

THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

APRIL 2011

Volume 26 No 1



COWBOYS AT THE CROSS

A big thank you to 'HOARSE DOCTORS' and to everybody who came to make the 'Cowboy and Country' evening such a success. The costumes were fabulous as was the entertainment. Most importantly, nearly £200 was raised for 'Riding for the Disabled'. In response to popular requests, we will be holding a similar event later in the year.

THE FIRST PAGE



Computers are an amazing invention and can save hours of work. They can however also create hours of stress when they won't do what you know they can do! The world was supposed to become largely paperless but I think that possibly more paper is now being used as it is so effortless to print something out and also because hard copies are still wanted. A hasty or impatient press of the print button and you suddenly find paper churning out of the printer at an unstoppable rate. It is perhaps too easy to pass on information via email and an unthinking press of the wrong key can forward information to the wrong recipient, sometimes with embarrassing or unfortunate consequences. This year we received, from a family member, a Christmas round robin letter which arrived in its uncut draft form with all its crossings out and amendments which made interesting reading for us before receiving, a day or so later, the intended final version.

Personal thoughts, photos, confidential information all find their way on to the internet mostly through indiscretion but also due to the endless 'sharing' of information between official departments and also individuals. Google your name

and you will more than likely find yourself. There seems to be no privacy at all now. My own name comes up alongside 'The Bromley Messenger' among other things.

Aside from all that, typing mistakes can easily be made. Mistakes in documents can creep in if you over-type an existing one to save time or so as not to have to set up a particular 'look' again. Such a mistake occurred here in 1998 with Volume 13 (unlucky for some!). The April 1999 issue should have become Volume 14. It didn't happen as I forgot to change it that year and the error was perpetuated until a sharp-eyed person noticed it when they were researching through back copies of the magazine last year. We did therefore in fact celebrate our 21 years of publication a year late and hence Volume 25 will now never exist! I wonder if anyone will notice that in years to come?

The eagle-eyed amongst you also noticed that the legend 'March 2011' was omitted from the cover last month. This was a printing error and is easily done. It happens.

Leonie Henderson

MATERIAL for the **MAY 2011** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **14th April, 2011** 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

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

Please support the sponsors of our magazine.

SPONSORSHIP

March brought to an end the current sponsorship year. Unfortunately we also have to rely on ordinary advertising to keep solvent.



Sponsorship, with page 2 at your disposal of your preferred month, gives full details of your name and business on the back cover every month. This makes it easy to find. If you would like to be a sponsor please contact me and I will send details.

Len Christodoulides - Honorary Treasurer

DID YOU KNOW?

Planetary Alignment

Decreases Gravity

I understand that at exactly 10:17 a.m. on the first day of this month the planets Jupiter, Earth and Saturn are in line with each other. This alignment will result in a strong pull of gravity in each direction from Earth which will reduce the Earth's own gravity and make people momentarily weigh less.

You can experience this phenomenon by jumping in the air at 10:17 and in so doing you will feel a



strange floating sensation.

This phenomenon was last reported by Patrick Moore in 1976 only on that occasion Pluto was passing behind Jupiter. Does anyone remember the occasion? Did anyone experience it then?

These alignments do not often happen, so do let me know what you experience.

LMH

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS & ADVERTISERS

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Great Bromley Parish Council
www.essexinfo.net/gbpc

Report of a parish council meeting held on 10 March 2011

Planning

The Council considered the following planning applications:

Bay Trees, Parsons Hill – proposed brick boundary wall and altered vehicular access (objections).

Greenacre Cattery, Carrington's Road – demolition of garage and replacement by a one-bedroomed annexe for staff with single garage (no objections).

1 Boulton Cottages, Frating Road – proposed garage (no objections).

Tendring District Council has decided the following planning applications:

Land adjacent to the Spread Eagle,

Brook Street – erection of detached dwelling and alteration of vehicular access (previously approved but now refused).
Formal variations of various **Tree Preservation Orders** (approvals).

Parish Council elections (5 May 2011)

A reminder that the closing date for the receipt of nominations for parish councillors is **Monday 4th April (noon)**. Nomination packs can be obtained from the council's Clerk – Ken Bromfield (01206 230089).

The next and final meeting of the present Council will be at 7.30 pm on **Wednesday 13th April 2011** at Great Bromley Village Hall.

GREAT BROMLEY – SUMMER FLOWER TUBS

Each year the parish council arranges for 10 or 11 tubs of flowers to be placed around the village during the summer months. In the past the cost of planting-up the tubs, their delivery and subsequent regular watering has been largely met through a grant from Tendring District Council. With the 'cuts' this grant will no longer be forthcoming and the cost this year will have to be met from parish council funds. A local nursery undertakes all the necessary work and their charge per tub is £100.

The council would like to invite either local residents or businesses in the village to sponsor or jointly sponsor a flower tub. If appropriate the sponsored tub could be located near to the sponsoring business or resident's home. If you would be interested in sponsoring a tub then please contact the council's Clerk, Ken Bromfield, on either 01206 230089 or greatbromleyparishcouncil@gbpc.org.uk.





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

Head teacher: Pat Fitzgerald
Telephone: 01206 230305

We are absolutely delighted with our new outdoor learning classroom. Please see attached photo. The children have named it the 'Dragon's Cabin'.

A big thank you goes to all the parents and pupils who support wholeheartedly many charities

- The work of UNICEF in Guyana our non-uniform day raised £144.06
- We are currently selling daffodils for the work of Marie Curie.
- The Class and School Councils wanted to support Comic Relief and have decided that it would be a good idea to charge children for the privilege of having a 'mad hair' day.

You may be aware that our cleaner-in-charge (Lynn Reed) retired from



her position in February and we are currently seeking a replacement. Please see advert below.

Our Easter Fayre will be on 6th April from 1.45 – 2.45pm. Please come along and support our school. We are all looking forward to spring and wish you all a very Happy Easter.

KIER
FACILITIES SERVICES



Cleaner/Caretaker – St. George's Primary School, Gt. Bromley

The successful candidate will be required to undertake opening/locking of premises, cleaning of the whole school along with caretaking duties. Some other duties include; overseeing sub-contractor works, performing the weekly fire alarm testing and other safety checks and tests. The ideal candidate will ideally have previous experience of working in a school, have commercial cleaning experience and must be able to work on own initiative and as part of a team. The successful candidate will be required to undertake verification from the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB - enhanced).

27.5 hours per week during school term time (6.00am – 8.30am & 3.15pm – 6.15pm) and as agreed during school holidays

For further information, please contact the Kier Facilities Services Recruitment Department on 01536 276930 – Job reference 361.



Cherry No. 1180288
Company No. 7099481

Little Dragons Pre-School

Great Bromley & Frating

Ofsted Inspected

Website: www.littledragonspreschool.org

Email: littledragonspreschool@gmail.com

Great Bromley Village Hall

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

Children 2-5 years

Lunch time session available Mondays & Wednesdays

For more details/ visits please contact us on 0785 7503103

Spring is on the way! As the weather improves the children have been spending more time in the garden. We recently enjoyed a very windy day exploring with kites, windmills and blowing bubbles.

On 3rd March for 'World Book Day' staff and children dressed up as their favourite book characters and took part in lots of story related activities throughout the session. The costumes encouraged some lovely imaginative play.

On 7th March parents of new children were invited to a small workshop to learn more about how we can work together to benefit children's learning and how they can contribute to their child's individual planning.

On Pancake Day we made and ate some lovely pancakes and on 14th March we all came to pre-school in our pyjamas! Great Fun! (this was in exchange for bringing gifts for the tombola for our Fun Day).

Just to let you know that we are collecting both the Tesco and Sainsbury's Vouchers so please tell friends, family etc.

We take children from the age of two years and now offer a 'home visit' to families of children prior to them starting Pre-school. This gives the child the opportunity to meet their key-person in their own home, aiding the transition stage to pre-school. It also enables us to collect and share information in a confidential environment.

For further information or to arrange a visit to the setting please contact us on the above number.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 11th April	Easter Holiday
Tuesday 26th April	Closed – Staff Training
Wednesday 27th April	Summer Term begins

LT BROMLEY CELEBRATION OF ROYAL WEDDING CHILDREN'S DRAWING COMPETITION



There will be a **drawing/colouring competition** with a **Royal Wedding** theme to be judged at the Tea Party

Open to children of all ages

Please could you draw, colour, collage etc your picture on to a piece of A4 paper/ card and then write your name, age and phone number on the back

Your picture can then be brought along to the Tea Party at the Haywain on the 29th April from 3pm

The judging will take place at around 4.45pm and prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.

We hope that you would like to take part in our competition

and come along to our **Tea Party** but if you would like to take part and are unable to attend please phone Carol on 01206 395103, evenings preferred

MAD Young Christians Need Your Help!

Regular readers will know about the activities of our local Young Christians as they strive to Make A Difference in the world.

A clear highlight of our year is the annual Youth Pilgrimage to Walsingham where we join up to a thousand other youngsters from all across the country to worship with CJM (an amazing band) in a Big Top! We provide our own accommodation, sleeping in tents and eating and having fun together.

Sadly our communal eating and meeting tent finally gave up the ghost in the wind last summer so we are in real need of a substitute. Large

enough to seat up to 20 people, it needs to be weatherproof, with a roof and at least

three sides. A lightweight tent with a metal frame that is straightforward to put up would be ideal. Unfortunately we have no money so we need to ask for the loan of the tent – which we will take great care of.

We need it from Monday 1st to Friday 5th August. Thank you for your support – and if you know of anyone aged 11-17 who would like to join us we can guarantee them the experience of a lifetime! I look forward to your call on 01206 230003 or 07834 323931 Thanks again

Mandy Pratt



Something for the School Holidays!

Our next **Messy Church** meets on
Monday 18 April,
10.00am-12.30pm
in Great Bromley Village Hall.

With Easter approaching there will be lots of Easter crafts, the Easter story told in a fun way and of course



we will finish with a light lunch (and maybe a hot cross bun!!) So mums, dads, grand-parents or carers bring your children along... and children bring your mums, dads, grand-parents or carers for some fun, food and craft. It is a good way to spend some time together in the holidays without

having to worry about the mess!

What is Messy Church?

You may have heard the term 'messy church' but wondered what it really is. Well Messy Church is an opportunity for young families to come to church in a new way, with craft activities, sharing of a meal, listening to God's word through stories, prayer and praise.

Messy Church doesn't always take place in a church building but finds somewhere suitable for families to meet. It is an informal way of coming to church where we can make a mess and have some fun!

If you would like to know more please call Gill Moore on 01206 397493



Learning  Life

This term we are having a ten week course on the Composers of Vienna. On Thursday, 17th February we were treated to a concert.

What a wonderful treat this was, taking place about half way through the term. A musical and choral performance of nearly two hours on songs to the music of Mozart, Strauss and other Viennese composers with the course Tutor, Peter as the Pianist and his friend Richard as the Baritone.



This is just one of the varied activities that happens at our WEA meetings and I thought this was a good opportunity to explain a little bit about the WEA and hopefully encourage a few more members of our local villages to come along to our courses in the future. I think many people are put off by first the title, WEA (Workers Education Association), and secondly that it is a bit like "School" where you go, have to learn and take exams at the end.

It is really nothing like that; yes you do learn, but the subjects are wide and varied. Art, music, literature and history do tend to make up the majority of the courses but they can be on railways, environment, geology, philosophy and

many other topics. The tutors are always very knowledgeable and a two way dialogue is always encouraged BUT you do not have to actually learn anything. You go for the pure enjoyment of listening to, and yes, possibly learning a bit, about a subject you perhaps had never even thought of before. Nothing is compulsory, so no course work, no homework and definitely no exams.

I first went some years ago to a chemistry course on "Why Put Salt in the Dishwasher", a title which made chemistry come down to an understandable level, but it was very good. Over the ten week course I was asked if I could take on the publicity and I have been going to their courses ever since, which have included the Savoy Operas, Coastal Erosion, Understanding Scenery, A Spanish Mosaic, Lives of the Great Painters, China, Iraq and many more.

The actual branch chooses the courses for the following year, so the choice of subject is down to the branch. Of course you have to pay, but at around £44, which works out at just under £3 an hour, tuition is very reasonable and this can be reduced right down to nothing if you are on benefits. A charge has to be made, as we have to pay for the hall, the tutor and his/her travelling costs and the tutors do come from a fair distance in some cases. Our present tutor, Peter, doing a round trip of over 50 miles to be with us.

When we know the subjects for the year 2011-2012. I will once again write in the magazine. Do come along to our future courses and enjoy a very enjoyable couple of hours on a Thursday afternoon. It would be great if a few more men could be encouraged to come along as well!

John Terry

KITCHEN CORNER

Teatime Fruity Squares

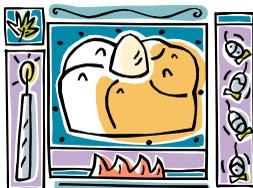
8oz (225g) Wholemeal SR flour
pinch of salt
4oz (115g) margarine or butter
1tsp(5ml) cinnamon
3oz(85g) golden caster sugar
3oz (85g) sultanas
3oz(85g) chopped glacé cherries
3~5tbsp milk (45~75ml)

Topping:

1tbsp milk 1tbsp Demerara sugar
1teasp cinnamon

Method; sieve flour and salt into a bowl and rub in the margarine. Add the spice sugar and fruit and mix well, stir in enough milk to make a stiff dough.

On a lightly floured surface knead dough and roll out to fit a 28 x 23 cm (11 x 9ins) baking tin. Brush top with milk and sprinkle with sugar and spice



Bake at 220oC 430oF 15-20 minutes until well risen and golden. Serve cut in squares.

Jill Frostick

FROM THE PAST

William Spencer's Will 17th February, 1588

He asked for burial at Great Bromley. Anne, his wife, and Edmund, his son, were to occupy his house and land called Carringtons. If Edmund dies without heir all goes to son William. Edmund had to pay Anne £5 yearly and £10 to son, Israel, when he is 24. Anne was given land in Kirby called Harryes for three years and then it goes to Anthony and if he dies childless to George and Thomas. Land called Popes also in Kirby was Anne's for three years and then to George and Thomas when they are 22.

George was to pay daughter Parnell £8: Thomas paid daughter Anne £8: daughter Mary would be paid by Edmund at 21, William £8 by wife Anne three years after William dies Edmund pays son John £8 in 1591.

John had a bullock. Edmund pays grand-daughter Dorothy Parvis 20 shillings at 21. Wife, Anne, was left all the crops and broom on his lands. The poor people gained 2s. The rest was Anne's who was made executor with Edmund.

Edmund paid a £50 bond to John Heckford of Bromley to pay for the legacies and was awarded 3s 4d for his pains.

John Appleby

GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB



100 Club Winners for February

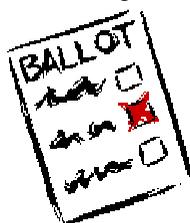
1st.	Judith Knappett
2nd.	Nicky Saych
3rd.	Ian Lawson



LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Local Elections, Thursday 5th May, 2011

Notices about the forthcoming election of District and Parish councillors have been published throughout the village. The main noticeboard is situated on the car park opposite the Old Post Office. Details on these notices are self-explanatory and by the time this copy of the magazine is published any



candidates would almost certainly have completed applications. We are entitled to five Parish councillors, all posts are currently filled

but there is the possibility of one if not two members not wishing to be re-elected. The last day for the submission of Registration documents is 4th April, 2011.

Don't forget the Tea and Cakes party on Friday, 29th April (Royal Wedding Celebration) followed by an evening party, both of which are centred on the Haywain. Committee meeting will be held on 7th April at 7.30pm.

Our next Council meeting is the Public Assembly set to take place on Thursday, 28th April.

Tony Downes, Clerk

REFURBISHMENT OF LITTLE BROMLEY WAR MEMORIAL

Little Bromley Parish Council are planning to refurbish the war memorial in Little Bromley during this summer.

The memorial is now some 90 years old and it requires professional cleaning and repairing to restore its appearance and maintain structural integrity. There are cracks in the structure itself which need repairing.

Exposure to the elements means that names on the memorial are difficult to read and some of the lead lettering needs to be replaced.

This work will ensure that it will

remain standing for many years to come and continue to be a reminder for future generations.

Any one who has any comments, suggestions or wishes to support this

project should contact the Parish Council whose details can be found on the back page of the Bromley Messenger.





ROYAL WEDDING QUIZ

Compiled by Ian & Val Harris

How well do you know our monarchy? There are no prizes I'm afraid but you can give yourselves two points for a correct answer and one for a near miss. Good luck.

1. Which British King was married the most times?
2. Which British Queen was married the most times?
3. Kate Middleton will be 29 when she marries William but who was the oldest royal bride?
4. Who was the youngest British royal bride?
5. Do you know who was the oldest royal groom?
6. What is the name of the youngest ever royal groom to make it to the altar?
7. Who holds the record for the longest royal marriage?
8. And which couple lasted the shortest time?
9. Kate has no royal connections, who was the last commoner to wed an heir presumptive?
10. Which was the biggest British royal wedding to date, by the number of guests?
11. Which British king married the same queen twice?
12. And finally, how does our monarchy match up to **world** records (all these facts are from the Guinness Book of Records):
 - a. The oldest bride/groom?
 - b. The youngest person to marry?
 - c. The tallest married couple (combined height)?
 - d. The greatest weight difference between a married couple?
 - e. The longest wedding dress train?
 - f. The most marriages by one person?
 - g. The longest recorded marriage?
 - h. The longest recorded engagement?
 - i. The most expensive recorded marriage?

Answers on page 17

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The weather has changed for the better (we hope!) so we can think about outings - if you have any suggestions of where to go let us know as soon as possible. Some like half a day and some like a full day. What would YOU like?

I have had a letter from the Floral Tea Rooms at Dunwich inviting us. The weather was not good the last time we went so wherever we go we need SUN. As always the food was excellent.

The competition for our meeting on 17th April is a piece of memorabilia relating to World War II

Vicky Griffiths



EVENTS IN 2011

APRIL

- 2 Race Night, Village Hall, 7.00pm
- 3 Mothering Sunday
- 5 Parish Council Elections
- 6 Easter Fayre, St George's School, 1.45pm
WI meeting, Ceramics, Village Hall, 7.30pm
Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm
- 7 Lt Bromley Parish Council Public Assembly meeting
- 13 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
Ardleigh Horticultural meeting, Wonderful Gardens, Ardleigh village hall, 7.45pm
- 14 Essex Handicrafts meeting, Costumes, United Church Hall, B'sea, 7.30pm
- 17 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 18 'Messy Church', Village Hall, 10.00am
- 22 Good Friday
- 23 Lawford Farmers Market, Venture Centre
- 24 Easter Sunday
- 27 Great Bromley Village Hall AGM, Village Hall, 8.00pm
- 28 Lt Bromley Parish Council Public Assembly meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm
- 29 Tea Party to celebrate the Royal Wedding, The Haywain, 3.00pm
- 30 Gt Bromley Farmers Market, Village Hall 10.00am-2.00pm
Flower Festival, St George's Church **POSTPONED to 1-2 October**

MAY

- 3 Village Hall Charity Trustees meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 4 WI meeting, Toymaking, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 Local Elections for Parish and District Councillors
- 7 Plant & Garage Sale, Ilex Farm, 10.00am
St Helena Hospice Summer Fete, St Helena Hospice, 11.00am
Grand Charity Dinner, Venture Centre, 7.00pm
- 11 Ardleigh Horticultural meeting, Colchester Parks, Ardleigh village hall, 7.45pm
- 12 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14 Friends of Lt Bromely Church AGM, Lt Bromley church, 10.30am
- 15 Art & Country Crafts Exhibition, Lawford Venture Centre
- 16-21 'A Funny Thing happened on the Way to the Forum', Manifest Theatre
Group, Manningtree, 7.30pm
- 17 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
Essex Handicrafts meeting, Textile Artist, United
Church Hall, B'sea, 7.30pm
- 18 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm
- 27 Night on Broadway with Drop Dead Divas, Village
Hall, 7.30pm
- 28 Lawford Farmers Market, Venture Centre



EASTER FAYRE

on 6th April
1.45pm-2.45pm
at
St George's School



Little Bromley Parish
Council and the Amenities
Committee would like to
invite you to the

LITTLE BROMLEY CELEBRATION OF THE ROYAL WEDDING

We will be holding a
TRADITIONAL TEA PARTY
for the whole family at the Haywain
on Friday 29th April 2011
between 3pm and 5pm.

Please come and enjoy this community
event with free music and food.

To be followed by an evening of
entertainment hosted by the Haywain.

- If you are able to donate a cake or other
finger food for our tea party please phone
either Carol on 01206 395103 or Anita on
01206 390033
- We will also be having a drawing/colouring
competition with a Royal Wedding theme to
be judged at the Tea Party. Open to
children of all ages. **See page 7 for more
details.**



St. George's Patronal Festival

Please join our Patronal Festival on
Monday 2nd May at 6.30pm.

Please note the change of date as 23rd
April is on Easter Saturday and St.
George's celebrations have been deferred
to 2nd May.

You are warmly invited to share afternoon
tea with us at 5pm and afterwards join the
Patronal Eucharist at 6.30pm where we
are hoping to have a guest preacher.

For more information please phone
Fr. Robert on 01206 231923



Race Night

2nd April
Great Bromley Village Hall
7.00pm for 7.30pm

Sponsorship for a race £25.

Horses £5

Race card £1 includes admission

Bring your own drinks and picnic.

Messy Church

meets on
Monday, 18th April,
10.00am-12.30pm
in

Great Bromley Village Hall

for more details see page 9



Great Bromley Village Hall AGM

Wednesday 27th April
at 8pm

in the Village Hall.

All villagers are welcome to attend.

Plant & Garage Sale

at

Ilex Farm, Waterhouse Lane, Ardleigh
on 7th May

10.00am - 1.00pm

Proceeds to Cancer

Research UK and St

Michael's Church,

Thorpe Le Soken



Friends of Little Bromley Church

Saturday 14 May
AGM 10.30 for 11.30

Sunday 19 June

Tea and music. Time tbc.

This is part of the national fundraising
weekend for the Churches Conservation
Trust.



CHILDREN'S PAGE

COLOURED AND DECORATED EGGS FOR EASTER

How to hard boil an egg

- Lay eggs on bottom of the pot
- Try not to stack your eggs (it's better to do it in batches than overflow your pot)
- Fill with water so it's an inch over the eggs
- Put on high heat and bring to a rapid boil
- Let boil for 12 minutes

Remove from heat

Food Colouring Dyed Easter Eggs

You need:

Hard boiled eggs
vinegar (plain white)
small bowls, cups or empty margarine containers

water
food colour drops

How to do:

- Fill container about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ full of water. Don't fill TOO full or when you put the eggs in it will overflow.
- Add 1 tsp of vinegar (for *about* every 1 cup of water. No need for precise measurements, but if you're using a large ice cream tub you'll need more vinegar than if you're using a teacup)
- Add drops of food colour until you are happy with the hue.
- Put hard boiled eggs in the container (using a tablespoon makes it easier to put them in and take them out)
- Allow to dry. Wipe with vegetable oil (with paper towel or a rag) to make a glossier egg.

Tissue Paper Dyed Easter Eggs

You need:

Hard boiled eggs
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 2 inch squares of NEW tissue paper in many different BRIGHT colours
Sprayer for water or bowl of water

• How to do:

- spray or dip egg in water (get it all wet)
- pick up squares of tissue paper one at a time and lay around the egg. Use different colours and overlap them.
- Spray with water again if the tissue paper didn't get completely wet.
- Set aside in a bowl or margarine container to dry.
- When the egg dries, the tissue paper will fall off, but the pretty colours will stay behind. It gives something of a stained glass look to the eggs.

Crayon Easter Eggs

You need:

Hard boiled eggs
wax crayons (the waxier the better... in this case cheap crayons are better than crayolas)

Food colouring

How to do:

- Draw pictures or designs with wax crayon. Even white wax crayon will be useful for this project.
- Dip in dye.
- Let dry.
- The dye won't soak through the crayon! I find cheap crayons work best for this project (crayolas don't have quite enough wax in them though they do work ok).



Conservation was the subject this month, but with a twist. David Wilkin came to talk to us about Barn Owls, unfortunately not with Casper as he had died last year at the age of approximately 20 years. David farms in Lt. Clacton with 120 acres. He also breeds pigs.

The project has been running since 1998, with various shaped boxes but the most common shape being the



"A" frame. He explained that there are particular signs that need to be looked for if you suspect you have nesting birds in old barns or

outbuildings which are pellets and feathers; the pellets will initially be black and shiny but will dry out. If you have a barn that is suitable you can use an old tea chest as a box, but the entrance hole must be at the top as, if not, the babies will try to leave the nest too early, fall out and perish.

David rings all the owls he monitors, but to do this he must have a licence which is renewed yearly. He also has a licence to ring birds of prey. As he rings he also weighs the birds and all this data is recorded on a central data base, so if a dead bird is found and it has been ringed the data base will show all the details. The ring can also

show the distance travelled, and also its breeding habits. Wing measurements are also taken which will show the age of the bird.

How to know whether a barn owl is male or female? The male is nearly white and the female is highly coloured, although the colour does tend to fade with age.

David has breeding pairs around the local coast line, some in boxes, some on breeding poles, he also has 50 boxes along the River Stour, with 7 - 8 pairs breeding. The number of chicks produced depends on the weather and available food. If there is flooding or snow the chick population will be small as the adults are unable to hunt for food. He now has 450 boxes which he and his team are able to monitor. This is his limit physically and also because he still runs a working farm. A superb, interesting and very informative evening. The vote of thanks was given by Irene.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 6th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall with Maggie Doherty speaking on Ceramics. Visitors are always welcome.

Joy Rolfe

IN THE GARDEN IN APRIL

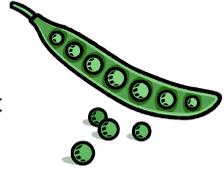
Forsythias are one of the best known spring-flowering shrubs and are now in full bloom; the flowers appear before the leaves. As soon as the flowers are over in April or May shorten the vigorous flowering shoots to keep shrubs tidy. To propagate, take cuttings 10-12" long in October of the current season's growth, insert cuttings in a nursery bed outdoors and the cuttings should be ready to plant out next April.

Onions. One of the best ways to grow onions is by "sets". These are small bulb-like onions and require a shorter growing season than plants raised from seed. Onions do well in soil that has been well manured.

Potatoes. Plant second-early potatoes and towards the end of the month plant the main crop. As soon as the shoots are

through draw the soil up to cover the shoots. Potatoes should be planted about 4" deep, 15" apart with the rows 2' apart.

Peas. Sow main crop varieties from now on until June with plantings every two weeks. Dig a flat bottom drill 6-8" wide 1½" deep, rows 2' apart.



Parsnips. Plant the seed in rows 12" apart with seeds 1" deep.

This month start to plant out **cabbages**, **cauliflowers**, **brussel sprouts**, the seeds of most **lettuce** varieties can be planted this month.

Frank Griffiths

FAIRLY USELESS BUT INTERESTING NATURE INFORMATION

- ◆ The effort that a **Great Tit** puts into feeding its chicks is equivalent to a human parent bringing home 100kg of shopping every day for more than a fortnight.
- ◆ **Flamingos** are pink because of their staple meal - carotene-rich brine shrimp. Chicks are born with grey plumage, which turns from light pink to dark red, dependent on their food supply. Flamingos with pale feathers are usually unhealthy or malnourished. However, every flamingo has 12 black flight feathers in each wing.
- ◆ The most sophisticated nests are built by Swifts, whose homes form the basis of the expensive Chinese dish **birds' nest soup**. The nests are formed from birds' salivary cement and contain high quantities of minerals, like potassium and magnesium.
- ◆ The bird with the **foulest smelling nest** is the Eurasian Hoopoe. Their interior decoration includes a vast amount of faeces - the foul stench is used to put off predators. The Hoopoe is included in the Old Testament's list of unclean birds.
- ◆ The cuckoo sings from St. Tiburtius' Day (14th April) to St John's Day (24th June). However in Worcestershire there is a saying that the cuckoo is never heard before Tenbury fair (21st April), or after Pershore fair (26th June). The difference in dates is because traditionally the bird arrives in different parts of the country during April.
- ◆ The **honeybee's** wings stroke 11,400 times per minute, thus making their distinctive buzz. She can fly for up to six miles, and as fast as 15 miles per hour, hence it would have to fly around 90,000 miles - three times around the globe - to make one pound of honey.
- ◆ The average honey bee will actually make only one twelfth of a teaspoon of honey in its lifetime and it takes about 556 workers to gather 1 pound of honey from about 2 million flowers.



ANSWERS to Royal Wedding Quiz on page 11

1. Start with an easy one, Henry VIII to Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard and Catherine Parr.
2. Mary Queen of Scots to Francis the Dauphin of France, Lord Darnley and The Earl of Bothwell all by the age of 24.
3. The oldest royal bride was probably Mary I who married Phillip of Spain at the ripe old age of 38.
4. The youngest bride was Isabelle of Valois who married Richard II at the tender age of six years.
5. The oldest monarch to marry for the first time was William IV to Adelaide of Saxe Meiningen at the age of 52.
6. The youngest royal groom was David II of Scotland who married Joan, daughter of Edward II when he was aged four years four months
7. It is our very own Liz and Phil, 63 years and counting.
8. The shortest marriage was that of Alexander III of Scotland to Yolanda, that lasted just four months 19 days due to the king falling off his horse.
9. Sorry it's not Camilla because she is the granddaughter of a baron. Anne Hyde was the last commoner when she married James Duke of York in 1660 in spite of opposition from his brother Charles II.
10. The largest wedding was that of Prince Arthur to Catherine of Aragon. The wedding took place in the old St. Paul's Cathedral, standing room only for over 20,000 guests.
11. It could only be Henry VIII who married Anne Boleyn before his first marriage had been properly annulled so he had to do it again to be sure it was legal.
12. a. Minnie Monroe (Australia) aged 102/Harry Stevens (USA), aged 103
b. An 11 month old boy married a three month old girl to end a feud between two families (Bangladesh 1986)
c. Anna Swan (7ft 5.5in) and Martin van Buran Bates (7ft 2.5in) total height 14ft 8 ins (4.46m)
d. John Brower Minnoch 100 stone and Jeanette 8 stone difference 92 stone (585Kg).
e. The longest wedding dress train made in 2007 measured an incredible 1,362m (4,468ft).
f. The greatest number of marriages in the monogamous world is 27 by Glynn Wolfe (USA).
g. The longest lasting marriage is 86 years Sir Nemulji and Lady Nariman who married when they were both five years old.
h. The longest engagement was between Octavio Guillen and Adriana Martinez who finally tied the knot in 1969 after waiting for 67 years.
i. Kate and Wills wedding could cost £20 million but even this was dwarfed by the marriage of Vanisha Mittal and Amit Bhatia in 2006 which cost an estimated £55 million.



ESSEX POLICE



Recently there has been an increase in house burglaries where the only thing that is stolen are vehicle keys, the vehicle(s) are then stolen by using those keys. This is not just a case of high value vehicles being stolen, any type of vehicle is being targeted. If you own a vehicle(s) please think about what you do with your car keys as many people just leave them on a table next to the front door making it simple for the burglar. If you have a wheel clamp/steering lock, use it, if you have a gate across your driveway, use it and lock it.

Do what you can to keep the burglars at bay.

*Police Constable 2176 Dan HEARD
Neighbourhood Constable*

Incidents in Great Bromley during February

Disturbance - Back Lane East
RTC - Parsons Hill

News letter for March

Lock your car

Police are warning drivers in Clacton to think carefully about vehicle security following a series of thefts in the town. Vehicles parked in the town centre and on the Royals estate have been targeted. Chief Inspector Jason Scrivener, Tendring's District Commander, said it was vital that drivers check and double check that their vehicle is locked. "The majority, if not all, of these vehicles had been left insecure. This makes the thief's job very easy. "Close all the windows and lock the doors and boot. Remove sat navs, including the holder, mobile phones and mp3 players and, if at all possible, park your car in a garage or in a well-lit area. Don't leave anything on the parcel shelf either. Expensive items left out on display are an open invitation to an opportunistic thief."

Ch Insp Scrivener said his team were

keen to hear from anyone who may have information about anything they feel concerned about in their area. "If you see anything suspicious in your street, please contact us. Look out for your neighbours and don't hesitate to pick up the phone if something doesn't look right," he added.

Information should be passed to Clacton police station on 0300 333 4444, or anonymously on Crimestoppers 0800 555 111.

Following the previous report we have had a large number of thefts from cars and garages in the Tendring and Elmstead Market area, a large number of thefts are from vehicles on driveways that have been left unlocked and the garages also unlocked, so please don't make it easy for them and make sure you lock up your vehicles and garages.

Also there is an **email scam** that you must be aware of, it alleges that it comes from the Post Office Reward Department and will reward people with £150 by completing a survey after clicking on the link.

The link goes through to a fake, but realistic looking, Post office website where personal banking details are requested. Please **do not** click on the link and do not enter any personal banking details. Remember you should never click on any links or open any attachments if you do not know the sender.

Les Barnes PCSO 71909
Thorpe Le Soken NPT Eastern
Mobile 07967466876
Tel 03003334444 Ext 487603
Email : leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police
website : www.essex.police.uk

VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

Another great night in the village with the alternative quiz night. Very funny, lots of people having a good time, not too serious but still a little bit competitive. Well done to Dinah and Jane for all their hard work, a good night and £435.50 profit for the Village Hall.

We now have the new heating controls for the Hall which will control each of the three main areas separately and with thermostats on the radiators we are looking to save money on the heating bill. As the heating is oil we need to watch carefully as with current events the oil price will not be getting any cheaper.

Due to a clash of events the Hog Roast booked for the 11th June will now take place on Saturday 2nd July. The Village Hall, Cricket Club & PTA will jointly run a Family Day at the Cricket Club starting at 4pm onwards. There will be a Hog Roast and a BBQ. Hopefully live music, a bouncy castle and a number of games, including rounders. The tickets will be £15 per family 2 adults and 2 children or £5 per person which includes food from the Hog Roast or BBQ. We hope that the village will support this event as the Village Fun Day is not taking place this year."

Future Events to look forward to

Race Night on 2nd April, Sponsorship for a race £25. Horses £5 Race card £1 includes admission. Bring your own drinks and picnic.

Farmers Market (note change of date) on 30th April from 10am to 1pm

A Night on Broadway on 27th May

Family Hog Roast & Disco on 2nd July (see above)

Farmers Market on 23rd July from 10am to 1pm

Cabaret Night Olly Day on 8th October (only a few tickets left)

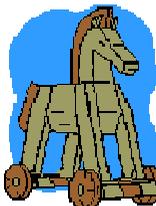
Farmers Market on 22nd October from

10am to 1pm

Christmas Fayre on 3rd December
Farmers Market on 21st December (Provisional) 6pm to 9pm

New Years Eve Dance on 31st December

The next night out will be Race Night at the Village Hall on 2nd April. Bring your own drinks and nibbles for the eight races with eight horses in each race. You can sponsor a race for £25 and have your own horse for a fiver.



Admission is £1, racing starts at 7:30 admission from 7:00. Tickets are available from any committee member. This event is being run by a specialist company that promises a great fun night so if you want to bet on the horses you have no need to go further than the Village Hall on 2nd April.

27th May is the date for the 'Drop Dead Divas' who will be performing 'A Night on Broadway'. Sounds interesting, book your table early as this one will be popular. 7pm for 7:30 tickets £8, bring your own drinks and nibbles and again book your tickets with any committee member

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 2011.

The AGM is to be held on Wednesday 27th April 2011 at 8pm in the Village Hall. All villagers are welcome to attend.

The next Committee meeting is on Tuesday May 3rd at 7:30pm. As always all welcome.

David Beech

ST HELENA HOSPICE

Zoe Tyler to Support St Helena Hospice's Midnight Walk

We are thrilled to announce that Zoe Tyler is on board to support St Helena Hospice's third Midnight Walk, which will take place on Saturday 4 June.

We are really pleased that the vocal coach, performer and Loose Women regular took time out of her busy schedule to come along to the Hospice, based in Colchester, on Friday 25 February, to meet the Midnight Walk team and encourage people from across the region to get involved and support their local hospice.

The ladies-only midnight Walk event will commence on the stroke of midnight when 2,000 ladies will start their walk through Colchester in aid of St Helena Hospice. The walk is 12km (7.5 miles) and will start and finish at the Colchester United Stadium.

We already have over 700 ladies registered to do the walk and places are set to sell out fast, so make sure you secure your place as soon as possible!

For more information about the Midnight Walk call: 01206 791740,

Choosing the right route will save you time



25% of people using A&E have minor injuries which could be treated more quickly at a Minor Injuries Unit or Walk In Centre.

Have a minor injury? Choose a faster route.

FAST ROUTES

A&E

Minor Injuries Unit

Stop at your nearest minor injuries unit for:

-  Stitches
-  Sprains/suspected broken bones
-  Stings/bites and burns
-  X-rays

CLACTON
Clacton Hospital,
Tower Road,
Clacton on Sea CO15 1LH
9am - 9pm every day

HARWICH
Fryatt Hospital, Main Road,
Harwich CO12 4EX
9am - 5pm every day

Walk In Centre

Stop here for:

-  Minor illness
-  Blood tests
-  Sprains
-  Stings/bites and burns

COLCHESTER
North Colchester
Healthcare Centre,
Turner Road,
Colchester CO4 5JR
7am - 10pm every day

Accident & Emergency

For all life threatening illnesses or injuries:

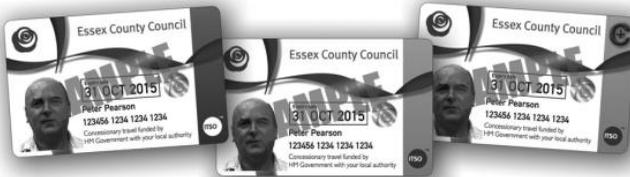
-  Chest pain
-  Shortness of breath
-  Major injury
-  Blood loss

COLCHESTER
Colchester Hospital
University NHS Foundation
Trust, Turner Road,
Colchester CO4 5JL
24 hours every day

If you are unsure which service is right for you contact NHS Direct on 0845 4647 or visit www.choosetherightroute.co.uk

Important changes to your concessionary bus pass

Essex County Council now administers the English Bus Pass scheme for residents of Essex.



How will this affect you?

- **The look of new bus passes will change** (see examples above) but your current pass is valid until its expiry date
- **The use of your personal information has not changed** – just who is responsible for it
- **Your local district council will still process your application and answer your questions**

Essex pass holders can still travel in Essex, Southend and Thurrock from 0900 to 2400 Monday – Friday and all day at the weekend and on public holidays, and from 0930 to 2300 Monday – Friday elsewhere in England and all day at the weekend and on public holidays.

For further information contact **0845 603 7631**
or email publictransport@essex.gov.uk

EXHIBITION OF ART & COUNTRY CRAFTS

Lawford Venture
Centre
Sunday May 15th
2011

The Rotary Club of Manningtree Stour Valley

The Mayflower Walk is celebrating 10 years of sponsored walks along the Essex Way from and is hosting a Grand Charity Dinner at the Venture Centre Lawford on the 7th May 2011 from 7.00pm.

Guest Speaker Mike Brace OBE member of the 2012 Olympics committee and former paralympian skier and vice president of the Paralympics UK and COE of "Vision 2020"

All proceeds to go to the Paralympics UK and Vision 2020.

Tickets available from Terry Dean 01206 395168 & David Moss Tel: 01206 393668

St Helena Hospice Summer Fete

St Helena Hospice will be holding their annual Summer Fete on Saturday 7 May 2011, from 11am until 3pm. We would love to welcome you along to enjoy a lovely afternoon of entertainment, food, drink, and shopping within the beautiful grounds of St Helena Hospice, at Barncroft Close, Highwoods, Colchester. Highlights will include great entertainment, BBQ, refreshments and a wide range of stalls and activities. Admission is by donation.

We are also looking for anyone who wishes to hold a stall at the Fete to get in touch. For further information, please telephone the Fundraising Office on 01206 791740 or email kalden@sthelenahospice.org.uk

THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

It will soon be time for our Easter celebrations. I am sure most of you, like myself find this an uplifting time of year. The Resurrection is the main celebration of our faith, without it, our faith would be in vain as St. Paul says. There is nothing quite like Easter worship. Easter Day is the climax of the year, the day that makes all the difference. In the words of the Easter hymn it is, "our triumphant holy day".

In our worship Sunday by Sunday we celebrate the Resurrection, and it is in our worship that we rediscover our identity. Many people assume that individuals go to church to say their prayers. However the point of worship is not to provide a vacuum for a stream of individual requests and thanksgivings. The point of worship is recollection and celebration. Individuals come to church as persons in relationship. In the act of recollection scripture is read and expounded. God's praises are sung. The mystery of death and resurrection is re-enacted in the rite of Baptism and the Eucharist. Most important of all is the fact that worship is offered, not only on behalf of those who are present, but on behalf of those who are absent. This is something we forget in an obsession with numbers of people in pews, which we humanly tend to regard as a measure of our success.

The church articulates the worship of its own absent members; it also articulates worship on behalf of those who are not members. However each person comes as

a person in relationship, and he or she comes, not only with their own burden of guilt and request and thanksgiving, but also with what they are loaded from other people. Each person comes to worship carrying their own past scars and blessings and their own present. In one sense those who attend worship are representatives.

Christian liturgy is a reordering of space and time. It happens in a place at a time, regularly. But it recalls time past and makes it present. The time past is the past of Jesus, and in particular the Easter event, his dying and rising. This is the core of what is being remembered and handed on. Behind the dying and rising of Christ we also recall his past, his roots in the faith of Israel. There are appointed readings from the scriptures. The past is remembered, not just in a general or sentimental way, but also in a specific and concrete way. It is important to remember that we not only recall the good bits. The intractable, bloody obscure and boring are also recalled. It is only in this way that all our past can be made present and open to redemption, and of course the recollection of the past goes forward from Jesus. We remember and make present our fellow Christians – those who worship with us in different places and different times, because the liturgy recalls our connectedness.

So in our Easter worship this year, let us remember our destiny to rise from the dead, healed and whole. In our worship we anticipate this reality. We are in hope and faith already raised with Christ and we commit ourselves in hope to the kingdom, which is to come, invoking "Thy Kingdom come".

May this Easter be a time of true celebration for you and your families.

A happy and blessed Easter to you all.
Fr. Robert

Easter Lilies 2011

If you would like to sponsor Easter Lilies in memory of a loved one, please send your contribution / donation to Jenny Nicholls at Fryerning, Hall Road, Great Bromley, CO7 7TS. Telephone 01206230688'



ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Church of England Services for April

Sunday 3rd	8.00am 10.30am	4th Sunday of Lent Eucharist Parish Eucharist	Mothering Sunday <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 10th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	5th Sunday of Lent Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	Passion Sunday <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
HOLY WEEK			
Sunday 17th	8.00am 10.30am	Palm Sunday Eucharist Parish Eucharist with Blessing & Procession of Palms. The reading of the Passion of our Lord	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<i>Archdeacon Annette Cooper will preside at this service, Fr Robert will conduct the Liturgy of Palms.</i>			
Thursday 21st	7.30pm	Maudy Thursday Mass of the Last Supper with Watch until Midnight	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Friday 22nd	11.00am 2.00pm	Good Friday Stations of the Cross The Good Friday Liturgy	<i>from St Mary's School</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Saturday, 23rd	7.30pm	Easter Eve The Easter Vigil and Blessing of Paschal Candles	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 24th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Easter Day Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

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