

# *The Bromley Messenger*

## **December 2009**

Volume 23 No 9



### Laurel and Hardy at The Haywain

The night consisted of three Laurel and Hardy films as well as some rare clips.

The first film '*Wrong Again*' had an art theme and linked in with the Haywain and its Constable background.

The second and third films were '*Blotto*' and '*Live Ghost*' which had an alcohol theme.

Southend-On-Sea Laurel and Hardy members known as 'The Saps at Sea' travelled up to meet their North Essex counterparts based in Manningtree, 'The Men O' War'.

There were a number of Laurel and Hardy fans from the general public and all were there to support a good cause Little Havens Children's Hospice.

Popcorn was served and a Thirties style cinema atmosphere was created.

With raffle prizes and entrance fees donated a total of £387 was raised for Little Havens.

All in all a very successful evening and we hope to repeat it next year.

*Andy Newton*

*More photos Inside*

## EDITORIAL

# Happy Christmas to all our Readers

I really hardly need to write anything as the Great Bromley Parish Council article (who are our sponsors this month) by Martin Frostick says it all but I would also like to add thanks on behalf of all our readers to everyone in both villages who make things happen, who help make things happen and to those who support all the happenings. There is almost always something going on in our villages which is quite a feat in itself.



The rhyme 'Christmas is coming and the goose is getting fat, Please put a penny in the old man's hat ...' is particularly apt this year. Charity begins at home and although most give to charities during the Christmas period, many of you have been fundraising for - and others supporting - charities throughout the year. This is a big commitment for which the chosen charities are no doubt grateful. The other aspect of giving to charity is perhaps also that maybe one's own life may be touched by the need for one of them at some time.

Wishing you all a very peaceful and happy Christmas.

*Leonie Henderson*

**MATERIAL** for the **JANUARY 2010** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **7th December, 2009** please.

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For details of availability and costs for **ADVERTISING** in the 'The Bromley Messenger' please contact the Treasurer on 01206 251264

# GT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

This month's edition of the Bromley Messenger is sponsored by Great Bromley Parish Council.

As 2009 draws to a close it is timely to reflect on what has been a busy and largely successful year for the village, the parish council and the many volunteers and local organisations who have worked hard in the last 12 months to benefit the community. It is also nice to note a busy programme of events and a resurgence of community involvement in our sister village of Little Bromley. I am delighted that the close ties and co-operation between our two villages continues to flourish.

Probably the highlight of 2009 in Great Bromley was the Funday on 13<sup>th</sup> June. This was the first major outdoors event since the demise of the village carnival in the 1990s and was exceptionally well supported by the organising committee, stallholders and those who came along to enjoy themselves. Great Bromley Parish Council has agreed to sponsor a similar event next year which will take place on 12<sup>th</sup> June.

Other achievements of note in the last 12 months include the implementation of a new car parking layout on Church Meadow, further work with maintaining footpaths in the village, renovation of the war memorial base, improvements to the grounds of St George's School, further large scale planting of trees and planning and fundraising for a number of improvements to the village hall. All of these activities have been undertaken by willing volunteers and I hope that you agree with me that they have enhanced our environment as well as fostered community spirit.

Next year promises to be an equally busy

time for many. Although the threat of large scale industrial and housing development at Hare Green has receded, we await with interest the next draft of the TDC Local Development Framework. Whilst it is not envisaged that there will be any significant building development in the village in the next 15 years, the parish council is keen to press forward with planning a further tranche of affordable housing as well as sponsoring further voluntary work on the closed churchyard, village pond restoration and provision of a village information centre on Church Meadow. It also looks forward to the successful conclusion of works at the village hall which include a new roof, kitchen, storeroom and external decoration.

The parish council thanks all of those who have given of their time to help the wider community during the last year and in particular to our two district councillors and county councillor who have campaigned often on our behalf. The council looks forward to supporting the residents of Great Bromley in the coming months and further enhancing village life and our environment. We are here to represent you: if you have any suggestions, concerns or complaints then contact either the parish clerk or any councillor and the council will take appropriate action. Alternatively, please do come along to a parish council meeting where you will be made welcome and have the opportunity to address the council if you so wish.

I and my fellow parish councillors wish all residents of the Bromleys a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Martin Frostick*  
*Chairman, Great Bromley Parish Council*

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS & ADVERTISERS**

# PARISH COUNCIL

Great Bromley Parish Council  
[www.essexinfo.net/gbpc](http://www.essexinfo.net/gbpc)

Report of a parish council meeting  
held on 12 November 2009

## Planning

**The Council considered the following planning applications:**

**Berridale, Brook Street** - first floor extension, new roof, front and rear dormers, front porch and attached double garage (application withdrawn).

**Cold Hall, Harwich Road** – change of use of former farm buildings and farmyard to the storage of pedal cycles, used domestic appliances and other household utensils prior to export (objections).

**10 Meadow Close** – single storey rear

extension (no objections).

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

**Transmitter Station Hilliards Road** – additional telecommunications equipment to existing mast.

**Mary Lane North** – Proposed 11kV overhead line diversion.

**Bosco House Farm, Harwich Road** – change of use from agricultural to class B1/(3) light industrial.

**Land East of Hall Road:** Phases 1, 2 & 3 free range poultry units plus access track and storage.

**The next meeting** of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009 at Great Bromley Village Hall.

**Great Bromley Parish Council wishes all residents a Happy, Healthy, Peaceful and Prosperous New Year!**

*The council will continue to work for the benefit of the village community during 2010. If you require assistance or information about local public services,*

*or wish to lodge a complaint or make a suggestion then please contact the Chairman, Clerk or any Councillor. Detailed information on the council and its activities can be found in the Messenger or on the council's website at <http://www.essexinfo.net/gbpc>.*

## COMMUNITY GRANTS

Great Bromley Parish Council will be allocating grants in 2010 to assist community projects. The council has about £2500 annually for awards to local organisations or voluntary groups whose activities benefit village residents. Recent grants have ranged in value from £20 to £1000 with recipients including the following: St George's church, cricket club, play group, friendship club, village hall, Bromley Messenger and Hamilton Lodge. Applications for grants should be sent to the Clerk, Ken Bromfield, 4 St George's Close, Great Bromley, Colchester CO7 7HZ, who can provide further information (01206 230089).

## GRANTS

### Great Bromley Poorlands Charity

The Poorlands charity was established over 400 years ago to assist residents of Great Bromley who are in need. The charity has an annual income of about £200 from which small cash grants can be made available to individuals and families. If you know someone who might benefit from this scheme please contact either the charity's chairman (James Wild – 01206 230679) or secretary (Ken Bromfield – 01206 230089). All enquiries will be treated in confidence but **must be received by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2009.**

## LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

Essex County Council is developing a local plan for transport and is seeking residents' view on the priorities that need to be addressed. A questionnaire is available for completion on line at [www.engageessex.org.uk](http://www.engageessex.org.uk) or can be obtained either from the Cross Inn Post Office or by emailing [LocalTransportPlan@essex.gov.uk](mailto:LocalTransportPlan@essex.gov.uk). If necessary the completed paper questionnaire can be returned via the parish clerk.

Questionnaires must be returned/completed by 15 January 2010.



## Great Bromley Public Rights of Way (PRoW)

At the September parish council meeting we were appointed Footpath Warden and Working Group Coordinator. Since then we have walked all the footpaths, byways and bridleways in the parish and in general they are in reasonably good condition. We are fortunate that Essex County Council are at present surveying the Great Bromley PRoW and are carrying out any required remedial work.

A schedule of all the PRoW in the parish of Great Bromley, including a brief description, will be available on the parish website. Our aim is to add a map showing the PRoW and encouraging their use so that our beautiful countryside can be better appreciated. Please let us have your views via the Parish Clerk.

*Ken Stokes, Footpath Warden*

*Deborah Lawes, Working Group Coordinator*

## WORKING GROUP 11 - LITTER PICKING



### WG11 - AUTUMN LITTER PICK

At 10.00am, 22 stout-hearted volunteers assembled to tidy up our village and by

midday, the whole of Great Bromley had been 'picked clean' - I am sure that every parishioner would like to congratulate the teams on the result. Whilst this is not the pleasantest of tasks, everyone said that they had really enjoyed working together and relished the sense of achievement when the task was completed. Many thanks to all concerned - especially those stalwarts who have turned out every time to give their support.

'We'll meeting again' in the spring - why not join us then.

*Richard Perry*

# THANKS

## ST HELENA HOSPICE

Well, it is that horrible time of year when everything has virtually come to an end in the garden and they are looking sad, but it is also the time that we have to say 'Thank you' to everyone who has supported the Hospice Table in Briar Road, Great Bromley, whether by purchasing from, or donating produce to, the table for us to sell. We would also like to thank the kind people that have allowed us on to their property to glean soft fruit, apples and pears to put out for sale.

Again, it has been difficult to always meet demand but somehow we have managed something. (Maybe we will get it right one day).

Last year when we raised £234.20 we thought we did well. However, this year between us all we have raised the magnificent sum of £655.71 which has been forwarded to St Helena Hospice. When you consider that with the exception of one or two items, everything on the table was priced at 40p or less and to

raise this amount of money gives an indication of the high level of support that you have given. Well done and thank you.

As well as thanking Ian and Liz for the allotment, this year we also have to thank Sandy and Tia (Greenacre Cattery's resident donkeys) for the part that they have played.

Finally, on a sad note, due to the closure of Old Shields as an operational fruit farm, blackcurrants, raspberries and blackberries will not be available next year unless we can find another grower within a reasonable distance that would be willing to allow us to glean fruit once they have finished picking commercially.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr and Mrs Marshall for allowing us to have the fruit for the last two years.

We hope to see you all next year and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you.

## FROM THE PAST

### Our Good and Bad Lads!

The ancient Quarter Sessions Rolls for Essex bear several references to Great and Little Bromley 1573/4 John Stone was on the Jury List for the County. He was also on the Panel for the Tendring Hundred and joined by his brother, Richard Stone, later.

In 1574 Mr Cardinall, owner of Great Bromley Hall was a magistrate and tried George Hut(t)on who had been brought into Chelmsford Gaol by the constable of our parish and was incarcerated for six weeks over something, not mentioned, valued at three shillings.

*John Appleby*

### *A Bromley Gift for Christmas*



'Reminiscences of an Old Colonist'

by *William Frost and John Appleby*

William left Great Bromley in 1846 for the sugar plantations of Trinidad.

He returned finally in 1888.

He was the first Chairman of the Parish Council.

This is the story of his life.

Copies at £3 each are obtainable from  
The Cross Inn, Great Bromley  
or from

John Appleby at Little Pitchbury, Brick Kiln Lane, Great Horkesey, CO6 4EU

# PARISH COUNCIL

## Little Bromley Parish Council

Report of Little Bromley parish Council meeting held on 22nd October.

There were eight members of the public present and, unusually, the Chairman made a statement about various rumours circulating about the village being turned into a 'mini town' mainly in connection with the proposed walkway (which has been on the books for at least 25 years). This he CATEGORICALLY denied and explained that the Council's main interest was the safety of the parishioners to whom they have a duty of care. To the people who had received letters from the Highways Department it was explained that this was only part of the normal survey before any (and if) further action was likely to take place.

Replies were given to questions from the previous meeting. It has been reported that the 'Road Safety' volunteers would not be able to function until early next year due to lack of equipment and training staff. The police, however, would try to be more active around the village. We are now in a queue for the use of electronic speed warning signs.

The Clerk reported that though the bulk

of rubbish collection went ahead, it was poorly supported and could result in the village losing the facility in future due to the cost.

The Firework Display is to remain a bi-annual event unless we can accrue more funds from spectators which will be investigated nearer the time.

Anita Spall is organising another 'Litter Pick' on 21st November. The start time will be 10.00am and she would appreciate the help of volunteers please.

**Planning Application** for a conservatory at the Old School House would not be opposed.

The saga of the Old Smithy continues. More information may be available at the next meeting.

The subject of the War Memorial and its deterioration was discussed and the Clerk will seek the advice of a professional to see what can be done. Remembrance Sunday, 8th November, 11.00hours.

The local police reported only one incident since the last meeting - a case of arson in Chequers Road.

Date of the next Parish Council meeting will be 17th December at The Haywain, Little Bromley.

## WANTED

The Church Fabric Committee are looking for new members - particularly people who are interested in the structure of the church, both external and internal, and its continual maintenance. We are a friendly group, not all are church-goers, but have a special affection for St George's Church. For further information, please telephone Paul Knappett on 01206 250156.

## THANKS

After living more years than I can remember (I think it is 43 years) I would like to thank all the people who have made friends with me, both in Great and Little Bromley. They are too numerous to mention and made me feel I am one of the "villagers" myself. I cannot go around in person it would take too long. If I am treated in Norwich Road half as well as here I shall be well pleased. I am 85 now so doubt if I will be as happy there as I have been here.

*Phyllis C Groom*

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our October meeting we had a rousing entertainment by Mr Sibley - our local 'musical man' who sang and played various instruments from his collection.

The December meeting is on the 17th - NO COMPETITION - Our **PARTY**. A

plate of goodies to eat would be appreciated and a bag of sweets for the Forces in Afghanistan (no chocolate) which Richard and Brenda will be sending out for Christmas with special prayers for them all.



January when the next entry will come to remind us that another year begins to bring we know not what but can we hope for peace and happiness?

Before I go special thanks to Leonie for the hard work she does during the year not forgetting the people who distribute them to our doors.

*Vicky Griffiths*

## KITCHEN CORNER

### Really Easy Slowcooker Meatballs in Tomato Sauce

#### Meatballs

500 g ground beef  
a finely chopped onion  
A pinch of salt, pepper  
handful of chopped parsley  
1 egg, beaten  
2-3 slices of leftover bread, crumbed  
1 teasp Oil for frying



#### Sauce

2 large jars of spaghetti sauce  
Dessertspoon of brown sugar  
Pinch of salt  
Additional herbs if you wish

Mix the ingredients together and make into small balls. Fry in the oil until browned all over. Put into the slow cooker and cover with the sauce. Cook on low heat for 6-8 hours (according to your slow cooker) You can also cook in a slow oven for two hours.

Serve over pasta with hot garlic bread and salad

*Dorothy O'Grady*

## DECEMBER GARDENING TIPS



If you are having your car serviced take a plastic container with you and when the garage does the oil change ask them to let you have some of the oil. This can be used to wipe over all the steel tools before you store them away for the winter.

Another job for December is to sharpen all tools, a file will do for spades and hoes - other tools such as lawn mowers, shears and tree loppers will need either a grindstone or a carborundum.

Chrysanthemums can be cut down after they have finished flowering, dug up and stored in the greenhouse or cold frame.

Keep them slightly moist but not wet. Sweet peas planted earlier can have their tip pinched out at the fourth leaf, they are quite hardy and can spend the winter in the greenhouse. Keep them moist but again not wet.

If you receive a Christmas gift of a poinsettia, cyclamen, Christmas cactus or a zebra plant, sadly, after a few days in our central heated homes, they give up the fight for survival, so if possible keep them as cool, or even cold, as possible to prolong their flowering, and of course keep damp.

Lastly, I wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year. I hope readers of the Messenger's Gardening Tips have found some ideas - there will be more next year.

*Frank Griffiths*

## MEN'S SOCIAL CLUB

The Club meets in the Village Hall on each Tuesday evening throughout the year and offers games of snooker and cards, together with light hearted (or serious) conversation between members. Coffee, tea and biscuits are served, sometimes cake and other beverages are brought along for members to sample.

The annual snooker competition amongst members was recently concluded for 2009. The final was played over three frames. Frames 1 and 2 were very evenly contested with A John Smith winning the first (59-34) and Keith Wrench, the second (57-32). In the keenly contested 3rd, Keith began to gain ground on John and eventually won (63-31) enabling a fresh name to be added to the trophy, which he holds for the next year.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on 10th November with the Chairman reporting a satisfactory year and remembering the late Bert Jaggard, a long time member who passed away some 12 months ago, also John Algar, a member whose wife is sadly ill and undergoing treatment. We wish them well.

The Secretary felt we have had a steady year but thought we could do with one or two additional members. Those present agreed this was so and felt all members should look to find an additional person to join the club. The Community Funday last June was supported by the club in which three people won a prize of £5 each for scoring exactly 61 with 3 darts.

The Treasurer presented the accounts for the year to 30th September 2009, which showed a loss over the period and was noted. Members voted to raise the annual subscription which together with increased attendance on club nights will balance the books next year.

All officers and committee members were re-elected to serve for another year. They

are R Ivan Arthey (Chairman), Pat H G Petchey (Vice Chairman), A John Smith (Secretary), Bevan Willgress (Treasurer) and two committee members, John Summers and Stan Hanslip.

If any body feels they would like to join the club, please contact the Chairman or Secretary and come along to the Village Hall on a Tuesday evening as our guest.

*Pot White (Bevan Willgress)*



# GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 301310

By the time you are reading this the roof should be finished. The painting might be done especially if it stops raining.



You will now only be able to get into the Hall with a Key Fob. Each organisation that uses the Hall will have its own Fob and anybody hiring the Hall will be given one on payment of a refundable deposit. Any lost Fobs will have to be paid for.

We will be having a working party to tidy the garden and paths around the Hall in the near future. Any help will be gratefully received. More details soon after the roof is finished.

Saturday December 5th sees the Christmas Fayre with fantastic stalls - cakes, stocking fillers, china and glass, tombola, Wii golf and book stall to name a few. Any donations will be gratefully received, please contact David Beech. Light lunches, teas and coffee will be served. There is also the Giant Raffle and a Saxophone Band. Should be great, don't miss it! Start time 10:30 finish by 2:00 - its all happening at the Village Hall! Raffle tickets are now on sale with committee members and the raffle draw will be at 1 o'clock

A quiz night is probably going to be held on 20th February.

By popular demand we see the return of the band **Locarno** who will be playing on Saturday 13th March, tickets on sale soon.

Another Fun-day is on its way in June 2010, with the 12th being pencilled in. More to follow.

Do you wonder in these credit crunch times what you are able to do in the evenings that will not break the bank?

Perhaps we can help. The Hall is going to hold an open day on Saturday, 13th February 2010. Organizations that use the Hall can show their wares and other people who want to use the Hall can look around. Any organisation/company that wish to have a space please contact the secretary, David Beech telephone 07825 300516, to make a reservation.

There are many people who work hard behind the scenes to keep the Hall running smoothly. One such is Ivan Arthey who does great work including tasks such as repairing ceiling batons to replacing sealed double glazed units in broken windows. Thank you, Ivan.

The replacement kitchen is being looked at with grant applications in place. A sub committee has been set up and has already held one meeting. Health and Safety.....need any more be said?

The old plans have been dusted off for the store room project. The store room plans were approved by Tendring Council when the Millennium Lounge was built. Chairs and other items would be stored there. It's all grant dependent though.

Next meeting: Tuesday 5th January at 7:30pm.

That's all for now, thank you for your support and please put the forth coming event dates in your diary.

**David Beech**  
[sailspar@me.com](mailto:sailspar@me.com)

# Forthcoming Events



## DECEMBER

- 2 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall, 10.30am
- 5-6 Christmas Tree Festival, Gt Bentley church
- 10 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 17 Friendship Club party  
Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm
- 18 St George's Christmas Lunch, Lady Chapel, 12 noon
- 23 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30pm

## 2010

### JANUARY

- 3 New Year Party at Little Bromley Church, 3.00pm
- 5 Village Hall Committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6 Playgroup New Term
- 13 Cricket Club AGM
- 14 WEA course 'China: Land & People', Arleigh Village Hall, 2.30pm

### FEBRUARY

- 13 Village Hall Open Day
- 20 Village Hall Quiz Night, Village Hall

### MARCH

- 13 The band, *Locarno*, playing in Village Hall
- 20 'The Long Way Home', play by Eastern Angles, Village Hall

### JUNE

- 12 2nd Great Bromley Fun Day

## RECYCLING

Val Harris has written in to tell me about 'freecycle' Their website address is [www.freecycle.org.uk](http://www.freecycle.org.uk) and along with the Colchester Women's refuge and charity shops finds that most unwanted items can be disposed of.

### St Mary's Church, Great Bentley



#### Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 5th December

10.00am - 4.00pm

Sunday 6th December

11.00am - 4.00pm

Extra attractions this year with Entertainment and Demonstrations as well as the usual stalls including Christmas Fayre, Raffle, Tombola, Gifts etc.

Light lunches and teas

## FRIENDS OF LITTLE BROMLEY CHURCH



### New Year Party

Sunday 3rd January at 3.00pm

45 minutes of music and carols for all  
Tea provided  
Free admission

Collection for Children's Hospice & The Brooke

# CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday, 5th December  
Village Hall  
10.30am-2.00pm

Giant Raffle, Cakes,  
stocking fillers, china &  
glass, Tombola and much  
more.

Light lunches, teas & coffee



# WEA ARDLEIGH BRANCH

Spring Term 2010  
China: Land and People  
Tutor - David L Prynne

Venue - Ardleigh Village Hall

Starting Date - Thursday 14th January  
2010

The course will be ten weeks long starting  
at 2.30 p.m. and finishing at 4.15 pm (a  
fifteen minute tea break included)  
The fee will be £43.50 per person

The course tutor has written the following about  
the course:

China, one of the oldest continuous civilisations  
is currently undergoing dramatic change,  
emerging as a major world economy. This  
course will introduce students to its rich cultural  
and natural heritage and its turbulent history.

For further details please phone Jill  
Frostick on 250263 or John Terry on  
230490

# ST. GEORGE'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH

in the  
Lady Chapel  
on

18th December at 12 noon  
Price £5.00

Please ring 01206 230688  
or 01206 230673 to book  
or sign the list in church by  
12<sup>th</sup> December



**Eastern Angles**  
present their new play

# THE LONG WAY HOME

by Charles Way  
20th March 2010

A heart-warming story for the whole family  
about friendship through adversity, by the  
author of *In the Bleak Midwinter*. An old  
woman decides to walk home to the seaside  
village of her birth - a journey through dark  
woods, fertile plains and over snow-capped  
mountains. She soon meets a wild young  
boy in the forest whose only means of  
communication is to bark like a dog and the  
two become unlikely travelling companions.  
*The Long Way Home* is a traditional folk tale  
from the heart of old Europe, brought into the  
modern age through storytelling, music and  
magic.

Watch this space! - More details to  
follow.

## REFUSE AND RECYCLING CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS 2009/10

Normal Day of Collection	Revised Day of Collection
<b>December 2009</b>	
Monday 21st	Usual collection
Tuesday 22nd	Usual collection
Wednesday 23rd	Usual collection
Thursday 24th	Usual collection
Friday 25th	No collection this week
Monday 28th	Tuesday 29th
Tuesday 29th	Wednesday 30th
Wednesday 30th	Thursday 31st
Thursday 31st	Saturday 2nd
<b>January 2010</b>	
Friday 1st	Monday 4th
Monday 4th	Tuesday 5th
Tuesday 5th	Wednesday 6th
Wednesday 6th	Thursday 7th
Thursday 7th	Friday 8th
Friday 8th	Saturday 9th

Please remember that both refuse and recyclable materials are collected each week  
from all domestic properties in the Tendring District.

Please store your waste within the boundary of your property until it is due for  
collection.

Season's Greetings From





# WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Annual General Meetings – every organisation or group has to have one in order to review the year's events and look forward to the coming year! We duly held ours at the beginning of November and welcomed Mrs Ellen Chubb from Elmstead to oversee the official part of the meeting. Reports were received from the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer and reflected a busy and successful year and a healthy bank balance. Members have participated in all sorts of village events from the Flower Festival to the Fun Day. Perhaps the most successful event organised by Great Bromley was the Spring Group Meeting in April for five local W.I. groups in the village hall which was universally well received.

The Competition Cup was won by Beryl Hurst and the Flower of the Month by Jean Delgaty. A presentation was made to June Willgress for her faithful nine year service as W.I. correspondent for the Bromley Messenger and Essex W.I. news. Thank you June.

Jenny Nicholls was then elected as President for the coming year and will be supported by the committee of Ann Jones, Mary Hart, Ann Fairley, Sylvia Mangan, Mary Clarke, Jean Delgaty and Sue Orriss.

After refreshments, Dorothy O'Grady showed us how to wrap Christmas and birthday presents properly, paying attention to the size of the paper and the type of tape used, and dressing them with lovely bows of ribbon. Do you know how to make a cheat pleat when you don't quite have enough paper? Or how to make a container for a present that looks like an evening bag? There should certainly be some nicely wrapped presents in Great Bromley this year!

We are looking forward to our Christmas party in December when we shall welcome some Scottish Dancers and have the opportunity to participate. To

add to the Scottish theme, perhaps members could wear something tartan i.e. ribbon, brooch, scarf – even a kilt!

*Sue Orriss*

## THANKS

### Coffee Morning

The Women's Institute would like to thank all those who supported this event recently. £90 was raised and has been shared between East Anglia's Children's Hospices and Leonard Cheshire Disability. Our thanks to Dorothy Roberts and Nicki Cailes who brought their own cards and goods from the two organisations respectively.

## LAUREL AND HARDY AT THE HAYWAIN





## 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. £8 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

Exciting news. We are in the process of changing our name, OFSTED have given approval so very soon we shall become

'Little Dragons Pre-school' and our Mother and Toddler Group 'Scallywags' will become 'Baby Dragons'. Watch this space for further updates!

We are able to use our outdoor area again now that roof repairs to the hall have been completed. The children enjoy the outdoor activities, there are always invaluable opportunities for them to explore and learn - whatever the weather. Plus all the benefits of fresh air!

Continuing on the outdoor theme, a big thank you to all who collected the 'Morrisons Lets Grow' vouchers. The children have chosen a selection of gardening equipment including gloves, trowels and watering cans. These have been ordered and will be arriving soon. December is always a busy and exciting month. The children have been practising Christmas songs to perform to their parents and families at the end of term.



They have also been helping to plan our Christmas party - choosing party food, games and making decorations and costumes. We even hope to have a visit from Father Christmas himself - lots to look forward to.

We have a few children leaving us to start school in January. We would like to send Evan, Jake, Oliver, Poppie and Samuel our best wishes as they embark on their next adventure.

We do have spaces available for next term: we take children from the age of two years. For further information or to arrange a visit to the setting please contact us on the above number.

Finally we would like to thank all our parents and friends for their help and support over the last twelve months and to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you in 2010

### **Dates for your diary:**

Last day of Autumn term

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Start of Spring Term

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2010



## 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

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

Head teacher: Pat Fitzgerald  
Telephone: 01206 230305



As we write, Mrs Fitzgerald is currently in Ghana working with Sabronum DA A Primary School who will be our partnership school for hopefully many years to come. She has had some humbling and life changing challenging experiences. We are all very much looking forward to hearing about the trip as well as seeing the photos and videos that she has taken on her return to school in mid-November.

In the meantime, rehearsals for our school play 'Cinderella' are progressing well amid the usual excitement! All of the children have a role to play and performances will take place at the village hall during the first week of December.

The whole school will also be visiting the Mercury Theatre to see 'Cinderella' so the comparisons should be interesting!

On a more serious note, the school was broken into overnight on 9/10 November. Thankfully nothing was taken although doors and office furniture were damaged. We really value the support of the local community and would ask that you to report anything suspicious to the police.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a peaceful new year.



## CARPET BOWLS

Latest results in the league: Two 8-0 wins at home against Silver Dawn and Clacton Bowls, but at the return match with Clacton Bowls we lost 6-2.

On 21st October, we entertained High Woods in a friendly match, we won 6 games, lost 3 and 3 were drawn. The figures aren't important in a friendly, we all just enjoyed their cheerful company and look forward to visiting them in a return match later.

Derek and Andrew played in a Pairs Championship at Braintree on 18th October. They bowled well but didn't progress very far into the other rounds.

This month we said goodbye and good luck to Shirley Cater. Shirley has moved out of the district just into Suffolk. She was a very popular member of the club and we will miss her. We hope that she

will keep in touch and also that she finds a local club as she so enjoys her game.

I can't believe that it is time again to wish all our members and friends a very 'Happy Christmas'.

*Nancy Kempster*



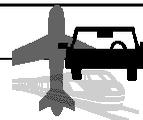
## CRICKET CLUB

### 100 Club Winners for October

- 1st. Mr. Simon Baines
- 2nd. Mr. Andrew Fairley
- 3rd. Mr. Peter Brinkley



## Service X22 FIRSTGROUP BUS TIMETABLE



### CLACTON - COLCHESTER - STANSTED AIRPORT

Via Frating, Essex University, Marks Tey, Braintree

*Starting out at Clacton Rail Station*

**Frating, Kings Arms**      0215   0415   0615   0815   1015   1215   1415   1615   1915   2215

**Elmstead Market, Kings Arms**    0218   0418   0618   0815   1018   1218   1418   1618   1918   2218

*Stopping en route at Essex University, Colchester Bus Station, North Station Forecourt, Marks Tey opp Rail Station, Bradwell, Braintree,*

**Stansted Airport, Coach Station [28]**      0348   0548   0748   0948   1148   1348   1548   1748   2048   2348

### STANSTED AIRPORT - COLCHESTER - CLACTON

Via Braintree, Marks Tey, Essex University, Frating

**Stansted Airport, Coach Station [28]**    0400   0600   0800   1000   1200   1400   1600   1800   2100   0015

*Stopping en route at Braintree, Bradwell, Marks Tey Rail Station, North Station Forecourt, Colchester Bus Station, Essex University*

**Elmstead Market, Kings Arms**      0529   0729   0929   1129   1329   1529   1729   1929   2222   0137

**Frating, Kings Arms**            0532   0732   0932   1132   1332   1532   1732   1932   2225   0140

*Ending at Clacton Rail Station*

## NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PANEL

Any member of the public can attend these meetings. Subjects are your choice but include speeding, ASB, graffiti.

### NAP Meeting Dates 2010

NAP	Date and Time	Location
<b>Tendring Rural South</b>		
Public Meeting	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2010 @ 1930	Weeley Council Chamber
Public Meeting	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2010 @ 1930	Great Bentley Village Hall, Plough Road
Public Meeting	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2010 @ 1930	Weeley Council Chamber
Public Meeting	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2010 @ 1930	Elmstead Market, School Road
Public Meeting	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September @ 1930	Weeley Council Chamber
Public Meeting	November awaiting confirmation 19.30	Thorpe Le Soken, Chapel House



## NATURE'S DIARY

The recent bad weather, as well as affecting us humans, has probably affected the wildlife also. Some of their homes may be blown down or washed out at a time when they need to be snug and warm. Feeding the birds is becoming more important and necessary as our farmland generally becomes increasingly a monoculture, although some farmers support the Stewardship Scheme which is aimed at benefiting wildlife.

Listen out for the distinctive hoot of the Tawny owl from about dusk into the night. Watch out for the evening displays of starlings and rooks. The starlings gather in large numbers to roost round here and meet up on the road out towards Ardleigh in the mornings - they are a sight and sound to behold. I had a large flock of fieldfare perch in my lime trees in the garden the other day for a short while but have not seen them since.

Leave teasel heads as well as other seed heads in your gardens. They provide food for birds and the beautiful goldfinches we have in abundance around here particularly like teasel seeds.

In the cooler rooms of your houses, lofts or garages you may find hibernating insects such as peacock butterflies or ladybirds. Leave them alone. They will remain until the spring when, with the warmer weather, will go out and

lay eggs to produce the next generation of their species.

Always make sure there is water in your garden for the wildlife and that it is free of ice.

### Recipe for RSPB Bird Cake

- Good quality bird seed; raisins; peanuts; grated cheese; suet or lard; yoghurt pots; string; mixing bowl; scissors
- Carefully make a small hole in the bottom of a yoghurt pot. Thread string through the hole and tie a knot on the inside. Leave enough string so that you can tie the pot to a tree or your bird table.
- Allow the lard to warm up to room temperature, but don't melt it. Then cut it up into small pieces and put it in the mixing bowl.
- Add the other ingredients to the bowl and mix them together with your finger tips. Keep adding the seed/raisin/cheese mixture and squidding it until the fat holds it all together.
- Fill your yoghurt pots with bird cake mixture and put them in the fridge to set for an hour or so.
- Hang your speedy bird cakes from trees or your bird table. Watch for greenfinches, tits and possibly even great spotted woodpeckers.

LMH

## TELECARE HOME SAFETY SYSTEMS

### Feel safe in your own home with Telecare Home Safety Systems

Essex County Council has pledged to offer free Telecare Home Safety Systems for Essex residents aged 85 and over who are new to Telecare.

For 12 months only, residents who enjoy the freedom of living in their own home but want the peace of mind of knowing support is available automatically, or at the touch of a button, can register for a *free* Home Safety System.

Telecare helps people to be independent by enabling them to call for help or assistance

when they need it. Sensors can provide automatic alerts to fire, or to floods where taps have been left on, or to carbon monoxide leaks from faulty heaters. The service also provides peace of mind to friends and family who understand individuals' wish to be independent, but want them to be supported and safe.

The offer is available till the end of March 2010. For more information about Telecare, call 0845 6037630 or visit [www.essex.gov.uk/telecare](http://www.essex.gov.uk/telecare). **An information pack is also freely available at the Cross Inn Post Office.**



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

- Suspicious Circumstances** - Ardleigh Road - (Abandoned Vehicle)
- Road Traffic Collision** - Damage Only - Mary Lane North Hall Road

## NEWS LETTER FOR NOVEMBER

### Doorstep Dos and Don'ts

If a doorstep caller knocks at your door...

- Do check the identity of the caller by asking to see an ID card
- Do challenge anyone looking over your property - did you give permission?
- Do consider if you really need the work done. Think before you decide. Shop around for the best deal
- Do ask the caller to leave you with information to study at your leisure
- Do remember you should be given a right to cancel contract after 'cold calling'
- Don't believe all callers are genuine
- Don't believe the 'scare stories' a salesman may tell you - they are rarely true
- Don't believe genuine tarmac companies have 'loads over' - they don't
- Don't believe a cash deal is easier and cheaper
- Don't sign anything or pay for anything until you are sure about it
- Don't believe special deals 'today only' – it is high pressure selling

If you are concerned about a doorstep caller in your area pass the information on.

You can call Essex Trading Standards at anytime and leave a message. Telephone 01245 341888

Trading Standards have had a report from Harwich library that 2 people, pretending to work for Essex Libraries have been cold calling in the Harwich area, demanding money for overdue items. The people who called at one address produced ID Cards of some sort.

Please be advised these are NOT Essex County Council staff. Essex County Council do not send people round to houses demanding money. If you have someone call please contact police.

Please report any suspicious/unusual behaviour near any premises. If you see any vehicle near a premises that is suspicious please make a note of the colour/make/model and registration number and report to police on 0300 333 4444. If you see a crime in progress please dial 999. Please can I also ask that you keep an eye on any property that you know is or will be unoccupied.

Thank you all for your support in helping to reduce crime

A male with a foreign accent has been telephoning members of the public asking if they have been involved in an accident. He states that he works for an investigation company in conjunction with the NHS. If this male calls you please tell him that you are not interested and hang up.

We have received information from Colchester Cat Rescue that cat stealing is on the increase. Please report to Police on 0300 333 4444 if you believe that your cat has been stolen.

An officer attended an address where a elderly male who had received a phone call from an Indian company in Delhi. They claimed he had won some money, a cash prize. But in order to receive the money he had to send them a deposit of £4150. He was given a reference number to call back with, once he had sent the money to them. The company has then called him at home repeatedly over the next few days.

Whilst he was at the address the company called again and he spoke to them, as soon as I introduced himself as from Clacton

Police they hung up. I informed the elderly gentleman that it was a strong possibility of it being a scam and to not send them any money, or give them any details.

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Suspected Rogue Trader, Littlebury Green  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September

A man in a blue and white pick-up, tipper truck approached a householder offering to give them free gravel since he had apparently just finished a drainage job, to surface their driveway. The price changed quickly to £3 per square yard and then was increased again. When the householder asked for the man's identification or business name, he became abusive and left..

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### Postal Scam

With Christmas fast approaching please take note - it has been confirmed by Royal Mail.

The Trading Standards Office are making people aware of the following scam:  
A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS Parcel Delivery Service suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 6611911 (a **Premium Rate** number). **DO NOT** do it, as this is a **mail scam** originating in Belize. If you call the number you will **immediately be billed £15!**

If you do receive such a card, then please contact the **Royal Mail's** fraud department on 02072396655  
**or ICSTIS** (the Premium rate service regulator) at [www.icstis.org.uk](http://www.icstis.org.uk)

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## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

### Telephone Scam Warning

As a matter of some urgency:- Residents in various parts of Chelmsford are being targeted over the telephone by Bogus Callers, pretending to be Police Officers, maybe saying that they are from the Fraud squad. They suggest that your bank account may have been compromised. The fact that the person already knows possibly your name and address and even bank, makes it all sound genuine.

### IT'S A SCAM

The conversation from these individuals uses the ploy of saying that you can attend the Police station, and that an appointment will be made. They rely on you being too busy to attend and to avoid a possible trip to the station they persuade you to give away your personal bank accounts or credit card details over the phone. Several Policeman or Detective names are sometimes given and the call all sounds very genuine.

### THINK SCAM

Neighbourhood Watch advice is:- Hang up immediately and try 1471 to get the caller's telephone number. Do not get into a conversation with strangers on the phone no matter who they say they are. Report all suspected Bogus telephone calls to the police as soon as possible using the 0300 333 4444 number, it doesn't warrant a 999 call.

There have been many calls over the last few days to Chelmsford Police querying these Bogus telephone calls. There is an in depth warning about these telephone calls on the Essex Police website.

Remember that a fraudster operates fast and once they have your bank details, your bank or credit card account can be accessed by them immediately. The aggravation and financial loss to you can be devastating.

*Jim Cuddihee, Chairman Springfield NHW*

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Please be aware that two males driving a White Ford Transit Van with Premier Paving and Landscaping written on it, index YS54ONW, have been offering gardening services in the area. Please do not do any business on your doorstep. Please visit [www.tendringneighbourhoodwatch.org](http://www.tendringneighbourhoodwatch.org) and click on the link on the left of the page "Doorstoppers" which will give you more information.

If the vehicle is seen please call Police on 0300 333 4444.

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)

# ESSEX POLICE INFORMATION *CONTINUED*



## POLICE STATION - CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES

**Christmas Opening Times** will be on display in all police stations and will be available on their website: [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk).

Front counter services will be maintained 24 hours a day, every day, at both Colchester and Clacton Police Station.

The temporary opening times were determined by research into public contact methods and public footfall at non-24 hours stations on bank holidays over the last year.

It is only the front counter services which may be closed. Police Officers will continue to be on patrol in your areas as usual

Location	25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	26 <sup>th</sup> Dec	28 <sup>th</sup> Dec	1 <sup>st</sup> Jan
Clacton	24 hours	24 hours	24 hours	24 hours
Harwich	1000 - 1800	0700 - 2200	0700 - 2200	0700 - 2200
Mistley	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Brightlingsea	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Thorpe le Soken	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Walton	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Colchester	24 hours	24 hours	24 hours	24 hours
Shrub End	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Ipswich Road	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Tiptree	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
West Mersea	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Wivenhoe	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Copford	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

All police stations, which are not staffed on a 24 hour basis, have a direct intercom fitted on the front of the building. Any visitor to these stations when they are closed can be connected directly and at any time to the Police Headquarters Central Switchboard, just by pressing the button.

# THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

The festive season is upon us once again and I expect as you read this letter you are busy writing Christmas cards and wondering about what gifts you are going to purchase. Children will have been busy making lists and getting excited about what Santa will bring.

The greatest Christmas gift is not however that which can be wrapped up in a parcel or placed on a Christmas tree. It is not a material gift, which can be valued according to how many pounds it may have cost. It is not found in any retail outlet.

We are so often told that the best things in life cannot be bought. I wonder sometimes when I listen to advertisements on television whether we really believe this. Christmas has become so commercialised, and the true meaning of Christmas has been lost and traded in for another.

The truth is we have been given a gift, which can never be costed or packaged, and it is priceless.

There are two aspects of Christmas which we must hold together. Christmas is first of all about God. Jesus was not a good man who became God but God who became man. The life of Christ is God's gift to us and in it is revealed his loving care for all people, and so we join with the angels and say, "Glory to God in the Highest".

Secondly Christmas is about man. There was no pretence about Jesus' humanity. The inn, the stable, the manger, and the swaddling clothes, underline the human situation of Jesus. He was truly human.

The Christ child speaks to the world in which we live. The babe in Bethlehem cries for care and love. The creator of the world humbles himself and becomes a

servant. He makes himself vulnerable, and it is only when we are vulnerable as He was in Bethlehem and on the cross, that God can do anything with us. It is only when we accept the need for a Saviour that our needs are met, and God works in us His perfect will.

These needs are not just individual needs, but corporate needs. Christ was born on Christmas Day to save us ALL. It was the beginning and dawning of a new creation. Christmas reminds us that we are part of a community and that each person depends on everyone else. Never again can we despise our fellow human beings, if we are to be children of God. Never again can we shut our eyes and ears to human need when we hear the baby's cry in Bethlehem. Never again can we live selfish hopeless lives because God has become one of us and shown us in Christ the way to a newness and fullness of life.

The Christmas story is a lovely story, but it would remain only a story and an incomplete one at that, if we were not to share in God's act. This is the only way it can become effective today. A true celebration of Christmas will involve a costly giving on our part too. In the words of one of our carols:

What can I give him poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb:  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part,  
Yet what can I give him – give my heart.

A very happy Christmas to you all,  
*Fr. Robert*



# ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

*united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh*



## Church of England Services for December

<b>Sunday 6th</b>		<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>	
	8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 13th</b>		<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>	
	8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Sunday 20th</b>		<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b>	
	8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Service of Readings & Carols	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Thursday 24th</b>		<b>Christmas Eve</b>	
	4.00pm	Christingle Service	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	5.30pm	Christingle Service	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Friday 25th</b>		<b>Christmas Day</b>	
	10.30am	Christmas Morning Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 27th</b>		<b>1st Sunday of Christmas - St John Apostle &amp; Evangelist</b>	
	8.00am	Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

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