

The Messenger

The Magazine of the
villages of Great &
Little Bromley

June 2021



THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all,

It's been more like April showers this week; our garden has been drenched several times and the flowerbeds are rampant. I'm desperate for warmer temperatures, and for a couple of days last week it felt like I would finally be able to put away the sweaters and furry socks, however it was not to be. I have taken to cutting the toes off my woolly socks and turning them into leg warmers, and using a hot water bottle when sitting working. But the wisteria is in bloom!! Mr R will be scrutinising another plant soon, I'm sure. The apple blossom hasn't had much of a chance to perform this year, as soon as it's out it gets rained on and drops. I have yet to sit underneath it and admire it for an afternoon, as I normally would do this time of year.

The children are nearing another half-term and so I hope it will be warmer. We may also be able to venture on some days out, if all goes well with the lifting of restrictions. Things are beginning to feel a little busier with one or two after-school clubs restarting, which is testing our organising skills once more - who's on the school run and what time it is?!

The children at St George's have been busy and they have kindly sent in a

poem for us to enjoy. There's also an owl update, and those of us on Facebook have been lucky enough to see video of owl chicks with their mum taking great care of them. Thank you to Karen for these amazing updates. There's an interesting article from Hugh about the Great Bromley Lodge and its former residents, and our cover this month is from The Three Musketeers, performed in Little Bromley churchyard last year.

I seem to have stopped working from home now that things are progressing to our new normal. I hope that those of us who work can retain some of the work/life balance that we have discovered this last year. I've not heard of any local cases recently but I hope that we can still find time to look in on those who might need it and consider that as part of our routine.

June should bring us more sunshine and warmth hopefully, with Fathers' Day on the 20th, and Men's Health Awareness week from 15th to the 20th.

My daughter pointed out to me earlier that some of us are still 'it' from playing tag in our younger days! If you're thinking of rectifying that, just be careful!

*Take care,
Lizzie*

MATERIAL for the **JULY 2021** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th JUNE 2021** please.

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Liz Barrenger
Telephone: 01206 230345
E-mail: elizabeth.barrenger@leonardcheshire.org

Hi Everyone,

June is here already, halfway through the year! We will be holding our cream strawberry tea this month, but, like last year it will just be for our residents.

We also had a quiz followed by cream scone with jam for St. George's day, and chef had done the jam and cream to resemble the St. George's Cross.

At the time of writing we still have very tight restrictions in place for who comes visiting and where our residents are allowed to go. To all of us this seems so unfair.

But we try and continue doing all the extra things. But we would love to see a singer, or go to the shops, even a walk along the beach seems to involve a lot of extra work, making sure we have all the right items that are needed to cover for covid plus all our normal things. But we hope that by 21st June all this should start to melt away.

At this time I think it will be some time before we are able to hold events such as the firework evening and the Christmas Market. But if we are able we hope to have things ready to go, but this will depend on the time scale we are given.

I think I said last year we are just so lucky to have the grounds that we have. So once the weather allows us we can light the BBQ up and enjoy the fun of eating outside!

We continue with our daily activities programme, we have been using the computers to help find new games. Sometimes this involves a lot of shouting at the screen when the person using the computer cant see what everyone else can, it can be hard as if you have the computer screen its smaller that what the residents see on the tv, or they say left and its on your right. We now have another left, someone will say left you move your left, a resident will say no the other left, reminds me of learning to drive.

During this time we have rediscovered old games such as Hoy and Uno, we have also kept up with our old favourites such as Bingo, Scrabble and Find the words in a word.

Have you found any new thing you enjoy doing this past year?

Take care

Liz xx

STOUR VALLEY U3A

Retired? No longer in full-time employment? Join nearly 400 local u3a members and 40 groups organised locally to keep you fit, both physically and mentally.

Groups include travel, art lovers, dining, bridge, walking, table tennis, language, kayak, singing, photography, ukulele, churches and gardens.

Monthly meetings and lectures are currently via Zoom – May “The History of Jazz Piano” and June “Walt Disney: Struggles of a Legend” and return to our usual venue, Constable Hall, East Bergholt, thereafter.

Visit the Stour Valley website u3asites.org.uk/stourvalley for full information. New members are always welcome.

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL

The village hall has now re-opened for most of the activities conducted by regular hirers of the facility, as allowed within Step 3 of the lifting of lockdown plan published by HM Government. In practice, this means a similar level of activity to that permitted in October 2020 can now take place, with social distancing and other measures such as the 'Rule of 6' remaining mandatory.

The village hall management committee holds a detailed breakdown of the activities that are permitted within Step 3 and potential hirers can get guidance on this from the Bookings Manager - Jackie Lear on 07543974751 or villagehallbookings@greatbromley.org.uk

It is now less certain which further activities will be permitted in the village hall when Step 4 of the lifting of lockdown is declared (currently planned to be 21st June), but guidance will be available from the Bookings Manager nearer the time. It is reassuring to note that bookings for private parties,

fundraisers and other currently prohibited events are now being made for later in the year. Potential hirers should be aware that any advance payments for such events will be refunded in full should the event have to be cancelled or postponed due to government restrictions being re-imposed.

Given the current uncertainty about the final phase of the lifting of lockdown, the village hall AGM will not take place before July; further details will be given in the next edition of the magazine.

The trustees look forward to welcoming you back to the village hall soon.

Martin Frostick

villagehallsecretary@greatbromley.org.uk or 01206 250263

IN THE GARDEN WITH ANDY & JUDY

Many of us will have been looking forward to June for the further milestone on the route map back to freedom. For gardeners it will be the likelihood that there will be no more frosts. That brings its own freedoms. Freedom from closing up cold frames and greenhouses every night and opening up early every sunny morning. The freedom to plant out frost tender plants including bedding plants, runner beans, courgettes and similar without having to worry about covering them up at night with fleece or similar.

Like May, June can be a very busy month. Tasks may include cropping your harvest on a regular basis. This might include asparagus, early lettuce and other saladings, broad beans, peas and super early potatoes as well as fruit such as strawberries and some early varieties of blackcurrants. Sowing seed direct into the ground for marrow, squash, courgette pumpkins and saladings is still possible. It's now time to plant out hardened off plants that have either been raised by you or purchased as plug plants. If you followed the old mantra of planting shallots on the shortest day, they should be ready for harvesting on the longest day.

It is probable given average rainfall that you will need to water regularly especially to newly planted crops. Pay particular attention to recently planted larger items such as roses, shrubs and trees for their first spring and summer in the ground. If you are unsure about how deep any rainwater or your water has penetrated the ground you can easily check by scraping a small depression and checking on the soil dampness. Mulching the surface after rainfall or watering will help to conserve the water.

We have had one of the best crops of sprouting broccoli in recent years. It's a great crop for April/May when not a lot else is ready to harvest. It's not too late to sow now, however, our plants have just been moved into bigger pots ready to transplant into the area where early root crops such as potatoes will have been harvested at the end of June.

The best plants providing this year's harvest came from a seed packet that was packed in July 2012 and was marked sow by September 2014. It was a variety we particularly like. We sowed in small pots and germinated in a propagator along with other varieties which were not out of date. This way the risk of not having any plants was minimised.

I would advise against sowing old seed in open ground as you may be wasting precious space and worse, then be too late to re-sow for a viable crop. Seed suppliers go to great lengths to ensure their seeds meet the required germination levels. It is accepted that germination rates fall as the seed ages but our experience shows that it's worth cautiously trying some old seed as you may be lucky. In general, most seeds can be sown the following year or years after opening, usually the ones that provide the greatest number of seeds in the packet such as lettuce, tomatoes or greens. The difficult germinators like parsnip are rarely worth saving for a second year.

Remember that although it is a busy month to make time to enjoy your garden and if possible, to visit other gardens. The open gardens may be bigger than yours but it is probable you will see a plant, a feature or a method you can incorporate into your garden.



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

Telephone: 01206 230305

In April we all gathered outside (socially distanced!) to celebrate St George's Day. Each class presented something St George-related to the school. The children found out a bit more about who St George really was and the significance of the St George's cross. Class One told us all about how St George defeated the dragon and showed us their fantastic St George shields. Class Two performed a wonderful retelling of the story of St George and the Dragon, complete with actions. Class Three shared their lovely dragon designs, accompanied by imaginative vocabulary. Class Four wrote and performed an amazing poem all about an English dragon.

We even featured in the Gazette!

Here is the Class Four poem in full. Please do take the time to read it; I hope you will agree it is inspirational:

The English Dragon

If I were to make an English dragon, I
would take ...

For the eyes –
the red blood from a wild poppy,
the distant memory from the soul
and the shimmer of rubies on the
Queen's crown jewels.

For the breath -
the destructive fire of 1666,
the warmth that ignites the harvest
wheat
and the spray of the English Channel.

For the teeth –
the strength of The Needles,
the bite of an English winter
and the sharpness of Boudicca's spear.

For the roar -
the feisty uproar of the three lions,
the echo of the London Underground
and the deafening explosions of
November the 5th.

For the body -
The thickness of an English Oak's
trunk,
the wings of The Angel of the North
and the arms to embrace individualism.

For the bones –
the hinged movements of Tower
Bridge,
the strength of Queen's Elizabeth's
reign
and the colour of the White cliffs of
Dover.

For the muscles -
the build of a bulldog,
the strength of the NHS
and the robustness of Sheffield Steel.

For the skin -
the ruggedness of Stonehenge rocks,
the scales of an English flag
and the tawny colour of teashop tea.

For the claws –
the shape of The Gherkin,
the menace of Miss Trunchbull
and the glow of a coastal sunset.

For the tail -
the length of the River Thames,
the crack of a sergeant's whip
and the slamming of the North Sea
storms.

For the heart -
the rhythmic chimes of Big Ben,
the courage of the British Forces
and the backbone of our nation.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

Clerk: Lizzie Ridout Email: clerk@gbpc.org.uk



This year seems to be going very quickly. It was hoped the new Village Shop would be open as I write my latest notes, however we have to wait a little longer, I am sure it will be worth waiting for. The new owner has requested the Parish Council contacts the Post Office to support his application for a post office counter within the shop.

I have been involved in a virtual meeting with ECC Highways, chaired by Cllr Kevin Bentley, who has recently been elected as Leader of Essex County Council. It was good to have him in attendance. Flooding problems in the village were discussed and Highways will be carrying out a number of schemes to hopefully make life better for those prone to flooding.

Following on from the flooding problem, our County Councillor, Carlo managed to highlight the speeding problem on Harwich Road. At last our combined voices have been heard and it was agreed the speed limit will be reduced to 30mph when entering the village from the Harwich direction. Cllr Bentley also requested Carlo to submit a scheme for the agreed 30mph speed limit to be continued along the length of Harwich Road past Selecta Cars, which will include the dangerous junction outside the Court House PH. Although it has taken a long time to achieve our aims and requests we have almost got there. A big thank you to Carlo for all of his support and congratulations on his re-election as our County Councillor.

Councillor Owen Blowers and myself have a stock of litter pickers to supply to residents who are willing to keep the village litter free whilst out walking. If any resident would like a litter picker please contact Owen, myself or our

Clerk.

The Parish Council was able to hold face to face meetings once again in May and we held the Annual Council meeting, and Parish Assembly as well as our ordinary meeting. A report of the meetings will be given in next month's Messenger. Also our village organisations may be able to return to a more normal situation after over a year without being able to meet up and hold their usual events.

The Parish Council has been attempting to ascertain ownership of the open green space in St Georges Close. This space has been maintained by the Parish Council for many years. We have attempted to ascertain whether the owners require the Parish Council to continue maintaining this area. A planning application has been submitted for a bungalow on part of the site. The Parish Council and residents have submitted objections to this planning application.

The Parish Council has also written to the person that was loaned a hydro water snake requesting its return. We have not received any response from that person. It should be remembered this equipment is the property of Great Bromley Parish Council and is held by the Council to assist residents in their time of need. By retaining our equipment they could be depriving other residents of the equipment should they require our help.

We have been given the 'go ahead' by TDC to install VE Commemorative benches in Church Meadow which we hope you will all be able to see and sit on soon.

Cllr Fred Nicholls
Chairman

Our guest in May was Trevor from Blenheim Nurseries, who gave us a zoom tour of the premises, showing their wide array of plants and a wonderful selection of gifts and garden gadgets. He also demonstrated in detail how to pot up baskets of flowers and herbs, introducing us to moss linings, compost additives, layout, watering and dead-heading strategies. We are now all well prepared to

beautify our patios with sumptuous displays of fuchsias and begonias and motivated to adorn our eaves with hanging baskets of petunias and geraniums. Many thanks to Blenheim Nurseries for the fascinating and practical session.

Dorothy O'Grady

PRIMROSE FARM BARN OWL UPDATE

Harriette has had a busy month, between 8th April to 24th April she has laid a total of seven large white eggs.

She has sat so patiently on them, she occasionally stretches her wings and taken a short 30 second flight but quickly returned. When she stretches, she methodically turns the eggs with her feet and beak before nestling back down. Henry has during the day slept and watched over her and at night hunted and returned with her dinner.

The gestation period is 30-31 days and the eggs hatch in order of laying. Then the parents will be both busy hunting and feeding them. On the evening of the 9th May she was seen to be proudly showing dad a broken egg shell and when she stretched 1 tiny little baby barn owl could be seen.

Really looked like a small skinny chicken with no feathers. It appears to have a large head and tiny body. She remains sitting on the baby and the remaining six eggs. She goes out for a very quick flight and stretch at dusk but is quick to return. Proud dad is now hunting and feeding two hungry mouths.

He is presenting her with mice and voles and they are sometimes lining up for her to eat and give to the tiny chick. She is nestling back on the eggs with the chick underneath and often herds him/her back under with her wing or beak if he has wriggled away.

It is difficult to obtain a photograph at the moment as the chick is so tiny but I have posted a video on Great Bromley Community face book page and will keep everyone updated.

Update:

Barn owl number two hatched five days later. Dad now hunting bringing back five to six mice/voles each night, mum feeding the chicks small dinners nearly every hour. They sit underneath her and between her legs and she feeds them. Number one now has a fine downy cover and number two is small and skinny.

Karen Moss

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
21/00432/ FUL Sarah and Antony Dean	Demolition of existing storage building and erection of new retail building Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to this application.	Dean's Nursery and Garden Centre Mill Farm Harwich Road Great Bromley
21/00438/ FUL Mr and Mrs M Shaikly	Erection of summer house outbuilding and pool Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to this application.	Lilleys Farm Carringtons Road Great Bromley CO7 7XA
21/00476/ FUL Mr and Mrs Steward	Proposed single storey rear extension and two storey side extension. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to this application.	7 Fairfield Close Great Bromley CO7 7UF
21/00445/ FUL	Erection of a single bungalow and garage Great Bromley Parish Council strongly objected to this application for the following reasons: The area has been a focal point at the very heart of the village. The land has been maintained by the Parish Council for over 25 years. The land is currently safeguarded open space in TDC's current and emerging Local Plan. The street scene of St George's Close would be severely impacted. It would a be a loss of a visual amenity for entire village. It should be noted that: TDC gave permission to the Parish Council to maintain the land. The Parish Council is exploring if it can acquire the land as a designated village green.	Land On The West Side of St Georges Close Great Bromley

Dates for your diary...2021

JUNE

- 4 National Fish and Chip Day
- 9 Great Bromley Parish Council - 7.30pm
- 13 Cupcake Day 2021- Alzheimer's Society
- 15-20 Men's Health Awareness Week
- 20 Father's Day
- 24 Reserves Day

JULY

- 14 Great Bromley Parish Council - 7.30pm
- 15 Little Bromley Parish Council - 7.30pm

AUGUST

- 11 Great Bromley Parish Council - 7.30pm
- 19 'Jane Eyre' - St Mary's Church, Little Bromley

Message from the Chairman of Great Bromley Parish Council

I urge you all to keep up to date with and follow the latest advice issued by the Government in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. I would also ask that we all be aware of our neighbours, and be on hand to provide support to those who might need it, particularly the elderly and those who are vulnerable.

For anyone who is struggling to find support, please call me on 01206 230688.

Cllr Fred Nicholls

Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service if:

- you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home
- your condition gets worse
- your symptoms do not get better after 7 days

Only call 111 if you cannot get help online.



Dates for the mobile library at Church Meadow are:

9.45 - 10.15am

**10th June
1st July
20th July**



If anyone is in urgent need of the flood barrier or water snakes, these can be found in outside storage at The Courthouse, Harwich Road, Great Bromley.



Did you know? Great Bromley has two Automated External Defibrillators. You can access these at:

- The Cross Inn, Ardleigh Road, CO7 7TL or
- The Courthouse, Harwich Road, CO7 7JG

Don't ignore it - Report it at www.essexhighways.org



Essex Highways carry out regular inspections of roads and pavements, but issues may come up between these inspections. These could be potholes or other road surface issues, damaged street lights, street signs, overgrown trees, or issues with public rights of way.

Report maintenance issues online by using the highways reporting tool. If you think there's a risk to public safety please call 0345 603 7631 or if you have hearing problems you can use the text phone service on 0345 758 5592.

PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
20/01170/ FUL Mr John Williamson	Erection of 2 no. single storey pitched roof side extensions, erection of chimney to existing extension, and conversion of agricultural land to residential garden, including removal of existing metal barn, erection of 3 bay cart lodge with log store, green house, pergola, playhouse, summerhouse, shed and landscaping.	Landmark House Frating Road Great Bromley CO7 7JN	Approval – Full 19.03.2021 Delegated Decision
21/00214/ FUL Mr and Mrs Hearn	Erection of single storey rear extension (sun room) and cart lodge/store (following demolition of existing conservatory and garage)	Sparlings Hall Hilliards Road Great Bromley CO7 7UT	Approval – Full 22.03.2021

Community Library at The Cross

Wednesdays
10.00am-12 noon



The Post Office at The Cross

Wednesdays
10.00am-12 noon



**Love where we live
Help keep it clean**

Litter pickers are now available for residents who wish to help keep their local community free from litter. Please contact Fred Nicholls on 01206 230688 or Owen Blowers on 07879 433716 to grab yours

THE HIRSTS AT THE LODGE

With Great Bromley Lodge being redeveloped at present, it was timely to hear about some past occupants.

I have been fortunate enough to be in contact with Mrs Gwen Tickle, nee

Jaggard, from Exeter who recently celebrated her 98th Birthday. She is telling me all manner of interesting things about Great Bromley before the war.



Cont'd.....

Great Bromley Lodge was a large house and park with many staff required, as this 1894 advert shows:

"To let, furnished or unfurnished, standing in large park; three reception rooms, study. 13 bedrooms, conservatories, billiard-room, and Watts' full-sized table, gardens, pleasure grounds, stabling 9 horses, orchard and paddock, shooting over 5 to 900 acres."

Mrs Tickle's father, James "Len" Jaggard, was head gardener at the Lodge, overseeing four men. Her mother Norah was a Biddis, sister of Jim who was Parish Clerk for years, and of John who is on our war memorial. Norah worked with Mary Humm amongst several other house staff.

The owners (or tenants) of the Lodge between at least 1911 and about 1923 were Mr Robert Frederick Hankey Hirst, Esq, and his wife Alice. She was a very kind lady who was involved in fund raising:

ESSEX REGIMENTS' COMFORTS FUND - RESULTS OF FLAG DAYS, 1916.

The ... results... are all received with gratitude in the name of the brave Essex men, for whom they are to provide the things which they require on the various battle-fronts... for the needs of their men, and sent to them (in) the name of the people (of) their county. Colchester Division: ... Great Bromley and district, per Mrs. Hirst, £9 8s. 3d ... Totals at present received from Divisions: £2,697 15s 7d.

Articles sent out: 1,558 Shirts. 4,760 Socks. 4,106 Handkerchiefs. 2,867 Soap. 5,396 Stationery. 2,568 Sweets and Chocolate, 1/4lbs. 1,192 Soup, etc. (Tins). 2,751 Pipes 1,216 Cocoa and

Milk. 1,275 Towels. 2,609 Drinks (Cooling). 1,350 Bootlaces. 1,606 Sundries. 423,850 Cigarettes.

The Hirsts had a son Geoffrey who was a Captain in the Grenadier Guards, injured in 1916 and awarded the MC in 1918 "for conspicuous gallantry while commanding his company during an attack. Keeping well up to the barrage he captured all his objectives, including 350 prisoners, three trench mortars, and sixteen machine guns. The consolidation was rapidly carried out, and he commenced to exploit his success without waiting orders." Geoffrey was mentioned as having given a wedding present (ashtrays!) to Princess Mary (daughter of George V) in 1922 and was then personal Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for War 1924-1926.

Mr Robert Hirst died at Bath in 1924 and was buried at South Weald, where two of his sisters lived. Gwen Tickle told me that Mrs Alice Hirst went down to, she thinks, Hampshire but we are not sure if this was after or before her husband's death. Mrs Hirst requested that Norah Jaggard and Mary Humm came down with her to her new address to stay and help her settle in. As Norah had a very young Gwen to tend to, they also took her uncle Jim, 10 years older, to help look after her. For some years after this, Norah and Mary received a parcel from Mrs Hirst containing a gift of fine clothes, so it is clear that she greatly appreciated her staff.

Hugh Frostick



GT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

GP Referral Community Pharmacist Consultation Service

We would like to make our patients aware of a new service that has recently been introduced. If you contact the Surgery with certain minor ailments you may be referred across to your local pharmacy to contact you about this. The Surgery will send details across to the pharmacy and you will then be contacted within four hours with advice. Details of your telephone consultation will be sent to the Surgery and if after speaking to the Pharmacist there are any concerns, they may refer you back to the GP.

Consent for someone to speak on your behalf

We often have people phone us on behalf of family members. We cannot discuss any patient's confidential information with anyone else unless we have express written consent from them. This includes even just confirming an appointment time or date. Our staff often experience disgruntled patients as a result, but

they would be breaking the law if they complied and are absolutely right to refuse. If there is frequently a need to discuss someone else's details and they are happy for us to do this, the patient just needs to write to us expressing consent to talk to the named family member and we will note this on their record.

Surgery Training Afternoon

Along with all other surgeries in the area we will be shut from 12 noon on Wednesday 23 June 2021 for staff training. If patients require urgent care on this afternoon then they can contact 111 for assistance.

Patient Participation Group Meetings

At the time of writing the Newsletter there isn't a Patient Participation Group meeting planned in June 20201.

Sue Mitson – Operations Manager

COVID-19 vaccine scams

To protect yourself and your family members from fraud and criminals, remember the following points:

- ✦ The vaccine is only available on the NHS and is free to people in priority groups, and **the NHS will contact you when it is your turn.** You will not be asked to pay for the vaccine.
- ✦ The NHS will never ask you to press a button on your keypad or send

a text to confirm you want the vaccine, and never ask for payment or for your bank details.

- ✦ The NHS is not making house calls to deliver or discuss the vaccine.

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you believe you have been the victim of fraud or

ActionFraud
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre
0300 123 2040

LET'S STOP THE SPREAD

Staying safe



**Wash your
hands often**



**Wear a face
covering**



**Keep your
distance**



**Get
tested**

Keep washing your hands, wearing a face covering and staying two metres away from people outside of your household. These are some of the simplest yet most effective measures you can take to protect yourself against Covid-19.

Meet with friends and family outdoors in your garden or in a public space. Fresh air helps move the virus away from you, so it's much safer than meeting people indoors.

Get tested

Everyone in England without symptoms can now take free Covid-19 tests twice a week.

You can choose whether to get tested by:

- ordering self-test kits to your home
- collecting self-test kits from participating libraries, test centres or pharmacies.

You may also have the option of getting tested through workplace testing programmes or at schools and colleges.

Visit www.essex.gov.uk/getting-tested-for-covid-19 to find out about the testing options in your area. If you need help to book or assistance with a test, call 119.

Please follow the testing instructions to log your result every time.

If you have symptoms or test positive from a self-test kit, you must book a test on www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119.

Get vaccinated

Please get vaccinated when you are invited. If you have concerns, talk to your GP or the Essex Wellbeing Service on 0300 303 9988.

Visit www.essexcovidvaccine.nhs.uk

To request this leaflet in a different format or language, please email ECC.Equalities@essex.gov.uk or call 03457 430 430

Getting support

Financial support if you need to self-isolate

The government says that you must self-isolate if:

- you have symptoms that may be caused by Covid-19, including if you are waiting for a test
- you've had a positive Covid-19 test result (whether or not you have symptoms)
- you currently live in the same household as someone with Covid-19 symptoms, or with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19

You may be eligible for a £500 support payment if you need to self-isolate.

To find out more and apply, visit www.essex.gov.uk/support-if-you-are-self-isolating

Mental health and wellbeing support

If you or someone you know is struggling, there are services that can help. Visit www.essex.gov.uk/staying-well to find mental health and wellbeing support.

Sign up for our monthly newsletter for more updates: www.essex.gov.uk/your-essex

Visit our website www.essex.gov.uk/coronavirus



Essex County Council

FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, LITTLE BROMLEY

Over the past year as with other events, Little Bromley Church has been very quiet.

The Bromley 10K run was postponed to Sunday 23rd May, with an altered start and finishing point, and not using the churchyard this year.

This is My Theatre group performed, 'The Three Musketeers' in the churchyard last summer amid Covid restrictions. This year they performed 'The Tempest' on 22nd May in the open air, and coming up is 'Jane Eyre' on 19th August.

There have been no Friends events happening due to Covid. However after a short closure in early 2020, we are pleased to say that the church has been open daily to visitors and quite often brightened with a few flowers.

We were unable to hold the Carol Service due to Covid restrictions. We did however have our Christmas Memory Tree up in the church in December and noticed that quite a few

tags for loved ones had been placed on the tree.

During Easter Holy Week this year we had three short morning services in the church. These were advertised through St. George's Church website and it was nice to see the church being used.

A small group recently met in the churchyard to look at the plants and flowers; one of the more unusual plants there is the Pignut (*Conopodium Majus*), a member of the carrot family with a nut-like root.

We are hoping to hold an event or two later in the year; these are likely to be announced at fairly short notice and will abide by the Covid restrictions.

We are looking for volunteers to join the Friends Committee. If you would like to help organise events, and publicity, or cleaning and maintenance please do get in touch.

Carol Cordwell

friends@littlebromley.org.uk

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: littlebromleypc@gmail.com

At the time of writing the parish council are sorting out our first live venue, since the pandemic started, to hold our May council meeting.

The legislation allowing councils to hold meetings electronically has now ended. We have been asked to remind residents that Dog Mess must be cleared up from grass verges outside houses and from pavements.

Apparently there have been incidents where this hasn't happened so please do clear up after pets.

Litter continues to blight the Lanes round the village - do please pick up where possible and take home to dispose of it.

The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on 15th July - venue to be confirmed.

CHURCH JOTTINGS

Our beautiful village church is dedicated to St George who is also the patron Saint of England. This time on your visit to the church, see how many pictures, sculptures, carvings of St George you can find. This is a task I often set children who visit; it's great fun and you will find him in the most surprising and hidden places. Look high and low! Many are embroidered on the kneelers in the church but at the moment our beautiful kneelers, many of them depicting St George, are not on display. So you will have to search high and low, inside and outside to find the others.

This beautiful banner, which is easy to find, was made in 2005. It depicts St George slaying the dragon. A wonderful piece of embroidery and design made by Jackie Page from Dovercourt.

My family commissioned the embroidery in memory of my mother, Margery West, who died in 2004. The woodwork and base were also made locally in Manningtree.

There is also a lovely bronze statue of St George to find in the Lady Chapel dedicated to another family, Robert and Jean Harding, who lived in the village for many decades.



*Good luck!
Jenny*

RECTOR'S MESSAGE

In May I was called for my second Covid vaccination, at the Fryatt Hospital in Harwich. I found it to be a moving experience. Firstly, like many people, I had a huge sense of relief, with the hope that this was another step on the road back to a normal life. But I was also moved to learn of the number of people who have been supporting this effort to help their fellow citizens. The man operating the lift told me that over 200 people had volunteered to support the vaccination programme in Harwich hospital. This included people to steward the car park, register patients, clean furniture and direct people. We are often told that we live in a selfish society. But nationwide, there must be tens of thousands of people who have given up their time over the past months to support the biggest vaccination programme in our history.

The pandemic has brought out the worst and the best in human nature. In the early days of the pandemic, there was an irresponsible minority who selfishly stripped the shelves of supermarkets. There were instances of shop workers, police officers and hospital staff suffering from abuse and even violence. But the vast majority of people have looked out for their neighbours and helped people who were isolated or in need. The vast army of volunteers to support the vaccinations, is another example of human nature at its best.

When we read of the terrible suffering in India and other parts of the world with meagre health care, we will realise how fortunate we are to live in the United Kingdom. The development of the vaccine has been a remarkable achievement, much of which was due to research in our own country. But above

all we are profoundly thankful that we have a National Health Service, and for the commitment and dedication of those who work within it.

The Beveridge report of 1941, which was to lead to the creation of the Welfare State and the NHS, was profoundly influenced by Christian principles. William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury at the time, said that this was “the first time anyone had set out to embody the whole spirit of the Christian ethic in an act of Parliament”. The key principles of the NHS remain the same today. “To meet the needs of everyone, free at the point of delivery, based on clinical need, not the ability to pay”

There is currently increased anxiety about the Indian variant which is causing a rise in infections in some parts of the country. But when circumstances allow, I hope it will be possible for us to come together as a community, for a service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance. It seems right that there should be an opportunity to reflect and to give thanks for those who have served us over the past month. We would want to give thanks for those who work in the NHS, but also for all those key workers who have maintained our essential services, often at risk to themselves. We would want to remember those who have developed the vaccine which has given us all hope. And we would want to remember before God all those who have died in the pandemic. With the agreement of the churchwardens and PCC, I hope we will be able to express all these things later in the year, in an act of worship in the parish church

Stephen Carter



St George's Church Great Bromley



www.greatbromley.org.uk

Parish of The Bromleys

Welcome back! All services are in church with congregation and music

St George's, Great Bromley		
6th June	10.30am Parish Eucharist (BCP)	Trinity 1
13th June	10.30am Parish Eucharist	Trinity 2
20th June	6.30pm Evensong (BCP)	Trinity 3
27th June	10.30am Parish Eucharist	Trinity 4

St Mary's, Little Bentley	St Mary's, Lawford
6th June - 10.30am Morning Prayer	6th June - 10.30am Holy Communion
-	13th June - 10.30am Family Service
20th June - 10.30am Holy Communion	20th June - 10.30am Holy Communion
-	27th June - 10.30am Morning Worship

Newsletter

Our colourful e-mail St George's newsletter will keep you informed about everything going on at St George's, and it has internet links to music, art, and poetry. We also have a colour printed version of the newsletter which you can pick up from the church, or if you would like a copy delivered please phone Jenny.

Website and contacts

For details about all that's going on at St George's please see the website, or email church@greatbromley.org.uk or phone Jenny 01206 230688.