speed limit was introduced, we heard from the Highway's Agency that they are planning to hold a public meeting in early / mid May to set out their plans for the proposed roundabout at this junction. This meeting will be in the Great Bromley village hall and the Highways Agency will advise everyone on the date and time. We still have problems with lorries doing U turns at this junction, which is really hazardous, if you see any lorries carrying doing this then please let the clerk know, although it is not illegal the planning consent for the waste station specifically prevents their lorries from turning at the A120 / Harwich Road junction, it would be really helpful to have the date / time / company name and registration number, a photo would be even better.

If you have any questions or concerns that the Parish Council can help with please do contact me by email [chairman@gbpc.org.uk](mailto:chairman@gbpc.org.uk) or on 01206250539.

*Alan Thomas*  
 Chairman Great Bromley Parish Council

## PARISH ELECTIONS

Two existing Great Bromley parish councillors are standing down in May and, as there are ten nominations for the nine seats, an election is necessary. The retirees are Susie Burnby and Neil Skinner, both of whom have worked tirelessly for the benefit of the parish. Amongst other tasks, Susie was instrumental in setting up the Village Speedwatch group; she also had co-responsibility for the maintenance and improvement of the village play areas, particularly Hare Green - an on-going improvement project. Neil's primary remit has been the improvement and maintenance of the Village Website - including striving to improve access to broadband for the village. Neil was also heavily involved with the organisation of the extraordinarily successful Village Fun Days. Sincere thanks are extended to these two hard-working and dedicated councillors, together with every good wish for their future.

This is an appropriate time to remind Great Bromley parishioners that parish councillors are your representatives in the democratic process of government. They are there for you to make your voice heard - if you do not participate in this area, it is impossible for them to know your views, and to make decisions accordingly. The Parish Council is non-political and voluntary; and it is worth noting that no council member is paid or draws the expenses to which they are entitled. Furthermore, they are, and have always been, willing to put in the hours (and, often, manual labour) required to care for our village and its residents - whether it be litter-picking, maintaining rights of way or organising events. There will be a list of prospective candidates enclosed with the May Bromley Messenger - you are urged to make the most of your vote.

## NOMINEES FOR GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCILLORS

BLOWERS, Owen Peter - Bottle House, Carringtons Road, Great Bromley, CO7 7XA

COSTER, Jane - Porth Cressa, Chase Road West, Great Bromley CO7 7UA

FAWCETT, Mary - Oak Lodge, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TY

FROSTICK, Hugh Gunter - 17 Meadow Close, Great Bromley, CO7 7UG

HARDY, David William - 3 Manor cottage, Mary Lane South, Great Bromley CO7 7UD

LORD, Rob - The Chase, Chase Road East, Great Bromley CO7 7UW

NICHOLLS, Fred - Fryerning, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TS

PERRY, Sidney Richard - Tethers End, Ardleigh Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TL

STROWBRIDGE, Kate - Weeping Ash, Ardleigh Road, Great Bromley, CO7 7TL

THOMAS, Alan - Maple Cottage, Brundells Road, Great Bromley CO7 7JP

# 2015 EVENTS

## MAY

- 6 Church Lunch 12 noon, St George's, All welcome  
WI meeting & AGM, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 7 Election of Member of Parliament for the Harwich & North Essex constituency  
Election of councillors to Tendring District Council  
Election of councillors to Great Bromley Parish  
Polling station for Great Bromley - Village Hall, 7.00am-10.00pm  
Polling station for Little Bromley - The Haywain, 7.00am-10.00pm
- 9 Plant & Table Top Sale, Village Hall, 10.00am
- 10 Traditional Rogation Service, Park Farm, 11am
- 15 Ladies Pamper & Shopping Evening, Village Hall
- 16 Little Bromley Amenities Group Quiz Night, the Haywain, 7:30pm  
Flute & Harpsicord concert, Lt Bentley church, 7.00pm
- 18 Little Bromley Amenities Group Meeting, at the Haywain, 7:15pm
- 21 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 24/25 Garden Open, The Hall, Tendring
- 29 Messy Church, Village Hall, 10.00am
- 30 Primrose Pork Open Day, 10.00am  
Little Bentley Hall Garden Show, 10.00am

## JUNE

- 13 Little Bromley Amenities Group Bingo Night, the Haywain, 7:30pm
- 20 Midsummer Tea Party, Lt Bromley church, 3.00pm

Lt Bromley Amenities Group

### Bingo Night

is scheduled for Saturday 13th June  
The Haywain at 7.30pm

### WI AGM

6th May at 7.30pm  
Great Bromley Village Hall  
Speaker: Brian Russell 'Pray silence for  
...'

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June  
the Friends of Little Bromley Church  
will be holding a

### Midsummer Tea Party

between 3 and 5pm.

St George's Church of England Primary  
School's

### PTA Summer Fair

Saturday 18th July 1.00-4.00 pm  
in the school grounds

Inflatable slide, face painting, BBQ, hog  
roast, bar, ice cream van, fancy dress  
competition (theme, 'Under the Sea'),  
raffle, stalls including games and bric-a-  
brac as well as singing, gymnastic and  
cheerleading displays and much, much  
more.

This event is to raise funds for St George's  
C of E Primary School PTA.



### Music for Flute & Harpsichord

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm  
St Marys Church, Little Bentley CO7  
8SE.

The Wollaston Consort  
Julie Hamer - Flute  
Peter Clayton - Harpsichord

Refreshments will be served in the Interval.  
Tickets £5 each Available on the Door or call 01206  
250622 to book.

St George's Church

## Flower Festival 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> June "Brolly Folly"



### HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A SCARECROW WITH AN UMBRELLA?



Little and Great Bromley are preparing for our Fourth Scarecrow Festival.

The theme is "Brolly Folly" to complement the Great

Bromley Flower Festival weekend on the 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

Next month we will let you know where you can get your entry forms to take part in the competition,

for only a £1 donation towards the P.C.C.

If you can't wait for more information, phone Carol on 01206 395103

## Plant Sale & Table Top Sale

Plant sale, table top and car boot sale in aid of Village

Hall funds  
9<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Great Bromley Village Hall  
10 am- 1pm



Donations of plants welcome, helpers desperately needed  
For further information, and to book a table or car pitch, please phone Kate Strowbridge 07592735600

### Little Dragons Playschool LADIES PAMPER & SHOPPING EVENING

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May

Great Bromley Village Hall

Entry by ticket: £3.00 in advance or £3.50 on the night

Treatments can be pre-booked

Raffle on the night

Call Debbie or Michelle for more info  
07920 772082/ 07572 614451

## Great Bromley Open Gardens Day

Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>

For further information contact Kate Strowbridge (tel 230211) or Marion Bromfield (230089).



## Primrose Pork Open Day 30th May

## QUIZ NIGHT

@ THE HAYWAIN  
LITTLE BROMLEY  
on Saturday

16th May  
7.30 pm start

TEAMS OF 4

£5pp inc Buffet

Tel 390004 to book table

Proceeds to LB Amenities Fund

*Little Bromley Amenities Group*

Donations of £1.00 per child (accompanying adults free)  
Registration between 10 and 10.15am

Come and help to make our



# Umbrella



# Of Love



At Messy  
Church



Come and have some family time,  
some messy fun and a light lunch

on  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

10.00am – 12.30pm,

At **Great Bromley Village Hall.**



All Welcome!

For more information please contact  
Carol Cordwell: 01206395103

United Benefice of Ardleigh and the Bromley's

# Little Dragons Pre-School - Great Bromley & Frating

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

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



OFSTED INSPECTED **OUTSTANDING**

## BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS- PLACES AVAILABLE

Tel: 07857 503103

Both the breakfast and after school clubs are doing well and growing in numbers- there are still places available; if you require further information please call the number above or pop in to see us.

## Fundraising LADIES PAMPER AND SHOPPING EVENING

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May Great Bromley Village Hall  
Entry by ticket: £3.00 in advance or £3.50 on the night

Treatments can be pre-booked

Raffle on the night

Call Debbie or Michelle for more info

07920 772082/ 07572 614451

We hope you can join us.

Our fundraising events are invaluable and we would like to say a very big thank you to all involved in the quiz night held in March, it was very well attended and raised a fantastic £337.00

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

This term we are looking forward to spending more time in our outdoor areas – our bird box has once again been visited by blue tits and we are watching their progress closely. The daffodils and tulips have been cleared ready for our new crops -we have already planted our potatoes and carrots and have started sowing seeds in our greenhouse. It is lovely to see the children's faces as the seedlings appear.

## Open Day 8<sup>th</sup> May

We are holding an Open Day on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May for prospective parents and children to visit, meet the staff and look around our setting.

## Fundraising

We are now collecting Sainsbury's Vouchers, so please tell friends and family and help us to collect.

We have also registered with Terracycle and we are currently collecting biscuit wrappers and plastic bottle trigger heads and caps from washing up bottles.

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

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

## Party Table and Chair Hire

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

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

*Deposit only £10 Tables only £5.00 each*

*Chairs Only £1.00 each*

*Collection Only - Contact us: Tel: 07857*

*503103 Email:*

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

## Dates for Diary:

Open Day Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May

Ladies Pamper & Shopping Evening

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May

May Half Term Finish Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> May

- return Mon 1<sup>st</sup> June

Summer Break .Finish Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> July



## Recent Meetings

At the recent AGM Graeme Forsyth was installed as President and Hew Naylor, Vice President, for the coming year. The outgoing President, Paul Holmes, reviewed the past year as one of membership growth, a change of meeting venue and an excellent speaker programme. The new President, Graeme, was interviewed by Dave Carman in the Probus Dessert Island Discs and apart from an eclectic choice of memorable music members were treated to hearing of Graeme's background, employment and personal achievements. On 15 April Colin Edmond spoke on "Inland waterways". All members have enjoyed these events.

## May Meetings

At our first meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> May Dave Austin will speak on "Colchester after the Romans" and on 20<sup>th</sup> May we will have what will be a most interesting topical talk on the "Essex

Air Ambulance"

## New Venue – St John Ambulance HQ Manningtree

Please note, we now meet at the St John Ambulance HQ, Manningtree.

## New members

Our Club endeavours to be simple in structure, be free of the constraints and obligations of service clubs, and involve members to a minimal cost. The club is directed primarily to providing fellowship between members who are compatible with each other, and provide the opportunity for development of acquaintances. New members are welcomed by Stour Valley Men's Probus Club; we meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month in Manningtree at 10.30am. Please contact Secretary Brian Rolfe on 01206 393665 for further details.

*Graeme Forsyth*



Norman Jacobs, headed his talk "Pie & Mash". He is Chairman of Clacton & District History Society amongst the many hats he wears.

He grew up in the East End of London and in 1947 he moved as a child with his family to Millfield Terrace. He classed the family as very fortunate as prefabs were mostly built with two bedrooms, bathroom, and separate toilet. A real bonus was that it came with a fridge which the majority of families were not fortunate enough to have. He has fond memories of National Health orange juice and Malt extract which also brought back memories for many of the assembled company!

Television memories were of Andy Pandy in 1950 and many other programmes of the time. The prefab was also next to the greyhound stadium so the excitement of the comings and goings and the noise was very well remembered.

When he went to school he had many memories of a Miss Leach who looked after him when he got wet as a small boy. His head teacher was a Miss Taylor who ensured that they all understood the history of royalty and he was the only one to know who the queen was at the time. He went on much later to win a television show called Tipping Point and won £10,000 pounds. He had a teacher called Mr Evans who loved rock and roll whilst everyone else thought it was rubbish; at the age of 10 years old Norman and his friends tried to form a skiffle group but they were not much good so it folded almost immediately. He went on to pass the 11+ and was rewarded with a Tom Graveny signed cricket bat.

In the field of television ITV bounced onto our screens with such programmes as Emergency Ward 10, and adverts such as Murray mints, the 'too good to hurry mints', accompanied by the appropriate music.

The weekends started with listening to the radio, Derek Mc Cullough and "Hello

Children everywhere", the pie and mash shop next door that also sold Jellied eels, Sunday radio Life With The Lyons, and of course Tony Hancock. Street traders, Ice Cream sellers, Rag & Bone Man, and seafood stalls selling cockles & whelks all added to the colourful life in his street.

A big thing in the life for Norman was when his father bought a washing machine in the 1960s, a real luxury for his mother. 1962 / 63 saw the great freeze with lots of snow which lasted for months, also the year when Johnny Morris was seen on television with Animal Magic, and the same year the Beatles were introduced to the public on Rendez Vous. Mods and rockers were seen on the streets dressed very differently to their parents and a real change in the culture of the young men and women in our towns & cities.

In 1965 they were told they had to leave their prefab, their home for 18 years and in July they moved to Debden East Loughton, and a new era began. Norman now lives in Clacton and continues with his talks. He has also published several books on local history and is very active with many organisations in the Clacton area.

What a fascinating life he has led and is still doing so, bringing to life the history of the 50s through to the present day.

*Joy Rolfe*

### **Social badminton club**

Great Bromley Village Hall.

Badminton for children 5-6 on Tuesday evenings will stop for the summer on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015. The children's sessions will restart on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2015. Badminton for adults will continue throughout the summer, session from 6-7.30 (note this has been extended by ½ hour) For further information please phone Kate Strowbridge on 07592735600

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At the March meeting names were taken for the outing to Bury St Edmunds. Barbara reported that a donation of £20 has been sent towards an arrangement at the Church Flower Festival in June, and the monies collected at our monthly meetings had been sent to the Children's Hospice.

At our April meeting Barbara will be reporting on our finances with suggestions for future fund raising. Beryl was pleased to announce that a Grant had been received from the Parish Council of £250 which will boost our funds.

Beryl was then also pleased to introduce Roger Jennings who had come to entertain members. Roger played the trumpet and the guitar and also sang a wide range of songs and kept his audience thoroughly engrossed with his varied repertoire.

In May David Padwick will bring music from the Shows, and the competition will be a piece of crystal. Beryl would like to remind members we need any items suitable to sell on our stall at the monthly meetings.

*Sonya Ward*

## LITTLE BROMLEY AMENITIES GROUP

### Spring Litter Pick

Our Spring Litter Pick took place on Saturday 28th March. Although we were short on the ground due to other commitments we still collected 22 bags of rubbish and various other items around the village. Thank you to those that found the time to help and to Dawn for providing refreshments afterwards.



### Easter Egg Hunt

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on Good Friday. 28 children arrived for an afternoon of fun and games and lots of chocolate!! The afternoon started with everyone decorating Easter masks and

Easter bags ready for the collection of the Easter eggs that had been hidden. Over 300 paper eggs were found along with an Easter bunny who was found by Emily



(pictured). There were chocolate Easter Eggs for everyone!! Thanks to Jade who did a splendid job with the face painting and a big thank you to Carol for organising the games and to all the helpers who worked hard entertaining all the children and for supplying the buffet and making the event a huge success.



## VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

The Annual General Meeting for the village hall will take place in

the Millennium Lounge at the village hall on Tuesday 12th May commencing at 7.30pm. All parishioners are welcome, indeed encouraged, to attend the AGM and receive an update on hall use, management, improvements to the facilities and the financial summary for the 2014/15 operating year. The AGM is also your opportunity to provide feedback in person on the facilities in the village hall and the way the hall is organised and managed. The trustees always welcome helpful suggestions and new ideas from members of the community and are keen to ensure that the village hall 'moves with the times' such that it continues to offer relevant and appropriate facilities for the community which it serves. Importantly, the AGM also provides the mechanism for trustees to be appointed, elected or co-opted for the ensuing year.

The Great Bromley Village Hall Trust has been in place since 1946, when the village hall building and surrounding land were gifted to the parish by the Crossman family. Many things have changed in that time, both in the facilities offered and the profile of those groups and individuals hiring the hall. The hall (like all other local village halls) is no longer the social centre of choice for most parishioners and to ensure that it remains in a sound financial position and is well used, local use of the hall is supplemented by commercial bookings and a range of activities booked by individuals/groups from outside the village.

Managing a public venue to meet community needs in compliance with the numerous pieces of legislation governing health and safety, hygiene, food handling, fire safety (to name but a few) is a complex and costly business. Other than the caretaker, who is paid for her work, all the trustees on the management committee are

volunteers and would really welcome new trustees or less formal help from members of the community in specific areas to help them in their task. If you are interested in becoming involved with any aspect of managing our fine hall, whether it is advertising, public relations, helping to organise social/fundraising events, property maintenance or whatever, please let me know and I can provide guidance as to how best you could be involved to suit your own circumstances. I also hold the nomination papers for elected trustees should you wish to put yourself forward as a trustee at the AGM.

Forthcoming village hall fundraising events are summarised below, with more details appearing on village notice boards and in the Bromley Messenger as each date approaches:

9<sup>th</sup> May - Table Top and Plant Sale

11<sup>th</sup> July - Jazz in the Village

Autumn (date tbc) - Craft and Collectibles Market

14<sup>th</sup> November - Mind, Body and Spirit Event

21<sup>st</sup> November - Barn Dance

12<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Fayre

31<sup>st</sup> December - New Years Eve Ball

*Martin Frostick*

(villagehallsecretary@greatbromley.org.uk  
or 01206 250263)

### **Willow weaving courses**

Two further courses have been arranged on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> September with Jo Hammond

The course on 25<sup>th</sup> September, to make a willow hare is now fully booked. The one on 26<sup>th</sup> September has some vacancies.

The course costs £50 including all materials and a sandwich lunch, and is to make a flower basket. £10 deposit secures place. For bookings and more information, please phone Kate Strowbridge on



## IN THE GARDEN WITH KATE

The good news is that the long-tailed tits that were hell bent on getting through my windows have decided to stop. The bad news is that they have been replaced by blue tits!

However, this should (I hope) be a short lived problem, as the birds busy themselves with the much more important issue of finding a mate, nest building, raising a brood, and seeing them fledge. Sounds exhausting, but I suppose the whole cycle is only a couple of months, unlike in humans when it can continue for over 20 years!

There was great excitement when the blue tits apparently started building a nest in the camera box (in between hurling themselves at the window), but there is no sign of them now in the box. I am aware that they start several nests, only opting for one at the final moment, but I had hoped that as they have nested there for the last six years, they might return.

As usual in Spring, I have been taken by surprise by the speed at which everything grows. The grass seems to lengthen before your eyes, and as for the weeds ..... My greenhouse benches are covered in small plants, too fragile to go outside yet, and many of these are destined for the Plant Sale at the Village Hall on 9th May, so if you are sowing seeds or dividing perennials, please don't forget the sale. Any donations will be very much appreciated, but please also come and buy some plants!

May is a tricky month in many ways, one feels that summer is almost here with the

long days and hopefully warm sun, but even May can have a sting in its tail and produce a frost or a downpour of heavy rain, both which can play havoc with tender plants, so it is wise to have some fleece handy to cover these plants if such inclement weather is forecast.

Having said that, by the middle of the month it should be fairly safe to plant out all those tender plants that have been bursting out of your cold frame or greenhouse- having of course hardened them off for a few days previously.

Tubs and containers such as hanging baskets can be positioned in the garden, and sweet peas can be planted in their flowering position. The obelisk I made at the willow weaving day will be coming into its own for this!

In the vegetable garden, swedes, beetroot, carrots, french and runner beans, sweet corn, courgettes, squash and pumpkin can be direct sown and leeks can be planted out. May is also the time to enjoy asparagus - if it ever produces any! As I write mid April, it shows no sign whatsoever of producing anything despite having its winter blanket of seaweed. Hopefully it will start soon - nothing beats home produced asparagus except, possibly, strawberries.

If we ever get any sun, it is vital to shade greenhouses to prevent tender plants such as tomatoes, aubergines, peppers and chilli from scorching. These need regular feeding, watering and good ventilation.

Hopefully despite all these tasks, you will have some time to enjoy your garden!



### **GREAT BROMLEY POST OFFICE at The Cross Inn**

Ardleigh Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TL

Telephone: 01206 231073

Mon/Tues: 9.30am-2.00pm      Wed/Thurs/Fri : 10.00am - 2.00pm

Sat : 9.00am-midday

- Please note that there is now a wide selection of cards and wrapping paper available.
- A dry cleaning service is also available.

**Please ask for details at the counter.**



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

Head teacher: Julie O'Mara Telephone: 01206 230305



## Cluster Music Festival

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March, eight local, small schools joined us for the annual Cluster Music Festival. The year 4 pupils acted as hosts for each school, showing them where to go. Each school performed a song of their choice on the stage; our chosen song was 'When I Grow Up' from the musical Mathilda. We also all performed together. 'Under the Sea' was a firm favourite with all schools! Parents helped us with the refreshments – many thanks to Mrs Askew, Mrs Black and Mrs Sutherland. It was an exciting morning, one which we all enjoyed. Special thanks to Mrs Bridle for all her hard work.

*Class 3*

## Spiritual Garden Project

Work has started on this project and we are so grateful to Martin Frostick and those who have already volunteered to help. If you would like to join them and can help in any of the following ways, please contact the

school office:

- General 'labouring' (ranging from mixing cement to making tea)
  - planting up the garden or donating materials including new or used clean timber, aggregate, stone, bricks, tiles, railways sleepers etc
- Thank you for your support.

## World Day

On Friday 20 March we had a World Day at school. This was part of our topic of 'Around the World in 80 Days'. The whole school took part and we visited all four classes and each one was a different country. Class 1 was China and we listened to a story, made Chinese dragons, lanterns and money wallets. We visited the



USA in Class 2 and we learnt about what music means, did cave drawings and made bracelets about our lives. Our next country was South Africa and we listened to a story about a girl who picked fruit and then tasted lots of them. We also did some printing and word matching. We then went to Mexico and hit a piñata in Class 4 and made Mexican food (Quesada's) and sombreros.

*By Rachel Chubb and Oscar Brincklow*

## HAY FEVER ADVICE

### North east Essex doctors issue hay fever advice

Today (Friday 20 March 2015) marks the start of spring and while the sunshine and blossoming trees may brighten up some peoples' lives, for others it means the start of hay fever misery.

The condition, which affects around one in four people nationally, is an allergy to pollen and usually results in sneezing, blocked noses or itchy eyes.

Local GP, Dr Gary Sweeney who is also Chair of the North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "Normally around this time of the year, when the weather starts to warm up, more and more of us start experiencing hay fever symptoms. This is when different pollens start to grow which can affect people's daily lives as well as interfere with their sleep.

"However help is at hand through your local pharmacist who can recommend a range of treatment to reduce symptoms including nasal sprays, eye drops and tablets. There are also herbal remedies which are also available over the counter or from chemists."

But the condition can be more serious for some people – particularly those with long

term conditions such as asthma.

Dr Sweeney added: "People with these conditions should be very careful about what they take to treat hay fever and if they feel the condition is getting worse, they should consult with their GP."

There are some measures we can take to alleviate some of the symptoms. They include:

- Stay tuned to broadcast pollen count updates;
- Staying indoors when the pollen count is very high and keep windows and doors shut;
- Avoid gardening or cutting grass.

The Self Care Forum was founded in 2011 by doctors, nurses and patients' organisations to provide information and advice for common conditions, long-term conditions and healthy living.

Fact sheets and symptom check lists to help people become more expert in preventing and managing health conditions at [www.selfcareforum.org](http://www.selfcareforum.org).

Its hay fever guide is at <http://www.selfcareforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/hayfever.pdf>

NHS online advice about hay fever is at [www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Hay-fever/Pages/Introduction.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Hay-fever/Pages/Introduction.aspx)

## ANGLIAN WATER - FOUL SEWER ISSUES IN GT BROMLEY

Anglian Water has recently attended to sewer blockages in Gt Bromley caused by a build-up of cooking fat, sanitary waste and wipes.

Help prevent pump and pipe blockages ... that cause pollution, Sewer flooding and nasty Smells in your property. Keep household waste out of the drains.

Wipes, sanitary waste and fats, oils and grease all build up over time and cause blocked pumps – as well as pipes – stopping water flowing freely.

When a pump gets clogged, sewage can

back up into homes and overflow into our rivers. Repairing or replacing pumps can add considerable expense on your water bill too.

Please dispose of wipes and unflushable items in the bin. Do not flush down the loo.

With your help, we can help protect our rivers, wildlife and the environment and keep the sewer system clear to do its job of taking sewage away from homes and businesses.

**Learn more at [KEEP-IT-CLEAR.CO.UK](http://KEEP-IT-CLEAR.CO.UK)**

# THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS



## Great Bentley Surgery

This month's newsletter has a very different flavour to normal. The election is looming and I'm sure none of you have failed to notice, the NHS is having its budget slashed and as a result, services are suffering. General Practice is struggling with an ever increasing burden of workload but the funding to pay for this is going down. Unfortunately the politicians (all of them!) have been using the NHS as a political 'football' with very short sighted and vote grabbing policies, ideas and changes. This election is no different so please think very carefully who you support if you value your NHS.

### *Did you know?*

- **90% of all interactions** with the NHS are in general practice, but we receive **only 8.4% of the budget**.
- GPs provide **340 million consultations every year, up 20% in the last 5 years** alone and expected to rise a further 12% by 2016.
- GP practices are **funded for 2 consultations per patient** per year. The average patient now consults about **6 times a year**, twice as much as 10 years ago.
- 78% of consultations are for patients with 2 or more long-term illnesses and this is expected to **grow by another 50% by 2018**. This is worse for Great Bentley.
- Great Bentley Surgery has to issue **43% more prescriptions in 2015** compared to 5 years ago. We will be issuing just under a **quarter of a million** this year!
- **86% of GPs have reported low morale and 94% have said their workload has increased**. As a result 6 in every 10 are considering early retirement. 1 in 7 wants to leave the UK. We have been lucky but will we always be?

- There has been a **GP training crisis** happening for years. Newly qualified doctors are actively choosing NOT to go into general practice. The number of people applying for GP training has fallen by at least 15% in the last year.

### **Headline grabbing sound bites like 7 day opening and appointments being guaranteed within 48 hours sound good, but are unworkable unless significant investment in general practice is made:**

- If general practice is struggling to provide services over 5 days, how on earth can it cope with 7 days with the same number of GPs and the same funding?
- If practices have to provide appointments within 48 hours with no extra doctors, they would have no choice but to stop appointments being booked ahead of this.
- It takes 10 years to train a GP, so where will a new government get extra GPs from?

Get involved with the Patient Participation Group and be part of a growing voice supporting **your** NHS. The next meeting is on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 6.30pm** in the Great Bentley village hall. We hope to see you there.

***From all the doctors, nurses, healthcare assistants and staff.***

### **LITTLE BENTLEY HALL GARDEN SHOW 2015**

One day only on

Saturday 30th May 2015

Gardens Open - 1pm-5.30pm

Gala Evening - 6pm-9pm - Jazz Band, Wine & Canapes.

For more information contact Nigel Dyson - 01206 250622 or visit [www.littlebentley.net](http://www.littlebentley.net) or visit us on Facebook.

# THE UNITED BENEFICE OF ARDLEIGH & THE BROMLEYS CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE NEWS



## Easter Egg Competition

In early March, the children of St. Mary's school, Ardleigh and St. George's school, Great Bromley were invited to take part in our Easter competition. They were asked to colour or decorate an egg and return it to school by the 20<sup>th</sup> March.

What a result we had! There was a fantastic selection of eggs to choose winners from and a lot of time was spent debating who should win, as they were all really good.

All the eggs have been on display in the local church since Easter and they look lovely.

St. George's School, Great Bromley had 60 entries. Class 1 had 16 entries and the favourite picture was by Alfie Westall. Class 2 had 16 entries and the favourite picture was by Torri- Sorcha Macrae. Class 3 had 19 entries and the favourite picture was by Olivia Harden. Class 4 had 9 entries and the favourite picture was by Alice Stanmore.

St. Mary's School, Ardleigh had 50 entries. Class 1 had 12 entries and the favourite picture was by Jennifer Owen. Class 2 had 14 entries and the favourite picture was by Stanley Harmer. Class 3 had 15 entries and the favourite picture was by Lucy Banks. Class 4 had 9 entries and the favourite picture was by Josie Mason-Cherry.

Everyone who entered received a prize for taking part. Every favourite picture winner received an Easter Egg which was presented to them in church before the schools broke up for Easter.

We look forward to our next competition!

## Easter Journey at Messy Church

On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 10am at Ardleigh Village Hall, we held our Easter Journey at Messy Church. We were pleased to welcome over 34 children and their adults through the doors. Beginning with a rhyme about the Easter story which all the children joined in with, they then went off to make some crafts.

Donkey puppets, crown of thorn biscuits and Easter gardens were made, alongside last supper headdresses and little lambs and chicks. This was followed by songs and a recap of the morning. Jenny showed the children some items from the church.

Finally the children sat down to share a meal, and the morning finished.

We would like to thank all those who attended and all those who helped for making it such a lovely morning.

**Please note** our next Messy Church will be on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 10am at Great Bromley Village Hall. Look out for more details.

*Carol Cordwell*

## Lady Day at St. Mary's Church, Little Bromley

On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30am, at St. Mary's church we held a service for the Feast of Annunciation. The service was taken by Brian Snape, with organ music and hymns throughout.

Around 18 people were in attendance and afterwards refreshments were greatly enjoyed by those who were able to stay.

We would like to thank all those who made the church look so nice with their flower arrangements and thank those who provided refreshments.

**Please note:** On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June the Friends of Little Bromley Church will be holding a **Midsummer Tea Party** between 3 and 5pm. More details next month.

Carol Cordwell

# CHURCH JOTTINGS

## Lent and Holy Week

Usually I end my jottings with a list of "Thank you's" but this month I really have to start by saying a "Huge Thank" you to all of you who made the services during the season of Lent and Holy Week so very special. We are becoming used to working together with our neighbouring parish churches and it has been truly wonderful visiting our friends at St Mary's Ardleigh, St Anne and St Lawrence, Elmstead and St Mary's, Little Bromley.

We thank Richard Allen for his energy and enthusiasm who, together with Gregory, Robin and Barrie master minded most of the joint services which have taken place beginning with Ash Wednesday at Elmstead.

We thank the school who found time in their busy timetable to visit for an assembly and collect their Palm Crosses.

Thank you to Jane who brought her donkeys, Edward and Dolly, to church on Palm Sunday, they were a massive hit and even a steady drizzle didn't spoil the day – they shone with pride.

Thank you to Carol who led an Easter Journey Messy Church on the Monday of Holy Week 36 children and their parents learned a little of Christ's Journey towards the Crucifixion on Good Friday and Easter Day.

Thank you Carol also for organising an Easter colouring competition for the children at school – 60 children took part and there were prizes for all. Come and see the display in the Church

Thank you to all of you in our community who donated money towards the purchase of the wonderful Easter Lilies this year in memory of loved ones. We were able to buy 25 beautiful Calla Lilies this year and they look splendid! Please

come and have a look at the Easter Decorations and the Easter Garden. Flower arrangers, I thank you all for your hard work and loyal support. In our newly painted church with the sun streaming through the windows on Easter Day what could be more magnificent than spring flowers on display!!

Throughout Holy Week we have heard some very moving music and singing- I really must thank Gregory for organising the choir and the music – it has been a treat! A huge thank you to those of you who came to our April lunch – 20 friends shared a simple lunch in St George's. it was Ray's birthday and we sang Happy Birthday whilst eating the delicious buns he brought for the celebration (I think Estelle may have made them!) Don't forget the next church lunch on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon all are most welcome.

Lastly but by no means least I thank Nicky & George for making the church sparkle and shine for Easter. We are truly blessed to have so many of you helping and supporting the very important work of the church in our community.

Looking forward now to June, our Flower Festival is fast approaching "Brolly Folly" is going to be such fun! Come and join us. Please put the dates in your diary now. June 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. We have lots of exhibitors, an art exhibition, refreshments and much, much more.

*Jenny Nicholls, Churchwarden*





## ARDLEIGH and THE BROMLEYS CHURCH OF ENGLAND

### Church of England Services - May

<b>Sunday 3rd May</b>	<b>5th Sunday of Easter</b>	
8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
6.30pm	Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Sunday 10th</b>	<b>6th Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>Rogation Sunday</b>
8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
11.00am	Family Service for Rogation <i>Bring and Share Lunch</i>	<i>Park Farm., Gt Bromley</i>
<b>Thursday 14th</b>	<b>Ascension Day</b>	
7.30pm	Eucharist	<i>St Anne &amp; St Laurence,</i>
	<i>Joint Service with the three Parishes</i>	<i>Elmstead Mkt</i>
<b>Sunday 17th</b>	<b>7th Sunday of Easter</b>	
8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
10.30am	Easter Parish Eucharist <i>with Holy Baptism</i>	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 24th</b>	<b>Day of Pentecost</b>	
8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Sunday 31st</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>	
8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	<i>Joint Service with the three Parishes - The Bromleys, Elmstead and Ardleigh</i>	

**Holy Communion** every Friday at **11.30am** at Seven Rivers, Hall Road, Great Bromley.

#### **Church Lunch**

6th May 12noon

All very welcome

Please join us in the church for a light lunch - No need to book, just come!

#### **Parish Register**

23rd May at 1.00pm

Wedding of

Andrew Connorton and Laura Rogers

10th May

#### **Rogation Service & Bring & Share Lunch**

11.00am at Park Farm

Please join us for a traditional Rogation Service at one of our local farms courtesy of Mr and Mrs Henry Fairley. Everyone welcome