

The Bromley Messenger

May 2010

Volume 24 No 2



Photograph: Leonie Henderson

On the 18th April, the **Huntington's Disease Association** held their AGM/lunchfest in the Gt Bromley Village Hall. The event was well attended with the weather playing a big part in its success. It also allowed the children to play outside and to watch the local cricket team.

Many of you will remember the late Jean Harding who was Chair to the Branch for many a year. Jean started off this event by holding it in her own home until the members grew in numbers and they then started using the Gt Bromley Village Hall.

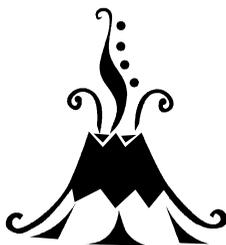
The only upset of the day was that George Henderson of the village stepped down as Treasurer. George has held this position for thirteen years and been an invaluable member of the Committee. We will be sad not to see him at our Committee meetings in future. A presentation was made to George of National Garden Vouchers which we are sure he will make good use of. We wish him well.

Michael, Chairman
April 2010

THE FIRST PAGE

I know one swallow does not make a summer but I have seen two! I noticed them last week enjoying the warmth of the sun and the emerging insects. Everything seems sunny at the moment: we have a new grandchild, are looking forward to a son's wedding and all are fit and healthy. A personal feel good factor for my family.

The ashen clouds hover over our land disrupting travel plans whilst the election of a new Parliament is imminent which may shape our lives for the next four to five years. Polling Day is 6th May and as



my parents used to say "If you don't vote you are not entitled to moan". At the parish level there are vacancies for councillors in both your parish councils. Why not offer your services? Local

communities rely on their hard-working council members to deal with your village-related problems and they are really unsung heroes, most of the time quietly and efficiently making decisions in our interests and for the good of us all.

As I write the London Marathon is coming up in which my sister is running again. May is the month when the Moonwalk is held in which Kate and Anne are participating whilst the Cheshire Home is holding a quiz to aid their own funds and Hamilton Lodge is part of the Fun Day in June. All charities need your support, especially in these straitened times. The Moonwalk and Marathon are individual and personal endurances of body and mind sponsored by others whilst quizzes flex the mental processes and are enjoyed as a team effort in social surroundings. The Colchester branch of the Huntingdon's Disease Association, founded by the late Jean Harding in 1990, continues to give help to its families. Support is given through the branch and by the families to each other through group meetings, trips (Legoland and Leeds Castle in 2009), etc.

The next few weeks are also important for all those taking exams. Qualifications in whatever field are helpful and clutching that precious piece of paper in confirmation of all your hard work can shape your lives. Good luck to you all.

Leonie Henderson

MATERIAL for the **JUNE 2010** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **14th May, 2010** 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 or www.littlebromley.org.uk

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THE BROMLEY BOOK CLUB

Future reads (May-June)

The next read on our list is *Small Wars* by Sadie Jones.

It is the story of a family based around the military career of the husband and the trials that this puts the family through. The husband succumbs to the pressures of defending Cyprus against the Cypriots and he becomes increasingly distant from his wife. As always I will briefly outline what the reviews think of it to get us thinking about it: "this is an unforgiving, far from comfortable read, but a very compelling one" says Metro. "Small Wars is a gripping account of emotional disintegration...A well-paced novel possessing both literary and moral integrity" rated Sunday Telegraph Books. The Times Literary Supplement says "Here Jones's talent really shows...In an excellent encounter with a military psychiatrist, the dialogue breaks like dry twigs." So it seems like we have another good book coming up.

Currently reading (April- May)

We are currently reading *The Secret Scripture* by Sebastian Barry. I am especially interested to start this read as I think females in mental health hospitals are reasonably fashionable in fiction writing at the moment, such as *The disappearing act of Esme Lennox* by Maggie O'Farrel, so I look forward to enjoying this trend further. For more information here is the blurb:

"Roseanne McNulty, perhaps nearing her one-hundredth birthday - no one is quite sure - faces an uncertain future, as the Roscommon Regional Mental Hospital where she's spent the best part of her adult life prepares for closure. Over the weeks leading up to this upheaval, she talks often with her psychiatrist Dr Grene. This relationship, guarded but trusting after so many

years, intensifies and complicates as Dr Grene mourns the death of his wife.

Told through their respective journals, the story that emerges - of Roseanne's family in 1930s Sligo - is at once shocking and deeply beautiful. Refracted through the haze of memory and retelling, Roseanne's story becomes an alternative, secret, history of Ireland. Exquisitely written, it is the story of a life blighted by terrible mistreatment and ignorance, and yet marked still by love and passion and hope."

Books we have just completed (March-April)

Guernica by Dave Boling

The beautiful mix of developed character creation, the vividly described Spanish countryside and the historical background makes this read unlike any we have tackled so far. Not only was the book informative "I didn't know anything about the Spanish Civil War until I read this" but it was also enjoyable and extremely vivid. The Spanish countryside came alive in all its beauty and then got destroyed before my eyes. It was an easy and inviting read, and especially once past the first 100 pages; the story became very gripping and compelling. Everyone at the group would recommend this read to a friend; "absolutely fantastic!"

Clarrie Beech

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Great Bromley Parish Council

www.essexinfo.net/gbpc

Report of a parish council meeting held on 8th April 2010

Planning

The Council considered and objected to the following planning appeal:

Cold Hall, Harwich Road – appeal against Tendring District Council's refusal to allow the 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.

Tendring District Council has approved the following planning applications:

Hamilton Lodge, Parsons Hill – alteration and extension of existing building (Selbourne Court) plus four bungalow units each with four flats.

Berriedale, Brook Street – various rear and front extensions, garage extension and roof alterations

New Parish Councillor

Following the recent retirement of Mr Pender Richardson, Mr Neil Skinner has been co-opted as a member of the council. Mrs Sarah Del-Guidice has also announced her resignation. The council acknowledges with grateful thanks the valuable contributions made by both Mr Richardson, during over dozen years as a councillor, and Mrs Del-Guidice for her 7 years' service.

Litter pick – 11th April

It was a lovely day for collecting litter and a dozen volunteers filled 20 bags with roadside rubbish. Thanks to all those who helped, particularly Brenda and Richard who organised the event and provided refreshments at the end of the morning.

Gypsy/Traveller Sites

Under current legislation local planning authorities are required to identify sufficient gypsy/traveller sites to satisfy local needs. In the case of the Tendring district land must be found to accommodate 15 new pitches by the end of 2011.

Tendring District Council has asked parish and town councils for suggestions of suitable sites in their area. The parish council considered this matter but confirmed that it was unable to identify any suitable sites in the village.

The next meeting of the Council will be on **Thursday 13 May 2010** at the Village Hall Great Bromley. This will follow the **Annual Parish Assembly at 7.30 pm**. As always **all residents are very 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 13th May 2010. The Chairman and other council officers will report on the parish council 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 and will also be available on application. Please contact the clerk if you would like your own copy.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Forthcoming Events

LITTER PICK - Saturday, 15th May, 10.00am-12 noon. Can you spare a couple of hours to Spring Clean our village? We plan to meet in the village car park at 10.00am - some equipment provided but please wear your own gloves. Refreshments provided in *The Haywain* afterwards.



QUIZ - to raise funds for this year's **FIREWORK DISPLAY**.

A fun quiz to be held in The Venue at The Haywain on Saturday, 19th June at 7.00pm. Teams of 4. £3 per person which includes buffet. There will be a raffle (any donations gratefully accepted). Do please come along and support us. Please phone The Haywain (01206 390004) to book a table in advance.

Little Bromley Parish Council VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR

Due to a recent retirement there exists a vacancy for a Councillor on the Parish Council. Notices have been posted in the village and unless it becomes necessary to hold an election, the Council will fill this vacancy by co-option. If you are interested please contact the Clerk in writing by 28th May, 2010 to Little Bromley Parish Council, 3 Bentley Road, Little Bromley, Manningtree, Essex CO11 2PL (Tel: 01206 391015)

Great Bromley Parish Council CASUAL VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR

Following a further resignation there will shortly be another vacancy for a councillor on Great Bromley Parish Council. The necessary notices have been posted in the village and if an election is not requested by the due date then the council will fill this vacancy by co-option. If you are interested in being considered for co-option then please confirm this in writing, **by 12th May 2010**, to the Clerk, Great Bromley Parish Council, 4 St George's Close Great Bromley Colchester CO7 7HZ.

If you wish to discuss this position or require further information on the role and responsibilities of a parish councillor then please contact either the council's Chairman, Col Martin Frostick (01206 250263) or the Clerk, Ken Bromfield (01206 230089).

CRICKET CLUB

100 Club winners



February

- 1st Peter Saych
- 2nd Lance Grainger
- 3rd Andrew Fairley

March

- 1st Oliver Wright
- 2nd Peter Brinkley
- 3rd Harry Hitchcock

CARPET BOWLS



The last three match results of the Winter League (bottom half) were Alresford away when we lost 6-2, Clacton-on-Sea away and at home, two wins of 6-2, giving us 54 points with 26 against overall, putting us in first place. This is automatic promotion to the top half of the League next winter season.

The Summer League (all singles matches) will be underway very shortly.

BRUMBELLA CUP

This tournament will be played on 17th April but not in time for this month's edition of the 'Messenger'. This year we have chosen to support a trust for young Congenital Muscular Dystrophy patients needing new equipment and help not supplied by the NHS. Some of these children - a little girl of six years, is known personally to one of our members - are unlikely to reach adulthood but do outgrow their aids etc. and need special help and care. I will have the day's details and results in next month's magazine.

We wish a good season's bowling to all our outdoor-bowling friends.

Nancy Kempster

KITCHEN CORNER

FLORENTINE EGGS

Serves 4 people for a light lunch or starter.

- 1lb cleaned spinach, salt and pepper.
- 1oz butter
- Ground nutmeg,
- 2oz parmesan cheese, grated
- 4 eggs
- 4 tbs single cream.

Cook cleaned wet spinach slowly with a little salt in a pan for 10-15 minutes till tender.

Drain well and chop finely, add butter and nutmeg. Place in a buttered oven proof dish and sprinkle with most of the grated cheese. Break the eggs carefully over the cheese and cook 10-15 minutes 180oC 350oF. Remove from oven, spoon over the cream and sprinkle with the remaining cheese. Return to the oven for a further 10-15 minutes till eggs are firm. Sprinkle with a little ground nutmeg and serve at once.

Jill Frostick



THANKS

Easter Bunny Ball

A good time was had by all 27th March with Bunny Girls and Bunny Boys as Waitresses and Waiters. Combined with a Raffle, organised by Sharon Vigus, we handed over on the night a cheque for £626 to Little Havens Children's Hospice.

Many thanks to all who helped to make this night another success.

Linda Pinhey Sweet Success

What were we in for on this lovely April

evening? The title said "Bromley's Got Talent" and we were not to be disappointed. We started with our president Jenny playing the piano and inviting us to sing Jerusalem which we duly did and how enjoyable it was too. She went on to tell us of her love of music, how in 1953 she gained her first certificate and then how she has used the music throughout her career as a primary school teacher. She still continues to enjoy playing and singing.

Ann Jones followed with her love of pottery with how 10 years ago she started the interest as relaxation from what was then a very stressful time in her working life. She explained that three types of clay are used and that it can be hand formed or on a potter's wheel. Ann prefers to hand shape as she finds this a very good way to use her expression. She also prefers to mould large pots which can be awkward to do on a potter's wheel especially as she has limited upper body strength. Ann had brought along selection of her craft.



Mary Hart took the floor next to talk about "Knit and Knatter". This is a group of ladies, some from the W.I. as well as other friends, who had come together to make items for the Autumn Sale. Despite what may be thought, a lot of knitting, crochet and embroidery were done besides being able to 'Knatter' at the same time. Mary had also brought a selection of items already completed and explained that any items not sold would be donated to charity.

Pippa was next off the starting block with her talk about her poems. She started by telling us that one of the presenters on Q.V.C. was related to a family member who needed to set up a blog on her web site and Pippa had managed to do a poem for her. Pippa then read us one of her poems about a pheasant called Philip who visited her garden, how she fancied him on the table (only joking) followed

by a poem asking 'Do we need a new atlas?' because we all know the moon is round so why is it always shown flat? The next poem was about a 4 x 4 vehicles (we have all met one) in a narrow country lane who can't move because they don't know how to reverse!. Needless to say all this was with rhyme and slightly tongue in cheek.

Jill & June then told us about their time at Denman, first going when the Institute was awarded an Awards for All before going twice more with the probability of going again. They explained about embroidery, beading (including 3D embroidery) and then about Elizabethan raised work (not to be confused with stump work). The Elizabethans loved their "bling". Jill went on to show examples of patchwork, smocking, and heirloom embroidery explaining that they were taught how to work by hand and then shown how to complete the same work by machine.

Leonie followed with her skill of glass engraving which she had been shown by her father many years ago. She explained some of the process that needs to be gone through before engraving the finished article. Leonie had brought along some beautiful examples of her craft including a decanter, wine glass and large fruit bowl as well as pictures of a engraved mirror turned into a clock and a glass plaque that now hangs in Boxted school.

Sue was our last lady to speak, she told us of her love of Campanology and how she had started in the 1960s, playing us a recording of the bells of St. George's, Great Bromley and which is said to have the best set of six bells in North Essex, the oldest being made in the 18th century and the newest, the Tenor bell, in 1930. The first thing you need to learn as a ringer is how to control your bell. Sue then played some ringing from St. Mary's, Little Bromley where there are four bells, and St. Mary's, Ardleigh which has eight bells.

An extremely enjoyable evening and "Yes, Bromley does have talent".

Joy Rolfe

Knit and Knatter

Last Autumn, members of the W.I. and their friends began to meet once a month to enjoy knitting together and have a good chat. We have been exchanging ideas, patterns and even wool as we make items for sale, for charity, especially needy people in Ukraine and Kosovo, and for our own families. Standards vary from beginners to the very proficient. We would like to invite anyone interested to our sessions at Pondfields, Rectory Road between 2.00-4.00p.m. and 7.30-9.30p.m. on Wednesdays on these dates. May 12th. June 16th. July 14th. August 11th. September 22nd. October 13th. For further details, phone Mary on 230419.

WI County Annual Meeting

Four members attended the Women's Institute County Annual Meeting at the Brentwood Centre on 12th March.

On arrival their first sight was of women carrying bags of various items for George Mills and his mission who were taking the items to the Revival Centre in Chernigov in the Ukraine. Their second impression was of the mass of daffodils in bloom on the roadside verges in Brentwood and

adorning the stage in the hall.

The day began with singing, along with 1,545 others, 'Jerusalem' before moving on to the business of the day beginning with a report by Dwin Hendry and George Mills on the Revival Centre. Essex WI have been supporting George's work for 17 years with the number of children being treated in the Chernigov having risen from 200 in 1996 to 2,000 in 2009. The fallout from the Chernobyl 1986 explosion goes on! The Conference Chairman then gave her report on the state of the WI in Essex with its 223 Institutes.



The Mayor of Brentwood welcomed everyone and Ruth Bond, the N.F.W.I. Chairman, reported on W.I. Campaigns and her Malawi visit.

After lunch Ann Widdecombe MP spoke of her Life and Times in her usual forthright, humorous style mentioning her shared work in Parliament, her writing and her more recent television appearances. The day was rounded off with June Ward, the new Federation Chairman, expressing thanks and closing with a raffle and the National Anthem.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB



The sun is shining and the days are getting warmer and our thoughts turn to holidays but who wants the hassle of plane and train strikes so how about thinking of Cornwall? We had a very interesting talk at our March meeting when our speaker brought lots of slides to illustrate the places she talked about.

Thank you to Brenda and Richard for a

lovely lunch recently.

OUTING: Not fully discussed yet but a member's list will be passed round at the April and May meeting so be sure to have your name ticked if you want to go - more details later.

Competition for May is a paperweight.

Vicky Griffiths

NATURE'S DIARY

Small birds, such as chaffinches and blackbirds, sometimes fly in to windows where the glass appears to be an open space. The only indication of their collision is the sound of a thud, and, sadly, often a corpse on the ground below.

Pigeons usually survive, but leave an intricate and eerie "ghost" mark caused by the fine resinous and insulating powder in their feathers sticking to the glass. Nocturnal strikes by owls, as they fly silently searching for prey, are the most interesting. They are, perhaps, mistakenly lured by reflections.

This very unusual "ghost" on the rear window of my husband's car, greeted me one morning in early February after a cold clear night which had given a light dusting of snow. The impact must have occurred



Photograph: Joan Gurney

at the exact moment when the temperature dropped to freezing point, because the outline is remarkably sharp, and there is no disturbance of snow beyond the periphery of the image.

Joan Gurney

PARISH OF THE BROMLEYS - APCM

The Election of Churchwardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting were held in St George's Church on 11th April. Ann Fairley and Jenny Nicholls were elected as churchwardens. The existing sidesmen were re-elected and Peter Wenden has also agreed to be Verger. Thanks were expressed to James and Ann Wild who are retiring after many years of service, and to Hilary Powell for her term as churchwarden.

Ann Clapham and Yvonne Cobbold were elected as PCC members and Gregory Frostick was re-elected to the PCC. The Annual Report and Accounts were approved by the meeting and are available for inspection in the church.



GREAT BROMLEY 2010 FUN DAY

If you would like to help out at the 2010 Great Bromley Fun Day either by helping with the setting up and / or running a stall or perhaps being a Steward then please contact Neil Skinner on 01206 231661.

The Hamilton Lodge are looking for contributions for the Bric-a-brac and plants stalls. If you have anything that could be used then please contact Rebecca Himsworth on 01206 230298.

Lastly a big thank you to everybody who volunteered old pallets and bits of wood to help with sign making. The response was truly magnificent and we have unfortunately not been able to take up everybody's offer.

Neil Skinner

Forthcoming Events in 2010

MAY

- 4 Village Hall committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.00pm
WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6 General Election
- 8 Plant & Garage Sale, Ilex Farm
- 12 Ardleigh Horticultural Society (Talk: Land Settlement)
Ardleigh Methodist Hall, 7.45pm
- 13 Great Bromley Annual Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.00pm
Great Bromley Annual Parish Assembly, Village Hall, 7.30pm followed by
monthly Parish Council meeting
- 15 Litter Pick, Lt Bromley Car Park, start 10.00am
- 19 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
Quiz (in aid of Firework Display), see page 7 for details

JUNE

- 5/6 Waterways & Garden Show, Little Bentley Hall, 10.00am
- 12 2nd Great Bromley Fun Day
- 16 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.00pm

JULY

- 7 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.00pm
- 10 Tending Hundred Show
- 17 Summer Concert, St George's church

AUGUST

- 14 Ardleigh Horticultural Society Annual Show, Ardleigh Village Hall, 2pm.
- 18 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.00pm



QUIZ

to raise funds for this year's
FIREWORK DISPLAY

Saturday, 19th June

The Venue at The Haywain at 7.00pm.

Teams of 4.

£3 per person which includes buffet.

Raffle

Do please come along and
support us.

Phone The Haywain (01206
390004) to book a table in
advance.



SEVEN RIVERS

**Leonard Cheshire Disability
Nursing Home
Great Bromley**

Grand Summer Fete



Show Dog!

Saturday 24th

July from 1.00pm

Hot Dog!!



and lots more besides

Car Boot Pitches!

Phone 01206 230345 for details

Do come!

MOONWALK

Kate (Ardleigh Surgery) and Anne (Hiskeys Kennels) are competing in the London Moonwalk on the 15th May 2010. Anyone wishing to donate may do so at Ardleigh Surgery, Bromley Cross Post Office or Hiskey Kennels.



PLANT & GARAGE SALE

Saturday, 8th May
at Ilex Farm, Waterhouse Lane, Ardleigh
10.00am-1.00pm

Plants or anything for the Garage Sale (no books, clothes or small bric-a-brac) greatly accepted on or before 7th May.

Further details telephone
01206 230679

*Proceeds to St George's
School PTA and The
Surgery, Ardleigh*



SEVEN RIVERS

**Leonard Cheshire Disability
Nursing Home, Gt Bromley**

GRAND QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 21st May at 7.30pm

Come and join the residents, staff and friends for a fun evening of quizzification!

Teams of six or come as you are and we will team you up.

Only £2 per person
Tea and coffee served

Or bring your own "refreshments"!



FRIENDS of LITTLE BROMLEY CHURCH

Saturday, 8th May
"Tea at Three"



Come and join us from 3.00pm for tea and music, followed by an open 'Friends' meeting at 4.00pm.

Note for anyone who has not been to one of these events before. Unless stated, no charge made for refreshments and accompanying event.

Donations welcome.

There is no charge to become a 'Friend'.

ADVANCE NOTICE:

Sunday, 6th June
at 6.00pm

East Anglian Saxophone Reed Choir

Tickets: £5 Adults
Children & Students FREE

which includes light refreshments after the performance.

Ring Susan Scott (01206 251107) to reserve tickets.

The church will be open from 2.00-5.00pm on the first Sunday of each month May-October.

Come and explore or just sit and enjoy the tranquillity of the building and location.

Great Bromley FUN DAY with Hamilton Lodge Fête



**1.00pm
Saturday 12th June
The Village Hall &
Cricket Ground
Parsons Lane,
Great Bromley**

Little Bentley Hall Waterways & Garden Show

Nr Colchester off A120/A133 (CO7 8SD)

Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th June

Opening hours - 10.00am-6.00pm

Entry: Adults £7 Children under 15 Free

Gardens Open, Art Exhibition, Antique Valuations, gardening competitions and demonstrations Disabled access

www.littlebentley.net or 07802 282193

If You Hear Somebody Rockin'!

Spring was finally beginning to make an appearance and at Seven Rivers we celebrated the prospect of warmer days in appropriate musical style. Time to throw off those winter blues - let's rock!

First we had "Fingers" Frankie Coulter who assailed us with songs from the music hall and much more besides, with his electric piano. Daisy was invited to set off for the church on the back of a tandem, the moon was blue, a departing feathered friend was black and much concern was expressed about that very *rare* and wonderful creature, the *Ree*, which was in danger of being tipped rather too far - if you get my meaning!!

Then, just a couple of days later, one of our volunteers brought his band, Alchemyto, play for us. We had a full house in the dining room and the band did NOT disappoint, they were really very good!

They played and sung a wide variety of songs and instrumentals from The Shadows to Roy Orbison, the Rolling Stones to Elton John and more besides. We were Rockin' all over the house!

The combined efforts of our Activities Organiser, Gavin Leggett and Volunteer Co-ordinator, Nicki Cailles, ensure that such happy happenings come along quite regularly, to the enjoyment of all.

Colin File, Volunteer Newsletter Editor



Books Wanted!

Seven Rivers Residents need something to read!

If you have any books on any topic - fiction, non-fiction, biography - *anything* - in reasonable condition.

Please contact Nicki Cailles on 01206 230345
and we will collect if you cannot deliver.

Thank you!

P.S. Biographies of motor racers, cars and bikes are urgently wanted.





Registered Charity No: 1030641

Little Dragons Pre-School

Great Bromley & Frating Ltd
at Great Bromley Village Hall
Ofsted Inspected

Monday & Wednesday 9.15-11.45am & 12.15-2.45pm
Thursday 9.30-12 noon

Children 2-5 years. £8 per session
(In addition to the above a setting up fee of £1 per session is required.)

Lunch time session available Mon & Wed. Cost £1.50
For more details/ visits please contact us on 0785 7503103

hoping for some lovely weather to enjoy our planned outdoor activities.



Just a reminder that we do collect the supermarket vouchers so please tell family and friends.

Easter is always a busy time at pre-school. The children enjoyed lots of fun activities including making cards, baskets and 'cooking' chocolate nests. They also enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt - following footprints left by the Easter Bunny!

As we start our Summer Term we are

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. We also offer a 'home visit' to families of children prior to them starting pre-school.

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

Head teacher: Pat Fitzgerald
Telephone: 01206 230305



Registered Charity No: 1030641

Baby Dragons

Parent and Child Group
at Great Bromley Village Hall

Friday Mornings 9.30-11.30am
0-5 years. Parent and Child Group
Activities/themed sessions/ play equipment etc.
For more details or visits please contact 01206 230625

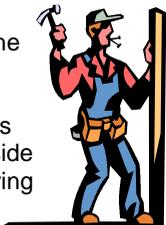
GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 301310

Well at least spring has sprung after the coldest winter for 30 years. I don't know about you but it seems to have been cold for months.

With the temperature dropping so low the oil consumption in the Hall has rocketed with some days using £46 worth of heating oil. The thermostat has been turned down from 21 to 19 degrees, a new circulation pump is being fitted and the oil consumption, inside and outside temperatures monitored daily for a month. Hopefully these measures and the new insulation will help keep the oil costs down next year. We are in the middle of swapping electric supplier which will bring the costs down from 15 pence a unit to just over 7 pence a unit.

With the weather getting warmer the final work on the outside of the Hall will be underway and the broken gutters replaced. There has also been new painting inside the Hall with the doors having been painted so far



Another Fun-Day is on its way on 12th June starting at 1pm and finishing at 5pm so make sure you don't book your holiday for mid June. Let's hope that the weather is good.

A Cabaret Evening is being held on 16th October with Memphis Elvis. People who have seen this act tell me that it is really good; the format will be similar to 2009 event with supper included. Price will be £15 per head.

The Christmas Fayre is booked for 4th December.

A couple of grants have been approved for replacing the kitchen and we are awaiting quotations for the work. We hope that the work can be carried out over a half term or school holidays so as not to inconvenience any users

I have been saying this for months and months and months but we really 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 when and if the weather gets warmer. (will it ever get any warmer and stay warmer?)

That's all for now. As always thank you for your support and please put the forthcoming event dates in your diary. Let's all make the most of our Village Hall in 2010.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday April 27 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

David Beech

IN THE GARDEN IN MAY



If you are having bird trouble with your soft fruit and vegetables, a good bird scarer, and very cheap to make, is to tie a plastic fruit drink bottle on the end of a cane, push the cane into the ground so that it is about a

foot above the soil, the wind will blow the bottle to and fro and hopefully the birds will decide there is no future in eating your raspberries etc.

The camellias are in full bloom at the moment and look beautiful. If you are thinking of planting one or two, I would give serious thought before you buy a white one as unfortunately they do not like cold winds and before the flowers fully open they turn brown.

In the vegetable plot start making sowings of lettuce, peas, globe beetroot, radishes which can be planted from now on at intervals of one short row every other week. Spring cabbage raised in a seed bed will be ready to plant out in mid-

September. If your dwarf beans are through try planting another row. If you have a large pot to spare or half a grow-bag, plant two or three potatoes for a late crop of early potatoes. One of the cabbage family I haven't mentioned is kale. This is a very hardy vegetable and would have stood through the very bad weather we have had this year, the leaves of kale can be cut as required with the plant left to grow on. Sow the seeds now to be transplanted in July or August. It is not too late to plant parsnips. Do not plant parsnips on ground that has been freshly manured as this will cause the roots to fork. This is another crop that can be left in the ground and dug up as required.

As I advised last year have your small hand sprayer handy at the first sign of aphids. A mixture of a teaspoon of washing up liquid added to a full container of water will do the trick. The good thing about this type of spray is that it is non-poisonous and is easily washed off before being prepared for the meal.

Frank Griffiths



Life in a Joiner's Shop

"Life is a grind", said the emery wheel,
"It's a perfect bore", said the drill,
"It means nothing but hard knocks for me", said the nail,
To which the saw added, "You don't go through as much as I do",
"Let's strike", cried the hammer,
"Cut it out", warned the chisel "Here comes the Boss" and awl were silent.
"I'm for turning in", said the screw.

Ivan



ESSEX POLICE

Incidents in Great Bromley for the month of March.

Burglary Dwelling - Meadow Close
Theft of Trailer - Harwich Road - (Bosco House)
Theft Other - Back Lane East
Nuisance Neighbour - Frating Road
Theft of Motor Vehicle - Frating Road
Theft From Motor Vehicle - Frating Road - (Green Cats)
Criminal Damage - Rectory Road - Torch
Towing - (Car Scratched)
Robbery - Back Lane East
Road Traffic Collision With Injury - Harwich Road
Road Traffic Collision With Out Injury - Frating Road

THEFT OF CATALYTIC CONVERTERS

There has been a spate of incidents recently in which thieves have stolen the catalytic converters (part of the exhaust system) from cars, vans and trucks because they contain a high-value metal.

Vehicles can be a target anywhere, be it at home on the drive, at commercial premises, in hotel, supermarket or retail car parks. When parking, Essex Police urges motorists to be vigilant both in regard to their own vehicle and others.

If you see someone under a car it may be that it belongs to them and it has broken down. However, if you see anyone under a vehicle and you consider their behaviour to be suspicious, please contact Essex Police – it could be someone stealing the catalytic converter.

Thieves generally seem to target 4x4s and trucks which are parked nose-first into car parking spaces at the edge of large retail parks and other similar areas.

Vehicles parked close to bushes have been targeted, perhaps because the thieves can operate away from people and CCTV cameras.

Advice to all motorists

Where possible park vehicles in your garage, or in a parking spot overlooked by residents.

ID Etching - etch your converter with a serial number or car registration number. If police make an arrest and the catalytic converters do not carry ID marks, it may prove harder to identify the original owner and to bring offenders to justice.

For more details please contact your local Crime Reduction Officer by calling 0300 3334444 or go to the website:

www.retainagroup.com

If you have any information about the catalytic converter thieves, please contact Essex Police on 0300 3334444 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111

Anyone interested in loft insulation and cavity wall insulation should contact Warmfront first to see if they are eligible for a grant. Trading Standards have contacted Warmfront the government backed scheme and they have a list of approved contractors to install cavity wall and loft insulation.

If there are extra costs these would be payable to Warmfront not the contractor who supplies and fits.

There are some companies cold calling around Essex to get people to apply for the grant.

Warmfront can be contacted on 0800 316 2805.

Please be aware that calls are being received from an activated voice stating that it is Barclaycard Fraud calling, and asking for information to confirm that the payments that have gone out on your card are correct and asking for your date of birth. The number that the calls are being received from is 0845 351 2259.

Barclaycard have been contacted and state that they are not making the calls. Please do not give out any bank/personal information over the telephone and should you receive a recorded voice stating that it is Barclaycard please hang up.

A member of the public has received a call from a male purporting to be calling from Global Swiss; we believe this to be a bogus company. The male on the phone was very abusive. Should you receive a call from anyone claiming to be calling from Global Swiss please just hang up the phone.

There are two companies with the name Global Swiss on the internet, Global Swiss Securities and Global Swiss Visa. If one of these genuine companies call they would state which securities or visa and not just say Global Swiss.

It seems that the door to door season is well and truly open. We have had reports of roof cleaners and double glazing salesman operating in the area. Please be aware of your rights and think to yourself "do I really need double glazing and do I need my roof cleaned". Just say no and close the door. If in the future you decide that you do want double glazing get quotes from three reputable local companies.

Please ignore the following email should you receive it. Please remember if you

haven't entered a lottery or competition then you can't win.

"Euro Support

This email is to notify you that you have won the sum of €815,810.00 (EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND TEN EUROS) only, in the european support E-mail program

Contact the claim officer:

Banco Bancaixa Espana

Name: Anabel Carlos.

Foreign Service Manager.

Tel: +34.634.154.581.

Email: bancaixavalencia@ozu.es

There is a company that is making unsolicited phone calls to random members of the public trying to sell security and stating that they are selling through NHW schemes. Details of the company and what type of security they are trying to sell are unknown. Please do not have anything to do with this company as NHW would not sell security products via a company.

Please do not give any personal or bank details out to any cold caller either via the telephone or at your front door.

Les Barnes PCSO 71909

Thorpe Le Soken NPT Eastern

Internal Ext : 487603

External 01255 862843

Email : leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police

website : www.essex.police.uk



BRIGHTLINGSEA/POINT CLEAR/EAST MERSEA FOOT FERRY

The Brightlingsea/Point Clear/East Mersea Foot Ferry starts its seventh season on 2nd April 2010, providing ease of access between the three communities for both local people and visitors to the area.

The Ferry provides not only a means of crossing the creek, but opens up opportunities to explore the vast number of attractions and facilities the area has to offer. You can visit the historic town of Brightlingsea and discover its long heritage, friendly town centre shops and eating places, or enjoy the busy waterfront and 'Blue Flag' beach. Alternatively you can visit Cudmore Grove Country Park at East Mersea, or visit the Aviation Museum, housed in a Martello Tower at Point Clear, which is approximately two miles from the historic village of St Osyth. The area is ideal for the cyclist or walker or nature lover who can use the ferry to discover the natural beauty of the Tendring district at a relaxing and leisurely pace taking time to linger at the facilities on offer. The custom built ferry boat has a ramp which can be lowered to allow easy access for wheelchair users and cycles, as well as foot passengers using the service.

In order to provide the best possible service to our customers, Brightlingsea Foot Ferry will operate a 'Dial a Ferry' service in low season to ensure users can access the local area between April and October.

'Dial a Ferry' can be booked by calling the Harbour Office before 1pm daily on 01206 302200 or on the Ferry Mobile 07981 450169 during operating times.

Clear signage is provided to all ferry departure points and a walkway has been installed on Point Clear Beach making it easier to access.

This season we look forward to welcoming passengers old and new, using the ferry to discover our three communities or enjoy a pleasure trip to explore the diverse natural beauty of the area.

Ferry trip timetables are available from local shops, Tourist Information Centres, Libraries and various other outlets in the region.

Further details are available on the Brightlingsea Ferry Website www.brightlingseaharbour.org or the Brightlingsea Harbour Commissioners on 01206 302200.

FERRY TIMETABLE 2010 - SEASONAL SCHEDULE

2nd April - 18th July

Weekends & Bank Holidays

- Scheduled Service

Monday - Friday - DIAL-A-FERRY

19th July - 5th September

- Scheduled Service

6th September - 26th September

Weekends & Bank Holidays

- Scheduled Service

Monday - Friday - DIAL-A-FERRY

27th September - 31st October

- DIAL-A-FERRY

Daily operating times:

10.00 – 12.30 and 13.00 – 17.30

NB . No service between 12.30-13.00 daily (LUNCH BREAK)

Scheduled service:

Brightlingsea-Point Clear-Brightlingsea

On demand except when the ferry is crossing to East Mersea (See below)

Brightlingsea-East Mersea-Brightlingsea

Three scheduled crossings each day, although additional crossings will be provided when possible.

Scheduled departures from Brightlingsea at 11.00, 13.30 & 16.00

Scheduled departures from East Mersea at 11.15, 13.45 & 16.15

FARES (EACH WAY)

Brightlingsea – Point Clear

Adults	£1.00
Child	£0.50
Senior Citizen	£1.00
Cycles/Dogs	£0.50

Brightlingsea or Point Clear – East Mersea

Adult	£2.00
Child	£1.00
Senior Citizen	£1.50
Cycles/Dogs	£1.00

DIAL – A – FERRY

Brightlingsea-Point Clear

Adults	£1.50
Child	£1.00
Senior Citizen	£1.50
Cycles/Dogs	£0.50

Brightlingsea or Point Clear-East Mersea

Adults	£2.50
Child	£1.50
Senior Citizen	£2.00
Cycles/Dogs	£1.00

During scheduled operating times the ferry can be contacted directly on Mobile: 07981 450169

THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

One analogy for worship, which I find a very helpful one, is that of a symphony orchestra. The members of the congregation are the players in the orchestra, with many different instruments represented among them. The score is the Prayer Book, and the conductor is the celebrant or the officiant, who leads and helps tie everything together. The audience of this joyous performance is of course God to whom the worship is offered.

This musical image is also a helpful one for understanding the church's mission. We hear a great deal these Days about the fact that we are a missionary church. It is no wonder when we think that the large proportion of people in our society are unchurched and at worst non-believers.

If we are to be an effective missionary church, then the idea of or working together with this in mind is essential. Let me take an illustration from classical music to make the point. The fourth movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony can serve as a wonderful metaphor for the church. It is beautiful and stirring. Everyone knows the central melody, the 'Ode to Joy'. Anyone who has experienced the great pleasure of attending a live performance of this wonderful work might agree that it can indeed provide a symbolic vision of what the church can be at its best. The Ninth Symphony builds magnificently towards its final, fourth movement. Beethoven's masterpiece grows, with gradual unfolding themes of deep beauty. Finally having gone through every form of instrumental expression, the composer calls forth the human voice. Singing is required to bring the ultimate expression to the composer's vision.

As the symphony ends in a spectacular climax, the conductor, the orchestra, the quartet of lead singers and the full chorus are all working feverishly; every orchestra member is playing with inspired fervour. The quartet of soloists and the chorus are singing at full volume. The conductor, beating time with the baton and hand, works exhaustively to tie the pieces of the musical whole together into one intricate, moving entity. He urges forth every last ounce of spirit left in the performed. All work exuberantly together to bring about a great piece of musical love.

Yes, indeed, the final movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony may well be an ideal expression of God's kingdom. It is also a vision of how the church can act – that is with everybody working together to produce the greatest expression of love with no-one standing idly by! With everyone involved, doing his or her part without discord, with no in-fighting, with everyone focussed on one purpose, with everyone inspired, exuberant, working feverishly to love God with all their being, and to love his children as

themselves, with everyone following the will of the leader.

Certainly this is the example set by Jesus. His whole life was one continual effort to work to produce love, healing, happiness, and salvation among all people. Certainly, that was the example the early church sought to emulate.

As the season of Pentecost draws near, let us cast our minds to the first Pentecost Day. The disciples were caught on fire with the Holy Spirit. It's very much like the finale of Beethoven's great symphony. This was the first day of the church reaching out into the world, spreading the good news of God. On that day, the early followers of Jesus received the power of the Holy Spirit and were enabled to go out working together, pooling their resources, caring for the community and providing generously for the needy.

The Day of Pentecost, or the birthday of the church as it has been called, reminds us of our responsibilities as member of the Body of Christ. These include working together to make our best efforts to follow the direction of our Lord Christ, and to do so with the same feeling of commitment as that of the participants in a fine performance of Beethoven's Ninth.

For thirty years Beethoven thought about, worked on, and developed an idea to use a chorus based on a work by the poet Johann Schiller. Near the end of his life, in the maturity of his artistic expression, Beethoven finally made use of the Schiller poem in the incomparable fourth movement of the Ninth Symphony.

The poem used in the chorus, often called the 'Ode to Joy', is based on the theme of joy, love, and perhaps above all else the unity of humankind.

A central stanza reads this way:

"Let thy magic bring together
All whom earth born laws divide.
All mankind shall be as brothers".

Indeed, all humanity shall be as brothers and sisters, because of God's action in Christ. The great vision of Beethoven, revealed in the final movement of his final symphony, is one with our vision of the Kingdom of God.

I therefore appeal to you all to rededicate yourselves this Pentecost. I ask you to live into this vision – to begin anew, acting in concert, in harmony, and with love, so that we may all treat our fellows as brothers and sisters, so that together, following the lead of Our Lord, we can produce a great act of Christian love.

My love to you all, *Fr. Robert*

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

Church of England Services for May

Sunday 2nd	8.00am	Easter 5	
	10.30am	Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 9th	8.00am	Easter 6 Rogation Sunday	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	<i>followed by Blessings at Park Farm with Shared Lunch</i> Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Thursday 13th	7.30pm	Ascension Day Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 16th	8.00am	Easter 7	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 23rd	8.00am	Pentecost	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
		Deanery Pentecost Praise at Mistley Parish Church:	
	5.00pm	Bring-and-Share Supper	
	6.00pm	Informal Worship for Families	
	6.30pm	Evening Worship, Preacher <i>Canon Roger Matthews</i>	
Sunday 30th	8.00am	Trinity Sunday	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

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