

## RECTORY WAR REMINISCENCES

At least at the distance of time, our life at the rectory (now Copley Dene) in the 1930s seems no less than idyllic; we enjoyed a large house with 7 bedrooms (we took turns for those which were more favoured), a large garden which, as well as a tennis court, offered all sorts of adventures to children, and we specially enjoyed a large family - the Reverend A G H Gurney, Mrs B A Gurney, Christine, Richmond (who died in 2004), Anne (who died in 2002), Tony, Dick, Celia and Gerald (I was the only one born in the rectory).

Many people - at least in the country - say that the war was often exciting rather than frightening, and I well recall standing alone on the edge of the cricket field and watching a "dog-fight" over Frating. But sometimes, when the sirens sounded at night, we took refuge in the cellar, where deck-chairs were permanently set up. Tony passed the time drawing cartoon figures (notably Hitler) on one of the walls; I believe these still survive. Celia reminded me of the decoy fires, or "starfish" mentioned by Winston Churchill in his epic history of the war. Some of these were set up in the open fields between Hall Road and Elmstead and were designed to persuade enemy bombers to drop their bombs harmlessly rather than on Colchester. No traces remain. In case the rectory should suffer a direct hit, we were provided with an escape route directly from the cellar into the garden.

In the early years of the war, Christine, Richmond, Anne and Tony all went off to active service, and the rectory itself played its part in the war effort, first

(briefly) providing a home for refugees from London and then accommodation for army officers (each with a

batman), who were, no doubt, pleased to be billeted in a fine Queen Anne rectory. Mother encouraged visits by wives. We also had Land Army girls - living in the extensive attics - who were employed, along with the remaining children, on local farms.

For part of the war, we had a light aid detachment in the garden, an overflow from the requisitioned Essex and Suffolk buildings next door. Father seized the opportunity to persuade the soldiers to place a large net over his beloved fig tree to protect it from birds. In lighter moments - when it was not occupied by armoured cars, we played impromptu "yard" cricket in the front drive, under the fine avenue of lime trees now sadly lost to the 1987 hurricane. There was only one batsman and everyone joined in - family, friends, soldiers, even the visiting baker on his round - and, believe it or not, a certain Captain Douglas Jardine who had led the England team in the notorious "bodyline" tour of Australia in 1933.

Christine, Richmond, Anne and Tony all returned safely from the war.

*Gerald Gurney*

[More reminiscences from the Rectory next month—Ed.]



# CARPET BOWLS

Only one result again this month, a drawn game away to Clacton Bowls.

Andrew has played for Essex recently in the Eastern Region Bowls Tournament. Opponents were Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire. Of the five games his team played, they won two, lost two with one game a draw, finishing in second place below winners, Suffolk.

## A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 4th October. The officers of the club remain the same for the coming year and the chairman thanked them all for their hard work during the previous 12 months. Attendance has been very good but we do need new members to keep the club going. The Brumbella Charity Day will be on 8th March 2008.

## Essex Triples Championship

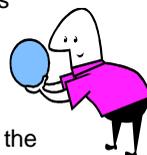
### **They've done it again!!**

Our triples team, Jayne, Linda and Andrew played to defend their title at Braintree on 7th October. In their group stage they beat Stisted 4 6-5, Lawford 2 5-4 and Chelmsford Social 7-3 leading them in to the knockout stage, taking

Gosfield 1 8-7 after an extra end, Black Notley 1 10-4 and Feering 7-3. This brought them to the semi-finals against W. Bergholt. Gt Bromley made a poor start - 6-0 down after 2 ends. They fought back to 6-6 after 7 ends which meant playing an extra end yet again. Great Bromley won 8-6. The final against our local rivals, Langham, was a close one. We went in to the final end with a 2 point lead but Langham evened it up 9-9. Another extra end. This end had the woods within inches of the jack.

With his last 2 woods the Langham skip played a perfect shot and a blocker.

Andrew had the last wood of the match and was 1 shot down. He played an incredible shot which passed inside the blocker, moved the shot wood leaving Great Bromley holding 3. We won 12-9. Well done!



Tournament Champions, so off to Blackpool again. (May be we'll get another stick of rock - ? Hope it is not a 'Kiss-me-quick' hat)

*Nancy Kempster*

## GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

### **100 Club Winners for October 2007**

- 1st G Kempster
- 2nd S Halsey
- 3rd A Rawlins



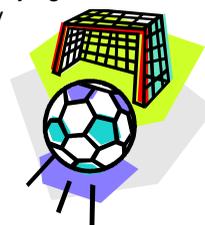
A gentle reminder for all 100 club members to remember that your yearly subs of £12.00 are due from September for the year.

Thank You

## ***We Need You!***

### **Frinton and Walton Under 15's**

are looking for some more players to join their already well established side. They train on a Saturday morning at Frinton Rec (Royden Way) and play on Sundays in the Colchester and District Youth League. If you are interested in playing for this fun and friendly side or just coming along for some coaching, call Frinton & Walton manager Chris Byland on 07951179283.





## Great Bromley & Frating Playgroup

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

Session Tel No: 0785 7503103  
(Lunch time session also available)  
Children: 2years-6 months to 5years.  
£5.00 per session. Ofsted inspected.  
For more details/visits, please contact  
Group Secretary-Debbie on 01206  
250183

Great News!! We have been awarded a grant from 'Awards for All', a lottery based fund, to buy much needed ICT equipment for the children to use at Playgroup. We hope to purchase not only a laptop and appropriate educational software for children to use, but also a projector for video stories and a digital camera for the children to record their work. Our lack of ICT facilities was highlighted by Ofsted and we are delighted that this issue has now been addressed - we hope the children will enjoy the wider variety of educational activities that we will now be able to provide.

Sadly, for varying reasons, we have to say goodbye to three members of staff this half term. We would like to wish Kaye, Jo and Jill all the best for the future and thank them for all their hard work over numerous years. We will be appointing two new members of staff shortly.

However, we do have one new member of staff at Playgroup - Travelling Ted has joined the team! He is a Teddy Bear who likes to share the children's adventures - he has already been to Newquay and into hospital!! (Hope you feel better Charles!) Do come and meet him and share his adventures with the children - to make an appointment, call the above number.

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

Head teacher: Pat Fitzgerald  
Telephone: 01206 230305

### Playground markings

These have been painted with bright colours and give the children more opportunities to exercise, using a variety of themes and games to play.

### Harvest Celebration

The event with the Friendship Club was a great success; everybody enjoyed it so much they would not go home.

### School Dinners

Karen and Paula (our catering staff) held a very successful tasting of school dinners which impressed the parents (and children). They used the newly installed hot plate and warmers to introduce more variety e.g mild curry. The menu rotates every 4 weeks and it is hoped to encourage more children to take up the meals which all pass the nutritional standards set by the government.

### Environmental Project

A novel session of collaging was introduced with parents/teachers/children taking part with help from an external company providing the expertise giving some remarkable exhibits of animals and insects which currently adorn many of the walls in the school. This theme will continue and be developed over the next few months.

The outside of the school has been repainted.

The "mound" has been sculptured re-seeded and ready for use in the spring. An upgrade of the pond and wildlife area is actively being considered using group volunteers.

LBC

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## Great Bromley Parish Council

[www.essexinfo.net/gbpc](http://www.essexinfo.net/gbpc)

### Report of a parish council meeting held on 11 October 2007

#### Tendring District Council

District Councillor David Lines, Executive Leader of Tendring District Council, attended the meeting and answered questions on the council's policies, plans and services. The Planning Inspector's report on the Tendring District Replacement Local Plan was scheduled to be published in October and details will be given in December's *Messenger*. Otherwise please see the district and parish councils' websites at: [www.tendringdc.gov.uk](http://www.tendringdc.gov.uk) and [www.essexinfo.net/gbpc/](http://www.essexinfo.net/gbpc/). The inspector's decision on the 'Oasis' site will be of particular interest to residents.

#### Planning

***The Council considered the following planning applications with no objections, except as indicated:***

**Southview, Ardleigh Road** – carport.

**Denique, Mary Lane South** – detached garage.

**Hazel's Garage, Harwich Road** – temporary staff and storage facilities (portacabins) (objections)

***Tendring District Council has approved the following planning applications, except as indicated:***

**Bush Farm, Hall Road** – erection of new house, demolition of existing house and alteration to vehicular access (refusal).

**Elm Bungalow, Harwich Road** – demolition of existing bungalow and erection of two new chalet bungalows.

**Harwin, Frating Road** – revisions to approved plans for extensions and alterations – to provide covered way.

**Land adjacent to Selectacars, Harwich Road** – agricultural barn.

**Snooty Fox, Frating Road** – wooden

decking and covered smoking area (refusal).

#### Proposed reservoir

The council discussed with residents a reservoir planned for farmland north of Carrington's Farm. The council had only just heard of this proposal and a formal planning application has yet to be submitted. At first sight this appears to be a substantial enterprise: the reservoir's area will be about four times that of the Hare Green playing field; up to one million cubic metres of material will need be excavated from the site and carted away by lorries over a period of time; approximately 13 million gallons of additional water will be extracted annually to fill the reservoir.

The parish council will be monitoring closely this proposal and will ensure that the local community is adequately consulted and represented when the planning application is being considered by the authorities.

**The next meeting** of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 8 November 2007 at the Village Hall Great Bromley.

*Ken Bromfield*

Email: [gbparishcouncil@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:gbparishcouncil@tiscali.co.uk)

## Little Bromley Parish Council

The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on 15th November 2007 at 7.30pm.

For the venue please contact the Parish Clerk on 01206 391015.

## GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL GRANTS

A reminder that applications for this year's grants should be sent to the Parish Clerk by the end of November 2007. Further details are available from Ken Bromfield – tel 01206 23089.

## GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL WORKING GROUP REPORTS

### **WG9 - Closed Cemetary**

The work in the closed cemetery is progressing very well. We have been most fortunate with the weather and have been able to continue our Saturday morning work without interruption. The transformation has been remarkable and we would welcome any body who believe they have relatives buried in the cemetery to visit our group any Saturday morning between 9.00am and 12.00pm. We are hoping to be able to draw up a plan of the cemetery in the near future. We are also contacting the local newspapers and requesting them to include a feature in the hope that we may find some relatives.

### **WG11 - Litter Picking - Saturday 10th November**

Litter Picking will take place in Great Bromley on Saturday, 10th November from 10.00am-12 noon. There are three convening points - the car parks of The Snooty Fox, The Old Courthouse Inn and The Cross Inn and volunteers are asked to assemble at any one of these point by 9.45am for a short briefing. It would be helpful if you could let us know of your intention to attend - please ring 01206 230282 (Brenda or Richard Perry) and leave a message. You will need appropriate protective clothing and

gloves and if you have a reflective jacket, do bring it along as we have only a limited supply of such items.

Arrangements are being made for the collection of full litter bags (provided) en route.



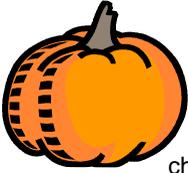
Volunteers are reminded that for insurance purposes, they should be fit and between the ages of 15 and 75 years. Under 15s are encouraged to participate but parental permission and supervision will be required. Please note that insurance cover does not extend to any personal accident involving an under 15.

## THE MOBILE LIBRARY

The Mobile Library will visit The Cross Inn car park from 9.35am - 9.50am on 1, 15, 29 November and 13 December. Books, CDs, DVDs, etc. all available for loan.



## KITCHEN CORNER



### Pumpkin soup

This is the season for pumpkins and they have many uses as well as being fun for the children at Hallow'een.

The flesh will keep several days in the fridge or can be frozen to use later on. This soup can also be frozen.

#### Ingredients

2lb/ 900g pumpkin.  
1½ oz 40g butter  
1 onion peeled and thinly sliced  
1 clove garlic crushed  
1 ½ pts 900ml chicken or vegetable stock  
Salt and pepper  
½ level teasp ground ginger  
1 tbsp lemon juice  
Grated rind of 1 small orange  
1 fresh bay leaf  
½ pt/300ml milk.

To garnish, 4-6 tbsp cream, plain yogurt or fromage frais, and snipped chives.

#### Method

Peel pumpkin and discard seeds and cut flesh into cubes about 1in/2.5 cms Melt butter in a pan and fry onion and garlic gently till soft but not coloured. Add the pumpkin and toss in the fat for a few minutes, add the stock and bring to the boil .Add the seasonings ginger lemon juice and orange rind and bay leaf. Cover and simmer 20 minutes or till tender. Discard bay leaf, cool a little then sieve, liquidise or puree in a food processor. Return to a clean pan with the milk and bring slowly back to the boil and adjust seasonings. Serve each portion with a swirl of cream or yoghurt or fromage frais and sprinkle with chives.  
Serves 4 to 6 people.

*Jill Frostick*

### KITCHEN CORNER 20 years ago Christmas Pudding

A pudding made now will have time to mature to a fuller flavour. This recipe is our family favourite, is rich and moist but not sticky. The quantities will make one large or two medium sized puddings.

8oz each of the following:

fresh breadcrumbs

suet (chopped or grated)

Currants

Sultanas

Raisins

4oz of:

Candied peel

Glace cherries

Soft brown sugar

1 teasp cinnamon

1 teasp mixed spice

½ teasp salt

2oz large raisins

Chopped almonds



3oz ground almonds

2 grated apples

2 grated carrots

Rind & juice of 1 large lemon

3 eggs (beaten)

1 heaped tbsp Golden Syrup

1 heaped tbsp treacle

3 fl oz sherry or brandy

5 fl oz brown ale or milk

Mix & stir well, not forgetting to wish! Put in a greased basin, cover with greased greaseproof paper and foil, tie down well, steam for at least six hours. Remember to top up the water from the kettle to keep it boiling.

When cold, remove covers and replace with fresh greaseproof; store in the cupboard until Christmas Day when it will need another two hours steaming. Flame it with brandy and serve with cream and brandy butter!  
Happy eating.

*- Jill Frostick*

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We had a lively entertainment with a group of singers at the September meeting - it didn't take us long to join in followed by a welcome cup of tea and biscuit always prepared by our regular "tea ladies" for which we give many thanks.

We send our best wishes to anyone on the sick list especially GRACE (in hospital at the moment).

One month to go before we are into another year so here are two dates for your diaries -

**Saturday, 24th May 2008**- Coffee morning at the Hall

**August meeting 2008**- Auction



Looking forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Lunch on 27th November. The competition for November is an **Old** Newspaper cutting.

*Vicky Griffiths*



## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We were joined by some guests at our October meeting when Mrs Sharon Newton of "Newleigh Crafts", assisted by her daughter Kimberley, came along to help us make some Christmas cards. The evening passed very quickly but we all enjoyed the experience and felt pleased with the results of our labours, the finished cards.



Some of our members joined up for lunch at Newton Green during September and will meet again on Wednesday 21st November this time at "The Thorn" in Mistley. If you would like to join with us, please ring Mrs Ann Jones (01206 230563) for more details.

On 7th November we will be holding our Annual General Meeting. WI Adviser, Hazel Ridgeway, will be present to guide us through the proceedings.

*June Willgress*

## FRIENDS OF LITTLE BROMLEY CHURCH

The open morning was held on 13 October. There was a guided tour of the building to explain how the building had developed over 900 years and how the changes in the building reflected changes in society. Then the annual meeting took place and five committee members were elected (Carol Cordwell, Ann Fairley, Susan Scott (new member), Martin Frostick, Gregory Frostick). Members of the 2006-7 committee gave a short description of 2007 events and plans for next year. Thanks were warmly expressed to all those people who have given their time and talents to make the events a success.

We had two very enjoyable Autumn concerts. On the harvest festival weekend, 23 September, the East Anglian Single Reed Choir played arrangements of opera, ballet, and orchestral music. On 13 October we enjoyed Joyce and John Osborne's two grand-daughters, Elizabeth and Annie, singing solos and duos accompanied by Richard Carr who also played a lovely set of organ variations by JC Bach. £200 was raised for Gt Bromley Church fabric fund.

*Gregory Frostick*



# BONFIRE NIGHT QUIZ

1. When was Guy Fawkes born?
2. When did he die?
3. How old was he when he died?
4. What was his occupation?
5. Who masterminded the Gunpowder Plot?
6. Who was the reigning monarch at the time of the plot?
7. How many conspirators were there?
8. Did Guy Fawkes' confession lead to the other conspirators being captured?
9. Where was Guy Fawkes executed?
10. What happened to his body after his death?
11. Where does the idea for having bonfires on November 5<sup>th</sup> come from?
12. Who invented the firework and when?



## Some extra topical questions

13. No sun, No moon, No Morn, No Noon ...” what is the title of this poem and who wrote it?
14. When is All Souls day?

*Answers on page 17*

## GARDENER'S CORNER

**LAWNS** should have their last cut of the year this month - weather permitting! Remember to rake leaves from the lawn - they make good compost.

**SWEET PEAS** can be planted this month in trays with a sheet of glass for protection.

Any tender plants in tubs and pots should be brought inside from the cold and reduce water.



This is the last “Garden Tips” for the year. Back in February wondering what the weather will bring us in 2008. **HAPPY GARDENING** to come?

*Frank Griffiths*

# Forthcoming Events

## NOVEMBER

- 4 Evensong with Choir, St George's church, 6.30pm
- 7 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8 Gt Bromley parish council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 10 Litter Picking Day, Great Bromley, 10.00am (see page 9 for meeting points)
- 13 Village Hall Trustees committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 15 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 17 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall, 11.00am
- 24 Annual Autumn Clean, St George's Church, 9.30am
- 27 **Christmas Bazaar & Grand Raffle, Elmstead Church Meeting Room, 10am**  
**Friendship club Christmas Lunch**

## DECEMBER

- 8 Christmas Concert, Chapel, Royal Hospital School, 7.30pm

### CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday, 17th November  
Great Bromley Village Hall  
11.00am-2.00pm

*Proceeds to Village Hall and St George's Church*



### St George's Church Annual Autumn Clean

Saturday 24th November  
from 9.30am

We are having our Annual Autumn Clean so if anyone is able to help with either the inside or the outside of this lovely building please come along and join us.



### HOLBROOK CHORAL SOCIETY & ORCHESTRA

Saturday 8th December  
In the Chapel, Royal Hospital School  
7.30pm

### Christmas Concert

Tickets £10 contact tel: 01473 326222

### Evensong with Choir

Sunday 4th November  
6.30pm  
St. George the Martyr



### The Friends of Elmstead Parish Church

invite you to our superb

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR and GRAND RAFFLE** (1st Prize £150 cash!)

in the Church Meeting Room

on Saturday 24th November 10.00am - 12 noon

Gifts, Cakes, Attractions for All



# GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall committee met in September with all but three members present.



We have noticed that some rubbish has been dumped by our waste bin at the Hall. Please do not do it as rubbish attracts vermin which are

becoming a problem in the area. The waste bin at the Hall is provided for rubbish generated at the Hall and by the Cricket Pavilion activities, not for village use. Paper and cardboard can be recycled through the weekly collection system, also, paper and glass bottles can be placed in the bins provided on Church Meadow.

The Race Night was held at the Hall in October when seven races were ran with sponsored races and horses. Thank you to all who supported the event, although we were a little disappointed that only 50 or so people were present on the night. Overall, £430 was made for the Village Hall funds and we are grateful to Frederick Nicholls for organising the evening.

Our Christmas Fayre will be on Saturday 17th November from 11.00am until 2.00pm with stalls, raffles etc and light lunches in aid of the St George's Church and Village Hall funds. Your continued support of this event would be very welcome, all the usual attractions will be present, something to buy, some to win and some to play with!

Regretfully, we have had to cancel for the time being the presentation of a Buskers Review (Revival?) planned for Saturday 15th December. This is due to the non availability of star artiste on the day and a full events calendar. We hope to reschedule this for a later date.

The Village Hall committee will next meet on Tuesday, 13th November at 7.30pm in the Millennium Lounge at the Hall.

*Bevan Willgress*

## THANKS

**St. George's, Gt Bromley**  
Harvest Lunch - 30th September

Grateful thanks to all those who helped and supported the Harvest Lunch this year.

83 people and 1 "takeaway" enjoyed a fabulous three course lunch in the Village Hall.

Special thanks to Fred Nicholls for his delicious leek and potato soup.

We made the huge sum of £469 which this year will be donated to a charity.

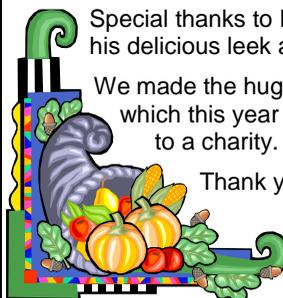
Thank you again.

*Jenny Nicholls*



## Scallywags

At Great Bromley Village Hall  
Friday Mornings 9.30-11.30am  
0-5years. Parent and child group.  
Activities/themed sessions/play  
equipment etc.  
For more details or visits please  
contact 01206 230625



## FROM THE ARDLEIGH DOCTORS' SURGERY

### Requesting your repeat medication before Christmas

The surgery will be closed for three working days only during the Christmas period on the normal Bank Holidays.

We would request that you do not order early for your repeat medication unless you are going away on holiday at Christmas.

Every year the Dispensary gets overwhelmed with patients ordering early and the staff end up having to do two weeks work in one. This causes unnecessary stress with dispensary staff having to work late into the evenings to keep up with the demand.



If patients ask for their medications early they will be requested to telephone back later at the time in the month they would normally telephone. The only exceptions will be for patients whom would need to collect repeat medication on the Bank Holidays.

If your medication would normally need to be ordered for collection on the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> December then please order on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December and collect on the Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

If required for the Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> January, then please order on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December and collect on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> December.

If you obtain your medicines from the chemist, please bear in mind that pharmacy staff have the same problem.

With thanks for your understanding and support.

### Practice Nurse changes

Unfortunately, our Practice Nurse,

Michelle Black who joined us last April, is leaving the practice for reasons of childcare at the end of October. Michelle has settled well into the practice and we will be sorry to lose her. We hope to recruit a replacement as soon as possible.

*Fred Merrin, Practice Manager*

## FROM THE GT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

Since last month, there has been a change in the provision of emergency treatment needed outside normal surgery hours. An organisation called Harmoni (that's really what they call themselves, my spelling isn't that bad!) has taken over responsibility for treating people when the surgery is shut. The changeover appears to have been fairly seamless as patients requiring attention still only need to ring the surgery number to speak to the doctors on duty. This is all done by the magic of an automatic BT transfer and costs the same as a local call. However, it is worth refreshing everyone's memories on how the out of hours service works anyway.

The surgery is manned – or should I say “personned”? – by the practice's own staff from 8.00am until 6.30pm each weekday. During those hours, for routine things like booking appointments, or if you are unfortunate enough to need urgent treatment, simply ring the surgery telephone number, 01206 250695, and we will look after you.

Outside these hours, including at weekends, if you need straightforward medical advice, you can get it by ringing NHS Direct on 0845 46 47. NHS Direct is a nurse-led service which will advise on most medical issues that crop up when the surgery is closed.

If you feel you need urgent medical

attention when we are shut, Harmoni will step in to look after you. They might be able to advise you over the 'phone, but if not can arrange to see you at one of the local walk-in treatment centres that they run. If you really are too ill to go to them, they will either visit you at home, suggest a trip to your local A&E Department, or in an extreme emergency, send an ambulance out to you. Please note, however, that they won't visit you or send an ambulance just because you have transport problems. Getting yourself to where medical care is available is your responsibility unless you are genuinely too sick to do so.

Harmoni is manned by fully trained and qualified GPs who, for urgent matters, will look after you just as well as our own GPs would. So, there is no need to worry about the standard of care that you or your family will receive. They will send the practice a report of anything they do for you so that your records here are up to date.

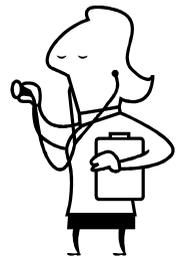
Having said all that, please only use Harmoni if your problem genuinely can't wait until the surgery is open again. Their service really is intended for urgent matters. Think of it this way: if they are dealing with something minor and non-urgent for you, they might just be too late getting to a heart attack or stroke victim.

On a seasonal note, and with no apology if I'm repeating myself, the flu jab clinics are in full swing at the moment. By the end of September, just under a thousand people had bared an arm to a nurse or doctor, thus protecting themselves against the worst ravages of a dose of winter flu.

Anyone aged 65 or over by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008, or who suffers from diabetes, chronic heart, lung or kidney disease, or whose immune system is suppressed is entitled to a free flu jab. Book yours now to avoid disappointment, because if there is an epidemic this winter all our stocks may well be gone, and they can be hard

to get hold of later in the season. Incidentally, if you don't qualify for a free jab, I understand that local pharmacies can supply them fairly easily and at a reasonable price to people with private prescriptions this year. Our nurses will administer privately purchased jabs to our patients at no cost if you bring one in, and I expect the situation will be the same at other surgeries. Please ask at reception if you want a private prescription.

Talking of prescriptions, I know that a few people have asked recently if they may have more than 28 days' supply of their medication at a time on their repeat prescription. I'm afraid that the short answer is "no". The Department of Health has told us to restrict supplies to 28 days and we have to follow their directive. It is much safer to dispense smaller amounts, but the main aim of this strategy is to cut wastage. Apparently, the evidence is that if people get a larger supply there is more of a tendency to hoard medicines and, of course, more is thrown away if medication changes. You may not know that pharmacies aren't allowed to reissue unwanted medicines that are returned and they have to be destroyed. The cost of wasted medicines is still huge to the NHS, so I would ask again that before you order your repeat each month, please check that you need everything you are about to ask for, or whether you have enough stashed away for the next month. We would never want you to go without your medication, but every small saving on the area's drugs budget can be put towards another hip-replacement or cataract operation. Who knows? One day it might be yours.



*Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager*

# ESSEX POLICE

## UPBEAT - October issue

*Information from the email based newsletter*



**Your local officer: PC Ginny Webb**  
**Telephone: 01255 221312 Mobile:**  
**07967 466876**

### **Crime prevention advice - Protect your vehicle**

KEEP your car keys safe and out of sight. That is the message from Essex Police after a spate of vehicle thefts from driveways across the county.

Thieves have been breaking into homes in order to steal car keys. They then drive the vehicle away. Essex Police is



appealing for the public's help in curbing the high number of this offence by making it more difficult for thieves. Crime reduction Sgt Nathalie Carr said: "We would advise people to keep their car keys safe and out of view of opportunist burglars. If a burglar sees an expensive car on your driveway they will look through your home window to see if they can see your keys. If they are left on show or in an obvious place thieves will be tempted to break in and take them. Many people put their keys on hooks by their front doors, in their handbags or in the kitchen drawer. We are asking for them to think about where they put their keys and to consider putting them somewhere less obvious."

### **Summer drink and drug drive figures fall**

Drink driving offences across Essex have fallen following a crack down by Essex Police.

Although drink driving rates were falling, almost 35 per cent of those tested for drink driving were less than 25 years of age.

Adam Pipe, senior traffic management officer, said "Many of the accidents on the

roads across Essex, however, are preventable. Making alternative travel arrangements after people have been out or simply not drinking at all before driving could easily lower the number of incidents we see."

With the festive season approaching Essex Police will be working hard to stop repeat offenders, warning that all driving offences will be taken extremely seriously, no matter how petty they may seem.

Essex Police has now warned that the consequences of drink driving are far more than a prison sentence, 12 month driving ban and a fine of up to £5000, offenders run the risk of losing their job, home and future with a criminal record.

### **Essex Police needs 1000 Specials.**

#### **Are you special enough?**

Essex Police is calling on the county to increase the current number of Special Constables from 500 to 1000 to help deliver the first class policing service the force is recognised for.

The Special Constabulary has a key role to play in the policing of local communities and Essex Police is looking for volunteers from all walks of life, with the drive and determination to improve the quality of communities across the county.

Giving just a few hours each month to work alongside regular police officers, Special Constables must be at least 17 years and nine months old, be able to think on their feet and work as part of a team.

As volunteers many Special Constables balance a busy 'day job' with their duties at Essex Police but being professionally managed, trained and equipped, the voluntary work they undertake enhances other aspects of their daily lives. With the

Continued ../

/...continued

help of Special Constables crime rates across Essex have continued to fall leaving the county as one of the safest in the country. In 2006 / 2007 the recorded crime rate in the east of England was the lowest regional total in England and Wales at 83 offences per 1000 population.

To see first hand what being a Special Constable involves, visit one of the regular open evenings at your local police station or for more information call the Essex Police recruitment hotline on 01245 452824.

## ST, JOHN EYE HOSPITAL, JERUSALEM

Please support the St. John Eye Hospital Jerusalem which is a centre of excellence providing ophthalmic care of high quality and relevance to the people of the Holy Land irrespective of race, creed, social class and ability to pay.



We continue to send soft toys to the Children's ward. Each child is given a toy on arrival and encouraged to take the toys home at the end of their stay. Thank you very much for the large bagful left in the porch in the Summer. All contributions gratefully received (not too large, thanks).

Please drop off any surplus soft toys to the Church or our porch.

Many thanks  
*Pru Simons – Michaelmas House*

### Follow the Fireworks Code



When buying fireworks, make sure they comply with BS 7114 and are clearly marked for their intended use "Indoor, Garden or Display"

- Keep fireworks in a sealed box or tin
- Use them one at a time, replacing the lid immediately
- **NEVER** put fireworks in your pocket
- Read the instructions carefully, using a torch or hand lamp **NEVER** use a naked flame
- Light fireworks at arms length using a

taper or a firework lighter

- Stand well back and **NEVER** return to a firework after it has been lit, it could explode in your face
- Ensure that all children with fireworks are well supervised
- **NEVER** throw fireworks
- Keep all pets and animals indoors
- Take care of sparklers, wear gloves to hold them and dispose of sparklers in a bucket of water as soon as they are finished

## FROM THE PAST ...

### Arlesford Man Remembers Poor

John Rand was from Alresford but had Great Bromley connections and by his will of 15 April, 1570 left "To the poor men's boxes of Alresford and Great Bromley, 12d."

To Toby, his son, he left a colt, 2 sheep, a tumbrel lepe [meaning?], his plough, 2 chains with a foot shackle, a coulter, a share, his bow, a bow case, his quiver with twenty shafts, *his bed at Bromley*, a chest with a hollow lid, a brass pot, a kettle, a trammel, a little kettle, a pair of pothooks, a scummer, 6 pieces of pewter, his raiment, "his posted bed with a joined ceiling",

another feather bed after his wife Rose dies.

To his daughter, Priscilla, £3 6s 8d when she marries or 20 sheep, a flock bed, a brass pot, a cauldron, a posset, a scummer, a pair of pothooks and six pieces of silver.

To his godchildren a boy Messin, and a girl, Judith Hall, 12d each.

To John Church (of Great Bromley?) "my harrows and wheels which he already hath".

The residue went to Rose, his wife.

*John Appleby*

## ... AND 20 YEARS AGO

### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY—8th November 1987

This year the local branch of the Royal British Legion will be holding their annual parade at S George's church, Great Bromley, on Remembrance Sunday. It is hoped that they will be joined by Guides, Scouts, members of the S John Ambulance Brigade and

the Brightlingsea Church Lads Brigade Band.

The parade will form up at the Village Hall and move off at 10.40am, to arrive at the War Memorial at 10.55. There the Act of Remembrance and the two-minute silence will be held. The service in the church will follow commencing at 11.10am.

Please support the Poppy Appeal when poppy sellers come to your door; the funds are still urgently needed to give aid and to provide, in some cases, hospital accommodation and housing for ex-

servicement and women who still suffer the effects of war, most recently in Northern Ireland and the Falklands, and of course, during the Great Wars and the hostilities which have occurred in many parts of the world since 1945 in which British personnel have been called upon to take part.

### CONGRATULATIONS

At the tenth Annual Age Concern Talent Festival held on 14th October at the Princes Theatre, Clacton, Mr Stan West won the first prize in the Male Individual Section for the second year running. Well done Stan!



**MATERIAL** for the **DECEMBER 2007** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **Monday, 19th November, 2007** 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.

Copy can either be delivered by hand, sent by post or e-mail. (see inside back cover for details) or via the link on the websites [www.greatbromley.org.uk](http://www.greatbromley.org.uk) or [www.littlebromley.org.uk](http://www.littlebromley.org.uk)

## HEED THE 'TIME-BOMB' WARNING URGES WILL WRITER

A Senior Partner representing Anglian Will Writing, a Will Writing company covering Essex and Suffolk, has urged people to heed the 'time-bomb' warning issued this week by the National Consumer Council.

Steve Wilkes says the findings of a report released this week by the National Consumer Council that 27 million people in England and Wales do not have a Will are shocking to many, but not to those in the profession.

The report concludes that urgent action is needed to defuse what it calls a looming wills time-bomb. It says unmarried couples are most at risk of losing property, personal possessions and cash if their partner dies without leaving a will, as current inheritance laws do little to protect new family structures.

Steve said: "Everybody wants to forget about writing their Will but all they are doing is storing up problems. Most people I speak to say they will get it sorted one day but often when one day comes it is too late.

"Sixty four per cent of us haven't bothered to make a will and of those that have, a huge number have Wills that are out of date or not tax efficient.

"I know people don't like to talk about their demise but the simple fact is that none of us are immortal and very few of us know when our time will be up. If we haven't made a will when that happens, it can create all sorts of problems for those that we leave behind, especially for unmarried couples. One of our own consultants lost his partner before they had got round to writing a Will. He lost out on over £100,000 immediately, almost lost his home and also found out that he did not have parental responsibility for his own children. He got into the profession because he passionately believes in trying to prevent this from happening to other people.

"The reluctance to put pen to paper and draw up a legally-binding document leaves grieving relatives with added heartache – and a possible huge bill from the Revenue and Customs. Getting that message across to the public is like banging our heads against a brick wall. We work on the 80-20 principal, using 80% of our effort getting people to act and 20% actually writing the Wills. It is time the Government gave more publicity to the importance of a Will."

Anglian Will Writing is a trading style of T.W. Partnership LLP and offers a comprehensive will-writing service which can save families thousands of pounds in the long term – as well as a lot of heartache. Anyone wanting further information can contact Steve Wilkes on 0800 0934299 or visit [www.twpartnership.com](http://www.twpartnership.com).

### **Bonfire Night Quiz Answers** (page 16)

1. 13<sup>th</sup> April 1570
2. 31<sup>st</sup> January 1606
3. 35years old
4. A Mercenary Soldier in the Spanish army
5. Robert Catesby
6. James I England ,VI of Scotland
7. 13 (including Fawkes.) Four were killed during a siege at Holbeche House in Staffordshire, one died of sickness in the Tower of London and the remaining eight (including Fawkes) were executed.
8. No, it was 6 days before he gave the names of the other plotters and by that time they had all been captured or killed.
9. The Old Palace Yard, Westminster.
10. His head was placed on London Bridge and his body was quartered and sent to the four corners of the kingdom as a warning to other traitors.
11. The idea of bonfires comes from the Celtic festival of Samain (November 1<sup>st</sup>) when fires were lit to strengthen the winter sun.
12. The Chinese invented the firework in 12<sup>th</sup> century to frighten away evil spirits with the loud noise and to pray for happiness and prosperity.

### **Additional Quiz Answers**

13. November by Thomas Hood

No sun--no moon!  
No morn--no noon!  
No dawn--no dusk--no proper time of day--  
No sky--no earthly view--  
No distance looking blue--  
No road--no street--  
No "t'other side the way"--  
No end to any Row--  
No indications where the Crescents go--  
No top to any steeple--  
No recognitions of familiar people--  
No courtesies for showing 'em--  
No knowing 'em!  
No mail--no post--  
No news from any foreign coast--  
No park--no ring--no afternoon gentility--  
No company--no nobility--

No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,  
No comfortable feel in any member--  
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,  
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds,  
November!

14. 2<sup>nd</sup> November, the 1<sup>st</sup> November is All Saints day which is the day that follows Halloween (All Hallows Eve). The date of All Saints day was changed to 1<sup>st</sup> November from May 13<sup>th</sup> in 835 to coincide with the pagan end of summer festival of Samain (or Samhain).

In around 1048 an influential abbot chose 2<sup>nd</sup> November to commemorate All Souls because it was an obvious companion date and extension of the Feast of All Saints.

# ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



## Services for November

1st	<b>ALL SAINTS</b>	7.00pm	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
2nd	<b>ALL SOULS</b>	7.00pm	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b><u>Sunday 4th</u></b>	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evensong with Choir	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b><u>Sunday 11th</u></b>	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.45am	Remembrance Service	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.45am	Remembrance Service	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b><u>Sunday 18th</u></b>	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b><u>Sunday 25th</u></b>	<b>CHRIST THE KING</b>		
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

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

Details of weekday celebrations from Church or at  
[ardleighandthebromleys.co.uk](http://ardleighandthebromleys.co.uk)