

The
Messenger

The Magazine of the
villages of Great &
Little Bromley

April 2023

St George's Day

23rd April



THE FIRST PAGE

Dear all,

It doesn't seem five minutes since I was writing March's First Page. The threatened bad weather didn't get as bad as we feared although it was jolly cold, wet and windy. Not great running conditions so we will have to make sure we up our game over the next month in time for the Bromley 10K on Sunday 16th April. Fingers crossed for some drier weather so that we can get out more and get some more kms under our belts.

The Parish Council is preparing for celebrations to mark the Coronation of HM Charles III. Following a church service on Sunday 7th May at 3pm, tea and hopefully lots of cake will be served at the Village Hall from approximately 4pm. Donations of home baked cakes and other goodies would be gratefully received - please let me know if you plan on baking and I will send you times to drop off etc. It would be lovely to have some volunteers who could help on the day, many hands etc. If you can spare a couple of hours please let me or Carole Mander know.

Thank you as always to our contributors this month, along with our advertisers and the wonderful volunteers who deliver the magazine

throughout Great and Little Bromley.

In this edition, there's an update on the Five Estuaries and North Falls project from Little Bromley PC, the history of Knit and Knatter, and our local school children have celebrated Pancake Day and World Book Day.

I tend to write this column over a few days, and since starting I've been out for a run and sustained an injury! My calf muscle popped this morning after just a few paces and so my training and taking part in the Bromley 10k is currently up in the air. Disappointed is an understatement. I've got an ice pack on it and trying to think positively. Wishing all the runners the best of luck with their training efforts.

Awareness days in April include:

- 9th - Easter Day
- 21st - Pyjamas For PanCan Day
- 23rd - St George's Day
- 24th - Scream Day
- 25th - National DNA Day

Wishing you all a Happy Easter.

*Take care,
Lizzie*

MATERIAL for the **MAY 2023** edition of 'The Messenger' should reach the Editor, Lizzie Ridout, by **14th APRIL 2023** 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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Please support the sponsors of our magazine.



**St George's Church
Great Bromley
Parish of The Bromleys**

www.greatbromley.org.uk

@StGeorgesGtBrom

church@greatbromley.org.uk or 01206 230688

St George's Church is delighted to sponsor
The Easter Edition of *The Messenger*

Our monthly email newsletter has news, photos, music, art, and events. If you would like to receive it, please go to our website.

All are welcome to our Easter services.

Palm Sunday	2 April at 10.30am	Procession & Eucharist
Easter Eve	8 April at 8pm	Easter Vigil at Little Bromley
Easter Day	9 April at 10.30am	Parish Eucharist

The church is open every day to welcome visitors.
St Mary's Church, Little Bromley is also open daily to visitors.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: littlebromleypc@gmail.com

The offshore windfarm developers, Five Estuaries and North Falls, whose planned developments would affect our parish with underground cabling and large connection substations, are moving into the next phases of their projects. The Five Estuaries Stage 2 Consultation was planned to open on the 14th March and will last for just over 8 weeks, closing on the 12th May. Five Estuaries state the following - " Our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) is the first main, detailed output of the Environmental Impact Assessment process and will be the focus of this consultation. It sets out the potential environmental impacts of the project, both negative and positive, based on our initial assessments. The PEIR also proposes mitigation measures to prevent or minimise any negative impacts identified. " Please look out for public drop in events, virtual webinars and online material so you can respond and have your views heard. North Falls plan to run their Statutory Consultation in late spring/ early summer and we will let you know when the dates are released.

National Grid are also continuing with their East Anglia Green consultations and planning. Their plans include pylons and a large substation (23 Hectares). Following the enormous negative response to their initial proposal and the support of our local MP's it has been announced that the Electricity System Operator (ESO) will be conducting an independent review into East Anglia electricity transmission. This will look at alternative options, consideration of offshore routes, benefits and costs and will benchmark the proposals against other projects in the UK.

At a recent event organised by the Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons Group our MP, Sir Bernard Jenkin, said that East Anglia MP's and government has taken notice 4

of public concern and feedback around National Grid East Anglia Green. And this pressure has been the key driver in our local MP's getting the ESO review. Thanks to everyone who has been involved to date - it has really had an effect. And can we please ask that you continue to respond to all the consultations from Five Estuaries, North Falls, National Grid and now also from the ESO review. Your Parish Council has responded to all consultations to date and we will continue to do so. We discuss the ongoing impact of each of these projects on Little Bromley at each Parish Council meeting. When we have any updates we will post them on the Parish Council pages of the Little Bromley website at littlebromley.org.uk.

We also encourage you to join the Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons lobbying group who can be found at: www.pylonseastanglia.co.uk and can be emailed at pylons@mail.com.

Our next Parish Council meeting is on Thursday 18th May at the Haywain starting at the earlier time of 1900. There are three meetings taking place - the Parish Assembly, the Annual General Meeting and the normal Parish Council meeting. We look forward to seeing you.

Little Bentley Coffee & Cake

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



Great and Little Bromley villagers
are very welcome

ARDLEIGH SURGERY

Appointments Like the rest of the country, appointment demand is at an all time high and continues to escalate. As with many surgeries we continue to have strain on appointments due to high demand and staff illness. At one time had 4 clinicians off, we apologise for any inconvenience caused and please be patient with us as doctors and nurses can become unwell just as patients can. The Partners have been working many additional sessions as well as our regular locum having additional sessions. We have created more appointments by taking the calls directly from reception as they come in. By doing so we have been able to create an extra day's working of appointments a week. We also added in some telephone appointments for our GP assistant to call you to discuss blood results. These appointments will appear on your NHS App even though you have not booked any appointment. If this happens do not worry, we will try and call you and if we do not get hold of you, we will send you a text. Despite this disruption we have still been providing a considerable number of appointments.

Lastly, please do cancel appointments if you are unable to attend. On Monday 13th March, 6 appointments were not attended.

Surgery news Our Receptionist Nikki Read will retire at the end of April, we thank her for her service. One dispensing staff member left, and we are now advertising to recruit another member. On a plus note we have recruited an Advance Nurse Practitioner who will start at the beginning of May 2023.

Compulsory Surgery Training Days

The next compulsory Northeast Essex Surgery training afternoon will be on the 26th of April 2023. The Surgery will be closed from 12.30hrs and dispensary from 12.00hrs. Other dates are :

18th May 2023

28th June 2023

25th July 2023

From the Partners

From the 1st of April 2023, HRT will be available for £18.70 for a year's prescription. 8% of our population are on HRT and as the cost is now vastly reduced more patients will now be able to afford this drug. We will strive to provide stock for everyone, but we may have to limit it to 1-2 months supply at a time due to national stock issues.

Our dispensary team continue to work extremely hard, please be kind and patient with them. With Easter holidays looming and the 4-day Bank holiday coming up, we are likely to be busy. We would ask you to put your prescriptions in early and allow a 7-day turn around during this time.

Did you know that

GP services are not an emergency service ? If you or a loved one is seriously unwell, please call 999 or go to A&E. If you call a GP surgery or 111 your case is triaged. An urgent band of call back is within 2 hours, "soon" band of call back is within 6 hours and routine call backs are within 12-24 hours. When you call and speak with our reception staff and you tell them that you have chest pains, they will advise you to go to A&E or to call 999. If you do opt to wait for the GP call back it may be at least 2 hours.

Dr Cole and partners



SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

On behalf of all here at Seven Rivers, Happy Easter everyone.



Easter being a time of new hopes and beginnings is always such a lovely time of year. Here at Seven Rivers is no different. We are all looking forward to having the nice sunny days again, with the promise of going out and about a bit more. We all know that most of the bad weather is behind us and if it does do anything nasty it does not last very long, so all good.

We have been working away to bring our residents a fun-filled Coronation for King Charles next month. So we thought why keep this all to ourselves, so with that in mind I would like to invite you all to our celebrations, to take place on Sunday 7th May from 11.30am finishing around 5.00pm. We have musical entertainment booked for both am and pm with a few games and lunch in between. We do not have unlimited space, so we are asking if you would

like to join us please phone 01206 230345. We will have refreshments available, but if you would like you can bring a picnic just let us know when you book your free spot, all we need to know is how many people will be in your group. The more that join us the more fun we will have.

Don't forget to email me at elizabeth.barrenger@leonardcheshire.org or phone 01206 230345.

I am also looking for some help to make the event I know it can be, if you could give us a few hours leading up to the Coronation to help put the gardens in order after winter or on the day to get things ready or pack away again use the numbers above to contact me to see how you can help.

I'm hoping that you will support us in this event as you do on our bonfire nights, help our residents feel part of the wider community.

More news next month.

**Take care
Liz x**



SEVEN RIVERS HALL ROAD GREAT BROMLEY
 WOULD LIKE TO INVITE THE VILLAGERS
 OF GREAT BROMLEY AND SURROUNDING AREAS
 TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING KING CHARLES' CORONATION
 ON SUNDAY 7TH MAY AT 11.30AM
 FOR A DAY OF MUSIC AND GAMES
 REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE
 TO BOOK YOUR FREE SPOT PHONE 01206230345



BROMLEY 10K RUN

Dear Householder,

Advance Warning of the Bromley 10K

We are pleased to say that on **Sunday 16th April 2023** we will be holding our Road Run in Little Bromley. This may increase the volume of traffic through the village for a few hours.

The course will be the same as last year with different starting and finishing points. The event will be now start down Hilliards Road. It will then proceed through the village along assorted back roads, eventually coming down Ardleigh Road and out onto Shop road where the run will finish in Paynes Lane.

The race will begin at **9.30am**. Any support as the runners go past is always appreciated.

Between 9.50am & 11am there will be a lot of runners going along Shop Road.

We would like to apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused.

With many thanks for your understanding,

Carol Cordwell on behalf of Harwich Runners

PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

REFERENCE	PROPOSAL	LOCATION	DECISION
22/02082/ FULHH Mr Oliver Burfoot	Proposed erection of new garden room and workshop following demolition of existing sheds.	Grange Hall, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TS	Approval - Full 31.01.2023 Delegated Decision
22/01323/ FUL Toad Hall Free Range Eggs Ltd	Proposed erection of an agricultural workers dwelling (dwelling for Unit 2).	Land East of Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TR	Approval - Full 30.01.2023 Delegated Decision
22/01322/ FUL Toad Hall Free Range Eggs Ltd	Proposed erection of an agricultural workers dwelling (dwelling for Unit 1).	Land East of Hall Road Great Bromley CO7 7TR	Approval - Full 30.01.2023 Delegated Decision
22/01780/ FULHH Mrs Rozalynne Johnson	Proposed erection of rear extension, additional floor and re-profile of roof.	The Nook Colchester Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TN	Approval - Full 21.02.2023 Delegated Decision

THE STORY OF KNIT AND KNATTER

In February 2010 Great Bromley WI formed a new group called Knit and Knatter. The inspiration was that of a very dear member Mary Hart.

Mary had thought it would be a good idea to make craft and knitted items to sell on the WI stall at the village Christmas Fayre in the December of 2010.

So knitted, crocheted, jewellery, glass cases, mittens, gloves, 'Dr Who' scarves, toilet roll holders and much, much more was crafted and made, much laughter and fun along the way as we met monthly on the second Wednesday in Mary's Conservatory at Pondfields, Parsons Hill.

The group was so successful that Mary suggested that we knit to help others and our first project was to support the Premature Baby Unit at Colchester Hospital. Many beautiful cardigans, blankets and hats were dispatched to Karen (now a member here), the Sister in charge of the unit.

Many other charities have also benefitted from the hard work of the ladies from the Knit and Knatter group. In 2012 blankets to Ukraine, delivered and despatched over the years through 'Felsted Aid' and 'UK Aid'. Interestingly when this project was mentioned in the Messenger a very kind lady from Frinton began to support

our mission and over forty / fifty blankets were collected over the years from the Triangle in Frinton.

- A.C.W.W. has also been one of our Charities. This supported children in other countries including Botswana and Lesotho.
- Poppies – Supporting the 'Royal British Legion 'with our donations.
- Trauma Teddies, hats and jumpers – for 'Light into Europe' deliveries all going to Mark Platt in Frinton. Trauma Teddies going to the Women's Refuge in Harwich.

Our most recent and current charity is called 'Christian Hope International'.

Blankets, jumpers, hats and mittens are delivered to Christine Stimpson in Alresford who organises our donations to be taken to Harold Hill where returning Flower lorries take our donations to Romania.

Sadly, Mary died suddenly several years ago but her wonderful legacy lives on. Knit and Knatter continues to grow each month, ideas and new outlets for are creations are always explored and encouraged.

Now in 2023, the venue has changed and we meet every month at Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, where we always welcome the residents who enjoy our company and are encouraged to join in with us. We provide wool and needles if necessary. Creating special moments for them where friendships can blossom, with homemade cake and sausage rolls, with a cup of tea.

All are welcome every second Wednesday of the month 2pm-4pm.

Parking available in Cheshire Home.

Jenny



PLANNING APPLICATIONS

REF	PROPOSAL	LOCATION
23/00168/ FULHH Mr W Kempster	Demolition of precast concrete single garage and provision of new brick double garage. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection.	Newhouse Farm, Hall Road
23/00177/ FULHH Mr B Jones	Proposed erection of domestic garage/workshop following demolition of existing lean-to. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection.	3 Newhouse Farm Cottages, Hall Road
23/00204/ FUL Mr R Craven	Proposed provision of an agricultural storage building. Great Bromley Parish Council had no objection.	Willow Farm, Hilliards Road
23/00216/ LUEX Mr and Mrs Beech	Proposed application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for Existing Use to establish that the occupation of the dwelling at The Bungalow can be occupied without complying with an occupancy condition imposed upon planning permission TEN/97/1073. Namely condition 2 restricting the occupation to a person employed solely or mainly employed in agriculture locally. Great Bromley Parish Council had no comment.	The Bungalow Hilliards Road
23/00248/ FULHH Mr Walker and Ms Higgins	Proposed single storey side and rear extensions. Great Bromley Parish Council had no comment.	Avalon, Furze Lane
23/00249/ COUNOT	Prior Approval Application under Part 3, Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for a proposed change of use of an agricultural building to 2 single dwellinghouses (Class C3), and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion. For information only. The application was noted.	Barn A Bush Farm Hall Road

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our monthly meeting last month was very well attended, and after business, members enjoyed a quiz organized by Vanda and Ann. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this, and to round things off we were treated to delicious cakes with tea/coffee. Thank you both so much.

Our competition for next month is a fancy pen/pencil.

We are very sorry to announce the loss of two of our Committee members, Paula Bradshaw and Rose Field, and send our condolences to their families.

We do hope we shall see more new members join our group in the coming months with some fresh ideas on future events and speakers.

DEANERY CHOIR

April 7th (Good Friday)

The Deanery Choir will be singing Faure's Requiem at 6.30pm at St Mary's church, Little Bentley. This wonderful work will be performed with soloists Patrick McCarthy (Baritone) and Shirley Davison (Soprano), conducted by Sally Pudney with Peter Clayton on organ.

April 9th (Easter Sunday)

The Deanery Choir will be singing at St George's church, Great Bromley CO7 7HZ, at the 10.30am communion service.

They will be singing 'This Joyful Eastertide' a 1894 Easter carol. The words are by George Ratcliffe Woodward and the tune, from the Netherlands (1624), was harmonised in 1894 by Charles Wood, a truly Joyful work!

April 23rd

The Deanery Choir will be supporting the last service of Revd Margaret Shaw, Rector of St Nicholas Church Harwich CO12 3DS at 3pm. With all the hymns chosen by Margaret, who retires on this day, the choir will sing 'The call of wisdom' by Will Todd. This radiant anthem was commissioned as part of the celebrations to mark Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and first performed in 2012 at St Paul's Cathedral by the 'Diamond Choir', formed from young singers across the UK.

The Deanery Choir wishes the Revd Margaret Shaw many more years to come in her retirement and thank her for the sterling support she has given to us over the years.

Graham Bell



faur 
requiem

Friday 7th April 2023

6.30pm


ST MARY'S CHURCH
CHURCH ROAD
LITTLE BENTLEY
CO7 8SE

THE
DEANERY
CHOIR

Soloists:
Patrick McCarthy
Baritone
Shirley Davison
Soprano

Peter Clayton
Organist
Sally Pudney
Conductor

RETIRING COLLECTION FOR CHURCH FUNDS

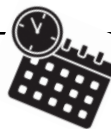


**Community
Library**
at
The Cross
Wednesdays
10.00am-12 noon



**The
Post Office**
at
The Cross
Wednesdays
10.00am-12 noon

Dates for your diary



APRIL 2023

- 05 Little Bentley Coffee & Cake, Church Hall - 10am-12pm
- 05 WI: Ukrainian guests/hosts experiences, Village Hall 7.30pm
- 10 Bank Holiday Easter Monday
- 12 WI Knit and Knatter, Cheshire Home - 2-4pm
- 12 Great Bromley Parish Council, Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 16 The Bromley 10K Run - 9.30am
- 20 Friendship Club, The Cross - 2pm
- 25 WI Crafting Social. All welcome, Village Hall 10-1pm

MAY 2023

- 01 Early May Bank Holiday
- 03 WI AGM and flower arranging demonstration, Village Hall 7:30pm
- 04 District, Town and Parish Elections - 7am-10pm
- 07 The Coronation Celebrations
- 08 Bank Holiday Monday
- 18 Village Hall AGM, Village Hall - 7pm
- 23 WI Crafting Social. All welcome, Village Hall 10-1pm

Ardleigh & District Horticultural Society

Evening meetings are the 2nd Thursday of each month (except January) at Ardleigh Village Hall and start at 19:45.

Our April meeting will be on Thursday 13th April at 7:45pm. Helen Chen will tell us everything there is to know about "Bamboo"

Admission is free for members and just £1.50 for visitors, who are always welcome. Refreshments are available after the talk. Membership is only £5 for each season and you can join at any meeting or at the show.

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

- 13 April
- 04 May
- 25 May
- 15 June

9.45am to 10.15am



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.



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

Telephone: 01206 230305

PTA Sponsored Pancake Flip

On Friday 24th February, the children (and adults!) had a wonderful time taking part in the PTA sponsored pancake flip. It was great to see them cheering each other on and enjoying themselves. Thank you to the parent volunteers for running the event and to all the friends and families who sponsored the children.

World Book Day

Once again we took part in World Book Day by dressing up as our favourite book characters. The children brought their favourite book into school and spent time reading with their classmates. Throughout the day, the classes took part in book-related activities and enjoyed celebrating the wonderful world of books!



Reading is such an important part of learning at primary school and we are always looking for volunteers to come and read to and with our children. If you are able to help us out, please contact the school office on 01206 230305.

MAKE A CHANGE BECOME A COUNCILLOR

Are you passionate about your community? Do you want to help make a long-lasting change? Do you have innovative ideas for the council? Do you have concerns about a specific issue and want to do something about it? If this is you, then we need you. We need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect their community to put themselves forward for election. Make a change and become a councillor.

“Your Parish Council is the local authority closest to the Electorate.”

Each councillor has their own reasons for running but the role offers the chance to make a huge difference to the quality of life for people in your local area.

Being an effective councillor requires both commitment and hard work. Councillors have to balance the needs and interests of residents and the council.

A Parish Council is a separate legal, corporate entity. First created by the Local Government Act of 1894 in most rural areas, the current consolidated legislation is that of 1972.

A Parish Council also provides services for the local people. These will range from recreation grounds and play areas, a cemetery and may be crematorium to allotments, bath-houses and nature reserves. What you provide is down to your Council. There is a list of the activities that a Parish Council has the power to provide. Like any statutory body it can only do the things for which the law or any governing document gives a power.

The Parish Council has one particular asset that is extremely valuable — it has the ability to set a Precept (sum of money), which is collected from all residents through the Council Tax system. With the right to levy a form of taxation come some duties. In particular a duty to behave in an ethical manner according to a Code of Conduct (declaring interests and leaving the room when likely to be prejudiced) and a duty to have the annual accounts subjected to audit.

Training is available and support will be found from colleagues and the Clerk to the Council.

All Councillors retire after a four year term, but can stand again as many times as they wish; casual vacancies may well arise in the intervening period. It is a useful way of seeing if you like being a local Councillor to take a seat for a short period before the next full elections.

So if you want to do more for your community, if you want to spend your time productively, and if you can think, listen and act locally — Become a Parish Councillor.

If you wish to find out more about becoming a councillor, or you would like a parish nomination pack, please email elections@tendingdc.gov.uk

Our March open meeting explored ways we can help reduce our carbon footprint, with John Hall of PACE Manningtree. Thought provoking stuff which led to much discussion. We were glad to welcome new friends from the community to join us.

On April 5th at 7:30pm we will welcome three Ukrainian Guests and their local hosting families to discuss their

experiences with us and share some tasty delicacies from their home country. Ladies are very welcome to join us for this lively and topical evening. The WI was very glad to support the recent fundraiser in Ardleigh for Moms Plus Me charity for Ukrainian orphans and women in need, running a cake stall and bookstall which helped to raise almost £3000.

for info: gtbromleywi@gmail.com or Dorothy 07791 974053.



Our Next Monthly Crafting Social

25th April 10.00am – 1.00 pm Gt. Bromley Village Hall

(£2 including refreshments plus £1 raffle)

Come along to our growing community Crafting Social – either bring your own projects to do or join us for tea/coffee, cake and social time.

Our **'How to'** project this month is how to make a fabric 'snap box' to hold sewing accessories. For those who wish to have a go bring a foot square for the outer fabric and the same amount for the contrasting inner liner - along with your basic hand sewing kit. (We will have spare fabric and sewing kits.)

We look forward to welcoming you.

STOUR VALLEY U3A

Make the most of life once you're no longer in full time work and come and explore new ideas, interests and skills. Across the country U3A members are learning, staying active, meeting new people and having fun later in life. It's local, social, friendly, low cost and open to all.

We have over 40 interest groups including walking – from strollers to 5+ milers – theatre, garden visits, art appreciation, curry club, science group, keep fit, pickleball there's something for everyone.

Monthly coffee mornings are held on the first Friday of the month 10am – 12pm at the Lambe School, East Bergholt. Our monthly lectures are held on the second Wednesday at 2pm in the Constable Hall, East Bergholt. Guests are welcome for a charge of £4. On 12th April we have Mark Carroll talking on "DNA and Family History", on 10th May Paula Short will tell us about her travels in Vietnam and on 14th June there will be a talk on the Commonwealth War Graves. Please take a look at our website www.u3asites.org.uk/stourvalley for more information and contact details.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.gbpc.org.uk

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



Parish Council elections are in May and you may be interested in what the Council does.

We comment on planning matters and all councillors are encouraged to carry out site visits so they are aware of the location and nature of the application. We have been involved with the Hamilton Lodge development and are endeavouring to get the best deal for our community. We are hopeful the current developers will provide a building for a village pre school. We have also been involved with the Robinson Close development and have very strongly opposed any further properties.

We are responsible for Church Meadow, which is not a designated car park, it was given to the Parish by a local farming family many years ago for community use. Maintenance and grass cutting are the responsibility of your Parish Council.

We maintain the Footpath Map notice board in Church Meadow and dog waste bins throughout the parish, we are currently waiting for a replacement dog waste bin

We maintain the War Memorial, a contractor has been requested to attend to the broken kerb stones around the Memorial, as large vehicles quite often drive over the kerb at this junction.

We are constantly in contact with Essex Highways regarding highway matters, including the disappearing white lines at the Court House junction and the speed reduction along Harwich Road. We chase them regarding

pavement repairs and the safety barrier at Pound Corner. Anybody that has had dealings with ECC Highways will appreciate how difficult it is to get them to carry out requests. We have a Speedwatch operating within the Parish which is organised by a member of our Council, if you would like to join please contact our Clerk.

We are fighting fiercely to obtain permission and funding for a footpath along Harwich Road.

We are also part of the "20 is plenty scheme" which a national organisation is attempting to get Councils throughout the country to adopt, especially near schools. We have also been in contact with Affinity Water regarding damage caused to our hedge along Hare Green recreation field.

We have recently installed some additional play equipment at Hare Green which is for the use and enjoyment for the whole village. The Parish Council arranges to carry out annual litter picks. Residents are welcome to help. Details will be circulated in The Messenger.

The Council and St Georges Church are jointly having a service in Church on Sunday 7th May to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III, followed by tea and cakes in the Village Hall with the Black Cactus choir provide entertainment during the afternoon. We will welcome offers of cakes and help to prepare the Village Hall from 11am. Please contact our clerk with your offers of help, clerk@gbpc.org.uk We are hoping

you will all join with us to celebrate. Thoughts of a children's picnic at Hare Green Playing Field need support and help to organise, please contact our clerk if you are interested.

If you wish to consider standing for election to the Parish Council there are nomination papers available on the

Great Bromley website, or in person at Clacton Town Hall. I am always available if you have a problem or need information. My thanks go to all parish councillors for their time and efforts in local matters.

Cllr Fred Nicholls
Chairman



GT BENTLEY DOCTORS' SURGERY

Easter Opening Hours

The normal Surgery opening times are from 8.00 am to 6.30 pm Monday to Friday. Over the Easter holiday the Surgery will be closed on Good Friday, 7 April and Easter Monday, 10 April 2023.

April is Bowel Cancer Awareness Month

Knowing the Symptoms of Bowel Cancer could save your Life:

- Bleeding from your bottom and/or blood in your poo.
- A persistent and unexplained change in bowel habit.
- Unexplained weight loss extreme tiredness for no obvious reason.
- A pain or lump in your tummy.

If you have **any** of these symptoms or if things just don't feel right, go and see your doctor. You may need to visit your doctor more than once if your symptoms don't get better.

Find out more at
bowelcanceruk.org.uk/symptoms

Bowel Cancer Screening

Bowel cancer screening could save your life.

- If you are 60-74 you will receive a screening test in the post every two years.
- The age that people are invited to take part is changing so you may get test before you turn 60.

For more information visit
bowel.canceruk.org.uk/screening

Surgery Training Afternoon

Along with all other surgeries in the area we will be shut from 12 noon on Wednesday, 26 April 2023 for staff training.

Patient Participation Group Meetings

There will not be a PPG meeting in April. The next one will be held on Wednesday 17 May 2023 at 2.00 pm in the Michael Wright Room at Great Bentley Village Hall.

Sue Mitson – Operations Manager



TUBBY AND JEAN AUSTIN

There was much sadness at the passing of Jean Austin in June 2022, followed by Tubby just six months later. Although the couple had lived in Ardleigh most of their married lives, they always kept close to their Great Bromley roots.

Geoffrey Clare Austin was born on 6th September 1928, the fifth of six children, brothers Ernest (known as Bunny), Frank and George and sisters Mary and Nancy. When he was a boy he picked up a nickname that stuck for life. As he told it: "I was born in those cottages up Hall Road, just before you get to Bush Farm, and further up the road there was a family called Barrells. Geoffrey Barrell was my play mate when we were 6 or 7 years old. One day when we were mucking about I cheeked him. I called him Butty Barrell (as in a water butt) and he turned round and called me Tubby, and the name stuck from that day on."

Tubby and his siblings went to primary school at Great Bromley and on to Great Bentley School. All the family were involved with village life, especially sport. At one time, all four brothers were playing cricket together for Bromley. Tubby played for the village football and badminton teams as well as cricket, all of which seemed to have their headquarters at the Spread Eagle pub, where he and his brother George also won darts trophies. Tubby started work at Badley Hall Farm and remembered being on his tractor the day the wooden wartime pylons were demolished in the field next to him.

Jean Maureen Norfolk was born on 27th May 1938 at Church Cottage. On 1st June 1957 she married Tubby, with some eyebrows raised at the ten-year age difference, but 64 years of marriage showed it was a perfect match. They set up home in Hill Cottages near the village hall, but after a few years Tubby changed careers and they went to live in Manningtree with Jean's parents Bun and Cissie, Bun being a foreman at Parsons & Son the builders. Tubby secured a job with Parsons and then he and Jean purchased and renovated the bungalow in Ardleigh that was to become their home.

They maintained close connections with Bromley, Tubby with his sport, and his many years playing the fool in the Pantomime and the Bromley Buskers. Although never "front of stage" herself, Jean was always there in close support, making teas and raising funds for all these organisations. Her contribution over the years was immense - nobody could sell raffle tickets like Jean! They were usually to be seen supporting Village Hall sales and other events right to the end.

When Tubby retired after nearly 40 years association with the cricket club, he took up the sport of bowls, joining the club at Brantham where he made many new friends and was immensely proud to be elected club president and later to have life membership bestowed upon him.

There are so many fond memories of the couple. Tubby always greeted you as if you were the most important acquaintance of the day. Grabbing your hand, giving you a hug or a wave, he always had time for you, so pleased if you stopped for a chat, so happy to pass the time of day. Jean was equally well loved, a wonderful person who gave everything and expected nothing in return and was genuinely interested in how you were and what you were up to.



Tubby had some health issues in recent years and it was a surprise to all that he was predeceased by Jean. He moved to Blackbrook House in Dedham, as he could not cope on his own. He was very happy there, he loved the staff and they all loved him and made his last months without Jean as happy as they could be.

HGF, based on the family tributes and personal memories

LILLIES IN REMEMBRANCE 2023

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of lilies this year in memory of your loved one, please give your donation to me or a member of the P.C.C..

Please sign the list in the church. Thank you and looking forward to seeing you soon.

Jenny
01206 230688



IN THE GARDEN WITH ANDY & JUDY

Despite the recent low temperatures, daylight is increasing and many of us will be keen to make a start. With recent weather patterns expected to continue, there have been several articles in gardening magazines about future proofing our gardens against climate change. The RHS journal, The Garden, makes five points to assist.

- Improve your soil by incorporating organic matter to aid water retention;
- Create shade by planting fruit trees bushes and hedges of nut and berries to create a micro climate. It is suggested these leafy plants cast a light shade helping to cool the plot during the heat of the day. It is suggested that lettuce, brassicas and broad beans grow well in light shade, whereas tomatoes and courgettes prefer warm sun;
- Save water by installing multiple water butts. Make better use of the water you apply by prioritising it. Peas, beans and sweetcorn in flower are a priority as are potatoes when producing tubers and large leafy crops. Carrots and perennial vegetables (unless recently planted) are the most drought tolerant. If an excess of water is your problem, plant on mounds or raised beds. The February rainfall was only 8% for the average for Essex and it is reported we had a deficit of 3 months of rainfall. At the time of writing though, it does appear that we are making up for some of that in March;
- Try to prevent diseases such as powdery mildew that is common in dry weather on courgettes and marrows. Watering and mulching can help as can spacing crops to aid air movement coupled with removing diseased material promptly;

- Stagger crops, sow little and often, and plant leafy vegetables and salad crops to enable harvesting before and after but not during the heat of midsummer. Try using bolt resistant cultivars that are available which are less affected by the heat.

As an update on our conversion to the 'no dig' method of gardening mentioned last month, I can tell you that in February we obtained mushroom compost to top the flower and vegetable beds with wood chip for the paths. We were a bit late doing so, as it should be done in the autumn because the compost can be quite strong initially. The beds also need time for the fungal, bacterial and worm activity to happen. However, with the recent cold weather and amount of rain in March, planting will be very late this year abating some of the potential problem. To further compensate, we will also carefully draw back the compost to plant the broad beans and peas to ensure the rootballs of the plants do not have contact with the compost in case there is any chance of burning. The same will apply to young lettuce, beetroot and brassica seedlings. We may also use a traditional compost planting mix in the holes where we feel the plants may be particularly vulnerable. In addition we are unlikely to sow seeds directly into the beds this year other than carrots which have their own enviromesh covered raised bed to avoid carrot fly. Hopefully we will have taken enough steps to ensure healthy and abundant crops. By mid-April we should have all potatoes planted and be sowing sweetcorn, beans, cucumbers, and courgettes under glass or you could try this in the open ground, with added protection from fleece or cloches. In any event, the weed suppression from composting has so far has been excellent, which is definitely a bonus.

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear friends,

I love a good comeback story – you know the sort: where someone is 'down and out', given no hope of success in their field of sport or career or romance – then, all of a sudden, they experience a meteoric rise and succeed in an incredible way. One example in recent history was Leicester City, who started the 2015-16 Premier League season 5,000/1 to win the title. But we all know how it finished up for them: victory, fame, jubilation and celebration.

Comeback stories also justify those who were loyal to the ones who were down and out, written off and given no hope of success. The long-term Leicester City fans would have felt all their loyalty, their hopes, their wardrobe of football shirts were not in vain – they did, ultimately, have a Club that was the best of them all.

And just as that is true in sport or in a career or romantic endeavours, so it is also true in matters of faith. Because before we celebrate the extraordinary historical event of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, we must face up to the seeming despair of so-called 'Good' Friday. Jesus, the one person in the history of humanity who always did what His God and Father asked of Him (even

when it cost Him greatly), was put to death for charges that had no substance to them. His followers would have been downcast and desperate in the aftermath... Unless, of course, they had remembered these words which He had spoken to them before His crucifixion:

"...unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds." John 12:24

Jesus spoke these words (and many like them) to His disciples so that when all seemed lost, **they would not give up hope**. In our world today it might seem like all reason to hope is fast disappearing – wars rage, economic prospects are tight, relationships keep breaking down – but the lesson from Jesus' resurrection is that just at the point where things look completely irretrievable God acts to bring extraordinary good out of great evil. And the resurrection of Jesus from the dead is not the first time He has done this – nor was it the last. Come and join the celebration of Christians of the greatest comeback story humanity has ever seen, the death and resurrection of Jesus, this month in your local parish.

Best wishes, Phillip

A Service for the King



The King's Coronation will be marked by a special service in St George's on Sunday 7th May at 3.00pm. The King's Coronation is an historic occasion in the life of our nation, and for most of us, the only Coronation that has taken place in our life time. Our hope is that the service will be an opportunity for the whole village community to come together, and to pray for our nation and for the King. It will be followed by afternoon tea in the village hall which is being organised by the Parish Council.

Canon Stephen Carter



St George's Church Great Bromley



www.greatbromley.org.uk

Parish of The Bromleys

To receive our email newsletter, please sign up via the website or
email us at church@greatbromley.org.uk

April 2nd	Palm Sunday	Procession & Eucharist cw	10.30am
April 6th	Maundy Thursday	Group services	see website
April 7th	Good Friday	Group services	see website
April 8th Sat.	Easter Eve	Easter Vigil	<i>Little Bromley</i> 8.00pm
April 9th	Easter Day	Parish Eucharist	10.30am
April 16th	Easter 2	Evensong (BCP)	6.30pm
April 23rd	St George's Day	Parish Eucharist	10.30am
April 30th	Easter 4	Group services -	see website
May 7th	Easter 5	Parish Eucharist (BCP)	10.30am
May 13th Sat.	Prayer Book Soc.	Evensong (BCP)	3.00pm
May 14th	Easter 6	Parish Eucharist	10.30am
May 18th	Ascension Day	Group services	see website
May 21st	Easter 7	Evensong (BCP)	6.30pm
May 28th	Day of Pentecost	Parish Eucharist	10.30am

St Mary's, Little Bentley

April 2nd Morning Prayer 11am

April 7th **Faure Requiem** (Deanery Choir) 6.30pm

April 16th Holy Communion 11am

May 7th Holy Communion 11am

May 21st Morning Prayer 11am

Services details for Dedham/Ardleigh, Moze, Lawford/Mistley
can be found on their websites.