

The Messenger

The Magazine of
the villages of
Great & Little
Bromley

February 2018

Vol: 2 No: 2



**St George's (C of E)
School**

Just Visiting!

Full report on page 3

THE FIRST PAGE

I hope you have all succeeded, unlike me, of celebrating Christmas and the New Year germ free and healthy. I caught a really nasty bug from the grandchildren over Christmas and spent the New Year weekend tucked up in bed surrounded by multitudinous hankies and pills and potions!

Moving house and location has been very hard and stressful. We have all had to adapt to a completely new and different way of life. The dog has found it easiest - as long as she is loved, fed and walked she is happy. I am pleased and happy with my new home but Katisha has been finding it very difficult indeed. And now she is missing. Five months on she had just begun to go into the garden and ask to go outside but had not explored beyond the boundaries of the garden. The other evening she obviously did and is now lost. I



have alerted every avenue I possibly can. If you see her please let me know. All I can hope for is that she is safe and okay.

I welcome photographs, indeed I ask for them, as they illustrate and bring alive reports. However recently some photographs have been sent which are a large file size. I need to turn the magazine round in a couple of days - three at most -

in order to it to get back from the printers in time for the beginning of the month. (Copy late arriving does not help.) Therefore would contributors PLEASE re-size their photos BEFORE sending them to me and send them as a jpeg measuring about 3"(7.62 cm) x 3" (7.62cm) approx or about 180 pixels. This enables the overall size of the magazine to be kept within the limits that I can send by email (email refuses to send an attachment over a certain size). The cover page with the larger picture needs, obviously, a better quality picture and when I have chosen the picture for the cover I may well ask the contributor for the original sized photo. The cover pages are sent separately to the printers.

I hope this makes sense. I have sadly had to omit some pictures this month due to a size problem. Please do give me a ring if you don't understand. But most importantly please do not cease to send me photographs. We all love to see them.

Thank you.

By the time you read this I shall be back from travelling to Norway to see the Northern Lights. I have wanted to see them for a long time - I just hope they light up! You will be doing other things meanwhile. Enjoy yourselves.

Leonie

MATERIAL for the **MARCH 2018** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by

14th FEBRUARY 2018 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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The 'Bromley Messenger'
is very grateful and thanks all those who by
their donations have sponsored this month's
magazine through
PERSONAL AND CLUB DONATIONS

theWI

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

December meeting

We were in for a treat (several of them) at this W.I Christmas Party at the Village Hall on 6th December. Just the way to start the Christmas Festivities for 2017.

Susan and her committee must have been busy for hours!! We were greeted by a beautifully set out village hall, green and red tablecloths, fabulous Christmas Tree and a sumptuous buffet table.

Members from Great Bromley were joined for the evening by friends from many neighbouring W.I's, including Wrabness, Elmstead, Arlesford, St. Osyth and Erdelega.

It was great to meet up and share news from other areas of the Tendring District, many dressing especially for this special occasion, festive jumpers, jewellery and much, much more.

A rousing rendition of the traditional Jerusalem began an evening which was such fun. Carols, Christmas Songs. Songs from Scotland, Songs from the Musicals led by an amazing lady called Joyce Kimber from Woodbridge. Joyce had a fantastic voice and with the latest computerised technology projecting the words we were all able to join in.

I don't know who made the lemon meringue pie but it was delicious and no 'soggy bottom'... Thank you - all the food was

delicious.

Thank you to all those who helped and especially the "washer uppers". Not forgetting those less fortunate than ourselves, a bucket was passed round for a collection to the "Soup Kitchen" in Colchester - a very worthy cause to support.

Thank you Susan and your hard working committee for a memorable evening.

Visitors and friends are very welcome at all our meetings. Great Bromley W.I meet on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Jenny Nicholls

January meeting

It seemed very appropriate that, 100 years after women were granted the vote, we should be treated to the story of intrepid women who drove from Cape Town to Cowley without escorts, or a backup team, during the Great Depression in 1930.

The talk at Great Bromley WI for the start of 2018 centred around the book 'Cape to Cowley via Cairo in a light car' written in 1932 by Miss M.L. Belcher and Sir John Foster Fraser.

One of the original car doors, a set of glass slides, and the book were discovered at an auction in Essex, the glass slides were transferred to plastic and all brought to the meeting by Paul Gallifant, our speaker.

Trans-Africa colonial journeys during the 1920s and 1930s were often sponsored by motor manufacturers to encourage the spirit of adventure through Empire roads at a time of colonial uncertainty. This adventure was sponsored by Shell Oil and Morris. On Tuesday April 1st, 1930, two South African women, originally from Britain, Miss Margaret Belcher, and Miss Ellen Budgell (the mechanic), embarked on a six-month, 10,000 mile journey from Cape Town to the Morris factory in Cowley, via Cairo. Accompanying them for the first part of the journey was Miss J.M.O Day (The official tin-opener).

The vehicle for this epic adventure was a 1924, second-hand 4-seat tourer with 25,000 miles on the clock, a bullnose Morris Oxford, called Bohunkus (a male tramp). Fitted with standard Dunlop tyres, and a Guides Association brass trefoil on the bonnet, the women Guiders drove from



Cape Town through Africa and France, arriving at the Morris factory in Cowley, England on Wednesday 1st October 1930. They used the Great North Road (the red route) for their journey. This colonial road was the Empire route that snaked through the eastern part of the African continent. Their journey was not simple, often traversing roads almost impassable. 30 miles out of Cape Town, they broke a spring which had to be fixed by Miss Budgell. They were the first vehicle to cross the new Victoria Falls bridge in Zambezi. Then, in Zimbabwe, the rear axle hub broke. Seeing that this would take some

time to be fixed, they asked a passing lorry driver to take the broken axle south to a town for repairs. They then camped next to the car for 12 days to await the return of the axle. Their 'tent' was a tarpaulin affixed to the side of the car and pegged to the ground. No groundsheet, or tent poles for these ladies.

Axle fixed, they then drove north through Uganda, Kenya, Sudan, where Bohunkus caught fire and had to be dowsed in sand to extinguish the flames, sand brushed off, and melted wires replaced before continuing their journey through Egypt, crossing the Nile, and arriving in Cairo. Throughout the journey, minor breakdowns and assistance across rivers and bridges was provided by locals they met along the way.

The two remaining ladies then crossed the Mediterranean to Marseilles, drove to Paris and onwards to Calais where they were met by a representative of the Morris company who accompanied them to Cowley. They stayed in England for a while before returning to South Africa by the Mail boat. This was a truly fabulous adventure, worthy of any movie, made all the more amazing by the slides taken by the ladies during their journey. A little bit of history, brought alive for our delight.

Eileen Brown

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 7th February in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. The speaker is Rebecca Robinson. Everyone is welcome to join us.



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

Forest School Fun!

Towards the end of the last term we started our first Forest School sessions at St George's. It rained an awful lot but we are sure that the children hardly noticed! They built some fantastic rope swings and adored digging in the mud. We investigated the newt shelter that Noah had built for us and some fantastic animal houses were constructed. We had deep discussions on how we could attract birds to the area.

Mrs Fincken

Barleylands Trip

On Wednesday Class 1 and 2 went to Barleylands. We went on a bus but it took a very long time! During the day we fed sheep, cows and goats. We also saw pigs, donkeys and horses. Catherine took us all on a tractor ride and we were pulled in a trailer. It was bumpy!!

We sneaked into the reptile house just

before lunch and met a very big snake!! On the way back to the hall we saw some birds of prey. We noticed some owls. Everybody practised being a scientist and we made lava lamps, blow up hands, rainbow skittles and cornflour slime. It was so much fun! Finally, it was time to go home.

By Henry Corduff

Class One Outdoor Area

Work has begun to install the new equipment in the Class One outdoor area, funded by our recent lottery grant. The Class One team, including the children, have been busy clearing the area and are very excited about seeing the team putting the new equipment in place. There will be a tunnel with a ramp, some new surfacing, a climbing wall and a story-telling area.

Photographs on the cover

THANKS



the table cloths. A special mention to Sue, Jane, Barry, Chris and Bill for all the help in setting up the hall - it looked brilliant - and lastly to our husbands for their help and patience

Dinah & Jayne

A full hall and a great time had by everyone who attended the posh frocks and black tie New Year's Eve party. A fantastic £923 was raised for hall funds. A big thank you to Linda from Sweet Success catering for the food and the Mango and Lime (Wivenhoe) for sponsoring





VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

As the New Year gathers pace, the trustees are pleased

to be able to reflect on the success of the Christmas Fayre held in December. Although not quite as well attended as in recent years, the Fayre made a net profit of £1573 which was divided equally between the village hall and St George's Church. Sincere thanks go to those trustees, church members and friends of the village hall who put so much effort into making the event a success. Thanks also go to Becky Keitch from St George's School who, along with an enthusiastic group of children, volunteered to provide seasonal musical entertainment on the stage. Lastly, thanks are due to the local businesses who donated some excellent prizes for the Grand Christmas Draw.

At the end of December the village hall looked magnificent for the New Years' Eve party organised by Dinah Jones, Jayne Bates and others. Great fun was had by those attending and trustees were most appreciative of the £923 raised for village hall funds. Pictures from this event and others held in recent months will feature on the new village hall website which it is planned to launch this year.

Recent visitors to the hall will have noticed that the long-awaited access path around the building has now been constructed, together with a paved area adjoining the cricket field. The parish council arranged for the Hayward memorial bench to be refurbished last year and this has been installed permanently on the paved area. This construction work largely completes the first phase of the village hall refurbishment project which has been ongoing since 2015 and to mark the occasion representatives from Essex County Council, Tendring District Council, other grant-awarding bodies, village organisations and the contractors who undertook refurbishment work at the hall were thanked during a reception at the hall on 25th November. This reception took place immediately prior to the highly

enjoyable performance of 'The Old Curiosity Shop' by the Common Ground Theatre Company, which was watched by an audience of nearly 100 people.

Two village hall trustees have stood down recently from the management committee, which is grateful for the effort put in by both Mike Corduff and Graham Taylor in recent years and looks forward to seeing them involved again in village hall activities when their time permits. There are now three vacancies on the management committee and if you would like to play a part in running our village hall, either as a trustee or less formally, then please let me know. Any additional support with managing this popular local amenity would be most helpful.

Martin Frostick

villagehallsecretary@greatbromley.org.uk
or 01206 250263

GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB



100 Club Winners

The winners are as follows:

October

- 1st - Ivan Arthey
- 2nd - Mark Lamb
- 3rd - Pam Wright

November

- 1st - Sophie Allam
- 2nd - Pip Allam
- 3rd - Adam Cuthbert

December

- 1st - Beth Dodd
- 2nd - Lynda Allam
- 3rd - Dave Scarlett

Little Dragons Pre-School - Great Bromley & Frating

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

Website: www.littledragonspreschool.org
Email: littledragonspreschool@gmail.com



OFSTED INSPECTED **OUTSTANDING**

BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS- PLACES AVAILABLE

Tel: **01206 231823/ 07857 503103**

We are flexible and happy to take children for the occasional session and times to suit your situation.

If you require further information please call us on the numbers above or pop in to see us.

30 Hours funding for eligible parents comes into effect from September 2017 - give us a call for more details.

HAPPY NEW YEAR. Christmas seems a long time ago now, on the last day of term we visited Leonard Cheshire Disability with the children and their parents and performed some Christmas songs for the residents. We had a lovely time, a warm thank you to them for inviting us and making us feel so welcome. Upon returning to preschool we were very lucky to have a visit from Father Christmas himself! We finished our morning with a party lunch (with lots of lovely food supplied by the parents). A great way to finish the year. All the children have settled back well after the holiday with a few new children joining us also. We hope you all enjoy your time with us.

Please help us to collect:

Used Printer Ink Cartridges/ biscuit wrappers/ plastic bottle trigger heads and caps from washing up bottles.

OUR RECYCLING STATION now makes it easier to drop off items

We have set up an area – across the car park to the right of gate, with boxes for you to drop off collected items. Thank you.

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

Dates for diary:

Mon 12-Fri 16 February Half Term

Tues 13th February Shrove Tuesday
(Pancake Day)

Wed 14 – Wed 21 February National nest
box week (Supporting RSPB)

Fri 16 February Chinese New Year
(year of the dog)

Thurs 22 February World Thinking Day

Thurs 1 March St David's Day

Thurs 1 March World Book Day

Fri 2 March Holi

Mon 5 March Mothers Day Week

COFFEE BREAK NUTRITION with Suzanne Abbott

THE NEW YEAR BEGINS...

...and with it starts the dilemma as to what to give the kids to snack on at school or when they come home.

I follow closely the work of the 'Alliance for Natural Health International' and, whilst looking through their website, I came across some excellent ideas for snacks, not only for the kids, but adults alike.

ANH-Intl is an internationally active non-governmental organisation promoting natural and sustainable approaches to healthcare worldwide. Its motto is: *'love nature, live naturally'*.

It campaigns across a wide range of fields, including for freedom of choice in healthcare, healthy eating & lifestyles, and the use of micronutrients and herbal products in the management of our health and resilience. The organisation operates campaigns that include drawing attention to misinformed, Big Food influenced government healthy eating advice, to the uncertain science and risks of genetically modified foods, to the need for informed choice on vaccinations and the aim to end mass fluoridation of drinking water supplies. It accomplishes its mission through a unique application of 'good science' and 'good law'.

The organisation was founded in 2002 by Dr Robert Verkerk, an internationally acclaimed expert in agricultural and health sustainability. Its international office is based in Dorking, UK, while its US base operates out of Atlanta, Georgia. With all that said, here are some super easy ideas to ward off those hunger pains:

Boil 6 eggs, cool them and keep them in the fridge until needed (eat within a week)
Serve with cherry tomatoes, rocket or celery sticks.

Oatcakes – spread with home-made nut butter or hummus – very easy to do, find a hummus recipe online. It takes less than 10 minutes.

Make your own nut butter from pre-soaked nuts (almonds, brazil nuts, cashews). Soaking makes the nuts more digestible: dissolve 2 tps of sea salt in enough water to cover 2 cups of preferred raw nuts, leave them to soak between 8 – 12 hours. Strain and rinse, then dry the nuts in the oven. A bit of a tedious process, but this way you know what goes into your kids tummies! To make nut butter, whizz the nuts in a food processor several times until you achieve the correct coarse/smooth texture your kids will like to spread onto oatcakes. Try to introduce as many vegetables with the snacks as possible. The oatcakes can be eaten with vegetable crudités – carrots, celery, peppers etc.

Apple or pear 'sarnies' – 2 slices of pear or apple sandwiched together with nut butter. Plenty of vitamins, nutrients and fibre in one.

Celery sticks filled with nut butter or hummus – sprinkle them with raisins or cranberries

A handful of activated (pre-soaked) nuts plus a piece of fruit

A small bowl of berries topped with coconut cream.

For cheese flapjacks or egg 'muffins', visit the website 'www.anhinternational.org' for recipe details and further information about natural health guidelines.

Best of health!

Suzanne

Natural Health Consultant
Specialising in Naturopathic Nutrition

RUNNING INTO THE GRAVEYARD 3

The Bromley 10K will take place on April 8th from St. Mary's Church, Lt. Bromley starting at 10.30am. The money raised by the previous two runs has been used to clear, repair and preserve the church fence. Trees have been made safe and new trees have been planted.

The run is the largest event taking place in the village. This year it has increased further with 600 runners taking part and their supporters. This is in part due to its inclusion in the Essex series attracting the best runners from our county.

In the past two years we have received some sponsorship from local businesses and support from residents who have marshalled, organised the drinks station

and assisted with the many tasks to make this a successful and sort after event. I would welcome additional assistance in any of these ways. It really is a village event for the benefit of the village.

Please come and support the event to soak up the friendly atmosphere and community spirit.

Roly Knott, race organiser



Leonard
Cheshire
Disability

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

A New Year, a new start of writing to you all from my little office here at Seven Rivers.

We all had a lovely Christmas with lots of trips out and entertainers coming in. Like everyone January seems to just fly by and by the time you just get into writing the right year on your correspondence it turns into February.

Looking forward to what this year holds for us is one of the joys of the new year, planning what we can do that will interest not only our residents but also attract some of you into our home. Some of the things planned already are in March when we are holding a sponsored bike ride to Scotland, without leaving our home I add. We will be using our exercise bike, this is used daily by our clients but will be interesting for those of us who are not used to it.

In June our Strawberry Cream Tea will be a celebration of our 60 years as a home in Gt. Bromley. Our first resident came into our home in January 1958, Leonard Cheshire obtained the Hall in 1957. As many of you will remember last year we celebrated

Leonard Cheshire's 100th birthday. We elected to hold our 60th year in June as the weather should be better than in January.

We are always looking for volunteers you only need to commit to an hour a week or if you feel this is too much then you can become a 'as and when volunteer'. Why not phone me on 01206 230345 to come and have a look round, a coffee and a chat or if you have a company we can offer a team building day.

I also give talks about Leonard Cheshire and Seven Rivers, these talks are free and last for just under one hour, so if you book talks for you group we can offer interesting talks that can be adjusted for scouts to university students. Just phone me on the number above.

Take care until next time
Liz x

MORE THAN JUST A FARM

Despite the cold weather the farm has been busy over the festive period. On the 10th December we had our first snowfall of 2017, the snow came down thick and fast and settled quickly. With the thick snow, the sheep had no grass so we put hay out for them.



Also in December we had a fire in our calf barn, we were very lucky to not lose any livestock, only straw bales and the barn itself! We were so grateful to the fire service; they were with us within 8 minutes of making contact with them.



We had a busy few weeks in the butchery leading up to Christmas, we enjoyed every moment and hope you all enjoyed your festive dinners! Our beef herd are very pleased to be in with the cold weather, they spend the winter months in to allow the fields to 'rest'.



We have started milling our own feed for the livestock, wheat, barley and beans milled together to make a delicious mix that they have all been enjoying.

Until next time, Thank you
Becky
www.beckysbutchers.co.uk

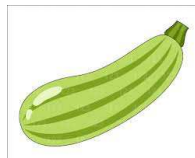
KITCHEN CORNER

COURGETTE AND BRIE SOUP

- 1 lb courgettes sliced
- 12 oz potatoes peeled and chopped
- 1 onion fine chopped
- 2 pints stock.
- 8 oz Brie rinded and chopped

Put all but the brie in a pan and cook 15 minutes or till tender. Stir in the Brie. When it has melted, cool and then blend, adjust the seasoning. Add herbs if you like. Garlic bread would be a good accompaniment.

Jill Frostick



FRIENDSHIP CLUB

A very happy New Year to all our members. after which a bumper tea was enjoyed by all.

At the December meeting thanks were given to Brenda who had provided the Christmas lunch for our members at the Cross Inn on 5th December. Everyone agreed it was a very enjoyable meal with delicious food and a really festive atmosphere.

The Christmas card jar contents were counted and £40 was sent to our Charity, E.A.C.H.

A grant of £250 has been received from the Parish Council for funds for the coming year.

Our entertainment for the afternoon was provided by a group of ukulele players who sang and played Christmas songs,

Help is still needed with the general running of the Club and the Committee would welcome offers of assistance.

Please remember subs are now due for the year.

The Speaker for February will be Marjorie Culham who will be telling us about her work with the Guide dogs for the Blind. Marjorie will be accompanied by a trainee guide dog puppy, and our competition is a dog ornament.

Sylvia Ward

MISTER LUCKY

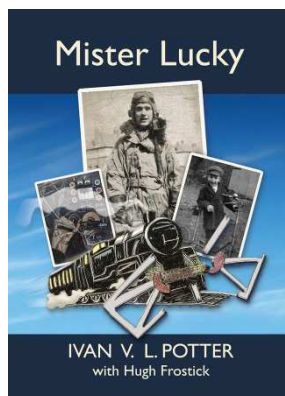
Hugh Frostick has written a new book which came out at Christmas. "Mister Lucky" tells the story of Ivan Potter, who is just shy of his 94th birthday.

Ivan Potter is a Suffolk farming lad who got caught up in the Second World War. He did war work in an Ipswich factory, then joined the Belstead Home Guard where he was one of six young men who volunteered for a mobile squad with special training and a secret hideout in Bentley woods. He volunteered for the RAF as a wireless operator on Lancaster bombers. Then followed a long career on the railways of East Anglia.

Ivan always enjoyed sharing stories about his war service at Air Crew Association dinners, demonstrating Secret Army equipment at Parham, and swapping railway stories with his brother and old colleagues. When he began to commit his tales to paper, he realised just how many lucky escapes and coincidences had helped him to reach old age, which gave

him the title for his book.

If you want to get the book it is available now from Hugh, priced £9. Please go to www.frostick.co.uk for the order form. If not online, you can phone Hugh on 01206 617324 to arrange or buy a copy at The White Rose.



2018-19 EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 2 Church Lunch, St George's, 12 noon
- Angels Reunited, Village Hall, 7.00pm - *see page 32 for details*
- 7 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14 Gt Bromley parish council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 15 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall 2.00pm
- 17 Lawford Flower Ladies Lunch, Ogilvie Hall, Lawford, 12.30pm
- 18 SVAM concert, East Bergholt church, 4.00pm
- 23 Tendring Brass Band, St Osyth Village Hall
- 25 Circus, Village Hall, 3.00pm - *see page 32 for details*

MARCH

- 2 World Women's Day of Prayer, Lawford church
- 3 APCM, St George's church, after morning service
- 4 Essex & Herts Dog Walk, Marks Hall, 10.30am
- 7 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14 Gt Bromley parish council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 15 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall 2.00pm
- ? Sponsored Bike Ride to Scotland (Seven Rivers Cheshire Home)
- Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm

APRIL

- 4 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8 Running into the Graveyard 3, start from Lt Bromley church
- 11 Gt Bromley parish council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 19 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall 2.00pm
- 23 St George's Day
- 28 Concert, St James' church, Clacton

MAY

- 2 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6 Bluebell service, Lt Bentley church
- 9 Gt Bromley parish council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 17 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall 2.00pm
- ? Plant Sale, Village Hall

Lawford flower ladies are organising

LUNCH

on Saturday 17th February
in the Ogilvie Hall at 12.30pm

Cost £10.00 per person

Two Course Lunch

To include glass of wine/soft drink

Tickets to be purchased in advance from
Ann Morsley 01206 393075

This event is for fundraising for the flower
festival in June 2018

Please support us by coming along or a
donation if unable to attend



The banner features a cyclist in a green and yellow jersey riding a blue bicycle on a blue gradient background. The text 'Coast to Coast' is written in white, with the 'to' in a smaller font and a blue circular arrow icon between 'to' and 'Coast'. Below this, 'Cycle Challenge 2018' is written in a light blue font. At the bottom, the website 'Visit sthelenahospice.org.uk/coasttocoast' is displayed in a small blue font. On the right side, the text '250 miles from Clacton to Portishead' and 'September 6th to 9th' is written in white. There are also small white bird icons on the right side of the banner.

TENDRING BRASS BAND

An afternoon of musical entertainment
23rd February

In St Osyth Village Hall

Tickets £5 available from:-
St Osyth Butchers, Spring Road
Dukes Bistro, Clacton Road
or by calling 08452500581 or 07963
645583

Details also available on the band website
www.tendringbrassband.co.uk

RUNNING INTO THE GRAVEYARD 3

The Bromley 10K
will take place on
8th April
from St. Mary's Church, Lt. Bromley
starting at 10.30am.

World Women's Day of Prayer

On 2nd March
at Lawford Church

FOUR GREAT COMPOSERS

Saturday, 28 April 2018 at 7.30 pm
Clacton Choral Society accompanied by
the Kingfisher Sinfonietta
will perform music from Bach, Handel,
Mozart and Haydn
St James' Church, Tower Road, Clacton
on Sea, CO15 1DA
Tickets £10 (including programme) from
01255 221511

Seven Rivers Cheshire Home SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

to Scotland (in the Home!)
in March

STRAWBERRY CREAM TEA

June
Watch this space!

STOUR VALLEY ARTS & MUSIC

Sunday, 18 February
4.00pm

at St Mary's Church, East Bergholt
Programme of music by Schubert,
Messiaen, Poulenc, Beethoven and Bartok
performed by *SAVITRI GRIER* violin
and *RICHARD UTTLEY* piano

TICKETS: Tel.01206 298426 Email.
svamtickets@btinternet.com Website.
www.svam.org.uk

PLANT SALE

May
Great Bromley Village Hall
Watch this space!



PRE-REGISTER
NOW FOR
YOUR FREE
DOGGY
BANDANA!

HELL Hounds
SUNDAY 4th MARCH 2018
WALK AT 10.30am

**SMALL PAWS,
BIG DIFFERENCE.**

You'll walk for 5km through the beautiful
gardens and woodland of Marks Hall, surrounded
by hundreds of other four-legged friends.

Tickets £7.50 on the day or register in advance for just £5 -
get tickets on www.eheat.org or by calling 0345 2417 690

Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

Event supported by
MARKS HALL

**Essex & Herts
Air Ambulance**
Your local life-saving charity
Charity Number: 108989

IN THE GARDEN WITH KATE



Although it seems a long time ago, I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and I wish everyone a happy healthy New Year.

The garden has been

challenging lately - one day with very strong winds and rain; the next freezing temperatures and snow - a fairly typical winter for England! One good result of the heavy rain is that the Village Pond seems to be slowly filling up again.

I was lucky enough to be given several gardening related gifts for Christmas, a compact apricot to be grown in a pot, which I am assured is frost hardy, a Szechuan Pepper plant, a garden voucher which I will very much enjoy spending and a special belt to keep my secateurs safe, reducing the likelihood of losing them or of impaling myself when bending over as previously they would have been in my pocket!

I have spent many enjoyable hours planning the perfect garden with the help of the many seed catalogues that have landed on the doormat. Unfortunately it is unlikely to happen, but undoubtedly a triumph of hope over experience!

Just before Christmas we re-homed another two hedgehogs who fairly promptly went into hibernation, so we now have four young ones who will hopefully breed next year. The rescue centres ensure that the "pairs" that are re-homed are not blood relations.

February seems very early to start planting seeds, but there are some that need to be started early in a heated propagator in order to have a long enough growing season to produce fruit - mainly peppers, chillies and aubergine, but other vegetables can be started in pots too. These include lettuce, leeks, onions, early brassicas, peas, broad beans. In the greenhouse borders, French beans, baby carrots,

beetroot, radish and spinach can also be sown.

Autumn fruiting raspberries can be cut down to ground level, and apple and pear trees pruned. Potatoes need to be chitted, and the vegetable beds can be warmed by the application of black plastic sheeting prior to planting of early vegetables.

It is a good time of year to clean out the greenhouse and all equipment such as seed trays and pots, and also wash the glass to ensure maximum light levels. Water butts can be emptied and scrubbed (I always seem to find dead mice in mine!).

If you are planning new beds or borders, it is a good idea to start now, as long as the ground is not too cold or waterlogged, and incorporate lots of organic matter such as leaf mould.

Although you have probably bought your seeds already, now is the time to think about ordering any plug plants that you may need for summer displays, there usually is more choice if you order early, and most companies do not deliver until late March or early April.

A plea - if you are growing plants from seed, consider the Plant Sale at the Village Hall in May, we would welcome any spare plants that you might have!

Enjoy your garden

Kate Strowbridge

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

Clerk: Lizzie Ridout Email: clerk@greatbromley.org.uk

At our meeting on Wednesday 10th January, we welcomed representatives from Orwell Housing Association who outlined their plan for the affordable housing development on Parsons Hill. Orwell Housing is planning a wider consultation event for the community – we'll let you know the date as soon as this has been arranged.

During our December meeting we were pleased to present a number of S137 grants to local groups and organisations as follows:-

Name of organisation	Amount granted
Great Bromley & District Cricket Club	£500.00
PCC of The Bromleys for St George's Churchyard	£1000.00
Great Bromley Village Hall	£200.00
Great Bromley Carpet Bowls Club	£200.00
Great Bromley Men's Social Club	£100.00
Great Bromley Friendship Club	£250.00
Great Bromley WI	£50.00
Little Dragons Pre-School Great Bromley and Frating	£720.00
St Georges School PTA	£400.00
Total	£3420.00

If there are any new residents in the village who have not been given a copy of the Village Handbook, please contact the Clerk for a copy via clerk@gbpc.org.uk or any of the parish councillors.

At this time of year, we review our financial forecasts and we prepare for next year's budget including the setting of the Parish Precept.

The Budget for 2017/18 was set at £28,020. To achieve this, the Parish Precept was increased to £23,000 and a decision was taken to draw down reserves should the need arise. This has not been the case, and the projected outturn budget for 2017/18 is £19,989.

Based on the actual costs for 2017/18 and known inflation, the projected budget for 2018/19 has been set at £22,000. To that end, GBPC intends to reduce the Parish Precept to £22,000 which is a reduction of 4.8%, or £2.90 based on an average Band D property.

This decrease is explained by efficiencies GBPC has managed to achieve against the 2017/18 plan i.e. we found cheaper ways to deliver some of our 'new' services than our planning/ budget assumptions afforded. We have used that experience from last year to improve our predictability in setting this year's budget. We will carry that discipline forwards; always reviewing and revising on an annual basis. Furthermore and finally, GBPC is maintaining a healthy cash reserve which negates the need for holding any financial contingency in our budget for 2018-19.

GBPC hopes that the above position and rationale gives Parishioners confidence in our commitment to provide quality services whilst always seeking to minimise the burden on the tax payer.

The breakdown of the budget is as follows:-

Expenditure	Projected Budget 2017/18	Projected Outturn Budget 2017/18	Projected Budget 2018/19
Clerk's Salary	4400	3965	4,400
Home working allowance*	300	0	0
Clerk's Expenses	150	100	200
Payroll Costs	180	120	130
Clerk's travel/subsistence**	0	0	0
Books/training**	900	0	120
Hall Rent	350	350	350
Insurance	1100	1037	1,050
Subscriptions	700	577	600
Printing/Stationery/Post**	240	69	0
Audit Fees	400	230	200
IT Support	200	312	200
Village Maintenance	7000	5800	8,500
Grass/Hedge cutting***	2500	1197	0
Church Meadow***	0	0	0
Equipment/Repairs***	50	420	0
Trees/PROW***	1000	530	0
Community Projects	2000	1428	0
Election Costs	0	0	0
Flower Tubs	800	434	0
Hare Green Play Area	250	0	250
Waste Collection	500	0	0
S137 Grants	2000	3420	5,000
Capital Projects	500	0	0
Contingency Fund	2500	0	1,000
Total	£28,020	£19,989	£22,000

* Merged with Clerk's Salary

** Merged with Clerk's Expenses

*** Merged with Village Maintenance

Lizzie Ridout, Parish Clerk
clerk@gbpc.org.uk

Planning Determination

REFERENCE	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
17/01810/FUL R Moss	Removal of condition 4 of 17/01397/FUL to allow meat to be imported to the premises.	Primrose Farm, Hall Road, Great Bromley, CO7 7TP	Approval - Full 15.12.2017 Delegated Decision

Planning Application

REFERENCE	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
17/02078/FUL Dr Nick Strowbridge – Gt Bromley Cross Pub Comm Benefit Society	Proposed erection of wheelchair accessible WC with covered entrance, following demolition of existing motel rooms. Great Bromley Parish Council has no objection to this application.	Cross Inn Motel, Ardleigh Road Great Bromley, CO7 7TL

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR NEWS

I would like to start by wishing all residents a very Happy New Year.

Unfortunately, the Thorrington and Frating village magazine, the Grapevine, has ceased but hopefully only on a temporary basis.


The main talking point has been the exhibition at Elmstead Market regarding the new Garden Community. I am aware that a large number of people from Thorrington, Elmstead, Frating and Great Bromley attended and made their representations known.

TDC are now taking a tough stance on untidy garden areas. It is very annoying to residents who live next to, or in the immediate vicinity of, such places. TDC have started to issue enforcement notices requiring the owner(s) to clean up the area. They will have to pay TDC £4,800 if the council cleans up. If the amount is not paid a charge is then placed on the property unless of course the owner cleans up themselves.

Essex Police have raised a reduce your speed campaign, "Speed Kills"

At the full council meeting on 23rd January I submitted a motion to council requesting they ask the Essex County Council portfolio holder for speed limits to reduce the speed outside schools to 20mph at certain times of the day and to reduce the speed in all our villages and towns to 30mph.

Fred Nicholls



**The Post Office
at
The Cross**

Wednesday mornings 10 - noon

The Great Bromley Cross

*Community-owned
community-managed community-run*

Pub Open Thursday 6:30 – 11:00
 Friday 6:30 – 11:00
 Saturday 6:30 – 11:00
 Sunday 12:00 – 3:00

Cafe/Post Office Wednesday 10 – noon

Thu 8 Feb Monthly Charity Quiz - 7:30
 for 8pm. Booking essential

Sat 10 Feb Charity Race Night - 7:30pm.
 £5 to buy a horse in advance

Mon 12 Feb Monthly Monday Club (2nd of
 the month). Open 6:30 – 11

Fri 16 Feb Chinese New Year Takeaway

Thu 22 Feb Open Floor Music Night. All
 welcome from 8pm

Sat 24 Jan Medieval Banquet hosted by
 Sweet Success - 7:30pm. £25
 - to book call Linda Pinhey on
 01206 230126

info@greatbromleycross.co.uk

www.greatbromleycross.co.uk

Tel. 01206 621772

ST HELENA HOSPICE

St Helena Hospice launches its Winter Raffle

St Helena Hospice is pleased to announce its Winter Raffle is back! Enter for your chance to win one of three cash prizes whilst helping your local community!

The first prize is an amazing £1,500 followed by two smaller cash prizes. There are also three opportunities to win a delicious afternoon tea for two at Maison Talbooth, kindly donated by Milsom Hotels and Restaurants for those who return their tickets by 16th February 2018.



Coast to Coast
250 miles from Clacton to Portishead
September 6th to 9th
Cycle Challenge 2018
Visit sthenahospice.org.uk/coasttocoast

Raffle tickets are just £1 each and the deadline for entry is 23rd March 2018. Hospice supporters who have opted in to hear from the hospice will receive the tickets through the post but tickets are also available by calling the fundraising team on 01206 931468.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (INTERNATIONAL AND INTERDENOMINATIONAL)



Press Release



All God's Creation is Very Good!

The interdenominational movement of the Women's World Day of Prayer invites everyone to attend one of over 5,000 services being held on Friday 2nd March with the title 'All God's Creation is Very Good!' We will join an estimated 3 million people around the world that day in a service which has been written this year by the women of Suriname in South America.

Starting in Samoa as the sun rises, and ending as the sun sets off the coast of American Samoa, the service will have been translated into more than 95 languages and 1000 dialects as we are reminded that we have responsibilities in caring for this wonderful world we live in. With its vast rainforest and wealth of resources, Suriname asks us to pray for conservation and the protection of wildlife, through an awareness of pollution, misuse and abuse, as well as for the situation in Suriname and concerns for the future.

This is not simply a day of prayer for women, but for everyone who cares about our world and those who live in it. For details of services in your area and for further information and resources, please visit the WWDP website: www.wwdp.org.uk

Recent Meetings - On Wednesday 10 January we were entertained by Ancestral Voices who took us back to the festive season under Henry VIII & Elizabeth1 using words, music, images and instruments from the period. Many of today's carols & Christmas traditions originated in the Medieval & Tudor eras. We heard Carols as we hadn't heard them before!

Future Meetings & Diary Dates - At our meeting on 14 February Robert Burrige will speak on "Scott, Amundsen & The Race To The South Pole". He will concentrate on the personalities of both men, their leadership styles and the equipment they used to show their characters & their epic achievements in the face of huge difficulties.

"The Life And Times Of Sir Alfred Munnings" is the subject for the 14 March meeting. Marcia Whiting, Curatorial Associate at The Munnings Museum will give an illustrated presentation exploring his life & wide ranging subject matter, including portraits, landscapes & rural scenes as well as the horse paintings for which he is so well known.

Membership - Our main purpose is to encourage lifelong learning for those who are no longer in full time employment and

emphasis is always placed on making learning active and fun as well as helping in developing friendships. We have a wide range of groups including language study, chess, mahjong, science, singing, country walking, computer studies and gardens, churches and historic buildings visits. In the main, membership is drawn from communities in the lower Stour Valley and adjacent areas including Brantham, Capel St Mary, Dedham, East Bergholt, Holbrook, Lawford, Manningtree, Raydon, & Stratford St Mary. We are affiliated to the ThirdAge Trust, have nearly 286 members and over 35 groups. For further information please visit www.stourvalleyu3a.org.uk where membership secretary Gillian Gibbs may be contacted.

Meeting Venue - We meet at The Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt CO7 6TP at 2 for 2.15pm. Annual membership costs £12 a year and this entitles members to attend the meetings that take place on the second Wednesday of each month, except August and December.

Remember - It's never too late to learn! Join over 400,000 members across over 1,000 U3As throughout the UK today!



STOUR VALLEY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB

Stour Valley Men's Probus Club

Recent Meetings

We didn't have a speaker meeting in January but instead held our New Year Lunch for Members, their Spouses and Probus Widows. This took place on Wednesday 17 January at The Haywain, Bentley Road, Little Bromley, Essex, CO112PL. Everyone much enjoyed the company and very good food and drink!

Future Meetings Diary Dates

Our two meetings in February are on the 7th and 21st when Dudley Chignall talks on "Journey to paradise" and David Whittle on "How the Victorians developed Dovercourt" respectively. On Wednesday 7th March Grant Elliot returns again and this time his subject is "The Life of Chic Murray" We hold our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 21 March.

Meeting Venue

We meet at the convenient St John Ambulance HQ, Manningtree CO11 1EB

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 Probud Club, we meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month in Manningtree at 10 for 10.30am. Please contact Speaker Secretary Dave Carman on 01255 880202 for further details.

VALENTINE'S DAY FUN WITH THE CHILDREN

Wink!

Materials Needed:

chairs

Instructions:

- Make a circle of chairs, half the number of participants, plus one.
- Have half the people stand behind the chairs and half sit in the chairs. *Make sure there is one empty chair with a person standing behind it.* The person standing behind the empty chair is "it."
- "It" then picks one of the people sitting in the chairs and winks at them. The person in the chair has to race to the empty chair before the person standing behind her tags her. If she is tagged, she remains in her seat and "it" winks at another person. If the person in the chair gets into the



empty chair, the person behind her is the new "it." Repeat as many times as the players want!

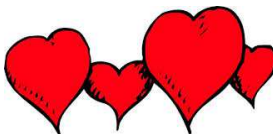
Heart Hunt

Materials needed:

20 paper hearts

Instructions:

- Hide hearts in various places around the house.
- Give kids a basket or cup to place all the hearts they find.
- Set a time limit for the heart hunt.
- When time is up, count hearts to see who got the most and reward with a prize!



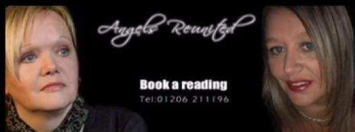
Wednesday, 14th February

Evening of mediumship

Angels Reunited

Angellorr & Toni Jane

Great Bromley
Village Hall



Feb 2nd

Tickets £13

To reserve tickets

01206 211196

Or pay on door

Doors open 7pm Starts 730

Alex Morley Productions Presents...



FUN TIME CIRCUS

HILARIOUS COMEDY
MAGIC ILLUSIONS
CIRCUS ACTS
MASCOT CHARACTERS
ACROBATS
JUGGLING



THE PERFECT SHOW FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!!

BOOK NOW - TEL - 07826 269343

 www.facebook.com/alexmorleyproductions 

GREAT BROMLEY

VILLAGE HALL, PARSONS HILL, CO7 7JA

SUNDAY
25th
FEB

ONE SHOW ONLY - 3PM
ADULTS - £8 CHILDREN - £6

THE CHURCHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS CHILDREN COMMITTEE

Countdown to Christmas Messy Church

On Sunday 10th December at St. Mary's Church, Ardeigh we had planned to do our 'Countdown to Christmas' session. We had planned to tell the Nativity story with craft related activities.

However due to the weather conditions – lots of snow – at the last minute we decided for safety to cancel the session.

Thanks to the four families who turned up, but the roads were awful and it was the right decision. We hope that everyone had a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Church Christmas Competition

At the end of November the children of St. Mary's school, Ardeigh and St. George's school, Great Bromley were invited to take part in our Christmas competition. They were asked to design and decorate a stained glass window and return it to school by the 13th December.

We were very pleased with the entries we received. A lot of detail had gone into all the windows, which made it very hard to choose who should become the favourite entry from each class.

St. Mary's school had 30 entries. Class 1 had 7 entries and the favourite window was by Zane Kirby. Class 2 had 8 entries and the favourite window was by Evelyn Coombs. Class 3 had 11 entries and the favourite window was by Jacob Partridge. Class 4 had 4 entries and the favourite window was by Mya Patel.

St. George's school had 27 entries. Class 1 had 5 entries and the favourite window was by Lily Jeffrey. Class 2 had 11 entries and the favourite window was by Mia Rose Stacey. Class 3 had 8 entries and the favourite window was by Harvey Durrell. Class 4 had 3 entries and the favourite window was by Grace Pudney.

All the windows have been on display in their local church over the Christmas period and they looked lovely.

Everyone who entered received a prize for

taking part. Every favourite window winner received a small jelly bean carrot which was given to them before the schools broke up.

Crib Service

On Christmas Eve at St. George's Church, Great Bromley at 4pm we held our Crib service. The Rev. Canon Simon Heron led the service and we had a fun play where we tried to buy the Nativity set. Although this didn't happen we had lots of children who came up to the front and placed the real nativity scene into the stable.

Children Society candles were returned during the service. We had over 100 people in attendance, including over 30 children. Afterwards we had an impromptu raffle where 6 lucky children won some donated chocolates.

We would like to thank Simon for the lovely service and the helpers who did a wonderful job of handing out service sheets and sweets, etc.

Over £130 was raised for the Children's Society during the service.

Jam Sessions

The JAM (Jesus And Me) sessions at St. George's church on a Friday after school finishes have been going well. Rev. Simon and his wife Gill have been putting in regular appearances. A steady group of children and parents attend and enjoy the craft, toys and biscuits.

The sessions will start again on Friday 12th January between 3pm and 3.40pm. These sessions wouldn't happen without Jenny's organisation so she deserves a special Thank You.

Everyone is welcome.

Carol Cordwell



Decorating the Christmas Tree



Cleaning the church



Marks Tey Radio installing the new sound system

FROM THE RECTORY

The impala is by all accounts an unremarkable medium sized antelope that can be found in eastern and southern Africa. Unremarkable except for their astonishing ability to jump distances of eleven metres and to heights of more than three metres. Despite the huge leaps that they can make, impalas can be kept in any zoo enclosure with a wall that is only three feet high. As they aren't tall enough to see what's beyond the barrier, impalas won't attempt to escape as they can't see where they might land.

If any animal had a motto, the impala's would absolutely be 'look before you leap'.

Predicting what lies ahead is the bread and butter of fortune tellers, stock market gurus and professional gamblers. Each takes the information in front of them, whether it be the tea leaves in a cup, the pages of the Financial Times, or the cards that are on the table, and uses them to attempt to forecast what might happen next.

Although the accuracy of their predictions can be somewhat haphazard, this hasn't stopped 'experts' on the future from being consulted time and time again. A little bit of foreknowledge is seen as hugely advantageous.

There is a world of difference though between seeking to divine what the weeks and years to come might hold, and being well prepared.

Jesus told a story about a group of ten bridesmaids waiting with oil lamps to welcome a bridegroom to his wedding feast. As is the way of these things, the groom is late arriving, by which time all the bridesmaids have fallen asleep. When the cry goes out 'he has arrived', all ten jump to their feet ready to re-light their lamps and greet the groom. Five of the girls have remembered to bring spare fuel. The other five have not, and while they are off desperately trying to find someone to sell them some oil, the door is closed, and the party is celebrated without them.

Being prepared and ready for Jesus is about putting ourselves right with God.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent this February, and in the weeks leading up to Easter we have an opportunity to remind ourselves of just what Jesus did on the cross, and how we can reconnect our lives with his.

Simon

Rev Canon Simon Heron
Lawford, The Bromleys & Little Bentley
Area Dean of Harwich
01206 392659
www.lawfordchurch.co.uk
'Loving God. Living Life.'

Carols by Candlelight at Little Bromley

Following a last minute decision, it was decided to hold a 'Carols by Candlelight' service at St. Mary's Church, Little Bromley. Emails went round, posters were put up and as many people as possible were informed.

So on Wednesday 20th December at 7pm we welcomed nearly 70 people to the service. Beautifully decorated the church looked lovely by candlelight. Ivy trailing up to the shiny brass candleholders, with flames glowing in the darkness, wonderful! Gregory was instrumental in organising the service which consisted of a mixture of carols, readings and poems. We were very lucky to hear the debut of a new Christmas Carol by Dorothy O' Grady.

The Churches Conservation Trust had given us a Christmas Memory Tree. This gave everyone the chance to leave a message for their loved ones on, if they wished.

Jane and William provided mulled wine for after the service which was distributed along with lots of cakes for everyone to enjoy.

We raised nearly £400 for the Churches Conservation Trust, which included a donation for the memory tree.

We would like to thank all those who helped and all those who attended to make this such a lovely evening.

Carol Cordwell



Services for February

February 4th	<i>Sexagesima (Second Sunday before Lent)</i> 9.15am Holy Communion (BCP)
February 11th	<i>Quinquagesima (Sunday next before Lent)</i> 10.30am Parish Eucharist (CW1)
February 14th	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> 7.30pm Holy Communion (CW1) at St Mary's, Lawford
February 18th	<i>First Sunday in Lent</i> 9.15am Family Service
February 25th	<i>Second Sunday in Lent</i> 10.30am Parish Eucharist (CW1) 6.30pm Evensong (BCP)

Vicar: Revd Canon Simon Heron
01206 392659

Churchwardens: Mrs Jenny Nicholls
01206 230688
Mrs Yvonne Cobbold
01206 230360

*The church is open daily and you are welcome to visit.
More details and information at www.greatbromley.org.uk
Facebook or Twitter @StGeorgesGtBrom*

St Mary's church, Lawford			St Mary's church, Little Bentley		
Every Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion	1st Sunday	10.30am	Morning Prayer
1st Sunday	10.30am	Holy Communion	3rd Sunday	10.30am	Holy Communion
2nd Sunday	10.30am	Family Service			
	6.30pm	Evensong			
3rd Sunday	10.30am	Holy Communion			
	6.30pm	Café Church			
4th Sunday	10.30am	Morning Worship			
Wednesdays	9.30am	Holy Communion			

St Mary's church, Ardleigh		
1st Sunday	10.3am	Parish Eucharist
2nd Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
3rd Sunday	10.30am	Parish Eucharist
4th Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion

J.A.M. DROP-IN

Every Friday in St George's church
Term time only
Parents and children welcome
All are welcome
3.00pm to 3.45pm
Refreshments, activities

Church Lunch

Friday 2nd February at 12 noon
Please come & join us for friendship & fun.