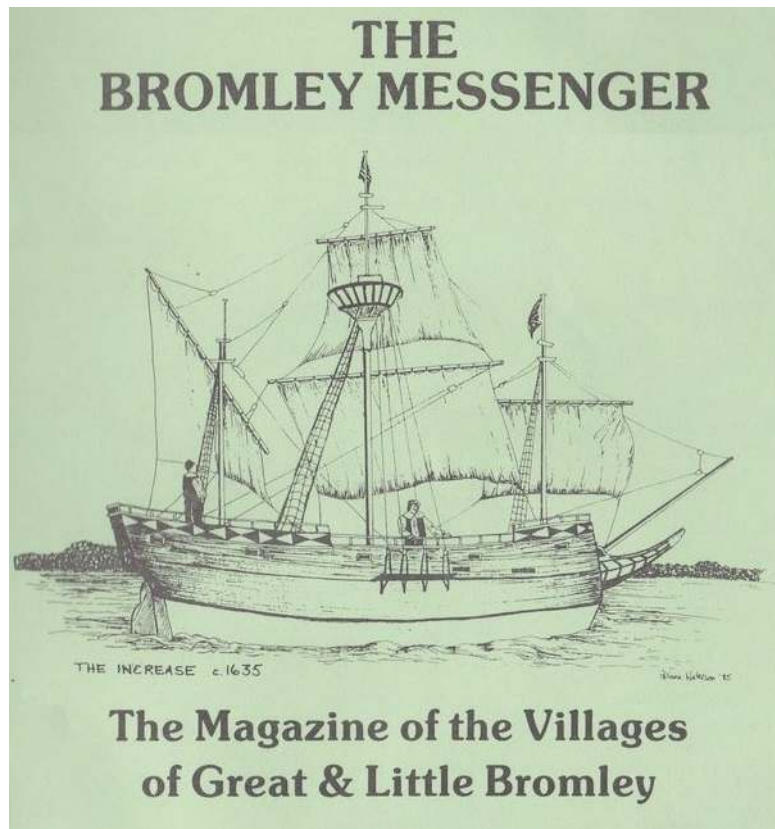


THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

The Magazine of the Villages of Great & Little Bromley
January to December 1991



These old magazines have been scanned and converted to text for historical reference
by Dr Hugh Frostick, Historian for Great and Little Bromley.
Tel: 07722 253962 Email: hugh@greatbromley.org.uk
December 2021

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ORGANISATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS IN THE VILLAGES

Police	PC Christopher Phillips, Police House, Chase Rd	250369
Gt. Bromley Parish Council	Mr H.P. Booty, Church Cottage	230473
Lt. Bromley Parish Council	Mr R.T.M Poulter, Rivoy, Shop Rd, Lt. Bromley	393445
Essex County Council	Cllr D. Pallett, 15 Lushington Ave, Manningtree	395500
Tendring District Council	Cllr Ann Elvin, Paynes Farm, Ravens Green Lt Bentley	251179
S. George's School	Headmistress Mrs P. Fitzgerald	230305
Manningtree School PTA	Mr R. Knott, Paynes Cottage, Lt. Bromley	393787
	Mrs C. McGuinness, 3 S. Georges Close	230671
Parish Church	The Rector, The Rectory	230344
Burnt Heath Methodist Ch.	Mrs G. Newman, Old House, West St, Wivenhoe	226178
Balls Green Methodist Ch.	Mr W. J. Sparrow, 21 Meadow Close	
Lt. Bromley Methodist Ch.	Mr R. Whitman, Wheatfields Lt. Bromley	392927
Methodist Minister	Rev. John Robinson, 4A Ladysmith Ave, Brightlingsea	302170
St. George's Repair Fund	Mr R. Harding, The Hollies, Colchester Rd	230425
Village Hall Committee	Mrs A. Rowe, Harris Farm	230398
Badminton Club	Mrs J. Golding, Meadowcroft, Kings Farm	251027
Cricket Club	Mrs L. Allam, Bluegates Farm	230375
Men's Club	Mr G. Hurst, Arethusa, Ardleigh Rd.	230578
Friendship Club	Mrs M. Purkis, 'Bondi' Clacton Rd, Elmstead	222715
Women's Institute	Mrs P. Birch, 1 Rose Cottage, Crockleford Lane	230643
Ladies Circle	Mrs C. Simons, 4 Meadow Close	250163
Playgroup	Mrs A. Rowe, Harris Farm	230398
Garden Club	Mrs R. Field, 5 Springfield Close	230746
Carpet Bowls Club	Mrs G. Hubbard, Hiskeys Farm	393274
Carnival Association	Mrs L. Pinhey, Forge Cottage	230126
S. George's Youth Club	Mrs. Suzanne Abbott, Fir Tree Cott, Cowey Green	230659
Bromley Folk Dancers	Mr. R. Mears, Meronash, Colchester Rd	231041
Playing Field Committee	Mrs Eileen Fowler, 'Ronleen' Mary Lane South	250300
Pantomime Group	Mrs B. Rowe, 2 Hall Cottages	231067
Bromley Buskers	Mr P. Wenden, The Pippins, Burnt Heath	230613
Gt. Bromley Guides	Mrs J. Terry, The Nook, Colchester Road	230385
Gt. Bromley Brownies	Mrs L. Henderson, Badley Hall	231262
1 st Ardleigh Scout Group	Mr J. Terry, The Nook, Colchester Road	230490
Hamilton Lodge Vol. Ass.	Mrs M. Hart, Pondfield, Parsons Hill	230419
Civil Protection Contact	Mrs I.D. Anderson, 8 Meadow Close	251091
Essex Co. Standard Corr.	Mrs V. Biddis, Berriedale	230506
East Anglian Daily Times Corr.	Mr S West, Fryerning, Hall Road	230584
Local History Recorder	Mrs I. Wilkinson, 11 Meadow Close-	250287
Treasurer, Bromley Messenger	Mr L. Christodoulides, Magnolia House Bromley Road, Frating	251264

THE PARISH OF THE BROMLEYS

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P.C.C. SECRETARY: Mrs Andrena Catesby, Larkrise, Fairfield Close Tel. 251919

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SERVICES:

Sundays: 8.00am Holy Communion 9.45am Children's Service 10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evening Service (3rd Sunday in the Chapel of Seven Rivers Home)

Monday: 7.00pm Choir Practise

Weekdays: 6.00pm Evensong (except Fridays)

HOLY BAPTISM and MARRIAGES: by arrangement with the Rector.

The SICK and HOUSEBOUND:

Please inform the Rector of any who are sick, in hospital or housebound. The Blessed Sacrament is always available to be taken to any person who wishes it.

Editor; to whom all contributions should be sent - the Rector.

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The Bromley Messenger January 1991.

Another New Year commences, 1991, the first year of the last decade of the twentieth century.

We would like to wish all our readers a very happy and prosperous New Year.

It is always a pleasure to talk to new residents and to hear of their comments on life in The Bromleys. Most of the comments refer to the real friendship they experience here, and surprise at the number of activities, organisations and events which occur throughout the year. 1990 was a very busy year, no doubt 1991 will be no different. Do not forget if you are organising any event to give notice of it so that it may be publicised in the 'Messenger'. We are always pleased to receive notice of events and contributions of any sort.

This month we are sponsored by Cheeseman's, T.V., Hi-Fi and Video dealers of Sir Isaacs Walk, Colchester. We thank them for their kind support of this publication.

Can all contributions for the February edition reach the Rectory by Monday, 13th January, please.

THE VILLAGE SIGN, GREAT BROMLEY.

For the past two years residents of Hamilton Lodge have tried to cultivate and keep tidy the grass and garden which surround the Village Sign near the Post Office. Unfortunately, owing to having to decrease staffing levels, Hamilton Lodge regrets that they can no longer under this task. We would like to thank them for their efforts to make the village tidy, but it does mean that we will have to find someone else who could undertake this task. If any reader could help please contact Mr. Henry Fairley at Park Farm (250229) or the Rector and I will gladly pass on names.

[Cheeseman Advert – Bang & Olufsen]

S. GEORGES'S CHURCH NEWS.

Sunday School. For some time now attendance at the Sunday School has been very small, and we are looking at new ways in which to make it more appealing and attractive. Although we are **not** closing the Sunday School, its start after Christmass is being delayed for a little time to enable us to prepare for a new start. The opening date will be announced on the Church and Village noticeboards; we hope it will be before the end of the month. We hope that in the meantime children will still be encouraged to come to the Sunday morning service when there will be adults ready to sit with them, welcome them and help them during the service.

There will be a Coffee Morning in the Rectory on Saturday, 26th January, from 10.00 am to Noon, to endeavour to provide funds for the purchase of bibles to be placed in the pews so that those who attend the services can follow the readings.

The next meeting of the Parochial Church Council will take place on Thursday, 17th January at 7.30pm in S. George's Church. This meeting, at which the matter of the proposed ordination of women will be discussed, is open to all members of the Electoral Roll. All who attend the meeting may express their views, but only members of the Council may vote on any resolution which will be put to the meeting.

Decade of Evangelism. I am asking members of the congregation to pray regularly for the parish by using a prayer card with all the roads in the villages set against different days of the month, thus enabling us to pray for everyone in the parish once each month. There are copies of the prayer card in the church for any who may like to have one. There is to be a service to launch the Decade in Castle Methodist Church, Colchester on Wednesday, 30th January at 8.00pm. I hope that the parish will be well represented at this service.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

We send our good wishes to everyone for the New Year. Our entertainment group, now to be known as the Friendship Players, entertained the Women's Institute at their Christmas party. The speaker for the January meeting will be Mr. Peter Rowe who will be showing us some of his excellent slides. The competition: a winter scene photograph. *Mildred Purkis.*

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Happy New Year to you all. Our next meeting on 3rd January is our Annual General Meeting at the home of Mrs. Field at 7.30pm. Do come along so that we can, together, discuss the events of

the year past and to come. February's meeting is in the Cheshire Home Chapel at 7.30pm. Mr. Canham is speaking to us about flowering shrubs, a subject of interest to most of us. We will welcome any new members, so do come along if you are interested. *R. F. Field.*

ESSEX VILLAGE VENTURES COMPETITION 1991

Supporting and encouraging new voluntary initiatives in the rural communities of Essex. Sponsored by Shell Uk Ltd and the Rural Development Commission
Win a cash prize for your village. [etc]

BROWNIES.

Recently we said goodbye to Fox our Unit Helper, whose presence is much missed by us all. Good luck to her in her new job. The Brownies have been busy since half-term making and printing Christmas cards for friends, as well as preparing and making the-sideshows for the Open Evening which was held on the last meeting of the term.

At the Open Evening we had a splendid turnout of parents and friends during which Aniela, Sarah L, Sophie, Alison, Chloe, Hannah and Lindsay acted as hostesses. They each earned their Hostess Badge for preparing for, and helping during the evening. Squirrel renewed her Promise before the Brownies rounded off the evening with a selection of songs. The profit of £33 is going to SENSE, a charity for the National Deaf-Blind and Rubella Association. Thank you everyone who came or took part to make the occasion such a success.

Brownies start again on Thursday, 17th January, 1991, and we wish everyone a very happy and peaceful New Year. *Brown Owl.*

WOMEN'S INSTTTUTE.

Following our Annual fleeting we have elected June Willgress as our President. Mrs. Phil Burch continues as Secretary and Hrs. Rita Baxter is Treasurer.

We enjoyed a splendid Christmas Party meeting in December where we were entertained by the Friendship Players whose excellent show gave us plenty of laughs and a chance to sing old favourites.

We have an exciting programme for 1991. January's speaker is Mr. Randal on 'Chairs to Mend' and other cries of old London. In February Mr. Ian Rose will show us slides of wild flowers of Suffolk, followed in March by a talk on conservation.

Our annual subscription is £7.50 for twelve meetings which are on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Visitors are always welcome: come and enjoy a warm welcome, lively meeting and super refreshments!

OUR HOMES.

I wonder which is the oldest dwelling in the parish? In many cases the amenities of comfortable living today conceal, or even deliberately reveal as decorative, the core of an ancient building. A humble two up and two down cottage has raised the roof and spread sideways, a small farmhouse has added a storey and grown wings. If your house has a history would you let us know? A happy New Year to everyone. *I. Wilkinson.*

GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

We are holding our Annual General Meeting on 17th January, 1991, at the Village Hall commencing at 8 pm. All are welcome to attend. A total of £150.45 was raised at our recent coffee morning; our thanks to all who supported us.

CHRISTMAS SALE.

On behalf of Great Bromley Women's Institute and Village Hall Association I would like to thank all who helped prior to, and on the day. Also thank you to all who donated items for sale and raffle prizes. The profit for each organisation was £336.34. *Jean Wright.*

THE GARDEN IN JANUARY.

This is the month to examine trees and shrubs for untidy and diseased branches that have been broken down with wind and the snow of December. Hard prune hawthorne and privet hedges in mild weather. Start sowing in a propagater some early seeds, geranium, lobelia, pansy etc., also

some early vegetables such as broad beans, early pea and lettuce. Give them frame protection until the spring.

Watch houseplants on window sills for frost and also greenfly, water very sparingly. Continue the pruning of apples and pears, greaseband if possible to stop codling moth grubs climbing up the trunk ready to strike at blossom time. Cotton also against bullfinches who will strip a tree of fruit buds in a day. Keep the spade going and as your back begins to ache I wish you all a happy New Year. *Fred Wickham.*

CENSUS 1991.

You can help to plan our future. I am looking for Census Enumerators to work on a part-time basis delivering and collecting census forms. You will cover up to 250 households. You can apply if you are unemployed, a housewife, Student or recently retired. You may even be working and have some spare time. You must be reasonably fit, be able to communicate easily and have access to a telephone. For around two weeks work, mainly in the evenings and weekends in April, you can earn at least £233. For more information and application form please contact me, your local census officer, Ann Brittain on Great Bentley 251704.

KITCHEN CORNER.

This month a light lunch or supper dish which would make a good contrast to rich Christmas fare.

Smoked Haddock and Cheese Cocottes.

½ lb smoked haddock fillet, fresh or frozen.

8 oz carton cottage cheese

1 onion peeled and finely chopped

4 oz mushrooms chopped

2 eggs beaten

Juice of 1 small lemon and salt and pepper

Cook haddock in water for 3-8 minutes until soft and drain well. Flake the Fish and mix with other ingredients. Divide mixture between four well-greased individual oven-proof dishes. Stand in a baking tin of warm water and cook at 350F for about forty mins until cooked and firm to the touch. Garnish with parsley sprigs and slices of lemon. This serves four. *Jill Frostick*

GUIDES.

Preparations have continued apace for our European evening which will be a past event by the time you read this. We have had two visitors to our meetings. Mrs. Abbott kindly talked about her home country, Czechoslovakia, and the folk art and Christmas decorations. She brought enough material for us all to have a try which was much appreciated. Liz Rown the Link International representative, joined us for a meeting and talked about the make-up of the EEC and then she helped with the rest of the evening.

The Daffodils have printed their own headed paper and used some of it for invitations and both patrols have done a good turn for the residents of the Cheshire Home by wrapping Christmas presents for those who needed this service.

Ellie, a Brownie, joined us for that evening to see what guides 'do'. Both patrols have also had their own patrol meetings, one of which ended with Adam, Eve and Cain snowpeople being built in Church Meadow.

Our sadness is that Hannah has decided not to come to meetings until after Easter when she has some music exams. We wish you well Hannah and look forward to your return. *Jazz.*

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday, 6th January Balls Green 11.00am Mr. Clow

Sunday, 13th January Burnt Heath 11.00am Revd. Robinson

Sunday, 20th January Elmstead 11.00am Mr. Rhodes

Sunday, 27th January Balls Green 11.00am Mr. Mountenay

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH REGISTERS.

Holy Matrimony

15th December Kenneth William Robinson and Nicola Clare Roberts .

Burials and Cremations

27th November Dennis Thomas Chick of Seven Rivers Home, buried in S. George's churchyard.
13th December Stanley James Lane, formerly of Back Lane East, cremated at Colchester Crematorium.
17th December Amelia Ellen Sams of Ransom Court, Harwich Road, cremated at Colchester Crematorium.

DONATIONS TO S. GEORGE'S REPAIR FUND.

I would like to acknowledge the generosity of all those who attended the concert in church given by the Choir of The Church of the Annunciation, Marble Arch, which made it possible to give the sum of £639.30 to the Repair Fund, being the total receipts of the event. Our thanks also go to Jill and Gregory Frostick who organised the concert and of course to the Choir for such a lovely evening.

Once again I offer my most grateful thanks to The Bromley Buskers who have made a further donation of £200 to the Fund. Their support of the repairs to the church has been much appreciated. *Rector.*

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

Our congratulations go to Mrs. Fitzgerald, her staff and of course, all the children for the delightful and so well presented Nativity Play. It is remarkable to note that every child in the school from 5-11 took part!

The Bromley Messenger February 1991.

A certain feeling of fear and foreboding fills my mind as I write this editorial, a feeling similar to one felt by many people in September 1939. The thought of an imminent war in the Gulf is a very serious matter, made all the worse when we contemplate the sophisticated modern weaponry now available to all sides. It is uncertain at the moment how this conflict will develop. One thing is certain, that it will have a profound effect on all in this country and the world. Those serving in the Forces will have to hear the brunt of suffering, but no one will be spared being involved in the effects of such a catastrophe. No one, particularly people brought up with Christian teaching, can glorify war; no one can claim it is anything but going against the will of God for man to take up arms against another. Even in the darkest hours of conflict there must always be an urgent and insistent seeking after peace and justice. There may be little we can do ourselves in these two villages, none of us are statesmen, politicians or military leaders, but there is one thing that we can do, whoever we may be and that is to pray for peace and understanding. Each Sunday, and every weekday when Evensong is said, prayers for peace will be offered in S. George's Church, and I invite you all to join, if not in church, then in the privacy of your own homes. There are many suitable prayers but the one I append below will be used at all services and can be used privately:

O almighty God, who art a strong tower to all them that put their trust in Thee, be now and evermore our defence; grant peace to this said world; look in pity upon the wounded and the prisoners; cheer the anxious; comfort the bereaved; succour the dying; have mercy on the fallen; and hasten the time when war shall be no more, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Our thanks go to W. H. Shepherd Funeral Furnishing Services Ltd., for their kindness in sponsoring this edition of 'The Messenger'.

Contributions for the March edition should be sent to the Rector by Monday, 11th February please.

THE MESSENGER.

Over the past few months the number of contributions for The Messenger has decreased. Without reports, articles etc., it is not possible to continue publication. Please do not allow the magazine to fade away. The more contributions we receive the better, and do not forget, they do not necessarily have to be about organisations and activities, they can be articles of general interest, and letters.

From time to time we receive donations from residents, readers and organisations. This month I gladly acknowledge donations from the Garden Club and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Cooper, formerly of Great Bromley. When we started publication Mrs. Jill Frostick agreed to supply a monthly 'Kitchen Corner', Mr. Fred Wickham a 'Garden Corner' and Mrs. Wilkinson a 'History Column'. We are most grateful to them for their articles, and the regularity with which they are able to produce their notes. I am sure that readers enjoy these contributions. Mrs. Wilkinson now feels that she can no longer continue to write her column and I thank her most sincerely for her most interesting articles which will be sadly missed. In order to maintain this historical interest Mr. John Appleby has agreed to take over this column and his first contribution will appear next month.

Incidentally, can anyone answer the question posed by Mrs. Wilkinson on her last column. 'Which is the oldest dwelling in Great or Little Bromley?' Please let us know if your house, or one that you know has an interesting history.

THE PARISH CHURCH.

From time to time there will be included with The Messenger, an insert from the Parish Church with news and articles of a particular Church nature. This will be printed on a different colour paper and will be paid for by the Parochial Church Council. The first of these is included with this month's edition of The Messenger.

OBITUARIES.

Mrs. Ethel May Young. Her many friends and members of the Friendship Club were saddened to hear of the sudden death in her sleep of Mrs. Young of Back Lane. She had lived in the village for many years before coming to Back Lane seventeen years ago. She and her husband had a small market garden with a vegetable and fruit round at Burnt Heath which they both ran from 1935 until 1973. Sadly, three days after Mrs. Young's death, her elder sister, Mrs. Emily Copsey also

died at a Rest Home in Clacton. There was a double funeral and committal service for both of them at Colchester Crematorium on 15th January.

Mrs. Ada Dorothy Harding. At the very great age of 102 years Mrs. Harding, the mother of Mr. Robert Harding, died peacefully on 10th January. Although she never lived in the parish she was very well known to many parishioners. She was born in the year after Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee, and lived through the reigns of six monarchs. Our sympathy goes to Robert, Jean his wife, and their family, in their loss. We pray that they all may rest in peace.

GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

We are holding a book sale on Saturday, 23rd February from 2.00pm until 4.00pm at the Village Hall. Refreshments will be available and we hope to see you there.

GREAT BROMLEY PLAYGROUP.

The Playgroup is still going strong with many new mothers and toddlers joining us on Wednesday mornings. At the end of last year the older children enjoyed dancing sessions with Debbie Miller. Several of the Committee members have enrolled in a six-week first aid course which we are sure will be useful. Monday mornings are full now and we are looking for someone to take the PSY course and to join Eve and Carol in running the playgroup, anyone who is interested please contact Amanda Rowe on Colchester 230398, or pop into the playgroup one morning. We send best wishes to Jamie and Nikki who are now settling down at school; and a welcome to our newest member, Alice, born on 20th December, 1990. *Amanda Rowe.*

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 7th February from 7.30pm in the Chapel at the Cheshire Home. Mr. S. Canham of Ipswich will be speaking to us about flowering shrubs so please have your questions ready if you should need advice on the cultivation of these. The Chairman asks if any anyone has any bricks to spare would they kindly leave them near the Village Hall Sign, by the Post Office. The Garden Club has undertaken to look after, and plant out the plot around the Village Sign. Mrs. Field says she will continue as Secretary for a further year as no-one came forward to take up this position at the AGM. *R. F. Field.*

GREAT BROMLEY AND DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB. '100 Club' Lottery.

The winners for the month of November were:

1st Mrs. Y. Cobbold, 2nd Mrs. C. Simons and 3rd Mr. M. Hall.

The winners for the month of December were:

1st Mr. J. Boulton, 2nd Mr. G. Smith and 3rd. Mr. M. Perry.

The next draw will be held on 30th January at the Black Boy.

THE GARDEN IN FEBRUARY.

If worm casts in the lawn are a nuisance on dry days brush with a birch broom to scatter them. Rooted suckers of various shrubs can be severed and planted out, shrubs for terraces may be planted in containers. Cut back badly overgrown or leggy hedges to near ground level to encourage new bushy growth. Annual pruning of roses can be carried out in mild or sheltered gardens. Fork over the perennial borders and remove all the dead stems, also new plants may still be planted and older ones divided.

Finish potting up and planting lilies, also sprinkle slug pellets amend the rock plants, destroy slugs each morning as they can recover during wet spells. Complete routine pruning of established fruit trees and burn all prunings. Get seed potatoes and stand in trays in a frost-free greenhouse or shed to give nice shoots when planting. *Fred Wickham.*

KITCHEN CORNER.

Warming soups are always welcome in wintry weather.

Here is one from Jane Grigson, the well-known cookery writer who died recently.

Curried Parsnip Soup

1 heaped tbsp coriander seeds

1 level tsp cumin seed

1 dried red chilli or ½ tsp chilli flakes

1 rounded tsp ground turmeric

¼ tsp ground fengreek
1 medium onion, chopped
1 large parsnip, peeled and cut up
2 heaped tbsp butter
1 tbsp flour
2 pints beef stock
¼ pint cream
Chopped chives or parsley.

Grind together first five ingredients in a coffee mill, or pound in a mortar. Keep mixture in a small jar. You will not need it all for this recipe but can use it up for lentils or apinach. Cook onion, garlic and parsnip in the butter with lid on the pan and low heat for ten minutes. Stir in the flour and 1 tbsp of spice mixture. Cook two minutes stirring occasionally. Gradually add stock and cook until. parsnip is really tender. Puree in blender, dilute with water to taste. Correct seasoning, re- heat, add cream and serve scattered with chives or parsley. (You can of course, cheat and use bought curry powder!) *Jill Frostick.*

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday, 3rd February Burnt Heath 11.00am Mr. Banyard
Sunday, 10th February Elmstead 11.00am Revd. Robinson
Sunday, 17th February Balls Green 11.00am Chief Olufalabi
Sunday, 24th February Burnt Heath 11.00am Mr. Evans

CHURCH REGISTERS S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

Burials and cremations.

2nd January Stanley James Lane Burial of ashes
15th January Ethel May Young Cremation at Colchester Crematorium
15th January Emily Maria Copsey Cremation at Colchester Crematorium
19th January Ada Dorothy Harding Burial in S. George's Churchyard

S. GEORGE'S YOUTH GROUPS.

Meetings have now been resumed each Wednesday in Saint George's School. The Junior Group meets at 6.15pm and the Senior Group at 7.30pm. There will be no meeting on Wednesday, 13th February (School half-term).

On Sunday, 10th February at 6.30pm in S. George's church there will be another Youth Service at which we hope that members of the two groups will take part. All friends and families are warmly invited to come and take part.

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

Our congratulations go to the Pantomime Group for their most successful production of 'Humpty Dumpty'. As a result of the Charity Performance and certain donations a cheque for £805 has been sent to the Haven Children's Hospice, Cambridge. Well done everybody. We all look forward to the 1992 production.

W.H. Shephard Colchester's Longest Est. Funeral Directors COLCHESTER 572305

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L.W. Kemble Established 1850 WIVENHOE 2880 BRIGHTLINGSEA 2277

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Private Chapels of Rest , 24 HOUR ATTENTION

OCCASIONAL PAPER NUMBER 1 - FEBRUARY 1991

This paper, to be produced several times a year, and to be included with the Messenger, is intended to give the news from the parish church, together with comment on current Christian concerns. The Decade of Evangelism on which we have now embarked challenges Christians to bear witness to their faith and to present the Christian message to those among whom they live. My hope is that not only members of the church, but also all who read the Messenger, will read this bulletin and be encouraged by it to develop Christian lives.

THE CHURCH AND YOU.

All of us belong to a family, most of us belong to some or other of the many organisations, societies and groups which claim our membership. Groups and societies have one thing in common, they exist for the sake of their members. A Tiddleywink Club exists to enable its members to play tiddlewinks, a cookery club exists to enable its members to perfect their culinary skills. They require that people who wish to join have an interest in the activities of the club. It would be unthinkable for a Communist to join a Conservative society! There are doors and barriers to prevent the wrong people from joining.

Although the church is a family, and although we talk of members of the church, and although it exists in order to join together in the worship of God, it is a completely open society. It exists strangely, not for the benefit of its members, but for the benefit of those who do not belong to it. There are no doors or barriers, all are welcome, no questions are asked about motives and interests. Its whole ethos is based on the Love of God as shown to mankind in Holy scripture. Jesus said 'Go into the world, preach the gospel to every person'. He did not tell his followers to set up a narrow, closed society for the specially pious.

This means that God is for YOU, this means that there is always a welcome at the church for YOU, this means that every person who goes to church is just as important as everybody else.

AND NOW FOR SOME EXCITING NEWS!

At its last meeting the Parochial Church Council decided to go ahead with the planning of A MISSION to be held in the parish from Wednesday, 6th May, 1993 until Sunday, 15th May. The mission will start with a service in S. George's Church on Wednesday evening 6th May, when we hope that the Bishop of Colchester will be present to commission the missionaries, and will reach its climax at the Annual Rogation Service on Sunday, 15th May, which will be held at one of the farms in the parish.

The Mission will be led by Father Aidan Mayoss, of the Community of the Resurrection, assisted by a team of six to eight assistant missionaries. Many of the congregation, and members of the PCC, will remember that Father Mayoss came to visit the parish in January of last year. At its next meeting the PCC will appoint a Mission Planning Committee and they, advised by the missionaries, will present the plans for the mission in the Autumn of this year. Although the mission is two years away, the time is necessary for the careful preparation which is so important. During this two-year period I hope that every member of the congregation will become involved in some way or other in working for a successful outcome of this plan. The most important work any of us can do is to pray for God's blessing on this endeavour. Its principal aim will be to carry out Our Lord's command to His disciples 'to preach the gospel to all people. In the next issue of this Newsletter I hope to have a message from Fr. Mayoss, outlining his hopes for the mission.

THE COMMUNITY OF THE RESURRECTION.

Some might wonder what this organisation is of which Father Mayoss is a member. It is a community of monks, priests and laymen, all members of the Church of England, who, living by a monastic rule, serve God in a very special way. They all live in one of the Community Houses, they are all celibate (unmarried) and they work wherever the Superior of the Community asks them. Most of the members live and work at the main house of the Community at Mirfield in Yorkshire where the Community was founded in the 19th century by Bishop Halter Frere, one time Bishop of Truro. The community also runs a Retreat House at Hemingford Grey in Huntingdonshire, and has Houses and a great deal of work in South Africa where it takes very seriously the responsibility to see that all people of whatever colour or race, are treated equally as the children of God. Fr. Mayoss, a member of the Community since 1964, worked in South Africa from 1973 to 1975 and is now the Director of the Fraternity, laypeople who live all over

the country who actively support the work of the Community. The Community is only one of a number of Communities of monks and nuns in the Church of England.

CONFIRMATION.

In Confirmation, people who wish to take the practise of their faith seriously can CONFIRM the promises made for them at their Baptism by Godparents, to make Christ the centre of their lives, to repent for sinfulness, to renounce wrong living and to believe and trust in God the Father who made the world, in Jesus Christ His Son who gave His life for the world, and God the Holy Spirit who gives us all the power and strength to live in the world. It is customary for those wishing to be confirmed to undergo a course of instruction in the basic beliefs of the Christian faith. Some years ago most confirmation candidates were young people in their teens, now it is much more common for adults to offer themselves, and for young people who are active in their church membership to be confirmed at about the age of eleven or twelve. The Bishop of Colchester will be holding a Confirmation Service for parishes in the Deanery of Harwich on WEDNESDAY, 17th JULY in MISTLEY PARISH CHURCH. I already know of some people, young and adult, who wish to be confirmed and I will be commencing a course of instruction in March. I will be very pleased to hear of any persons who would like to take part in this, or who would just like to discuss the possibility without any definite commitment. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested.

LENT.

Lent commences this year on ASH WEDNESDAY, 13th FEBRUARY. There will be a service of Holy Communion with the imposition of Ashes at 7.30pm in S. George's church. At this service ashes from last year's Palm Crosses are placed on the foreheads of the congregation in the shape of a cross, just as water is at Baptism, as a visible reminder of our mortality and allegiance to Christ. A good custom which we have not hitherto used is for members of the congregation to bring back to church on the Sunday before Lent, Quinquagesima Sunday, the Palm Cross they received [last?] year. Perhaps we could revive this practise this year. On Sunday, 10th February, Palm Crosses will be collected together with the Offertory.

The day before Ash Wednesday is Shrove Tuesday when we eat pancakes. This is to use up all the rich foods we have in our larders and is a reminder that Lent is a time of fasting. It would be good for our souls if we all tried to keep a fast this year during Lent, perhaps by observing the ancient custom of abstaining from meat on Fridays. On the Sundays in Lent there will be courses of addresses at both morning and evening services and also a weekly Lenten service. Details of these will be published in a special Lenten Leaflet which will be available in the church on the first Sunday in February.

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

(This was accidentally omitted from the Messenger).

The Leigh Singers will be entertaining us at our February meeting, and to give us a glimpse of happy things ahead, the competition is a Spring Posy in an eggcup. Advance notice: (please note other organisations) Our Spring Sale is to be held On Saturday, 27th April in the Village Hall.

The Bromley Messenger March 1991.

As reported on another page the Parish Assembly takes place on Thursday, 21st March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Among other items the meeting will be asked to talk about the Bromley Messenger. The Treasurer will present his accounts and hopefully, there will be a discussion on the future of the magazine. We have now been running for almost six years and have, we understand from readers, provided a helpful method of communication for the villages. It might be that it is time to have a rethink and consider how The Messenger can be improved. It might be that there are people in the villages who would like, and be able to help in its production. If you have any ideas or have any help to offer, please come to the Parish Assembly and help us to plan for the Coming year.

Material, articles and contributions for the April issue should reach the editor at the Rectory by Wednesday, 13th March please. This month we are sponsored by Greenacre Cattery, Briar Road, and T&F Motors, Horsley Cross. Our grateful thanks go to them for their help in enabling this production to be published.

THANK YOU.

I am sure that all in the villages would like to thank the local farmers, the Tendring Council staff and all who have helped to keep the roads and lanes clear during the great snow and very cold weather of February. Also thanks to all who have acted as good neighbours and cared for, and helped, those who have been 'shut in' on account of the weather. Although the younger members of the community have thoroughly enjoyed the snow, for many and especially the elderly it was a time of great difficulty and problems.

All who have been helped in any way are I know, most grateful for the help they have received.

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S. GEORGE'S YOUTH CLUBS.

The last meeting of this term will be on Wednesday, 20th March and the Summer Term will recommence on Wednesday, 10th April. A variety of interesting activities have taken place this term including the making of face masks and the manufacture of a volley-ball net from baling twine! The number of youngsters who continue regularly is most encouraging; the leadership offered by Suzanne Abbott and Richard Davy and the other helpers is most appreciated.

It was a pity that the bad weather caused the cancellation of the Youth Service which had been planned. There will be another during the summer term. The Youth Club has quite a lot of equipment, some of it like the table-tennis table and the billiards table are somewhat large and bulky. At the moment Suzanne Abbott stores this at her house and it has to be transported to the school each Wednesday. We would very much like to have some storage at the school if it is at all possible. We wonder if any person in the village has a large shed which they no longer use which could be dismantled and re-erected in the school grounds. If one were to be found that is large enough, it could also be used for the storage of some of the school sports equipment. If anyone could help please contact Richard Davy, Dovetails, Mary Lane South or the Rector.

THE VILLAGE SIGN.

In the January edition of the Messenger we asked if anyone could undertake the care of the little green around the Village Sign near the Post Office. I am very pleased to say that the Garden Club immediately offered their services and are already now drawing up plans for the beautifying of this area. Their offer is much appreciated.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

The Family Service for March, usually on the first Sunday of the month, will be on the second Sunday, 10th March, Mothering Sunday. At this service posies of flowers will be blessed and given to the younger members of the congregation to give to their mothers. I do hope that this will be a real family service with all the members of families coming to thank God for their happy family life.

The special services from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday are as follows:

Palm Sunday 24th March 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Parish Communion and Blessing Palm Crosses

6.30pm Evensong

Tuesday 10.30am Holy Communion in Church

Wednesday 7.30pm Holy Communion in the Chapel, Seven Rivers Home

Maundy Thursday 7.30pm The night of the Last Supper. Holy Communion and stripping of the altars and a watch of prayer

Good Friday 10.30am Worship at the Cross with Holy Communion

7.30pm Readings, hymns and music for Holy Week

Holy Saturday, Easter Eve 8.00pm The Blessing of the Paschal (Easter) candle and preparation for Easter

Easter Day 31st March 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Parish Communion and the Blessing and distribution of Easter Eggs

6.30pm Vestal Evensong

It is a rule of the Church of England that all who have been confirmed must receive Holy Communion at Easter.

HELP WANTED.

Mr. and Mrs. Booty have told me that they will not be able to care for the churchyard grass in the coming season. Last year they did a really splendid job and the churchyard looked neater and better kept than it has for a long time. We are most grateful to them for their help. However, we so need someone, or some persons, who can continue their good work. If you can help please contact the Rector as soon as possible. The Parochial Church Council are able to pay for this at the rate of £2 per hour.

THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL.

By law we are required to revise the Parish Electoral Roll each year. This year the revision will take place between 17th and 31st March. A copy of the Roll will be on the table at the back of the church from 3rd March, together with a supply of application forms. If your name is not on the list and you would like to be included please complete a form and return it to the Rector or the Electoral Roll Officer, Commander Tony Catesby, 9 Fairfield Close, Great Bromley. The revised Roll will be published on Sunday, 7th April and will be used at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 16th April. At this meeting two churchwardens are to be elected to serve for the coming year and twelve members of the Parochial Church Council. Only those whose names are on the Electoral Roll may take part in this meeting and be elected to any office.

METHODIST SERVICES - MARCH.

Sunday 3rd Elmstead Market 11.00am Mr. L. Polley

Sunday 10th Balls Green 11.00am Mr. D. Green

Sunday 17th Burnt Heath 11.00am Mr. D. Watts

Sunday 24th Elmstead Market 11.00am Revd. Robinson

Sunday 31st Balls Green 11.00am Revd. Robinson Easter Day

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Mr. Randell of Colchester will be coming to demonstrate and talk about 'Chairs to Mend' at our March meeting on Thursday, 21st. Raffle tickets are now available for the Spring Sale. We would be grateful for any gifts suitable for the various stalls. Collection can be arranged. Thank you.

Mildred Purkis

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

What a pity that because of weather conditions, we were unable to have Mr. Canham to speak to us about flowering shrubs. We must ask him to come another time. Our next meeting is on Thursday, 7th March in the Cheshire Home Chapel. Mrs. Bird of Rooster Nurseries is to speak about fuchsias and will bring cuttings. Do not forget that your annual subscriptions are now due. *R. F. Field*

BLUE PETER ROMANIA APPEAL.

Claire Taylor and Charlotte Knappett would like to thank all the people who supported the recent Bring-and-Buy Sale held at Brundells Farm. This very successful event plus private donations, raised £120.21. During the following week a raffle was held at the school for a Giant Teddy Bear which had also been donated to the appeal. raising a further £10.70. A cheque for £130.91 has been sent. Well done girls!

PARISH COUNCIL.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 21st March at the Village Hall commencing at 7.00pm. At 7.45pm the ANNUAL ASSEMBLY will commence. The speaker will be Brig. M. E. M. MacWilliam who will take on 'The Work of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England in Essex' and he will illustrate this with the use of slides. There will also be an opportunity for questions to be put to Brig. MacWilliam.

The Annual Assembly is an opportunity for parishioners to raise any points which they see as affecting the Village and all parishioners are invited to attend.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

Notices regarding the election of councillors to the Parish Council which take place in May, have been placed on the Notice Boards outside the school and in the Village Hall. Anyone interested in becoming a Parish Councillor may obtain further information from either the Clerk or any Parish Councillor.

GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

Only nine members braved the wintry weather to attend the February meeting, but the speaker Ian Rose, did not fail us and we enjoyed seeing his Slides of Suffolk flowers. It was a real treat with marvellous photographs taken in various habitats throughout Suffolk. We saw fields of fritillaires and orchids, many common and some rare specimens including a few that were quite unknown to the members. Mr. Rose also talked about conservation and woodland management and showed edible and poisonous fungi and also other wild life in the county.

Do not miss our April meeting which is open to all, husbands, friends and anyone interested in having a good evening's entertainment (free refreshments too!) Mrs. Lapwood will give a demonstration of ribboncraft and then we shall have a fun auction. Please bring a contribution if you like - anything welcome! We look forward to seeing you all on 3rd April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

The Committee held its first AGM on 7th January. Mrs. Doreen Bennington in the chair, welcomed those attending the meeting, particularly Mr. Henry Fairley and Mr. George Kempster of the Parish Council.

A special 'thank you' was accorded to Mr. Fairley and his family who have given so much help and support; also to Max and Brian who run the football training sessions for the youngsters of the village. Mrs. Bennington mentioned owners of dogs who allow their pets to foul the field, pointing out the dangers to young children. Whilst some facilities were provided already, it is hoped to purchase more seats, waste bins, netball posts and nets for the girls.

The secretary, Eileen Fowler, mentioned the boost given to us by Tendring District Council in supplying the play equipment at a cost of £14,000. Goal posts, nets etc., have been provided by our Committee. A lining-out machine for the pitch is on order. A donation of £10 is being made to the Bromley Messenger. Our thanks go to Mr. Peter Sauvery for the gift of £38.

Our thanks to all who have supported us, especially Dee Baxter who worked tirelessly whilst serving as Chairperson, to Stan West and Mrs. Biddis who report our events in the newspapers.

It is hoped to continue with our fund raising activities, a Craft Fayre is being discussed and do not forget our Book Sale. The Treasurer, Peter Mylam, gave a report on the financial position; present funds £835.91. The present Committee were re-elected en bloc and two members appointed; Mrs. Carole Ockenden and Mrs. Gertrude Grant.

GIRL GUIDES.

I did not manage to write last month so to bring you up to date we finally had our 'European Christmas' some parts of which were much more entertaining. At the end of the meeting Middle 'C' made her promise, a very special occasion. Helen and Elizabeth received their Laundress Badge which completed the Blue Trefoil for Elizabeth, blue candles held here for a promise renewal. The Country Dancer Badge and Fitness Emblem were presented to Eleanor who has now, with her Europe Badge, completed her BP Trefoil; well done to all of you.

Ellie has decided to join Guides, welcome Ellie. Helen has joined Rangers after going to both Guide and Ranger meetings for some months, this she found to be very hard. Thank you for all your loyalty Helen. Elizabeth and Zoe are now PL and Second of Swallows.

This year we have a fifteen minute slot of dancercise, it certainly warms us up and keeps the brain active as my memory seems to go blank midway. Based on last year's activities the Guides have been given a challenge to gain an individual badge by Easter. The Daffodils are going ice-skating this half-term and the Swallows swimming in Crown Pool. Several dates have been booked to include a summer camp, a Youth Hostel weekend, PL permit camping in gardens, a challenge weekend and Centrek Hikes and outings get fitted in as the year progresses. For fun and friendship give us a try. *Jazz*

KITCHEN CORNER.

Many readers of the Messenger will remember with affection Gladys Reagan who lived for a while in Mary Lane. She gave me this recipe for a deliciously light and nutritious carrot and hazelnut cake.

* * *

APOLOGIES Due to an unfortunate mishap page 10 of this issue was sadly mislaid somewhere between the Rectory typewriter and the printer. We apologise for not being able to print the recipe Jill Frostick wrote about in Kitchen Corner: we will endeavour to print it next month. This should have been followed by an article by Jean Harding suggesting some recently published books which are a good read, the final sentences of which are on page 11. Two of the books Jean mentioned were *Devices and Desires* by PD. James, a thriller set in Norfolk, recently broadcast on Anglia Television, and *A Year In Provence* by Peter Mayle, an hilarious description of an Englishman's first year living in a remote farmhouse in Provence: full of Gallic humour. Jean has promised further suggested reading lists for other months. To her and to Jill and to all our readers we offer our apologies for this lapse.

* * *

... many appear to be nowadays, with all the fun and the pitfalls. There is wonderful characterisation in this of the Provencal way of life and it is very light hearted reading. Maybe I will get on to something more serious next month! Under the new National Curriculum the reading ability of children from seven years old is to be tested and I shall be listing some of the titles recommended which I know personally are enjoyed by children. *Days with Frog and Toad* by Arnold Lobel (Puffin £2.99) is in large print, pictures on every page and just long enough for a very early reader. *Katie Morag and the two Grandmothers* by Mairi Hedderwick (Collins £2.50) is a great favourite and is helped by, but not essential, if the 'reader aloud' can put on a Scottish accent! Come on all you Scottish farmers! One Granny is a down-to-earth islander who is showing her sheep at the local (Tending?) show, and the other is rather a dainty 'towny' who comes to stay. I could go on for a long time but will save some more for next month. All these titles are available now and could be purchased or ordered through the Wivenhoe Bookshop (824050). Delivery can be arranged if requested, and notice given. *Jean Harding*

COFFEE MORNING AND BRING-AND-BUY SALE

to raise funds to purchase bibles to place in the pews in church will be held on Saturday 16th March at the rectory from 10.00am to 12 noon. Any gifts for the stall and offers of help will be appreciated. Please come!

S. GEORGE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL.

For some time now there has been concern that the Sunday School meetings ought to be replaced with a different, more modern approach. A suggestion is to have a regular Young Peoples Service at 9.45am each Sunday. At this service, which would be additional to the 10.30am service young people would take as much part as possible. It might be possible to find young people who could provide the musical accompaniment. If practical this would start in April. It would help if any comments, suggestions or offers of help with the service could be sent to the Rector. A final decision on setting this up will be published in next month's Messenger. If this is not possible to set up, we will revert to the normal traditional Sunday School.

THE MANORS, HALLS AND LORDS OF GREAT BROMLEY.

How we became connected with Colchester.

There were two halls and manors, Great Bromley Hall (now the Cheshire Home) and Cold Hall (now a farmstead). Before 1066 they were held by Bricmar, a Saxon theign. By 1085 it had passed to the ownership of King William I. In the reign of Henry II (1154-1189) the Hall was held by William de Langvlei who was warden of the great forests of Essex during the reign of Richard the Lion Heart, (1189-1199). On the accession of King John, William was made also Constable of Colchester Castle. How did he gain this honour? In 1165 King Henry was shot at by an enemy when his army was besieging Bridgenorth, but was saved by Hubert St Clare, then Constable of Colchester Castle, throwing himself in the path of the fatal arrow. On his death Henry II made Hubert's daughter a ward of court and gave her in marriage to William de Langvlei, together with her father's inheritance. In this way Great Bromley and the rest of Tendring became attached to the Office of Constable of Colchester Castle. William de Langvlei also held the manors of Lexden, Stanway and Hallingbury. He died in 1210. To be continued ... *John Appleby*

The Bromley Messenger April 1991.

Once again the time has come to renew our sponsors for the year commencing May 1991, and to revise the list of village organisations and associations inside the front cover of the Messenger. In order to bring this up to date, please can any alterations, amendments, additions or subtractions be sent to me at the Rectory before Wednesday, 10th April please. Also can I ask for any contributions and articles for the May issue to be sent to me by that date. Thank you everybody who has contributed articles in the past year; please keep them coming in the months ahead.

This month the Messenger is sponsored by a most welcome donation from The Bromley Buskers. Since their inception they have provided most welcome and generous donations to many village activities, not least to the Messenger. We thank them for their generosity, and for the fun and laughter they brought into the village. Now disbanded, we can tell their members how much very many people in the village, and beyond, appreciated their activities.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Our guest speaker for April is Mr. Charles Sellars who will be showing slides and talking about Canada. The competition - a decorated hard-boiled egg! Please remember our annual fund raising event, the Spring Sale on 27th April at 2.00pm in the Village Hall. There will be lots of bargains on the stalls. Cakes, jewellery, plants, books and toys, handicraft, nearly new, bric-a-brac, tombola, raffles, grocery, jumble and tea available. If you can provide any goods please contact Vera Biddis on 230506. Do come and thank you. *Mildred Purkis*

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY.

Last month collecting boxes were opened and the sum of £76.30 was paid into the Children's Society. Our thanks are due to all who support the valuable work of this Society in the field of child care. If there are any other boxes held by readers, can they please be passed to Mrs. Nancy Kempster, New House Farm, Great Bromley for opening.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL.

A reminder that the annual Flower Festival is to be held this year on Saturday and Sunday, 29th and 30th June. There is to be a planning meeting in S. George's church on Monday, 29th April at 7.30pm when the details of the theme 'The Decade of Evangelism' will be worked out. We hope that all who have helped in the past will come along, but a special welcome will be given to any new 'Helping Hands'.

PROPOSED POWER STATION - LITTLE BROMLEY/LAWFORD.

I am Clerk of Little Bromley Parish Council which is opposed to the project, but in my private capacity I intend to start an action group to coordinate opposition to the power station. I am a commercial lawyer (albeit not on planning matters) and I have already begun the task of assembling information. If anyone is interested in registering their opposition to the scheme, there are a number of ways in which this can be done. If anyone needs more information they can contact me at home (396138) or at work (768321). I can provide typing and copying facilities and hope to be in a position shortly to issue a press release. Public opinion as you are aware, is all important! *Mrs. Jane Marshall, Ash House, I Little Bromley, Nr. Manningtree.*

THE MESSENGER - TREASURERS REPORT.

Another year has almost gone by and I am looking for sponsors. Financially the Messenger is doing well but it can only carry on with donations and sponsors and notes and articles from your good selves. Over the last period I had donations from village organisations and individuals all of which were much appreciated. If you can find any sponsors please let me know.

We are going to produce a one off pull-out supplement in July, 1991, thirty words (3 lines) for £3.00, but we need ten advertisements minimum. If you would like to advertise please fill in the form below.

ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT.

NAME + ADDRESS

Cheque for £3 enclosed This must be returned with the money by 3rd June, 1991, money returned if not printed, to: Treasurer, Magnolia House, Bromley Road, Frating.

ESSEX HERITAGE TRUST.

In the wake of the very successful celebrations of the Essex Heritage Year in 1989, and with the tide of public interest in our heritage and environment running high, we have embarked on an ambitious and challenging new step in the vital task of preserving for future generations the best that Essex has to offer in buildings, landscape and archaeology.

The Essex Heritage Trust has been launched as an independent charitable trust bringing together local authorities and leading businesses and industries in the country. Our aim is to raise one million pounds from which financial assistance can be given to projects throughout Essex that can make a significant and permanent contribution in this field.

I would like to appeal to the people of The Bromleys to become involved with the preservation of the heritage in their parish and indeed the county of Essex. If you would like to help in any way, or want more information, please contact: Mrs. Jennie Whiting, Essex Heritage Trust, Cressing Temple, Braintree CM7 8PD. *Mr. B. Booty*

THE GARDEN IN APRIL.

Sow and protect lawns which have just been sown with cotton, mow established ones with the blade at medium height, apply a fertiliser a fortnight later. Plant and transplant evergreen trees and shrubs, prune lavender. Apply a mulch to roses, a weedkiller can be applied to keep down weeds.

Support tall growing perennials with pea sticks and canes, be careful of canes because they can do a lot of damage to the face when leaning over them, try to cap them with something.

Complete the sowing of hardy and half-hardy annuals, prepare beds for planting. Feed Fruit trees with nitro chalk or sulphate of ammonia and protect from late frost. Sow vegetables, i.e. runner beans, dwarf etc., and hope for an early crop. *Fred Wickham*

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Our next meeting is on 4th April at 7.30pm in the Cheshire Home chapel. Mr. Hodgeson of Lawford is coming to show us how to take cuttings from dahlia tubers and to speak to us about dahlias; no doubt he will bring some cuttings. New members will be welcome so do come along for an evening to see if you would like to join our friendly gardening group. We have a very interesting programme again this year. *R. Field*

HORTICULTURAL CAPERS.

In Spring we pass the fleeting hour
By doing all within our power
To fight a battle long and grim
To keep the garden neat and trim.
We sow the seed then wait in vain
For just a little shower of rain;
At last it rains, a drenching flood,
The garden's just a sea of mud.
And then, as if you didn't know,
The few plants which decide to grow
Are pecked by birds and chewed by mice
And anything especially nice
Is swarmed by greenfly, ants and gnats
And then scrapped out by wandering cats:
The sort of thing which grows apace
is bellbind all around the place,
Docks and thistles, other weeds
Flourish and produce their seeds,
Whilst in this Paradise at night
old boots and tins are dumped for spite.
The harvest of this lot we gain
In backache, blisters, sweat and pain;
These are the things which make us sing
The joys of Gardening in Spring!

A.H.C.

GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD.

The book sale was a great success and a total of £145 was realised at this event. Our thanks to all who supported us. We now have the lining machine for the football pitch. Looking good in the new kit, our young players won their match on Saturday last, winning 3-1 against a team from Clacton! Well done boys and thanks to Max and Brian for giving up so much time to train them. A Tupperware Party held recently raised £28, and this is to be shared between the Playgroup and the Recreation Field. *Eileen Fowler*

AND SO WE WILL ALL BE COUNTED.

On 21st April the 1991 Census will begin. A Census is nothing new, you will remember a Census was being taken when Christ was born in Bethlehem. In England the first Census was held in 1801 and every ten years after that. Who was responsible for the Census? It was the brainchild of Charles Abbot, son of John Abbot, Rector of All Saints, Colchester.

Charles became an MP, was Speaker of the House of Commons and later created Lord Colchester. All Saints Rectory, Colchester, is now the High Street Post Office. From 1801 to 1831 only the number of persons, dwellings and occupations was taken. There is no listing of the names of people.

Great Bromley Parish Overseers Accounts have this information about the 1821 Census: '1821 Dec 8 Wm Cooper & Co for time and expenses . takeing (sic) the population £2 12s. 6d. ' Mr. Cooper was the Overseer of the Poor, a post nobody really wanted to hold because of the numerous duties involved. He and his helpers worked for the equivalent of £2.62 in today's money.

From 1841 everyone's Christian name, surname and birth-place was entered on the Census Return. In 1851 blind, deaf and dumb persons were recorded, also church congregations and accommodation. These are some of the results of a Colchester Rector's son's ideas, so stand up and be counted!

John S. Appleby

BROWNIES.

We welcome Kate who has joined the Pack and Dumbo, our new Packleader from Guides. Squirrel has now turned formally into Tawny Owl. Congratulations to the entire Pack who were awarded a Venture Badge each for organising an Open Evening. Footpath badges have been awarded to Shelley and Joanne, Roadway badges to Lindsay, Hannah, Chloe, Beth, Aniela and Emma A and Highway badges to Ellie and Alison. Ellie has now left for Guides and takes our best wishes.

Brownie Birthday Badges go to Alison, Beth and Ellie. Shellie has a Swimmers Interest badge. Well done all. Jazz, Sus and Elisha came to talk about Guides and the fun that can be had with them. Tents were made from newspaper and cardboard tubes with room enough for one Brownie. A Keep Healthy programme provided friendly rivalry between the Sixes with the Gnomes winning overall and Elves and Imps tying.

Great Bromley Brownies and Guides hosted the District in the Village Hall for Thinking Day on 22nd February and well over one hundred attended. The Revd. Derek Lang provided a short service and Sarah Simons played for the hymns. The Thinking Day collection money was taped to pieces of a jigsaw and, slotted together, made an impressive Trefoil. A quiz, games, refreshments and displays reflected the being friendly theme with other countries. Many thanks to parents who allowed their kitchens to be taken over by daughters to cook up the splendid food. Our new term starts on Thursday, 11th April. *Brown Owl*

THE BROMLEYS AND LITTLE BENTLEY CONSERVATIVES.

The AGM of the Branch was held at the Village Hall on Friday, 1st March. Fifteen members attended together with the Agent Mrs. Rona Hammond of N. Colchester Conservative Association, the prospective Conservative parliamentary candidate, Bernard Jenkin. The District Council Elections were in March and Mr. Sam Pound was readopted as the Conservative candidate. The following were elected into office: Mr. H. Fairley, President; Major H. Varney, Chairman; Mr. L. Christodoulides, secretary; Mr. D. Taylor, treasurer; Mrs. A. Fairley, Postal Vote secretary.

A strawberry tea will be held in June and 3 Barn Supper in October. Further details nearer the time. *L. Christodoulides*

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH - ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING.

As was mentioned last month the Annual Parochial Church Meeting is to take place in S. George's School on Tuesday, 16th April, at 7.30pm. All those whose names are on the parish Electoral Roll are invited to attend. As well as receiving the annual accounts twelve persons are to be elected to serve on the Parochial Church Council. At this meeting there is an opportunity for those present to comment upon, ask questions about and make suggestions, for the way in which the parish functions.

CHURCHWARDENS.

The office of Churchwarden is a very ancient one which had been recognised by law by the 13th century. The Churchwarden was not only a Church Officer, but also had considerable duties in the community which he served. He in fact, undertook all the business now in the hands of the Chairman and members of the Parish Council, as well as acting as the Parish Constable. He was entrusted not only with the responsibilities of the parish church, but he was also the guardian of law, morals and parish affairs. Although nowadays the Churchwarden's duties are confined to church matters, it is still a civil election and takes place at a meeting separate from the Parish Annual Meeting, those being entitled to vote being any adult who lives in the parish and whose name is on the roll of local government elections. The qualifications now to serve as a Churchwarden are that the person chosen must be an actual communicant of the parish, who lives in the parish or is a member of the Electoral Roll and is at least twenty-one years of age. Each parish is required to elect two wardens annually.

As is our custom the meeting to elect the Churchwardens 'The Vestry Meeting' will take place immediately before the Annual Meeting on 16th April. The Churchwardens who have been elected have a wide range of duties. Principally they represent the laity to the Bishop and must co-operate with the Rector in the smooth running of the parish. They have responsibilities for the fabric of the church and its property and still have the duty of maintaining law and order in church during the times of divine service.

MR. ROBERT HARDING.

At the Vestry Meeting this year Mr. Robert Harding is not to seek re-election. He and his wife Jean, came to live in the village as long ago as 1948 and throughout that time they have been tireless workers not only for the church, but also for the good of the village in general. Robert was elected Churchwarden in 1979 and has served in that capacity continuously. During two interregna the burden of responsibility of running the parish fell on the two Churchwardens, and on both occasions, Robert carried out this task together with his fellow Churchwarden with great efficiency, sincerity and understanding. Since my own arrival in the parish in 1985 he has been a most helpful and understanding Churchwarden without whose kindly and wise advice and support I would have found life extremely difficult. In 1984 a Repair Fund was set up to raise funds for the repairs to the tower. Robert became the Chairman of this Committee and in the intervening seven years he has worked assiduously to organise all the necessary fundraising and to help in overseeing the work.

Apart from the church he is probably best known for his work over many years with the Tendring Show, of which he had the pleasure of being elected President two years ago. I am most grateful to him for all his support and work and I know that all members of the church join me in thanking him for all he has done.

S. GEORGE'S DAY - 23rd APRIL.

The Patronal Festival of Great Bromley Parish Church and of course, of England is this year, on Tuesday, 23rd April. As it is a double celebration for us it should be a day of great joy. One way to mark it is by wearing a buttonhole of a red rose.

We will mark the day in church by having a Eucharist of Thanksgiving on that day at 7.30pm. The preacher will be the Reverend Alan Cross, Vicar of S. Barnabas, Woodford Green. I do hope that all the members of S. George's congregation will make a real effort to attend.

ROGATION SUNDAY - 5th MAY.

The first Sunday of next month is Rogation Sunday when we continue our custom of Blessing the Crops and fields. This year Mr. and Mrs. Ken Robinson invite us to Badley Hall Farm for the service which will commence at the usual time of 10.30am.

The service will start in one of the barns where seats will be provided! and, provided the weather permits, we will walk to the fields for the blessings.

SEVEN RIVERS HOME RESIDENTS AND STAFF.

The Social Committee of the Seven Rivers Home Residents and Staff are pleased to present at Great Bromley Village Hall on Saturday, 13th April from 8.00pm to 11.15pm, a COUNTRY MUSIC DANCE. Dancing to JACKSON QUEEN. There will be a licensed bar and raffle. Tickets which will include a buffet supper are £3.50 each and can be obtained from Bert Smith at the Home.

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, 14th April, we welcome the Royal Naval Association, Wivenhoe and Elmstead Branch, who are all coming to S. George's church for a service of dedication of their new standard at 3.00pm. I do hope the congregation will be able to join with them. There will be no Evening Service on that Sunday.

COFFEE MORNING - 16th MARCH.

A Thank You to those who helped, and those who supported the coffee morning at the Rectory. The sum raised so far is £76 with promises of more to come. This is to be used to provide pew bibles in S. George's church.

KITCHEN CORNER.

With our apologies for last month's omission, we now include the recipe for Carrot Cake which Jill Frostick sent us for inclusion.

Carrot Cake.

8 oz (about 3 oz when scraped) carrots
3 large eggs
5 oz sugar
2 teaspoons fine grated lemon rind
2 oz plain flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
5 oz fine chopped walnuts

Grease and line a square 7" tin, or an oblong loaf tin. Whisk yolks and sugar until thick. Stir in grated carrots, nuts and Lemon rind. Fold in flour sieved with baking powder. Fold in stiffly whisked egg whites and bake for forty-five minutes in a moderate oven.

When cold ice with a thin layer of glaze icing and decorate with hazelnuts. *Jill Frostick*

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 7th April Burnt Heath 11.00am
Sunday 14th April Elmstead Market 11.00am
Sunday 21st April Balls Green 11.00am
Sunday 28th April Burnt Heath 11.00am .

CHURCH REGISTERS - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

Holy Baptism. Sunday 17th February - Penny Maria Borley, 13 Chase Road West.

The Bromley Messenger May 1991.

Each year as we commence a new volume, this is the sixth year now that we have been publishing, we have difficulty in arranging our sponsors and finance. This year is no exception. You will see that on the back cover we do not have a list of sponsors; this is because our list is so far incomplete. We are delighted that we have a number of sponsors already pledged for this year, Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, The Bromleys Parochial Church Council, the Tendring Show, the Parish Councils of Great and Little Bromley, T and F Motors, Greenacre Catteries, Pat Peachey Secretarial and Business Services and the Great Bromley Pantomime Group. We are most grateful to them for their help. By the time next month's issue is printed we are sure that this list will have increased and that we will be able to print the whole list on the cover as usual. Last month the Treasurer suggested a pull-out advertising section for July. We have had some response to this already but we do need more. The cost is only £3 and will ensure a wide announcement of services and goods which you may be able to share with others. In this issue there is an announcement of those who have been elected to Great Bromley Parish Council. Unfortunately I have not been able to obtain such details for Little Bromley Parish Council. I will endeavour to obtain this information and to publish it in the June issue. I hope that Little Bromley readers will accept this explanation of why they appear to be missed out. Included in this copy of the Messenger there is an envelope from Christian Aid. I hope that this appeal will be supported; I commend it to our readers. Finally our thanks to Seven Rivers Cheshire Home for their sponsorship this month. I am sure that all in the villages will want to support their annual fete on Saturday. 8th June, to be opened by the well-known mystery author, Ruth Rendell.

Announcing
Seven Rivers Cheshire Homes, Great Bromley
ANNUAL FETE
Saturday June 8th 1991
To be opened at 2:00pm. by
Ruth Rendell, The Famous Mystery Writer.
Also Taking Part, will be - :
The Splendid Harwich Pipe Band.
The Annual Fete is our Major Fund Raising Event
Please come and bring your friends.
There will be plenty to See, Hear and Do!!!

BALLS GREEN METHODIST CHURCH.

A coffee morning and bring-and-buy stall will be held in the Schoolroom on Saturday, 11th May, from 10.00am until 12 noon. Proceeds for church funds. All are welcome.

VILLAGE HALL REPORT.

The Annual General Meeting of Great Bromley Village Hall will be held on Wednesday, 8th May, at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. All members of the public are invited to attend. Please be there to show your support for this important stay to our village.

PLAYGROUP REPORT.

First of all may we welcome our new playgroup helpers Sandra and Pat. We are hoping to hold a Sponsored Sports Activity for the children on 22nd May to raise Funds and we are looking forward this term to our annual summer outing on Wednesday, 26th June. We have been able to purchase several new pieces of equipment and our numbers of children attending playgroup are very pleasing. May we take this opportunity to send our best wishes to Kirsty and Declan who have just left us to go to school. *Amanda Rowe.*

FLOWER FESTIVAL 29th and 30th JUNE.

Floral Remembrances. Again this year orders may be placed [or a floral remembrance tribute on twenty-four pew-ends in the nave of S. George's church. The cost for each is £5. Order forms are available from Betty Rowe, Audrey Appleby or the Rector. You may have more than one loved-one's name on each tribute card. Please order early as there are only twenty-four pew ends in the nave. Thank you.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Our 'Friendship Players' continue to entertain various clubs donating the proceeds to the Hospice. Mrs. V. Biddis and Mrs. G. Hatt gained second place in the Age Concern Cribbage Tournament held in Great Oakley on 3rd April. The outing to Woburn Safari Park on 30th May will leave Elmstead at 9.00am. The speaker for May will be Mrs. Lawford, her subject is Guide Dogs for the Blind, and the competition: a dog ornament. *Mildred Purkis.*

THE BOOK COLUMN.

Sorry for the hiccup in the March issue but I will fill in a few of the details missed and add some more suggestions. 'Devices and Desires' was by P. D. James, published by Pan at £4.99; 'A Year in Provence' by Peter Mayle is in Pan at £4.99. Another title by a local doctor turned author was 'Jade Woman' by Mysterious Press £3.50. Jonathan Gash lives near Colchester and writes engagingly in this Lovejoy series featuring the dodgy antique dealer. This series is currently on TV I believe. Although the one I mention is set in Hong Kong and the China Seas, they are usually set in very recognisable bits of Essex and Colchester.

I wonder if you came upon another local writer, Elizabeth Jeffries? 'Strangers Hall' Arrow books at £3.50 is a really good read based in the Dutch quarter of Colchester as the Flemish weavers came over and set up the thriving cloth trade. It is a romance and none the worse for that and is very well researched historically.

Graham Greene's death reminds us of his prolific output. The one I found the most gripping and moving was 'The Heart of the Matter' set in West Africa, but any books by this powerful and melancholy writer, especially his earlier ones, are worth reading. 'The Power and the Glory' and 'The End of the Affair' etc are all in Penguin paper hack.

Briefly to children's books and in particular the good ones recommended for the reading of up to 7's for the National Curriculum tests. Try any book by Jill Murphy: 'Whatever Next?' published Macmillan £3.25 or 'All in one Piece' £2.99. Walker books are well illustrated and always enjoyed. I find the Ahlberg books eagerly sought after and to read again and again. The 'Happy Families' series is good; Mrs. Wobble the waitress and Mr. Plug the plumber: about £2.50 and all published in Puffin. *Jean Harding.*

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME AGM.

Well attended the AGM was held on 28th March in the Billiard Room and a very successful year was reported. 'Humpty Dumpty' raised £817 for 'The Children's Haven Hospice in Cambridge, and a Show Video was donated to Mr. Roberts, Colchester Committee Chairman, who presented the Group with a commemorative plaque. The summer play 'Murder in Company' by Philip King will be held on 14th and 15th June, 1991. The 1992 pantomime will be held on 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th January with a casting meeting on 24th September in the Village Hall.

S.O.S. - We desperately need costume seamstresses from October, please can anyone help? Please ring 231067. The Group would like to thank everyone for their support to keep this function a live part of village life tradition. *Betty Rowe.*

GREAT BROMLEY AND DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB. '100 Club' Lottery.

The winners for January were 1st Mr. S. Foley, 2nd Mrs. S. Gladwin and 3rd Mr. P. O. Wright. The winners for February were 1st Mrs. B. Bullock, 2nd Mr. R. Harding and 3rd Mr. B. Hitchcock.

KEEPING GOD'S ACRE TIDY.

At this time of the year the onerous task of keeping a churchyard tidy really begins and we are grateful to those who do this work and also tend the flowers and roses in it as well as those who keep graves neat. In days gone by the Archdeacon would make comment on the tidiness of the churchyard when he made his annual Visitation and the Churchwardens were called to book if it was not tidy. Our Churchwardens Account Books prove the point:

1641 Paide for moweing the churchyard £0 0S 6d

1651 Paid for brushing ye churchyard £0 5s 0d

1655 To goodman Lawrence for ½ years mow £0 10s 0d

1661 To goodman Moon for cutting the Thorne and moweing the church yard £0 2s 0d

S0 over the years the mowing has gone on. The bushes have disappeared and need no 'brushing' and the 'thorn' is no longer there. *John Appleby.*

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL PTA BARN DANCE.

S. George's School PTA is holding a Barn Dance on Saturday, 18th May at Park Farm from 8.00pm until midnight. Tickets are available from Ruth Lawson (251263) priced at £3.75 each to include a superb supper.

THE RURAL POWER STATION ACTION GROUP.

An Antique and Bric-a-Brac market is to be held at Home Farm, Ardleigh (just off the A137) on Sunday, 26th May from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Refreshments will be available. For more information please telephone Joyce Fairley on Colchester 230237. Bookings for a table is £10. Please come and support this our first fund raising event. Thank you.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

The next meeting of the Garden Club is on Thursday, 2nd May at 7.30pm and will be at the home of Margery and Stan West, 'Fryerning', Hall Road, next door to the Cheshire Home. It will be a semi-social evening with a raffle. Do hope you will all be able to come. *R. F. Field.*

PROPOSED POWER STATION.

May I convey a special thank you to Chris Haine (local resident) for putting up display boards, also David Mackay (Rural Power Station Action Group) for showing us a scale model of the power station. I am sure that everyone who attended the Public Meeting must now be more AWARE of the proposed power station. Despite the fact that it is in the parish of Ardleigh it will affect all who live in neighbouring villages.

If you wish to know more about the proposal, or look at drawings, maps etc., you may contact me on Col: 230640. Mrs. Jane Marshall (Little Bromley) 396138 and Rural Power Station Action Group 231203. *Angela Prior.*

REQUEST FROM BECKY.

Becky, the Rector's daughter, would be grateful for any material scraps or remnants to make a rag rug with. If anyone has anything suitable, small or large, please could they contact the Rectory 230344.

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND.

A coffee morning in aid of this charity will be held on Tuesday, 14th May from 10.00am to 12 noon at Springhill Close, Great Bromley. There will be a Bring-and-Buy stall, plant stall and cake stall. Please do come and help us again to raise money for this worthy charity. *R. F. Field.*

GUIDES.

Eleanor was presented with her BP Trefoil brooch and certificate by Marion the Division Commissioner. The whole unit celebrated by having a Guide meeting afloat in canoes. After a girl has made her Promise she works through trefoils; yellow, green, red, blue and Baden-Powell. The first three each take twelve months to complete. Some of the work is set but most is of the girls own choosing. such as 'gain two badges' or 'teach your patrol a new game'. The last two demand much more service and the ability to persevere, possibly one of the hardest things. She has to take up a new craft or hobby and tell or show her patrol how she is getting on, hence the presentation afloat, Eleanor's new hobby.

In the Spring term Mrs. Culham and her prospective Guide Dog for the Blind visited the unit. She is a puppy-walker and told us all that it entailed. District Thinking Day was celebrated in Great Bromley with the Guides acting hostesses. Not having too much money to spare the Guides made large triangular bandages in colourful patchwork with which to practice. Last term, and very special, we thoroughly enjoying having seven Brownies join us for an evening. Elizabeth has decided to become a Great Bromley Guide, another Elizabeth has gained her Cook's Badge, Sue has been presented with her Pack Leaders stripes and another Eleanor has gained her Yellow Trefoil. Congratulations.

The Daffodil patrol went ice-skating and have a patrol camp on 28th to 30th May. Centrek is 3rd to 5th May, the Brancker-Cubitt cup is 18th May at Thorrington. The Annual Guide/Scout Barbecue is 21st June and Summer Camp is 4th to 10th August. *Jazz*

THE GARDEN IN MAY.

Keep the lawns cut at least once a week, apply a high nitrogen fertiliser at any time this month to encourage new growth, use a moss killer if moss has taken over after last year's dry weather. There is still time to sow some very attractive annuals AND HAVE THEM IN FLOWER BY August, try clarkia, candytuft, Virginia stock and alysum. If sown thinly in trays you can plant them out in clumps, it is easy and you will get a rich full effect.

It is tempting to fill the borders with summer bedding plants which are in Garden Centres now, but remember the chance of Jack Frost. Keep weeding regularly with the hoe to stop flowering and seeds. Containers can be planted up now but beware of vine weevils, they cause havoc to foliage and roots, it is best to treat the containers with ICI Sybol. Plant runner beans etc in the kitchen garden. *Fred Wickham.*

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

Re the editorial: the members of Little Bromley Parish Council are Mr. Roy Poulter, Mr. John Osborne, Mr. William Walker, Mr. Peter Herring and Mr. James Pleass.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

The term opened in the customary happy manner. This term there are ninety-two children on the roll and of these, fourteen will be leaving at the end of the term to commence their secondary education. Mrs. Tillbrook's Class, years 3 and 4 are, this term, undertaking a class project on S. George's Church. As a way of introducing this, the children were asked to answer the question 'why build a church?' Their answers which came from them quite unprompted, have been reproduced as an interesting display in the classroom. It seems right to share their ideas with a wider audience, so they are reproduced below:

Why Build a Church?

A Church is a place to: Worship God and His Son

Remember His Son

Learn about God and His Son

Say sorry in

Rejoice

Meet people

Care about loved ones

Be peaceful

Be married, christened and buried

Have harvest festivals and services

Go to when you are lonely

Sing in

Be safe in

Guide travellers

Shelter in

Mrs. Fitzgerald reminds parents that Friday, 21st June and Friday, 12th July will be days set aside for Staff Study sessions and that on those two days there will be no school for children.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION.

Once again Great Bromley has been entered in the Best Kept Village competition. The judges will be looking, not only for a well kept village, but also for community efforts, private gardens, commercial undertakings, garages and public houses. This year there is to be a special award for churchyards and burial grounds. Judging takes place in June. It would be wonderful if the village could repeat its success of several years ago and win an award. Please will all parishioners do all they can to support this effort. *.Peter Rowe.*

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 1991.

Each year we try to support this annual appeal for financial help to enable those who live in the Third World and underdeveloped countries to improve their very low standard of living. This year the plight of the Kurdish people will be one of the concerns of the appeal. The week this year is from Monday, 13th May until Sunday, 19th May. Envelopes will be delivered to each house to be collected later by authorised collectors. We hope that if the envelopes arrive in time, they will be included in this edition of The Messenger. All who watch television, or who have had the

pleasure of visiting other countries, will realise the desperately poor conditions in which so many other people live. This is an opportunity for us to enable some of them to live in a more dignified manner. Once again we are grateful to Mrs. Marion Bromfield for organising this collection.

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday, 5th May Elmstead 11am Mr. Patterson
Sunday, 12th May Balls Green 11am Mr. Lansdown
Sunday, 19th May Burnt Heath 11am Revd. Robinson
Sunday, 26th May Elmstead 11am Mr. Warren

ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR(S)

Result of Uncontested Election - Parish of Great Bromley

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that at the Election of Councillor(s) for the above mentioned [Parish], the following persons stood validly nominated at the latest time for the delivery of notices of withdrawal of candidature, namely noon on the TENTH day of APRIL 1991 and were duly elected Councillor(s) without a contest.

Names of Persons Elected	Home Address .
GLYN CHARLES CHEESEMAN	Fleece House, Harwich Road, Gt. Bromley,
LENIN BASIL CHRISTODOULIDES	Magnolia House, Bromley Rd., Frating.
HENRY FAIRLEY	Park Farm. Great Bromley.
JEAN HARDING	Hollies. Colchester Rd, Great Bromley.
VALERIE HARRIS	Dairy Farm Cottage, Chase Road West, Hare Green
GEORGE FREDERICK KEMPSTER	New House Farm, Gt. Bromley.
ANGELA PRIOR	Evelyn Villa, Briar Road, Gt. Bromley
PETER ROWE	2 Hall Cottages, Hall. Road, Gt. Bromley
JAMES BARNABAS WILD	Ilex Farm, Waterhouse Lane. Burnt Heath. Ardleigh

GIVEN under my hand. this ELEVENTH day of APRIL 1991 . Deputy Returning Officer.

CHURCH NEWS LETTER MAY 1991 NUMBER 2

Church Officers 1991-1992.

Mr. Douglas Rogerson and Mr. Peter Rowe, Churchwardens.

Mr. John Appleby, Licensed Reader.

Mr. George Kent, Mrs. Olive Sparling, Mrs. Meriel Davis- Deanery Synod Members.

Parochial Church Council:

Mr. R. Harding, Mrs. A. Fairley, Major J. Heaney, Mrs J. Fairley, Mrs. B. Rowe Mr. J. Wild, Cdr. A. Catesby, Mrs. A. Catesby. Mr. Bert Smith. Mrs. E. Lennox. Mr. W. Walker. Mrs, A. Jones. Mrs. Y. Cobbold

Vice-Chairman and Treasurer: Mr. Douglas Rogerson

PCC Secretary, Mrs. Andrena Catesby.

S. MARY'S CHURCH, LITTLE BROMLEY - IMPORTANT NOTICE

The contractors employed by the Redundant Churches Fund have now completed the exterior repairs and renovations. They have not yet been able to commence the work of repair inside the church on account of the problem of dampness in the walls. This I understand, must be allowed to dry out further before any of the proposed work can commence. Sadly I have to announce that the service of thanksgiving for the restoration of the church planned for Sunday, 2nd June, can not now take place and has been postponed until the church is in a completely repaired state. The Bishop of Chelmsford, who has been informed, has promised that he will be pleased to come on a date in the future yet to be decided. This is a disappointment for us but it is obvious that we must delay this service and our use of the church for further services until it is in a good condition.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

On SUNDAY, 12th MAY a new venture is to be initiated at S. George's Church. Instead of the customary Sunday School there is to be a regular Children's Service to commence at 9.45am and which will last for thirty minutes. It will be suitable for children of all ages, and for parents who may wish to accompany them. In planning this it is hoped that the children themselves will be able to take a large part in the conduct of the service. We feel that this is a more adult approach to the training of children in the Christian faith, and that parents will see it as one of the ways they can fulfil the promises they make when their children are baptised, to see that their children are brought up in, and taught, the Christian faith. I do sincerely hope that this will be well supported and that it will prove to be the right way forward for us. On the first Sunday of each month there will be no Children's Service, but we expect that the children and their parents will attend the Parish Family Service at which we plan for the children present to take a large part.

The Rector, or Mrs. Olive Sparling, Greenacre, Briar Road will be able to provide further information.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN MAY.

Ascension Day this year falls on Thursday, 9th May. This is the day when we remember the Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven and the completion of his work on earth. On the Continent, and many years ago in this country, Ascension Day is a public holiday. There will be a service of Parish Communion at 7.30pm in S. Georges church.

Ten days later is Whitsunday, also known as the Feast of the Pentecost. We read in Chapter 2 of the Acts of the Apostles how that, on this day, the Holy Spirit came on the Disciples and they were given the power to, go into the world as Apostles, preaching the Gospel.

A great change came over them; instead of being afraid and confused about their role, they all became bold in the work Jesus laid upon them and all eventually, gave up their lives for the faith in which they believed. Now that Whitsunday weekend is no longer a holiday weekend, it is easy to lose sight of the importance of this festival. The usual Sunday services will be held with one difference; Evensong at 6.30pm will be held in the Chapel of Seven Rivers Cheshire Home. This is a very special occasion as it is exactly five years since the Bishop of Colchester and representatives came to dedicate the Chapel, which is officially known as the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. The Chairman and members of the Management Committee of the Home, as well as staff and residents, have promised to attend. I hope that this will be well supported by the parish.

As a follow up of the Lent Course, and at the request of the residents, Evensong will be held in the Chapel of Seven Rivers Home on the third Sunday of each month. The Whit Sunday service will be the first.

Another important occasion will be on Wednesday, 29th May. On that day the Bishop of Colchester will be making an official visitation to the parish. It will start with a service of Holy Communion at 9.00am at which I hope that as many as possible will be able to attend. After the service the Bishop would like as many of the congregation as possible to join him for coffee in the Rectory.

HELP! HELP! HELP!

As you know, with the resignation of John Burggy, we no longer have an organist and choir master. Although we can provide an organist for most Sunday, and I thank Gregory Frostick and Ann Clapham for helping us in this way, we do urgently need to have an official organist. If anyone knows anyone whom I could approach, please do tell me!

FLOWER FESTIVAL.

Do not forget the weekend of 29th and 30th June for our Flower Festival. We need all the support and help we can muster. Betty Rowe and John Appleby are the people to contact for details and offers of help. On Saturday, 29th June we are to have a concert of Indian Music in church to be given by Irshad Khan, sitar and Vajahet Khan, sarod. Irshad and Vajahet are the sons of Imrat Khan who gave a memorable concert in 1985. Tickets, £7 and £4 to include wine, will be available from the Rectory, Greet Bromley Post Office and Jean Harding who has kindly organised this event. As Irshad and his brother Vajahad perform in such places as the Festival Hall, the Barbican and the Royal Albert Hall, we are really privileged that they have agreed to come here. Please support this if you possibly can.

CHURCH REGISTERS.

Holy Baptism

31st March, 1991 Kirsty Louise Payne, James David Pirie

Cremation and Burial

3rd April, 1991: Helena Frances Clarke of Frating Road, formerly of Frating Road Shop, cremated at Weeley Crematorium.

11th April, 1991, Leslie Ralph Dixon of Baines Close, Lexden, cremated at Weeley Crematorium, followed by burial of ashes in S; George's churchyard.

Holy Matrimony

27th April, 1991, Emma Louise Baxter of Mary Lane South and Antony Robert Stevens of Thorrington.

FINALLY

May I remind you of the Rogation Service of Blessing of the crops and farms, this year to be held at Badley Hall Farm on Rogation Sunday, 25th May at 10.30am, at the kind invitation of Ken and Nicola Robinson.

The Bromley Messenger June 1991.

It is pleasing to note that once again it has been possible to obtain sufficient sponsors to ensure the publication of The Messenger for the next twelve months. It is only due to the kindness of the sponsors that we are able to deliver a copy free of charge to every home in the two villages. We thank them sincerely for their support. A complete list of this year's sponsors is printed on the back of the cover.

The list of organisation contacts has been revised: we hope that it is now complete and accurate. It is printed on the inside of the cover.

This month the Messenger is sponsored by the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of the Bromleys. It will help if contributions for the July issue are made available by Wednesday, 12th June.

In the July issue we are proposing to include a number of small advertisements. Although we have received a number of requests for inclusion, there is still time for more. If you wish to take advantage of this, please send your advertisement with the sum of £3.00 to Len Christodoulides at Magnolia House, Ardleigh Road, Frating.

THE MESSENGER.

For the past four years the printing of the Messenger has been undertaken most satisfactorily by Vis-Art under the proprietorship of Keith Fletcher. Having talked about the future Keith and I have agreed that it would be better if another printer could be asked to undertake this. From this month the Messenger is to be printed by Hot-Line Printers of Wivenhoe. This change will enable us to maintain the high degree of service and efficiency we have enjoyed over the past years. We would like to record our grateful thanks to Keith and his wife Judy for all the help they have given in the production; their assistance is something for which we will always be grateful.

St. Georges Church FLOWER FESTIVAL Saturday June 29th - Sunday June 30th
Stalls in Church Meadow. Tea/Coffee in St. Georges School.

Saturday June 29th at 7.45pm Concert of Indian Music
with Irshad and Vajahat Khan

Sunday June 30th at 6.30pm Songs of Praise - A Service of Favourite Hymns

FLOWER FESTIVAL.

S. George's Church is presenting its annual Flower Festival on Saturday and Sunday, 29th and 30th June. On Saturday the church will be open for visitors from 10.00am until 6.00pm, and on Sunday from 12 noon to 6.00pm. There will be stalls and entertainment in Church Meadow on Saturday, and on both Saturday and Sunday coffee and teas will be served throughout the day at S. George's School.

In the evening of Saturday, 29th June, there is to be a very special concert of Indian Music in church, commencing at 7.45pm. Six years ago a similar concert was given by the internationally known Imrat Khan. This year his two sons, both as well known as their father, Irshad Khan and Vajahat Khan will be presenting the concert. It is a great achievement to obtain the services of musicians who are more used to playing in the Festival Hall, London, and the Barbican rather than a small country Parish Church. We are so grateful to them for agreeing to come. We do hope that, like the concert in 1985, the church will be packed out to hear this unusual and inspiring music. Tickets for the performance, which will include a glass of wine, will cost £7.00 and £4.00 for children.

Instead of Evensong on Sunday, 30th June, there is to be a 'Songs of Praise' service. There will be a list in the back of the church on which you are invited to write the details of hymns you would like to have sung. In order to provide some funds for the purchase of flowers, on Saturday, 15th June, there is to be a sponsored Organ Playing in the church from 9.00am until 6.00pm. We invite anyone who would like to play the organ for half-an-hour, or more, to book their time on the list in church. We ask that those who play obtain a sponsor sheet from Betty Rowe and obtain sponsorship for their recitals!

The theme of the Flower Festival is 'The Decade of Evangelism' and all the displays will show some facet of the work of the church in proclaiming the gospel.

do hope that very many parishioners will support this by coming to see the displays and taking part in the activities.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH.

The new service for children and their parents commenced last month and got off to a good start. We would like to see even more coming along. It starts at 9.45 and lasts for thirty minutes. On the first Sunday in the month there will be no Children's Service, instead we ask the children to join in the Parish Family Service. On Sunday, 2nd June, the organ is to be played by one of our young people, David Rogerson, and other young people are to take a major part in the service.

PCC TREASURER.

For the past two years Mr. Douglas Rogerson has combined the post of Treasurer with that of Churchwarden. I am very pleased that Mr. Bill Walker has agreed to undertake the post of Treasurer in order to free Mr. Rogerson for his Churchwardenly duties. Mr. Walker will deal with all the financial matters of the parish and can be contacted at his home, New House, Shop Lane, Little Bromley. Telephone: 392886.

S. GEORGE'S YOUTH GROUPS.

All the members of the groups have now received an official membership card designed by the leader, Suzanne Abbott. A number of interesting activities have taken place recently, including a visit to Chelmsford Ice Skating Rink and a Disco Talent competition. Over the week-end of 21st to 23rd June, seventeen of the members and five of the leaders are to take part in the Youth Camp, 'Red Braces', at East Mersea which is arranged and organised by the Diocesan Youth Service under the leadership of the Youth Chaplain, the Revd. Duncan Green.

New members are always welcome at the Wednesday meetings, 6.15pm for Juniors and 7.30pm for Seniors.

CHURCH MUSIC.

I am still looking for an organist for S. George's Church. Any help that readers can give me in my search will be most welcome. In addition to the organ I would like to encourage players of other instruments to help provide music in church. There are a number of young people who can play such instruments as guitars, Clarinets, flutes and recorders. I would very much like to assemble a group of people who could get together to play in church on a regular basis once or twice a month. However, we will need someone with musical ability who could practise with them and teach them the music to play. I would be delighted to hear from anyone who could help in this way, and I would also like to hear from any who would like to join such a music group. I would expect that such a group would specialise in modern and folk music rather than traditional church music.

CHURCH REGISTERS.

Holy Baptism

Sunday, 19th May Emily Lucy Bland Borthwick.

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday, 2nd June Balls Green 11am Mr. D. Carter

Sunday, 9th June Burnt Heath 11am Revd. J. Hardwick

Sunday, 16th June Elmstead 11am Revd. J. Robinson

Sunday, 23rd June Balls Green 11am Miss M. Holford

Sunday, 30th June Burnt Heath 11am Revd. J. Robinson

THE GARDEN IN JUNE.

Take leaf bud cuttings of clematis and softwood cuttings of fuchsia, cotoneaster. Trim privet and lonicera nitida hedges. Remove suckers of roses and spray against greenfly and diseases. The frosts have damaged the buds of rhododendrons and azalias, hope that the bushes have not been damaged too much, trim back to new growth. Pinch out the tips of dahlia shoots, water and spray against pests. In the fruit gardens again the frost has damaged the plum blossom, also the strawberry plants are sporting lots of black eyes so it is goodbye to the first pluck of fruit at the moment. Raspberry and current bushes are good. Rabbits are a big problem; if anyone has an idea to stop them getting in other than a 3' 1" wire netting fence I already have, I would like to know. *Fred Wickham.*

GREAT BROMLEY BADMINTON CLUB.

The AGM was held on Thursday, 2nd May, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. P. Golding. There were ten members present with apologies from three other members. The membership subscription will remain the same at £25 a year plus the affiliation fee to the Badminton Association of England. It was agreed that each member would pay £1 at each club night attended, the match fee remaining at £1.50. Next season we will enter one mixed team in the Colchester Federation League (Division 3), one men's team also in that league (Division 5) and one mixed team in the Clacton Gower League. It was agreed by all those at the meeting to have more club nights next season. They will now be held every first and second Monday of each month beginning on the 2nd September, 1991.

If you would like to play do come to one of our club nights in the Village Hall which usually begin at about 7.45pm. New members very welcome.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

On behalf of all the members of the Club may I say 'thank you' to everyone who gave so generously to the sale on 27th April, also to those who attended, helping to make the wonderful result of £1,100 which we were able to put into the Bank for club funds. *Vera Biddis.*

DANCE IN VILLAGE HALL.

Please support the dance at Great Bromley Village Hall on Saturday, 29th June at 8pm until midnight. Music by The Brian Lee Sound. Tickets at £3.50 include refreshments and a licensed bar will be available. Profit from the dance is for Village Hall Funds. Tickets available from the Post Office, Committee members or telephone 230663.

BROMLEY FOLK DANCE GROUP.

The Bromley Folk Dance club celebrated its second birthday with a dinner party at 'Meronash'. Each couple prepared an element of the meal so that it was less work for one person. It proved a very successful evening.

At the end of May three couples from the group are going to the Chippenham Folk Festival. This is a three day event and covers the Spring Bank Holiday weekend.

The Group has received several requests to give displays of folk dancing round the area. In view of this the group at its last meeting decided to have a costume, so in the next few weeks the ladies of the group will buy material to make matching skirts and blouses. The men will not be left out, they will have coloured cummerbands to match their partners skirts.

We would like to have more members in the group so why not visit us on club nights which are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays in the month. Telephone Ron or Doreen Mears.

FLOWER ARRANGERS TIPS.

Pick flowers and foliage early morning or late evening.

Conditioning: hard stems - peel off about 1-2" of bark, slit stem, all foliage other than grey furry foliage, totally immerse in bath of water, all night if possible.

Flowers: place in deep cold water and give a long drink immediately after picking.

Individual treatment: roses - remove all thorns and most of the leaves. Delphinium - fill hollow stems gently with water and plug with cotton wool. Poppies and Euphorbia (beware liquid substance) - burn stem ends. Tulips - wrap in sheet of newspaper and place in water.

Hydrangeas and violets - immerse head down in water. Always make sure when arranging your stems they are in water and keep 'topped up' and spray well. Lastly when buying flowers never buy anything that looks tired or it will go to sleep on you! *Betty Rowe.*

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME.

There will be a street collection for the Home on Saturday morning, 20th July. If you would like to volunteer please contact Barbara Boulton on Colchester 392520. For your diaries, a coffee morning at the Home on Thursday, 14th November.

Family Day: a get-together of other Cheshire Homes will be on Wednesday, 12th June. Anyone who would like to help at lunchtime would be most welcome. Please contact Jill at the Home.

FLOWER FESTIVAL.

Those ordering flowers please let me have your lists by 14th June. Any willing helpers for refreshments, stalls please contact 250360 or 250229. We also need cakes, good second-hand

books, white elephant and raffle prizes. The next meeting will be in Church at 8pm on 17th June. In aid of the Festival expenses there will be a sponsored Organ Playing on 15th June from 9am until 6pm. Please contact Colchester 231067 if you can help. Thank you. *Betty Rowe.*

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

We regret the Summer Play on 14th and 15th June has had to be unavoidably cancelled - better luck next year!

Helpline Pleas Please: We still need seamstresses for wardrobe, also has anyone any needlework patterns to give away? If anyone requires to loan costumes from the wardrobe please give J. Knappet or Y. Cobbold four days notice at least. Thank you all for your support. *Betty Rowe.*

BROWNIES.

We welcome Kizzy to our Pack and who has now taken her Promise. At the end of last term we held a Tupperware Party with the Brownies serving refreshment. and raised £33 for Brownie funds. Many thanks to everyone involved. Congratulations to Sarah L who has gained her Footpath badge and Emma N for gaining her Roadway badge while Kate has had her 1st Birthday badge. Aniela and Joanne managed to give up nail-biting for a whole term. Well done. Some of the Brownies went to the Essex Handicrafts Association annual craft exhibition in Chelmsford which was much enjoyed. Decorating of Six Corners has commenced with the repainting of Six Cupboards. Alison, Chloe, Hannah and Lindsay went on District Pack Holiday over the Bank Holiday weekend to Skreens Park, Chelmsford.

Request: Please may we have any unwanted brown shorts suitable for Brownies to wear on pack holidays etc., to fit 9-11 age group. Also any unwanted wool, cotton, lacy bits, net, ribbon etc., to decorate our craft work. *Brown Owl.*

TABLE TOP SALE.

I am holding a Table Top Sale in my garden on Thursday, 13th June at 5.30pm and all proceeds will be donated to the Great Bromley Brownie Pack. Any donations of jumble, books, toys, bric-a-brac, cakes, tombola prizes would be much appreciated. Please bring anything you would like ' to give to this to me at 10 Harwich Road, Great Bromley. If collection is required please phone Mrs. Coppin on 250751.

CENTREK.

The Elmstead Division was invited to enter teams of four or five Guides in all four sections of Scout Centrek (Colchester Central District Annual Hike). They were judged and marked exactly the same as the boys. The event is divided into ages, not patrols, each age band walking a different distance. Check points ensured their safety but they chose their own route in between. The youngsters are expected to keep a log book as well as carry their gear, cook their own meals, pitch tents late at night. The weather was cold and wet and I sat in my tent wondering where I would put the youngsters if they were too wet but they were exhausted and slept through most of it. The end came at mid-day when everyone crowded into the village hall and had inspection. Everyone received a certificate and a badge.

GUIDES.

A hectic, exciting month has been had by the Guides. We have been interviewed for a 'high class' magazine and had our photographs taken. Almost all the unit joined Centrek and what an achievement it was. Well done. The Daffs polished some of the woodwork in church for the service part of their Patrol Purpose Patch and the Swallows have been lighting fires and cooking the day after Centrek.

Eleanor has gained her Artist badge, Ellie has made her promise and Elizabeth has earned her Yellow Trefoil: congratulations. We are planning a Brownie and Guide Independence Day joint evening for parents on 4th July and notice the Scout/Guide Barbecue is the following day. Some of us will be busy but we do need the money so please support these events. *Jazz.*

ROYAL ARMS IN GREAT AND LITTLE BROMLEY CHURCHES.

The Royal Arms have been placed in our churches since 1534, partly to show the parishioners loyalty to the Crown and partly to underline the supremacy of the Monarch as Head of the Church in England.

Little Bromley's Royal Arms date from 1816 and were made by Wallis and Coleman who had the first Colchester Iron Foundry in a yard on the north side of the west end of Colchester High Street not far from where Cullingfords have their shop. The shield has three lions guardant in the first and fourth quarters, the lion rampant of Scotland in the second quarter and Ireland's harp in the third. The electoral bonnet of Hanover shows Queen Anne's connection with that state.

At Great Bromley we have no sign of the Royal Arms until the Churchwardens Accounts for 1661 when Charles II became king and the monarchy was restored in England, and I find the following:

1661 pd to Sol(omon) Mason for setting up ye King's Arms £3 0s 0d.

These few details confirm that the Rector of Great Bromley, Richard Bowes, BA, son of Sir Thomas Bowes Kt., born at the Hall, Great Bromley, was truly anxious not to offend his Monarch nor his father, a local Justice of the Peace and then Patron of the Living.

Little Bromley still has its Royal Arms, what happened to those of Great Bromley? *John Appleby.*

KITCHEN CORNER.

This month some useful hints; when a recipe uses either egg yolks or whites only, here are some ideas for using the left overs. Yolks: use for mayonnaise, egg custard, enriching pastry or scone mix, scrambled eggs. Poach and use as a sandwich filling or garnish. Use for sponge cakes (add a tablespoon of water for each yolk and extra raising powder). Meringues: these will store for several days in the fridge in an airtight container. Use for meringues, souffles, mousse or icing and can also be whipped into double cream to make it go further, or use for ice sorbets. When using lemons if juice only is required, grate off the zest first and freeze for future use. Freeze spare lemon juice in ice-cube trays. For a shining glaze on pastry etc., add a pinch of salt to beaten egg. If a cake won't turn out of the tin, try standing on a cold wet cloth for a few seconds. White sauce goes lumpy ~ whisk like mad! Egg custard curdles ~ strain into a cold bowl and whisk. *Jill Frostick*

ENDPIECE!

An elderly canon at Durham Cathedral had rigidly fixed views on what was fitting attire to be worn inside his particular House of God, though ones that showed little understanding of the modern lady's wardrobe. Told by one of the cathedral guides that a woman had just walked inside dressed in a bikini, his reply was forthright and unbending: "Then tell her to take it off!"

The Bromley Messenger July 1991.

This month we are pleased to include an advertisement from the Tendring Hundred Farmers' Club announcing the Annual Tendring Show to be held at Lawford on Saturday, 14th July. In addition to all the customary features, this year there is to be a new exhibit 'Our Countryside'. This will endeavour to show the evolution and growth of our part of the countryside as a farming area from the very earliest days of man's settlement here. Use will be made of archaeological and historical finds showing how man has worked with nature from the beginning, to include such diverse topics as boat building, manufacture of goods, as well as farming in all its various forms. It will also look at the future evolution of the area as a prime agricultural producing part of the country. Such issues as the 'Greenhouse Effect' will be raised as well as other 'green' issues, from the point of view of the local inhabitant as well as the farmer. The exhibition will be looking back on our past, but will also very positively be looking to the future.

Once again the Harwich Deanery Synod will be mounting a Church Stand where, during the day, there will be puppet shows, a singing and dance group and possibly hand bell ringing. A bookstall will be provided and stewards who will be available to provide information about local churches and their activities.

Adjacent to the stand there will be a caravan provided by the Mothers' Union as a place where mothers can find some peace and quiet for attending to their babies and young children. On Friday, 13th July, the Bishop of Colchester will visit the stand at 7.30pm when he will celebrate Holy Communion. All are welcome to join him at this service. Concessionary admittance tickets for the Show are available at various outlets, including Great Bromley Post Office.

TENDRING HUNDRED SHOW

Lawford House Park Nr. Manningtree

SATURDAY 13th JULY 1991

LIVESTOCK * TRADESTANDS * HORSE AND PONY JUMPING * ART SHOW *

EDUCATION TENT * HOME AND GARDEN SHOW * DOG SHOW * A THEME EXHIBITION

"OUR COUNTRYSIDE"

Concession tickets from Great Bromley and Little Bromley Post Offices

Adults £3. Children and OAP'S £2 if bought before the show day.

FREE CAR PARK

POWER STATION.

The plans for a power station on the boundaries of Ardleigh/Lawford/Little and Great Bromley have now been submitted to Tendring District Council. If you wish to express your objections to the 'Lawford Power Station', please write to the Secretary of State for Energy, Electricity Division 'A', Room 2.3.15, 1 Palace Street, Victoria, London W1E 5HE, not later than 24th July, 1991.

Also to Mr. R. Stewart (Head of Planning), Tendring District Council Offices, Thorpe Road, Weeley, Essex C016 9AJ. This is an industrial building which should be on an industrial site, NOT on a green field in open countryside.

DON'T DELAY - WRITE TODAY.

RELOCATION OF VILLAGE SIGN - REPLICA.

This was made in 1980 by D. Wright and painted by Charles Deere for Great Bromley Queen's Float which at that time, was a haywain cart and won 2nd prize in Colchester Carnival of that year. The sign has been put above the stage in the Village Hall; the design of the Sign was by Charles and Peggy Deere. *Jean Wright.*

A MESSAGE FROM JEAN HARDING.

Many parishioners will remember from the lovely Garden Day we had six years ago, Judge Eliot and Betty Pownall who were at the time staying with us in the village. They are both direct descendents of the Stone brothers. We called upon them in Laguna Hills where they live in California (not far from Hollywood and Disneyland) and we were given a most wonderful welcome. We stayed the night and were taken to their S. George's Church, very different from ours with its neo-Mexican look. It is a hive of activity, the Vicar uses a computer to keep things up to date and is expanding to make more room for the school attached to it. Eliot and Betty have very fond memories of their visit to Great Bromley, and to the wonderful sermon preached

by our Rector. They wished that they had had a tape recorder but have given an open invitation to him to preach at their S. George's! Betty recalls her nervousness and her pride at being asked to read the lesson and even has a photograph of herself at the lectern which was taken for the record the next day. They ask to be remembered to everyone, especially to those whose gardens they visited. They live in a huge complex called Leisure World (pronounced leezure world), the main qualification being that one is over fifty-five years old. It is a green oasis, watered, guarded and tended, and contains everything an older person might want from activities to hospitalisation! You can understand how they loved Great Bromley where you all know each other!

Next stop was further north near the great and beautiful Pacific Ocean, still in California, a place called Carmel, Monterey, famous for John Steinbeck, Robert Louis Stevenson and film stars! Here live Ben and Virginia Stone who, with Ben Stone Jnr., came to last year's Harvest Supper. Again what hospitality! We were taken all along the famous Californian coast, along to Big Sur, the seventeen Mile Drive, to Cannery Row etc. Ben Jnr. is trying to engender more interest in the Stone genealogy and in time, hopeful of raising funds for Saint George's, Great Bromley. We are so very grateful for the interest and industry of our American friends.

ROBERT HARDING'S 'THANK YOU'

The glass goblet splendidly engraved with the details of S. George's church on the bowl, and lettered at the base, is a joy to behold, and hold. I am greatly honoured by the gift and I thank all who have contributed in thought and deed. But more so am I grateful for the support of the congregation through twelve years as a churchwarden of the parish, during two interregnums and the tenure of three priests, all of whom it has been a pleasure to serve. Nor do I forget Arnold Waldock who twice so manfully and with dignity and charm, kept the parish going in the absence of a Rector. Thank you all for your support and the gift of a memento, and particularly to those who made it a reality.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

At our July meeting we are to be entertained on the piano by Mr. P. King of Colchester. The competition - the prettiest paper serviette. On 3rd July the coach will leave Elmstead at 9.00am for our outing to Wisbeach. Please note the early start. *Mildred Purkis.*

BAR-B-QUE.

A Bar-B-Que to raise funds for the Young People's Football at Hare Green Recreation Ground will be held on Saturday, 27th July from 12.30pm at the 'Black Boy' Public House. Entertainment, Bouncy Castle etc., children welcome. Tickets available from the 'Black Boy' and Great Bromley Post Office at £2 each.

GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

Play Equipment: small items of play equipment now available from Ruth Lawson, 'Wymundham', Chase Road East, these include rounders kit. A deposit will be necessary.

Field Day: We are holding a Field Day on Saturday, 14th September at 2.00pm. There will be Aerobic Dancing displays, folk dancing, lots of other attractions and the usual stalls. Anyone wishing to book a table for this event please ring Doreen on 250918 or Ruth on 251263.

Craft Fayre: On Saturday, 19th October at 2.00pm there will be a Craft Fayre in the Village Hall. Anyone wishing to book a table please ring Eileen on 250300 or Dee on 250989.

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND.

With your wonderful support we raised at my coffee morning on 14th May, the splendid sum of £219.30. The SCF have asked me to thank you all for your wonderful effort, and may I also say thank you, your help for this event is very much appreciated by me. *Rose F. Field.*

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Our next meeting on Thursday, 4th July will be at the Cheshire Home Chapel at 7.30pm. Mr. Forsyth of the Essex Wildlife Trust will be our speaker and will show us slides of the Trust's activities which should be very interesting, please do come along. Bring a friend with you, or better still a prospective member, we still have room for a few more members.

Blenheim Nursery of Crockleford supplied us with plants for sale at the Cheshire Home Fete on a 'sale or return' basis for which we are very grateful. Mr. J. Wild kindly supplied us with cabbages and lettuce for sale also, our thanks to him too, and because of this we were able to raise £130 for the Cheshire Home. *R. Field.*

KITCHEN CORNER.

A recipe this month from our WI president, June Wilgress. She says she learnt to make these when she was at school.

8 oz rolled oats 4 oz margarine 2 tablespoons SR flour

Pinch of salt 2 tablespoons sugar 2 tablespoons golden syrup

Shallow baking tin (greased)

Melt sugar, syrup and margarine together in a saucepan. Mix flour, rolled oats and salt together. When mixture in saucepan is melted add dry ingredients and mix well together. Tip mixture into baking tin. Spread evenly to a depth of about ½ inch and bake for about thirty minutes at 350°. Cut into shapes required when nearly cold.

WI NEWS.

Jill Frostick was our delegate to the Triennial AGM in Birmingham. This was the first to be held at the National Exhibition Centre instead of the Royal Albert Hall in London. The huge arena at the NEC enabled all of the 9,100 WI's to send a delegate. The two day meeting was most enjoyable and interesting. Guest speakers were David McLean, the Minister of Food and Anita Rodick of Body Shop fame. She was most entertaining and kept us all laughing, making a little light relief between the debates on resolutions.

An evening concert was much enjoyed with performances from massed WI choirs and the Brass Band of Jaguar Motors, Coventry. We had a pleasant hotel in Coventry and an excellent coach driver so the two day trip was a successful and happy event.

SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY.

The annual WI party for Senior Citizens of The Bromleys will be held on Thursday, 12th September at 5pm for 5.30pm. All senior citizens of the parishes are most welcome to attend, also all members of the Friendship Club. The entertainment will be provided by the Rondo Singers. Book this date in your diary now and we look forward to seeing you!

GARDEN IN JULY.

Water lawns in dry spells and treat badly growing areas. Mow at least once a week.

Think ahead for autumn and plant some colchicums, autumn flowering crocus and some cyclamen hederifolium, they should be available in Garden Centres now. Regular dead-heading of perennials, biennials and summer bedding is a must if you want to enjoy the maximum possible number of flowers in your borders, continue to food plants which are in flower or in bud. Use a high potash feed such as Chempak No.4. The battle against fast seeding weeds is still on, regular hoeing will not only stop them seeding but will make things tidier. Smarten up plants in window boxes and tubs by regular dead-heading, also regular feeding. When runner beans reach the top of the canes pinch out the growing shoots, give the cabbage butterfly a spray of Tumblebug. *Fred Wickham.*

DO YOU REMEMBER THE MOLE-CATCHER?

Henry VIII is remembered because he had six wives and was given the title of Defender of the Faith now shown on our coinage as F.D. Actually Henry, his Ministers and Parliament gave us more than these two items in history, such as Parish Registers for Births, Marriages and Burials (from 1538) and numerous Acts to ensure the poor were looked after, the health of people was protected. The Churchwardens and other parish officers carried out duties enforcing the Acts. In 1533 every parish had to provide a net to ensnare the countless rooks, crows and choughs which endangered health and crops. The Act was renewed and enlarged in 1566 and the Churchwardens and six other parishioners had to assess landowners for a tax for a fund for paying a penny for three heads of old 'crowes, chowes, pyes or rockes' and a penny for every six young owls or every six unbroken eggs. Little wildlife was sacred and even sparrows and hedgehogs and foxes were killed. The Act was more strongly enforced in 1572 and then 1598.

In Great Bromley there are only accounts of money paid for foxes killed.

1653	Paid to Richard Stone for killing of two foxes ye summe of tenn shillings	00 10 00
1665	Paid Steven Siday for killing a ffox	00 02 00
	Paid John Goodall for killing a ffox	00 02 00
1669	Paid for killing 2 foxes	00 05 00
	Paid John Blo(y)es for killing on(e) more	00 0 2 06
1676	Paid to Bradley for killing A fox	0 3 0
1677	Paid to Richard Heartford for killing of 3 young foxes	0 10 0
1678	For keling of thre(e) foxes to A. S(iday)	10 00

At Little Bromley we read:

1770	Paid Crampin for three old Foxes 15 00 and for five Cubs 5 00
1771	Paid John Cramping for two old Foxes 10 00 and for three cubs 3 00
1781	Paid Rob Mason for 2 young fox 2 00 Paid do for 3 foxes more, Cubs 3 00

So if you remember the mole catcher you will see that his job came about because of Henry VIII and his wish to make England more healthy. *John Appleby.*

TIME CYCLE.

Long years ago, folk used to ride
on pedal cycles, far and wide.
Strong head winds always seemed to blow
Which made the going rough and slow,
Whilst now and then the greasy chain
Came off the free wheel yet again
And faulty brakes caused many spills
On steep and never-ending hills;
The squeaking pedals needing oil
Intensified the strife and toil
And saddle lacking padded foam
Seemed to send the message home T
hat this really not the way
To ride in luxury each day.
When weary legs and aching back
Upon that mobile torture rack
Made fevered flights of fancy seen
In yearnings for a limousine!
But all those times are long since gone,
Now every day we motor on
Despite the fact there's all this fuss
Which blames polluted air on us,
And we're now urged to jog or hike
And to 'RECYCLE' that old bike!

A.H.C.

S. GEORGE'S GREAT BROMLEY YOUTH GROUP.

On Wednesday, 29th May, in the half-term holiday the Youth Group met at the bottom of Mary Lane North for a two hour 'litter picking' event. Around twenty children from the Youth Group attended with the help of some mums. We managed to collect a staggering thirty-one bags of rubbish! All sorts of things were found in the ditches, from numerous whisky bottles to road signs, number plates and hundreds of drink cans and some carpet. We only cleared the area between the Black Boy and the Cross Inn! I wonder how many hundreds of bags we would have filled if we would have carried on around the village.

Many thanks to Henry Fairley for picking up the bags along the road and to PC Philips for making sure we were safe.

We ended the afternoon with a barbecue and games at Fir Tree Cottage. *Suzanne Abbott.*

THE MESSENGER.

We are planning to publish the Messenger so that it is available for distribution by the last Sunday in the previous month. In order to ensure this for the August edition, can contributions be sent to the Rectory by Monday, 15th July please.

Tear out and keep for future reference.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.

LOCAL BUSINESS.

Anjo Knitwear:

Machine knitted garments, all sizes from 22" upwards. Sweaters, jackets, cardigans, individual designs.

Reasonable prices, wide range of colours and designs.

Quotations and samples from Mrs. Joy Golding, Meadow Croft, Chase Road East, Great Bromley

ERF Garden Care:

Garden maintenance, fencing, turfing, rotavating. Drives, paths, patios.

Mower repairs and welding. Sand and ballast.

Free estimates. Ring Eric Foot on 251304.

Beaver Windows:

Suppliers and installers of quality windows, doors, conservatories in UPVC, hardwood, aluminium. Our emphasis high quality and low cost.

Ring Brian Giles on 230485 for estimate.

House Clearance/Antiques:

Houses cleared. Free evaluations. Also interested in buying old furniture, jewellery, clocks and postcards etc. Ring Ken Hazel on (0206) 298644.

Pat Peachev Secretarial and Business Services:

Book-keeping, manuscripts, theses, correspondence, CV's etc. A comprehensive service for individuals, sole traders and cottage industries. Competitive rates. Tel: Fax (0206) 396908.

1st Choice Roofing: All aspects of roofing, torch supplied.

High performance felts a speciality. Ring for a free quotation on 230303.

Rustic Garden Furniture:

Oak and pine picnic tables from £50, benches £40. Rose arches £25. Trellis, swings, flower troughs, bird tables. You name it, we'll make it at competitive rates. Ring 230906.

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The Bromley Messenger August 1991.

In this issue of 'The Messenger' you will find a new feature which we plan to produce monthly. It is a Puzzle Corner in which a puzzle will be set each month. Although the puzzles are aimed at the younger reader, we hope that they will appeal to all who read this, and will keep brains of all ages buzzing! I am very grateful to our contributor, who prefers to be known by a pseudonym, 'Sirah', for making this suggestion and for providing the puzzles. The solution to each month's puzzle will appear in the following month; perhaps those who solve them might like to send their solution to the editor. From time to time there will be a special prize puzzle. This month's brain teaser on page 5 might be easier for the older reader! (this is a clue!) We hope that this extra feature will make the magazine even more interesting.

I am most grateful to all who send contributions in for publication, please keep them coming in. Some of the articles received are very long and, unfortunately, the editorial blue pencil has to come into use. To avoid having to cut down on your articles, it would help if they could be confined to about half a page of this typescript; that is about two hundred words. This will not always be possible, but if you can help in this way we will be able to include more information. Incidentally, there are still organisations who do not send in their information. We welcome contributions from all organisations and what about reader's letters? We could always make room for some!

We are very grateful to Bromley Private Hire, Southview, Ardleigh Road, Great Bromley, and Finishing Touches, 11 Feverills Road, Little Clacton, for sponsoring this month's issue. We hope that our support will be our thanks to them.

September Issue: Contributions to the Rectory no later than Friday 9th August please.

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GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL.

The Chairman Mr. Peter Wenden, and the Committee, are asking for your support in attending the fund raising events in the near future which are being held to help meet the costly expenses of the repairs needed to the Hall, so will you ALL please make a note of these dates for the rest of 1991 and support them if you can.

10th August: Car boot sale 12.00 to 4.00pm with strawberry teas available. £5 each car before the day and £6 on the day. Phone: 230008 or 230506.

27th September: Variety Concert, tickets, phone: 230584 or 230086.

26th October: Horse Racing Evening.

7th December: Christmas Bazaar.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Do not forget our meeting on Thursday, 1st August, will be our Annual Show and Cheese and Wine evening in the grounds of Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths house, starting at 7.00pm. The charge is £2 per member and £3 per guest. Do see that your exhibits are in by 12 o'clock on the day and lots of them please! Come and show us what you can do. We look forward to meeting you there.
R. F. Field.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

A speaker from Acorn Press will be our guest at the August meeting. The competition: the prettiest cup and saucer. The Friendship Players continue to give their show at various clubs for the Hospice Fund. The outing to Thetford Forest, with tea at the popular Dunwich Tea Rooms will leave Elmstead at 10.00am on Thursday, 22nd August. *Mildred Purkis.*

FLOWER FESTIVAL: 29th and 30th JUNE.

We are still reeling in disbelief that we had two day of beautiful sunshine; what encouragement! The plant, vegetable and cut flower stall was very well supported for which we thank the members of the public, some coming from quite a distance, Wales and Australia! Of course our beautiful church is well known in America because of its strong connections with the Stone family but we know that S. George's church is spoken of in many other countries.

Our special thanks to Mrs. Biddis for her generous offer to use her front lawn for the second day which certainly helped to increase the takings. Sincere thanks also to Mr. and Mrs. James Wild, Dean Bros., Blenheim Nurseries, Oakdene Nurseries, Hull Farm and Hollydene Nursery for once again donating so many plants and flowers. We were also very pleased to receive many plants from our friends in the village: thanks a lot. *Vicky and Frank Griffiths.*

THE DECADE OF EVANGELISM.

What a riot of beautiful colours in themes interpreting so well the different parts of evangelism; thank you for all your work and lovely arrangements, and for putting up with me! I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. So now let our 'lights' really shine out always to show others that if you depend and walk with God, nothing is impossible. Let us pray in our small ways that He can depend on us to make this world a better place, beautiful and successful like out Festival. Thank you. *Betty Rowe.*

ALEXANDER ROSE DAY.

The residents and staff of Fernside would like to thank Mrs. Frostick and all the people who contributed to the Alexander Rose Day collection and then made the donation to us towards purchasing percussion instruments. Anyone walking down Harwich Road will now understand that the (hopefully) melodic sounds emerging from Fernside will be our band practising, many happy hours will he spent making our own music. Thank you everyone. *Hilary Mollatt.*

BRIGHTLINGSEA AND DISTRICT ROTARY CLUB.

One of our claims of Rotary is 'Service above Self' and the President, Terry Youngs from Elmstead Market, in his year of office made Hamilton Lodge one of his main charities to support. We are pleased to say that we gave some £2,000 towards repairs to the gatehouse, refurbishing one bathroom and a new cooker and fridge freezer. During the coming year I will be telling you about some of the Club's activities which you may feel able to support as the Bromleys are part of the 'district'. If you would like any more details please contact me at any time. *Len Christodoulides.*

PUZZLE CORNER.

All the following sums are correct, why?

1) $\begin{array}{r} 58 \\ +39 \\ \hline 91 \end{array}$	2) $\begin{array}{r} 37 \\ +28 \\ \hline 63 \end{array}$	3) $\begin{array}{r} 57 \\ +25 \\ \hline 82 \end{array}$	4) $\begin{array}{r} 39 \\ +56 \\ \hline 93 \end{array}$	5) $\begin{array}{r} 29 \\ +19 \\ \hline 44 \end{array}$
6) $\begin{array}{r} 22 \\ +22 \\ \hline 51 \end{array}$	7) $\begin{array}{r} 22 \\ 22 \\ \hline 50 \end{array}$			

'Sirah'.

GUIDES.

The last half-term holiday began with the Daffodil Patrol spending a few days camping in the garden of Michaelmas House. The Camp Adviser visited and tested for the Camp Preparation Pennant and we enjoyed a bike ride, games and activities. The Swallows spent their camp at Badley Hall and visited the roller skating rink.

At the June meeting the guides decorated tent pegs and there is now a tent peg to represent each camp held over the past three years. Brownies and Guides celebrated 4th July by inviting parents and friends to an Independence Day event at the Hut. The Guides are looking forward to

their Summer Camp in August at Thorrington and will be abseiling, canoeing and walking an orienteering course. A Youth. Hostelling weekend has been planned in September at Brandon in Suffolk.

Congratulations to Elisha on passing her Child Care Badge and to Daffodil Patrol on passing their Camp Preparation Pennant; Alison Taylor has been welcomed to meetings. There will be a Beetle Drive on 3rd September at Badley Hall; tickets available from the Guides. *Middle C.*

BROWNIES.

We welcome Natalie, Jennifer and Kelly to our Pack, Natalie and Jennifer having made their Promise. Sophie earned her Roadway badge, Sarah L and Sophie their 1st birthday badge and Emma N her 2nd birthday badge. We wish Alison best wishes on leaving to join the Guides, and Dumbo on completing her assignment as Pack Leader. The Brownies have spruced up their Six Corners and are learning knitting and crocheting. Mrs. Coppin organised a Table Top Sale in her garden in June and raised £117 for the Brownies. Very many thanks to her and all who gave their support.

In June Hannah, Chloe, Kate, Aniela, Sarah L, Sarah O and Kizzy went to Revels hosted this year by Ardleigh. Everyone took a bear as the theme for the evening was Teddy Bears and the competition for the Shield was for the Brownies to make a carnival float for their teddys, decorate it and name it. To everyone's delight Great Bromley won the Shield this year. Well done Brownies.

On 4th July the Brownies, with the Guides, held an Independence Open Evening to which parents and friends were invited. Thank you to all who came. We ended the term preparing to go on Pack Holiday in Great Bentley and look forward to seeing all Brownies again, and anyone over seven who would like to join us, on Thursday, 5th September.

THANK YOU.

I would like to thank everyone who helped to make my table top sale a huge success. The Brownies were delighted with the £107 that was raised. A special thanks to Lorna and Chris for their help in setting everything up that day, and many thanks to the Black Boy for holding a raffle for us which raised a further £10. *Di Coppin.*

METHODIST CHAPEL.

By popular request the Rev. John Robinson invites you to a Harvest Festival of Praise led by Boxted Methodist Silver Band at 2.30pm on Sunday, 15th September (please note the new time) in Brightlingsea United Church. This is down Ladysmith Avenue, through the Town Centre, turn left at Hurst Green. Tea and biscuits will be available.

Also on Monday, 16th September at 2.45pm the Rev. John Robinson leads harvest hymns with his accordion, with Rex Dowling at the organ. Please phone Brightlingsea 302170 to reserve places for your coach party.

THE GARDEN IN AUGUST.

Keep lawns regularly trimmed and tidy, do not mow too short in case the dry spell could burn off the grass. Sow some herbaceous seeds of perennials, i.e. delphinium, columbine and poppy for flowering next year, sow them in seed beds towards the end of the month, also get some seeds for free, wait until seed heads have formed and ripened naturally, then collect the seeds as they start to open, label them and store in a cool place. Sow winter flowering pansies to cheer up the gloomy days of winter. This is the month to prune plums, damsons, cherries and any tree susceptible to silver leaf, take out dead, dying or over crowded branches. Shallots and onions can be harvested this month but be careful not to injure them when lifting, pick runner . beans regularly to get better crops, also water. Keep the hoe going. Fred Wickham.

KITCHEN CORNER.

Spinach is plentiful now and you might like to try these tartlets.

½ lb spinach cooked and finely chopped.

Salt and pepper.

¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg.

1 large beaten egg.

3 tablespoons cream or top of the milk.

3-4 oz mature cheddar cheese, grated.

6-8 oz shortcrust pastry.

Combine spinach, seasonings, nutmeg, egg, cream and most of the cheese and mix thoroughly. Roll out pastry and use to line 4 individual Yorkshire pudding tins, or 8 patty tins, crimping the edges. Spoon mixture into the pastry cases until almost full. Sprinkle with remaining cheese and cook 400° F for about 30 minutes until firm and pastry is cooked. You can serve these either hot, warm or cold. *Jill Frostick.*

SO YOU ARE A READER?

On Saturday, 22nd June, I was present with some 8,000 Readers of the Church of England and their families at the Birmingham National Exhibition Centre to take part in the events staged there to recall that it is one hundred and twenty five years since the Office of Reader was revived. The Office is an ancient one and up to late Tudor times the Reader was in great demand since there was a dearth of clergy. The Elizabethan clergy however, felt that Readers became too much like ordained men and the number admitted was drastically cut. Holders of the Office continued to take services at parish churches but it was not until there was again a shortage of clergy in 1866 that the Reader ministry was actively, but begrudgingly, revived by the Archbishops and Convocation.

It was most interesting therefore, to find in a document at Essex Record Office that Great Bromley was involved with a Reader from 1583 until at least 1587. The document says: '1587 - schoolmaster - (Christian name omitted) Scofield of Great Bromley was presented (to the Archdeacon) for saying service ... but he exhibited his licence from the Bishop of Norwich dated four years earlier (1583)'.

The Rector of Great Bromley from 1581 to 1600 was Peter Wentworth who was also Rector of Abberton (1578- 1591), Gestingthorpe (1582-1599) and chaplain to Lord D'Arcy who resided at S. Osyth. A busy incumbent who no doubt needed help! As Archbishop Carey said 'this ministry is possibly more crucial now as the church moves further into the Decade of Evangelism'.

John Appleby.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

SWEET SUCCESS: Wedding and all occasion cakes, novelty cakes, gateaux etc. Catering for weddings, business lunches, dinners, parties etc. Crockery and cutlery hire. Phone: Linda Pinhey, Forge Cottage, Great Bromley. Colchester 230126.

FRESH FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS for weddings, done to order. (three weeks notice please). Please telephone Betty Rowe on Colchester 231067.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

Flower Festival: this was a great success, the arrangements in church were quite outstanding, the concert of Indian Music was memorable and the stalls and refreshments were most welcome and all helped to achieve a really good result. A profit of £917.26 has been paid into the church funds. Thank you all who so willingly arranged and supported this venture. There will be a meeting during September to discuss the details of a fund raising event for 1992.

PCC Treasurer: as Mr. Bill Walker reluctantly concluded that he would not be able to take on the office of PCC treasurer, Mr. Gordon Brown, Wayside, Hall Road, Great Bromley, has been elected to fill the position. We are very grateful to him for undertaking this most necessary office.

Church Repairs: at long last all the necessary procedures have now been completed and work on the interior of the tower and belfry is to commence this month. The very good news is that English Heritage have offered a grant of just over £8,000 to help pay for this, the total cost of which will be about £20,000. The balance we have in the Repair Fund will cover the rest of the costs. This means that by the Autumn we will be able to hear the bells of S. George's once again, silent for over three years. We hope to announce a date next month when practise ringing and the instruction of new ringers will commence.

As a result of the electric storm on 19th June further repairs to the masonry of the tower, the repositioning of the lightning conductor and some electrical rewiring in the church has to be undertaken. This is all to be covered by an insurance claim and will be put in hand as soon as the insurers give authority.

Finally, the bells of S. Mary's Church, Little Bromley, have now been restored and will be able to be rung from time to time. When the interior of the church has been renovated and we can hold occasional services there, the bells will ring out once again to call us to worship.

Please note that on Sunday, 18th August, Sunday, 25th August and Sunday, 1st September there will be fig Evening Service at S. George's Church. The other services on these three Sundays will continue as usual.

The Sunday Children's Service closed for the holiday month and will resume at 9.45am on Sunday, 8th September.

The S. George's Youth Group finished its term on 17th July with a very well attended Disco, and will resume its meetings on Wednesday, 11th September. A varied programme of activities has been welcomed by the members this term, including a most enjoyable weekend camp at East Mersea when twenty members and five leaders took part in the Red Braces Youth Camp led by the Diocesan Youth Chaplain. The success of this club is due to a great deal of hard work and enthusiasm from the leaders, in particular Suzanne Abbott and Richard Davey. We thank them for all their efforts.

Harvest Thanksgiving: the Harvest Thanksgiving at S. George's church will take place in September. On Thursday, 19th September, there will be the Annual Harvest Service at 7.30pm. The preacher will be the newly appointed Rural Dean, the Revd. Peter Ball, the Rector of Lawford. The School Service will be held on Friday, 20th September at 2.00pm when we will be able to welcome all parents and friends of the school. The Harvest Supper will be on Saturday, 21st September, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. This year the men of the parish are to provide the supper, and an entertainment is to be given by some of the members of the Friendship Club. Tickets for this will be available early next month, and the Harvest Thanksgiving will continue with the Sunday Services on Sunday, 22nd September.

THE DIOCESAN CYCLE RIDE.

Each year on the second Saturday in September, the Friends of Essex Churches arrange this event. Cyclists are asked to visit as many churches as possible and to gain sponsorship for the number visited. The funds raised in this way are sent to the Friends of Essex Churches who return one half of the amount collected to the church concerned. We hope to have a team of riders to take part this year. Old and young can undertake this. If you are willing to cycle a few miles, please collect information from Yvonne Cobbold who will be able to give you a sponsor sheet, an official badge and a list of local churches which can be visited. There will be a reminder of this next month.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

After a very active and successful term, the summer term at S. George's School ended on Friday, 19th July. Fourteen pupils from year six left to go to Manningtree School. They were each presented with a New Testament from Saint George's Church. Mrs. Kinnersley, the Head's relief, left after five years. She was presented with a leaving gift from the children.

During the holiday a much needed addition is being made to the school, a water supply and sinks to the two relocatable classrooms are being installed. Term resumes on Wednesday, 4th September.

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 4th August Balls Green 11am Revd. J. Robinson

Sunday 11th August Burnt Heath 11am Mr. B. Clow

Sunday 18th August Elmstead 11am Revd. J. Robinson

Sunday 25th August Balls Green 11am Mr. D. Marshall

The Bromley Messenger September 1991.

For most people holidays are over and the busy daily life comes to the fore. This is true, not only of our personal lives, but also of the community life of the village, for September is the month when all the activities of the village resume. S. George's School resumes on Wednesday, 4th September, the Youth Club reopens on Wednesday, 11th September, the Play Group recommences its activities on 4th September, and so on. In the church, both the Parish Church and the Methodist Churches, September is the month of Thanksgiving for Harvest, and many of the villages will be gathering to give thanks to God for once more providing us with His bounty of harvest and the promise of filling our needs for yet another year.

All who have in the past donated and worked so hard for S. George's Church Repair Fund will be pleased to know that at last the final part of the tower repairs has now begun. The contractors moved in on 15th August to make good the ravages of time and the dreaded beetle to the interior woodwork of the tower. We hope that by the end of the month this work will have been completed, resulting in the successful renovation of the tower. By October we hope to be able to commence bell-ringing again and in the meantime, we hope that there will be a minimum of disturbance to the church and its activities during the repair work.

This month we thank the Pat Peachey Secretarial and Business Services of Ardleigh Road, Little Bromley, for their sponsorship of the Messenger. Their help in publishing this village magazine is much appreciated. Can contributions for the October edition of the Messenger be sent to the Rectory not later than Monday, 16th September please.

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HARVEST THANKSGIVING AT S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

Thursday, 19th September at 7.30pm. Offering of Gifts and Thanksgiving Service.

Preacher: The Revd. Peter Ball, Rector of Lawford and Rural Dean of Harwich.

Friday, 20th September at 2.00pm. S. George's School Harvest Service. All parents and friends are most welcome.

Sunday, 22nd September. 8.00am Holy Communion. 10.30am Family Service. Children of the church will take part and accompany some of the music. 6.30pm Evening Service.

The Harvest Supper will take place on Saturday, 21st September in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets, price £3.50 for adults and £2.50 for children, are now available from the Rectory or the church after any service. This year the meal is to be prepared by men of the parish, many of whom claim to be excellent cooks, so we wonder just what goods are in store for us. After the meal members of The Friendship Club are to provide the entertainment. As we can only accommodate about one hundred guests, please book your tickets early to ensure you are not disappointed.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

Children's Church.

The very successful Children's Services which were started in May, will resume at 9.45am on Sunday, 8th September. All children are most welcome, as also are parents. It has been most encouraging to have had mothers and fathers come with their children. Children, please bring recorders, or any other musical instrument. There will be opportunities to play at this service and to practise music to be played at the monthly Family Service.

The September Family Service will be on the Harvest Sunday, 22nd September, when we are arranging for some of the children to take part in the prayers, readings and playing for the hymns. The next Family Service will be on the first Sunday in October, 6th October.

Diocesan Cycle Ride. Yvonne Cobbold, the organiser of this event this year, can supply all who take part with lists of churches to visit, sponsor forms and distinctive badges for cyclists. The idea is to visit as many churches as possible, obtaining sponsorship for each visit. The proceeds are split between The Friends of Essex Churches who organise this event each year, and our own

church. As we have ourselves received grants from The Friends of Essex Churches for our tower repairs, we really ought to try to support this as much as possible. Please contact Yvonne (tel: 230360) or the Rector for more details.

Meetings.

The PCC will meet on Tuesday 10th September at 7.30pm in the Chapel of Seven Rivers Home. The main item on the Agenda will be to review the Baptismal policy of the parish.

On Tuesday, 17th September, there will be a meeting in the church at 8.00pm to discuss possible ways of fund raising for 1992. It has been suggested that next year we should seek an alternative to a Flower Festival. We hope that all who have helped in the past with Flower Festivals can be present and give their opinions on this matter, and consider other ideas which may be possible.

Church Organist.

We still desperately need a regular organist for Sunday Services and choir practise. If anyone knows where such a person can be found, please let the Rector know. We are most grateful to those who are helping us to maintain our Sunday morning services.

PUZZLE CORNER.

This month's puzzle is an old riddle:

A house full, a hole full,
But you cannot carry a bowl full.
What is it?

Last month's puzzle was a bit of a teaser but could be solved by bearing in mind the clue. All the sums were pre-metrical. Number 1 was pounds and ounces, number 2 . shillings and pence, number 3 tens and units, number 4 feet and inches, number 5 stones and pounds, number 6 yards and feet and number 7 tons and quarters. 'Sirah'

METHODIST SERVICES - SEPTEMBER.

Sunday 1st Burnt Heath 11.00am Revd. J. Robinson

Sunday 8th Elmstead 11.00am Miss R. Cronin

Sunday 15th Balls Green 11.00am Revd. J. Robinson Harvest Thanksgiving

Sunday 22nd Burnt Heath 11.00am Mr. G. Shutes Harvest Thanksgiving

Sunday 29th Elmstead 11.00am Mr. R. Gooch 6.30pm Revd. J. Robinson Harvest Thanksgiving

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

Our 1992 pantomime will be 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' on 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th January. A precasting meeting will be held on 24th September and a casting meeting on 26th September, both at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Seamstresses are still welcome as are any members. *Betty Rowe*

WI NEWS FLASH

Do not forget the party on 12th September. All senior citizens of the Bromleys are cordially invited for 5.30 tea followed by entertainment. Phone 230506 if you need transport.

GREAT BROMLEY (WRVS) FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

For our September meeting Mrs. Pat Potter will be talking to us on flower arranging. The competition: a flower arrangement in a thimble. The coach for the Theatre evening at the Westcliff will leave Elmstead at 6.00pm on 6th September. *Mildred Purkis*

GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

Our Field Day will be held on the Recreation Field at Hare Green on Saturday, 14th September at 2.00pm. There will be displays by Great Bromley Folk Dancers and also children from Debbie Miller's School of Dancing. We have lots of games including tombola and some new ones too. Why not have a train ride and for the children, the Bouncy Castle. Stalls will include books at 10p each, plants and children's toys etc. Some stalls will be run by local groups to assist in their own fund raising. Zak has organised races for the children and teas and delicious cakes will be available. See you there! *Eileen Fowler*

BROWNIES PACK HOLIDAY AT WEELEY.

We went on Pack Holiday and we would like to thank all the leaders for arranging it. The Great Bromley Brownies, who went were Kizzy, Kate, Lindsay, Hannah, Chloe, Aniela, Sarah. We went for a week and had lots of fun. Each day we had a 'special' and each day we enjoyed it. We had lots of fun. *Kizzy Coppin and Kate Martin*

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL PTA CAR RALLY.

This will be held on Sunday, 29th September. Adult tickets £2.75 to include burger, hot dog and soft drink. Childs ticket £1.50 to include burger or hot dog and soft drink. Creche facilities available for 2½ to 5 year olds. Tickets available from Ruth Lawson.

RURAL POWER STATION ACTION GROUP.

The Rural Power Station Action Group is holding a 'Barbecue and Country Dancing' evening in a marquee at Ash House, Little Bromley, on Friday, 20th September at 7.00pm to 11.30pm. Tickets are £6.50 each inclusive of barbecue. Everyone welcome. Tickets are obtainable from Joyce Fairley (Col. 230237).

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Well done members, you put on a great show with your exhibits. Mr. and Mrs. Hayward, our judges, must have had a very difficult task. We are very grateful to them for their efforts. Our next meeting is in the Cheshire Home Chapel on 5th September at 7.30pm when Mr. Pearce will be speaking to us about growing bulbs and how to get the best from them. See you all again there. *R. F. Field*

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR.

Nearby Elmstead used to have an annual fair on 15th May. Parishioners could buy toys and general pedlery. It later became associated with sheep sales. Great Bromley had a small fair for pedlery on 28th April recalls William White in his 1848 Directory of Essex, and earlier references to a market in the parish are found in records of 1575, 1594, and 1690. The last reference to a market is 1863. There does not appear to be a charter for the fair and market like that granted to Elmstead in 1265. In 1285 it became an offence to hold fairs or markets in churchyards but many were in spite of the consequences. In Henry VI's reign (1422-1461) it was illegal to hold fairs on Good Friday, Ascension Day, Corpus Christi, Whit Sunday, Trinity Sunday, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, All Saints' Day or on any Sunday except the four Sundays at Harvest time. *John Appleby*

THE GARDEN IN SEPTEMBER.

Sow that lawn this month and keep it well watered, otherwise get a good quality turf towards the end of the month and with a moss rake remove all the old thatch and dead moss, get a moss killer where the lawn has become waterlogged, follow the label on applications or you could make things a lot worse, moss readily invades any stressed lawn.

Lift and divide any overcrowded clumps of herbaceous plants keep only the best ones for replanting, sow sweet peas straight into the garden, in October sow into pots. Plant some bulbs into the grass, add with your daffodils some crocuses and cyclamen for a spring display. In the greenhouse build up numbers of your fuchsias and geraniums by taking cuttings to provide for your window boxes and hanging baskets.

Buy some autumn fruiting raspberry which will supply you with raspberries until the first frost, also start picking apples for store. Good harvesting. *Fred Wickham* .

DON'TS - FROM YOUR CHILD TO YOU.

Don't spoil me. I know as well as you that I shouldn't have everything I ask for. I'm only trying you out.

Don't let me get into bad habits. I rely on you to help me to stop them.

Don't make me feel even smaller than I am already. It makes me act big and then I make a fool of myself.

Don't pretend you're perfect or infallible ... I know you're not!

The Bromley Messenger October 1991.

We are very grateful to The Cross Inn and Motel, Ardleigh Road and D. W. Edwards, plumbing and heating of Little Clacton for their generosity in sponsoring this edition of The Messenger. Without their help, and that of all who over the year also act as sponsors, it would not be possible to produce this monthly magazine. Our warmest thanks go to them. We hope that organisations and groups within the two villages will keep on sending in their contributions for publication. We would like especially to hear from any organisations who have not used The Messenger as a means of telling the villages about themselves. There may be residents who have comments they would like to air about life in our community. We will always be pleased to include any letters on any subject which concern our readers. Contributions for the November edition should be sent to the Rectory not later than Tuesday, 15th October, for inclusion in the November edition.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

Term commenced on 4th September and all the children seemed very happy to be back at their desks. Mrs. Nina Young joined the staff as the Headteacher's relief. As is the custom the school children took part in a delightful Harvest Service in S. George's Church on 20th September and the following Monday distributed baskets of produce to some of the elderly residents of the village.

An important date for all parents is Monday, 14th October when the Annual Meeting of the PTA will take place, to be followed by the Annual Meeting at which the School Governors report on their activities and that of the school during the past year, and also seeks comments and questions from parents on matters relating to the school. The meetings commence at 8.00pm and we hope that all parents will be able to attend.

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GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Our next meeting will be a 'home visit' at a member's house, it will also be a 'cuttings evening' so please bring along your cuttings and any plants you may have for sale. Have you ideas for next year's programme? Give it a thought and let us know please. *R. Field*

THE GARDEN IN OCTOBER.

Use a spring tined rake to clear the thatch and moss which has accumulated through the summer on lawns and as leaves begin to fall, sweep them up as they could cause disease, put all leaves in the compost heap. Keep dead-heading bedding plants in window boxes and containers, they may soon be finished off by frosts, they will look neater and less likely to be attacked by grey mould, warning: take a close look at the compost in the baskets as they often harbour vine weevil larvae, do not be tempted to put it on the compost heap. Many herbaceous perennials are past their best now so cut away old flowering stems and damaged foliage, lift tuberous begonias, save the tubers for next year in a frost free shed. Put apples into store in ventilated boxes, watch for mice, start digging unused areas of vegetable plot adding plenty of manure and lime if needed. *Fred Wickham*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

The speaker at our September meeting was Miss Bicknell a Branch executive with Barclay's Bank. Members heard about the choices now available for different accounts and especially the services that might appeal to women. A brief history of banking included the origin of the term 'bankrupt' which came from Lombardy and was the breaking of the Banker's bench by angry

creditors! Later in the evening Miss Bicknell gave personal advice to various members and answered their queries.

Party. On 12th September the WI were hostess to senior citizens of the village and members of the Friendship Club. Everyone enjoyed a really good evening; a delicious tea was followed by entertainment provided by Mr. Baker on the piano, and the Rondo Singers, who soon had the audience joining in well-loved songs. The evening ended with a musical parcel, won by Mrs. Anns, and finally the draw for the raffle of numerous prizes, and flower arrangements done by the President, June Willgress. What a pity we had several vacant seats and would have liked more people to have come and joined us on this happy occasion.

COUNTRY AND WESTERN DANCE.

There will be a Country and Western Dance in Great Bromley Village Hall on Saturday, 12th October from 8.00 to 11.30, with the return of 'Jackson Queen'. Tickets are £4 each with senior citizens and children £2, and this includes a buffet. For tickets please telephone Bert on Colchester 231428.

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

We enjoyed our evening outing to the Westcliffe Theatre, a nice ending to our 1991 outings. Our own Friendship Players will be entertaining us at the 30th October birthday meeting. The competition - a pressed flower on a card. *Mildred Purkis*

HARE GREEN PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE - CRAFT FAYRE.

A Craft Fayre is to be held at the Village Hall on Saturday, 19th October at 2.00pm. There will be a variety of crafts, many made by people from the village, so why not come along and have a browse and maybe find some early Christmas presents. There will also be a raffle and refreshments. Any proceeds to the playing field.

GREAT BROMLEY CRICKET CLUB.

A plea to all dog owners who must exercise their dogs on the cricket pitch! Could you PLEASE keep your dog on a lead and if the dog fouls on the pitch could you PLEASE have the decency to remove it. *Lynda Allam*

BROMLEY BUSKERS.

At our AGM held recently it was shown that a profit of £1,800 had been made over the past year and this money was distributed as follows: Bromley Messenger £100, Guide Dog Appeal £200, Laser Appeal £200, Haven Appeal £200, Windsor School, Clacton £200, S. Helena Hospice £200, S. George's Church £200, Village Hall, Great Bromley £500.

Many thanks to all those who have supported us over the past years, without your support none of this would have been possible. *Lynda Allam*

DANCE IN AID OF THE VILLAGE HALL.

A dance in aid of the Village Hall will be held on Saturday, 16th November from 8pm to 12pm in the Village Hall. Dancing to music by The Brian Lee Sound.- Please give us the support you gave to the June Dance. Tickets available from Jean Wright, Committee members or Great Bromley Post Office.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE.

The Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday, 7th December in aid of the village hall and church funds starting at 2.30pm in the village hall. Any items for the usual stalls and raffle prizes would be most welcome. Any items to be collected please ring Jean Wright on 230663.

CARPET BOWLS.

The new season has opened and we look forward to some enjoyable evenings, these being Wednesday at 7.30pm in the village hall with the exception of the first in the month which belongs to the WI. Last year we bought a second carpet and that means sixteen people can be playing at any one time. There is to be an open evening on 23rd October and we invite anyone interested to come along and join us. We are a friendly bunch and will make you warmly welcome. The evening is free and we will give you coffee and biscuits. Put your barbecues away and 'roll out the carpet' instead. Do come and give it a try. *Nancy Kempster*

TEARCRAFT COFFEE MORNING.

There will be a coffee morning and bring-and-buy sale on Saturday, 19th October from 10am to 12 noon at The Chase, Chase Road East, Great Bromley. Handicrafts made by poor people in the Third World will be on sale. Do come along and buy your Christmas cards and presents.

DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION.

Exhibitions and Maintenance Grants for Educational purposes are offered to young people resident in Ardleigh, Bradfield, Great Bromley, Dedham and Stratford S. Mary. Application forms may be obtained from Christopher Barlow, 47 Butt Road, Colchester, Essex C03 3BZ, Clerk to the Governors. Closing date 20th October, 1991.

QUAKERS IN GREAT BROMLEY.

Research shows that the Society of Friends, the Quakers, were found in many parishes in North East Essex in the 17th and 18th century. Great Bromley had its Meeting. For information on this we turn to the Quarter Sessions records.

In 1706 private houses were licensed at the Sessions held in Chelmsford and among those listed is Nicholas Bundocks house at Much Bromley. In 1711 the Monthly Meeting (equivalent to a Deanery Synod today) was held in various places in the Tendring Hundred and that once held every quarter at Thorpe-le-Soken is now held at Nicholas Bundock's house at Great Bromley. The Register of the Colchester Quakers records that Nicholas Bundock married Jane Woodford in 1688 and had at least four children. His son Nicholas was born in 1689 but died, aged 1½ years, in 1690. Another son, Jonathan was born in 1696, Pressley in 1698 and a second Nicholas in 1701. The mother died in 1742.

While farmers of the 18th century generally tried to pay as little tithe as possible the Quakers were most resolute and declined to pay any at all as George Fox, their founder, had said 'they that take tythes and they that pay tythes according to the old covenant deny Jesus Christ, the everlasting Priest to be come in the flesh and here these Priests show themselves to be AntiChrist ...' All who read or heard Fox's words were told 'never come more at the steeple-house (church) nor pay your Priest more tythes ... if ye do, ye uphold them in their sins and must partake in their plagues. '

The central repository for Quaker records is at the Society of Friends, Friends House, Euston Road, London. Registers were handed over in 1837 to the Registrar General and are now in the care of the Public Record Office. *John Appleby*

BROMLEY CONSERVATIVES.

There will be a Barn Harvest Supper on Saturday, 2nd November at Brundells Farm from 7.30 to 10pm. Tickets from Len Christodoulides (257264) at £3.50 each.

KITCHEN CORNER.

If you are like me and sometimes have more courgettes than you expected, you might like to try this recipe from my American cookbook. It is delicious and makes a good accompaniment to cold meats or for snacks or picnics.

Zucchini Squares.

3 cups of zucchini (courgettes) thinly sliced

½ cup self raising flour

½ cup grated cheese

½ cup of oil

4 eggs and seasoning.

Beat eggs in a large bowl, mix in other ingredients and season with salt, pepper, garlic powder to taste and/or herbs. Pour into a square tin or pyrex dish and bake 40-45 minutes at 350° F (moderate oven). Cut into squares when cooled. (American cups are approximately 6 fluid ounces). *Jill Frostick*

THE COOKING CANON.

The Reverend John Eley, the cooking Canon, will be at Great Bentley Village Hall on Saturday, 19th October at 7.30pm. Tickets £6 each from the Vicar (250476) Janet 94-830177 or Cynthia (250069).

GIRL GUIDES.

We arrived at Thorrington prepared for the coming week; this year's theme was explorers, our leaders missionaries and the patrols natives and savages. On Sunday we went to chapel and discovered our gnat bites! After the service we prepared for abseiling feeling nervous but the hour was very enjoyable. On Monday we made use of the pioneering equipment and built two transporters to get us from one side of the pond to the other and the savages succeeded. The whole of Wednesday was back to front, we started with supper, later had tea and so it went on. In the evening we played a stalking game. Thursday was pioneering again, and had planned a Midnight Feast but only two of us managed to stay awake. The last morning was spent clearing away so that in the afternoon we could load the van, play some games and say goodbye to the friends we had made. Throughout camp we had been given survival days for gadgets and challenges; Savages had the most by Friday and the Natives gained the campers badge and pennant they were working for. Although we had thoroughly enjoyed this year's summer camp we were ready to return home to families and beds! *Zoe Littlewood*

HAS ANYONE SEEN SAMMY?

Sammy the cat was last seen in the area around the Cross Inn, he is dark grey with white patches. If anyone sees him could they please inform Charlotte Knappett on 250156 or Whitby, Chase Road West, Great Bromley. Thank you.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

An intrepid band of cyclists set out on 14th September to gain sponsorship for as many other churches as they could visit in one day. One person managed to visit thirty-four churches cycling the total distance of fifty-eight miles! The others all managed to visit enough churches to ensure that the total Sponsorship money should total over £300. Our congratulations and thanks go to all who took part, and also of course, to all who so kindly sponsored them. The event was organised by Yvonne Cobbold and I would like to express my thanks to her for the efficient and enthusiastic way in which she persuaded people to take part. Next month I will be able to include a note of the exact sum of money raised. By the end of this month we hope that all the repair and restoration work to the Tower will have been completed and also the electrical wiring will have been renewed.

After such a period of work and maintenance the church is in need of a thorough clean which we cannot expect the small band of ladies who help to keep the church clean to undertake. We are planning a giant Autumn Spring Clean on Saturday, 12th October. We hope to have enough people helping to enable us to complete the clean on the one day. All help will be most appreciated so do come along if you possibly can. It has been decided that in 1992 the church will not be arranging a Flower Festival as we have in past years. In place of this the chief Fund Raising event is to be a 'Heritage Weekend' when exhibitions of the history and heritage of the church and village will be arranged in the church and village hall. A small committee, John Appleby, Jean Harding, Betty Rowe, Peter Rowe and the Rector, is to prepare definite plans which will be announced at a meeting to be held in church on Monday, 2nd December. The week-end is to take place on Saturday, 4th July and Sunday, 5th July. Please make a note of these dates which we hope will not clash with any other village event.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH REGISTERS.

Holy Baptism.

Robyn Lauren Lee of Weeping Ash Cottage, Ardleigh Road, baptised in S. George's Church on Sunday, 8th September.

Holy Matrimony.

Married in S. George's Church on Saturday, 14th September, Andrew Stephen Gardener and Deborah Jane Mann, a care assistant at Seven Rivers Cheshire Home.

Burial of Ashes.

The remains of David Peter Mann of 32 Fairhead Road, Colchester, were interred in Little Bromley Churchyard on Thursday, 12th September.

ALL SOUL'S DAY, SATURDAY; 2nd NOVEMBER.

This is the day when, each year, we remember all our departed relatives and friends and pray for them. There will be a Requiem, a special service of Holy Communion at which we pray for the departed by name, at 10.00am on Saturday morning, 2nd November. Please let the Rector know

of any persons you would like to have remembered at this service and their names will be read out. A list will be provided in church on Sundays, 22nd and 29th October, on which you may like to list those you wish to be commemorated.

GREAT BROMLEY PLAYGROUPE.

The AGM of the Playgroup was held on Monday, 16th September. The chairman, Janet Warren, thanked the Committee for their help during the year and in particular, Ruth Lawson, the retiring treasurer. Committee members elected were; Estelle Kemp, Carol Kynaston, Jane Calderbank, Suzette Cork, Shirley Haxell, Elaine Andrews, Samantha Philips and Melanie Arthey with Amanda Rowe as secretary and Dinah Jones as treasurer. Supervisor Eve Oliver with Carol Cordwell, Sandra Boreham and Pat Rowe as helpers.

The new committee met to discuss plans for the coming term including some fund raising events and the Christmas Party. New children are still welcome to join us on Monday and Wednesday mornings and our best wishes go to Aron, Lloyd, Sam, Libby, Luke, Dale and Thomas who have left us to go to school. *Amanda Rowe.*

ESSEX ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS.

The Association will be having their Autumn meeting in the parish on Saturday, 19th October. They will be ringing the bells of S. Mary's, Little Bromley from 3-4pm and then the bells of S. George's Great Bromley. This will be the first ring of S. George's bells for three years and the first ring of S. Mary's bells for over ten years. The Association service will be held in S. George's Church at 4.30pm at which everyone will be most welcome.

PUZZLE PAGE.

What can go 'up the chimney down but not down the chimney up?'.
A clue is in the following anagram of the answer: LURELAMB.

In my drawer there are three pairs of white socks and three pairs of black socks. If it is dark what is the fewest number of socks that I need to take out in I order to be certain of having two of the same colour?

If it takes me one minute to saw through a plank of wood, how long will it take me to saw the ten metre plank into ten one metre lengths?

A clock takes two seconds to strike two o'clock, so how long does it take to strike three o'clock?

Here is the famous snail one: A snail climbs up a wall. It takes an hour to climb three feet and then it rests. While it rests it slips down two feet. If the wall is ten feet high how long will the snail take to reach the top of the wall? flail; Answers next month.

The answer to last month's puzzle was: SMOKE

The Bromley Messenger November 1991.

The quality of life in a rural community such as ours is a matter of great concern to all parishioners. The Local Plan presented in draft by Tendring District Council, and which can be consulted at an exhibition to be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 30th November, looks forward to a way of life in the district well into the next century. All residents are invited to visit and inspect the exhibition and to make comments, supportive or critical, which will be considered before the plan is published as an official document next year. All future development in our villages will be regulated by this plan and so the pattern of life for years ahead is to be decided by us and our official representatives. News of this plan was received at the same time as the report of the comments of the judges in the County Linen Best Kept Village Competition were received. Although we might think that we have little influence in the way in which village life is to develop in the future, we all can be involved in the way in which the village lives today. The Judges of the competition were complimentary in their comments and marks, but they did highlight areas in which the village could be improved. Apart from the obvious need for continual watch on the general tidiness of the village, they did suggest that the site of the Village Sign did not allow it to be shown to the best advantage. Although the village did not win the competition the marks awarded by the judges give the impression that with concerted effort an award might well be possible next year. Copies of the judge's report are available from the Rectory for any person, or organisation, who would care to have one.

This issue is sponsored by R. G. Gwinnell and Sons, Funeral Directors, Manningtree. We thank them for their continued support. Contributions for the December issue should reach the Rectory no later than Monday, 11th November please.

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GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

On Thursday, 14th November, please note the date, we shall meet at 'The Cross Inn', Horsley Cross, for our annual dinner and do hope you will all come. Should you require transport please let me know before that date. *R. Field.*

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Our next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, 21st November. The speaker will be Mr. Levett, who as Warden of Stour Woods, should have some very interesting things to tell us. The competition - a bird ornament. *Mildred Purkis.*

GRAND FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

There will be a grand fireworks display at the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home on Tuesday, 5th November, starting at 6.30pm. There will be a huge bonfire with sparklers, hot dogs, inside coffee and Christmas stall. For information and tickets please ring Bert (231428).

DRAFT TENDRING DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN.

An exhibition of the above plan will be touring the district between 14th October and 30th November 1991. The exhibition will visit Great Bromley Village Hall on Saturday, 30th November, between the hours of 11 am and 4 pm. This plan covers the years 1991-2001 and it is in the interests of everybody living in Great Bromley to take this opportunity to observe and discuss, if they wish, the plan with the Officer in attendance. *H. Booty. Clerk.*

GREAT BROMLEY CRICKET CLUB.

'100 Club' Monthly Lottery.

Subscriptions are now due for the 1991-1992 season of the '100 Club' lottery. The cost is still the same at £12 for the full year's membership. Would those wishing to renew, or indeed those wishing to join for the first time, please get their monies to Bill Kempster (252100) or Peter

Sauvary at the Black Boy as early in the month as possible. The Club would like to thank all those people who supported the lottery in the past year: total prize money paid out was £600. Winners for August: 1st Matthew Pirie, 2nd Nick Johnson and 3rd Mrs. D. Williams. Winners for September: 1st Mrs. J. Austin (London), 2nd Tracey Wright and 3rd Michael Hall.

End of Season Round Up.

As the cricket season has now finished it is time to reflect on what has been a very successful summer for Great Bromley and District Cricket Club. In the Lancaster Garages league, Great Bromley won the Fourth Division Championship after winning eighteen games and only losing three. Ironically two of these defeats were suffered against eventual runners up, Tollesbury. It was a superb team effort to win the Championship and it is hoped that the success can be maintained for next season's campaign in Division Three.

In the friendly fixtures Great Bromley played sixteen, won ten, lost four and played out two draws. Included in these fixtures was the annual club tour to Rutland where Great Bromley suffered two narrow defeats and one convincing victory. As usual the Tour was a great success and enjoyed by all who participated.

This season has been a particularly good one for the Club's batsmen with no fewer than five individual centuries being scored. Skipper Fraser Eadie weighed in with three and Nigel Rowe two. The Club's leading run scorer this season has been Fraser who has amassed 1,448 runs with eighteen year old Matt Pirie second with 598 runs. On the bowling front Steve Foley was leading wicket taker with sixty-four wickets and Tony Huish second with forty-three victims. The fielding this season by Great Bromley has been of a high standard and one of the reasons why the Club has achieved so much success this year. Wicket-keeper Pip Allam took most catches (twenty) and also recorded two stumpings.

On 7th September the Annual Single Wicket competition was held and with this event being sponsored over £100 was raised for Club funds. The trophy was won by Nigel Rowe who beat Steve Foley in a thrilling final.

Finally, the Club's Annual General Meeting will be held on 27th November at the Village Hall and will start at 8.00pm

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

A Christmas Disco 'Mystified Roadshow' will be held on Saturday, 1st December from 8.00pm to 12.00pm. There will be a bar and refreshments. Tickets at £3 each can be had from Betty Rowe (231067).

FRESH FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS.

Fresh flower arrangements and Christmas arrangements can be ordered from Betty Rowe on Colchester 231067.

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

Great Bromley Pantomime Group present 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th January. Performances start at 7.30pm with a matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday.

The proceeds from the performance on Wednesday the 8th will go to BLISS. All performances take place in the Village Hall and bookings can be made with Betty Rowe on Colchester 231067.

GIRL GUIDES.

Most of our Guides took the Opportunity to try Youth Hostelling at Brandon, Suffolk in September. We arrived on Friday night, had a late meal, made our beds in 'The Nursery' and searched for treasure around the hostel and enjoyed other games. On Saturday we got breakfasts and packed lunches and did our share of hostel jobs, then hired bikes and set off for Brandon Country Park to do some conservation work. Here we drove a mini- tractor and trailer and gathered large stones; the Warden praised us as one of the best teams that he had come across. Then we pedalled to Santon Downham church and then to Grimes Graves. After a wet ride back we had tea and washed up, but due to the weather 'nothing' was off and we spent a quiet evening inside. On Sunday morning after our hostel jobs, cards were stamped and last minute purchases made before setting off for a morning's orienteering. This was our first try and was so successful that after lunch we tried the medium difficulty course. The Guides voted it the best weekend ever.

Other news: Els has now finished Guides, thanks for your loyalty. Brownies Chloe, Hannah, Anniela, Beth and Lindsay have experienced a Guide Yoga evening and we hope they will join us more permanently soon. *Jazz.*

KITCHEN CORNER.

Oats are good for you, or so we are told! They are certainly a tasty addition to many recipes. Oatmeal can be substituted for breadcrumbs when coating portions of meat or fish, and I like the Scottish way of rolling herrings in oatmeal before grilling or baking them.

Next time you make a fruit crumble try replacing half the flour in the recipe with medium oatmeal, it makes a delicious crunchy topping, and chopped nuts or coconut on top gives an added luxury.

Parkin is a traditional Guy Fawkes party refreshment, make it now to be ready in time! It is better kept for a week before eating.

- 1 lb golden syrup 2 rounded teaspoons ginger
- 6 oz margarine 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½lb soft brown Sugar 1 lb medium oatmeal
- ½ lb self-raising flour 1 teacup milk

Melt syrup, margarine and sugar in large pan. Add milk and stir in dry ingredients. Pour into greased meat tin. Bake 1-1½ hours in slow oven 300° F. *Jill Frostick.*

IN THE SADDLE AT BROMLEY.

A tax was levied on the possession of horses from 1784 to 1874 and Great Bromley had a Riding Horse Register compiled in 1784. Horses, mares or geldings for riding or drawing a Coach, Berlin, Landau, Chariot, Calash or Chaise were taxable. Here are some of the entries:

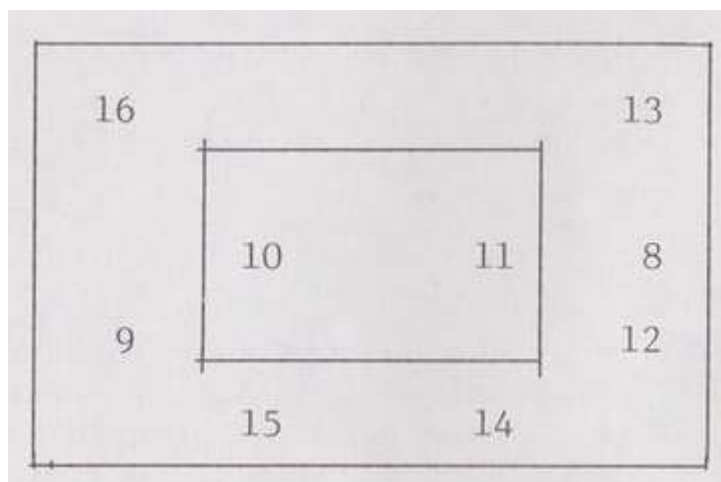
Duty Paid	Name	Riding Horse	Draught Horse
20 Oct 1784	John Jacobs	Three	
20 Oct 1784	Sir George Mannock Bt	One	Two
20 Oct 1784	Revd Erasmus Warren	Four	Two

All the other twenty-five tax payers had a riding horse each. S. Smythies of Colchester, a lawyer, was the Collector of taxes. The Jacobs family are remembered in the Jacobs charity. The Mannocks were Lords of the Manor of Church, alias Great Bromley Hall, now Seven Rivers, and also were at Giffords Hall, Stoke-by-Nayland, 1428-1889, and bought Martells Hall, Ardleigh, in Henry VIII's reign. Revd. Erasmus Warren, MA, was Rector here from 1767 to 1801; he died on 30th November, 1806. *John Appleby.*

PUZZLE PAGE ANSWERS (OCTOBER).

1. an umbrella, 2. Three, 3. Nine minutes for nine cuts, 4. Four seconds; the interval between the 'bongs' must be two seconds, 5. The snail problem: it takes fifteen hours to climb ten feet. It climbs three feet each hour and then slips back two feet in the next hour. In two hours it has climbed one foot only. After fourteen hours it has climbed seven feet so in the fifteenth hour it will have climbed the remaining three feet to reach the top.

PUZZLE.



This magic square was created in 1514 (see the date in the bottom row). Put in the numbers 1 to 7 using each number once only. All rows, columns and diagonals sum to 34 as does the . middle square. Answer next month. 'Sirah'

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday, 3 November Elmstead Market 11am Revd. Robinson

Sunday, 10 November Burnt Heath 11am Mr. P. Gill

Sunday, 17 November Balls Green 11am Revd. Robinson

Sunday, 24 November Elmstead Market 11am Mr. L. Warren

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY, 10th NOVEMBER, 1991.

The annual Service of Remembrance will take place in S. George's Church on Sunday, 10th November at 10.30am. There will be the two minutes silence at 11.00am and the names of the fallen from the two world wars from Great and Little Bromley will be read. After the service poppy wreathes will be laid on the village War Memorials in Great and Little Bromley.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

All Souls: As announced last month the yearly Requiem for all the departed will take place on All Soul's Day, Saturday, 2nd November at 10.00am. The names of those whom you wish to be remembered will be read at this service.

PCC: Owing to a clash of dates with the Governing Body of S. George's School the date of the next meeting of the Parochial Church Council has been changed to Tuesday, 19th November at 7.30pm in Seven Rivers Home Chapel.

S. George's Bells: Although we were all delighted to hear the bells of S. Mary's, Little Bromley, ring on Saturday, 19th October, we were disappointed that it was not after all, possible to ring the S. George's bells. Having been told that all the repair work had been completed in the tower it was a surprise to learn that yet another problem had been discovered, this time in the floor of the ringing chamber. Until the floor has been repaired and treated it is not safe for the bells to be rung. Thus we have yet a further delay before we can say that the repairs to the tower have been completed.

CHURCH REGISTERS.

Holy Baptism:

Steven Michael Norris of 23 Meadow Close, baptised in S. George's Church on Sunday, 6th October.

Blessing of Marriage: The marriage of Richard Gurney and Judith Roberts was blessed on Sunday, 6th October.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

Parents and friends of the school are invited to the School Fete to be held on Saturday, 30th November. This event, arranged by the Parent Teacher Association, helps provide funds for equipment for the school which cannot be obtained from the Local Education Authority. Recently the PTA has provided each class with its own computer. Your support of the fete will help to make this possible.

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

The Annual Coffee Morning will take place on Thursday, 14th November from 10.00am to noon. The residents all look forward to this occasion as an opportunity to meet many of the supporters of the Home. They hope that as many as possible will be able to attend.

DANCE IN AID OF THE VILLAGE HALL.

Please support the dance in aid of the Village Hall Funds on Saturday, 16th November from 8.00pm to midnight. Dancing will be to the sound of music by 'The Brian Lee Sound'. Tickets, price £3.50, to include a buffet supper, can be obtained from Jean Wright (230663), Committee Members or Great Bromley Post Office. There will be a licensed bar.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE.

The Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday, 7th December. This year the proceeds will be Split between the Village Hall and S. George's Church. All the usual stalls will be available. Offers of help in stocking the stalls and providing raffle prizes will be most welcome. Please contact Jean Wright (230663) if you can help. At the Fayre it is hoped that a memorial commemorating the life of Mrs. Kathleen Palmer, the founder of Hamilton Lodge, which is to be placed in the Village Hall, will be unveiled.

HARVEST SUPPER.

The 'new look' Harvest Supper with the meal provided, prepared, served and cleared away by the men of the parish was held on Saturday, 1st September, and was a resounding success. An excellent entertainment was provided by members of the Friendship Club to whom we offer our warmest thanks. The proceeds of the evening, £263, was given to the Church Funds. A large team of men undertook the arrangement of this event and we note with interest their culinary skills! Those who shared this task were Gordon Jones, Andy Pirie, Peter Rowe, George Kempster, Bob Harding, Roland Baxter, Doug Rogerson, Fred Wickham, Nigel Rowe, Bill Kempster, David Taylor, Tony Catesby, Dennis Sparling, Henry Fairley, George Henderson, Lindsey Lennox, Tom Fairley, Steve Ward and Jeremy Bullock, all under the gentle guidance and control of James Wild. Our thanks go to them all; can they be persuaded to repeat their success next year?

HERITAGE WEEKEND - JULY 1992.

A reminder of the meeting to consider the plans for this event will be held in S. George's Church on Monday, 2nd December at 8.00pm.

RPSAG - THE RURAL POWER STATION ACTION GROUP.

A Christmas Craft Fair will be held on Sunday, 24th November at Home Farm, Ardleigh starting at 10.00am until 4.00pm. Free admission with refreshments available and a Lucky Raffle.

GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

The 'Field Day' held on 14th September proved to be a most successful and enjoyable event. A big 'thank you' to all who helped to make this possible, we raised £335 21, some of which will go towards the purchase of new benches for the field.

Our Secretary, Mrs. Eileen Fowler has had to resign due to ill health and our sincere thanks to her for her valued contribution. Mrs. Gertrude Grant takes over as chairperson from Mrs. Doreen Bennington who will remain an active member. Our thanks to Doreen for her devotion and hard work.

As the Great Bromley Football Club has now become established it was proposed that they should become a self-contained group operating independently from the Committee. Max and Brian will be responsible for the organisation of practice sessions, purchase of footballs and kit and will continue to have free use of facilities on the field. Our thanks to them for their enthusiasm; we assure them of our continued support. *Gertrude Grant.*

BROWNIES.

Much fun was had by all during the summer on Pack Holiday at Great Bentley. We welcome Kelly who took her Promise at the first meeting this term. We are sorry that Emma A has left us and wish her well. Joanne has become Secunder of the Imps. Sarah has gained her Footpath badge, Aniela and Chloe their Highway badge. Aniela celebrated her second birthday with the Brownies and Chloe, Lindsay and Hannah their third Brownie birthdays. In September the Brownies organised a bottle stall at the Hare Green Fair and raised just over £20. For helpfulness during the afternoon Venture Badges were awarded to Kizzy, Kelly and Jeni; our thanks to those who donated bottles. With money raised by Mrs. Coppin in the summer Tawny Owl and I went shopping. We bought hoola hoops, skipping ropes, indoor balls and hockey, outdoor games for summer and Pack Holidays, needles, pins, crayons and paints. Thanks too to parents and friends who donated wool, fabric, paper and decorative sewing bits, all of which help to make our creative ideas more creative; I am most grateful for all your support. *Brown Owl.*

The Bromley Messenger December 1991.

We wish you a merry Christmass! These words from a well-known carol will, in one form or another be written and spoken by all of us in the next few weeks, and of course, that is my sincere wish for you all at this time. However, it is important to stop and think just what we mean by this. If it expresses merely a hope for enjoyable parties, Christmas food and drink and for many and expensive presents, we sadly miss the point. The traditional accompaniments of Christmass are meaningless unless they convey the joy in our hearts at the birth many years ago, of the Christ child in Bethlehem, whose very name we utter whenever we mention the word Christmass. The results of that birth 2,000 years ago have affected the course of history, attitudes people have to each other, and the very way in which we live.

We celebrate Christmass with joy and happiness to mark our thanks to God that He did indeed send His Son into the world to change men's hearts. That we remember each December the birth of Christ, a miraculous and spiritual event, does not mean that we find it necessary to abandon the fun and happiness that is always associated with this season.

Jesus was born as a man in the most appalling circumstances, He lived a nomadic life with no fixed home, He enjoyed to the full his earthly life, and that included many happy social events. The faith that he taught was a faith involved in living in the world, with all its joys and sorrows. It is right that we enjoy the social celebrations of this Holy Season, as well as the spiritual, but in order to make all our plans meaningful, it is important not to neglect that whole point of Christmass, that we are rejoicing in the birth Of the Son Of God. A catch phrase used first several years ago is worth repeating: 'Put Christ back into Christmass'.

A Happy and Holy Christmass to you all.

GT. BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs



JANUARY, 1992.
Weds. 8th at 7.30p.m.
Thurs. 9th at 7.30p.m.
Fri. 10th at 7.30p.m.
Sat. 11th Mat 2.30p.m. & Eve. 7.30p.m.

Proceeds of Weds. performance to B.L.I.S.S.

Great Bromley Village Hall.
BOOK TODAY - TEL: 231067

Christmas Disco

SAT. 21st DECEMBER 8-12p.m.
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Dancing to:
"Mystified Roadshow"



BAR ★ RAFFLE ★ FOOD ★
TICKETS £3.00 - TEL: 231067

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

We are having our Christmas Lunch on 19th December. The coach will leave Elmstead at 12 noon and The Amber Entertainers will be helping us to enjoy the occasion. There will not be a competition. We send our Christmass greetings to everyone with our best wishes. *Mildred Purkis.*

FLOWER ARRANGING.

With Christmass in mind there will be a flower arranging event at the Seven Rivers Cheshire Home on Thursday, 12th December at 7.00pm. Tickets, available on the night or from Bert (231428), cost £2 each and include a drink and biscuits. *Bert Smith.*

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH.

There will be a meeting in the Village Hall on Friday, 13th December at 7.30pm to discuss arrangements for organising a Neighbourhood Watch in Hall Road, S. George's Close, Brook Street, Little Bromley Road and Rectory Road. Please come along if you are interested.

GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

We are pleased to report that our Craft Fayre held on 19th October, was received with great enthusiasm. Turn-out was good and the wide variety of crafts displayed was of a very high standard. We raised £131.14 after expenses and would like to thank everyone for their support. *Gertrude Grant.*

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

By the time you read this we will have had our Annual Dinner, we do hope you found it an enjoyable evening.

Our meeting on 5th December will be the last one this year. We will meet at 7.30pm at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kempster and it will be a semi-social evening. How quickly the time has gone and once again it is time to wish our members and all who read and publish The Messenger, a Happy Christmass and a bright New Year. *R. F. Field.*

THE GARDEN IN DECEMBER.

This is the month we look forward to putting our feet up, get out the seed catalogues and work out any mistakes we made in the year. Start with the vegetable garden, now is the time to sow a few winter lettuce. When the plants are of reasonable size harden them off and cover with cloches, also sow outside broad beans. Finish the pruning of apple and pear trees by the end of the month and spray with a tar oil winter wash such as Murphy Mortigg to prevent the build up of pests and diseases. Brighten up your borders and tubs with some universal flowering pansies, plant out primroses and wallflowers for a spring show. Keep houseplants away from window sills at night to prevent them freezing and do not forget the spade and fork for some good exercise when the weather permits. Happy Christmass everyone. *Fred Wickham*

CHRISTMAS DRIED FLOWER SALE.

There will be a dried flower sale at Myrtle Cottage, Slough Lane, Ardleigh on Wednesday, 13th November from 10.00am to 9.00pm. Everyone welcome, please come along. Cards, paper, holly balls, sledges and many other Christmas items. .

TEARCRAFT COFFEE MORNING.

Ian and Sue Orriss would like to thank all those who supported the Coffee Morning on Saturday, 19th October. Almost £185 was raised to support poor people in the Third World.

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

S.O.S. An experienced scenery painter (backcloths) is desperately needed. Please contact Colchester 230398.

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE.

Our grateful thanks go to Yvonne Cobbold who most efficiently organised this event, to those who took to the road on their cycles and all who supported the event by their sponsorship. The total sum raised was £336.10 of which £168.05 has been given to the Friends of Essex Churches and a similar amount has been paid into S. George's Repair Fund. This was an excellent result and our congratulations go to all who played a part.

GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

Our Annual Meeting was held on 6th November with Susan Baines VCO giving very able assistance. June Willgress, President, thanked her retiring committee, especially Phil Burch and Sylvia Ward for their secretarial expertise. The ten members who stood for this year were appointed with June voted in for a second term of office.

The new Committee is: June Willgress (President), Mary Clarke (Secretary), Rita Baxter (Treasurer), Vera Biddis, Jean Wright, Irene Willat, Gwen Barrell, Barbara Hall, May Kutner and Anne Jones. Good luck to you all!

Congratulations to Jean Wright for winning the Competition Cup.

A special thank-you from Jill Frostick to all those who knitted the forty-nine little jumpers which have been despatched to India for distribution to destitute children in Delhi and the Himalayas.

DO WE CARE?

This magazine I believe, goes to every home in the Bromleys. From these homes nine hundred and thirty-six people appear as names on the Parliamentary Register of Electors and have the right to vote on how the four tiers of government, parish, district, county and parliamentary, support, control and safeguard their physical and mental well-being, (regrettably not all Bromley residents exercise that right). Life however, is not entirely matters physical and mental. There is a third dimension, a spiritual one. To provide for this there is also an ecclesiastical one, the Electoral Roll of the Parish of The Bromleys.

From those Bromley homes from which nearly a thousand names appear on the Parliamentary Electoral Register, only a hundred and five appear on the Church Electoral Roll. The Church undertakes for the spiritual dimension that which the State undertakes for the physical and mental, health and well being. In the Bromleys that leaves approximately nine hundred people, the majority of whom at some time or other, whilst not on the Church Electoral Roll, attend S. George's Church for weddings, baptisms and decreasingly perhaps, for burial.

S. George's Church, supported and maintained by parishioners has stood four square to the ravages of time for some eight hundred years. Regrettably it is in danger of being no longer so supported. Our generation is possibly beginning to negate the support of past generations, and could see S. George's closed down and put into the care of the Redundant Churches Fund as is S. Mary's, Little Bromley, and many other of East Anglia's historic churches.

This month, December, will see many who never attend Church with any degree of regularity coming to church sincerely and happily joining in the joyous Christmass Festival.

Yet if we wish to pass on to future generations what has been passed on to us, then we, like our foregatherers, must support and financially maintain our church.

The church cannot, and indeed will not, remain financially viable on the offerings of an average weekly attendance of some fifty worshippers, and an average weekly income of £85. The State TAKES what it thinks is required for our wellbeing, the Church cannot TAKE but we can GIVE. Let us do so before it is too late, and show that WE DO CARE.

Major Harold Varney.

THE GHOST OF CHRISTMASS PAST.

When John Hanson was resident at Great Bromley Hall, 1792-1806, there was much social life and activity. The Hall was at one time, the Headquarters for the Eastern Command of the Army. The diary or Journal kept by John gives some details of happenings at Christmass time.

'20th December, 1800. We gave a Ball and Supper at Bromley Hall to the Military and neighbourhood which was numerously attended and a few days after another to the Tendring Troop (a volunteer force raised by Hanson), with the principal respectable Yeomanry of the neighbourhood and their families.'

'1805. At Christmass this year my fourteen children were all assembled in perfect health. ' Look at the memorials in the south aisle and Patron's chapel in the Parish Church and you will see what befell some of those fourteen children.

But Christmass is the time for children, parties, family get-togethers, so like those of old we shall remember the true meaning of this festive season. *John Appleby.*

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY.

I am most grateful to Mrs. Elizabeth Lennox of Stacies Farm who has taken over as our representative of the Society. In the spring she will arrange a box opening and be able to provide boxes for all who request them.

LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE.

16	[3]	[2]	13
[5]	10	11	8
9	[6]	[7]	12
[4]	15	14	[1]

All the missing numbers are found by adding rows, columns, diagonals and centre square and subtracting from 34.

BROWNIE TUPPERWARE PARTY.

We are holding a Tupperware Party on Monday, 2nd December to raise funds for our Pack. It will begin at 7.30pm so please come along and support us. It will be at Dairy Farm Cottage, Chase Road West. If you would like to order any Tupperware items and are unable to come along, please contact Leonie on 231262, or Valerie on 251691 for a brochure, or put a note through the door of Dairy Farm Cottage or Badley Hall.

TRANSPORT.

Mrs. J. Harding (230425) and Mr. George Kempster (230378) are willing to assist parishioners who are experiencing problems over transport in their efforts to visit relatives in hospital. Volunteers are required for this very worthwhile hospital service. There is also a car service available for shopping purposes which is run by Help the Aged. Please contact any Parish Councillor for details.

BROWNIES.

Chloe, Hannah and Aniela have left Brownies for Guides and we wish them all the best for the future. Lindsay, Joanne and Beth have become Sixers with Emma, Sophie and Sarah O as their Seconders. Joanne, Sarah O and Shelley have each been given their 2nd Brownie birthday badge.

Mrs. Culham visited us with Jasmine, a black labrador guide dog puppy who enjoyed being stroked by everyone. Mrs. Culham told us all about being a puppy walker and the training the puppies go on to receive when they leave her. We gave her the tin foil, stamps and aluminium cans we had collected for the guide dogs; please keep it coming in as the money the guide dogs get for this 'rubbish' through recycling goes some way to providing the £1,000 needed for each dog. A Happy Christmass. *Brown Owl*

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 1st December Burnt Heath 11am Revd. J. Robinson

Sunday 8th December Balls Green 11am Mr. D. Rhodes

Sunday 15th December Elmstead 11am Mr. D. Watts

Sunday 22nd December Burnt Heath 11am Revd. J. Robinson

Sunday 29th December Balls Green 11am Mr. A. Mounteney

S. GEORGE'S CHURCHYARD.

As a result of the Chancellor of the Diocese's ruling that memorials may not be erected over the burial places of cremated remains, the PCC is seeking a faculty to set aside an area 10' by 24' to the East of the porch in which to bury such remains. The area will be marked by a chain and post fence. It is proposed to put inside the church a Book of Remembrance in which the names of those interred in this plot may be recorded.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL.

Mrs. Meriel Davis has been appointed Secretary to the Council in place of Mrs. Andrena Catesby who has had to give up this office due to pressure of work. It was reported to the Council that the whole of the Tower restoration will have been completed by the middle of December and it is hoped to be able to ring the bells for Christmass this year.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

Christmass Services.

All parishioners are warmly welcomed to the Christmass Services.

Sunday 22nd December 6.30pm A Service of Christmass Readings and Carols

Tuesday 24th December 11.30pm Midnight Mass of the Nativity

Wednesday 25th December 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Service with Holy Communion

Sunday 29th December 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong with Christmass Music.

Organist.

After several months without a regular organist, it is with great pleasure that we have been able to appoint Mr. Colin Whittle as organist and choirmaster. I am most grateful to Mrs. Sutherland, Mrs. Barbara Hall, Mrs. Ann Clapham and Mr. Gregory Frostick who filled the gap so willingly during the months of waiting.

Church Cleaning.

After several years Mrs. Lorna Brown feels that she can no longer organise the church cleaning. I thank her most warmly for all she has done in the past. Mrs. Meriel Davis has offered to take over this task and she would like to organise a monthly rota of people who would be prepared to help. She has divided the church up into easily managable sections and would like to have two volunteers to clean each section on a fortnightly basis, involving about one hours work each month. A plan of the church with the areas will be posted in the church. If you can help, please could you contact Mrs. Davis at the Rectory as soon as possible.

THE MESSENGER.

This month the Messenger is sponsored by the Great Bromley Pantomime Group and we thank them for their help. They announce in this issue their January production of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" which I am sure you will want to support. Tickets for all the performances can be obtained from Betty Rowe (231067). As last year, the first performance will be for charity, this year all the proceeds on the Wednesday will be given to BLISS, the charity which provides funds for the care of new born babies.

Because of Christmass, next month's magazine will need to be sent to the printer a little earlier than usual. Please may I have all contributions not later than Monday, 9th December.

'Sirah' this month has produced a special Christmass Quiz. We are offering a prize of £5 for the first correct solution received. Please look at the puzzle on page 12 and forward your solution to the Rectory as soon as possible.

It has been suggested that it would help if we could produce a diary of events for 1992 to enable organisations to ensure that events do not clash with others. We hope to include such a feature in the January edition. Can organisers of events please let me have, as soon as possible, details of events they have so far arranged, and any other dates as soon as they are known so that they can be included in future issues.

POORLANDS AND JACOBS CHARITIES.

In accordance with the trust deeds of these charities, the annual distribution will take place in S. George's church on Wednesday, 1st January, 1992, at 10.00am, New Year's Day. It is hoped that once again it will be possible to give each recipient £5.00. There will be a meeting of the trustees immediately after the distribution.

Family Christmas Quiz

Twelve questions for each of the days of Christmas. All entries to the rectory by the twelfth day of Christmas (January 5th).

1. Complete the pantomime titles:

X in the wood.

Snow X and the X

X Dumpty.

Goody X

2. What is the other name for St. Stephen's Day?

3. What did my true love give to me on the 7th day of Christmas?

4. Which country has a traditional meal of dried cod and rice porridge?

5. Where does the Christmas tree in Trafalgar square come from and why?

6. Who brings Spanish children their Christmas gifts and when?

7. What is "First Footing"?

8. Where is mistletoe never hung?

9. Why was the carol "Silent Night" written so that it could be sung to a guitar?

10. Can you name all 9 of Santa's reindeer?

11. What was first sold in 1843, cost one shilling and was a commercial failure?

12. What do you need to do on each of the twelve days of Christmas to have twelve happy months?