

THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

JULY 2011

Volume 26 No 4



Photograph courtesy of Ken Stokes

Great Bromley Public Rights of Way (PRoW)

At the end of last year Great Bromley Parish Council joined the Parish Paths Partnership (P3) scheme, organised by Essex County Council to offer support and advice regarding PRoW.

For the full report on all the work that has been done on our public rights of way see page 3

In the photograph are Ken Stokes, Great Bromley Footpath Warden, Deborah Lawes, Working Group Coordinator and her daughter

THE FIRST PAGE



Since our dousing at the Chelsea Flower Show last month the rain seems to have hardly stopped! I'm not grumbling, mind you, as the garden

was desperate for water; there just seems to be no happy medium. At this moment I am sitting outside in the sun looking at the flowers and vegetable plants which have visibly grown over the last few days and contemplating the lawn which is now in urgent need of a cut. Our rain gauge here shows that between 1 March and 31 May approximately 30mm (1½ inches) of rain fell and at the time of writing so far this month (June) approximately 60mm (2¼ inches) has fallen.

The rain has damped down the dust and everywhere smells cleaner and fresher. The air temperature is warm and on fine days it is a pleasure to be outside. What a pity therefore to read the report on dog fouling (page 3) and of tree damage, vandalism and graffiti (page 5) at Hare Green Recreation Ground. Such thoughtless and mindless acts by the minority curtail the pleasures of walking the highways and byways and playing in the open area of the recreation ground for the majority. Do think! You wouldn't want poo and/or damage on your property.

Finally, still water related, just as I was about to go to print I received notice of an exhibition (see page 16) in the village hall concerning the imminent planning application for construction of an agricultural reservoir on land adjacent to Manning Grove. Many of you, no doubt, will be interested.

Leonie Henderson

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

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is very grateful and thanks all those who by their donations have sponsored this month's magazine through

PERSONAL and CLUB DONATIONS

MOBILE LIBRARY

(July – December 2011)

The county's mobile library will continue to call at the following Great Bromley locations on **alternate Wednesdays** at the times below (*note that the times at # are an hour earlier than previously*)



11.15 – 11.30 am

Cross Inn, Burnt Heath

11.40 – 11.55 am

Hamilton Lodge

12.00 – 12.15 pm

Church Meadow

#12.20 – 12.35 pm

Great Bromley Village Hall

#12.40 – 12.55 pm

Chase Road West, Hare Green

The visit dates for the second half of 2011 are ...

6 and 20 July

3, 17 and 31 August

14 and 28 September

12 and 26 October

9 and 23 November

7 and 21 December



WEA - ARDLEIGH BRANCH

Autumn Term

Starting Thursday 22nd September at 2.30 p.m.

BRUNEL - AN ENGINEER'S LIFE

The tutor for this course will be Roger Mannion BSc

If you are interested in joining us for this course, please contact

John Terry 01206 230490 or Jill Frostick 01206 250263

Great Bromley Public Rights of Way (PRoW)



At the end of last year Great Bromley Parish Council joined the Parish Paths Partnership (P3) scheme, organised by

Essex County Council to offer support and advice regarding PRoW. Although ECC retain overall responsibility for all PRoW, volunteers in the parish can get instant advice and are enabled to carry out minor works when required. To date the partially collapsed surface of Cock Lane (BR27) has been repaired, a damaged waymark post on footpath 17 (FP17 runs between Hall Road and Boudge Hill Wood) has been replaced (see cover photo) and funding has been promised towards the cost of a PRoW notice board in Church Meadow. Difficulties still remain with some cross-field paths not being clearly marked during the growing season or not reinstated after ploughing or cropping. There have also been complaints of horse riders using narrow footpaths, which could be quite scary for walkers and of course, in wet weather, path surfaces get badly rutted. Riders are reminded that unless they have land-owners permission to use footpaths, they are trespassing and would be liable for any accidents or damage caused.

Some good news. There has been a useful footpath diversion made in Elmstead which links two Great Bromley paths and makes a very pleasant circular walk, mainly on footpaths and quiet lanes with just a small section on the B1029. The walk starts at the Cross Inn and sets off along Carringtons Road to Blue Gates farm. Turn right onto FP25, through Long Cover Wood and onto the B1029. Turn right, proceed carefully along this busy road a couple of hundred metres and turn left onto FP1. Carry on across the field, through the wood, crossing Bromley Brook by the footbridge, up the slope then turn right onto the diverted Elmstead FP18. Follow this all the way along until it meets our FP22. Turn right over the brook at another footbridge and follow FP22 to Colchester Road, turn right and back to the Cross Inn. At a gentle pace the walk takes about an hour and a half. Care is required when walking on the roads and it is advisable to wear suitable clothing, carry a map, some secateurs and perhaps a mobile phone.

Ken Stokes
Great Bromley Footpath Warden



Whilst on patrol I am increasingly aware of the amount of dog excrement left on the pavement and grass verges in Great

Bromley. This is not only a health risk but is totally irresponsible behaviour. I urge all dog owners to take bags with them whilst out walking your dogs and to clean up after and deposit the waste in the appropriate bins!!

ANYONE seen not cleaning up after your

DOG FOULING

dog will receive a Fixed Penalty Fine of £50.00!!

If a member of the public is a witness to the fouling and you can identify the owner, you can contact Tendring District Council and a statement may be taken and a Fixed Penalty Ticket Fine may be issued. Let's keep Great Bromley Clean!!

Contact PCSO Les Barnes on 07967466876 or email leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police.uk

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Great Bromley Parish Council
www.gbpc.org.uk

Report of a parish council meeting held on 9 June 2011

Planning

The Council considered and did not object to the following planning applications:

Former commercial site, Parsons Hill - demolition of commercial buildings and erection of one detached dwelling and garages.

Brookside, Badley Hall Road - proposed replacement dwelling.

Tending District Council has decided the following planning application:

Greenacre Cattery, Carringtons - demolition of garage and erection of a self-contained staff residential annexe and single garage (refusal).

Village noticeboards

The parish council is erecting an additional new noticeboard and a public rights of way display board in Church Meadow. It is also replacing the noticeboard at Hare Green with a new one.

Summer tubs

The parish council warmly thanks the **Great Bromley and District Cricket Club** which, with other local organisations, has contributed towards the cost of the summer tubs. Sponsorship has now covered half the cost of the tubs – thank you!

Hare Green Playground

With the help of a grant from the East Essex Area Forum Community Initiatives Fund the parish council will shortly be installing swings for under-5s at the Hare Green recreation ground.

Please also see advice elsewhere in the magazine on how to prevent both dog

fouling and graffiti, which have both been a problem at Hare Green.

Mobile Library

Please see elsewhere the schedule for the mobile library during the second half of the year. Please try to use this service when you can so that it will continue to be available for those who cannot easily get to the libraries in town. It costs nothing to reserve a book, dvd or cd on line (at – <http://aquabrowser.essexcc.gov.uk/ABL/>) and for this to come out on the mobile library.

The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 14th July 2011 at Great Bromley Village Hall.

Hare Green Recreation Ground

Over the last month a number of acts of criminal damage have been committed, a number of trees have been damaged and killed, the ball wall has been subjected to graffiti and part of it broken, the noticeboards and newly repaired goal posts have also been damaged.

The Parish council has recently received a grant for £5000 towards the installation of new play equipment however damage of this nature seriously jeopardises this and any future investment in Parish Council facilities.

If anyone has any information as to whom the perpetrators of these crimes are then they should contact PCSO Les Barnes, PC Dan Heard or the Parish council.

Cllr Hardy

THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS

Gt Bentley Surgery

I've got a really important retirement to announce this month. Betty Harvey, who has been doing our garden "since Dr George were a lad" as they say, is hanging up her trowel some time over the summer. I'm delighted to say that she'll carry on looking after the tubs around our main entrance, but the search is on for someone to take over the rest of the job.

All this news of the new and deadly strain of E.coli emerging has rather overshadowed another more threatening and very preventable epidemic that is also starting to take lives, particularly in France so far. Measles is becoming much more common again because not enough children are being vaccinated against it.

I know it's an old story, but for several years an awful lot of parents decided not to let their children have the MMR jab due to the scare manufactured by now discredited research alleging that it was connected with autism in some way. The "evidence" of this is now known to be wrong and the original paper which presented it has been branded "deliberate fraud" by the British Medical Journal. The doctor concerned was struck off. Lower numbers of protected children mean that the wonderfully named "herd immunity" that comes with mass vaccination is not working properly, leaving many people vulnerable.

Putting it bluntly, measles kills. It can leave victims blind, deaf or brain damaged. Not a nice thought.

There are many people around who aren't properly covered against it, but the good news is that the MMR jab (which also protects against mumps and rubella) is still freely available. So if you think you might need it, please ask at your surgery. The staff there will be able to check your records and book you in for a jab if necessary. Remember that you might survive measles unscathed if you get it, but it is incredibly contagious and you need to consider what might happen to the people you infect along the way.

Back to E.coli. The fuss will probably be just a memory by the time you read this, but if not, the advice at the moment is that thoroughly washing fruit, vegetables, salad stuff, your

hands of course and all eating tools should keep you safe.

Next, news of some changes that will be happening shortly.

Very soon, we will be wishing a fond farewell to Dr Patel who completes her time here as Registrar in early July. It has been an eventful couple of years for her, with daughter Lily's arrival interrupting her training period. However, she will be off to work at Frinton practice as a Salaried GP when Dr O'Reilly finally signs her off in a few days time. We wish her every success and happiness in her two careers – GP and mother!

The unexpected news is that we will also be losing Dr Slawson early in August as she is taking up the offer of a partnership at Wash Lane practice in Clacton. She has been with us as Salaried GP for six years and, whilst we wish her every success with her move, we will greatly miss her input and experience.

The next change to report however, brings a really good piece of news. Dr AnnMarie Hilton, our other Registrar, qualifies in August, very conveniently on almost the same date as Dr Slawson leaves. We are delighted that she has accepted the partners' invitation to replace Dr Slawson and she will be working here full-time for at least the next year. Having a ready-made replacement for Dr Slawson will make life so much easier, especially over this summer, as it will save us all the initial training and teething troubles that tend to accompany the arrival of a new doctor.

Next month I'll tell you about our new Registrar (only one this time). She is Dr Subha Nambi who will join us early in August. If her name seems vaguely familiar, it's not surprising, as she is married to Dr Arul Nambi who did part of his Registrar training with us about three years ago. He then also helped out as holiday relief last summer. Anyway, the new Dr Nambi's full details will follow in the August magazine.

Hugh Cronin
Practice Manager



KITCHEN CORNER

Vegetable Biryani

Serves 4

- 1 large red onion cut into wedges
- 1 courgette thickly sliced
- 1 red pepper, deseeded and cut into 6
- 1 carrot thickly sliced
- 1 small aubergine thickly sliced
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 tbsp mild curry paste
- 125g (4oz) basmati rice
- 300-450ml (½-¾pt) hot vegetable stock
- 2tbsp chopped fresh coriander
- Salt and black pepper

Heat oven to 190oC/375oF

Toss the vegetables in the oil, season and spread in a roasting tin. Cook 20 minutes, until the vegetables turn golden, Stir in the curry paste, rice and stock, return to oven and cook 20-30 minutes, or until liquid has been absorbed and rice is tender. Stir in coriander and serve at once.



For a **Lamb Biryani**, chop 12oz lamb neck fillet and roast with the vegetables.

Jill Frostick

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Each day's weather changes from one day to the next so if our outing (which is after the magazine deadline) was sunny I hope you enjoyed the change of scenery.

Listening to the Cycling Granny brought back so many memories of when I was a teenager cycling miles round the Dales of Yorkshire - such freedom! Are you watching the programme on the television?

We have had so many lunches with Brenda and Richard specially for the members and they really deserve their retirement and even nicer to know they will still be in the village with us. Thank you so much from everyone.

Watch for the information of the Auction - in August.

Did you know the X-Factor is nothing compared with the Talent in Great Bromley? In 1992 our Chairman, Vera Biddis, came up with the idea of forming a concert party to go round to the various clubs to entertain. One by one names cropped up and eventually we had a cast of 15 people - four men and nine ladies, plus pianist and assistant, Vera and Vicky, who couldn't read a note of music (no comment). Rehearsals were started and our first 'venture' was to a club in Great Clacton - WOW - it was a success with a standing ovation at the end! We then became ambitious with costumes looking good for such items as songs from Old Tyme Music Hall, Wales, Dutch, Western and Holidays.

Every wardrobe was sorted and whatever we didn't have was made by the members, or borrowed. A book of photos will be sent out at the next meeting for all to see. Who needs Simon?

The next meeting is on 21st July and the competition is for a fridge magnet.

Vicky Griffiths

Sea Breeze Café

9:30 to 4:30 Monday to Saturday
Old Forge Court, Colchester Rd, Elmstead Mkt
Lunches, Lighter Bites and Sandwiches, Eat in or Take Away

Delicious Homemade Cakes Baked on the Premises
Wide Range of Tea, Coffee and Soft Drinks
Retail Sticklegs Ales
Outside catering

Tel: 01206 828284

www.seabreezecatering.co.uk

"Green" was the theme for this month's meeting! What you might ask does this mean? Well, Jenny, our president, introduced the evening and welcomed visitors from Dovercourt W.I. She then handed over to Jill who took on the roll of president, because this was, you see, the Members' meeting. The committee for the evening had decided to go down the green route. All members were invited to wear something green, whether it was in colour or ethically produced. The bring and buy was homemade or home grown or "something green" and the refreshments were homemade with very few miles in between.

Jill introduced our speaker, Sally Hepher, of the The Woodland Trust. Trees green and native to England. Sally had been a member of the Trust since 1980. She had always liked trees since she was tiny and she went on to explain that oak trees support most insects and are very valuable to wild life. The oak can be used for charcoal and the acorns are very good for pigs. Birch trees are very good for



besoms which in turn are very good for sweeping; it is also said that birch sap is also good for making wine. Ash trees are very flexible and will also burn when green. Hazel trees

are used for making hurdles and pegs for thatch. Alder likes damp soil, its wood makes fine charcoal and this was one of the ingredients of gunpowder. Sweet chestnut likes light sandy soil and of course we can eat the fruits.

Sally went on to tell us about a new wood being planted at Elmstead but the planting will not be complete until 2012. She also explained that ancient woodlands are very

different to modern woodlands, the reason for this being that the soil in ancient woodlands has not been treated with modern day chemicals.

Money for the Trust is raised in all sorts of ways: bequests, fundraising, sale of cards, and membership of the Trust. Volunteers keep the costs down and they are always able to use more. This was an excellent talk and very informative as many of us present had no idea that a new woodland was right on our doorstep.

Leonie had organised a competition in which we had to identify native insects and butterflies, and also some foliage (which tree had it come from) This really got the old grey matter working. Excellent. Jill gave the vote of thanks.

Joy Rolfe

Brenda and Richard - A message of thanks

As many of you know, the end of June marks the beginning of our retirement. We have been at the Cross for nearly 14 years and have had a wonderful time, making many friends and enjoying so many happy occasions and events. The years have flown by with never a dull moment and such a lot of fun, and we both want to say a huge thank you to all the folk who have supported us in so many ways. Whilst it is impossible to thank everybody individually, there are some special mentions we must include:-

To our dear Gill, without whom we could not have achieved anything, our thanks and gratitude for your unfailing loyalty, dependability and hard work. You have been the best friend we could ever have had and we will never forget all you have done over the years to lighten the load.

Sincere thanks to Dinah and Martin - they are total treasurers who prove that Post Offices can still be run efficiently by friendly, helpful people who care about their work and the folk who provide the custom. It has been a privilege to work alongside you both.

To Sheila, Beryl and Rose - bless you for always being there - usually at a moment's notice! What dear friends you are and what would we have done without you?

Our sincere thanks, too, to Tom, who was involved in so many of our ventures, from compiling charity calendars (in which he, and 11 other locally-known chaps, appears in various states of undress), to music nights to brewing etc. As you once said, Tom, it may have been chaotic sometimes, but it was never boring!

A special thank you to the lovely members of the Friendship Club, not only for your lunchtime custom, but also for being such fun and so kind and generous. We look forward, now, to being part of 'the gang'.

To Lee and Roy, our thanks and gratitude for starting our Christmas festivities with a flourish by providing the most wonderful

decorations and arrangements. We were very lucky to be the beneficiaries of such talent.

To Lewis - we know you have been fighting a losing battle to keep us tidy but hang in there - there's all the unpacking, the garden and 3 acres of field to sort out yet! Thanks for all the help and laughter - you're a good old boy!

Please don't be offended if we haven't mentioned you personally because we really are grateful for, and appreciative of, all the support given to us in so many ways by so many folk, both from the village and elsewhere. So, to the quiz teams -league and social, the music nighters, the charity eventers, the prize donors, the diners, the 'regulars', the friends, old and new, and to all who have made our 14 years as landlord and lady so happy, with so many wonderful memories -

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS, GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION

AND FINALLY, the lady who has for so long been in the background doing everything she can to help, advise and comfort, and to keep us on an even keel, AUNTY VI. Thank you, dearest aunty, for the cakes, poems, songs, love, laughter, compassion and generosity of spirit and in kind. Everyone who has frequented The Cross has been touched in some way by your kindness and would want to be included in our message of thanks.

It just remains for us to wish your new hosts, Heather and James Mann and their children, Daisy and Jake, the very best of luck and happiness in their new venture. They are a lovely family and we are sure that they will be made very welcome in the village. We wish them every success.

Now we are off to enjoy ourselves!

Lots of love from
Brenda and Richard

THANKS

Flower Festival 2011 “Celebrations”

Thank you to those who responded to our article in last month's Messenger. We are always so grateful for all your support. If you would like to help, it's not too late !! Come and join us – refreshments, stall, stewarding, putting up tents.

Please phone any time 01206 230688 or 01206 250229.

Thank you
Fr. Robert and the Wardens, Ann & Jenny.

Plant and Garage Sale

Very many thanks to everyone who supported our Sale this year. The weather was good, and a marvellous number of people came. We raised £780.

Many thanks
James and Ann



FROM THE PAST

Two Brick and Slated Freehold Cottages in Little Bromley

Adjoining 'The Wheatsheaf' were these cottages occupied by Gladwin and Bunch. Each had a sitting room, kitchen and one bedroom (two in Bunch's cottage), a WC and good garden.

The tenant claimed a pig sty, not in the sale. The Land Tax was 4s 7d. These cottages were held by the Manor of a fine of 1s 0d and 2s 0d per acre and Quit rent of 1s 0d.

The Letting was to Mr Wainwright at £8 per annum and he paid the outgoings.

John Appleby

*[A **Quit** rent was a sum paid by the tenant to the Lord of the Manor to discharge the tenant from certain manorial duties which ran with the land. - Ed.]*

EVENTS IN 2011



JULY

- 2 Family Hog Roast & Disco, Village Hall, 4.00pm
- 6 WI meeting, Cake Making demo, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9 Tending Show
- 14 Gt Bromley parish council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 15 Reservoir Exhibition, Village Hall, 10.00am
- 20 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm
- 21 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 23 Gt Bromley Farmers Market, Village Hall 10.00am-1.00pm
- 30 Lawford Farmers Market, Venture Centre

AUGUST

- 10 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm
- 11 Lt Bromley parish council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm
- 27 Lawford Farmers Market, Venture Centre

SEPTEMBER

- 21 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm
- 24 Lawford Farmers Market, Venture Centre

The National Trust Colchester Centre
invites you to a

SUMMERTIME CONCERT

at St Mary's church, Ardleigh
Saturday, 23rd July
at 7.30pm



Tickets £14.50 each (price
includes wine or soft drink and
homemade refreshments during
the interval) available from David
Wright (01206 231745)

Traditional Willow Basketry

A free course for beginners
to learn basic basketry
techniques



23/24 July - Cavendish Village Hall
20/21 August - Bures St Mary Village Hall
9.30am-4.00pm each day

The course is free but places should be
booked in advance, please contact Jo
Hammond on 01473 327646 or email
jo.twigweave.hammond@btinternet.com

Friday 15th July 2011

Village Hall
10am till 7pm

EXHIBITION

concerning the imminent
planning application for
construction of an
agricultural reservoir on
Mr Salmon's land
adjacent Manning Grove, Great
Bromley.



ALL WELCOME

Lawford Summer Fair

Saturday 9th July 10 am till 4pm
Venture Centre Lawford.

Anyone wishing to get involved and have
a stand with us on the day should contact
Jess on 07966171056

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



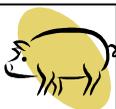
FUN QUIZ
with supper
at the Haywain
on Saturday 23rd July 2011
to start at 7pm.

£3 per person
(tables of 4)

All proceeds towards the Little Bromley Memorial Fund Repairs.

Hog Roast

Saturday 2nd July
The Village Hall, Cricket Club
& PTA are jointly running a



FAMILY DAY

at the Cricket Club
starting at 4pm onwards

There will be a Hog Roast and a B B Q. Live music, a bouncy castle and a number of games, including rounders
Tickets: £15 per family (2 adults & 3 children) or £5 per person
which includes food from the Hog Roast or B B Q.

The Cricket Club will be running a bar.
Do please support this event as the Village Fun Day is not taking place this year.

The Friends of Little Bromley Church
Invite you to a

BAT WATCH and TALK

by Robin Cottrill
the Vice Chair of the Essex Bat Group
in our lovely churchyard
on Friday 12th August 2011
at 7.30pm
Refreshments provided.



Come and see how many different species of bats we have!
No fee but any donations welcome on the night.

MESSY CHURCH

27th July at Ardleigh School
10am to 12.30pm

Something for the Summer Holidays

Our next Messy Church meets
on Wednesday July 27th
10am to 12.30pm
In Ardleigh School.



Come and join in our morning of craft activities. The theme this time is "Sea Sand and Fun".

Mums, Dads, grandparents or carers bring your children along and have fun together..

We are asking for a donation of £1 per child for this morning of activities, food and fun.

Gt Bromley Farmers Market

23rd July
Village Hall
10.00am-1.00pm



Great Bromley W.I.

Warmly invite you to a

CRAFT DABBLE DAY

Wednesday 3rd August
10am to 3pm

Denman Tutor Sheila Gunson.
Price £9.00

Venue Great Bromley Village Hall
Bring your own lunch.

Complimentary Tea & Coffee Available
all day.

Come along and try some new crafts
including

* *Encaustic Work* * *Serviette Craft* *
* *Iris Folding* * *Pyrography* *

All materials required are provided and are included in the price for the day.
If desired bring your own craft scissors, cutting mat and a friend.

To book a place or more information please phone or email Jenny Nicholls
01206 230688 jenny@frverning.net or
Ann Jones 01206 230563
e.jones@btinternet.com

VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES



Wow...I say again, wow, they were absolutely fantastic. A class act, great songs, magnificent voices, tremendous stage presence. Just like

attending a London Show but in this case in it was in the Village Hall and tickets were £8.00 not £80.00 each. Yes, the Drop Dead Divas gave those attending a great night out in our Hall on the Friday night of the last Bank Holiday weekend. I



have never expressed a wish to see a musical but this act has changed my mind. We keep telling folks that we get star acts and this time we greatly exceeded expectations. Due to popular demand we are trying to book the Divas again for next year. Well done Fred in organising the event with Essex on Tour. This terrific event raised £450 for Village Hall funds.

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 B B Q. Live music, a bouncy castle and a number of games, including rounders. The tickets will be £15 per family 2 adults and 3 children or £5 per person which includes food from the Hog Roast or B B Q. The Cricket Club will be running a bar. Let's hope for some good weather because the whole event should be fun. 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:

- 2nd July Family Hog Roast & Disco (see above)
- 23rd July Farmers Market from 10am to 1pm
- 8th October Cabaret Night Olly Day (very, very few tickets left)
- 22nd October Farmers Market from 10am to 1pm
- 3rd December Christmas Fayre
- 21st December Farmers Market (Provisional) 6pm to 9pm
- 31st December New Years Eve Dance with a live dance band

A warning! The Olly Day event in October is nearly sold out so please if you want to see this very funny man, book some tickets very soon and get there early so as not to be too close to the front. We hope that by changing the seating arrangement from his last visit that we may fit in 110 people. Just ask Jill Christmas about where to sit!

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.

Next Committee meeting: Tuesday, 5th July at 7:30pm in the Hall. As always all welcome.

- David Beech

IN THE GARDEN IN JULY

Spring Cabbage - Plant seeds this month $\frac{1}{2}$ " deep distance between rows of $1\frac{1}{2}$ ' to transplant September to October with a distance between the plants of 1'. The cabbage will be ready to use next June. Use every other one as spring cabbage let the rest grow on to full size cabbage.

Summer Spinach is another crop to plant this month. Seed 1" deep, distance between rows 1', distance between plants 9". This crop will be ready next May.

The other type is the **Winter Spinach**. seed to plant in August 1" deep, distance between rows 1', distance between plants 4".

Earth up **brussel sprouts** against the wind and if needed tie them to a cane. A row of late peas can go in this month.

Take cuttings of **Hydrangea** which should be about 4" long. Cut below a node and trim off the bottom pair of leaves, place cutting in a 3" pot of one part sharp sand and one part potting compost, keep watered and place cutting in a cool spot away from the sun.

Frank Griffiths



Charity No. 1136038
Company No. 705944

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

We are delighted to inform you the sale of the bungalow on the Seven Rivers site completed on the 31st May. We are now in the process of completing our planning application which will be submitted in due course. Our aim is to be operating from the bungalow at some point in the Autumn Term.

We are again taking part in the 'Toddle' to raise money for Barnardo's and will have completed it by the time you read this (20th June). The theme this year is 'Animal Safari'.

The children have also been very busy this half term creating work for our display at the Tendring Hundred Show. Our theme this year is 'Mathematics' - come and see us - you'll find us in the education tent.

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:

Thursday 21st July Last day of term

LETTERS

**The following letter is from
County Councillor Jeremy Lucas,
Essex County Council Cabinet
Member for Environment & Culture:**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to invite your parish to take part in Essex County Council's Love Where You Live 2011 campaign.

Organised by Essex County Council and backed by district and borough councils, Love Where You Live 2011 will be Essex's biggest ever community improvement campaign.

Last year we launched Love Where You Live Week, aimed at encouraging Essex residents to organise and take part in their own community clean-up events. The campaign was a great success, with over 40 local events taking place across the county, and over 1000 participants.

Love Where You Live 2011 aims to be bigger and better, with events taking place throughout the year, as opposed to just a week-long campaign. The initiative will act as a focal point for volunteers across Essex to arrange a local clean-up event, or any other activity that brings together and celebrates the local community.

The 2011 campaign will officially launch in July, when you will be able to visit the brand new Love Where You Live website and register your event. Everyone who registers an event will receive a support pack of materials which will help them to plan, promote and carry out their community activity. We would also like you to share your experiences by uploading photos and blogs via Facebook and Twitter.

In the meantime if you would like to receive further information about organising your own Love Where You Live please contact Michael Page on 01245 434383 or lovewhereyoulive@essex.gov.uk.

I hope that you will be as keen as I am to get involved and encourage others to showcase the wonderful community spirit that exists throughout Essex.

Yours sincerely, *Jeremy Lucas, Cabinet Member for Environment & Culture*

St Helena Hospice Colchester Midnight Walk 2011



The moment we had all been waiting for finally arrived when the clock struck midnight on

Saturday 4 June! 1,500 ladies came along dressed in their Midnight Walk t-shirts, flashing bunny ears, and even some in fabulous fancy dress, to do the big walk around Colchester.

The atmosphere on the night was amazing and the fun spirit amongst all the walkers was helped by all the stewards and volunteers who came along to give lots of encouragement and cheer along the route.

The Midnight Walk started and finished at the Weston Homes Community Stadium, the home of Colchester United, and walkers followed a circular route of 12km (7.5 miles). The route went along Severalls Lane, down Ipswich Road, along Cowdray Avenue past North Station and up Mill Road back towards the Weston Homes Community Stadium where each walker then crossed the finish line and collected their well deserved medal and doughnut!

An incredible £125,000 was pledged in sponsorship on the night and every penny of this will go to the Hospice to support the work it does, so we really do appreciate everyone's hard work.

To view photos and read about people's stories from the night, please go to our Midnight Walk facebook page, and please don't forget to 'Like' it!

Losing the Thread?

The year was 1065. Brictrmar, thane of Great Bromley and Westnantuna, was worried. He had heard of these infernal Normans who were threatening to come across the sea to invade all the lands of his leader, King Harold. Always trouble in the country. Always another battle to fight. One thing's for sure: if we lose this one, we lose everything. Well, they came, William the Conqueror and his armies, and Harold's defeat was complete. He died on the battlefield and, within just a few years, Brictrmar and his kind had been replaced by William's Barons, Lords and Knights. Under the feudal system that William brought with him from France, he took possession of all the lands of England and granted estates to allies and cronies in return for their loyalty and service. These nobles, in turn, granted land to others on the same basis. The first recorded Norman Lord of our Manor was, according to our village historian, John Appleby, from whose fascinating "Short History" of the Hall many of these notes are drawn, was one Ralph de Pinel. Ralph's lord, in turn, was Geoffrey de Mandeville who himself drew his lands from and owed allegiance to the King. And so it was for centuries, as the House passed down through families or according to the King's pleasure. Day by day, year by year the tapestry of life at the Manor of Great Bromley was woven.

In the thirteenth century the estate of Great Bromley was split into two halves and shared between two sisters as there were no sons to inherit. A third sister, a nun, did not inherit. One of these sisters, Hawise, held her half of the estate from the Earl of Oxford and had to have one armed knight always at the ready to give service to the King for 20 days a year. One Elizabeth Mortimer inherited the estate at the age of 18 in 1493. She had married George Mortimer, who held an important and powerful office at the Court of King Henry VII, as Controller of the King's Household. And so for years the Hall and the Royal Court were closely linked. Sir Thomas Bowes, a somewhat brutal man by all accounts, was a friend of Oliver Cromwell. As a member of the Commonwealth Parliament and Witch Hunter In Chief for the East of England, this Lord of our Manor for many years in the 17th Century was not a man to be trifled with.

Then there are the stories of the preparations for war, with Great Bromley Hall at their centre, and the repelling of the expected invasion of England by the dastardly French Revolutionary armies (they never came but Napoleon Bonaparte emerged as leader of the French armies, and he caused plenty of trouble elsewhere!). We may also read in John's notes of the nineteenth century tenants of the Hall who not only shot all the game on the estate and

caught all the fish in the ornamental pond – they even stripped the harpsichord of its strings to make rabbit traps!! They were followed by a family who called the Hall "Home" for much of the Victorian era, the Alstons. One of the family's sons, born and brought up on the estate, went to sea, became a ship's captain, was married and had a son born at sea, only for husband, wife and child to perish at sea some years later following the mysterious disappearance of his ship in the seas around the west coast of Africa.

Coming into our own era, we know that Percy Crossman bought the Hall in 1921. He died in 1929 but his wife carried on in the Hall until 1934. Shortly after his arrival, Mr Crossman gave land and paid for the construction of the village hall that we still use today. He also donated the adjacent piece of land to the newly-formed village cricket club – with the stipulation that it shall not be used on Sundays. Beyond that, I have so far drawn something of a blank in my researches into the recent history of Great Bromley Hall. The whole place rather caught my imagination when I joined Seven Rivers as a volunteer some 18 months ago and so I have set about finding out all that I can about the lives lived on the manor and in the manor house over the centuries. Over the Crossmans and what came next there remain some tantalising question marks. Some of our most recent history remains cloaked in mystery. I fear I may be losing the thread – will I ever complete the tapestry of Bromley Hall?

I have just learned that there are folk in the village who may both have known the Crossman family and, possibly, worked for them. They, and others, may also have memories of the Hall in the war years and those that followed. How I would like to talk with you! How I would like to draw back the dusty cloak of time to reveal more of the stories that Great Bromley Hall has to tell. To hear the story told rather than just to read about it would be a special treat! Please, thread my needle anew!

What was life like in those last days of "service" in the big house? How much of the ancient lands of the estate were still part of that estate and what was it like to work on them? Was the Hall used by the army during the war years and if so, what went on? Was it a residential retirement home in post-war days before it became Seven Rivers in the late 50's, and if so did anyone work or visit there? If you know, DO tell! **Please, do get in touch with me**, Colin File, at Seven Rivers where I am a volunteer. If you telephone 01206 230345 and leave your details with any of our Admin team, I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Alternatively, you could drop me a line by email at riveriales@tiscali.co.uk and I shall be **very** pleased to hear from you! .Colin File, Volunteer Newsletter

ESSEX POLICE



Incidents in Great Bromley during May

Theft Other - Rectory Road - Hamilton Lodge -
(Large building equipment taken)

Burglary Dwelling Attempted - Rectory Road

Assault - Meadow Close

Hate Crime - Harwich Road

News letter for June

Please be aware that a burglary has taken place in the East Clacton area. Two male suspects were identified looking in windows at approx 4:00pm. Please report any suspicious activity regarding people hanging around vehicles or properties, also if you are able to see to the rear of other properties please keep an eye out. If a crime is in progress please dial 999 or non-emergency please call 0300 333 4444. Also be aware of rogue traders. Please contact Trading Standards Buy with Confidence Scheme. Buy with Confidence only recommends businesses which have been vetted and approved by Essex Trading Standards. Please contact BWC on 0845 404 0506 or online at buywithconfidence.gov.uk.

Please report rogue traders to police on 0300 333 4444 or trading standards on 08454 04 05 06.

To report a vehicle record Colour, Make, Model and Index Number.

To report person record Ethnicity, Hair Colour, Height, Build and clothing.

Since the start of 2011 there have been 26 distraction thefts across the county. There are two different methods being used within this trend. It is not known at present if the two methods are linked.

Asking for Directions: the victim is distracted by asking directions before either a purse dipping or stealing a mobile phone. Victims are primarily targeted in supermarket multi-storey car parks. Victims often have a map and may work in pairs.

Magazine / Paper: involves suspects entering offices, waving magazines or a paper in front of the victim. The paper is placed on the victim's desk, covering a mobile phone. Suspects then pick up the paper with the mobile phone and make off. Other offences involve the victim being distracted in the street or in shops.

Suggested crime prevention advice:

Remember always be aware of your

surroundings

Don't give thieves the chance to take your valuables

Don't leave your bag, purse, wallet or mobile phone on display to thieves

Stay alert - your mobile phone is a valuable item, don't use your phone in crowded areas

In recent months we have had a number of Thefts From Motor Vehicles and Garages in some of the surrounding villages. All of the vehicles were parked on driveways and left insecure and also the garages unlocked, so please make sure you lock your vehicles and garages when they are not being used.

Don't forget if you would like to talk to me about any police related issues you can contact me:

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

Recently there has been thefts from insecure sheds, if you have anything of value in your shed, lock it up.

A burglary has occurred recently whereby the thief entered a house through the kitchen door, the door was not locked but the residents were in. Can I advise all residents that even if you are at home please secure your property, if you are not in one of the rooms, keep the doors locked and the windows closed. Thieves are becoming more brazen and will enter your home even if someone is in!

Attention all Ford Ka owners, over the past few months the wheel trims have been stolen just from these vehicles! If you have that sort of car or even any car with wheel trims, secure them using cable ties.

And finally a plea to everybody, if you see anything suspicious, whether that be a person or a vehicle, please call us, we would rather attend and find that everything is all above board than have to deal with a crime.

Thanks

Police Constable 2176 Dan HEARD
Neighbourhood Constable

ROGATION SUNDAY - 29TH MAY

Chris, Natalie and Grace Smith very kindly invited Father Robert and members of the congregation to gather at Little Bromley Hall on Sunday May 29th after the morning Eucharist Service to celebrate our 2011 Rogation Service at the Hall. 23 people met to pray for God's blessing on the crops and animals at the Hall. It was a most joyous and happy occasion. The assembled group joined together around 12.15p.m. to follow Father Robert as he blessed each area of the farm. The newly born foals, (at first asleep in the sun) roused their heads to listen to the hymns sung with such gusto, the black lambs excited and frisky with all the attention.

The sun shone as Natalie and Chris organised the "Bring and Share" lunch on three large tables situated on a sheltered patio away from the strong gusting south westerly wind. Quiches, pasties, new potatoes, salads, freshly picked strawberries, delicious desserts and cakes filled our tables, Fr Robert said "Grace"

and the food was enjoyed by all.

We were truly honoured this year to be joined by visitors from America and Australia. Janet & Jim Stenersen from North Carolina and Allen and June Broome from Sydney Australia were visiting the area for the weekend. (Jim Stone Stenersen is a descendent of Gregory Stone and it is his second visit to St. George's Church to trace his ancestors). Our visitors were invited to join us for lunch after the Eucharist Service in the church. We were thrilled that they accepted our offer and they were so impressed by our friendship and hospitality they experienced on that Sunday morning.

Father Robert and the Wardens would like to thank Natalie and Chris for being such generous hosts and thank you to all who came and joined us for the Rogation "Bring and Share Lunch" 2011.

Jenny

NATURE'S DIARY



I have a number of Essex Skipper butterflies in the garden most readily distinguishable from the almost identical Small

Skipper by their black-tipped antennae as opposed to the reddish-orange ones of the Small Skipper! I have yet to spot a Small Skipper this year.

The hoverflies are also out in force on the apple mint but so too are the not so lovable flies of every type. I hate flies! Their only good feature is that they make good source of food for many creatures.

The first of the tadpoles have matured and left the pond. I can only assume, at this

stage, that they are froglets rather than toadlets as frogs lay their spawn sooner than toads. I have come across two enormous toads recently while gardening - one narrowly avoided being speared by mistake with my fork.

Awoken at 4.00am this morning, husband about to take daughter to the airport, I lay listening to the cuckoo singing his heart out. I expect he will begin to make his long journey back to Africa soon. A few cuckoos this year have been caught and trackers attached to them in order to ascertain when and where they go after they leave the UK in order to find out more about this secretive bird. Already they have been surprised by how soon some birds leave the country - as early as May some of them.

LMH

THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

I think now might be a good time for me to begin to share my story of faith with you, and I know that this will take some time so I have decided to serialise it over the next few months.

My faith story which I am about to share with you, is really the story of my life in which I have always experienced God's guiding hand through thick and thin.

I once knew someone who was nicknamed "Carmarthen Square", because he came to faith in Carmarthen square rather like St. Paul on the road to Damascus. I have no such dramatic story to tell, but nonetheless I have felt God's presence in my ordinary everyday life almost as long as I can remember.

I was baptised as a baby, and I believe I was taken to church when I was about two years old. In those days children who walked around during the service were rather frowned upon, and I must have done such a walkabout that my mother decided to wait until I was a little older before my next visit! I was about four years old, and by then I could recite the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles Creed both in Welsh and English. I was schooled in how one should behave in church – hands together, eyes closed in prayers – and I believe that on my next visit to church my behaviour was exemplary!

From then on I attended church three times a Sunday. Matins (or Sung Eucharist) in the morning, Sunday school in the afternoon, and Evensong at night. Church was not a once a Sunday affair during my childhood. Evensong was often the best attended service – the church was always packed and, as well as my father and mother, my aunt, uncle and cousins would attend, and we would all sit together and they then came to our home afterwards.

At the age of six, I joined the church choir. I still have a photograph of myself in cassock surplice and ruff. This involved all sorts of activities. At this time a new council estate had been built on the edge of the town where I lived, and we needed a new church to serve the people there. We had to raise the funds. Bazaars and concerts, and things like that in the church house were the order of the day. I remember one of the evenings very vividly. My mother had typed all the scripts for the choir. I recited Welsh poetry, sang two solos, and sang in the choir. The money was raised and the church was dedicated in 1962.

I remember walking in procession through the town as a choir member from the Parish Church to the new church. There were now four churches in the town. The Bishop of Bangor was there. It was exciting for a child. He knocked the door three times with his crook to enter the new church. A marvellous day – we had helped to witness our faith in God, and a new church had been opened.

I shall continue my story in the next issue.

Fr. Robert

WANTED

Secretary for St. George's, Great Bromley

Rev Farrell, Jenny & Ann are looking for a new secretary to join a happy hardworking team at St George's Church. If you are interested and for would like more information please phone anytime:
01206 231923, 01206 230688
or 01206 250229

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Church of England Services for July

Sunday 3rd	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	St Thomas the Apostle Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 10th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	3rd Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 17th	8.00am 10.30am	4th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 24th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	5th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 31st	8.00am 10.30am	6th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist <i>with Laying-on-of-Hands and Anointing</i> No Evensong!	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 3rd	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	7th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>

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