

# THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

*MARCH 2013*

Volume 27 No 11



Tree Planting in Great Bromley

Tree planting for 2012/13 is now complete in Great Bromley, undertaken by volunteers and local landowners who planted over 280 mixed-species trees in various locations in the village. Thanks go to Badley Hall Farm, Park Farm and Bosco House Farm for supporting tree planting on their land in the interests of increasing the tree cover in the village. This planting was made possible by a grant of £200 from Great Bromley Parish Council and £200 from Tendring District Council to cover planting ancillaries. Other expenses were met by landowners. Most of the trees were sourced from the village tree nursery run by the tree warden, which has now released all of the trees procured by the parish council several years ago and grown on until they were of a suitable size to plant out.

I am grateful to the Parish Council for its continuing support for tree planting in the village, to Dean's Garden Centre for

providing compost and fertiliser and to the volunteers who helped with planting and clearing around trees planted in previous years.

Volunteers also planted a semi-mature oak tree in Church Meadow to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Provided by the Parish Council, the tree was planted at the bottom of Church Meadow, near the Lych Path, and should eventually provide a tree canopy in this area when the existing mature trees are no longer viable. Pictured with the tree on completion of planting are Cllr Fred Nicholls, Deborah Lawes, Jim Farn and Roxanne Lawes. Roxanne, a pupil at St George's School, is really keen on trees and nature in general and currently is growing on young trees at home to plant out in the village in the future.

*Martin Frostick, Tree warden*

# KATISHA'S KOLUM



I am in charg this munth. Master and Mistress hav rushed off to visit their new grandchild and hav left me, the Deputy Editor, in control.

There has been sum intresting (to cats) snippets of news this munth abowt that dreded speshies, Dog. It seems that Little Bromley parish cowncil very sensibly instaled a dog mess bin along with sines asking dog owners to cleer up after their for legged frends only to hav Tendring Cowncil cum along and remoov the bin and sines. Wot a waste of time and munny, I say. Didn't TDC think how sensible such things r wen strategically placed on dog walking roots? Everywun nos dogs leeve their mess arownd, unlike cats hoo go to

grate lengths to bery theirs and tidy up afterwards.

My Vote of Excellence, 78 yeers on, gos to Monopoly hoo recognise cats as important to the success of a gaym. They hav just replaced the gaym peece, flat iron (wich in reality hasn't been used for yeers, steem irons being preferable) with a very smart looking cat. The Scottie dog peece, sadly, is stil in play but at least we cats now, qwite rightly, hav eqwality with dogs.

I am excited to see an ok tree has been planted in Church Medow to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Good for climing up, oks r an indigenou tree wich support a huge variety of insects, spiders and fungi orl of wich provide food for birds.

Torking of food I hav been catching a number of mice recently as wel as rabbits. Not so successful with the moles wich I stork for ages as they make the erth moov just beneeth mi feet but being cowardly they do not seem to wont to surface. Both Dog and Mistress fell over a particularly large mole hil in the garden wen it woz frozen solid during the nasty weather. Neither wer happy. I do mi best but I can't catch evrything.

**MATERIAL** for the **APRIL** edition of 'The Bromley Messenger' should reach

the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **14th MARCH, 2013** 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](http://www.greatbromley.org.uk) or [www.littlebromley.org.uk](http://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.***

# The 'Bromley Messenger'

is very grateful and thanks all those who by their donations have sponsored this month's magazine through  
**PERSONAL AND CLUB DONATIONS**

## GREAT BROMLEY OIL BUYING GROUP

Well it's been some time since I wrote a piece for the Messenger and I thought I'd let you all know how it's been going with the Oil Group.

As I write, we have 169 members from Great Bromley, Little Bromley, Ardleigh and Manningtree. It's been a huge success which I really did not expect when it was launched in September 2011.

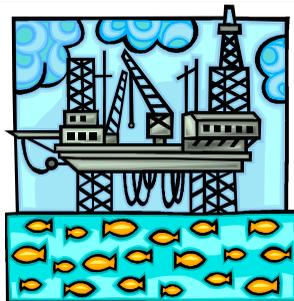
As well as oil, the group can now buy coal, Taybrite, Excel Smokeless and nets of logs. So it's going from strength to strength. If you want to know more, then you can look at the website at [greatbromley.net](http://greatbromley.net). Becoming a member costs nothing and you are under no compulsion to order. There is an oil buying date on the first Monday of each month throughout the year (except August). You can order 500 litres upwards and if you don't like the published price on the day you can cancel.

I am the co-ordinator for Great Bromley Oil Buying Group so I can answer any minor queries you might have about the group. I do *not* run the website, and cannot access or reset passwords. All those have to be done by Barney Lodge who is the creator

and brains behind the Oil Buying Groups. If you can't find the answer to your questions about the oil group on the website or via email, then Barney has set up a Premium Rate phone number for you to talk directly to him. It is manned from 8am to midday every weekday and will cost £1.02 per minute. The number is **09038 986653**.

Well that's all for now and thank you for making the group such a big success. I hope that we continue to get cheaper oil prices in the coming months.

*Lesley Broadbent*  
Tel: 01206 231703





may help in their school or their local shop.

The boys do the same till about 16 / 17 years old when they may be allowed to go to the outside world. However they do so with only limited skills and in order to fit in with the outside world they change their clothes as they leave and return to their community each day.

Interestingly enough although they are allowed no electricity in the home, they may have it in their barn, equally no phone in the house, but again in the barn. This is then put to good use by selling the quilting and crafts on the internet. It was felt this could become a big problem as the younger members of the family can now see how the rest of the world live (one should ask is this good or bad?). At home they only know about the bible and hymns, now they are gaining access to more worldly things and ideas.

The meeting was really different this month as Margaret Brehaut was to enlighten us with a very interesting talk about The Amish Community in Lancashire County, U.S.A.

Margaret told us that she lived locally in Great Bentley and although she has had her house there for five years has only lived there for the last 18 months. She was introduced to the "Amish Community" by a friend and has now visited in total four times to date. When she visits it is with a particular group with a maximum of twenty people

Margaret had brought along lots of memorabilia to illustrate her talk, including some dolls to illustrate the dress of the Amish people. It was noted they had no faces because the Amish hate craven images of themselves. The women are only allowed to wear certain colours with no fastenings on their clothes; only pins to keep everything together. No visits to the hair dressers or beauty salons either.

The men may have buttons but only very plain and always wear coloured shirts unless it is a Sunday when they wear white. Their trousers are like sailors, no fly's only flaps with buttons. They have their hair cut until they are married and only then do they not shave.

The children dress the same as their parents going to an Amish School at about 4 / 5 years of age and are only there until they are 14 when they start to help their mother till aged 18. At that age they then

Medical care can also be a big problem because they have no idea what the outside world do and this can be very frightening for them.

Margaret has attended an auction of quilts which raises money for the community, but they are renowned the world over. Needless to say she did buy one to bring home. A fascinating insight about a community that I am sure a good many of us had no idea of them or their way of life.

*Joy Rolfe*





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

Head teacher: Julie O'Mara  
Telephone: 01206 230305

## 150th Anniversary

Plans for our 150<sup>th</sup> celebration are now under way. Our week of celebration will begin on 20th May and we would like to welcome the whole community to celebrate with us.

To launch the week, our first event will be a Victorian day where all staff and pupils will be dressed as Victorians. We will be welcoming a special teacher from the Victorian era to spend the day with us and give the children a flavour of what Great Bromley school life would have been like 150 years ago.

Other events will include:

- An artist to work with the children to produce a lasting ceramic tile frieze which will be on permanent display in school.
- A garden party where the children will be performing dances from the past decades.
- Planting of a memorial tree with a time capsule buried underneath.
- Launching a competition to redesign a new school logo.
- To round off our special week we will celebrate with a Church service at St George's Church.

We would also like to hold an open afternoon/evening to invite all members of the local community, past pupils or any one connected to the school to come and view artefacts and memorabilia displaying the history of St George's. We would be very grateful if you would be willing to let us borrow any artefacts, exercise books, photographs, or memorabilia for the exhibition. Please bring them to the school office as soon as possible. We promise to look after them!

Please watch this space for further details!

It was Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> of January; I was very excited because we were going to play the West African drums! First, we grabbed a drum. The coach, Benjamin, told us his name. Then he showed us how to hold the drum properly, between your knees grasping it with your feet.

Next, we got to play the drums quickly and slowly. Benjamin told us the drums were known as djembe drums and we had to play our names on them. Then he told us this was the base sound. It was like an elephant banging. After that we played the tune softly and loudly. Then we learnt how to play an edge note, followed by a mix of base and edge. Where you



tapped the drum, depended on the pitch you created. Finally, we got to play the drums in front of the whole school, including my brother! It made me smile because my brother was copying me.

*Oliver Harris*

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013, St George's School had a Chinese themed lunch for Chinese New Year. The menu was Garlic and Ginger chicken with noodles or Quorn and vegetable oriental stir fry. Class 1 came into

the lunch hall in style by being dressed as a terrifically life- like Chinese Dragon to celebrate. Lots of people enjoyed it and would like to have it again. Thank you for letting us have the luscious lunch, thank you Mrs. Monger, the M.D.A'S, class 1 and everyone else who made it a complete success.

*Millie Peachey-Wright, Alice Stanmore and Charles Godsell*

## **St George's School 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Booklet**

You will have read elsewhere in this magazine that St George's School is planning an exciting range of activities in 2013 to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the school in 1863. As part of the celebrations it is intended to produce a small booklet outlining the history of the school and I am

in the process of gathering suitable material together to provide the content.

I should be most grateful to receive any information which would be appropriate for this publication. Contributions could include extracts from previous publications, photographs, class lists, accounts of previous school events and personal accounts of pupils. Whilst some information is already held, particularly covering the period since the School Centenary in 1963, there is relatively little material on the school during its first 100 years.

If you are able to help, please contact me on 01206 250263. Alternatively, contact Denise in the school office on 01206 230305. Any original material submitted will be copied and promptly returned to its owner.

*Martin Frostick, Community Governor*

## **FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

Apologies to members who attended for the January Meeting to find the hall closed due to a booking error.

The speaker for the February meeting will be Mrs Bambridge who will give a talk on Rwanda.

The competition - any object carved in wood.

The meal at Frating King's Arms is arranged for Wednesday 13th February for those members wishing to attend.

The Manifest Daytimers will be at our March meeting to entertain us and the competition is a pink object.

*Sylvia Ward*





Charity No. 1136038  
Company No. 7094441

# Little Dragons Pre-School

Great Bromley & Frating

Ofsted Inspected

Website: [www.littledragonspreschool.org](http://www.littledragonspreschool.org)

Email: [littledragonspreschool@gmail.com](mailto:littledragonspreschool@gmail.com)

Church Meadow Bungalow, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TR

Children 2-5 years. Monday – Friday 9am- 3.30pm (extended session available until 4.00pm)

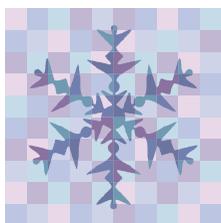
Breakfast club for preschool age 8.00am -9.00am

Breakfast club for St George's children 8.00am-8.45am (and a walking bus to school)

After school club for St George's children 3.00pm – 5.30pm

For more details/ visits please contact us on 0785 7503103

It hardly seems possible that we are half way through Spring Term. Our new premises are lovely and we are settling in well. The snow last month was greeted with



much excitement by the children and they enjoyed playing in our new garden. They explored the ice and snow and took some indoors to watch what would happen to it.

The children have enjoyed going for walks around the Leonard Cheshire grounds, to the pond and watching the wildlife, this has led us to make bird cakes which we have hung in the tree near our window.

The children have also been learning about 'recycling' materials which has included walks to the recycling bins in Church Meadow car park.

Our new children have all settled in really well and the breakfast club is proving popular too. It's lovely to see some of the older children at breakfast club that used to attend preschool as well as the new faces.

**The Breakfast Club** (see times above)  
Children will be able to choose from a range of healthy foods, including fresh fruit, yoghurts, cereal, toast and fresh juices.  
From £3.90.

**The After School Club** will be starting in April.

Parents are always welcome in sessions and week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> March is 'Dad's

Week'. We invite Dads into the setting; children love showing parents around and it also gives Dads the opportunity to see their child at play and take part in some of the activities.

Just a reminder that we are collecting the vouchers from 'Nestle Box Tops' and also from Sainsbury's, so please tell family and friends. There is some great equipment to be had so please get collecting!

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

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

### **Dates for your diary:**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March -

Dad's Week

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March -

Last day of Spring Term

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April -

Summer Term / After School clubs begin

# GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

[www.gbpc.org.uk](http://www.gbpc.org.uk)

By the time you receive this report, we are hopefully at the end of some extreme weather conditions which has seen snow followed by heavy rain. As a result, a number of you have contacted the Parish Council regarding blocked culverts and drains which have resulted in some flooding and these matters have been taken up at County level with the Highways Department. If you are aware of incidents of flooding you are welcome to contact me or alternatively for a more instant response you can report any Highway problem to <https://secureweb1.essexcc.gov.uk/Highways/Report-a-highway-problem.aspx>.

This service will provide you with a facility which allows you to track the problem. Please note however, that in terms of blocked culverts, only those situated underneath the public highway are considered the authority's responsibility, those situated on private land are considered the responsibility of the landowner.

## Litter Pick

The Parish Council are also looking for volunteers for litter picking in the village, the next date being 6th April. If you are able to help please do get in touch. I am sure you will agree that a cleaner, tidier village particularly in the spring and summer months is in everybody's Interests.



**Speedwatch** will be up and running again in the next couple of weeks. It will be remembered that the speed gun has to be re-calibrated periodically to ensure accuracy.

## SPEEDWATCH

A number of Parish Council members have been trained in using the equipment and the results of the scheme will be reported in next months' Messenger.

The Parish Council have formally co-opted and welcomed Kate Strowbridge as a new Parish Councillor.

Kate is a familiar face in the village and many of you may know her from her work at Ardleigh Surgery prior to her retirement last year.

The police have reported to us a recent spate of catalytic converter thefts in Great Bromley and the surrounding villages. The thieves have been brazen enough to steal from vehicles situated on driveways predominately during the night time hours. Readers will know that catalytic converters command a high price on the black market so villagers are urged to remain vigilant and report any suspicious circumstances.



Lastly, our vice-chairman, Richard Perry, and his wife are currently undertaking an assessment of all public footpaths in the village and any problems will be reported. If you know of any footpath problems, please do get in touch.

Until next month.

*Laura Austin*  
Clerk to Great Bromley Parish Council

# VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES



If you missed The Quiz Night in January you missed a terrific event

with Jane and Dinah coming up trumps with a fun filled evening again. The whole evening went off without a hitch. There was lots of fun, laughter and some great competitors. This was the Alternative Quiz night so there was no need to be a "super genius" in order to get a good score. The whole thing was really very close score wise with only one point separating each team in the middle bunch. Team 12 won the event and their photo is here with their winnings. A very big thank you



to Jane and Dinah and all their helpers for all their hard work making an evening that was "such fun". The event raised over £436 for the Hall. Well done and thank you all again, now when's the next one!

Our next event is the **TABLE TOP SALE** on Saturday, 9th March and we have sold 14 tables so far, which is really good. Jacquie has written to all holders indicating that the doors will open for set-up at 9am ready for selling to start at 10am.

We are also running a **Charity Table** for **CHILDREN IN NEED** with all proceeds to

going to the Charity. This stall is to be a **BRING AND BUY CAKE STALL** and we really will appreciate all efforts at cake making for the stall.

Still in the planning stage are a Race Night mid April, Whist Drive in May and still being looked at are Film Nights, Visiting Plays and a Murder Mystery night.

Work on all the toilets started in February. This will not affect hirers but it will radically change all the toilets. The ladies will be much lighter and brighter and the gents will be nearly unrecognisable. New floors in all three of the toilets, lighting that switches itself on and off as you leave and enter. Extra storage cupboard in the ladies too. Doors and not curtains any longer. The floor in the main hall is being re-sealed mid January too. This is a bit overdue and has to be done from time to time.

24th April is the Village Hall AGM and Fred will sadly be leaving his post as our chairman. He was going to leave last year but we had so many new committee members he agreed to stay on for one more year only to help the new members bed in. We need a new chairman. Fred will be a hard act to follow but the vacancy does need to be filled as there is no chance at all of Fred staying on for another year. So who is up for it?

One other piece of good news is that Jayne and Dinah have agreed to organise a New Year's Eve party at the Village Hall, so that is now a definite date for your diaries

That's all for now, as always thank you for your support. Let's all make the most of Great Bromley Village Hall in 2013 and lets start to look forward to warmer weather

Next Committee meeting Tuesday 12th March at **8:00pm**.. As always all welcome.

*David Beech*



# TAILS FROM PRIMROSE FARM

On writing this the weather is just defrosting the snow fall.

There has been a huge variety of wild birds that have benefited from the 2 ½ acres that



is planted with wild bird seed. This is an area that is planted up supported by a Conservation grant with plants that fruit with small seeds ideal for wild birds. Varieties that have visited have

been skylarks, English partridge, yellowhammers, corn buntings and linnets.

Luckily the crop of wheat has been well established before the heavy rainfall came otherwise it would have been washed away. The pigs are well strawed up in this winter weather and they receive extra food when it is cold. When it snows they eat/drink the snow; when it freezes we move the water about in the water bowser constantly topping up their water troughs. The genetics of these outdoor pigs is a cross between large white, landrace and Duroc. The Duroc is the gene that makes these pigs hardy for outdoor life.

Shop is quiet in January but Kerry from Tony's Fresh Fish has confirmed she will definitely be coming on the first and third Thursday starting in March and selling locally caught fish. Her husband Tony fishes out from St Osyth and is a well established local fisherman.

The great Bacon Revolution will be happening in March. March 18<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> is the annual Bacon Connoisseur's week, run by the British Pig Executive, with an aim of encouraging people to 'think again about bacon'. The key messages for the campaign is to enjoy variety - not all bacon is the same, with a variety of cuts, cures

and flavours to choose from. Bacon can revolutionise your meal times so use it beyond just breakfast. The celebrity heading the campaign is actress Faye Ripley.

Recipe for

## Bacon and Leek Soup

Serves 4

4 rashers of British bacon  
1 onion  
2oz (50g) butter  
4 medium leeks, sliced,  
2 medium potatoes  
½ pts (20-30fl oz) water/stock  
Milk  
Pepper  
Parsley for garnish

Cook onions gently in butter  
Add chopped bacon and cook for 1 minute then add leek and cook for further minute.  
Add peeled, diced potatoes and water/stock.  
Simmer until cooked add milk and pepper to taste.  
Garnish with Parsley.

We are looking at organising another farm open day this year and looking at Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May. If there is any Great Bromley organisation or local trader who would like to promote/sell on a stall please ring Robert or pop into the shop.

Last year was a great success and if anyone has any ideas to help this year's one please contact us.

### ***I DON'T BELIEVE IT!***

At a company audit an employee was found to be using the following password 'mickeyminnieplutohueylouiedeweydonoldg oofysacramento'

When asked why she had such a long password she rolled her eyes and said 'Because it has to be eight characters and one capital.'

# 2013 EVENTS



## MARCH

- 1 Women's World Day of Prayer, St George's church, 10.30am
- 5 Village Hall Trustees committee meeting, Village Hall, 8.00pm
- 9 Table Top Sale, Gt Bromley Village Hall, 10.00am  
Lt Bromley Spring Litter Pick, Village Car Park, 10.00am
- 12 Village Hall committee meetings, Village Hall, 8.00pm
- 23 Gala Concert, St Botolph's church, Colchester, 7.30pm
- 29 Easter Egg Hunt, The Haywain, 2.00pm

## APRIL

- 2 Messy Church Eggstravaganza, Ardleigh Village Hall, 10.00am
- 5 Coffee Morning, Hamilton Lodge, 11.00am
- 6 Spring Litter Pick, Car Park of Cross Inn (10.00am) or Courthouse Inn (10.30am)
- 14 Fr Robert's Retirement lunch, Village Hall, 1.00pm
- 24 Village Hall A.G.M., Village Hall, 8.00pm
- 27 Quiz Night at Little Bromley

## MAY

## JUNE

- 1-2 Little Bentley Hall Waterways and Garden Show
- 28-30 Flower Festival, St George's church  
Little Bromley in Bloom & Scarecrow Festival, Little Bromley

## Fr. Robert's Retirement

April 14<sup>th</sup>

A lunch is arranged at  
Great Bromley Village Hall  
at 1.00pm

to celebrate Fr Robert's ministry here in  
The Bromleys and Ardleigh  
and to wish him a happy and healthy  
retirement.

You are welcome to join us.

Tickets are £5 each, please contact Ann  
250229, Jenny 230688 or Ruth 230384 for  
more information and tickets.

## The Great British Fish & Chips Supper

*supporting Spinal Injuries Association*  
Friday 17th May, 2013

To request a fundraising pack:

Call: 0845 0714350

Email: [fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk)

Visit: [www.siafishandchips.co.uk](http://www.siafishandchips.co.uk)

## NEW LIFE EGGSTRAVAGANZA

at Messy church

on

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

10.00am – 12.30pm

at **Ardleigh Village Hall**

Come and have  
some family time,  
some messy fun and  
a light lunch

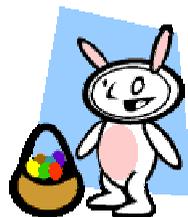
All Welcome

For more

information please

contact

Carol Cordwell: 01206 395103



Little Bromley Amenities Group

## EASTER EGG HUNT

Friday, 29th March (Good Friday)

Meeting at The Haywain, Little Bromley  
at 2 pm



Easter Eggs have been  
seen in the woods at the  
back of The Haywain!  
Join The Amenities Group  
to find them (and keep  
them!)

We will go in search of all different sizes  
of Easter Eggs.

ALL CHILDREN WELCOME

Tea and cake available afterwards.

All enquiries to

[Amenitiesgroup@gmail.com](mailto:Amenitiesgroup@gmail.com)

Donations on the day welcome

## QUIZ NIGHT

27th April

proceeds split between Guide Dogs for the  
Blind and the Amenities Fund.

## COFFEE MORNING

Friday 5 April 2013

Hamilton Lodge

11.00am-1.00pm

ALL WELCOME

*in aid of Autism Awareness Week*



## Rock and Roll Night

Saturday 27th July

Little Bromley

A local rock and roll group - Foxy Rock -  
will be hosting an evening of dance - and  
giving lessons on how to jive etc - Hot  
buffet will be provided for a ticket price (to  
be decided)

## TABLE TOP SALE

9th March 2013

Great Bromley Village Hall  
from 10.00 a.m.

Tables £5 (6ft)

Entry 50p

There will also be a  
Bring & Buy Cake Stall  
in aid of Children in  
Need. All cake offers  
gratefully accepted



Please contact: *Jacquie Terry 01206  
230490 to book tables*

## Little Bromley in Bloom

Open to anyone living in Little  
Bromley - enter your garden in  
our Village Competition. All  
entries will be judged and the  
competition is open to



gardens great or small - we're  
looking for bloom and colour - use your  
green fingers to make our Village look  
more beautiful.

Entry is £1.00

Entry forms will be available at The  
Haywain, Little Bromley and Harlequin,  
Little Bromley. Judging will take place to  
coincide with the Scarecrow festival on  
28th, 29th and 30th June. This event is  
being sponsored by Heart's Delight who  
are kindly giving £50 Garden Vouchers to  
the winner. Email  
[Amenitiesgroup@gmail.com](mailto:Amenitiesgroup@gmail.com) for more  
details.



## GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL 2013 Events

9th March **Table Top Sale** (see  
above for full details)  
from 10am to 1pm in the Main Hall

**Village Hall AGM**  
24th April 8.00pm



## Easter Lilies

If you would like to sponsor Easter Lilies in memory of a loved one please send your contribution to Jenny Nicholls at Fryerning, Hall Road, Gt Bromley.

Or phone: 01206 230688.

Or email: [jenny@fryerning.net](mailto:jenny@fryerning.net)

## REGINALD JOYCE

The wife and daughters of the late Reginald Joyce, Back Lane East would like to thank all neighbours and friends for their letters of condolence and many kind offers of help. Which mean so much.

Thank you....

Pat and daughters

## KITCHEN CORNER

Nigel Slater's variation on

### Colcannon

for a simple supper.

Serves 3-4

500g of floury potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks. Boil till tender

250g leek, sliced and fried

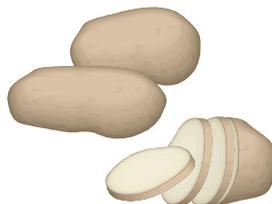
2 good handfuls of kale, steamed and drained

250g cooked ham, thick cut

When potatoes are soft drain and mash and beat to a fluff and add 150ml hot milk and a thick slice of butter. Chop the ham and kale and fold into the mash with the leeks and season with salt and pepper.

And serve.

You can use shredded cabbage or spinach instead of kale or add cheese and bake in the oven till nicely browned.



*Jill Frostick*



### GREAT BROMLEY POST OFFICE at The Cross Inn

Ardleigh Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TL

Telephone: 01206 231073

Mon/Tues: 9.30am-2.00pm Wed/Thurs/Fri: 10.00am - 2.00pm

Sat: 9.00am-midday

- Please note that there is now a wide selection of cards and wrapping paper available.
- A dry cleaning service is also available.

**Please ask for details at the counter.**

# CHILDREN'S CORNER

## Easter Bunny Wooden Spoon Puppet

### You will need:

Wooden spoon

Paint

Pale and bright coloured craft foam

Pompom

Wiggle eyes

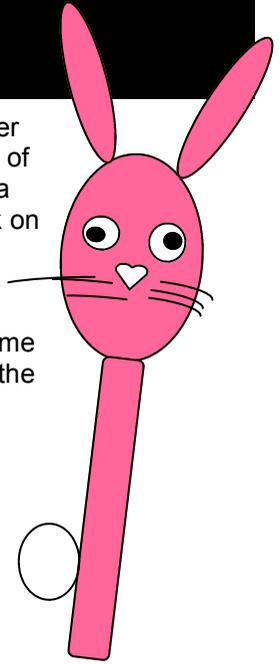
Glue

Heart or circle sticker

Colouring pen

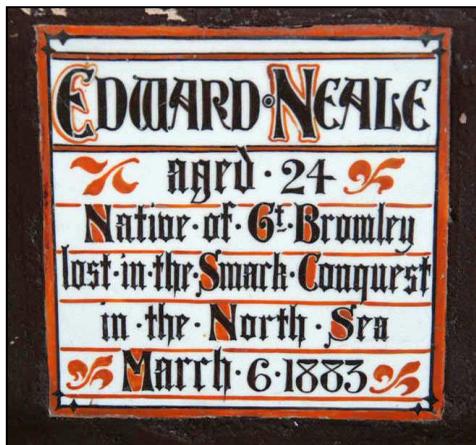
1. Paint the wooden spoon and leave to dry.
2. Cut two ears from craft foam. Cut two inner ears from a contrasting shade of coloured foam and glue these to the centre of the ears. Glue the ears to the top of the spoon.
3. Glue a pompom to the handle for his tail.

4. Stick the sticker on to the back of the spoon for a nose and stick on the two wiggle eyes.
5. Finish off by drawing on some whiskers with the pen.



# THE GREAT MARCH GALE OF 1883

The 6th March sees the 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Great March Gale of 1883. I knew little about it until I heard tell of a Great Bromley man who died on that day, commemorated by a ceramic tile in Brightlingsea Church.



The tile reads

**EDWARD NEALE**  
aged 24  
Native of G<sup>t</sup> Bromley  
Lost in the Smack Conquest  
in the North Sea  
March 6 1883

A search on the internet turned up numerous mentions of men lost at sea on that date, in the Conquest and many other vessels. An edited excerpt from the 1911 book *North Sea Fishers and Fighters* by Walter Wood tells us: I do not know how many lives the North Sea gales have claimed amongst the fishermen, nor how often it has been necessary to put on record the brief statement "with all hands"; but time after time the storms have swept the waters and the sailing craft and steamboats have paid

tribute.

One of the most appalling gales that ever swept across the Dogger raged on 6th March 1883, and caused the loss of more than 360 men and boys from the East coast ports. That awful visitation destroyed families bodily; fathers and sons went down together, and widowed mothers were left penniless in ruined homes. Smacks were overwhelmed bodily and lost with all hands, and the little ships that did escape only reached port after a long, fierce fight and the exercise of wondrous skill and courage by their crews and skippers.

One of the Dogger warriors is old Ben [who said] "During my life as a North sea smacksmen I saw as much wind and weather on the Dogger as most men; but I never saw anything so savage as the great March gale. I have known other breezes as bad in some ways, but never one which brought up such a deadly sea as that, and in such a short time did so much mischief and caused such heavy loss of life."

Edward Neale was the 7<sup>th</sup> of 9 children of William Neale (Junior) and Sophia Simons. According to the 1861 census they lived in "Bricked House" next to the old workhouse. In 1871 the address is "Cowey Green" and his occupation is Ag Lab. In 1881 his surname was spelt "Neal" (a switch also apparent numerous times for his other relatives in the census records) and he was to be found lodging in High Street, Brightlingsea, now a Mariner. I suspect his family rather wished he had not changed occupations.

Many thanks to Leonie Henderson for spotting the plaque at Brightlingsea and telling me of it.

© Hugh Frostick 2013

# ESSEX POLICE



If you need to talk to me for any Police Community problems, you can contact me on 07967 466876, or 101 ex 487607 (free phone) or email me [leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police](mailto:leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police) please note if you leave a message I will try to reply to your call the day I am next on duty.  
*Les Barnes PCSO 71909*

## Incidents in Great Bromley for January

**Threats** - Rectory Road - (Hamilton Lodge)  
**Theft from Motor Vehicle** - Harwich Road - (Catalytic Converter Taken)  
**Disturbance** - Harwich Road - (Old Court House)  
**Theft** - Frating Road - (Large metal anvil taken)

**Burglary Dwelling** - Carringtons Road  
**Noise Nuisance** - Back Lane East - (Party)  
**Suspicious Circumstances** - Harwich Road - (Car window smashed)  
**RTC** - Harwich Road  
Brook Street

PCSO LES BARNES 71909

## SPRING LITTER PICKS

### GREAT BROMLEY Saturday, 6th April

The **Spring 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 at 10.00am, or the The Old Courthouse Inn car park at 10.30am, 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.



### LITTLE BROMLEY Saturday, 9th March

**Spring Litter Pick**  
meet at 10 o'clock  
in the Village Car Park  
Bring gloves and Hi Vis if you have them - otherwise some Hi Vis provided  
Refreshments afterwards (12 noon) at The Haywain

Come along and join us for a couple of hours of clearing our lanes and roads around Lt Bromley before tucking into

Dawn's sandwiches at the Haywain.



# THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS

## Gt Bentley Surgery

The flu jab season is pretty well over now and we have given a record number this winter. It is always difficult to gauge how successful a campaign has been, but we don't seem to hear of a huge number of patients suffering at the moment, despite reports that there is a lot of flu around in Colchester. We now have to decide how many jabs to order for next winter, which is always a bit of a difficult calculation, and we then keep our fingers crossed that we don't experience the same supply failure that we've had to contend with this year.

Don't roll your sleeves down just yet, as we haven't finished inviting people in for jabs. Our continuing campaign this spring is to get as many eligible patients as possible vaccinated against pneumococcal disease, which includes a range of illnesses from mild, middle-ear infections to pneumonia, as well as life-threatening infections of the bloodstream and central nervous system.

Broadly speaking, the same people who are entitled to a flu jab also qualify for a pneumococcal jab:

- ◆ Patients aged 65 or over
- ◆ People with chronic heart, chest, kidney or liver disease
- ◆ Anyone suffering from diabetes
- ◆ Patients with suppressed immunity because of disease or medical treatment, including those with no spleen
- ◆ People with cochlear implants.

If you get an invitation, please take us up on it. If you think you qualify and haven't yet had the vaccination, you don't have to wait to be invited; just check with us and we'll book you an appointment if it's appropriate.

Unfortunately, low rates of flu haven't stopped us being exceptionally busy since the beginning of the year and I know that

we've struggled to see everyone as quickly as we would want. Please accept my apologies if you have had to wait for a routine review appointment. Poorly patients have been taking priority recently and to cope with demand the doctors and nurses have been seeing several "extras" at the end of virtually every surgery. Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible.

Things are also still pretty hectic in the prescription room, even though we now have staff working in there for more hours than ever before. Please could you help them out – and the local pharmacies – by stating clearly on your repeat request:

- ◆ The day *and date* upon which you want your medication
  - ◆ Where you will be collecting it from, or
  - ◆ That you want it delivered to your home.
- If you just want the paper prescription, please also make that clear. The clearer the instructions are, the easier our job becomes.

Whilst on the subject of prescriptions, Sarah at the Green Pharmacy has asked if their Repeat Dispensing customers could try to e-mail requests for fresh supplies of medication rather than telephoning them through, as their 'phones are being overwhelmed. The e-mail address there is [thegreenpharmacy@intrapharm.com](mailto:thegreenpharmacy@intrapharm.com) and I am assured that the account is checked every morning for messages. **When telling your pharmacy that you want a new batch of medication, please remember to say if there is anything that you *don't* need that month.** That will help in the on-going battle against wastage which is still a major problem throughout the NHS.

*Hugh Cronin*  
Practice Manager, Great Bentley Surgery

The national NHS Commissioning Board has authorised the North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to become the official buyer of most NHS care in the area, from April 1 2013. Up to now, the CCG has been working in shadow form, but now it is recognised as fit to become the legal body that will spend around £397 million on health care for local people this year.

When a patient goes to the GP (doctor's surgery) and the doctor decides they need to go, for example to hospital for treatment, then it is the CCG that has planned with the hospital how that treatment will be delivered. It's the CCG that then pays the hospital for the treatment.

The new CCG is led by doctors.

Anyone living or working locally, including any patients, can get involved in influencing the work of the CCG. Please see [www.neessexccg.nhs.uk](http://www.neessexccg.nhs.uk) or via your doctor's surgery.

## NEWS RELEASE

Please Help Colchester Hospital – avoid coming to A&E or calling an ambulance if possible.

Colchester Hospital is today under severe pressure, as staff are having to deal with about 20% more people coming for treatment than usual over the last 3 weeks.

Dr. Shane Gordon, a local GP and leader of North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "I am appealing directly to everyone in our area today who is considering coming to Colchester Hospital. If you don't have an emergency, critical or life-threatening problem, then please use the alternatives to the hospital. If people with non-urgent problems are taking doctors' and nurses' time, then there could be delays in treatment for those who need attention most.

Please consider these ways of getting treatment faster:

- **Treat yourself** for simple illness and minor

cuts, sprains and burns. Keep simple painkillers and

- cough remedies in a safe place at home and have a first aid kit handy.
- **Ask your local pharmacist** for advice on minor illness. They can provide expert advice and simple treatments.
- **Call NHS Direct** 24 hours a day on 0845 4647. Their specialist nurses can provide clinical assessment and advice.
- **Call your GP surgery or Out of Hours GPs** (0845 602 5215).
- **North Colchester Healthcare Centre (incorporating the walk-in centre), Colchester Primary Care Centre, Turner Road, Colchester, telephone 01206 314015:** GP-led service providing treatment for minor injuries and illnesses, no appointment necessary. Please note that as there are no x-ray facilities on site they cannot treat suspected fractures. Open from 7am until 10pm.
- **Clacton Minor Injury Unit, Clacton Hospital, Tower Road, telephone 01255 201594:** Nurse-led service providing treatment for minor injuries, e.g. cuts, sprains and fractures. Open from 9am until 9pm.
- **Harwich Minor Injury Unit, Fryatt Hospital, Main Road, Dovercourt, telephone 01255 201226:** Nurse-led service providing treatment for minor injuries, e.g. cuts, sprains and fractures. Open from 9am until 5pm.

"The accident and emergency department at Colchester General Hospital in Turner Road should only be used for critical or life-threatening situations requiring medical attention, such as loss of consciousness, heavy blood loss, suspected broken bones, persistent chest pain, difficulty breathing, overdoses, ingestion or poisoning," added Dr Gordon.

Doctors, nurses, ambulance paramedics and all staff at Colchester Hospital are working flat-out, so please help us all keep the system working properly for those in serious and urgent need."

February 19 2013

# THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

Now that Christmas is over we are already beginning to think about Lent and Easter. We are already in the season of Lent a time in which Christians re-examine their faith and try to grow in their discipleship and the way in which they witness to their faith. We are all aware that the Church is entrusted with the task of telling the story of Jesus to a world that God loves and wants to save. Most of us find this task rather daunting especially as the culture we are addressing has changed so much in recent years and is constantly changing.

It is interesting that many people meet the Christian faith through stories. They may hear the Christian story through the school nativity play or through watching television. People may also hear the story of Jesus through those who call themselves Christians. The Christian faith which is the story of Jesus is a record of a man who lived in first century Roman occupied Palestine, who died a tragic death and then, miraculously, rose from the dead, and, Christians believe, lives today.

This story has been described as the greatest story ever told. But stories work at a smaller and more personal level too. Each of us has our own story of life. It is an ongoing story. It is a journey, a pilgrimage. Our story is based on our own life choices and decisions, the things that happen to us. And what we do to others, as well as the people who influence us. For Christians the key part of the story is our relationship with God in Jesus Christ and with other Christians.

Jesus himself used stories to communicate the message of the kingdom of God. He often used parables to express a certain aspect of the kingdom. Jesus regularly illustrated his teaching through the use of stories. For example, the Good Samaritan is a story illustrating Jesus' teaching on loving our neighbour. There are many other

examples, but what is important to note here is that the telling of stories is an important way of conveying the truth about the Christian Gospel. However the story is not an end in itself. It points towards who God is and how we relate to God. This was true in the stories Jesus told and it is also the key feature of why we tell our story today.

Telling our faith story is about telling the story of Jesus through our own story and that of the Church. People find each other's stories and experiences fascinating. To tell our faith story means expressing how faith in God works for us today. People need to know that the Christian faith is real, living and relevant. What is important for many people today is that faith is seen to be relevant in the dark and painful times of life as well as the good times.

Every Christian has a story to tell. The problem is that so often we fail to realise it, or think that our story and our experience cannot possibly be relevant to someone else. In fact the reverse is true. In many people's experiences it is hearing about someone's journey of faith that prompts the question, "What about me?"

There is also a great value in telling our faith story within the Christian community. Other people's stories of faith are a source of encouragement, comfort and strength as we see how God is at work in the lives of other Christians. Telling these stories also helps to build up the Christian community. Such shared witness is the evidence of God's grace and power living within his people.

With love to you all,  
Fr. Robert

# ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



## Church of England Services

### March

<b>Sunday 3rd</b>	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b> Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Sunday 10th</b>	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>Mothering Sunday</b> Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 17th</b>	8.00am 10.30am 11.45am	<b>Passion Sunday</b> Eucharist Parish Eucharist <i>Annual Parochial Church Meeting</i>	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 24th</b>	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>HOLY WEEK</b> Eucharist The Parish Eucharist <i>with Procession of Palms</i> The Reading of The Passion - <i>incense will be used</i> Evensong	<b>Palm Sunday</b> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Thursday 28th</b>	7.30pm	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> Mass of The Last Supper Watch until 10.00pm - <i>incense will be used</i>	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Friday 29th</b>	11.00am 2.00pm	<b>Good Friday</b> Stations of the Cross (Ecumenical) The Good Friday Liturgy	<i>from St. Mary's School</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Saturday 30th</b>	7.30pm	<b>Easter Eve</b> The Easter Vigil with Lighting of The New Fire Blessing of The Paschal Candle - <i>incense will be used</i>	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 31st</b>	8.00am 10.30am	<b>Easter Day</b> Eucharist The Parish Eucharist - <i>incense will be used</i>	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Tuesday 2nd April</b>	10am-12.30pm	<b>Easter Tuesday</b> Messy Church	<i>Ardleigh Village Hall</i>
<b>Sunday 7th April</b>	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>2nd Sunday of Easter</b> Eucharist Parish Eucharist <i>with Holy Baptism</i> Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Sunday 14th April</b>	8.00am 10.30am 1.00pm 6.30pm	<b>3rd Sunday of Easter</b> Eucharist The Parish Eucharist - <i>incense will be used</i> Fr Robert's Farewell Lunch Evensong	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i> <i>St. George the Martyr</i> <i>Gt Bromley Village Hall</i> <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

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