

# ***The Bromley Messenger***

**May 2009**

Volume 23 No 2



*Photograph courtesy of Peter Scott*

## **Bellringers at St Mary's church, Little Bromley**

The bells of St Mary's Church, Little Bromley rang out on February 21st to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of The Churches Conservation Trust which looks after the church.

The ringers were Anne and Paul Bray, Bevan Willgress, and David Wenden (Captain).

## FORWARD

Katisha thanks all those of you who have made such kind comments about her column last month and is purring with gratitude.

Madeira was lovely - the temperature a perfect 19-20°C. The flowers were beautiful - hibiscus, bougainvillea, jacaranda and mimosa trees, bird of paradise flowers, clivia, agapanthus and madonna lilies growing wild by the roadside. I even brought back some kapok which was being shed from the seed pods of kapok trees. There were birds and insects, the most exciting from my point of view was the sight of monarch butterflies gliding and fluttering



among the gardens—I hadn't realised they were anywhere else other than America.

This month the Cross Inn is to be congratulated upon their very own brewery 'Sticklegs' winning the 'Beer of the Festival' award at the Harlequin Beer-Fest n Sheffield. No doubt their award winning beer will be one of the beers on sale at their Festival weekend at the end



of May.

There is much else going on as well in the villages - the Plant and Garage Sale at Ilex Farm, the MS Cake Break at the Cross Inn and the Haywain is also having a Beer Festival at the beginning of the month.

Enjoy the May Quiz compiled by Ian and Val. It certainly broadened my general knowledge as I didn't do too well!

Also do read the piece on page 16 about what to look for when selecting a gas engineer to do work for you. The Corgi logo has been replaced by a new one - Gas Safe - which is the one you should now be looking for when you need work done.

*Leonie Henderson*

**MATERIAL** for the **JUNE 2009** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **15th May, 2009** 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)

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

# Bromley Messenger

Unaudited

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

	2007/2008		2008/2009
	£		£
<b>Income</b>			
Donations	43.26		24.12
Advertisements	2781.43		3603.10
Sponsorship	<u>969.00</u>		<u>899.00</u>
Total	3793.69		4526.22
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Printing	3088.16		3702.16
Postage	43.26		44.66
Expenses	112.26		254.62
(deficit)/surplus	<u>274.72</u>		<u>524.78</u>
Total	3793.69		4526.22

### *Bromley Messenger Reserve Fund 31st March*

Balance as at 1st April 2007	3910.87	2008	4276.59
Surplus	365.72		524.78
Balance as at 31st March 2008	4276.59	2009	4801.37

*Honorary Treasurer L B Christodoulides MBE*

### **Comments**

Another satisfactory year, with an increased profit. We are currently restricting advertising as we have reached our 50% target maximum so we have a waiting list.

Unfortunately our auditor, Kate, cannot do the books this year as she is taking her final examinations. If there is anyone who would volunteer to do it (about 2 hours work no qualifications needed you just do random checks) please let me know.

If you have any questions on the figures feel free to contact me.

## SPONSORS

We have had a significant drop in sponsors this year and would draw the attention of existing and new advertisers to the benefits which primarily are that your service is readily found on the back cover rather than searching through the magazine specially for it. We do not place the adverts on the same page every month in order to ensure pages are always full of copy. If you are interested please contact me .

*Len Christodoulides – Treasurer*

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS & ADVERTISERS**

# GREAT BROMLEY FUN DAY - 13TH JUNE

## CHILDREN'S CAKE COMPETITION

Recipe for Fairy Cakes

4oz (100g) soft butter or soft margarine  
4oz (100g) castor sugar  
4oz (100g) self raising flour  
2 eggs which have been beaten together

First of all ask an adult to turn on the oven for you to 190°C or 375°F or Gas mark 5.

Place 12 paper cake cases in a bun tin.

Put all the ingredients in a large bowl and mix together with a wooden spoon until they are creamy.

Divide the mixture between the paper cases and ask an adult to put them in the oven for you. They will take about 20 minutes to cook. Ask an adult to look at them in the oven after 15 minutes to check if they are ready. Ask an adult to

take them out of the oven when they are cooked.

Put them on a cooling tray.

When they are cool you can decorate them as you wish - just use your imagination - try using butter icing or icing - for the decoration you could use small sweets, sprinkles or other decorations of your choice.



The competition is for four cakes - so choose which ones you think are the best and put them on a plate. Then take them to the main hall in the Village Hall by 12 o'clock. We will give you a card to write your name and age on.

The cakes will all be judged and the results announced at the Community Fun Day which starts at 2.00pm. Prizes will be given to the winners.

**GOOD LUCK**

## WORKING GROUP 11 - SPRING LITTERPICK



Very many thanks to the good souls who turned out to make our village spic and span. The usual eclectic mix of rubbish was collected, with some even-more-surprising-than-usual items appearing! We will convene again in the autumn when perhaps, more villagers will be available to lend a hand. Only ten of us participated this time and it is much more fun to enjoy a community event when more of the community are involved. Although litterpicking is a less than glamorous activity, it is very satisfying to see the village clean and tidy after the event so please, if you can, do set aside an hour or so to lend a hand. The date will be in the Messenger later in the year.

*Brenda Perry*

## FROM THE PAST

### More Bad Lads and Lasses!

At Easter Sessions, 1647, Richard Goddeth of Great Bentley, labourer, and Richard Forde and Ann, his wife, of Great Bromley, were before the Justices of the Peace at Chelmsford, for absenting themselves from their parish church. No punishment is noted.

At the Easter Sessions, 1650, William Pepper of Great Bromley, labourer, was charged with stealing there - 2lb of butter, worth 2d.; a piece of pork, worth 3d.; a piece of beef worth 2d.; a pitcher value of half penny; and milk worth a half penny also, from Thomas Toddy. He confessed and was whipped soundly.

*John Appleby*



**Congratulations** to Master Brewer, Tom Trimby, and Sticklegs Brewery. **'Malt Shovel Mild'** won the 'Beer of the Festival' award at the Sheffield-based Harlequin Beer-fest in March. This achievement is even more notable as it

was the first time the brewery had participated in such an event and the competing products were from nationwide sources.

What a result!



## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

### Great Bromley Women's Institute

Four our April 2009 meeting, John Harris from Blenheim Nurseries came to talk and give us some tips on making hanging baskets. He brought along a large selection of baskets in various colours and shapes, together with suitable linings, composts and, of course, plants.

According to the plants you wish to grow, there are several basket linings to choose from, such as coconut fibre, moss, felt and papier-mâché. A plastic saucer can be placed in the bottom of the liner with water gel added.



There are many annual plants suitable: Lobelia, verbena,

helichrysum and pansies, also many foliage plants. Geraniums love the sun but only when the danger of frost has gone. All should do well when planted from early May. Water once per week with a feed mixed in - Organic, Tomorite and many others.

Finally, John spoke about the composts that are used now. They can be different mixes because of the problem of peat bogs being over used; the suppliers of peat or peat mixtures are looking at alternatives.

In the village hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 6th May, which is our Resolutions Meeting, our speaker is Beatrice Last, telling us about 'Coloured Glass'.

*June Willgress*

# MAY QUIZ

COMPILED BY IAN AND VAL HARRIS

- 1 Why is 1<sup>st</sup> May 1707 a date to remember for the Scots and the English?
- 2 What was opened in Dartmoor on May 24<sup>th</sup> 1809?
- 3 Why do *"I get a funny feeling inside of me, Just walking up and down"*?
- 4 On May 6<sup>th</sup> the first sub four minute mile was run, do you know by whom and the year?
- 5 Who built the largest pyramids?
- 6 What is the May Manea mania
- 7 What did John Albert Burr patent on May 9th, 1899?
- 8 What is a "Mae West"?
- 9 The 28<sup>th</sup> May saw the first indoor swimming pool opened in London, in what year was this?
- 10 What do these musicians specifically have in common: Simon Katz, Janet Jackson, Hazel O'Connor, Pervis Jackson and Liberace?
- 11 When is Cinco de Mayo?
- 12 On May 7<sup>th</sup> 1972 Reginald Dwight changed his name to what? (The full name please)

Answers on page 17



Do you have good ideas to help regenerate your rural community?

Residents and organisations are being offered an exciting new opportunity to play a part in regenerating the rural areas of Tendring.

They are being strongly encouraged to take up the chance to come forward with ideas and initiatives which could be included in a major delivery plan.

A special meeting is being set up to get the ball rolling and anyone interested in getting involved is urged to make the effort to go along.

The informal meeting has been organised by INTend, the trading name of Tendring District Council's regeneration company.

It is keen to hear thoughts and ideas about schemes and how they can be delivered in the rural parts of the District.

David Lines, Chairman of INTend, said this is a real chance for people to play a role in the future of their communities.

"Whilst INTend has a delivery plan that sets out the key objectives of delivering and building upon projects and programmes already approved, it is also keen to identify new opportunities that meet the vision of the company," he said.

"To help make this happen we are very keen to work with investors, communities and groups to investigate, develop and evaluate new initiatives that may well lead to them being included in a future delivery plan."

INTend has created an Area Board dedicated to the rural area, which includes Brightlingsea and all the villages in the middle of the district.

This board is keen to hear your views first hand and the aim of the meeting is to give community leaders (the town and parish councils), other local groups and organisations, as well as individuals, the opportunity to bring forward views, ideas and projects that can benefit their area.

The meeting is being held in Brightlingsea on Monday April 20 at 7pm in the Community Centre.

"Everyone – and I mean everyone – is welcome to come along and tell us what they think should be considered in the area they live in," added Mr Lines.

"We really want to hear from them and we will listen to what they have to say. We do not have the monopoly on good ideas and you could come up with something that could make a real difference to your community."

Anyone wanting more information should call Alison Jennings on 01255 686734 or e-mail [info@intend.org](mailto:info@intend.org)

## KITCHEN CORNER

Warmer weather is coming, so time to think about salads. Healthy raw foods to make us feel good!

Here are some of my favourite ideas.

### Carrot with mustard seeds

Finely grate some carrots, put a tablespoonful of black mustard seeds in a dry saucepan and toss over a moderate heat till lightly toasted and popping. Mix with the carrot.

### Celery and apple

Mix chopped celery and unpeeled red apple, add some walnuts, pumpkin and sunflower seeds, and bind with mayonnaise.

### Beetroot and orange

Lay alternate slices of cooked beetroot and fresh orange on a plate and dress with some vinaigrette.

**Cooked rice** mixed with sweetcorn or peas or sliced beans etc.

### Honey salad dressing

Toast 1 tbs sesame seeds in dry pan till lightly coloured.

Mix together in a bowl:

2tsp honey

2 tbs fresh

lemon juice

3 tbs olive oil

1 tbs light soy

sauce

Salt and pepper

Add the seeds and whisk thoroughly till thick, pour into a jar.

*Jill Frostick*



## FRIENDSHIP CLUB



At our last meeting we were entertained by 'The Cross Inn Players' with monologues from 'Auntie' - a very happy afternoon.

We will be having a stall at the Fun Day on 13th June - plants, Bring & Buy, also a raffle. Do come and support us.

The competition for May is a lady figurine ornament.

Don't forget our Auction—more about that later.

*Vicky Griffiths*

## ARE YOU NEW TO GREAT BROMLEY?

If so telephone Tracy Griffiths on 01206 230054 for your Welcome Pack.

A logo featuring a decorative flourish above the word "WELCOME" in a bold, serif font. The entire logo is set against a textured, brown background that resembles a piece of fabric or paper.

## CARPET BOWLS

The last of the winter league matches were home wins, 6-2 against Clacton Bowls and 8-0 against Silver Dawn. This gave us a total of 59 points out a possible 96, we are just one point short to go up to the top half of the table. Two matches played so far in the summer singles league, an away win for Gt Bromley 5-4 over Clacton-on-Sea and Engaines at home was another 5-4 win for the home team.

On 8th March the Essex Regions were in competition at Braintree to find a regional winner. Our team (East) Linda, Pat, Andrew and Jayne lost to Central 8-10, won over North 13-2 and West 11-9. The West Region was overall winner.

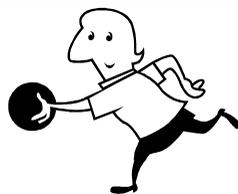
At Great Bentley village hall on 22nd March Walton Bowls Club stages a tournament in aid of the Essex Air Ambulance Fund. Each team plays five games and the number of shots totalled to provide a winner. Andrew, Linda, Jayne and Ronn Copp played very well all through, beating Lawford 6-5, Clacton-on-Sea 7-2, Brightlingsea 11-7 and Walton 9-2, then unfortunately were laid low losing 11-4 to West Bergholt, the eventual winners of the trophy. Great Bromley missed the runner-up place by 2 shots. All four members of the team thoroughly enjoyed their day.

### BRUMBELLA TROPHY - 14th March

16 teams of four players started off in the 'Round Robin' on their way to the semi-finals. Some tough battles ensued, one or two a bit easier according to the luck of the draw for the line up. In the semi-finals Walton 1 versus Walton 2 resulted in a 5-3 victory for Walton 2. The second semi Langham versus Brightlingsea 2 was a win for Brightlingsea 2 10-3. At the start of the final Brightlingsea took an early lead and then the match turned into a see-saw game, leading to a 6-6 draw after nine ends. Walton 2 won by 2 shots after a tie-breaker end. Jayne made the presentations.

The well stocked refreshment table and large raffle were well supported and altogether £467 was raised for Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre at Thorrington. Most club members were present and thanks must go also to members' wives who bravely turned out to help with the 'washing up'. A good day all round.

*Nancy Kempster*



### Great Bromley & Frating Playgroup

At Great Bromley Village Hall.

Monday & Wednesday 9.15-11.45am & 12.15-2.45pm

Thursday 9.30-12 noon

Session Tel No: 0785 7503103

(Lunch time session also available)

Children: 2 - 5 years. £7 per session.

Lunch time sessions also available Monday & Wednesday Cost: £1.50

Ofsted inspected.

For more details/visits, please contact Group Secretary-Jean on 01206 250694

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## Great Bromley Parish Council

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

**Report of a parish council meeting held on 9 April 2009**

### Planning

***The Council considered the following planning application and had no objections:***

**Park Farm, Hilliards Road** – construction of agricultural reservoir.

*Tendring District Council has approved the following planning application:*

**Greshams Farm, Harwich Road** - continued use of redundant agricultural buildings as workshop, storage and distribution depot (Class B2 and B8)

***Tendring District Council is considering the following planning application:***

Application by the parish council for part of **Church Meadow, Hall Road** to continue in use as a public car park.

### ***New Parish Councillor***

Following the recent resignation of Mrs Brenda Perry, Mr Alan Thomas of Balls Green has been co-opted as a member of the council. The council acknowledges with grateful thanks the contribution made by Mrs Perry during her six years as a councillor.

### ***Community grants***

With the start of the new financial year the council will shortly be considering the allocation of small grants to village voluntary bodies and community groups. If you have a project which needs funding then please contact the council's clerk.

### ***Litter pick – 28 March***

In spite of the paucity of both volunteers and litter a number of bagfuls of roadside rubbish was collected. Thanks to all those helped and to Brenda and Richard for the coffee and cake at the end of the morning!

## ***Tendring District Council – Local Development Framework***

Work has begun on drawing-up a new strategic plan for future development in the Tendring district. You may have visited the exhibition which toured the district in April. The parish council will be monitoring this closely and representing the views of the community. This is particularly important if there is any suggestion of resurrecting proposals for large-scale industrial development and housing in the village – which were rejected following the public enquiry into the current local plan. You are advised to watch out for reports in the local press and on the district council's website: [www.tendringdc.gov.uk](http://www.tendringdc.gov.uk)

**The next meeting** of the Council will be on **Thursday 14 May 2009** at the Village Hall Great Bromley. This will follow the **Annual Parish Assembly at 7.30 pm**. As always **all residents are welcome to attend both meetings**.

## **Great Bromley Annual Parish Assembly**

The Annual Great Bromley Parish Assembly will be held at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 14 May 2009

The Chairman and other council officers will report on the parish council and working group activities during the past 12 months. There will then be an opportunity for residents to raise matters of concern, ask questions of the council and also make suggestions.  
*All residents are warmly invited to attend.*

A copy of the council's annual report will be posted on the website in due course. But please contact the clerk if you would like your own copy.

## BOOK & CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

I was wondering how I would go about setting up a book club/creative writing group in the Great Bromley area? I would really like the club to be a free place for anyone to go to exchange ideas about any form of writing and books that we have all read.

I am moving back home to Great Bromley from university soon and I would really like to continue this type of interaction with people of all ages. Can you advise me on how to start this please?

Book and creative writing club, for enthusiastic readers and budding novel writers who want to experiment with a mix of discussions about members' own creative work and selected published novels.

The aims of the group would be to:

- ▶ Meet others who share in the enjoyment of reading and discussing novels
- ▶ Engage with others for feedback on creative writing
- ▶ To broaden readers experience and knowledge of fiction
- ▶ Hosted (on a voluntary basis) in members homes, with leadership shared amongst members
- ▶ To meet once a month with a fun format and casual atmosphere
- ▶ A free place for creative writing and reading suggestions



If interested in this group, or with any enquiries, please contact Clarrie Beech on -07525749814 or email [clambeech15@hotmail.com](mailto:clambeech15@hotmail.com)

## ESSEX POLICE



These are the incidents in Great Bromley for the month of March

**Nuisance Youth** - Harwich Road x 2  
**Suspicious Circumstances** - Chapel Lane

Les Barnes PCSO 71909  
Thorpe Le Soken NPT Eastern  
Internal Ext : 487603  
External 01255 862843  
Email : [leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police](mailto:leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police)  
website : [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk)

### Letter for the month of April

Please be aware that bogus phone calls are being received from people claiming to be representatives from BT. The representative will offer a deal that if anything should go wrong with your phone line that they will get an engineer out asap. These people are demanding bank details. Please **DO NOT** give any details out over the telephone. The number that they claim they are calling from is 0207 043 0643 this number is not a valid BT number.

Also there is a company calling themselves Home Security who are in the Kirby Cross area. Please do not entertain these people. If this company knocks on your door please can you discreetly obtain the car registration details

And lastly a group of women are going around pubs and caravan sites claiming that they are selling red roses for "Cancer Research". The females have photocopy ID cards. These females are bogus; if they approach you please do not make a purchase. They are believed to be driving a White Ford Van registration number not known. If anyone should spot them please can you try and obtain the car details as well as descriptions of the females i.e. approx age/height, hair colour, clothing that they are wearing and call 0300 333 4444 when the operator answers ask to speak to control room to report it.

PCSO Barnes 71909 – Tel 0300 3334444

# *Forthcoming Events*

## **MAY**

- 2 Bluebell Day, Thorrington Wood, 10.00am
- 5 Village Hall committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9 Plant and Garage Sale, Ilex Farm, 10.00am
- 13 Village Hall Committee, A.G.M., Village Hall, 8.00pm
- 14 Gt Bromley Parish Council Annual Parish Assembly, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 15 Deadline for copy for magazine, please
- 16 Multiple Sclerosis Cake Break, Cross Inn, 10.00am
- 21 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 20 Village Hall Committee Annual General Meeting, Village Hall, 8.00pm

## **JUNE**

- 6/7 Festival Weekend, Little Bromley church
- 13 Great Bromley Fun Day, Village Hall/Cricket Club, 2.00pm  
Hamilton Lodge Fete, 2.00pm
- 18 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm

## **JULY**

- 11 Tendring Show, Lawford House Park, 9.00am
- 19 Cello Recital. St George's church, 6.00pm
- 25 Lt Bromley Barbecue and Fete, Mulleys Farm, 12 noon

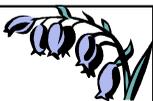
Friends of Little Bromley Church

6th/7th June

**Festival Weekend**

*Details to Follow*

**BLUEBELL DAY  
THORRINGTONHALL  
WOOD**



SATURDAY 2nd MAY  
10am to 4pm

Admission £2.50  
IN AID OF ST HELENA HOSPICE  
(Children to be accompanied by an adult  
Sorry, no dogs)

REFRESHMENTS IN THE CHURCH  
BY THORRINGTON WI

PLANT STALL  
CARD/CRAFT STALL

*Little Bromley Amenities Committee and Parish  
Council invite you to the*

**LITTLE BROMLEY  
SUMMER BARBECUE AND FETE**

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2009

12 noon to 3pm.

to be held at  
Mulley's Farm,  
Bentley Road, Little Bromley.

Entry fee / ticket holders entitled to a  
barbecue meal.

£5 adults, £2.50 children under 12, free for  
children under 5 years.

There will be a variety of stalls including  
cake, plant, tombola, raffle,  
bric a brac and a selection of games.

If you are able to bake a cake or donate any  
items for any of the stalls

and / or are able to help at this village event  
please phone:

Major Downes on 01206 391015, Carol on  
395103 or Anita on 390003.

We would love to hear from you!

We hope for good weather on the day and  
look forward to a successful village event.

## PLANT AND GARAGE SALE

at  
Ilex Farm, Waterhouse  
Lane, Ardleigh  
on 9th May  
10.00am - 1.00pm



Donations of plants and anything for the  
Garage Sale (no books or clothes)  
gratefully received on Thursday 7th or  
Friday 8th.

*Proceeds to St George's Church and  
Gt Bromley & Frating Playgroup.*

## 'CELLO RECITAL

Sunday 19th July  
6.00pm  
In St George's Church  
Followed by Buffet Supper  
More details next month



Parsons Hill, Great Bromley,  
Colchester

### SUMMER FETE/PLANT SALE

**Saturday 13th June  
2 – 5pm**

**Grand Opening by Bobby George  
Celebrity Darts Player**

Lots of entertainment to include  
Tail Waggers Dog Show  
Di-Vine Line Dancers

Large variety of stalls  
Grand Raffle  
Barbeque

Free entrance and parking

## Brightlingsea and District Rotary Club



We are pleased to  
announce that we shall be  
repeating the

### Colne 25 Cycle Ride

on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2009

*Starting at the  
Colne School - Brightlingsea  
11.00-12.30 hrs*

*and finishing at*

*Hurst Green - Brightlingsea Music  
Festival*

### 5, 25, 40 mile rides

Entry fees applicable.

Sponsorship - either your chosen charity  
or St Helena Hospice or Leonard  
Cheshire Disability

[www.colne25.co.uk](http://www.colne25.co.uk) or ring John on  
01206 303135 for entry forms.

*We hope to get over 200 riders this year.  
Last year over £3000 was raised of which  
£1000 went to Little Haven Children's  
Hospice and Essex Air Ambulance.*

*Len Christodoulides*

## MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS CAKE BREAK

The cake break is a  
coffee morning and a  
piece of cake, asking  
people who attend to  
kindly make a donation



for the coffee and cake, in aid of funding  
for research into multiple sclerosis. We  
will also be holding a small raffle.

The event will take place on  
Saturday 16th May 2009  
from 10am to 1pm  
at the

Great Bromley Cross Inn Public House  
Richard and Brenda have kindly agreed  
for the event to take place there.

# GARDENING TIPS FOR MAY

## Flowers

Dahlias can be planted at the end of the month when hopefully frost is unlikely, also tuberous and fibrous begonias which have started into growth. Freesias grown from seed can be placed in a shady position at the end of the month.

## Shrubs

April flowering shrubs can be pruned, especially clematis, and those flowering in early May including forsythia, Kerria and berberis. Rhododendrons, azaleas and lilacs should be dead-headed as soon as the blooms are finished.



## Grass cutting

should be in full swing from now onwards, cutting every five days or so.

## For flowering next spring

biennials can be sown

this month, e.g. wallflowers, Sweet Williams, Canterbury bells and antirrhinums. Pansy and polyanthus are also treated in this way.

## Fruit

I don't know if we can regard rhubarb as a fruit or vegetable but this is another plant that is very easy to grow and gives value for money. Rhubarb is a very hungry plant and needs plenty of manure, a good layer each spring will give excellent results.

Gooseberries are another soft fruit which should have a place in the garden, freezes very well, the only draw back being the gooseberry sawfly. So if you intend to grow one or two bushes have a sprayer handy

and spray at the first sign of the small black and yellow caterpillar.

## Vegetables

Main crop potatoes can be planted now. If your early potatoes are showing through draw the soil up to just cover the leaves; a sprinkling of 'growmore' fertilizer will work wonders.

When the lettuce, carrot, radish and beetroot seedlings are still small now is the time to thin out plants to leave about 3" between each plant.

## Correction

For last month under the heading of blackberries and loganberries—the word 'CAN' should be 'CANE'. [*Sorry that is probably a typo on my part - Ed.*]

*Frank Griffiths*

**An old lady** walks into a greengrocer's shop and asks for a "pound of potatoes". The greengrocer says "I'm sorry, dear, they're kilos now". "Alright", says the old lady, "I'll have a pound of kilos."

# GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 301310

The Village Hall committee met in March with 12 members present. The meeting was chaired by Martin Frostick, in the unavoidable absence of our Chairman, Fred Nicholls. Unfortunately, we have had to change the dates of our next two meetings as follows, with our apologies.

The Village Hall committee will next meet at the hall on Tuesday, 5th May (instead of 28th April) at 7.30pm.

You are invited to attend the Village Hall Annual General Meeting now being held on Wednesday, 20th May (instead of 13th May) commencing at 8.00pm at the hall. Any person who would like to stand for election to the committee should obtain, complete and submit a nomination form to the Secretary before the meeting starts. Forms may be had from the Secretary.

A short Village Hall committee meeting will take place immediately following the Annual General Meeting on the



same evening.

On Saturday, 13th June, we have the Great Bromley Community Event 2009 (Fun Day), lead by Neil Skinner and his committee, taking place at and around the Village Hall in conjunction with Hamilton Lodge Fete.

The Cabaret evening has been booked for Saturday, 21st November. More details in the coming months.

The Christmas Fayre will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday, 6th December from 11.00am until 2.00pm. This year the funds raised will be shared equally between St George's Church and the Village Hall. A planning meeting for the event will be called soon.

We would like to hear from anybody who will be willing to examine and certify our accounts each year, usually in April, with effect from 2010. If you are interested and can help, please contact us so that we may discuss it with you.

*Bevan Willgress, Secretary*

## FRIENDS OF LITTLE BROMLEY CHURCH

33 people came to the annual meeting on Saturday 28th March as part of an open morning with a short historical talk. Thanks were expressed to the Committee, Friends, and others who helped during the year, to Chloe Cockerill (Churches Conservation Trust), and to Little Bromley Parish Council for sponsoring the Events.

The Committee members gave a summary of 2008 activities and a

financial summary is on display in the church. All profits were given to charities and donations were retained this year for repairs to the shed - thanks to all for their generosity.

Carol Cordwell, Ann Fairley, Susan Scott, Gregory Frostick were re-elected and Anita Spall and Wendy Buxton were elected to the Committee. Martin Frostick stood down this year - many thanks to him for his support.

## CHURCH NOTES

**St George's APCM** was held after the morning service on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. It was well attended.

### **Church warden elections**

Hilary Powell and James Wild were elected as churchwardens. Barbara Hall, retiring churchwarden, was thanked for all her hard work during the time that she held this office.

### **PCC elections**

Jenny Nicholls, Guy Everington and Marion Bromfield stood down as PCC members but Jenny and Marion agreed to stand for re-election and were duly appointed. Ann Wild stood down as

Deanery Synod representative but was elected to the PCC. Brenda Perry was also elected to the PCC, the remaining members being Caro McShane and Gregory Frostick. Deanery Synod representatives are Dee Barrel and Ann Oughton.

The PCC meets approximately every six weeks and fund raising will need to be a priority during the remainder of 2009 as the financial reserves are low.

## DID YOU KNOW?

As from 1st April 2009, Gas Safe Register is the new name and the official stamp for gas safety in Great Britain, **REPLACING** the CORGI gas registration scheme

Anyone carrying out work on gas **MUST** be registered with Gas Safe Register. If not, they are breaking the law and putting you and your family at risk.

Only a Gas Safe Registered Engineer is legally allowed to install gas appliances, boilers, hobs, ovens or fires in your home or workplace.

You must only use a gas safe registered engineer for any type of gas work, including installation, maintenance and servicing.

The campaign to make the public aware of this important change started in Mid March with a series of ads in every free weekly newspaper, in England, Scotland and Wales. The campaign will shift to the national press with ads in a whole range of newspapers during April. TV viewers will see spots on various channels in Mid April. There will also be advertising on perimeter signs at Rugby League grounds and at cricket grounds during Twenty 20 series.

Finding a Gas Safe registered engineer is simple. From 1 April, you will be able to find an engineer in your area online – at [www.gassaferegister.co.uk](http://www.gassaferegister.co.uk) – or by calling 0800 408 5500. Most Gas Safe Registered tradesman will also display the bright yellow and black logo on their vehicles and advertising will be updated as new directories are produced.

Registered engineers will be identified with the new yellow Gas Safe Register logo, and every engineer will carry a Gas Safe Register ID card with their own

unique licence number. This card also displays the types of gas work which the engineer is legally allowed to carry out. So before you have any gas work done in your home, make sure you check the card.

So remember there is only one gas safety register that you need to use. Look for the yellow Gas Safe Register triangle not the orange CORGI registration badge.

*Tracey Wareing*



# ANSWERS TO MAY QUIZ

- 1 This was the date that “The act of Union” between those two countries came into effect.



The old union flag incorporating St George's and St Andrew's cross



The present Union flag used since 1801, after another Act of Union, when the 'old' flag combined with the red cross of St. Patrick of Ireland.

- 2 Dartmoor prison in Devon, to house French prisoners of the Napoleonic war.
- 3 **“Maybe** it's because I'm a Londoner”
- 4 Doctor Roger Bannister in 1954 at the Iffley Road Sports Ground, Oxford.
- 5 The Maya.
- 6 The May Manea mania is the smaller sister of the March March march. As a general rule you first catch the train to Manea and then you walk to Cambridge or somewhere by one of several routes, after which you have become a Maneac. .
- 7 An improved rotary blade (cylinder) lawn mower with traction wheels, it was designed to “spin out” the cut grass so that it didn't clog up.
- 8 There can be several answers to this question, the most common being an inflatable lifejacket used by allied soldiers in the second world war and named after the American actress who was born Mary Jane West in August 1893 and who died in November 1980 as Mae West. Other answers are: a particular malfunction of a parachute, a cocktail made with brandy and a type of gorge or rock canyon.
- 9 1742. The first indoor swimming pool was opened in Goodman's Fields, London although in 2500 BC, in Ancient Egypt swimming was an organized activity .
- 10 They were all born on May 16<sup>th</sup> (1971, 1966, 1955, 1939 and 1919 respectively).
- 11 The 5<sup>th</sup> of May. On this date in 1862 six thousand French soldiers tried to capture the forts of Loreto and Guadalupe in Puebla de Los Angeles, Mexico. Two thousand Mexicans fought back and held the fort, winning the battle. This victory is celebrated every year in the streets of Los Angeles (which are coloured in red, white and green; the colours of the Mexican flag) where Mexican orchestras and local bands play Mexican patriotic songs.
- 12 Elton Hercules John. Elton comes from Elton Dean, a Bluesology sax player; John comes from Long John Baldry a British R&B singer and founder of Blues Inc and Hercules after the horse in “Steptoe and Son”.



## 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

# LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Public Assembly of Little Bromley took place on 16th April 2009 and there were three members of the public in attendance.

The 'litter pick' held on 21st March was again a success and all that took part are congratulated. It was agreed that in future a sum of money not exceeding £20 would be provided for refreshments for participants.

It is intended to organise another 'Bulk rubbish collection' sometime in September.

One planning application has been submitted for **Green Hedges, Shop Road**, change of use.

The Family Barbeque and Fete to be held

on 20th July was discussed at length and the results of who does what and how many stalls there will be, are to be confirmed at the next council meeting on 18th June. In the meantime an advertisement will be placed in *The Bromley Messenger*.

A report from the local police said there were only three minor incidents in the area since the last meeting.

Date of the next Public Assembly was declared as Thursday, 15th April, 2010.

The next routine meeting will be 18th June. The meeting closed at 20:40 hours.

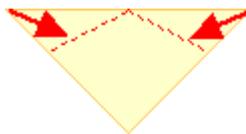
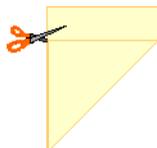
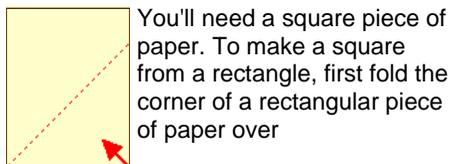
*Maj A.C. Downes MBE, Clerk*

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### Make a Dog Card

You will need:

- Card or construction paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Googly eyes and glue (optional)



You can write messages under the ears and on the inside of your new card

# THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

## Dear Friends

It is clear from the Gospels that our Lord in his teaching often used the ordinary material of life in his day to be the vehicle of his message. We too, can gain valuable insights from the stuff of our everyday lives which are not specifically religious.

I remember a play of many years ago. It was called, "The Chalk Garden", and was based, as I recall, on the observation that the keen gardener, having acquired a plot on chalky soil, suddenly wants nothing so much as to grow lime-haters, such as camellia and rhododendrons. Conversely, when presented with a garden on acid soil, the dearest wish is to grow chalk loving alpinists! The play worked out the idea that people, like plants need the right environment in order to flourish.

When you read this the Lenten season will be behind us and we will most definitely have celebrated the Resurrection and we shall be well into the Easter season. During Lent we will have taken the opportunity to "plough the soil of the heart" as one of the Desert Fathers put it, and to make it more productive of the fruits of righteousness. The right soil, the right balance of sun and rainfall, the right fertiliser – all these elements must be supplied if thriving of the

planting is to be achieved. What does this mean for our lives in God? I am resisting using the phrase 'religious life' as though that were a separate compartment.

For in the garden the spring management is crucial to the success of the summer performance.

Amid all the gimmicks of the modern garden 'makeover' traditional husbandry still rules. I believe the same is true of our religious practices. We all know what they are – prayer and study, regular worship in church; penitence and the discipline of prayer fasting and almsgiving. All wearily familiar, perhaps, and yet the ways we use to cultivate the soil in and ever-deepening relationship with God.

All this means, of course, a certain denial of self, a handing over to God of our time and energy, a certain taking up of our cross – thus the gain of Lent spills over into the rest of the year and our lives. The cross firmly planted in the good soil can now blossom into Easter joy.

Indeed I wish you all the joy of this Easter season.

With love and prayers,  
*Fr. Robert*

# ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

*united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh*



## Services for May

<b>Sunday 3rd</b>	8.00am 10.30am	<b>4th Sunday of Easter</b> Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 10th</b>	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>5th Sunday of Easter</b> Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 17th</b>	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>6th Sunday of Easter - Rogation Sunday</b> Eucharist Parish Eucharist <i>followed by Rogation Blessings at Wick Farm, Ardleigh</i> Choral Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Thursday 21st</b>	7.30pm	<b>Ascension Day</b> Sung Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 24th</b>	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>7th Sunday after Easter</b> Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 31st</b>	8.00am 10.30am	<b>The Day of Pentecost</b> Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

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