



The

Messenger



The Magazine of the
villages of Great &
Little Bromley

December 2021



THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all,

Well, this year has flown by, everyone's saying it! It's hard to believe that two years ago we were just hearing murmurings of a virus elsewhere in the world and a long way from us, and look at us now....incredible.

If you are lucky enough to attend a school nativity play, I hope it goes well and that the children enjoy it. I miss those days! Secondary schools have far outgrown it unfortunately, and as for University, I don't think I want to know how they will be celebrating the end of term! Our cover this month is a traditional festive scene and I'm really grateful to Mary, Joseph and the donkey (aka Lily-Rose, William and Zederee) for taking the time to visit St George's Church on their journey. Thank you also to Brenda, and Jane from the Donkey Breed Society.

Our social calendar is getting busier now, and we have a number of concerts and Christmas fayres to attend, which means lots of baking cakes. My speciality is apple cake; it's one that doesn't require decorating fortunately, and doesn't take too long to make. I'm lucky that our apple tree provides enough apples to last us the whole of winter.

With the weather much cooler now, my cats aren't spending much time outside. They much prefer the empty beds by day, and the log burner in the evening. Their other cat friends have been spotted in the garden looking for them! I imagine it's something like Top Cat when they all get together.

Awareness days in December and January include:

- 6th - Illumination Street Week
- 7th - International Civil Aviation Day
- 10th - Christmas Jumper Day
- 31st - National Champagne Day
- 6th Jan - World War Orphans Day
- 10th - World Laughter Day
- 18th - Winnie the Pooh Day
- 21st - Red Squirrel Appreciation Day

*Wishing you a Merry
Christmas and a happy
New Year -
Here's to 2022!*

**Take care,
Lizzie**

MATERIAL for the **FEBRUARY 2022** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th JANUARY 2022** please.

Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed. Whilst the editor welcomes contributions, photographs etc. this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to publish, that the item may be edited and that there is no breach of copyright. Publication is in good faith and neither the editor nor the publisher accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement, including any error or omission, responsibility for which remains with the author.

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more than a pub

Opening Times:
Wednesday Coffee Shop & Post Office 10am - 12:00pm
Thursday/Friday/Saturday 6:30pm - 10:30pm
Sunday 12:00 Midday - 3:00pm

We would like to thank all of our customers and shareholders for their support through the last year, and wish you all a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Festive Period Events:

- 1st Dec—Singaround
Afternoon @ 1pm**
- 2nd Dec—Open Mic Night**
- 4th Dec—East Coast Pizza**
- 8th Dec—Christmas Market
Coffee Morning**
- 11th Dec—Fish & Chips Night**
- 16th Dec—Christmas Quiz**
- 18th Dec—Carols Singalong**
- 6th Jan—Open Mic Night**
- 8th Jan—East Coast Pizza**
- 20th Jan—Quiz Night**
- 22nd Jan—Bingo Night**
- 23rd Jan—Pub AGM**

**New Year's
Eve
Karaoke Party**

We will be relocating the pub to the Great Bromley Village Hall for the night to ensure we can fit you all in safely.

Entry will be by ticket only - Tickets can be purchased from the pub by cash only.

The bar will be stocked and you can bring your own food.

The party starts at 20:00, carriages at 00:30!
For more information, check our website

The poster features a warm, golden-yellow background with musical notes and Christmas ornaments. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold and regular fonts.

Christmas Opening Times:
24th: 6:30pm-10:30pm | 25th: 12:00pm-2:00pm
26th: Closed | 27th: 6:30pm-9:00pm

For more information on our opening times throughout the festive period, please visit our website or Facebook page:

www.greatbromleycross.co.uk
www.facebook.com/greatbromleycross
01206 621772

GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB 100 CLUB 2022



Firstly, we would like to thank the 100+ members who signed up to support the club in 2021, and congratulations to all the winners so far this year. With only one more draw in 2021 we are now looking towards 2022 and starting our 100+ draw again January.

The membership for 2022 is again £24 for the year and we would ask that if you wish to remain in the draw, or indeed would like to join us that you let me know via this email or email tomrdodd@hotmail.co.uk so that we can add you to our list for next year. As last year we would ask that payment is made by December 20th to ensure your entry into the draw for next year. (We will let you know the club's bank details via a confirmation email or you can send via a cheque to me at 4 The Street,

Raydon, Ipswich, IP7 5LP (payable to Gt Bromley & District Cricket Club)

We have a 100 Club page on the club's website at <https://greatbromley.cricketclubwebsite.co.uk> where you can find all the information and for anyone who is a member, their number for the draw.

We will be doing the draw on the 1st Friday of each month and the winners will be posted on the web page for all to see after each draw.

The committee would like to thank you all for your continued support of the club and we wish you all a merry Christmas and very best wishes for 2022.

Trudie Dodd

MEMORY TREE AT LITTLE BROMLEY

This year it has been a quiet year at the church. Events have been limited except for a couple of plays which were well attended. We are hoping to hold more events in 2022.

Once again from the 1st December, at St. Mary's, Little Bromley we will have a **Memory Tree** up inside the church.

This Christmas tree is there for anyone who wishes to write a message to a loved one on a tag. Once you have filled it in you can then place it on the tree. The tree always looks lovely in the church. After you have filled in your tag (should you wish to), a small donation to the Churches Conservation Trust would be very welcome. There is information beside the tree on how to do this.

Please remember that the Church is always open and loves to have visitors. Entrance is through the back door. We also have a visitors book for you to sign (if you wish to).

Carol Cordwell



IN THE GARDEN WITH ANDY & JUDY

Gardening became more popular during the pandemic and we know being outdoors is hugely beneficial to the well-being of people of all ages. Whilst for some people gardening during lockdown was only a temporary excursion, whether replanning the garden rather than taking a holiday for example, or trying their hand at flower and vegetable growing, these things helped them through a difficult time. We hope the legacy of their gardening activity will at least be the memory of an interest they dipped into, which they may return to in later life. For others it will be the start of an enduring hobby as long as their interest can be sustained and this is a great opportunity for the community to come together and help people, especially younger people, sustain their new hobbies.

The Ardleigh & District Horticultural Society, which meets at Ardleigh village hall on the second Thursday of the month, are experiencing greater numbers at their lectures this winter which indicates the garden revival is still underway. Why not try going along, the subject is not always gardening or may not seem to be of immediate interest, but you will gain exposure to many experienced gardeners, who are always welcoming to newcomers and go out of their way to help by sharing knowledge and advice. This can be a really good way for you sustain your interest. It is inexpensive and rewarding. There is also the Lawford & District Horticultural Society which meets every third Thursday of the month at the Ogilvie Hall. You will find both these societies have facebook pages where you can find all the information you need and Ardleigh's lectures are also listed on page 21 of the November Messenger.

Also, for children, time spent in the garden with parents, grandparents, friends and other family members is time

well spent to encourage a life time interest.

Above all, whether next year your garden will be a place of relaxation, exercise, or food and flower production, it should be a joyful experience. Sustaining a hobby can be as easy as not trying to do too much. Try something new or find a different way to do something that didn't work last year.

There's still time to give last minute hints for Christmas gifts or alternatively use any vouchers you receive at Christmas. Perhaps think about the tools you have. Having the wrong equipment can be demoralising but the right equipment can be incredibly efficient. Is the fork and spade you are using the right size and weight for you? There are many types and sizes of hoe. Our preference is to use a swoe, which we find easier to use than a dutch hoe or draw hoe. We also use a small onion hoe for close up work around plants. It is worth researching the types and uses for all gardening tools online or by talking to other gardeners as this might just make the difference you need for next year.

If not already done, don't forget to clean up the greenhouse, coldframes and polytunnels to remove accumulated rubbish and to remove any pests left from the previous crops. Check any heaters, soilwarming cables, propagators etc so you are ready for next year.

Give a tidy up to perennials but leave some seed heads for wildlife, and if you can, leave a few windfall apples and pears on the ground under hedges, or move them onto a bird table. These will be much appreciated by the birds and other wildlife

Wishing everyone a happy Christmas and New Year.

The ladies of the Great Bromley WI enjoyed a superb talk at their November meeting – and the speaker was one of our own members too. Julie Titley, accompanied by her husband David, came to talk to us about TWAM – Tools with a Mission. This charity started in 1984 in Southend and now encompasses most of the country. Its aim is to get useful tools to five countries in Africa where they have the potential to change someone's life.

The Charity collects tools used in farming, carpentry, building, mechanics, and sewing machines along with haberdashery items like buttons and zips and knitting needles. It refurbishes the tools and services sewing machines – manual hand operated machines can be used in areas without electricity and creates trade kits to be sent out.

repurposing them and distributing them in Africa where they will be given a new lease of life. The receive donations from people who have lost their husband, have entire garages full of tools to sort out, and feel overwhelmed with the massive task ahead.

The Charity will drive to collect tools – and it will send a van round for larger donated items. Even knitting needles and crochet hooks, wool and buttons are welcomed, and will be sorted out into packs to take to Africa and change



Containers leave Felixstowe bound for South Africa where the containers are driven to Uganda, Zimbabwe, and Democratic Republic of Congo where the goods are sold at a low cost to people who apply for tools to work on a project, or to start a business. Sewing machines help local ladies to become seamstresses, make school uniforms and start their own businesses.

someone's life.

Tools with a Mission is certainly a very worthy charity to support, so it's worth having a look around for those tools that you have been hanging on to for some reason – but find you no longer need them. I'm sure that someone in Africa will be very pleased to receive them.

TWAMs efforts have so far, saved 250 tonnes of old tools from landfill,

Eileen Brown



Leonard
Cheshire

Happy Christmas Everyone,

I am a bit later writing this this month, tomorrow will be Armistice Day and on Remembrance Sunday I will be laying a wreath for Seven Rivers at the Great Bromley War Memorial. This is something I have been doing for a few years now, and always find it an uplifting time. It somehow makes me think back over the year, and in the last two years, and be thankful that I have remained healthy. At this time I feel very grateful for that. We all still need to be careful as Covid is still out there but slowly things are getting back to normal.

I have been able to book incoming entertainment for Christmas, so we might have gone a bit mad with the entertainers but we have not seen any for such a long time that to have an Elvis, and a professional theatre company coming into the home to perform Cinderella is something to look forward to. Unfortunately we are still not allowed to have groups of people in the home so again this year we will miss the lovely children from St. George's school coming in to sing for us. Our visit from Brightlingsea Rotary who bring Santa to see us will again be outside, so if you see Santa on his sleigh on the 20th, don't worry you've not hit the wine too hard, he is just paying us a visit with

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

some Christmas gifts. Our lovely Jenny will be in on Tuesday 21st for carol singing. I'm sure all our residents will be pleased with having carols to sing and not me on the karaoke. We are also hoping that some of us will be able to attend the Crib Service on Christmas Eve at St. George's church.

We have been busy making Christmas decorations over the last few weeks (we made an early start). All our paper chains are ready to go up, and it sounds like a crazy idea but Christmas trees made from milk bottle tops are going to be made over the next couple of weeks. We devote one morning a week to do our craft work, and we decided to make paper chains after we made some for Halloween. Everyone was able to help, even those residents who only have limited mobility helped with the gluing.

I have to say it's been another strange year but things are getting better and long may they continue to improve until we don't have to worry about Covid anymore.

On behalf of all the residents at Seven Rivers, we wish you a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

See you in 2022!

Love Liz xx

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The October meeting was held at the Cross Inn with Members discussing arrangements for the Christmas meal to be held on Thursday 16th December. It was decided we should have a bumper raffle and each member will donate a prize.

A wreath from the Club has been

ordered for Remembrance Sunday, and Barbara will deliver it to the church.

We hope next year will see more new members coming along to our meetings, but in the meantime we wish everyone a safe and healthy New Year and a very happy Christmas.

PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

REFERENCE & PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
21/00654/FUL Mr B Taylor - Maragota Properties Ltd Proposed replacement of an agricultural storage building with a two bed bungalow (in lieu of Prior Approval for conversion in to a dwelling subject	Land South of Harwich Road, Great Bromley	Approval - Full 11.10.2021 Delegated Decision
21/01449/FULHH Mr Olly Pittman Proposed erection of single storey extension to side and rear including roof terrace (following demolition of existing conservatory) and	Lanner, Frating Road Great Bromley CO7 7JW	Approval - Full 11.10.2021 Delegated Decision
21/01641/TPO Mr James Gray - James Gray Homes 1 No. Oak - Crown lift and clean and remove ivy.	Orkney House Frating Road Great Bromley CO7	Approval - Full 22.10.2021 Delegated Decision
21/01636/NMA Mr and Mrs Owens Non-material amendment of reserved matters approval 20/00056/DETAIL (dated 27/04/2020) to change finish to pitched roofs of the bungalow and attached garage. To change from red clay pantiles, as approved, to natural slate. And to change the colour to proposed vertical	Wisteria House Back Lane East Great Bromley CO7 7UE	Approval Non Material Amendment 20.10.2021 Delegated Decision

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
21/01637/ FUL	Proposed erection of an agricultural workers dwelling. Great Bromley Parish Council supported the application providing it is only approving a single property, and replaces the previous planning applications.	Badley Hall Farm, Badley Hall Road, Great Bromley
21/01784/ TELLIC	Proposed works will involve an equipment upgrade of an existing ground-based telecommunications site and associated works. FOR INFORMATION ONLY	Land at Strutts Farm, Parsons Hill, Great Bromley
21/01679/ VOC Mr Gary Duncan LPCo	Variation to condition 5 of application 20/00859/FUL to permit substitution of drawing number 058/2019/SK250920 with 058/2019/14/P5 (facilitates relocation of bus stop and associated works). Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection to the application.	Little Paddocks Frating Road Great Bromley CO7 7JL

ESSEX QUEST TO GREAT BROMLEY

I uploaded the November Messenger to the village website, and just two days later I had a call from Radio Essex, saying they were very interested in my Smiler Marshall article, and would like me to come on their Essex Quest show the following Sunday. I was delighted to do so.

Essex Quest is a Sunday morning show where presenters Liana Bridges (who is from Harwich) and Barry Lewis follow clues to find 3 different places in Essex. On Sunday 7th the show was running around Tendring, and these are the clues for the four destinations (the first being the starting point, village name only, the others being to a specific point).

Initial Clue: A big shark drove a luxury car

Clue 1: Find a peninsular, where boats can shelter from a waxing moon

Clue 2: James Herriot visited a once town of Kent, lest we forget this roll of honour

Clue 3: A fruit enclosure was pulled by reindeer, where Strictly is recorded

If you have solved clue 2 you would know that I was waiting with Ann at the Great Bromley War Memorial for the Radio Essex Van. Whilst I had been on the TV a few times before, both here and in New Zealand, this was the first time I had appeared on the Radio so I put on my best jacket and tie.

As I waited, a lady parked up in Church Meadow with a mini absolutely crammed full of bottles that she noisily threw in the bottle bank! I worried the location was not going to be ideal for a radio broadcast - but then she was gone and no further issues there.

At about noon we greeted Liana and Barry, the presenters, who were great fun - ever so friendly, jolly and relaxed. They admired our giant poppy, and then got me to tell them about Smiler and his story, and in particular I brought in his connection to the Crossman family who did so much for the village.

I had about six minutes to speak and a couple of minutes into it a friend came out from church, spotted Ann and was going to call out but she shh-ed him just in time, but it still put me off a little. Liana who is a brilliant natural presenter, said, "Oh it's the Vicar wondering why we're here!"

After my bit, the producer told us that a caller had asked to speak to Hugh – but Barry could not find a set of headphones that would work before they had to dash off to the next stop. So, I could relax!

We heard on the radio after the Quest had been completed that the caller spoke to the studio, a chap from Basildon who had helped care for Smiler in his last few years, he wanted to "correct" what I said - in fact just adding more bits that I could not possibly fit in to my slot, being his service in Ireland – and perhaps he stole my thunder! Never mind, it was good to get Great Bromley in the news.

If you missed it and want to listen, the program is on catchup in BBC i-player until about 6th December: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p09z293k>

My bit runs from about 2:04.

Dr Hugh Frostick
hugh@greatbromley.org.uk
07722 253962

Clue Answers:

Initial: Great Bentley

1. Harwich, Harbour Crescent
2. Great Bromley, War Memorial
3. Ardleigh, Art Studio

The clues are explained in the show, the last one I personally found a bit tenuous!



After a short spate of crime in late October which included the theft of a high value trailer, GBPC would encourage Parishioners to observe good crime prevention practices. This might include lighting, locking systems and securing higher value assets out of sight. All crime should be reported if it does occur. There is a criminal threat to our community and we should be mindful of it.



Essex Police's website offers best practice for you to follow alongside practical crime prevention methods: from basic hints and tips to more detailed strategies, and you can report crimes via the website too.

Visit www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/



Is it an emergency?

Does it feel like the situation could get heated or violent very soon? Is someone in immediate danger? Do you need support right away? If so, please call 999 now.

If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use our textphone service 18000 or text us on 999 if you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.

Clacton Choral Society, under the baton of their new Musical Director Peter Dyson, are delighted to return to concert singing.



You are invited to be part of their Christmas theme presentation with over 50 singers for specially chosen harmonised carols, short light-hearted readings, and of course with audience participation.

To honour the occasion at St James' Church, Clacton, on Sunday 5th December, there is no admission charge, and donations if desired on leaving will be a gift to the fabric of the Church.

The Concert begins at 6.30pm for the 75-minute continuous Christmas celebration.

Due to the expectation of a capacity audience please contact John Kedge on johnkedge@tiscali.co.uk and 01255 424568 to reserve your numbered ticket.

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL

As another year draws to a close and with almost all activities at the village hall now running at full tempo despite the challenges still posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the trustees to wish all members of our communities a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

We look forward to seeing residents from both villages at some of the many activities and events at the village hall in the coming year.

Martin Frostick
Secretary
01206 250263

villagehallsecretary@greatbromley.org.uk

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

STOUR VALLEY U3A

The u3a is a national organisation promoting life-long learning for those who no longer work full-time. In our Stour Valley branch we have nearly 40 active groups offering a range of activities and learning experiences to keep our minds active, whilst offering friendship and fun. We encourage members to share their skills or enthusiasms by offering to convene new groups and you can join as

many or as few groups as you like.

Monthly meetings and lectures are always popular. On 12th January, Geoffrey Kaye enlightens us on Death, Sex and Drugs - The Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood.

For further information please see our website u3asites.org.uk/stourvalley

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: littlebromleypc@gmail.com

Since the last article we have an update on the Defibrillator. The installation location and power requirements have been confirmed with the Haywain and their electrician. It is hoped that the installation can be scheduled soon.

Five Estuaries Windfarm update. An informal consultation is taking place to seek feedback on the early proposals of this project. This online consultation is now live until Friday 10th December and

details can be found by visiting the website, www.northfallsoffshore.com.

As this is the last Messenger article until February, may we take the opportunity to wish all our Residents a very happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on 20th January 2022, at 7.30 pm at The Haywain.

Anita Spall

Dates for your diary...2021/22

DECEMBER

- 1 Coffee & Cake, Little Bentley Church Hall - 10am-12pm
- 4 Coffee Morning, St George's Church 10am-12pm
- 8 Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 9 Ardleigh & Dist. Horticultural Society, Ardleigh Village Hall - 7.45pm
- 19 Community Carol Service, St George's Church - 6.30pm
- 24 Carols at the Crib, St George's Churchyard - 4pm
- 24 Carols by Candlelight - Little Bentley Church - 6pm
- 24 CHRISTMAS DAY
- 25 BOXING DAY
- 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

JANUARY

- 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY
- 5 Coffee & Cake, Little Bentley Church Hall - 10am-12pm
- 12 Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 20 Little Bromley Parish Council, The Haywain - 7.30pm



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.

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME

It is a while since I wrote an article about the birth of the Great Bromley pantomime, and although I haven't got round to writing Part 2 I have chased down a lot more information and pictures, with grateful thanks to various people including Barbara Hall, Linda Pinhey and Nigel Rowe, with extra thanks to his mother Betty for keeping a "Panto" scrap book!

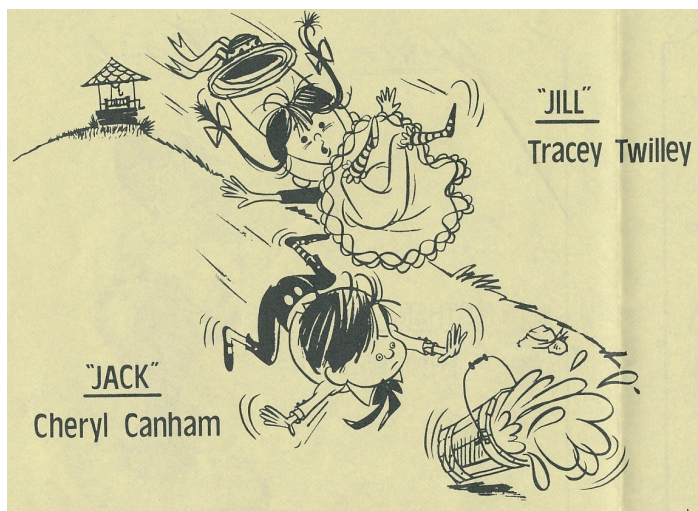
The old programmes are a treasure to me as of course they help us remember the people from our villages who got involved and kept us entertained on cold January nights.

I have a copy of all the programmes since Robinson Crusoe in 1968, except Ali Baba in 1973 – does anyone still have that one for me to copy, please? Sadly, I have none of the programmes prior to 1968, and am not even sure of the shows and years, but surmise this was the running order:

- 1958** Cinderella Revisited (Women's Institute)
- 1959** Beauty and the Beast (ditto)
- 1960** Dick Whittington – first Great Bromley village pantomime
- 1961** No panto ?
- 1962** Mother Goose
- 1963** ?
- 1964** Sleeping Beauty
- 1965** Puss in Boots
- 1966** ?
- 1967** Babes in the Wood

The 1988 programme for Mother Goose stands out as it has super cartoon sketches of all the characters, and even all the adverts are hand-drawn in amusing fashion. Nigel tells me the uncredited artist was Glen Mitchell, who had roles in some of the pantos and was also one of those who worked on the scenery around that time.

Dr Hugh Frostick
hugh@greatbromley.org.uk
07722 253962



As always, I gladly welcome any new information to fill the gaps, and those elusive programmes to borrow!



Great Bromley Pantomime Group start their annual production at the village hall tonight. Some of the cast are, from left, Mel Artthey, Cheryl Canham, Peter Watson, Tracey Twilley and Amanda Rowe, who will perform in *Mother Goose*.



BROMLEYS HISTORY IN OLD MAGAZINES

I am always delighted to receive enquires about our villages and the people who lived here. As you will see from the Radio Essex enquiry, it is nice to have it reaffirmed that the readership of the Messenger is far wider than just our two villages; it also reaches many foreign shores thanks to the wonders of the Internet.

Recently I have started to upload the whole magazine archive. I started with the few Church Magazine issues in my possession that were produced by Revd. James Ransom up until his sad death in 1976. Then there is a big gap to June 1985 for the final year of the Church Magazine, produced by Revd. Paul Davis and his wife Meriel. They persuaded the Parish Council to support a village magazine, which was to be named the Bromley Messenger, starting in June 1986.

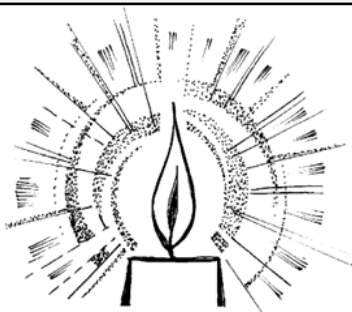
For the Messenger I have uploaded up to 1991 at present, and hope to complete the gap in issues up to May

2004 over the coming months. These are text only documents, laboriously converted from paper copies, which means the words will be available for searching and is likely to generate more interest, enquiries and historical connections.

I would be very grateful indeed if any other old issues of the Church Magazine could be loaned to me for copying, and I am also on the look-out for old issues of Church News (Harwich Deanery magazine).

Footnote: Nigel Dyson has kindly informed me that the picture of the Blackshield family at Little Bentley (The Messenger, May 2021) was from the celebrations for the coronation of King George the V in 1911, and he has other similar photos.

Dr Hugh Frostick
hugh@greatbromley.org.uk
 07722 253962



CHRISTMAS EVE

6 PM

LITTLE BENTLEY CHURCH

“Carols by Candlelight”

CAROLS FOLLOWED BY

MULLED WINE & MINCE PIES

COME AND JOIN US - ALL WELCOME

Little Bentley Coffee & Cake

1st Wednesday in month Church Hall, Little Bentley
10 - 12 Noon

Great and Little Bromley villagers
are very welcome



Holy Family Roman Catholic Church

Ipswich Road, Brantham CO11 1TB

Parish Priest: Fr. Paul Vincent OCD

Assistant Priest: Fr Bineesh Elenjikkal OCD

Parish Deacon (Retired): Rev Clive Brooks 01206 396319

The Priory, 180 Hawthorn Drive Ipswich IP2 0QQ

Tel: 01473 684963 www.stmarksparish.org.uk



GT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

Merry Christmas from all the team!

On behalf of the doctors, nurses and staff at the Surgery, we would like to wish all our patients a very Happy Christmas.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR SURGERY

OPENING HOURS The normal Surgery opening times are from 8.00 am to 6.30 pm Monday to Friday. Over the Christmas/New Year period the Surgery will be closed on Monday, 27 December 2020, Tuesday, 28 December and Monday, 3 January 2021.

PRESCRIPTIONS Please ensure you order your December prescriptions in time for Christmas. You can order these up to 14 days before they are due to ensure you don't run out over the Christmas period.

UPDATE ON THE COVID-19

BOOSTER/FLU VACCINATIONS We are continuing to run Clinics for the Covid-19 boosters on a Saturday day morning. This is just a reminder that patients have to wait 6 months from their last (2nd) Covid vaccination before they are able to have their booster vaccination. The only exception to this is for patients who are immune-suppressed. For patients who have a booster vaccination booked as long as we have vaccine availability a flu jab can be given at the same time. We also have appointments on for patients who just need to book a flu jab and this can be organised by phoning a member of the reception team. If we are not able to offer an appointment for the Covid-19 booster at the Surgery when you are due for this due to the high number of patients needing this, you can contact 119 to book an appointment elsewhere or look out for details of a local Walk-in Centre.

Winter is here, and with the increasing pressure on all health services please use the NHS wisely:

Community Pharmacies – Most people are not aware, but your local pharmacy can provide a wide range of help and advice. They offer advice on common problems such as coughs, colds, aches and pains, as well as healthy eating and stopping smoking. They can also help you decide whether you really need to see a doctor.

A&E – Please remember that A&E is for **emergencies only**. Before going to A&E please consider if another service might be more appropriate.

Urgent Treatment Centre, Clacton

Hospital – This service is available for help with minor ailments such as rashes and minor skin infections, ear and throat infections and coughs and colds. They are also able to deal with minor injuries such as wounds, sprains, strains, minor dislocations, suspected fractures, removal of foreign bodies, burns, scalds, bites and stings. This is not exhaustive but gives you an idea of what NOT to attend A&E for.

Urgent Treatment Centre, Colchester

– This service can be used for the same things as the Urgent Treatment Centre at Clacton Hospital.

NHS 111 – This service can be used 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and can provide telephone advice out of hours when we are not available. They can also advise you of the best place to go if you do need to see someone face to face.

Please remember the Patient Participation Group does not meet in December.

Sue Mitson - Operations Manager



**The Post Office
at
The Cross**

Wednesdays
10.00am-12 noon



**Community
Library
at
The Cross**

Wednesdays
10.00am-12 noon

**GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
IS PLEASED TO PRESENT
A CHRISTMAS-THEMED
AFTERNOON TEA**

MONDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2021

Delivered to residents of Great Bromley who are senior citizens or considered vulnerable, in the comfort of their own home to ensure safety.

If you, or someone you know meets this criteria, you can request/nominate them to receive an afternoon tea.

Please check for dietary needs and that the recipient(s) is happy to receive.

Orders should be placed via email: clerk@gbpc.org.uk
or telephone 01206 230688

ARDLEIGH & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

"The Unknown Constable Country" will be the subject of the talk by Simon Gallup at Ardleigh Village Hall, Station Road, Ardleigh CO7 7RS on Thursday 9th December at 7:45pm. Free admission to members, non-members £1.50. Everyone welcome.

Refreshments are available after the talk and we are introducing a plant stall this year.

Membership is only £5 for each season and you can join at any meeting or at the show. The rest of our programme for this coming season is....

Thursday 9th December 2021	Simon Gallup - The Unknown Constable Country. Two screens one showing the Constable painting, the other as it is now.
Thursday 10th February 2022	Peter Jones - Jumbo - The history of Colchester's Water Tower
Thursday 10th March 2022	Peter Taylor - Thames Sailing Barges
Thursday 14th April 2022	Brian Carline - Pelargoniums, their varieties and propagation
Thursday 12th May 2022	Sally Hepher - "I wish I'd known that before I started"
Saturday 21st May 2022	Plant and cake sale at the Village Hall 9:30-11:30
Saturday 20th August 2022	Annual Flower & Produce Show at the Village Hall 14:00



The Mobile Library visits every three weeks at Church Meadow on a Thursday - next dates are:

16 December
 06 January 2022
 27 January 2022
9.45am to 10.15am



PRIMROSE FARM BARN OWL UPDATE



In recent months the Owlets have grown so very quickly. Our second brood of the year has been successful with five young owlets reared. They have in succession lost their downy furry coatings making them look like puff balls to beautiful golden-coloured owls.

The parents have constantly posted voles and mice into the owl box after dusk and all throughout the night. These have been eaten whole usually head first and feet and tail last! The owlets hiss, especially when the parents are near and land on the box edge with food.

The local owl expert David, and his wife Zoe, visited the farm the last weekend and they lifted the owlets carefully from the box to catalogue them. This involves weighing them gently using a pillow case, measuring their wing feathers and looking at their feathers and markings. They are then ringed with a lightweight metal ring with an identifiable number allowing them to be traced back to this nesting box. The photograph is the owlets in age order, the largest being 56 days of age and the baby one being 42 days of age. The owlets, when handled and laid gently on their back, go into a comatose state which helps this. In this batch there were three boys and two

girls. This is distinguished by their markings especially around their necks. So our first owlet who had the nickname of Big Dave was actually a boy this time! They all had very rounded and full tummies and appeared well. They were put back into the box and we watched them via the camera as they all settled down and slept for the rest of the day.

The owlets have been practicing flapping their wings and have all migrated to the box entrance and have been having practice flights. The Owl expert did say this was a vulnerable time for them as sometimes they can become prey for foxes if they fly to the ground and can not take off again. The first one out we found on the top of the shed looking a bit lost in the daylight; we put him back safely in the box. The owlets sit on the box shelf very early morning at first light, just watching before returning into the box to sleep during the day.

They are all now flying at night and at the moment all five are returning back to the box but it won't be long until they fly to new pastures, leaving an empty box. The parents may then return and settle in the box, we will wait and see.

Karen Moss

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

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



I would like to remind all those residents that are eligible to make contact with myself or the Clerk to order your Festive afternoon tea. Those of you that received the Parish Council afternoon tea last year were delighted, so please remember to do so again. The Clerk and I have received some but please don't forget if you would like a truly delicious tea delivered to your door please place your order soon so as not to miss out.

The Parish Council would like to form a sub-committee to make suggestions for the Queen's Jubilee celebration next year. Any residents who would like to be part of the committee are asked to contact the Clerk or the Chairman on 01206 230688.

Section 137 Grants were discussed and grants agreed to the following; The Messenger, St Georges School PTA, Seven Rivers and St Georges PCC. The cheques will be presented at the next Parish Council meeting on 8th December.

A presentation was made to the Council by Mr Stanley Graham, Residents Liaison Manager for Corbeau Seats Rally which will take place on 23rd and 24th April 2022. Handbooks giving Rally details will be printed and distributed to all affected residents by Christmas and updates will be provided via social media. He also stated the organisers had developed an Environmental and Sustainability Policy. They were working with the Essex Forest initiative and would be pleased to consider costed proposals for any local initiatives. Mr Graham also made an offer for some councillors to visit the

event control room to gain an insight into the work undertaken to ensure a safe event.

It was reported to Council an attempted burglary along with suspicious events in the village had been reported to Essex Police.

Following a professional tree survey on Parish Council trees various works was agreed be carried out by a qualified tree surgeon.

Fly tipping is an ongoing problem and any incidents should be reported to TDC on 01255 686590

The Service of Remembrance took place at the War Memorial on Sunday 14th November and was well attended. The service was led by the Rev Canon Stephen Carter, ably assisted by our vice-chairman Rob Lord. Wreaths were laid by local organisations and a church service followed, including children who were involved in the readings. The Church was tastefully and beautifully decorated in a fitting tribute to those that gave their lives. The Royal British Legion Standard was draped on the Altar.

A polite reminder that the overflow car park in Robinson Close is for the benefit of visitors to St George's Church and St George's School.

Finally, I would like to wish everybody a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Cllr Fred Nicholls

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Little Bromley....



....Great Bromley

St George's welcomed many people from Gt Bromley and Lt Bentley for the service after the commemoration at the Gt Bromley war memorial. Thanks to trumpeter Oliver for his skilled rendition of the Last Post and Reveille. Children from St George's School, led by Mrs Keitch, laid a wreath and spoke in church about the Royal British Legion.

At Lt Bromley war memorial there was a short act of remembrance and two minutes silence at 11am. Wreaths were laid by the Chairman of the Parish Council and a representative of the Parish Church.



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH



Schools

St George's friend Angela brought pupils from Market Field School, Elmstead Market, to visit us on Armistice Day. They brought a beautifully hand-coloured wreath to lay at the war memorial.

St Nicholas ~ 5th December

St Nicholas is patron saint of sailors, and the church at Harwich is dedicated to him. But he is more famously the patron of children, following a gruesome tale which you can read on the internet. He lived in Myra (now in Turkey) in the 4th century and was imprisoned for his faith under the Roman emperor Diocletian. Dutch people give gifts on **5th December** for Sinterklaas and we have adapted that to Santa Claus on Christmas Day.



St Stephen ~ 26th December

St Stephen was one of the seven deacons appointed by the Apostles (Acts, Ch7). Stephen was strongly critical of the cult of the Temple and his punishment was death by stoning in 36AD; he was the first Christian martyr.

Music & Choirs

We are fortunate now to have three choirs supporting our worship:

St George's Choir, Choir 2, and the Deanery Choir. In this way, with distancing, we hope to have a small choir at all our services.

We thank our singers and organists for their skills and commitment.

Light-a-Candle Service

The church was hushed as the names of those being remembered were read out, and organ music was played as people lit a candle in memory of a loved one. The *Pie Jesu* from Fauré's Requiem was then sung by St George's Choir.



Charities

Thanks to all who have contributed to charities at St George's recently: **Baptism** ~ £37.50 to Cancer UK; **Thanks & Hope** ~ £85 to Cheshire Home and NHS; **Harvest**~ £120 Manningtree Foodbank; **Light a Candle** ~ £203 St Helena Hospice

Afghan Appeal: we are delivering toiletries to the collection point to support the Chelmsford Diocese response to the refugee crisis.



We are collecting cash donations up to the 30th November.

Christmas Carols at St George's

Carols by Candlelight 19th December and the Crib Service on the 24th: we look forward to seeing you. For more news and our special Christmas edition, sign up for the colourful email newsletter via the St George's pages on the village website.



Helping Hands

A big 'thank you' to the group of friends of St George's who helped in the churchyard in November. You will have noticed how the paths have been cleared of creeping vegetation and the edges are looking crisp. And there was a lovely lemon drizzle cake from one of the team as reward afterwards.



Well done, team!

New to church or new to the village?



Do get in touch for more information; we'd like to help to welcome you. See the St George's contact details.



St George's Church Great Bromley



www.greatbromley.org.uk

Parish of The Bromleys

Advent & Christmas at St George's

December 5th ~ Advent 2.....	Parish Eucharist (BCP) 10.30am
December 12th ~ Advent 3.....	Parish Eucharist 10.30am
December 19th ~ Advent 4.....	Carols by Candlelight 6.30pm
December 24th ~ Christmas Eve.....	Churchyard Crib Service 4pm
December 25th ~ Christmas Day.....	Parish Eucharist 10.30am
December 26th ~ Christmas 1.....	(see Little Bentley)
January 2 nd ~ Christmas 2.....	Parish Eucharist (BCP) 10.30am
January 6 th ~ The Epiphany.....	Holy Communion 11.30am at St Mary's, Little Bromley
January 9 th ~ Baptism of Christ.....	Parish Eucharist 10.30am
January 16 th ~ Epiphany 2.....	Evensong 6.30pm
January 23 rd ~ Epiphany 3.....	Parish Eucharist 10.30am
January 30 th ~ Candlemas.....	Benefice Eucharist 10.30am

Services at St Mary's, Little Bentley

December 5th ~ Advent 2.....	Morning Prayer 10.30am
December 19th ~ Advent 4.....	Holy Communion 10.30am
December 24th ~ Christmas Eve.....	Carols by Candelight 6pm
December 26th ~ Christmas 1.....	Holy Communion 10.30am

Services at St Mary's, Lawford

December 5th ~ Advent 2.....	Holy Communion 10.30am
December 12th ~ Advent 3.....	Holy Communion (BCP) 8am Family Service 10.30am
December 19th ~ Advent 4.....	Holy Communion 10.30am Carol Service 6.30pm
December 24th ~ Christmas Eve.....	Crib Service 4pm Midnight Communion 11.30pm
December 25th ~ Christmas Day.....	Family Communion 10.30am

Festive Coffee Morning Saturday 4th December, 10am-noon

Pop in to St George's on the 4th. There will be coffee, cakes, bric-a-brac, puzzles, bargains, raffle, and most importantly, time for a chat and a catch up.

