

The Bromley Messenger

July 2010

Volume 24 No 4



The second Great Bromley Fun Day took place on the 12th June and was well attended by both villagers and others from further afield. The weather was kind and a mixture of live music and dancing were amongst many attractions to enjoy - the stocks once again proved to be a firm favourite!



Photographs: Neil Skinner

THE FIRST PAGE

This is yet another full issue containing loads of photos and reports of the goings-on during June with this month's events giving the prospect of more photos and reports to come. Had you realised that scarcely a month goes by, between the two villages, when something happens? We moan and we groan about lack of help etc etc but actually both village communities are just that - communities - who muck in and pull together, working hard for the benefit of others and themselves, making good friends and having fun along the way.

I have been working hard since last October making a christening gown. One of the most helpful devices to have had at my disposal would have been the extraordinary object the children of St George's school saw on their visit to the Braintree Museum - a frill iron - pictured on page 13. The dolls house referred to in Holly's report is the Essex Handicrafts Association Dolls House donated by EHA to the Museum in the 1990s. The house was made during the 1930s to scale from a real house near Chelmsford with everything within and without, from the ghost in the hall to the handwritten will in the desk, created by members of the EHA which has an active branch in Brightlingsea with meetings held on the

third Thursday evening of every month.

Following on from my remarks last month in Nature's Diary, James Wild told me, at the Fun Day, that he had heard the cuckoo several times recently, mostly around dawn, and since then I have heard it a few times too. I hope he (the cuckoo, not James)



was found by a female, whose call is a rich bubbling chuckle, and that they managed to find a nest in which to lay an egg. I fear the sound of the cuckoo may become increasingly absent in future springs. An old rhyme describes the Cuckoo's time in Britain:

In April I open my bill
In May I sing night and day
In June I change my tune
In July far far I fly
In August away I must

Exams will be almost finished by now and the prospect of holidays, sea, sand and sun beckon. Long may this lovely warm weather continue, with perhaps some rain during the night just so as I don't have to keep watering the vegetables!

Leonie Henderson

MATERIAL for the **AUGUST 2010** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **14th July, 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.

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**Leonard
Cheshire
Disability**

SEVEN RIVERS

Great Bromley

Grand Summer Fete

*To be held in our spacious grounds on
Saturday 24th July
Starts 1pm*



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Cake Stall!

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Dog Show!

Licensed Bar!

Kiddies Corner!



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**Lucky
Programme!**

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- do come!**

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Halcyon Days Indeed!

School Fair, Village Fete, Charity Garden Party – what could be more English on a sunny summer's afternoon? Imagine the scene: a warm sun peeps out from behind cotton-wool clouds, a gentle breeze rustles through the trees and plays with the pristine cloths decorating rows of heavy-laden tables, making them dance as it passes. Delicious cakes, pot plants and tombola prizes are all laid out to tempt every passing visitor. In the corner of the field, a lone donkey plods his way back and forth carrying yet another excited young passenger upon its back – and the band plays on.

Sounds just like the Village Fun Day which took place recently – a lovely day indeed!

Seven Rivers was, for many years, famous for its summer garden parties. A very lively and powerful team of organisers put on some wonderful events over many years. I recently came upon a report in the "Cheshire Smile", an in-house magazine of times past, about the Grand Fete of 1975:

"After days of snow, heavy rain and high winds, Saturday 7th June dawned sunny

cloudless and hot. A steady trickle of visitors arriving through the morning become a flood in the afternoon.

The police controlling the traffic had an impossible task finding parking spaces for everyone and eventually gave it up as a bad job.

By the end of the day more than 9000 people had visited the home!

The enormous increase in attendance was due to the presence of two of the Wombles, Madam Cholet and Orinoco, who signed autographs and performed a Womble dance at a safe distance on a nearby flat roof."

Well, we're at it again! We may not have the Wombles this time around but we do have Alchemy, a brilliant band which has played for us before, to rave reviews. **And** we have an enthusiastic Fete organising team, led by Gavin Legget, our Activities Organiser, which promises to give us all just as grand a time with all of the attractions displayed opposite - and more besides.

We'll see you there!

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

AUCTION

OUTING

ANGLESEY ABBEY on 21st July
The coach will leave the Village Hall at 10.00am. Please be there no later than 9.45am. A few seats are still available so give me a ring if you would like to go. It should be a nice day out (weather permitting!) with a salad tea to end the day.

FUN DAY

Many thanks to the ladies who manned the stall for the Club. We took the grand total of £140.90—well done!. It appeared such a happy day for everyone—almost like a a carnival day.

AUCTION

Make a date in your diary, little black book or wherever you put your 'reminders' for 19th August. Open to EVERY ONE. The doors open at 2.00pm at the Village Hall. If you have anything you would like to donate please bring it with you.

The competition for the July meeting, 15th July, is a Souvenir Spoon.

Vicky Griffiths



GREAT BROMLEY FUN DAY

The 2010 Great Bromley Fun Day took place on the 12th June. Once again the weather was kind and the rain stayed away, although there was a moment of panic when the tent that the Locarno band were due to appear in, blew over shortly before they arrived. In total there were 53 different events laid on to entertain and amuse and the feedback received so far has been very positive.

Following the opening by Martin Frostick, the Colchester Pipe and Drums put on a very stirring display. They were followed by the smooth sounding Locarno swing band, and an impressive display from the Debbie Millar Dancers. The organising committee are grateful to the dancers and musicians for taking the time to be part of the day.

Plans for the Essex Police helicopter to make an appearance had to be shelved due to essential maintenance but we are grateful to PC Dan Heard for arranging for the Suffolk Police helicopter to make a couple of fly-bys.

(The Red Arrows seen flying by earlier in the day were actually part of the Queen's birthday celebrations and the committee, somewhat reluctantly, cannot take credit for that).

The idea of the fun day is in response to the Village Appraisal and has three main purposes, namely: To bring the village together; to have fun, and

to at least break even. At the time of writing



the takings from the day are still being counted but hopefully the first two objectives have already been met. Proceeds from the day will

be divided up between The Hamilton Lodge, The Village Hall, The Cricket Club and the Church Fabric Fund.

Lastly, a very big thank you to everybody who helped both in the organising and on the day, from the numerous village organisations and individuals to

those who came from further afield. A number of people worked extremely hard and the Chairman would like to

pay tribute to those who once again went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure the day was a success.

Neil Skinner



12TH JUNE 2010



Photographs: Neil Skinner, George Henderson, Leonie Henderson

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 301310

Again the sun shone, the people came and a good time was had by all. Live music from the Locarno Band and the Marching Pipers. Were they both great? No they were brilliant! No finance figures are available as yet with each organisation doing its own count. I was on the Burger Stand for the last half of the event and we certainly sold a lot of burgers and hot dogs! Lots of effort and organisation from Neil Skinner and all the Funday Committee. Lots of hard work from all the stand holders, builders and break downers. On the day work started at 8:30 and the breakdown was finished about 6:30. Thank you to all and very well done.

The Annual General Great Bromley Meeting happened on May 8th, there were no attendees so the committee remains the same with reports from the Treasurer and the Secretary. The Hall this year made a small profit with its cash reserves increasing a little, this is even with the roof being replaced which is something which has been on the agenda for a very long time.

The contract for the supplier of the new kitchen has been awarded with work due to start during the summer holidays in August. A new range type cooker, a better fridge and a hot store are all included amongst other appliances. Some grant money has already been agreed but more is being sought.

Storage in the Hall is being reviewed and discussed with various user groups. This should improve the current situation whilst we consider the possibility of building a new store, for which we already have planning approval. Please be tolerant with us as the situation will get worse before it gets better.

A Cabaret Evening is happening on 16th October 2010 with Memphis Elvis. People who have seen this act tell me that it is really good, format will be similar to 2009 event with supper included. Price will be £15 per head, bring your own drink.

The Christmas Fayre is booked for 4th December.

It has been agreed that Village Hall Committee meetings will be held every other month on the first Tuesday starting in July. Forthcoming meeting dates are 6th July, 7th September, 2nd November, 4th January, 1st March and 3rd May.

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.

Next Committee meeting Tuesday, 6th July at 7:30pm.

David Beech

IN THE GARDEN IN JULY

I am pleased to say that my fig tree survived the bad weather we had in January and February and is now in full leaf although, as yet, there are no small figs to see. I don't expect too much as it is only a young tree at the moment.

Where possible I've always saved my own seeds and this year I am growing half a dozen tomatoes in large pots. I had a big tomato given to me by a friend and the flavour was so nice I decided to save some of the seeds. These should be laid on a piece of kitchen roll to dry before storing, always save seeds in a paper bag or envelope. If stored in a plastic container they may rot. I propagated the seeds by the hot water boiler in early March and potted them in to 3" pots when they had made three pairs of leaves, then when I chanced that the frost was no longer a problem they are now out in the

garden.

VEGETABLES

Earth up brussel sprouts to the bottom leaves to stop the wind rocking them. Sow outdoors late globe beetroot, savoy, carrots, kale (early July), late peas, summer turnips (early July), winter turnips (late July). Plant out autumn and winter cabbages, curled and plain leaved kale.

Harvest all vegetables as soon as they are ready. If you have too much your friends would appreciate some, I am sure.

Another vegetable that is not often grown is 'Black Spanish' radish. There are two varieties, round or long shapes, and the seeds can be planted now.



Frank Griffiths

KITCHEN CORNER

I have been asked to give my recipe for Almond Cake, as this has proved most popular!

Almond Cake

5oz SR flour
3oz ground almonds
8oz butter
8oz caster sugar
4 eggs
Few drops almond essence

Cream butter and sugar, beat in the eggs and fold in the flour and almonds.

Bake in greased and lined 8" tine for 1-1½ hours at 350°F, 180°C, Gas Mark 4.

Jill Frostick



FRIENDS OF LITTLE BROMLEY CHURCH

Just over 50 people enjoyed the concert given by the East Anglian Single Reed Choir on the evening of 6th June. 18 musicians played their clarinets and saxophones with great dexterity. Their programme crossed the centuries, from Gabrieli to Bill Haley, with a foot-tapping encore of 'Putting on the Ritz'. This was followed by the ever-popular refreshments that are gaining repute far and wide. The

various flower arrangements were admired, as always.

The next event will be a Candlelight Service on Sunday, 22nd August.

Susan Scott



Red, White and Blue was the theme for this meeting. Tables were adorned with Union Jacks with members in their finery with every one taking part with their own take on the colour scheme. Several of the members had also decorated hats to go with their outfits. Jenny, our president, opened the meeting and then handed over to Jill, as president for the Members' Meeting, and her team to entertain us for the evening. Ruth, the secretary, read the minutes for the 2009 meeting; all members agreed this was a true record.

Jill had organised for Graham Crame to speak to us about his charity, "Hope and Aid Direct", and its work in Kosovo. He was introduced by his mother-in-law, Ann.



Graham began his work through membership of The Rotary Club of The Clacton Jubilee Branch when he used to deliver aid to Croatia. During the invasion of Kosovo in 1999 he worked as a volunteer with refugees who had fled Albania. He now visits twice yearly with Hope and Aid Direct. All work in The Balkans is self funded and all monies raised from fund raising go towards this very important work. Graham started his talk explaining about the new flag that Kosovo were using, a blue and yellow flag with six silver stars, representing the ethnic groups, also used in conjunction with the Albanian Flag which is red with a two headed eagle. He also showed us a short film about living conditions and "The Roma". Serbians and Albanians live on opposite sides of the river and do not mix. Six years after the onslaught, 500 gypsies are still living in camps on top of a lead

mine, dangers from toxins still remain today and threaten to destroy a whole generation of children. They suffer from stunted growth, mental retardation and babies being born with irreversible brain damage. There have been no changes in conditions since 2005, even though the United Nations are fully aware of the conditions.

The film showed beautiful countryside and roads shared with tanks as well as lorries. It also included pictures of the type of aid being taken to Kosovo, Toys, clothes, walking aids, wheelchairs and shoes. Graham had taken some pictures of the aid that had been donated locally being given to the people. It was very humbling to see what little the people had and how very grateful they were. Jill gave the vote of thanks.

The committee for the evening provided some superb refreshments. An auction of items donated by members was ably run by Pippa.

Joy Rolfe

Congratulations Great Bromley W.I! Inter group W.I. Quiz 2010

The venue for the preliminary round of this competition was held at the Village Hall, Little Clacton on Wednesday 26th May.

Eight ladies from Great Bromley W.I. travelled to take part in this inter W.I. Quiz competing against eight other local W.I.s. How surprised, pleased and proud we were to find that we were the winners on this rather exciting evening! Great Bromley W.I. now qualify for the next round of the quiz to be held at Boreham Village Hall on July 2nd ---"wish us luck!



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

Head teacher: Pat Fitzgerald
Telephone: 01206 230305



Class 3 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Braintree Museum and Holly Perrin writes:

On Thursday 13 May, Class 3 went to Braintree Museum. We all dressed like Victorians.



The majority of Class 3 enjoyed the Victorian classroom the most. The

teacher was very strict and slightly funny, but we didn't dare to say so! We also looked round a museum



which had lots of artefacts, such as a posser, sugar snippers, a frill iron, a tinder box and a darning mushroom. There was a dolls house and we counted twenty five people inside. At the end of the day we were given a slate board which we all used a lot. We enjoyed our trip to Braintree Museum.

At the time of writing this article, we are delighted that the Headteachers from our partnership schools in Ghana will be in

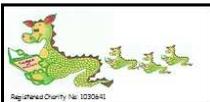
England from 11 – 20 June. They will be visiting our schools during the week of 14 – 18 June. We will be holding a joint welcome ceremony with Boxted and Bradfield Schools on the first Monday of their visit. We are currently organising a timetable of events and activities for them while they are here, in order to make their visit a positive and enjoyable experience.

We also have a very busy month ahead when we will be holding our annual sports day, open evening, family fun day, helpers tea party, music concert, Scott V Drake rounders match, leavers assembly and most important of all – lots of teaching!



We wish you all a relaxing and safe summer holiday.

Photographs courtesy of St George's School



Parent and Child Group

Baby Dragons

Come and have fun with your child every Friday
Morning between 9.30-11.30am
Fun and exciting activities for children
aged from 0-5 years.

at Great Bromley Village Hall
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CRICKET CLUB

100 Club Winners May



1st.	Mrs. Janet Taylor
2nd.	Mr. Brian Dodd
3rd.	Oliver Wright

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Great Bromley & Frating Ltd

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Great Bromley Village Hall

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

On Wednesday 23rd June we will be taking part in the 'Barnardos Toddle'. Last year we had lovely weather and enjoyed 'toddling' round the cricket field to raise money for the Barnardos charity and our pre-school.

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.

Dates for your diary:-

Last day of term Thursday 15th July

With the warmer weather the children have been enjoying our outdoor area. They have been busy looking after and watering the vegetables that they planted last month. The carrots and lettuce are doing very well.

There was also much excitement about a visitor to our bird box. A blue tit has been spotted a few times leaving the box. We will be keeping a close eye on that.



We have also been busy preparing for our display at the Tendring Hundred Show on Saturday 10th July. Come along and see what the children have been doing this term. You'll find us in the Education tent.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Great Bromley Parish Council

www.essexinfo.net/gbpc

Report of a parish council meeting held on 10th June 2010

Council membership

Following the recent retirement of Mr Chris Phillips as parish councillor the council agreed to co-opt Mr Terence Cottingham to replace him. The parish council acknowledges with thanks Mr Phillips' significant contribution to the village community over a large number of years. He was the present council's longest serving member and was also its vice-chairman and chairman of the Hare Green recreation ground committee.

Planning

The Council considered the following planning applications:

Westward House, Mary Lane North

(Camp Road) – erection of detached dwelling following demolition of existing building (no objections).

7 Fairfield Close – various single and two storey extensions (no objections).

The Willows, Frating Road – retention of greenhouse (objections).

Industrial units (Torch towing etc),

Parsons Hill – demolition of redundant commercial/industrial buildings and replacement by a single detached dwelling and garages (no objections, subject to conditions).

The council also considered the cricket club's outline proposal to extend and improve the pavilion and in principle had no objections to this.

Tendring District Council has decided the following planning applications:

Arethusa, Ardleigh Road – double garage/workshop/gym to replace existing garage/car port (approval).

Land east of Hall Road – erection of free range egg unit – phase 4 (refusal).

Land east of Hall Road – erection of free range egg unit – phase 5 (approval).

Hare Green recreation ground

The play equipment at the recreation ground has been inspected by the Play Inspection Company and found to be safe and largely in good order. Minor remedial work will be carried out by volunteers later in the year. The council will also be looking into the purchase of swings for pre-school children.

The recreation ground will be used by a local club for football matches during the summer.

Village Hall

The council has agreed to purchase new kitchen equipment for the village hall at a cost of about £3000.

Cemetery

The parish council has responsibility for the cemetery opposite the church. In addition to the periodic grass and hedge cutting undertaken by the council's contractor a volunteer has kindly agreed to trim certain areas to ensure that graves are accessible to those who tend them.

Funday

Another successful Great Bromley Funday was held at the village hall and cricket ground on Saturday 12 June. A full report appears elsewhere in this magazine.

The parish council and Hamilton Lodge, as organisers of the event, would like to thank the many residents and others who worked hard to make the day such good fun! The day raised money for all the village organisations which participated and hopefully there will be a surplus which will benefit the following: the cricket club, the church fabric fund, the village hall and Hamilton Lodge.

The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 8th July 2010 at Great Bromley Village Hall.

Forthcoming Events in 2010

JULY

- 2 WI Quiz evening, Boreham Village Hall
- 4 Charity Tennis & Afternoon Tea, The Cross Inn, from 4.00pm
- 6 Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 7 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.00pm
WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 10 Tendring Hundred Show
- 17 Summer Concert, St George's church, 7.30pm
- 18 Tea & Tours, St George's church, from 2.00pm
- 21 Friendship Club outing, Anglesey Abbey
- 24 Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Summer Fete, from 1.00pm



AUGUST

- 14 Ardleigh Horticultural Society Annual Show, Ardleigh Village Hall, 2pm.
- 18 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.00pm
- 19 Friendship Club Auction, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 22 Candlelight Service, St Mary's Church, Lt Bromley, 8-8.30pm

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.00pm
- 11 Ride & Stride Cycle Ride
Heritage Open Day at St. Mary's church, Little Bromley
- 25 Harvest Supper & Folk Music, Village Hall
- 24-26 The Haywain Third Annual Beer Festival

OCTOBER

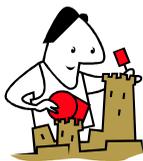
- 3 Harvest Festival - 2.00pm, Songs of Praise - 5pm, Lt Bromley church
Ardleigh Harvest service & Flower Festival
- 16 Cabaret Evening, Village Hall
- 20 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.00pm

NOVEMBER

- 2 Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 Firework Display, Little Bromley
- 10 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.00pm
- 14 Remembrance Sunday

DECEMBER

- 1 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.00pm
- 4 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall
- 23 Christmas Carol Service, St Mary's church, Lt Bromley, 7.00pm



ENTERTAINMENT for a SUMMER WEEKEND

At St. George's Church, Great Bromley
17th & 18th July 2010

“Let There Be Music”

Saturday July 17th at 7.30pm



A welcome return visit to our church by the wonderfully talented Cavender Singers and a highly entertaining bass baritone soloist, David Hylands.

The Cavender Singers, a seven piece female harmony group, were formed in 1995 by Clacton music teacher, Kathryn Cavender. The singers, unusually, work in concert without a conductor. Their varied repertoire includes popular music, folk songs, jazz and songs from the musicals presented in their own entertaining style.

David Hylands joined the Metropolitan Police in 1959 and sang bass baritone with the Metropolitan Police Choir.

David performed on the amateur stage for many years, singing most baritone leads in the Gilbert and Sullivan Operas. David now sings with the Essex Police Choir and has a successful business as a toastmaster and solo singer.

Tickets £8 each, children free. Tickets include wine, juice and light refreshments.

“Tea and Tours”

Sunday July 18th from 2.00-5.00pm

Join us for afternoon tea in the church. Popular **Tower Tours**, Guided **Church Tours** and organ music throughout the afternoon. All are welcome. Grand raffle will be drawn during the afternoon.

For all tickets and further information please contact Jenny on 01206 230688

Leonard
Cheshire
Disability

SEVEN RIVERS

Leonard Cheshire
Disability Nursing Home
Great Bromley
Grand Summer Fete

Saturday 24th July from 1.00pm

All details on Page 2



AUCTION

Thursday, 19th August
in
Great Bromley Village Hall
2.00pm

EVERYONE WELCOME

CABARET EVENING

on
16th October in Great Bromley Village Hall
with
Memphis Elvis

Tickets £15 per head. Bring your own drink

More details to follow



The Friends of Little
Bromley Church
2010



Sunday, 22nd August
Candlelight Service 8.00-8.30pm
Saturday 11th September
Heritage Open Day & Cycle Ride
Sunday 3rd October
Harvest Festival from 2.00pm
Songs of Praise 5.00pm
Thursday 23rd December
Christmas Carol Service 7.00pm



ESSEX POLICE

incidents in Great Bromley the month of May

Noise Nuisance

- Hall Road - Party

Suspicious Circumstances

- Chase Road - Male selling metal sheets

Nuisance Youth

- Back Lane East

Burglary Dwelling

- Harwich Road - Attempted

Burglary Other

- Harwich Road - 2 Sheds

Road Traffic Collision

- Animal - Parsons Hill - Deer

Road Traffic Collision

- Non Injury - Brundells Road

News letter for the month of June

DRIVE THE COWBOYS OUT OF TOWN
Essex County Council Trading Standards is warning householders in Clacton-on-Sea, Jaywick and Holland-on-Sea that doorstep rogue traders are currently operating in the area. One trader currently seeking business is knocking on doors offering to jetwash driveways and patios. They are also offering a weed control service which is guaranteed for 10 years. Trading Standards is warning residents to be vigilant after responding to complaints.

Trading Standards advise householders not to agree to have work carried out by traders who knock on their door offering services. Doorstep rogue traders will not offer any paperwork about the work carried out, meaning consumers will not receive the seven-day cooling off period they are entitled to. Payment will almost always be demanded up front, in cash. County Councillor Tracey Chapman, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Trading Standards said: "Don't be caught out. Legitimate traders will not knock at your door offering to clean driveways or

carry out other household maintenance or repairs.

There are complaints coming in with elderly people getting telephone calls from a mobility company offering equipment using the ploy they are working with Social Services which is untrue. They then make an appointment and get the elderly person to sign up for very expensive equipment. They offer beds, mattresses chairs bathes etc. We have elderly people who have paid thousands for equipment they don't need. Trading Standards advice is not to agree to buy goods and services from anyone who cold calls you either by phone or in person. Please use the approved trader scheme www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk if you need any equipment from contact social services direct.

Theft Prevention for Catalytic Converters

The catalytic converter is an emission-controlling device that is a part of the exhaust system of many automobiles and trucks. It uses a platinum-iridium catalyst to oxidize pollutants before they can be released into the air, and it converts carbon monoxide into carbon dioxide. The platinum on the converter makes it a valuable device and theft is a common concern. Protecting your catalytic converter from theft needs to be a priority.

Protecting the Car

- A thief can't get to your catalytic converter if he can't get to [your car](#). Keep your car stored in a garage if you have one available. If not, park in well-lit areas at night and try to park close to buildings once the sun goes down. If your car is isolated, it makes it easier for a thief to crawl under the car and saw the converter off, which can be done in seconds. Avoid parking too close to stairwells in parking garages since these make for

easy escape routes for thieves.

Securing the Converter

- Some converters are only attached to the car exhaust using bolts, and this can make them even easier to remove. Have an auto shop weld the converter in place to make it more difficult for a thief to remove. Alarm devices, which are sensitive to vibration, can also be secured to the undercarriage of the car. When the car vibrates as the converter is being removed, the alarm goes off. A sensor can also be triggered if an unauthorized person slides under the vehicle. Another option is called a "cage clamp" which is basically a cage device that locks in around the converter to make it more difficult to remove. The cage can be cut through, but it takes more time and effort than most thieves will want when there are other easier targets nearby.

Additional Tips

- If you have multiple vehicles, use [your vehicle](#) that has the lowest clearance underneath to block the vehicle with the higher clearance. SUVs and trucks are popular targets because the chassis are higher up and the thief can slide under the vehicle easier. Blocking that access with a lower-riding car makes that more difficult. Install additional security lighting in your driveway or around your garage. Monitor the news to be aware of any recent trends or increase in converter theft. Google alerts can help you do this easily. If you live in an area with high crime or if there has been a rash of thefts, consider installing a security fence around your driveway. One way of recovering a stolen converter is to etch a serial number on it. It won't prevent theft, but you can report the number to police if it does get stolen and they can trace it through local metal buyers

is from Crime Awareness Campaign, when challenged he is hanging up the telephone, please extend the same courtesy to him.

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

Please be aware that a male is cold calling the public via the telephone stating that he

THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS

Great Bentley Surgery News

It is a real pleasure this month to be able to announce the first practice baby for well over five years. Dr Katherine Patel, who has been with us since last August doing her Registrar year, produced Lily on 15th May. She was a real titch, weighing in at just 6lbs 1½ oz – or about 2.767 Kg for those of you too young to remember pounds and ounces. After the usual early weight loss, she is now thriving and, having met her for the first time a few days ago, I can tell you that she is absolutely gorgeous. While she was here being introduced to us all, she was also extremely quiet and beautifully behaved. Dr Patel is also very well and should be back with us to continue her Registrar year on a part-time basis early in 2011.

Unfortunately, we had another hiccup with the telephone lines one night a couple of

weeks ago. When people rang the surgery expecting to be transferred automatically to Harmoni, the line just went dead. Please accept my apologies if

you were affected by this problem which I am just glad happened on a week-night rather than at a weekend.

The fault was very odd, in that Harmoni's line worked absolutely fine when dialled from a mobile or an exchange outside the immediate area. It seems that the problem which was, I am glad to say, sorted out the next day, was in the BT exchange and there was nothing that we could have done ourselves to put it right.

This made me think that it would probably be a good idea if everyone had a note of the Harmoni direct dialling number – just in case this should ever happen again.

So, notebooks and pens at the ready, for people registered here at "The Hollies" the number is **0845 6025215**. If you are registered at a different surgery, it will be a different number and it would be best to get it from them, otherwise all the information about your contact with Harmoni will probably come here in error.

Next, I'm afraid I am going to have to mention again something which was sort-of covered before, as it is still causing difficulties.

We've had a few occasions recently when patients have been upset that they couldn't get their prescription and medication more or less on demand. Please, please help us out by giving two, or preferably three, working days' notice when you need medication. We know that there are occasions when that is just impossible, but if people habitually don't give us reasonable notice it genuinely does make our job of looking after all 8,600+ of you very difficult indeed.

Please remember that we issue something like 14,000 to 15,000 medication items per month – that's over 650 **each day** in an average month. Many involve queries – about review dates, changes in dose or special requests, and even when the prescription has been printed the pharmacy quite often has to wait for stock or order things in specially. Answers to queries, and more critically, signatures, can only be provided by a doctor and if you hit a time when there isn't one available, we really are stuck.

So the message is, please help us to help you by being as organised as possible about your medication requests. I know that everyone would feel that just one request isn't going to make much of a difference, but when we get thirty or forty of those one-off requests in a day, the job can be a nightmare.



You may have read in the press that the government wants surgeries to carry out a lot of extra health checks, trying to pick up various conditions before they actually begin to cause problems for patients.

Very soon now, we will be writing out to a lot of you who are in the government's target groups, inviting you to make an appointment to come in for a session with either a nurse or one of our healthcare assistants. I do urge you to take advantage of the check on offer as it could just save you some grief a year or two down the line. However, as we will have to spread these checks over the coming months, please wait for your letter before ringing in for an appointment.

Following a similar train of thought, if you are in the age group 15 – 24, and haven't yet had a Chlamydia test – or if you are in a new relationship and wish to get off to a safe start – test kits are readily available here at the surgery. You can come and

collect one without giving your name. You don't even have to be registered here at the surgery. They can be handed out by the receptionists or, if you are seeing a doctor or nurse about something else, he or she will be glad to find you one. No free gifts on offer at present, I'm afraid. Just the satisfaction and confidence of knowing that you are fit and healthy.

Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager

THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

We are very fortunate in Ardleigh and the Bromleys to have three very beautiful historic churches. Although Little Bromley is under the care of the Church Conservation Trust we still have to work very hard to maintain St. Mary's and St. George's. I am sure it is right and proper that we should care for these beautiful buildings which have been entrusted to us both for ourselves and for future generations.

We all know that having said that however, that the church is greater than all our buildings. Our lovely buildings are the houses of God but the church is really the people who occupy them. It is therefore essential that we concentrate our faith in God. In this regard we sometimes are unable to see the wood for the trees. When this happens it is always a good thing to try to forget about all the complications and to go back to the

beginning. There may be troubles in marriage or in relationships or there may be dissatisfaction in work. If we go back to the beginning and ask the question "Why did you fall in love with someone?" "Why did you choose the job in the first place?" then you might see things in a different light.

And it is the same with our faith in God, and Jesus Christ. Sometimes we feel we are only jogging along as it were in faith. We might not find it as attractive as we once did. However if we go back to the beginning and remember how we started to relate to God in Christ this can be very helpful. In the beginning this was the time we fell in love with God and Jesus. But we know that a relationship has to deepen and grow and that we have to work at it, and every so often we need to go back and fall in love again.

To renew one's faith, to renew one's relationship with God and with each other

Mobile Library

(July – December 2010)

The county's mobile library will continue to call at the following Great Bromley locations on **alternate Wednesdays** at the same times as before – as noted below:



11.15 – 11.30 am
11.40 – 11.55 am
12.00 – 12.15 pm
1.20 – 1.35 pm
1.40 – 1.55 pm

Cross Inn, Burnt Heath
Hamilton Lodge
Church Meadow
Great Bromley Village Hall
Chase Road West, Hare Green

The visit dates for the second half of 2010 are as follows:

14 and 28 July
8 and 22 September

11 and 25 August
6 and 20 October

3 and 17 November

1, 15 and 29 December

is always necessary. As we go back to the beginning of *our* story it is necessary you go back to the very beginning of the Christian Church. This is not to say that we can do the things the apostles did without remembering that we live in a different cultural situation and a different kind of society. But we do not need to look back to see how it all began. We need to see how God was working his purpose and how those people responded to Him and the challenges of the time.

As far as we are concerned we must respond to the challenges of today. We cannot go back and live the days as we did when we first became Christians. The Christian life is not about reminiscing. There are different challenges and situations to address than there were even a decade ago.

The first days in the Early Church were marked by enthusiasm and joy. But we must remember there was discipline too. The believers were taught the basic principles of the Gospels by the Apostles, as the Apostles themselves had heard them from Jesus. This was first hand testimony because the New Testament had not yet been written.

We are not quite so lucky are we? But we do have the Scriptures today. They are there for our learning. It is strange that countries where the Bible was forbidden people risked their lives to be able to read God's word, whereas some people find so many excuses not to do so.

The other important things in the life of the church are fellowship and prayer. The fellowship of the Holy Spirit is the best fellowship we can have. And if the Spirit fills the life of the Church it is because we seek it. The Holy Spirit is not confined to those who are card carrying charismatics. The Holy Spirit does not only come when there is a happy clappy service. If we think that then our vision of

God is limited and confined perhaps just to our own experience. The Spirit fills the church when we ask for the Holy Spirit in all things to direct and rule our hearts. Yes in all things and in every aspect of our lives. How can God work with half hearted Christians who blame everything on everybody else except their unwillingness to submit themselves to Christ?

I am sure we could all do greater things if only we were more like the first Christians. If we shared with each other with unaffected joy. If only we read the Scriptures regularly. If only when we break Bread at the Eucharist we were truly thankful for what has been done for us. Through the Holy Spirit - the church is a sign of the real presence of Jesus through word and sacrament.

As Bishop Michael Marshall once put it: *"It is a miracle to believe that Jesus of Nazareth who walked the streets of Palestine was truly and physically the body of Christ. It is another miracle to believe that the sacrament of the altar week by week, is the sacramental body of Christ. But perhaps the greatest miracle of all three is the realisation that each and every week thousands of altars all over the world, gathered into one fellowship and mystical union, is the mystical body of Christ. Tom, John, Mary and Sally are the body of Christ – the outward and visible expression in flesh and blood terms of the message of the gospel and the real presence of the Messenger in our town and community, as surely Jesus was present when he came into Galilee preaching the good news of the kingdom nearly two thousand years ago"*.

May we be true and effective witnesses and remember that we can only do this if we are fed by Word and Sacrament so that the gifts of God will be stirred in us. With love to you all,
Fr. Robert

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Church of England Services for July

Sunday 4th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	5th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 11th	8.00am 10.30am	6th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 18th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	7th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 25th	8.00am 10.30am	St James the Apostle Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 1st August	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	9th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin</i>

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