

THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

OCTOBER 2011

Volume 26 No 7



Photo courtesy of Friends of Lt Bromley

Bat Watch

Bat Watch, run by the Friends of Little Bromley church, was held at Little Bromley Church on 12th August and was attended by approximately 80 people. A talk and demonstration was given by Robin Cottrill who is the Vice Chairman of the Essex Bat Group. He has run bat talks for Colchester Borough Council and others for about 4-5 years. The evening was very successful and after the talk bat detectors were given out so that we could identify the bats we saw flying by their 'squeaks'.

EDITORIAL

Well, I expect you all spotted last month's 'deliberate' mistakes and I apologise for all of them. They came about purely because we are all now so tied into computers and electricity that sometimes we are no longer in control. Or that was how it felt to me last month. If I had banged the issue out on the typewriter there would have been no problems and everything else would have been cut and pasted which is how I used to produce the magazine when I first took it over. The good news though is that this month Natalie has proofread it and there should therefore be no errors!

Included in this month's copy is an obituary for John Appleby. John, known to most of the village, was a good friend, confidante and adviser. He has also provided the villages with much information about their past as well as giving talks, with slides, in the village hall. The historical side was but a small part of what John was interested, or took part in. He will be much missed.

There is a double page photographic spread of Pat Fitzgerald's last days at school. They should have been in the September issue ... but again technical problems!! We now welcome the new head, Julie O'Mara, and wish her all the

best for the future.

Little Bromley, our sponsors this month, were disappointed with the numbers who came to their car boot/fete. It takes a great deal of time, work and planning to put on events. Maybe it was just one of those unfortunate days which people could not manage. However, do please try to support local goings on in our villages, otherwise we will end up with nothing as apathy takes over.

The sun is shining, the rain forecast has not materialised yet again, so I am now off into the garden to try to deal with the jungle rooted in earth of iron.

Leonie Henderson



Tram at the Tram Museum in Chrich, Derbyshire

MATERIAL for the **NOVEMBER 2011** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **14th October, 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 230537

Please support the sponsors of our magazine.

LT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Refurbishment of the Little Bromley War Memorial Appeal for Donations

Earlier this year Little Bromley Parish Council launched an appeal for funds to refurbish the war memorial which is now some 90 years old. We need £1200.

There has been a terrific response to the appeal from local people and local businesses. We have received a donation from New Zealand from a relative of one of the men listed on the war memorial. The Amenities Committee ran a very successful quiz night, at the Haywain public house and all the profits from the night went towards the appeal.

We have raised £977.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a very big thank you to all those who have made donations;

- Amenities Committee Quiz Night (all the people that supported the evening)
- Bromley Messenger

- John and Wendy Buxton
- Ann and Steve Clarke
- Hugh Frostick
- Hiskeys Farm Kennels
- Mick and Sandra Shute
- Chris and Gill Smith
- “Wednesday Night Gang” (at the Haywain)
- A.N. Other (we have received some anonymous donations)

We have applied to War Memorial Trust for a grant.

If you would like to make a donation to help us remember the sacrifices made by those young men, and to protect the village’s heritage for future generations, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council whose details can be found on the Contacts page at the front of the Bromley Messenger.

All contributions are welcome, no matter how small; cheques should be made payable to “Little Bromley Amenities Committee”

Little Bromley Car Boot and Fete

On Saturday, 10th September we held our Fete and Car Boot on land very kindly loaned to us by Mary Roughley. The weather forecast was terrible but we were very lucky, only having the wind to contend with.

On a huge open field near Little Bromley Church, although down a side road, we had ample parking and space for everything that had been planned.

Tents erected and helpers at the ready, everyone was on standby for a busy day. Despite being well advertised we only had three car boot stalls. These did a reasonable trade from those who attended. The raffle and tombola did well, along with

a cake donated by Dawn from the Haywain, which was raffled and then auctioned. Cake stall and games got off to a slow start but a gentle stream of visitors soon brightened our morning. I must also say how tasty the burgers and hot dogs were, cooked by Tony and Stan.

By 2’o’clock the Fete was finished and nearly all packed up. Any money raised will go towards next year’s fireworks.

We would like to thank all those who organised, helped and provided prizes. We would also like to thank all those who attended and appeared to have a nice time.

Carol Cordwell

On behalf of Little Bromley Parish Council and the Amenities committee.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

LITTLE BROMLEY CAR BOOT & FETE

David Conner throwing the Horseshoe



*Photographs
courtesy of
Anita Spall*



Brian Conner having a go at throwing the Wellie



The winner, Mark Ashmore, of the Cake that Dawn Newton, landlady of the Haywain, made and donated for a separate raffle to raise some funds

GREAT BROMLEY OIL BUYING GROUP

Well I was gobsmacked to say the least, when around 50 local people turned up for the meeting about setting up a Great & Little Bromley Oil Buying Group on 23rd August. It was so inspiring to see so many like-minded people. Thanks to Tim and Barney Lodge who took us through the buying process and for showing us how the website worked and for taking questions. Everyone was in agreement that it was a great idea and gave the buyers more power. Thanks also to the Parish Council for letting us have the use of the room for nothing.

We have set up the first buying period for 5th September. Unfortunately this is after this goes to press, but there will be another one in October so if anyone else wants to become a member please go to <http://greatbromley.net> and use the *Register* option to set up an account. If you have any questions you can use the "How it

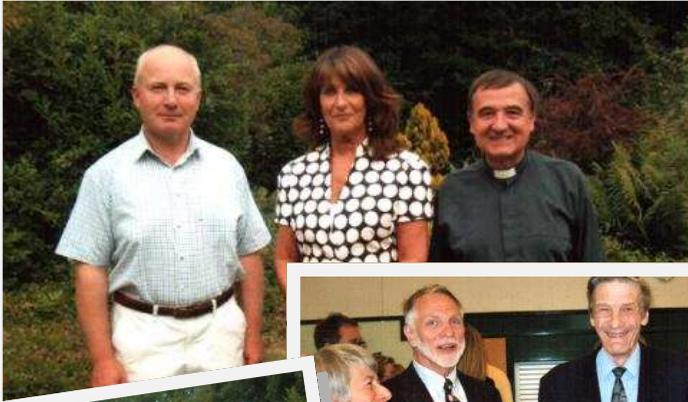
Works" option on the website.

Now some of you asked me how can you order oil if you haven't got a computer or broadband connection? I have been thinking about this and the best thing to do is to try to find someone to help you. All they have to do is set up an account for you and then remind you when the buying period starts. If you can't think of anyone to help you then give me a call on 01206 231703 and I shall try and find you an "internet buddy".

Maybe in the future we can get a broadband access point installed in one of our local pubs or even the Post Office at the Cross Inn. This would be a fantastic way of helping out those people who are less able to benefit from the scheme too.

Lesley Broadbent
(cradbent2000@yahoo.co.uk) or 01206 231703

FAREWELL



TO PAT





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

Head teacher: Julie O'Mara
Telephone: 01206 230305

WELCOME TO JULIE



I would like to introduce myself, as the new Headteacher of St George's C of E Primary School. I am delighted to have been appointed and look forward to meeting members of the local community during the forthcoming term. As you can imagine, I have had a busy start to the new term, trying to learn all the children's

names; the staff have been wonderfully supportive and I have very much enjoyed meeting many parents at the school entrance each morning.

The children have returned to school, after the summer holiday, looking very smart and eager to participate in school life, including extra-curricular clubs that are offered both after school and during lunch times. Working with the staff as a team, our priorities continue to be to provide excellent teaching and an enjoyable curriculum within a caring Christian community.

We have already begun rehearsing for our Harvest Festival, which will be held in George's Church on Thursday 6th October at 2.15 pm. We are looking forward to, once again, welcoming the Great Bromley Friendship Club to school on 2nd October where they will enjoy an afternoon tea and receive a harvest basket from the children. The school PTA and Great Bromley Cricket Club have joined forces again to hold an Autumn Ball on 15th October at the Village Hall. This is a really fun evening and we do hope that you will join us. Please contact the school office for further details.

IN THE GARDEN IN OCTOBER

Take hardwood cuttings this month also climbing roses, ramblers, and floribunda. Divide Michaelmas daisy and other perennials that have become overgrown.

Dahlias. These are still in full flower, keep removing dead flowers and they will continue to flower for another month.

Continue to plant bulbs until the end of the month, lift and store gladioli. Divide overgrown clumps of lilies and replant, do not cut off the stems until they have faded.

Your spring cabbages should be ready to plant this month, if you were not able to plant the seeds earlier this year, I have seen some plants for sale at our local garden centre.



Frank Griffiths

THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS

Ardleigh Surgery

Influenza vaccinations

It is influenza clinic time again !

The Department of Health recommends patients should have vaccination against influenza if they are aged over 65 or at particular risk if they have one of the following medical conditions; heart disease, diabetes, respiratory disease including asthma, renal disease or who are immunocompromised or pregnant.

Last year some at risk patients tended to leave it late to have a vaccination and the practice ran into supply problems when we tried to order more vaccinations in December. Please book in early as it also takes three weeks for the vaccination to provide immunity. This seasonal flu vaccination will also provide protection against the H1N1 swine flu strain that still caused problems last winter.

Flu clinics will be held on Thursday afternoons weekly starting on the 6 October and ending beginning of November. Two Thursday morning flu clinics will also be held at the Dedham branch surgery.

Please telephone the surgery to book into one of those clinics. We encourage patients to attend these clinics rather than use valuable normal appointment slots unless you are attending the doctor or nurse for some other reason.

Patient Reference Group

We would like to know how we can improve our service to our patients and how patients perceive our surgery and staff.

To help us with this, we are setting up a Patient Reference Group so that patients can have their say. We will ask the members of this representative group some questions from time to time, such as what you think the quality of the care or service

you received. Members of the PRG can also raise questions or issues for sharing with other members of the Group.

We have decided to establish a virtual Group rather than a physical one as we realise that many patients are unable to attend the meetings due to pressure from studies, work or family commitments but may want to have a say in what we do. This means that contact will be by post or by email. We also hope to establish a Discussion Bulletin Board on our practice website so that Group members may share their views and stimulate debate.

We aim to gather around a hundred patients from as broad a spectrum as possible to get a truly representative sample. We need young people, workers, retirees, people with long term conditions and people from non-British ethnic groups.

If you would like to join this virtual Patient Reference Group please request a registration contact form from the surgery or download or complete the online form on the practice website at www.ardleighsurgery.nhs.uk by the end of October.

Summary Care Record

The upload of the Summary Care Record (SCR) for all Ardleigh surgery patients apart from those that opted out will be going ahead on the 6 October after a delay of over a year owing to data synchronisation problems with our GP clinical system.

Your Summary Care Record is an electronic record of important information about your health. It will be available to selected healthcare staff providing your NHS care in hospital and community settings. This means if you ever have an accident or become ill and need urgent or out of hours advice or treatment outside of your normal practice, the clinicians treating you can have immediate access to

important information about you. Your consent will be requested by healthcare staff each time they wish to access your SCR.

It will initially have information about your current medications, any allergies you suffer from and any bad reactions to medicines that you experience. Over time it will build with your consent to include information about other health issues considered important to your well being.

All patients in North East Essex were sent a letter from the PCT during January 2010 providing information about the Shared Care Record. The letter explained that you can opt out of having a Shared Care Record by letting your GP know in writing or in person. Please see the practice website for further information.

Fred Merrin, Practice Manager

THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS

Gt Bentley Surgery

Firstly, the good news is that our main computer is back to its normal ultra-reliable self. Apologies again to anyone who was inconvenienced by the problem – and thanks and praise to all the staff who battled through the difficulties it created.

As I mentioned a month or two ago, our new Registrar, Dr Subha Nambi has now started with us and is settling well into The Hollies routine. Dr Nambi did her medical degree at Madras Medical College in India and, as with all our Registrars, is already an experienced hospital doctor. For the last few years she has been working at Colchester General and this is her first taste of general practice. I don't think we have put her off yet.

Unbelievable though it might seem, it is time to mention flu jabs again. The jabbing season seems to come round quicker each year and by the time you read this we will have received our first supply of the jabs and we are already booking appointments in anticipation. As Saturday morning sessions have proved to be popular for working people over the last couple of years, there will be two this year, other sessions being scattered at varying times throughout different days of the week between now and mid-December. As ever, each appointment will be just one minute long, so I'm afraid there will be time for the jab and nothing else. If you have other issues that need dealing with, please make

a separate appointment.

It's the usual suspects who qualify for a free jab under NHS rules:

- * Anyone aged 65 or over

- * Pregnant women

- * People suffering from conditions

such as asthma, COPD, diabetes or stroke

- * Anyone with chronic heart, liver or

kidney disease

- * Patients living in long-stay

residential care homes

- * People who are

immunosuppressed due to illness or medical treatment

Additionally, some individual carers might qualify, though anyone who is employed as a professional health or social care worker should be vaccinated not under the NHS, but by their employer as part of an occupational health programme.

If you think that you might be due a free jab, please ask at reception so that we can check for you. I wouldn't leave it too long before doing so, as demand last year was huge and I'm expecting the same again this year. The protection that the jab provides is definitely worthwhile as anyone who has suffered from genuine flu will confirm.

We're back to that time of year when Mums and Dads of post-A Level teenagers are tearfully (or in some cases gleefully) packing their offspring off to university. Ah yes! I remember it well. A couple of the said Mums and Dads have asked recently

what the university freshers should do about getting supplies of regular medication – things like inhalers or hay fever tablets – and what they should do if they get poorly during the term. The best answer is for new students to find a GP surgery close to where they are living while they study. Very often there will be the medical centre on the university campus itself, which is ideal. Once signed on, the student's medical records will be sent to the new surgery so that the GPs there have full information about health history, allergies etc and can safely prescribe for existing or new problems. When students are home again during vacations, we can look after them as temporary patients and will have enough of their old records on our computer system to enable us to do the job properly. Congratulations and good luck to anyone just going off to university for the first time. You'll probably have the time of your life.

It was interesting to see in the news very recently that the ban on many gay and bisexual men donating blood is to be lifted. This highlighted again the problem that the NHS sometimes has in keeping stocks up to levels that can cope with anything other than normal daily demand. Giving blood is incredibly simple for most people. It doesn't hurt and only takes a few minutes. It is one of the most generous things you can do for a stranger. It will make you feel really good about yourself and might just save a life. Don't worry! They'll leave you plenty to keep fit and healthy. Why not give it a go?

There are sessions locally on a regular basis. If you log onto www.blood.co.uk/sessionsearcher you can find out where and when they are. The website is brilliant in its own right, by the way. There is stacks of information about giving blood, including who can and who can't, and some true personal stories which are almost guaranteed to inspire you into becoming a donor if you aren't one already. If you haven't got access to the internet, we have all the information you need here at the

surgery.

On a less serious note, I see that some fast food outlets are going to start showing on their menus how many calories their non-gourmet delights contain. It's a bit startling to realise that a burger and a coffee, or a muffin and a milkshake contain about half of the calories a full-grown adult is suppose to consume in a whole day. No wonder we are becoming a nation of fatties.

If, like me, you are – shall we say on the plump side and wanting to do something about it, we have lots of information here about healthy diets, exercise etc. A healthy diet doesn't have to be boring and depressing and good, healthy exercise needn't take all day and leave you exhausted. Do ask if you'd like to know more.

Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

Parish Council meetings

The parish council met on 8th September 2011 and the confirmed minutes should be available later this month and then placed on the council's website.

The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 13th October 2011 at Great Bromley Village Hall.

Great Bromley Parish Council

CASUAL VACANCIES FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Following the resignations of Cllrs Terry Cottingham and Ken Stokes there will shortly be vacancies for two councillors on Great Bromley Parish Council. The necessary notices have been posted in the village and if elections are not requested by the due dates then the council will fill these vacancies by co-option. If you are interested in being considered for co-option then please confirm this in writing, **by 10 October 2011**, to the Clerk, Great Bromley Parish Council, 4 St George's Close Great Bromley Colchester CO7 7HZ.

If you wish to discuss this position or require further information on the role and responsibilities of a parish councillor then please contact any councillor or the Clerk, Ken Bromfield (01206 230089).

Great Bromley Parish Council

APPOINTMENT OF FOOTPATH WARDEN FOR GREAT BROMLEY

Following the forthcoming resignation of the current Footpath Warden the parish council wishes to appoint a successor in the near future. The warden monitors the village's public rights of way and liaises with landowners and Essex County Council Highways on ensuring footpaths etc are kept open and free of obstructions. S/he also works with the footpaths working group and its co-ordinator on the maintenance of footpaths, bridleways and byways and the promotion of their use. The warden holds the definitive map of public rights of way and advises the parish council on these matters.

If you are interested in being considered for this post then please confirm this in writing, **by 10 October 2011**, to the Clerk, Great Bromley Parish Council, 4 St George's Close Great Bromley Colchester CO7 7HZ

If you wish to discuss this position or require further information on the role and responsibilities of the village Footpath Warden then please contact either the current Warden, Mr Ken Stokes (01206 626369) or the Clerk, Ken Bromfield (01206 230089).



Charity No. 1136038
Company No. 709944

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

Towards the end of last term staff and committee members took part in a 'Tesco bag pack' to raise money for pre-school. We raised a fantastic £519.16 – a very big thank you to those involved for all your hard work.

The autumn term got off to a good start with all the children settling back in after the summer holiday. Our older children, as always, ready to help the new ones starting this term.

We would like to welcome the new children, Emelia, Harry and Jessica, and hope you enjoy your time with us.

We would also like to welcome the new headmistress of St Georges School, Mrs O'Mara, we look forward to working together and continuing our partnership and strong links with the school.

We are proud to announce our new website

which has been created by Matt Calderbank (www.littledragonspreschool.org). It will be kept regularly updated with the latest news and dates.

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.

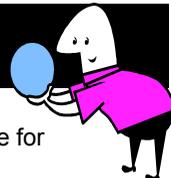
For further information or to arrange a visit to the setting please contact us on the above number.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 8th October - Quiz night at Courthouse Inn

Monday 24th October - Half Term week

CARPET BOWLS



During the summer we played seven friendly matches and held our own with them all. Although competitive to a degree, friendlies give us a chance for match practise besides entertaining and being entertained by other clubs.

We start the winter league season with a new 'strip' - still keeping to navy blue and white, but more up to date.

The first match was away on 8th September against our neighbours, Elmstead Market, not too far to travel to start us off. The result was a drawn match, quite happy with that. Club evenings are well supported although one or two late summer holidays ongoing. We could still do with a few new members. One or two of us (note the 'us') are not as spry as a few years ago, but we keep going.

Nancy Kempster



GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

100 Club Winners for August

- 1st. Mr Mark Lamb (Snr.)
- 2nd. Mrs Ann Wild
- 3rd. Mrs June Wenden

May I remind all 100 club members that the last draw for 2010/2011 takes place in September therefore subscriptions are due from 1st October, 2011. Many thanks to all our current members for your support; anyone interesting in joining the 100 Club please contact any cricket club member or Lynda Allam on 01206 230375.

+++++

The annual **Colts Awards** presentation evening was held at the Cricket Pavilion on Friday 9th September.

The President, Lynda Allam, presented the trophies to the following:-

- U.11's Batting Award Jessica Bird
- Bowling Award Dan Smith
- Fielding Award William Nicholls-East
- Most Improved Player Beth Dodd
- Player Beth Hearn
- U.12's Batting Award Jessica Bird
- Bowling Award Dan Smith
- Fielding Award Nick Garnham
- Players player Dan Smith
- Most Improved Player Jessica Bird
- Player Charlie Allam
- U.13's Batting Award James Ruffles
- Bowling Award Bradley Mann
- Fielding Award George Walton
- Players player James Ruffles
- Managers player Elliot Mann
- U.14's Batting Award Louis Short
- Bowling Award Elliot Mann
- Fielding Award Tommy Smith
- Players player Tommy Smith
- Managers player Will Garnham
- Adam Bird

FRIENDSHIP CLUB



We will be celebrating our **Golden Anniversary** this month - yes, 50 years! The Club was started by two ladies - Miss Brown and Miss Malone.

Unfortunately I cannot tell you anything about them as it was before my time - Vera was the Chairman when Frank and I joined. I do know the membership was over 72 which is now down to 42. I am going to ask anyone who had any memorabilia if they could bring it to go on display at the meeting. The competition is 'Something Golden'. It should be an interesting meeting so do come as it is rather special.

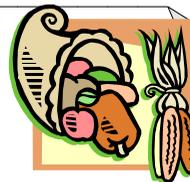
Christmas Lunch. Your name should be

given to Vicky this month - further details later.

John Appleby. It is with great sadness I report his death on 30th August. The funeral was held at Great Bromley church on 6th September. John and his wife, Audrey, were members for many years and you will have been able to read his reports on the History of Great Bromley which have appeared in the Messenger each month. He was headmaster of the Little Bromley Schook, a Lay Reader and served in the Royal Navy during World War II.

Vicky Griffiths

EVENTS IN 2011



OCTOBER

- 30 Sept -2 Oct St George's church Flower Festival
- 2 Harvest Lunch, St George's church, 12 noon
- 4 Seven Rivers Charity Fair, Village Hall, 10.30am
- 6 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm
- 8 Cabaret Night with Ollie Day, Village Hall
- 12 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm
- 13 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14 'Pink' Coffee Morning, Village Hall, 10.00am
- 22 Gt Bromley Farmers Market, Village Hall 10.00am-1.00pm
- Quiz, The Haywain, 7.00pm
- 29 Messy Church, Village Hall, 10.00am
- Lawford Farmers Market, Venture Centre

NOVEMBER

- 10 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 12 Litter Picking Group, convene at pubs car parks, 9.50am (see p.33)
- 19 Bingo, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 23 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm

St. George's Church. **FLOWER FESTIVAL 2011**

- Friday September 30th 10am - 5pm,
 - Saturday October 1st 10am - 5pm
 - Sunday 2nd October 12noon - 5pm
- Refreshments, stalls, Grand Raffle.

Festival Lunch Friday September 30th £5.
Harvest Lunch October 2nd 12noon £6

If you would like to donate a raffle prize,
sponsor some flowers, please contact
Jenny 01206 230688 or
Ann 01206 250229

Harvest Lunch October 2nd 2011

You are warmly invited
Harvest Lunch
at St. George's Church
following

Festival Eucharist with Bishop
Christopher
All welcome

Tickets £6. Children £3

Time 12 noon for 12.30pm sit down
Tickets from Jenny 01206 230688 , Ann
01206 250229
or any P.C.C. Member.

Please bring your own drinks and glasses

Fair Trade stall

at the St George's Church Flower
Festival.

30 September-2 October
Ideas for stocking fillers and other
Christmas presents as well as
consumables such as tea, coffee,
biscuits and spices.

Messy Church

October 29th 10am to 12.30pm
Great Bromley Village Hall

Visit the "Messy Church Stall" on Saturday
1st October at the church

GT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

8th October
Cabaret Night Olly Day
(very, very few tickets left)

22nd October
Farmers Market 10am-1pm

3rd December
Christmas Fayre

21st December (Provisional)
Farmers Market 6pm-9pm

31st December
New Year's Eve Dance
with a live dance band

Great Bromley W.I.
Supporting Breast Cancer Care U.K.
Warmly invite you to a
"PINK"

Coffee morning and Book Swap
in The Millennium Lounge
Great Bromley Village Hall
on
14th October
10am to 12 noon

Please come along and bring a friend.

Barn Dance

at the Venture Centre
with the popular caller "Tone"
7.30pm until 11.30pm

Organised by the Manningtree Stour Valley
Rotary Club

in aid of Water- Survival Boxes
Licensed Bar available

Price of tickets £12.00 to include a hot supper
Tickets available at the Crown Public House,
High Street, Manningtree
or phone 01206 393617

Leonard
Cheshire
Disability

CHARITY FAIR

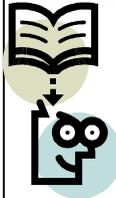
Seven Rivers Cheshire Home
is holding a sale of
new, 'not on the high street' items
on Tuesday 4th October

10.30am-3pm
at Great Bromley Village Hall
Articles for sale will include ladies'
clothing, toys and stocking fillers,
china, cookware, jewellery
and a wide range of gift ideas.

Entry fee: £2
Coffee, cakes and sandwiches will be
available

All proceeds go directly to the Seven
Rivers Cheshire Home, Great Bromley
For further information please contact:

Helen Harvey (Chairman of Appeals
Committee) 01206 250320
helenharvey6@hotmail.com



Quiz

on 22nd October
7 pm at The Hayman
in aid of the MS Society
teams of 4 - buffet included.
Raffle

Please phone 01206 390004 to
book a table

Bingo

in aid of Spina Bifida
Great Bromley Village
Hall

Saturday 19th November
7.30 Start

Bring your own Nibbles and Drinks
Raffle
£5.00 per person (8 Games)

26	01	15	03	12					
34	16	29	10	25					
02	14	17	20	32	05				
23	06	36	07	33					

Thursday 13th October 7.30 - 8.45pm

Would you like to save up to 50% on train fare? Do you know how to reduce your utility bills?
How would you feel if you never had to pay full price for a meal out again?

Attend a money saving workshop near you for all the latest tips and pointers saving you £££'s on
transport, energy and retail.

Workshops now held at the Venture Centre 2000 in Manningtree, Essex.

Only £10 per person or couple! Call Samuel Morton 07925 975158 for further details.

LETTERS

Dear Editor

I am writing in response to the Essex Police report in the September 2011 issue of the Bromley Messenger. 'Nuisance Youth Meadow Close (*very young* youths playing on scooters)'.

Having watched for some time now youths on bicycles and scooters in Meadow Close surely these youths are 10 -11 years old now and in a group of six or more are old enough to go to the Hare Green playing fields provided for them. We have also suffered footballs kicked into the garden as well as ramps and skateboards on the pavements. Perhaps we should re-name Meadow Close 'Playing Area'.

How refreshing to hear from an ex-neighbour recently who wrote "it was nice to know someone was there and ready to help if there was trouble and I used to enjoy our chats when out in the front garden". I'm afraid those days seem to have gone! What happened to respect for others?

Name and address supplied

Dear Editor,

So many people from our village have asked me "What is happening at Church Bungalow?"

Perhaps I can try through your magazine explain the facts as I know them.

The history of the bungalow is interesting, it was built in 1974. It is small, 3 bedrooms, a lounge, kitchen, bathroom and toilet. The application to build on the plot was surrounded in controversy and opposition because the bungalow is situated directly behind Fryerning and the Rectory, within 100 metres of a Grade One listed building and outside the village envelope. Planning permission was granted eventually on the condition that the bungalow was only to be used by employees of Cheshire Home and it was never to be sold. In 2002 the

covenant was lifted and change of use granted to enable the bungalow to be rented. The Leonard Cheshire organisation have been providing a good service to the residents of Great Bromley with affordable rented housing for young people in our village. The new owners of the bungalow are seeking planning permission for change of use to business premises.

In December 2010 whilst at a coffee morning at Seven Rivers I happened to ask the reason for four yellow pegs which had appeared round Church Bungalow. I was told "Oh its being sold to the playgroup". To make sure of the facts and to enquire as to the selling price I emailed Sam Clubb, Head of Operations at Leonard Cheshire Disability and this was his reply "Dear Mrs Nicholls, Many thanks for your enquiry re the sale of the bungalow at Seven Rivers (which is referred to as Church Bungalow) which is located near the church.

I regret to inform you that the property is in the process of being sold. If however the situation changes I will ensure that you are contacted immediately"

Completion of the sale has taken some time and only recently in July has the sale been finalised. Leonard Cheshire Disability sold a plot of land which is at least twice the area of the of the plot on which the bungalow stands. The bungalow is small and has approximately 60 sq metres of useable space which includes the proposed new conservatory. Seven Rivers in Great Bromley, I understand will not directly benefit from the sale of the bungalow.

There are serious concerns regarding the change of use of Church Bungalow and what may happen to this plot of land in the future. If you require more information your parish and district councillors are always available to answer questions and advise accordingly"

Jenny Nicholls

Our First Meeting after the summer break. We

started with Jerusalem after the welcome by Jenny, our president, and then Sue introduced Martin Frostick and Leonie Henderson (who is also one of our members) who were to enthral us with their talk about bees, their needs and their products.

We had last heard Martin speak about the subject in 2008 when there was great concern about the demise of honey bees; this was still giving great concern today and a lot of research was going on concerning this. The W.I. has been one of the main campaigners on this subject. It was turning out that there was no simple answer to this great problem as also insects are diminishing worldwide. The main causes appeared to be poor nutrition and insecticides, these were often systemic and very toxic and they also did not degrade. Another large problem are pathogens (virus) and the U.S.A. were known to be importing bees from Australia where they do not, at present, appear to have these problems.

Leonie then talked about beeswax which is a by product of honey; it can be used in Lip Balm, polish, hand cream and in many other different ways. Leonie showed us how to make hand cream and we were very lucky to be given a sample of this to take home.

Martin then spoke again and said that to obtain 1 part of beeswax, it took 10 parts of honey. For one pound of beeswax the bees fly about 150,000 miles (wow). Bees wax is used in soap, leather treatment and is also very inflammable.

What is honey? It is highly concentrated sugar, that has colour, aroma and flavour (this depends on the plant source), it can be sold as runny honey, honeycomb and also chunk honey (this is chunks of honeycomb suspended in runny honey).

Honey is a proven antibiotic, regularly used before penicillin, and it is also a healing agent. Manuka honey is known to be used in burn dressings across the U.K.

Leonie then spoke about what the bees need throughout the winter months to survive: beekeepers give their bees sugar syrup which they turn into stores in their brood box for their consumption during the winter months. She also explained how the honey is obtained from the combs, by being spun, strained and stored.

Martin then talked about candle making, how they give good light and are very aromatic. There are three types: Rolled, from sheet wax, Cast or moulded in a silicone mould, and Dipped. Well, several of us tried this method, Ha! Ha! not as easy as it looks, some not looking as they should, and this brought forward some very rude suggestions! What a lovely evening. The Vote of thanks was given by Ann Fairley.



Joy went on to give her report about time spent at Denman College in July, participating in the joint N.A.F.A.S and W.I. flower arranging event. She had thoroughly enjoyed it with techniques she had not tried before and come home with lots of ideas and arrangements. She would thoroughly recommend that everyone should go at least once to the college as it was very good value for money.

Joy Rolfe



JOHN S APPLEBY

(29 MARCH 1925-30 AUGUST 2011)

John S. Appleby, a tireless worker for communities and charitable organisations in Essex, died in Essex County Hospital on

Tuesday 30 October after a lengthy illness. He was 86. John was born in Colchester in 1925. Having received his early education at Stockwell School and the Bluecoat School, he won a scholarship to Colchester Royal Grammar School in 1936, beginning a life-long association with the institution. Called up in 1943, he joined the destroyer HMS *Vivien* as an RNVR officer on East Coast convoys. He was seconded to a fast patrol boat in June 1944, and took part in Operation Overlord. Posted to the escort carrier HMS *Nairana*, John saw further active service in the Atlantic and on Arctic convoys to Russia. In 1945 he sailed to the East Indies on the aircraft carrier HMS *Khediye*. A signals and coding specialist, he was appointed to HMS *Lanka*, in modern day Sri Lanka, then to the combined operations base HMS *Tengra*. During this period he took part in classified operations on HMS *Fiery Cross*, a secretive craft whose job was to scout out beaches in preparation for Operation Zipper, a planned seaborne assault on Japanese-held Malaya.

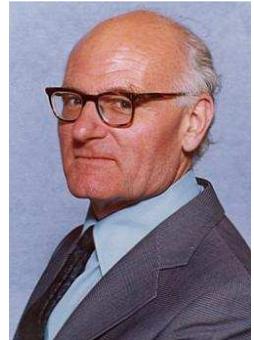
John turned down the offer of a regular Royal Navy commission in 1947, returning from India to marry Audrey Fookes of Great Bentley. He then began a teaching career that included time in schools in Harwich, Brightlingsea, Thorrington and Little Bromley. In 1969 John became headteacher of Great Horkesley CofE Primary School, later transferring with his pupils and staff to the newly-built Bishop William Ward School when the old school was decommissioned. He retired in 1986 along with his wife Audrey, a former Norland Nurse, who had worked with him

as the school secretary. Together John and Audrey raised thousands of pounds for the school, for the British Diabetic Association and other local charities.

John's association with the church began in 1940 as vergers and clerk of All Saints and St Nicholas churches in Colchester, and he became a lay reader in 1957. He became known for his preaching and pastoral work all over north Essex, but had a particularly strong association with the churches of Great and Little Bromley, and Ardleigh. Audrey died in St Helena Hospice in 1993 and subsequently John devoted a large part of his life to the Hospice as a volunteer chaplain. In between his sessions at the Hospice, he also served as a chaplain to the Merchant Navy, Harwich, and the Burma Star Association.

From an early age, one of John Appleby's greatest passions was history, particularly Essex history. He joined the Essex Archaeological Society (now the Essex Society for Archaeology and History) in 1947, and served for many years as its

Honorary Secretary and Keeper of Manuscripts, eventually becoming President of the Society. At the time of his death he was still a Vice-President and Trustee. John was also very energetic in raising money for the Victoria County History of Essex, and continued to attend committee meetings even in his last years. He was a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and of the Royal Meteorological Society. Somehow, he also found time to act as Chairman of the Tendring Hundred



Recorders' Association, Secretary of the V&W Destroyer Association, local branch secretary of the Russian Convoy Club, and newsletter editor for HMS *Tengra* veterans, whilst at the same time participating in charitable work with several Masonic lodges. He published widely on local history, including studies of Odd Fellows in Essex, church histories of Great and Little Bromley, and an illustrated work on the villages entitled *Where the Broom Grows*. Although a life-long teetotaler, his final published work was *Bromley Boozers* (2010), a history of the pubs and brewers in the two villages.

John's interest in languages (which included Tamil, Latin, Ancient Greek, French, Russian and Urdu) extended to the study of local Essex dialects. He featured in many programmes for BBC Essex, playing the part of 'Old Joss', demonstrating Essex accents and dialects, and helping to compile radio quizzes.

John's services to the community were recognised towards the end of his life when local Rotarians obtained for him the prestigious award of a Paul Harris Fellowship. He was to have received a long service award from St Helena Hospice on Wednesday 31 August, but sadly died hours before he could receive it. John leaves behind sons: Roger, Nigel, Andrew and David, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The affection in which this unique Essex character was held by all sections of the community has been demonstrated by the condolences and anecdotes which have been received by the family.

John was laid to rest, finally reunited with Audrey, at St George's Church, Great Bromley on Tuesday 6 September.

David Appleby



KITCHEN CORNER

Favourite Apple Cake

8 oz Self Raising Flour
1/2 tsp grated Nutmeg
1/2 tsp Cinnamon
4 oz Margarine
4 oz Demerara Sugar
4-6 oz Sultanas
1 med Cooking Apple peeled and chopped to small chunks
2 Eggs
Little Milk to mix

Heat oven to 170c

Sift the flour and spices, rub in margarine, add sugar and fruit. Stir to mix.

Lightly beat eggs and add to mixture, mix with a little milk to make a stiff dropping consistency.

Put into a lined 8" round cake tin and

sprinkle the top with demerara sugar to make a crunchy topping. Bake in centre of oven for about 45 - 60 minutes until golden and a knife comes out clean.

Allow to cool.

This is always popular and is very quick and easy to make. Keeps for about 3 days and freezes well.

Joy Golding



ST HELENA HOSPICE

Get involved in St Helena Hospice's Awareness Day

St Helena Hospice is pleased to announce that they will be holding an Awareness Day on Friday 7th October. The aim of this day is to raise awareness of the Hospice throughout the region and get people talking about what the Hospice means to our community and how they can get involved. They will also be launching their new Hospice mascot 'Dandy' the Lion on this day! In the lead up to the day, the Hospice is looking for organisations, groups, companies, schools, nurseries or even individuals who would like to get involved with fundraising on the big day.

The Hospice Fundraising team have come up with some simple and fun ideas to help any potential fundraisers on their way, including, a dress down 'be seen in green' day, recycling any unwanted items that can

be donated

to any of the eight Hospice shops, a colouring competition for the little ones, a raffle or a cake sale.

To make it even easier, the Fundraising team can provide you with posters and an order form with lots of goodies, to help support your event and help raise funds towards the £5.1 million that it will cost to run the Hospice every year.

If you are interested in getting involved on the day, please contact the St Helena Hospice Fundraising team to find out more and discuss which fundraising ideas you are interested in:

email: enquiries@sthelenahospice.org.uk

telephone: 01206 791740 or go to our website: www.sthelenahospice.org.uk



St Helena Hospice
your time...your hospice

Why “Seven Rivers”?

“Seven Rivers” - why, “Seven Rivers”? Some say that the title “Seven Rivers” was given to us by Leonard Cheshire when our home opened back in 1958 because there are seven rivers flowing through this part of East Anglia.

Most people say this is only a guess, though, and nobody really knows.

It is a distinctive name, it has to be said, with no other obvious local connections. So how else might we have got our name? You’d be amazed at what you can find out on the “world wide web”!

The Wild, Wild West

There was once a town in wild west New Mexico called Seven Rivers. The town was first settled in the mid-1860s, and for a time thrived as a trading post . It got its name because seven creeks flowed through it into the Pecos River.

Not only that, a gang of outlaws called the ‘Seven Rivers Warriors’” caused havoc in the area for a time and used the town as its headquarters.

The Warriors were a gang of rustlers who were made up of small-time ranchers from the Seven Rivers area of Lincoln County. They felt they had been victimized by John Chisum, the local “Cattle Baron”, and his large herds, which ate up most of the grazing land. These injustices resulted in resentment towards Chisum and so the Seven Rivers Warriors gang was formed to steal Chisum’s livestock and generally make life difficult for the old cattle baron.

In later years, the people of Seven Rivers drifted away and it became a ghost town.

Dancers, Scouters, Golfers and River Valleys

Closer to home, the Seven Rivers Highland Society keeps highland dancing alive and kicking, and, back in the USA, there is a Seven Rivers Scouting

Association based in Massachusetts, and the Seven Rivers Golf Club in Florida. [Also in America, the Seven Rivers Region](#)

is said to be a beautiful part of the Mississippi River valley.

I suppose Leonard might have harboured secret dreams of retirement to the lush greens and 18th hole of a select west coast golf club – but such thoughts hardly fit with the committed and frugal man we knew Leonard Cheshire to be.

So what, then? More mental meanderings next month.

Colin File
Voluntary newsletter Editor



More Maimed Soldiers Helped

1644

For ingrossing the Covenant	00.04.00
Putting in the Covenant	00.01.00
3 Irish women 2 of them being Captains’ wives with their 5 children	00.03.00
For victuals and lodging them	00.01.06
Paid Richard Stone for charges to the Parliament	00.17.11
Ditto	01.02.00
Ditto paid to Anthony Munt	00.05.00

John Appleby

[John has been the local Historian for some years now and we are most grateful for the many articles he has written for this magazine. The last ‘batch’ of articles he gave me was some months ago and I am now down to my last two which I am printing in this and next month’s magazine. Great and Little Bromley have much knowledge as a result of all his research into our two villages. - Ed.]

RURAL BROADBAND



You will remember that Great Bromley Parish Council has been working with Tendring District Council to identify ways of

bringing high speed broadband to the village. A potential supplier has now been identified and there is the possibility that the necessary infrastructure can be installed at no cost to the village. Recent announcements in the media have detailed high speed broadband solutions for the people of Colchester and BT have announced further plans for Tendring including an upgraded service in Manningtree. However none of these schemes will benefit Great Bromley which falls into an area referred to as 'the final third' - basically the bit left behind that the government is looking to third party suppliers to provide a solution.

As previously mentioned any supplier needs assurance that there is necessary interest in the area so the investment they are prepared to put in is worth their while. As such the Parish Council will be required to conduct a house to house survey of every property in the parish to gauge the potential take up of any such service.

To whet your appetite the service being proposed will have a number of competitive price bands offering different speeds. At the top end an initial download speed of 20Mbps (increasing to 40Mbps in due course) will be available. To give an idea of performance, an hour long TV programme on the BBC iPlayer takes approximately 2.5 hours to download with the average speed available in Great Bromley. At 20Mbps it will take 3.5 minutes.

The Parish Council is working with Tendring DC to finalise details of the survey that needs to be carried out and it is intended that it be completed before the end of the year. Further details should be available in the next Messenger.

Neil Skinner

LITTER PICKING GROUP

Saturday, 12th November

The Autumn Litter Pick will be held on the above date. If you can spare some time between the hours of 10.00am and midday to help tidy up our village, please be at the car park of either the Cross Inn, The Old Courthouse or the Snooty Fox at approximately 9.50am, grab a litter pick and a plastic bag and follow your team leader. It's a mucky job, but you may be surprised how much fun you can have whilst getting involved in a community activity. PLEASE NOTE- to comply with insurance regulations, you must be fit, be between the ages of 15 and 70 and be wearing protective, high visibility clothing. Some high vis jackets are available and will be on site, but if you have your own, please do wear them. You may also wish to bring along any garden tools that may be helpful to you for litter collection. Look forward to seeing you.





Incidents in Great Bromley during August

Suspicious Circumstances - Ardleigh Road - (Male knocking on doors looking for work)

Obstruction - Harwich Road - (Van obstruction drive)

September Newsletter

LATEST PRESS RELEASE FROM THE OFFICE OF FAIR TRADING

Steer clear of potential loan scams warns OFT

The Office of Fair Trading (OFT) is warning people to steer clear of scam loan companies who take upfront fees but fail to provide credit or offer clearly unsuitable credit alternatives.

The OFT is alerting consumers after seeing a 50 per cent year-on-year rise in complaints about loan scams, particularly credit applications which involve the consumer 'wiring' or sending upfront fees through money transfer companies. The OFT advises people to be vigilant when dealing with, or taking calls from, loan companies that want upfront fees and who are not interested in consumers' credit history.

The OFT's 'dos and don'ts' to help consumer's spot scam loan companies are:

Dos:

- **Do** be very careful when dealing with loan companies that charge upfront fees
- **Do** be cautious if a loan company cold-calls you
- **Do** some research about the business offering the loan - look for proper phone numbers and physical addresses and ask for information in writing
- **Do** check that the company has a credit licence on the Consumer Credit Register at www.offt.gov.uk/ConsumerCreditRegister

Don'ts:

- **Don't** believe adverts which indicate a loan is 'guaranteed'
- **Don't** give out your card details 'for security reasons' as the company may then debit your bank account without you knowing
- **Don't** wire money to loan companies using money transfer services when applying for loans
- **Don't** go ahead with a loan if a company approves it and then demands a fee before you get the money.

Please be aware of the supermarket scam below.

The aggrieved states that she paid for her shopping at Tesco, Highwoods, Colchester on 11/07/2011 at 10:15 hours. An eastern European male approached her as she had just finished packing her shopping away and had a map in his hand and was asking the aggrieved for directions. The aggrieved believes that she did not lock her car as she was distracted. She then spent 5-10 minutes talking to this male before getting back to her car. The aggrieved then got in her car and drove home. Back at home, she looked in her purse and saw that the card she had used to pay for shopping at t Tesco was missing from her purse. The aggrieved believes that someone working in company with the eastern European male, who asked for directions, must have seen her use her card in the store and has then been distracted whilst another has entered her vehicle and taken her card from her purse in her handbag. The aggrieved phoned her bank, where they stated at 10:25 hours of the same day at the same Tesco, £250 had been withdrawn from her account. The aggrieved stated that she saw the same male earlier that day when she pulled into TESCO car park, walking around with a map in his hand. The male asking for directions and potentially a suspect is described as a white male, 5'9 to 5'10 tall, dark short hair that was slightly curly, very bad teeth, wearing a dark coloured tracksuit / hooded top possibly navy blue or black and dark bottoms either tracksuit bottoms or dark jeans and spoke with an eastern European accent.

Supermarket car park distractions have been seen across the county in 2010 and 2011, with suspects almost always described as Eastern European or Asian. It seems that Tesco stores are particularly popular with the offenders, with the store on Princes Road in Chelmsford being a notable hotspot. Offences have been identified in surrounding counties as well. The victims are commonly singled out in the store itself, often when using the chip and pin reader machines at the self-service tills as these can be watched by a member of the offending team to get the PIN number. This person will then phone their associates in the car park on a mobile phone to alert them to the targeted victim. They usually then drive up alongside the victim as they are putting their shopping bags away and distract them by asking for directions with a large map.



During the months of September and October, a favourite game is conkers. It is a game which has been played every autumn for generations but nowadays fewer children are playing it.

Did you know?

On finding your first conker of the season, you should say:

"Oddly oddly onker my first conker". This ensures good fortune and few tangles throughout the coming season.

The game of conkers is known as '**Kingers**' in some parts of the world.

Conkers

is also the name given to a game played between two people at a time.

How to prepare your conker for playing.

The best conkers to play with are uncracked, firm and symmetrical. Make a hole through the middle of your chosen conker. Thread a strong piece of string about 25cm long, through the hole and tie a knot at one end, so that it doesn't pull through.

How to play conkers?

Each player has a conker hanging on its string. Players take turns at hitting their opponent's conker.

If you are the one whose conker is to be hit first, let it hang down from the string which is wrapped round your hand. The conker is held at the height your opponent chooses and is held perfectly still.

Your opponent, the striker, wraps his conker string round his hand just like yours. He then takes his conker in the other hand and draws it back for the strike.

Releasing the conker he swings it down by the string held in the other hand and tries to hit his opponent's conker (yours) with it.

If a player misses hitting his/her opponent's conker they are allowed up to two further goes.

If the strings tangle, the first player to call

"strings" gets an extra shot.

If a player hits his/her opponent's conker in such a way that it completes a whole circle after being hit - known as 'round the world' - the player gets another go.

If a player drops his conker, or it is knocked out of his hand the other player can shout 'stamps' and jump on it; but should its owner first cry 'no stamps' then the conker, hopefully, remains intact.

The game goes on in turns until one or other of the conkers is completely destroyed.

Scoring

In a contest between two fresh conkers, the winner would have a score of 1 (known as a 'one-er'). If it then beat another three one-ers, it would become a four-er. However, if the same conker then beat a conker which had previously conquered 5 fresh opponents (and thus was a 'five-er'), the nut would then become a ten-er (its own four, plus its latest victim (1) 'plus' its victim's previous count of 5).

How to choose a good conker.

Do you wonder why some conkers float in water but most sink? When placed in water, all the conkers that have damage inside them will, due to their lack of density, float to the surface. If you wish for 'killer' Conkers, simply discard the floaters and concentrate on the much harder ones at the bottom of the bucket.

Hints on how to make your conkers harder.

You could try one of the following, although it is considered cheating!

Soak your conker in vinegar.

Bake your conker in the oven.

Use an old conker from previous years.

Have fun!

This allows another member of the team to enter the front seat of the victim's vehicle and remove the bank card from their purse.

These offenders often commit several offences on one day over a wide area. Both male and female suspects have been seen at these offences.

The last two identified offences were committed on one day (5/7/11) in Tendring; both were at Morrisons - Parkeston and Little Clacton. The descriptions of both persons are also similar, and are therefore likely to have been committed by the same persons:

1 x male (dark brown short hair, late 20s, white

T-shirt, shorts, sunglasses)

1 x female (mid-late20s, long curly bleached blonde hair in a pony tail, shoulder length, long pink acrylic nails, foreign accent)

Although the "asking for directions" MO has been employed since this date, these were not at supermarket car parks and the descriptions given are different.

Les Barnes PCSO 71909

Thorpe Le Soken NPT Eastern

Mobile 07967466876

The Tendring Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team

cover the areas of Brightlingsea, Thorrington, Alresford, Frating, Elmstead, Great Bentley, Little Bentley, Great Bromley, Thorpe, Little Bentley and Beaumont.

Working together with their local communities, Parish councils, Neighbourhood Action Panel and Selecta DNA they are looking to promote a crime prevention initiative with a view to "Beating the Burglars" on the run up to Christmas. Statistically, figures show an increase in dwelling burglaries on the run up to Christmas as people often buy in extra items or gifts for friends and family. Burglars take advantage of this and target houses especially in rural areas. This initiative may go some way to deterring would be burglars and thieves and help to trace stolen property and detect offences committed.

Selecta DNA is an advanced forensic marking product which is easily applied to items such as PCs, laptops, audio visual equipment and other valuable items. When dry it is virtually impossible to remove. It is invisible to the naked eye but glows under UV search lights used by police. As well as a unique DNA code, the Selecta DNA solution contains thousands of Microdots - each containing an owner code which is unique to each kit. Police can quickly trace where an item was stolen from by calling

the number displayed on the Microdot and checking the owner against the secure police approved database. The product can be bought at a much reduced rate from the company when being bought as a bulk lot in a preventative scheme such as the one the Tendring Rural team are trying to promote. Instead of an individual cost of £34, it can be bought for just over £11. What price do you put on protecting your home and its contents?

In the next two months officers will be visiting local parish council meetings advising attendees of the initiative and the product. It is hoped the councils will then filter this through to the communities with a view to confirming orders. Once a total number has been confirmed the kits will be ordered and then delivered to the people well before Christmas. The Neighbourhood Policing Team and possibly some councillors will be giving a training input on the product so that the kit can be correctly applied. By taking this approach we hope to demonstrate our commitment to reducing crime though working with partners and the community.

If you have any queries regarding this item then please do not hesitate to contact your local policing team, council or neighbourhood action panel who will happily advise you and show you examples of the kit.

THE DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Governors invite applications from residents in the Parishes of Ardleigh, Bradfield, Dedham, Great Bromley and Stratford St Mary for financial grants that are available in the following categories:

Secondary Schools and Sixth Form Colleges

Applicants must be at least 12 years old on 1st August in the year of application.

Universities and Colleges of Further Education

Applicants must have lived in one, or more, of the five Parishes for at least 2 years prior to the application date.

For an application form, or further details, contact the clerk to the Governors, Mrs Jean Flewin, Coppins, Crown Street, Dedham, Colchester, Essex, CO7 7AT.

Closing date for applications: 28th October 2011

NATURE'S DIARY



23rd September was the day of the Autumn Equinox when the length of the day and night is equal and the sun rises exactly due east and sets exactly due west. The nights are now starting to draw in with the clocks changing on Sunday, 30th October - so don't

forget to put them back an hour!

At time of writing I am still seeing a few dragonflies and butterflies and even hearing a few grasshopper sounds but, as the nights lengthen and become colder, these sights and sounds will disappear. For those of you who see deer October is their mating period with red deer, our largest native wild animal, beginning their spectacular rut.

The leaves on the trees are already changing colour so these could be a long, beautiful autumn spectacle. Acorns, hazelnuts, conkers, sweet chestnut, beech nuts are falling with the result that squirrels, jays and the like will be rushing around collecting and burying them for their winter stores. Berries, seeds and nuts are very important as they provide an important food

source for birds and animals, so don't tidy up your garden too well - leave the seeds and so forth until eaten and then chop it all back. My whitebeam tree has already been stripped of all its berries - does this mean that there is already a shortage of food to be found?

Bats, hedgehogs and other animals will be preparing themselves for hibernation, toads will find stones or logs to hide under whereas frogs will go to the bottom of ponds or other sheltered places.



Soon the redwing and fieldfare will be returning to these shores for the winter months. I often spot them on cold days feeding on the windfall or unwanted fruit lying on the ground.

And, of course, if you know your fungi you might even find some of those to eat.

LMH

THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

It was during my time as a student that I first felt a calling to the ordained ministry. My initial response was to put it at the back of my mind, but each time I went to church it seemed to come back, and then it became more pressing. I discussed this with my college chaplain and he was very encouraging. I was not so sure. I was very committed, but that is a very different thing from giving your whole life to it.

I used to go to the careers library and read about all sorts of things I could do. In those days graduates could still choose jobs. A degree could open up all sorts of possibilities. However as I tried to imagine myself doing all these different things, it seemed that none were as fulfilling as doing God's work all of the time. At other times I would try to persuade myself that I could do God's work anywhere – I did not need to become a priest to do this.

I came home for the summer vacation after my first year in university and I told my mother that I was thinking about ordination. She was a very faithful Christian, and I had always been able to talk about matters of faith with her, I was a therefore rather surprised by her reaction. She had been an active member of the church all her life but she obviously did not think that ordination to the priesthood was a good idea. I had been allowed a free choice in choosing my subjects as I had thought best at school, but she was not going to sit back and let me make a big mistake. Her reasons were forthright and clear. Priesthood meant relative poverty for someone with a good educational background, and she knew from experience that sometime priests can be treated rather badly and she did not want me to get hurt.

All this made me think again as I always respected what my mother said.

Once again I put the idea at the back of my mind and I returned to university for my second year thinking probably Mum is right and I should think again.

The need to decide what I should do after I had graduated was now more pressing as the second year progressed. I was still enjoying my academic studies and there was the question as to whether I should do a research degree in history or to read theology if I were to become a priest. As time went by, I decided to read theology with a view to considering ordination. My mother was now softening to the idea and she said that whatever I decided I would have her blessing provided I had considered all those things carefully.

There was the question of how I would finance another degree, and in this regard I was fortunate that there was a discretionary award at the time given by the county of Anglesey to those who had a good honours degree to study Theology. I went to Jesus College Oxford for interview and I was offered a place to read Theology.

Fr. Robert



ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Church of England Services for October

Sunday 2nd	8.00am 10.30am	St George's Harvest Thanksgiving/Flower Festival *** Eucharist Parish Eucharist <i>Preacher: Rt Revd Christopher Morgan, Bishop of Colchester</i>	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Sunday 9th	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	16th 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 16th	8.00am 10.30am	17th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 23rd	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Last 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 30th	8.00am 10.30am	All Saints' Sunday Eucharist Parish Eucharist No Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
Wednesday, 2nd November	7.30pm	Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) Requiem Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>

*** Please note: Change of sequence for Sunday 2 October.

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