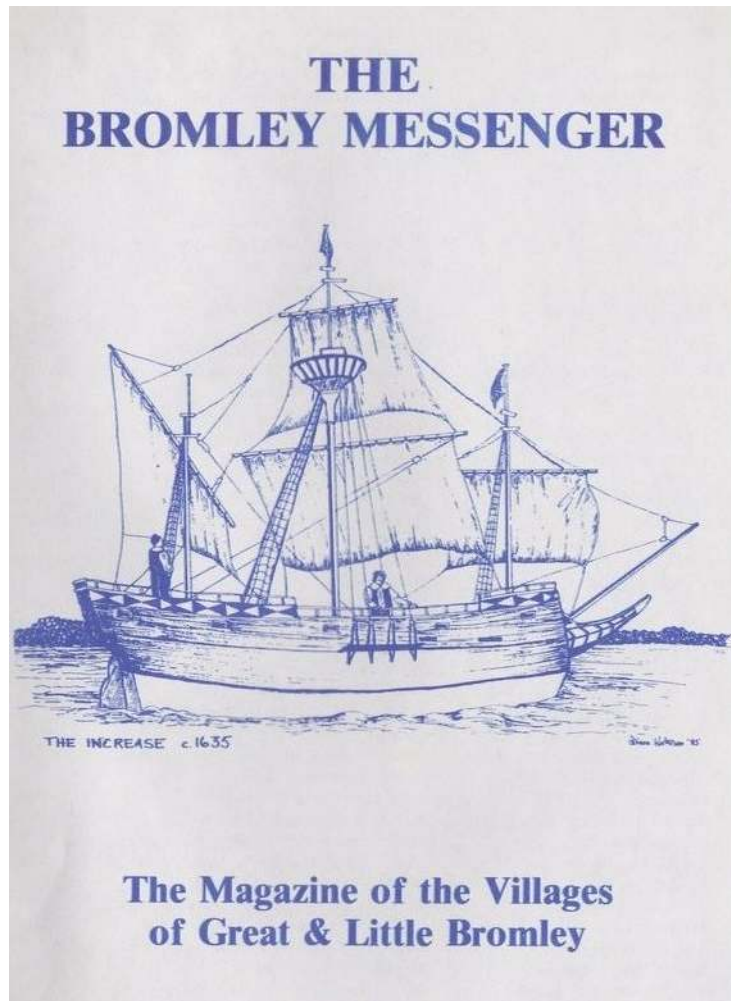


# **THE BROMLEY MESSENGER**

The Magazine of the Villages of Great & Little Bromley  
January to December 1992



These old magazines have been scanned and converted to text for historical reference  
by Dr Hugh Frostick, Historian for Great and Little Bromley.  
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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 Robinosn, 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 M. Clarke, Bedfords, Frating Road	251939
Ladies Circle	Mrs C. Simons, 5 Meadow Close	250163
Playgroup	Mrs A. Rowe, Harris Farm	230398
Garden Club	Mrs F. Griffiths, Trevelyan, Mary Lane South	230086
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 G. Grant, Old Forge, Mary Lane South	251350
Pantomime Group	Mr N. Rowe, Harris Farm	2303xx
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 <sup>st</sup> 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**

RECTOR: The Revd. Paul Davies, The Rectory, Great Bromley. Tel. 230344

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Mr Peter Rowe, 2 Hall Cotts, Hall Rd, Great Bromley. Tel. 231067

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P.C.C. TREASURER: Mr Gordon Jones, Wayside, Hall Road, Great Bromley

ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER: Mr Colin Whittle

CAPTAIN OF BELLS: Mr David Wenden, Girlings, Stone Rd Gt Bromley 250260

### **SERVICES:**

Sundays: 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Parish Communion 6.30pm Evensong

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – Seven Rivers Home Chapel,

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> S. Mary;s Ardleigh,

3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> S. George's Gt Bromley

Weekdays: 6.00pm Evensong (except Fridays).

Saints and Holy Days as announced

### **MEETINGS:**

Mondays 7.30pm Choir Practise

Wednesdays 6.30pm S. Georges' Youth Club in School (term time only)

Fridays 7.30pm Bell practise

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.

All contributions should be sent to the Rector - *Editor*

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**Please support our Sponsors 1992-93**

MAY

The Seven Rivers Cheshire Home. Telephone 230345

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Bromley Private Hire – Mr D Mead, Southview Ardleigh Rd

*and*

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## **The Bromley Messenger January 1992.**

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS.

Happily, at this time we do not know what the New Year will bring, either to us personally or to the world. No one could possibly have foreseen some of the events of 1991, the disintegration of the USSR, the release of all the Lebanon hostages and many other events. We do know that 1992 will bring us to a General Election, though what its results will be we simply do not know. In the village all sorts of events are being planned, and organisations are busy with all the necessary planning. One of the events is to be a Heritage Weekend to be arranged by the Parish Church and the Village Hall Committee. We hope to turn back some of the pages of the past and see what our village looked like in years gone by. There are many old records, photographs, documents and memorabilia which remind us how life was lived here in years past. We can find references to people long forgotten, to houses, shops and other buildings which no longer exist. What we do find in every record from the very earliest in the 13th and 14th centuries, are references to our Parish Church. This has always been, from its original building, the most prominent and enduring building in the village, a constant reminder of the devotion to God which has always been part of the English Way of Life. In 1992 the Church can still be a reminder to us of the strength God can give us as we face the uncertainties of the future. As King David wrote in the Book of Psalms, "We wish you good luck in the name of the Lord." Material for the February issue should reach the editor by Wednesday, 15th January, please. The Black Boy Public House and residents and organisations in the villages sponsor this issue. Thank you for your support.

Peter and Maureen Sauvary offer you a warm and friendly welcome at the  
BLACK BOY PUBLIC HOUSE HARWICH ROAD GREAT BROMLEY TELEPHONE 250322 .  
Bar meals a speciality - A Greene King House.

Our thanks to all the residents, readers and organisations who throughout the year have made donations towards the cost of the Messenger. Further donations will be most welcome and will be acknowledged by the Treasurer, Mr. Len Christodoulides, Magnolia House, Bromley Road, Frating, to whom they should be sent

### VOLUNTEERS.

We are looking for volunteer drivers to help those who have difficulty in hospital visiting. Please apply to Jean Harding or James Wild if you feel prepared to help.

### INVITATION.

On Saturday, 4th January, 1992 there will be mulled wine and mince pies at the Hollies, Colchester Road, Great Bromley, from 11.30am to 1.00pm. £1.50 pence with children under eleven years old free, in aid of the Village Hall and Church Funds.

### THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Another New Year awaits us! We wish everyone a happy and peaceful one. Mrs. M. Purkis will be the guest speaker at our January meeting. The competition - a butter knife. *Mildred Purkis.*

### CHRISTMAS FAYRE.

I would like to thank all the people who helped make the Fayre a success. The stallholders, donatees of prizes and items for stalls, Father Christmas and my Faithful friends who made the craft items for three months up to the Sale. Also all who attended and purchased. The result being £439.20 to the Village Hall Association and the same amount to S. George's Church. Forgive me if I have forgotten to mention anyone. *Jean Wright.*

### BROWNIE TUPPERWARE PARTY.

I would like to thank those people who sent orders for Tupperware to the Brownie Tupperware party. We made about £9 to put towards the Brownie funds. *Valerie Harris.* '

### BROWNIES.

We welcome two new Tweenies, Martha and Zoe, and also Mouse who has come from Guides as our Pack Leader. Having made our preparations for Christmas over the weeks we ended our term with a Christmas party at which we played games, had tea and enjoyed an entertainment of singing, keyboard playing, poetry and dancing by Emma, Sarah O and Joanne who will be presented with their Jesters badge next term. Natalie and Sarah L joined in with the dancing. I would like to thank Valerie Harris for holding a Tupperware Party in aid of Brownie funds which, possibly due to the closeness of Christmas, was not as well supported as we would have hoped.

Our new term starts on Thursday, 16th January, 1992, and I look forward to seeing you all then. Happy New Year. *Brown Owl.*

### KITCHEN CORNER.

As a change from the rich fare of Christmass, you might like to try some simple old recipes, first a 'POSSET' (or 'ducks' if you live in the Midlands).

2 medium slices of stale bread

Pinch of salt, pinch of grated nutmeg

1 dessertspoon caster sugar

1 pint milk Tablespoon of brandy or sweet sherry

Cut bread into small cubes discarding the crusts. Put in a bowl and sprinkle with salt, nutmeg and sugar. Bring milk nearly to boiling point and pour over the bread.

Stand ten minutes then stir in brandy or sherry and serve.

### Poor Knights of Windsor.

Soak six thick slices of crustless white bread in ½ pint of milk, sweetened with a little sugar. Lift the slices carefully, dip into beaten egg and fry till golden in hot butter. Sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon and serve at once.

*Jill Frostick.*

THE GARDEN IN JANUARY. The vegetable garden can be got ready for broad beans and sowing of cabbage and cauliflower. Why not try some early potatoes in 8" pots, use a single sprouted tuber and pot in JI No.2. Clean houseplant foliage with tepid water as they get very dusty over the winter, feed only that are flowering, best results are from Fisons Flowerite. Have a general clean up in the garden, firm rose bushes that have been rocked by the wind, give a general fertiliser to fruit trees after pruning which should have been finished.

Several strands of coloured cotton will protect primulas and crocus from the birds, yellow are the main target. Keep your eyes open for seed catalogues and get containers ready for spring sowing, use new compost. Finish the spade or rotavator work in the vegetable plot for some good summer vegetables. I wish you all a happy New Gardening Year. *Fred Wickham.*

### GREAT BROMLEY AND DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB NEWS.

On 8th November Great Bromley held their annual end of season dinner and awards night. The event took place at the popular venue of Maltings Farm Restaurant, Great Oakley and over forty people attended. The trophies were presented by the President's wife, Mrs. Gwen Hayward, and were awarded as follows: Douglas Wenden Trophy (batting) to Fraser Eadie. Bowling Trophy to Steve Foley. Fielding Cup to Matthew Foley. Tubby Austin Shield (players player of year) to Fraser Eadie. Club person of the Year to Lynda Allam. Also presented to all the players were individual trophies in recognition of the Club's achievement in winning the Fourth Division Championship of the Lancaster Garages League. As usual the evening was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

On 27th November the Club's Annual General Meeting was well attended and the election of officers for the forthcoming year are listed below. President: Mr. Dick Hayward. Chairman: Mr. Brian Wright. Secretary: Mrs. Lynda Allam. Treasurer: Mr. J. Wild. Fixture Secretary: Mr. Nigel Rowe. Captain: Mr. Fraser Eadie. Vice-Captain: Mr. Tim Biscoe. Match Manager: Pip Allam. Committee Members: Phil Allam, Rob Christmas and John Boulton.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL. At its meeting on 21st November, the following matters were discussed. The Garden Club is to be asked to tidy up the land around the Village Sign (this work is now in progress). A presentation, objecting to the proposed Police Station has been submitted to the Tendring District Council.

Following the donation of £199 from the Carnival Committee a seat is to be installed near the 'Black Boy'. New concrete bollards are to be placed around the Village War Memorial.

A £600 grant is to be applied for from Tendring District Council to replace the three Parish Council Notice Boards. Further consultations are to be taken on the matter of providing low cost housing, in which the Council was in favour.

The Council is to write to the County Highways Authority to request a 40 mph speed limit through the village.

A report of Council Meetings is to be regularly included in 'The Messenger'.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday, 16th January, 1992.

#### RURAL POWER STATION ACTION GROUP.

The Committee of the RPSAG would like to update the villages on the progress being made, and also to thank everyone for their support. A great many of you took the time to write to the various government officers and departments involved and the number of people that attended the meeting at Tendring District Council Chambers was much appreciated and undoubtedly showed both the council and Eastern Generation how strong the feeling is against this proposal. The feeling of the committee is that although it will not be made easy for us, we stand an excellent chance of winning. We have a good strong case with Essex County, Tendring, Suffolk and Colchester Councils all actively involved with the action group, against the proposal. If everyone in the villages and on the council pull together and continue to support one another, we can win. If you have not joined the action group yet, your support is still much needed and will be much appreciated: membership is free. To join, contact a member of the committee who will be pleased to send you a membership form.

Although it may seem quiet at the moment, there is a lot of activity going on 'behind the scenes' gathering facts and information to form our case. There have recently been a number of key meetings involving some committee members, council representatives and the Department of Energy. A date for the public enquiry will be announced shortly, it is thought it will be May or June and will probably last some six to eight weeks. We shall keep the villages updated monthly, via their parish magazines.

It will come as no great surprise to learn a very large sum of money will be needed, in order to employ the very best legal representation and advice. To date a number of functions have been held and approximately £2,800 raised, which is really marvellous and for that you are once again to be congratulated. The figure required is currently estimated at £15,000. A very great deal of money, especially in the current economic climate, but the money will be well spent securing the environment our villages enjoy today. If anyone has a fund raising idea, the Committee will be only too pleased to hear it, or if you can hold a function and donate the proceeds, it would be much appreciated.

Similarly if you can donate 'your services' for a function be it a raffle prize, your time to help out at a function, catering, bar, disco, band, or even a venue for a function, please let the committee know. All of you can help in some way to win this fight and save our villages from the horrors of Eastern Generations proposal.

Lastly, there has been a great deal of rumour, misinformation and sadly, animosity brought about because of this application. The committee would like to encourage villagers to contact them if they are unsure of something and wish to verify it, or wish simply to obtain accurate facts. The committee is here to represent you, please feel free to contact any one of us if you want information, . or just peace of mind. The committee members are: Mrs. Joyce Fairley (230237), Mr. Bill Hudson (230351), Mrs. Julie Last (231203), Mr. Roy Littlewood (230523), Mr. Dave Mackay (Press relations) (230055), Mrs. Jane Marshall (Legal adviser) (396138), Mrs. Jayne Marshall (230500), Mr. Tom McLean (Technical adviser) (231147), Mrs. Pat Peachey (396908), Mr. Paul Whittle (231427). If you are met with an answerphone, please leave a message, your call will be returned.

## CALENDAR FOR 1992.

The following dates of events have been notified. Please send information about all forthcoming events so that this can be updated month by month.

Tuesday, 31st December, 1991, New Years Eve Dance in the Village Hall.

8th, 9th, 10th, 11th January, 1992, Pantomime in the Village Hall.

Saturday, 15th February, Dance in aid of Village Hall.

Wednesday, 4th March, Ash Wednesday.

Friday, 17th April, Good Friday.

Sunday, 19th April, Easter Day.

Thursday, 23rd April, S. George's Day.

Friday, 24th April, Friendship Club Spring Sale in the Village Hall.

Saturday, 13th June, Seven Rivers Home Annual Fete.

Saturday and Sunday, 4th and 5th July, Heritage Weekend in Church and Village Hall.

Saturday, 11th July, Tendring Show.

Saturday, 12th September, Diocesan Cycle Ride.

Sunday, 8th November, Remembrance Sunday.

Saturday, 5th December, Christmas Fayre in Village Hall.

Friday, 25th December, Christmass Day.

## SAO YEWS A' GOOIN' TER COLCHESTER!

Even today people think that in the past villagers rarely, if ever, left the village where they were born and bred. If we look in the Oath Book of Colchester we find that Brumleians were out and about.

Admitted a burgess of Colchester in 1384 was John Glaunvyle of Great Brumleigh; Thomas Leyham of Little Bromley, in 1390; Geoffrey Munte, born in Great Bromley, in 1413; William Gasewey, in 1415; in 1427 Robert Frost of Great Bromlegh; John Munte of Bromley, in 1431 and John Stone of Little Bromley that same year.

In Tudor times Thomas Cook, born at Great Bromley, was admitted a burgess in 1512. John Wright, born at Great Bromley, a mariner, (of all occupations), was admitted in 1558, the year Queen Elizabeth I became Queen.

All were born before 1538 when Thomas Cromwell ordered Parish Registers to be kept. Perhaps there will be more evidence in the Great Bromley Court Rolls. *John Appleby.*

## RIDDLE.

This riddle is old but is published at regular intervals in the national press and similar publications.

Make three-fourths of a cross, And a circle complete,

And let two semi-circles On a perpendicular meet;

Next add a triangle , that stands on two feet;

Next two semi-circles And a circle complete.

*'Sirah'*

## LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 1991.

Four principal matters were discussed. First the entertainment licence at the Fox and Hounds had been renewed by Tendring District Council although the premises will be inspected regularly by the Council's licensing officer. The lesson to be learnt was that residents who are affected . must keep a diary of dates and times on which Specific incidents have occurred, because these can be used as evidence in future applications. Generalised objections are, for legal purposes, insufficient. Secondly, the Council resolved a number of financial matters, including agreeing a contribution to the Bromley Messenger for 1990/1 and 1991/2. Steps are being taken to ascertain the cost of insuring the war memorial. Thirdly, the draft District Plan was discussed and arrangements made for a meeting with an official from Tendring District Council to discuss its application to Little Bromley. Fourthly, the parish noted the strong objection made by the District and County Councils in relation to the power station. The level of concern felt by parishioners had been clearly indicated at a recent public meeting. It was clear that a public enquiry would have to be called and developments were awaited.



### GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL.

I would like to take this opportunity, through the Bromley Messenger, to explain why an increase in the hire charges : has been found necessary with effect from 1st January, 1992, to May, 1992, when again they are due to be reviewed. Having discussed the accounts with the auditor it was pointed out that the previous year's accounts show that receipts for the hire of the hall were paying only for the running expenses, leaving nothing for the hire of the hall; put another way, letting a furnished hall free.

With an increase of 20% on the insurance renewal, plus rate and fuel increases, the committee was left with no alternative but to raise the hire rates immediately. Since being elected Chairman last May, the committee and I have set a target of raising £5,000 during our year in office. This money could go towards improving the heating system which was installed in 1925; modernising this could halve the heating bill. We have recently spent £1,500 on electrical work to meet Safety Regulations. £500 is being put aside for chair repairs and a further £2,000 could be required to bring the kitchen up to the standards required by the new Food Hygiene Regulation and the Children's Act. I feel therefore, we cannot be expected to subsidise those who hire the hall. This is your Village Hall. Take advantage of its facilities. Your ideas are welcome.

*Peter Wenden, Chairman.*

### CHURCH REGISTERS.

Burials.

Ivy Irene Tidman of Heidi, Mary Lane North, on Thursday, 5th December, 1991.

Cremation.

Kate Frances Biddis, 2 S. Marks, Furze Lane, on Monday. 8th December at Colchester Crematorium.

### S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

Congratulations to the staff and pupils of S. George's School on their delightful Christmas-production 'The Tinder Box'. All who were able to see the play were given very great pleasure. Once again we were all amazed that it had been found possible for every child in the school to take part. The production of this is a great tribute to Mrs. Fitzgerald and her staff.

### S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY marks the visit of the Wise Men to the Stable at Bethlehem and will be celebrated on Sunday, 5th January. I warmly invite all children and their parents to the Family Service at 10.30am which will include a procession of the Wise Men led by a Star.

CONFIRMATION. I would like to arrange a Confirmation at Eastertide. Would anyone who would like to consider being prepared, young people or adult, please attend a short meeting after the morning service on Sunday, 12th January, to make plans for meetings. If you cannot attend please contact me at another time.

CHURCH BELLS. My hope of having the bells rung for Christmass was thwarted by the discovery of further serious wood decay in the belfry roof. I just dare not make any further forecasts about ringing, but suffice it to say that the necessary remedial work should start during January.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL will meet on Tuesday, 14th January at 7.30pm in the Cheshire Home Chapel. We propose to discuss the possibility of obtaining a set of hymn books to use alongside our present book to enable us to use some of the more modern hymns which are becoming so popular.

THANKS. Our grateful thanks go to two recent donors of gifts to the church. To Rebecca Davis for the gift of the wrought iron Advent Candle Ring, and to Robert and Jean Harding for the beautiful white vestment to be used at Festivals, and which was first used on Christmass Eve.

DECEMBER PUZZLE. The solution to the Christmass Quiz will be printed in the February edition. I have not yet received any entries to the competition, but there is still plenty of time to send them in.

## **The Bromley Messenger February 1992.**

This month the 'Messenger' is sponsored by the Great Bromley Parish Council. It was due to the Parish Council that, in July 1986, the production of this magazine commenced as a free publication delivered to all the homes in Great and Little Bromley, and it is due to their concern that we are now approaching this year, our sixth birthday. We are grateful to them for the support they give, and of course, to all of you who send in material for publication, without whom the 'Messenger' would not be able to be produced. Please can you send in your articles for the March edition no later than Friday, 14th February.

### THE PARISHES OF THE BROMLEYS AND ARDLEIGH.

I consider that it is now important to explain the situation concerning this parish and the parish of Ardleigh, which has been a matter of concern to the PCC for some time. In September last, the Reverend Reg Doncaster was forced by his illness to resign the parish of Ardleigh, and he has subsequently moved from the Vicarage to Colchester. Since September the parish of Ardleigh has been in an interregnum.

The filling of this vacancy has forced the Diocese to take into consideration certain important factors. One is that Ardleigh Vicarage a listed Georgian House, is in such a state of disrepair that it is not thought that any one would be prepared to live in it in its present condition, and the Diocese does not have sufficient funds to put any repairs in hand. This means that the house is to be put for sale, thus depriving the parish, temporarily, of a parsonage house.

Another consideration is that funding of parishes by the Diocese and Church Commissioners has to be decreased to the extent that small parishes of under 3,000 inhabitants can no longer expect to have a resident incumbent of their own. As Ardleigh falls into this category, it has to be united with another neighbouring parish. As this parish is also small, as it is near Ardleigh (the two parish churches are three miles apart) and as the churchmanship in the parishes is so similar, it is proposed that, at the next vacancy in this parish an incumbent will be appointed who will be both Rector of the Bromleys and Vicar of Ardleigh.

As Ardleigh is the larger village the present proposal is that when this vacancy occurs, this Rectory will be sold and a new Vicarage will be built on land to be purchased in the parish of Ardleigh. This is a long-term solution to the problem which the PCC accepts as necessary though having considerable reservations about the selling off of Great Bromley Rectory, which they consider would be a suitable site for the Parsonage House as it is in the centre of an L-shaped area consisting of the villages of Little Bromley, Great Bromley and Ardleigh. It must be stressed that no final decision has been made on this proposal which will obviously be the subject of much discussion and negotiation in the future.

The short-term solution to the difficulty with Ardleigh is for these two parishes to commence to work together as much as they can in the immediate future. The Bishop of Colchester wished to appoint myself as Priest-in-Charge of Ardleigh immediately which would make me, in effect, Vicar of Ardleigh in addition to my present appointment. At a meeting with the Archdeacon of Colchester, the PCC had serious reservations about this proposal, which the Archdeacon agreed must be looked at again before it can be implemented.

What has been agreed so far is that I will act as a sort of advisor to the Churchwardens of Ardleigh, that I will undertake baptisms, funerals and weddings. In addition to this the two PCCs hope that the two parishes will be able to share as many activities as possible. In view of this, it has been agreed that Evensong will be held on alternate weeks at S. George's, Great Bromley and S. Mary's, Ardleigh, when it is hoped that the Great Bromley congregation will be happy to attend at Ardleigh, and the Ardleigh congregation at Great Bromley. Consideration is also being given to the possibility of the two choirs combining to prepare a service of music for the evening of Good Friday, to be held in one or other of the two churches. There will be other opportunities, yet to be planned, for the two parishes to work together. I sincerely hope that all members of the congregation will support all these ways in which the two parishes are endeavouring to find a way of coming together.

### CHANGE OF SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS.

Commencing in March it has been agreed to alter the arrangements for Evensong on Sundays, which will now alternate between Great Bromley and Ardleigh.

Sunday 1st 6.30pm Evensong in Seven Rivers Home Chapel

Sunday 8th 6.30pm Evensong at S. Mary's church, Ardleigh

Sunday 15th 6.30pm Evensong at S. George's, Great Bromley

Sunday 22nd 6.30pm Evensong at S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh

Sunday 29th 6.30 Evensong at S. George's, Great Bromley .

### S. GEORGE'S YOUTH CLUB.

The Youth Club resumed its meetings on Wednesday, the 15th January at S. George's School.

An important change has been announced and will take effect as from Wednesday, 29th

January. From that date there will be only one section at which all young people between the

ages of ten and sixteen will be welcome. The times of the meeting will be from 6.30pm until

8.00pm, except that during the summer term the time will be extended to 8.30pm. The present term will end on Wednesday, 8th April.

The Club Leaders, Suzanne Abbott and Richard Davy, assisted by Edward and Sarah Wild, will gladly give any information about the Club to anyone who is interested.

### METHODIST SERVICES - FEBRUARY.

Sunday 2nd Burnt Heath 11.00am Mr. G. Patterson

Sunday 9th Balls Green 11.00am Mr. L. Polley

Sunday 16th Elmstead 11.00am Revd. J. Robinson

Sunday 26th Burnt Heath 11.00am Mr. R. Austin

### LENT AT S. GEORGE'S.

Lent commences this year on Ash Wednesday, 4th March. There will be the Ash Wednesday Eucharist with the imposition of ashes at 7.30pm in S. George's church, and each Wednesday during Lent there will be a meeting in the Chapel of Seven Rivers Home at 7.30pm for discussion and the service of Compline. Details of this will be published in the March issue of the Messenger and in the Lenten Leaflet. This year we are to be joined at this by members of the congregation of S. Mary's church, Ardleigh.

### ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING.

This year the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the parish of The Bromleys for the election of officers, reception of accounts and discussion of parochial matters will take place on Tuesday, 7th APRIL AT 7.30pm in the Chapel of Seven Rivers Cheshire Home.

### GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

Warmest congratulations and thanks must go to all members of the Pantomime Group for their excellent 1992 production, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. One of the most pleasing features was the inclusion of so many children in the cast, all of whom played their parts with confidence and obvious enjoyment. It must have been no small feat for the Director and Producer between them to weld such a large cast of such different age groups and to achieve such an excellent result.

As is customary the lighting, scenery and costumes were of a very high standard. So many people were involved, both on stage and off, that it is impossible to thank every one individually. All we can say is: well done! The invited guests and all the audiences were enraptured by the production, and many people are still singing in their heads about the wife of the King Caractacus!

The custom established in 1991 of having a charity performance was continued this year, and as a result, £800 was donated to BLISS, the charity which provides Baby Life Support Systems for use in the Maternity Home. Thank you all who contributed so generously.

We look forward with excitement, to the announcement of the 1993 production.

### THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

A corn-dolly demonstration will be given by Mr. Pettit at our February meeting, and the competition is a small cane or wicker basket. Raffle tickets for our Spring Sale, to be held on Saturday 25th April, are now on sale. Please note the date. *Mildred Purkis.*

### GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL ASSOCIATION.

The Village Hall Association wish to bring to your attention a dance which is being held at the Village Hall on Saturday 15th February at 8.00pm until midnight. Dancing will be to music by The Brian Lee Sound. The Association trust you will give us your continued support. Tickets available from the Post Office, Village Hall Committee members or ring Jean Wright. Mrs. Wright would like to apologise for the error in last month's Messenger. The New Years Eve Dance advertised should of course, have read 1992.

### MESSAGE FROM MRS. BETTY ROWE.

I should like to thank everyone for their prayers and concern during my illness, which I am sure resulted in my rapid recovery. Fortunately, although recently put 'out to grass', I am still allowed to do flower arranging. May God bless you also with a healthy and happy New Year.

### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 6th February at 7.30pm. It will be our Annual General Meeting and will be held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Griffiths. Please do try to attend; there should be several items to discuss, plus the subscriptions to be paid. *R. F. Field.*

### THE GARDEN IN FEBRUARY.

Prepare the soil in the borders by digging and manuring, plant anemone corms, De Caen and S. Brigid, they take some beating, you will have lovely splashes of colour later, pay a visit to your favourite nursery for some instant effect, hellebores, polyanthus, pulmonciria or some winter flowering pansies. Bulbs that are naturalised will benefit from a feed of bonemeal but do not over-feed, about 2oz a sq. yd. Cover a few strawberries with cloches, to get a little earlier crop, start chitting your early potatoes in a frost free spare room, shed or garage. Make a start on sowing some half-hardy annuals such as antirrhinum, lobelia and sweet peas, also grow peas, . lettuces and cauliflowers, provide them all with temperature of around 55F (13C). Finish off the fruit pruning and plenty of digging, and do not forget to get your shallots and onion sets, I grow mine in plastic cups then replant in the garden. All the best, *Fred Wickham.*

### GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

We are holding our Annual General Meeting on Monday, 10th February, at 8.00pm at the home of Mrs. Ruth Lawson, 'Wymundham', Chase Road West, Great Bromley. Please come along, especially if you have any ideas or suggestions for the field. We are also looking for new recruits for our Committee. Please note that the contact for the Committee is now Mrs. Gertrude Grant, Old Forge, Mary Lane South

Table Top Sale. We are holding a Table Top Sale in the Village Hall on Saturday, let March from 2.00 to 4.00pm. Your chance to sell off those items found during spring cleaning! Anyone wishing to book a table please contact Gertrude on 251350. Tables are £6 each.

Glass on Play Equipment. It was recently brought to our notice that part of the play equipment and an area of the surrounding play surface was found covered in broken glass. This of course, poses a grave danger for children using the equipment. We are sad to say that this very much looked like a deliberate act. Whilst we cannot prevent this kind of thing from happening we always try to do our best to keep a check on the equipment. We are also asking P.C. Philips to help us with this task. However, please be aware of this unfortunate problem when your children use the equipment. *Gertrude Grant.*

### GUIDES.

Events planned for this year include camps, P.L, patrol and unit, hikes day and night, Centrek, swimming, canoeing, abseiling, pioneering and, for the quieter natures, cooking, craft,

photography, kite flying and bird watching. We have a new colourful handbook which inevitably means that the Trefoils have changed a little; more choice, no targets but more to achieve and there is a year to change over. We need help with first aid teaching and star constellation recognition. Offers welcomed!

8 Over the last few months we have had a skin care and make-up demonstration, made Hamelin Rats and Danish mobiles, walked a local footpath in the dark and Chloe, Aniela and Hannah each made their Promise on a plank bridge crossing the stream. Clare had a red candle lighted and received her red Trefoil badge. Our last meeting was a party night with some Brownies. The Patrols have both been given £2 and encouraged to make it grow by coffee mornings, jobs and anything else. They are looking to raise £30 each to buy hike cooking equipment. Please support their ventures as they only have until Easter.

Elizabeth Robinson has been presented with the BP Trefoil by the Division Commissioner, but has now left Guides as she found the pressure of work in the 5th year too much. The Patrols have voted for new Patrol Leaders and Zoe is PL of Swallows and Clare is PL of Daffodils. They chose Elizabeth P and Sus respectively to be their Seconds. To Clare, horsewoman; to Clare, Zoe and Eleanor, backwoodsman; to Zoe and Elizabeth, cook; to Clare, sportswoman; to Elizabeth and Zoe, emergency helper. Congratulations to you all. *Jazz.*

### FEBRUARY FILL DITCH!

Originally in Great Bromley the maintenance of highways was made the responsibility and obligation of landholders and the Lord of the Manor enforced this through the Court Baron and the Constables of the Parish. The First Road Act was The Statute of Winchester. 1285. The great Highway Act of 1555 remained in force for nearly three hundred years but Essex Quarter Sessions Court Records tell of defaulters:

Tuesday. 6th October. 1683. Petty Constables Presentments The Inhabitants of Great Bromley for a very dangerous whelm on the road leading from Little Bentley to Colchester.

A Whelm - pronounced well-um - was a culvert or channel under a road to take water to the draining ditch.

Epiphany Sessions 1686. Samuel Horseman of Great Bromley for 60 rod of ditch not cleaned in the way from Bromley Heath to the 4 relete towards Colchester (Bromley Cross).

A rod, pole or perch was a measure of 5½ yards so 60 rod was 330 yards. or about a fifth of a mile. A 4 relete or four (pronounced fower) elite was a crossroads where four roads meet.

Easter Sessions 1686. David Siday of Bromley for not scouring his ditch in the highway from Little Bentley Heath to Colchester (Harwich Road) being deficient for seventy rod.

With the old-time roadman long since gone, do keep your ditches clear. *John Appleby.*

### BROMLEY'S HERITAGE WEEKEND.

Saturday and Sunday, 4th and 5th July, 1992. We are busily preparing for a Bromley Heritage Weekend and hope that you will be able to give help as the effort is for the whole parish and all proceeds will be given to the Parish Church funds and the Village Hall funds. It is hoped that all Village organisations will be willing to take a part. Please inform either the Rector, John Appleby or Mrs. Jean Harding of the part you are able to take. We look forward to having, among other items, a display of the ancient Register of the parish, a video display of we Village over the past one hundred and twenty years or more, stalls of ancient Village crafts, a real Essex Horkey or Concert with the original songs and patter in Essex dialect, a concert in church, bell ringers, a band, Morris dancers, Essex bread and cake sales and recipes, a Bromley bygones museum, agricultural and antique machinery and vehicles, refreshments, croquet, games and sports etc. A Programme Ticket and map of events at the Parish Church and Village Hall will be available for visitors and cost £2.50 pence per day.

There will be a meeting in S. George's Church at 8.00pm on Monday, 10th February, and all who are able to come will be most welcome to assist with the organisation of this event. Please do come! *John Appleby.*

### KITCHEN CORNER.

A warming dish for a cold day: pork chops with apples.

4 x ½ " thick rib or loin chops  
1 medium onion chopped  
5-6 pippin apples peeled and sliced  
2 sticks celery chopped  
1 tablespoon plain flour  
225ml apple juice or dry cider  
1 teaspoon thyme 1 teaspoon salt ¼ teaspoon pepper  
5 tablespoons sour cream or Greek yoghurt.

Heat a large casserole and quickly sear the pork chops Remove on to a plate. Put onions and celery into the casserole and saute until soft. Stir in flour and remove from heat. Add apple juice, thyme, seasoning and apples, then add chops, cover and cook in the oven until pork is tender, about 1½ -2 hours at 170°C or 325° F. Stir in cream or yoghurt before serving. *Jill Frostick.*

#### EVENTS DIARY.

Please add to the list, Saturday, 21st March, a Table Top Sale in the Village Hall in aid of Great Bromley Recreation Field Committee.

#### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH.

As a result of the meeting in the Village Hall in December there is now a Neighbourhood Watch System operating over almost all of Great Bromley. It is proposed to have signs showing that you are entering a Neighbourhood Watch Area installed at various entry points to the Village. Each Sign will cost £6.80 (plus VAT which is recoverable). Sponsors are being sought who will be prepared to pay for each Sign. If you would like to sponsor the erection of a Sign, please contact the Clerk to Great Bromley Parish Council, Mr. H. Booty, Church Cottage, Badley Hall Road. The village has been divided into a number of areas, each with its own Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator who is responsible for liaising with the Police should there be any incidents which should be reported.

The Co-ordinators and their areas are as follows:

- 1) Mrs. Jean Harding, The Hollies, Colchester Road - Colchester Road and Ardleigh Road, Burnt Heath.
- 2) Mrs. Angela Prior, Evelyn Villa, Briar Road - Briar Road, Carringtons Road.
- 3) Mr. Stan West, Fryerning, Hall Road - Hall road, Badley Hall Road, Brook Street, S. George's Close.
- 4) Mr. Gerald Gurney, Guildhall Orchard, Mary Lane North - Mary Lane North, Chase Road East, Stone Road.
- 5) Mrs. Margaret Brett, Dunit, Harwich Road - Harwich Road.
- 6) Mr. Roy Warboys, 10 Meadow Close - Meadow Close, Back Lane East.
- 7) Mr. William Garrard, 3 Springhill Close - Springhill Close.
- 8) Mrs. Taylor, 1 Fairfield Close - Fairfield Close, Chase Road West, Mary Lane South.

Any further information can be obtained from PC Chris Philips, Police House, Chase Road West.

AMENDMENT. In the last issue, under Great Bromley Parish Council, the reference to 'the proposed Police Station' should of course, read 'the proposed Power Station! There is no proposal whatsoever to build a new Police Station!

RIDDLE. The answer to last month's riddle was the word TOBACCO:

Here is a riddle for this month:

"A shoemaker makes shoes without leather, With all four elements put together,  
Fire, water, earth and air, And every customer takes two pair."

FAMILY CHRISTMAS QUIZ. No solutions to this puzzle have been received. There is insufficient space to put the answers in the 'Messenger' but if anyone wishes to see them, a copy can be had from the Rectory.

CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Congratulations to Mrs. Ann Fairley who has been elected President of the Colchester Caledonian Society for a term of three years commencing on 1st April, 1992.

### **The Bromley Messenger March 1992.**

The Parish Assembly, when the Parish Council reports on their activities for the past year, takes place in the Village Hall on Thursday, 19th March at 8.00pm. At this meeting the Treasurer of 'The Messenger' will report on the finances of the publication and you, the readers, will have the opportunity to comment on the format and contents. If you have any ideas about the future for 'The Messenger', please come along and let us have your ideas. The Treasurer is already seeking sponsorship for 1992/3 and he will be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to help us financially in this important matter.

The new year for 'The Messenger' commences with the May edition. This is the month when we have the opportunity to revise and alter the cover pages. If any of the Organisations and Association contacts have changed since last May, or if there is any new organisation which ought to be included, please let the Editor know as soon as possible, certainly no later than the beginning of April, so that we can get the information to the printer as early as possible. The date by which articles and material should be sent for the April issue is Monday, 16th March.

This month we are sponsored by Greenacres Cattery, Briar Road, and Hiskeys Fresh Farm Eggs, Hiskeys Poultry Farm, Little Bromley. We thank them for their kindly support, and ask you to support them as much as you can.

### HISKEYS TOP QUALITY FARM FRESH BROWN EGGS

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### S. GEORGE'S CHURCH TOWER REPAIRS.

It is over seven years since the Repair Fund was set up to provide funds for the repair of the church tower, and during this time much effort has been put in to make the repairs possible. At the moment of writing, the contractors are finally completing this work which has included, not only the restoration of the outer stonework, but also of the unseen woodwork inside the tower. Although we do not have the final accounts, the total cost will have been in the region of £130,000. I am most grateful to all in the village who have worked so hard in the past to help us raise this sum, and also to the bodies who have given us grants towards this work. The main grant awarding body has been English Heritage who have provided 40% of the cost, but other bodies have also been very generous. Recently I heard from the Essex Association of Change Ringers that they have decided to make us a further grant of .£2,000 in addition to a grant made two years ago of £1,000. We are most grateful to them. Through their help we expect to be able to recommence the ringing of our bells which have been silent for almost four years.

Sadly the work of fund raising has to continue. we still have considerable loans which we must pay off, and we now have to look at other areas of the church which need repair. The next stage will be to inspect the double hammer beams in the roof of the nave to prepare for an extensive repair to put right the ravages of death watch beetle which we know is active there. *Rector.*

### LENT.

This year Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 4th March. There will be Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes at 7.30pm in S. George's Church on that day, and on every Wednesday in Lent there will be a discussion group in the Chapel of Seven Rivers Cheshire Home at 7.30pm at which any person will be welcome. Details of this, and the services for Lent, are listed in a Lenten Leaflet obtainable from the church, or the Rector.

On Mothering Sunday, 29th March, there will be a special Family Service and Holy Baptism at which all mothers present will be given posies of flowers. On this occasion Holy Communion will follow this service instead of being part of it.

Lent is the time when we all have the opportunity to deepen and learn more of our faith. I hope that we will take this opportunity to commit ourselves to the way of Christ during this season.

#### KIND COOKS OF GREAT BROMLEY.

The WI has been asked to run a cake stall for the Heritage weekend, 4th and 5th July. We will need loads of cakes, biscuits, buns and bread so please help us. Anyone willing to batch bake will be paid for their ingredients. June Willgress on 230150 will be delighted to hear from you. Phone her now while it is fresh in your mind!

The March meeting is back to normal in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 4th March, when Sheila Allan will be giving a demonstration and ideas for starters.

#### PLAYGROUP.

The Playgroup are pleased to announce that there are now a few vacant spaces on both Monday and Wednesday mornings for children over three wishing to join us. We would like to invite everyone to our Coffee Morning on Wednesday, 25th March where children's clothes and Amway products will be on sale, also to the Colne Fashion evening to be held as a joint venture with the school in the village hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 11th March. We are looking forward to our outing in June to 'Playworld' and hope to have lots of entries for our Easter Bonnet and colouring competitions to be judged on Wednesday, 8th April.

We would like to send our best wishes to Robert J, Christopher and Robert W, who left us to start school in the new year and have settled in as proper little school boys! Any enquiries about the Playgroup to Amanda Rowe, the Secretary.

#### BROWNIES.

The term started with Sophie being presented with her Pony Rider and Short Tennis (level 1) interest badges. Kelly, Kate, Lindsay, Sarah L and Sarah O have gained their Water Rescuer badge. Sarah L has also been awarded her Roadway badge. We have sadly said goodbye to Shelley and Natalie who have moved.

Su from Korea came to visit us and we played Korean games. We hope to see him again when we have our Fancy Dress evening when we will be dressing up in foreign costumes.

Some of the Brownies, with the help of Mrs. Frostick, are busy making a decorated cushion cover to be entered in the Essex Handicraft Association Exhibition in Chelmsford in April. We are becoming, through the leaving for Guides and elsewhere of the older Brownies, a very small Pack. If you, or someone you know has a daughter aged seven or over who would like to join us, do please contact me. *Brown Owl*

#### SENIOR GARDENERS.

By Pass Nurseries announce the start of their Gardening Club called 'Senior Gardener' for all who are over sixty. On Wednesdays a discount of 10% will be available at By Pass Garden Centres to all who are members. To join take along to the Garden Centre proof of age (pension book, driving license or birth certificate) and you will be able to be enrolled. There is no membership fee for this club!

#### PUZZLE CORNER.

The answer to last month's riddle was: a blacksmith. Can you read this conundrum?

11 was 1 greyhound 22 was 12

11 1 1 race 22 11 2!

#### GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

The most recent meeting of the Parish Council was held on 16th January. Among the matters discussed were the following:

Three new notice boards are to be purchased for the use of the Parish Council in the village.

Two new posts are to be obtained to replace the two damaged ones surrounding the village war memorial.



A seat, provided by the Carnival Association, is to be placed at the Black Boy Public House. Concern was recorded at the granting of outline planning permission for a Business Park at Frating which would include some land in Great Bromley. Further discussions about this are to be had with the Director of Planning from Tendring District Council.

It was reported that the Public Enquiry into the proposed Power Station will commence on 9th June, 1992.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday, 19th March at 7.30pm. The Annual Assembly of the Parish will immediately follow at 8.00pm. All parishioners are invited to attend and to take part in this meeting.

#### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

The AGM was held on Thursday, 6th February, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. Griffiths with a good attendance by the members. The Chairman and Treasurer were re-elected, and also the committee, but we still have the position of Secretary to be filled. It will be seen that a start has been made on the clearing of the village sign site, further work will be done as weather allows. Many thanks to the four willing helpers, and also to Mr. Charles Pirie for disposing of the rubbish and of his offer to supply topsoil when we are ready. The Parish Council has generously offered a donation to help with the costs of the initial outlay, after which the Garden Club will maintain as necessary. The next meeting will be on 5th March at Seven Rivers at 7.30pm when Mr. Canham of Ipswich who, due to adverse weather conditions, was unable to come to us last year, will be talking to us on 'flowering shrubs'. Guests will be welcome. *V. Griffiths.*

#### EVENTS DIARY.

Please add these events arranged by the Village Hall Committee to your diaries:

Friday 10th and Saturday 11th April - Buffet and Wine Evening at 7.30pm. Tickets at £5 obtainable from Lynda Allum.

Sunday 26th April Car Treasure Hunt Meet at the Village Hall at 2.00pm. All welcome. For further details phone Jean Austin.

Wednesday 13th May Village Hall AGM at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. All welcome.

#### KITCHEN CORNER.

Winter root vegetables are plentiful at this time. Beetroots are a favourite in our family and we like them served hot, cut in chunks with a white sauce. Beets need to be well scrubbed and boiled for 1-2 hours according to size. But they are good raw as well. Instead of the normal cooked sliced beets for salads, try grated raw ones. Scrub well and peel thickly to prevent any 'earthiness'. Another way is to make a pretty combination of raw salads. Line a platter with lettuce leaves and make three separate heaps of grated raw beetroot, carrot and turnip. A centre of cress or celery sticks completes a delicious and attractive dish full of vitamins and goodness! Serve dressing separately so the colours do not run together.

Another dish to please both eye and palate is cooked sliced beetroot interleaved with orange slices and sprinkled with French dressing, or mix together equal quantities of grated raw beets and cooking apples. Dress this with oil and vinegar dressing to which is added a tablespoon of horse-radish sauce and mix in 2oz sultanas. *Jill Frostick.*

#### GENERAL ELECTION - POSTAL VOTE.

Do you know it is now very easy to obtain a postal vote if the circumstances are: 1. You are away working. 2. You are away on holiday. 3. You are physically unable to vote in person. 4. You are considering moving home. Contact Tendring District Council or your selected party office, or Ann Fairley for more details.

ROTARY NEWS - BRIGHTLINGSEA AND DISTRICT. EMERGENCY BOXES. Rotary Clubs collect items for emergency boxes which are sent to any part of the world where some disaster has taken place. These are comprised of simple basic items, a bucket, candles, tin opener etc, which will help people survive their ordeal. If you or a village club would like to know more about this simple but effective aid, please contact Rotarians Len Christodalides or David Taylor.

### THE CALL TO ARMS.

The parish officers of days gone by had a very considerable mass of duties imposed on them. Among the Parish Constable's duties was that of seeing that the Militia had its quota of 'National Service' men from each parish. From 1757 every parish was compelled to choose, by lot, a man or men to join the armed forces and serve for three years. A substitute volunteer from the parish or elsewhere, could be accepted but the parish had to pay £10 for him. Great Bromley Parish provided a man in 1798 and his enrolment paper is at Essex Record Office. It reads:

"South Battalion of Essex Militia whereof Joseph Holden Strutt, Esq., is Colonel. These are to certify that James Harvey of the parish of Great Bromley, in the County of Essex, was sworn and enrolled at Manningtree on the 14 Day of August, 1798, (in loco is deleted) in PERSON in the above Battalion, a Balloted Man for the Parish of Great Bromley in the County of Essex, and the said James Harvey is now serving in the above Regiment. Given under my hand, at Maldon, this 14 Day of January, 1799. Samuel Charles Carne, Major".

James Harvey's wife and family were looked after by the Parish and it can be presumed that he did his service and returned to Great Bromley. *John Appleby.*

### TO LADY BRUMBELLIANS! (and maybe men too)

I have taken up a new hobby knitting small toys and novelties, but I do not have much in the way of scraps of wool. I wonder if anyone has any small oddments of double knitting wool, bright and dull colours, to spare? I do not want to be inundated with mountains of wool so please could you contact me if you have any oddments? Thank you. *Becky (the scrounging Rector's daughter!!)*

### SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME.

This year the Leonard Cheshire Foundation celebrates its 40th anniversary and the 75th birthday of its founder, Group Captain Leonard Cheshire (now Lord Cheshire of Woodhall). During the year special events both locally and nationally will take place and we hope that on some occasions you will be able to join us especially at the Worm Charming in September. Further details of this exciting event later. Meantime the AGM will take place on 23rd March at 6.45pm followed by refreshments and videos of the work of the Foundation will be shown. Everyone welcome.

### GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS.

Health Promotion, Essex County Hospital, Colchester. North East Essex Walks week is Monday 15th to Sunday, 21st June, 1992.

Last Year we ran a Walks week as part of a district-wide campaign to promote the uptake of exercise. We invited all parishes to take part in the North East Essex inter-parish walking league and thirty-four took part. Over fifty walks were organised. The week was so successful it has been decided to make it an annual event. As footpath representative I have entered our parish to take part. I shall be attending a meeting in March to obtain all details and as soon as these are available they will be published in the Messenger and notices displayed around the village and on the Police House board. Anyone interested in walking who would like to support this cause may contact me. *Angela Prior.*

### THE GARDEN IN MARCH.

Plant out wallflowers and polyanthus, there are some good . plants around, sow seed of perennials now, pansies, delphs, polyanthus, lupins, aquilegia and dianthus. A cold frame will do to sow them in. Fight the slug and snail problem as they are very active at this time with young growth coming through. Think ahead of what you plan for planting up your baskets, window boxes and tubs. Geraniums, fuschia are two of the most popular plants, you can cut your costs by propagating them from cuttings, I get a good success from Jiffy 7's. Pay a visit to your Garden Centre and pick up a few packets of bedding plant seeds, you can never have too many plants, and it is fun to have a go yourself. As soon as the apple buds break spray with Nimrod T, also do any grafting, feed all fruit trees with a general fertiliser. Sow leeks, peas and quick maturing cabbage in a cold greenhouse or frame, plant shallots and pop a few tubers of

potatoes in pots under cover. There will be plenty of backaches this month as we fight weeds and maybe some heavy soil; keep at it. *Fred Wickham.*

#### GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

Table Top Sale. Please do not forget our Table Top Sale on Saturday, 21st March from 2-4.00pm in the village hall. There will be bargains galore for everyone, including Mother's Day gifts, cake stall, refreshments and raffle. Please come and have a pleasant afternoon. There are still some tables available. For bookings please contact me. *Gertrude Grant*

#### METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 1st March Balls Green 11am Revd.V. Cameron

Sunday 8th March Elmstead 11am Mr. R. Banyard

Sunday 15th March Burnt Heath 11am Mrs. J. Carter

Sunday 22nd March Balls Green 11am Mr. D. Rhodes

Sunday 29th March Elmstead 11am Mr. D. Marshall.

#### CHURCH REGISTERS - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

Holy Baptism: Sunday 23rd February Holly Sarah Steed of Little Bromley.

Cremation: 6th February Bernard Louis Statham of Hamilton Lodge, died 29th January, 1992.

#### SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES.

Please note the changes as announced last month:

Sunday 1st March SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME CHAPEL, Sunday 8th March S. MARY'S CHURCH, ARDLEIGH, Sunday 15th March S. GEORGE'S CHURCH, Sunday 22nd March S. MARY'S CHURCH, ARDLEIGH, Sunday 29th March S. GEORGE'S CHURCH

#### THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL.

The Electoral Roll of the Parish of the Bromleys, is according to law, being revised between Sunday, 1st March and Sunday, 15th March. Additional names can be included between this time. A copy of the roll is in S. George's Church and if you wish your name to be added, please fill in an application form available from the church and return it to the Rector, or to Commander Tony Catesby of 9 Fairfield Close, Great Bromley. Only those whose names are on the roll can take part in the Annual Parochial meeting, or be elected to office.

#### GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

The Pantomime Group AGM is on Wednesday, 25th March at 7.30pm in Great Bromley Village Hall; all are welcome. Please note: we shall be requiring a Wardrobe Mistress. Our grateful thanks to Judith Knappett and Yvonne Cobbold who have filled this post so well. Anyone interested please contact me. Our thanks to all those who supported 'Snow White' to make the show such a success resulting in an £800 donation to BLISS. Finally my thanks to all in the Group for their help and co-operation. *Betty Rowe Retiring Secretary.*

#### GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Our guest speaker for March will be Mrs. Trasler whose subject, 'fuchsias', is a very popular one especially for gardeners and pot plant enthusiasts. The competition: an animal or bird made from a potato. *Mildred Purkis.*

#### GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

We have had a change of venue for the past two months. In January we were at Seven Rivers and in February we had a full house at Chancery Farm to watch a National Trust video on the cleaning, restoration and conservation of their properties. This was one of the Colchester library's videos; they have a really good selection and you can keep them for a week now, so if you want a change from the usual go and have a look. A reminder to those knitting little jumpers: please bring them to the March meeting so that they can be delivered to the Federations 75th County Annual Meeting on 20th March.

## **The Bromley Messenger April 1992.**

Many people wonder why it is that the date of Easter is different each year, and further wonder why there is not a fixed annual date for the festival. Easter is all about an historical event, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead; a firm belief without which the Christian Faith would be meaningless. The clear evidence in the New Testament shows that Jesus was crucified at the time of the Jewish Feast of Passover, and this feast was, and still is, timed according to the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which in our calendar, falls on 21st March. This means that the Passover and Easter Sunday may fall at any time between 22nd March and 25th April. From its earliest beginning the Christian Church wished to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ on the Sunday nearest to the actual anniversary of this event according to the Jewish Calendar, and so it is that this year we celebrate Easter on 19th April, but next year it will be 11th April. However, the date of the Feast is unimportant. What is important is the realisation that Easter marks the Christian Faith off as unique, celebrating God's care and love for the world which He created. I saw a striking advertisement which stated that Easter is not about chocolate, but about Jesus and His glorious resurrection.

'He is risen, as He said'. These words from the Gospel challenge us, year by year, to rejoice that by the death and resurrection of the Son of God, mankind is brought very close to the God who made us and all of creation. A Happy and Joyful Easter to you all.

Way I remind you that I need to have the details of any alterations to the list of Associations and Organisations by the beginning of April please. This month our sponsors are the Bromley Buskers and T&F Motors. We thank them for their continued and most welcome support. Material for the May edition should reach the Rectory by 13th April.

### THE BROMLEY BUSKERS PRESENT

#### A BUFFET AND WINE EVENING WITH CABARET

On Friday and Saturday, 10th and 11th April at 7.30p.m. in Great Bromley Village Hall  
Tickets at £5.00 each are obtainable from Linda Allam (Telephone 230375).

### ALL MECHANICAL & BODY REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN

#### WELDING & SPRAYING ~ CRYPTON TUNING

T & F MOTORS (Props. A. R. Sharpe & F. J. Peck) HORSLEY CROSS GARAGE.

HORSLEY CROSS Nr. MANNINGTREE, ESSEX CO11 2NR TEL COLCHESTER (0206) 392219

### NOTICE BOARDS ~ GREAT BROMLEY.

As the three new notice boards are lockable I should like to bring to the notice of everybody that the key for the board at Hare Green is held by Mrs. Grant, Old Forge, Mary Lane South. Posters for this board may either be left with Hrs. Grant or alternatively the key may be borrowed.

The keys for the boards at the school and Frating Road are held by myself at Church Cottage and the same arrangements apply. If you do not wish either Mrs. Grant or myself to display the posters for you, may I ask you please to make certain that the keys are returned. Thank you.

H. Booty. {Clerk to the Parish Council}

### COFFEE MORNING AT THE HOLLIES.

Please will you come to support research into Huntingdons Chorea, the dreadful hereditary nervous affliction. There is a coffee morning at the Hollies, Colchester Road on Thursday, 30th April, bring-and-buy stall, plant stall and raffle starting at 10.30pn, entrance fifty pence. All welcome: please just come! *Jean Harding.*

### A REWINDER.

Anyone elderly or incapacitated who does not live on a bus route, could qualify for travel on the villages bus which operates between the villages and Colchester on Wednesday mornings. Please contact Jean Harding or any Council member for details. We do not want the bus to discontinue due to lack of demand. Use it or lose it! *Jean Harding.*

### TRANSPORT.

Are you attending hospital as an out patient? Can you get there and back by public transport, or do you have the use of a car? If not, ask your doctor to arrange transport if you need this help. Please do ask now, do not leave it till 'later'.

If you use public transport or a private car, and you get income support, you can get help with the expense. Ask while you are at the hospital. If you do not get income support but find the cost difficult, help may be possible. Ask at the hospital.

*Issued from A.C.H.E.S. (Action Committee for Health Essential Services. Tel: (0255 813537).*

### MARGERIE NICHOL.

Margery Nichol who died recently aged ninety-seven, was one of eleven children of the late Percy Henry Nichol whose father, Percy Charrington Nichol, started the Brewery and Mineral Water Company in Colchester in 1839, and which later became part of Ind Coope.

The Nichol's domains spread further than Great Bromley. Margery lived for a time at Bovills Hall, Ardleigh, which was owned and lived in by her grandfather, and whose brother built the larger Elm Park directly opposite in fierce competition, Margery would tell me! In the 1880's at the time of their marriage, Margery's father and mother set up house at Morants where most of us knew her. The font at S. George's Church was donated by the family in memory of Laurie who died in World War I and a sister Vera, who also died young. The Nichol's Coal Charity founded by their grandfather continues to this day.

As one of two unmarried sisters, the other being Ruth, they continued to live with their single brother Dudley at Morants for very many years after their parents died. Margery and Ruth were regular worshippers at S. Georges and were responsible for the flowers on the pulpit on high days and feast days.

The sisters never strayed far from home though in World War I Margery drove an ambulance and was in the National Fire Service in World War II.

The two sisters and their brother were very hospitable in a quiet way, Margery being cook of the family. When we first came to The Hollies, all was very primitive and we were kindly invited to take our towel and spongebag over every Tuesday for a bath with running water instead of our tin bath in front of the kitchen range with the water ladled out of the copper! And at the coronation of the Queen, I trundled over with a pram full of children to view it on what must have been one of the few TV sets in the district at the time. They were very long suffering as our three little boys and their friends would swarm over their land and woods most of their childhood.

After Dudley's death they sold Morants, the farming of which had long been acquired by Andrew Lyon, and moved to a new house built for them at the opposite end of the village. There again a wonderful garden developed under their care, but Margery never really recovered after the death of her beloved sister and friend Ruth. But she was a strong independent spirit remaining alone at Blue Cedars until a few years ago when her great-nephew and his wife took her home to Wales to live with them. Only one sister of that large family remains, Dimple, who lives in Norwich, and there are very few descendants. Many of the old families of the village will regret the breaking of this link with the past.

A Memorial Service will be held at S. George's Church on Saturday, 28th March at 11.30am, when her ashes will be committed and placed on the family grave. *Jean Harding.*

### COUNTRYSIDE CARE.

Now that the sun has started to shine through the dark days of winter and spring is peeping through, our minds will soon begin to wander towards warm days of cutting grass, clipping hedges and weeding borders. Let us all spend a few moments to also think about the countryside and the fact that as we live in it then we also have a duty to look after it.

How often have we walked past a cottage, bungalow or house which has a well tended garden with lawns mowed, hedges clipped and borders weeded and looking a real picture, only to find that the hedgerow on the opposite side of the road is full of all the garden debris and a bit of a mess. Some small effort to be environmentally friendly can result in much of the green waste being put down to compost and the remainder being disposed of at the local waste disposal tip. Let's hope that if we keep our bit of the countryside clean and tidy visitors to it will also think twice before they dump their rubbish in the ditches and behind gateways.

If I make the effort, will you, to keep our countryside tidy? *Roy Poulter.*

### PUBLIC FOOTPATHS.

The parish of Little Bromley has twenty public footpaths that pass through it. The Parish Council is under some pressure from the County Council and various rambling organisations to record the condition of footpaths, confirm the route they take and advise Essex County Council

of any repairs they require. Will you assist us in this by joining the members of the Parish Council on a footpath walkabout on Sunday, 26th April. Meet at the car park opposite the Post Office at 10.00am. *Roy Poulter*

#### CARPET BOWLS.

The league season is coming to an end although we are not far up the league table we have had a more successful season winning more matches than in previous years. Obviously the opposition has improved as well! Club evening will continue on Wednesdays, except the first day of the month, when we hope it will be the Thursday of that week subject to the village hall being available. Please check with any club member.

Dates for April and May: 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th April, 13th, 20th, 27th May.

#### GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Mrs. Lapwood will be showing us and talking about Ribbon Craft at our April meeting. The competition: a decorated hard-boiled hen's egg! May we remind everyone that our Spring Sale will be held on 25th April at the Village Hall at 2.00pm. This is our only money raising event so do come along and support us. There will be plants and produce, cakes, jewellery, crafts, books, bric-a-brac, groceries, tombola, jumble and lots of bargains. Thank you. *Mildred Purkis.*

#### GUIDES.

Most of the Guides went on a hike on a Sunday afternoon which ended at Mistle Workshop for tea; their map reading and pancake tossing in improving! The £2 each Patrol had has snowballed to between £25 and £35 after a very successful tossing evening. Thank you all for your support. Sadly Elizabeth and Sus have left us, but we welcome Lindsey to Guides from Brownies and Eleanor has come back to be our Young Leader. Two Guides turned up for Thinking Day at Ardleigh and enjoyed themselves. Clare has received her First Aid Badge and both Patrols are working hard on the Entertainer Pennant, and parents and friends are invited to see the results on Monday, 6th April in the Guide Hut starting 7.00pm to 8.30pm. Bring your purses, the snowball has not ended yet! We look forward to seeing you then. *Jazz.*

#### BADMINTON CLUB.

After a very successful season last year when we won the Clacton Leisure Centre KO trophy, and achieving promotion into Division III in the Colchester Federation mixed league, we find ourselves very short of members this season. Club nights have not been very well supported and we would like to invite anyone interested in playing to come along on the 6th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. If we do not get any new members next season there is a real danger that the Club will have to close.

#### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

A meeting was held on 5th March at Seven Rivers when we had a most interesting talk given by Mr. Canham, also many colourful slides. Our flowering shrubs should give us an excellent display this year if we can remember to follow all his suggestions! If only we could absorb the botanical names as well as Mr. Canham; what a memory! Our speaker on the 2nd April at Seven Rivers will be Mr. Rose on his Kashmir experience in search of alpine flowers. He will have slides which will also show beautiful scenery. If you have a couple of hours to spare why not join us at 7.30pm? *Vicky Griffiths.*

#### THE GARDEN IN APRIL.

Deadhead all spring flowering bulbs as they finish . flowering to stop them making seed heads and sprinkle a general fertiliser such as Gromore around the bulbs. Plant gladioli bulbs now at fortnightly intervals to give a display throughout the summer. Plant at a depth of 4.5" in a sunny position, plant anemone corms also. Kill moss on the lawn with a good mosskiller such as May and Baker Lawn Weed Feed and Mosskiller. Leave the moss to dry then rake it out with a spring tine rake.

Start feeding houseplants after their winter rest. Choose a high nitrogen feed such as Baby Bio. Plant onion sets into the garden; the best way is to make a shallow trench. Sow french beans directly into the soil and protect with cloches until the danger of frost has passed. There is still time to plant seed potatoes but protect them from frost. Carrots and radish can be sown direct

into the soil. Tidy up beds and borders by lightly hoeing the surface, try not to damage any newly emerging shoots.

Sow tomatoes, aubergines and peppers in pots or trays in gentle heat, plant up hanging baskets with young plants, take cuttings of geraniums and fuchsia, they will still flower this year. Keep at it! *Fred Wickham.*

#### KITCHEN CORNER.

Leeks are another useful and tasty winter vegetable. The gardeners among you will know how easy and hardy they are. Wash them well splitting the tops so as to get out any grits among the leaves. They can be boiled whole and served with a white sauce, or wrap each in a slice of ham or bacon and cover with cheese sauce and bake in the oven. Another way is to slice them very finely across and cook gently in butter. Keep a lid on the pan and they will cook in their own juices. Shake pan or stir occasionally to make sure they do not stick. Cooked this way leeks make a good pie or flan filling, or a base for other dishes.

#### East leek soup:

2 large or 4 small leeks white part only

4 potatoes 2 onions 2oz butter 2 pints stock (white)

¼ pint single cream or milk

Prepare and chop vegetables, soften onions in butter, add leeks and potatoes and cook and toss round a few minutes. Add stock and simmer till tender. Liquidise or sieve the soup, then reheat and stir in cream or milk and seasonings. Nice served with chopped chives on top.

Alternative recipe: chop up all the vegetables very finely and serve without liquidising. Only add cream or milk if you want as it is good without, chunky and nourishing! *Jill Frostick.*

#### IT IS YOUR DUTY.

At the Easter Quarter Sessions Court, 1647, Richard Goddeth of Great Bentley, husbandman, and Richard Forde . and Ann, his wife, of Great Bromley were presented for 'absenting themselves from their parish church'. They must have missed church more than once and had been presented to the Archdeacon's Church Court, and not appeared to answer the summons. The fine they had to pay or sentence in gaol at Chelmsford, if any, is not given.

In 1607 Robert Baker, Churchwarden of Little Bromley, had to appear before the Archdeacon as it was said 'that there was no money given to him to provide any after he was sworne Churchwarden ... that he did not receive the holy Commnsithence Easter 1606; but he sayth that he offered himself at Christmas last (1606) but Mr. King (Rector) refused him for that he (King) sayd that there wanteth a large byble, ie books of homilyes'. He (Baker) sayth he cannot tell whether they have them or not'.

The Court also heard that the parish needed a stope (vessel) for the wine; 'the steeple is in decay, but we want no bell ropes. There is no disorder in the church..'

At another Court Mr. Baker appeared as the church was defective (in disrepair) and wants lead (for roofing) and 'it rayneth down upon the bordes in the belfrye'. It was to the Churchwarden's credit that 'he hath provided a byble and the homilies' (short sermons). No mention is made that he was receiving Holy Communion. We look forward to seeing you all at the Eastertide Mass.

*John Appleby.*

#### EVENSONG - ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS ~ APRIL 6.30pm.

Sunday 5th Seven Rivers Home Chapel

Sunday 12th S. Mary's, Ardleigh

Sunday 19th S. Mary's Ardleigh

Sunday 26th S. George's, Great Bromley

Because it is our wish to keep Sunday, 26th April, the nearest day to 23rd April, S. George's Day, as our Patronal Festival, we are changing the arrangement this month, and Evensong will be at Ardleigh on the third Sunday, Easter Day and at S. George's on the fourth, our Patronal Festival.

#### GOOD FRIDAY - 17th APRIL.

The choirs of Ardleigh and Great Bromley are combining for a service of music and readings in S. George's Church at 7.30pm entitled 'The Cross of Christ'.

### CONFIRMATION SERVICE.

The Bishop of Colchester is coming to S. George's for a service of Confirmation on Tuesday, 26th May at 8.00pm to confirm candidates from Ardleigh and The Bromleys. This is to be supported by both parishes.

### CHURCH CLEANING - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

I would be most grateful if anyone who reads 'The Messenger' could volunteer to clean half of the Nave of the church on a monthly basis. I have been able to find help for the rest of the church, but not the nave! We would like to give the church a spring-clean for Easter. Please can anyone who can manage it, come along on Saturday, 4th April, from 10.00am to help in this? Coffee in the Rectory, of course! *Meriel Davis.*

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

These two meetings take place on Tuesday, 7th April at 7.30pm in the Chapel of Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, with the kind permission of the Head of Home. The first meeting is for the election of two Churchwardens to serve the Parish at which any person who is on the Electoral Roll of the parish, or the Roll of Parliamentary Electors may vote. At the second meeting which follows immediately, only those who are on the Parish Electoral Roll may take part. The Annual Accounts of the parish will be presented and reports on the repairs to the church and its activities will be made. Twelve persons are to be elected to serve on the Parochial Church Council and one person to represent the parish on the Harwich Deanery Synod.

### SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT S. GEORGE'S.

Palm Sunday 12th 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Blessing of Palms and Parish Communion  
6.30pm Evensong at S. Mary's Ardleigh  
Tuesday 14th 10.30am Holy Communion  
Wednesday 15th 7.30pm Lent Study Group and Holy Communion, Seven Rivers  
Maundy Thursday 16th 7.30am Celebration of the Last Supper  
Good Friday 17th 10.30am Worship at the Cross with Holy Communion  
7.30pm 'The Cross of Christ' a service of music and readings  
Holy Saturday 18th 8.00pm Blessing of the Paschal Candle  
Easter Day 19th 8.00am Holy Communion 9.15am Holy Communion, Seven Rivers  
10.30am Parish Communion and Blessing of Easter eggs  
6.30pm Evensong and Solemn Te Deum S. Mary s, Ardleigh



## **The Bromley Messenger May 1992.**

With this issue we commence the seventh year of publication of 'The Messenger' and from what we hear, it does provide a useful link between its readers and all the many organisations in the two villages. You will notice that on the back page this month there is no list of sponsors for the next twelve months. The Treasurer has written a note which appears later in the magazine to explain that there has been considerable difficulty in finding sponsors for this year, and we still do not have a complete list. This we hope to be able to provide for next month's issue. If this is not possible, although we think we can continue to publish throughout the year, it may be necessary to cease publication unless an alternative form of financing each issue can be found. We determined from the start that this should be a free magazine delivered to every house in the villages, and this is still our intention. In order to ensure the continuation of publishing this year, perhaps readers and those organisations who do not make any contribution to 'The Messenger' might like to make a donation to help in this tricky situation. The Treasurer, Len Christodoulides, Magnolia House, Bromley Road, Frating, will be very pleased to receive any donations you may care to make, and of course, he will give the necessary receipts. Any help that can be given will be much appreciated.

If anyone has any idea as to how the magazine could be financed other than by the means we now employ, the Treasurer would be very pleased to hear from you. We do want to continue publishing. Please help if you can.

This month we are sponsored by Seven Rivers Cheshire Home who announce their annual fete to be held on Saturday, 13th June. We thank them for their help and we look forward to their fete! It will help if contributions for the June edition can reach the editor by Wednesday, 13th May.

### **SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME FETE**

TO BE OPENED AT 2.00 PM by the romantic writer Mary Lyons whose books will be on sale.

\* COPLESTON SCHOOL STEEL BAND \* MAGIC SHOW \* MORRIS MEN

\* LASER DUCK SHOOTING \* BOUNCY CASTLE \* SPIDERS WEB \* REFRESHMENTS

\* PLANT SALES \* GIANT TOMBOLA \* STALLS \* SIDE SHOWS

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> JUNE - fun for all the family - Children Free - Adults 50p - Free Parking

### **GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL.**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Hall will be held at 8.00pm on Wednesday, 13th May, 1992. at Great Bromley Village Hall, to which all who have an interest are warmly welcomed to attend.

WANTED. The Village Hall is in need of your help. Come along to the AGM to find out how you can help keep this essential part of your village from oblivion. If you have a few spare minutes each week you could be of great service to your community by helping run the hall. After seven years as Secretaries, and more recently Treasurers for the hall, Amanda and Nigel are having to regretfully resign due to pressure from outside sources. So if you can spare a few minutes of your week come along and help keep your village hall going as the centre of all that is good in your village.

### **GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.**

The speaker for May will be Mr. Ernie Heathcote who will be sharing with us some of his memories which will be both interesting and amusing. The competition: an old watch.

*Mildred Purkis*

### **BALLS GREEN METHODIST CHURCH.**

A coffee morning and bring-and-buy stall will be held in the schoolroom on 9th May from 10.00am to noon. Proceeds for church funds. All are welcome.

### **GREAT BROMLEY WI.**

We seem to have a busy time ahead, so our with your diaries:

Wednesday, 6th May. Resolution Meeting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall with a plant sale, so get potting please.

Wednesday, 20th May. Coffee evening at Jean Wrights, Broadlands, S. George's Close from 7.30pm. Entry 40p. Bring-and-buy and raffle. This is for WI funds so do please come.

Wednesday, 3rd June. Tramps Evening arranged by members. Come suitably dressed bringing a mug.

Wednesday, 24th June. Barbecue at New Bungalow, Seven Rivers. More details later.

Saturday, 18th July. A long way off but we are running a coach to the WI County Show at Cressing Barns so names to Jean Wright. Non-members welcome if space allows.

Last but not least, June Willgress is longing to hear you will bake for the Stall at the Heritage Weekend 4th and 5th July. Do not forget ingredients can be claimed for, also, has anyone any space in their freezer please to store the avalanche of baking we need.

### THE GARDEN IN MAY.

The lawns are going crazy now, they need cutting at least once a week, kill any weeds with a selective weed killer, keep children and pets off until the chemicals have completely dried. In the greenhouse begin to feed hanging baskets, pinch out the shoot tips of petunias and fuchsias, start hardening off plants in a cold frame before planting out. Sow seeds of narrow, courgette, melon and cucumber in small pots of seed and potting compost. Take softwood cuttings of fuchsias and geraniums, also carnations. Plant out summer bedding plants if the danger of frost has passed, do not forget the slug pellets as juicy young foliage is their supper, it is surprising what one night's feast can do to borders of plants. Sow some pansy seeds for a winter show. Continue to sow short rows of salad and root crops throughout the summer, finish planting maincrop potatoes, earth up early potatoes, sow runner beans and french directly into the soil. Remove the largest berries on gooseberries, they are good for cooking, it is a good way to thin them. Keep the hoe going and your back in condition. *Fred Wickham.*

### GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

Hire of sports equipment for use on the playing field. This is a reminder that we have a variety of equipment for hire for a returnable deposit of £5.00. This includes a multipurpose tennis net with jumping pole, rounders equipment, cricket bats and numerous other small items which can be obtained for use on the playing field from Mrs. Ruth Lawson, 'Wymundham', Chase Road West. We also have football goal nets with supports and other football equipment for hire from Mrs. Annie Forrow, 3 Fairfield Close.

Table Top Sale: The Committee wishes to thank everyone for the marvellous support we received for this event. A special thank you for those who booked tables, made donations or helped on the day, and of course, to all who came along to shop. We made £174.61 after expenses which will boost funds needed to maintain and improve facilities on the playing field.

### GUIDES.

We ended the Spring term with a bang and the Guides say a big thank you to all who came to support them at the Guide Medley Night and Guides Day. The Guides' money snowballs have stopped rolling and each Patrol has earned enough for the much needed hike cooking equipment. All the girls have well and truly earned the Entertainer Pennant. Even the Leader Quartet donned silly costumes for a short while to perform a pantomime, and this was followed by a simple Promise ceremony when Lindsay was welcomed as a Guide. Ellie had a yellow candle lighted to receive her yellow trefoil, Eleanor received her green trefoil and Zoe her red trefoil and also her Writer's Badge.

We have been working on fitness during the meetings and will continue to do so plus the odd challenge to move an injured patrol over a crocodile infested river. Treble has found her work commitments have increased and has had to retire as our Treasurer and we do thank her for her efforts. Mrs. Parker has offered to take on the job.

We now look forward to long evenings, day and night hikes and camping with a bit of canoeing and possibly sailing to make use of the coast and rivers which we are so near. Any girl over ten years old can join, you do not have to have been a Brownie. *Jazz*

SCOUTS. It is some time since the 1st Ardleigh Scout Group has put anything in The Messenger. However, as usual when we do it is an appeal. This time it is for leaders. The boys we take in Ardleigh come from the three villages of Ardleigh, Great Bromley and Dedham in about equal numbers so although our title is Ardleigh, a lot of boys come from this village as we total about one hundred boys in all. Covering such a large area we always have too many boys wanting to join and not enough Leaders for them. We survive by a few leaders committing themselves to several meetings a week. We could enlarge and cater for all the boys if only a few people would come forward and volunteer their services, the more volunteers the less involved, as the above

necessity for Leaders to put in more than one night a week would disappear, so please think about and if you are interested please contact me, John Terry on 230490 in the first instance. The Group is a fairly active one taking part in many activities. As well as camping there are swimming galas, football, handicraft and safety competitions. We take part in all district events and do win many of them.

This year is a Promise Appeal year by the Scout Movement where we are trying to raise money for our needs. Many events have been arranged nationally and we are hoping to take part in some of these. The things included are tea making days where we hope to sell tea and cakes in the villages, car wash days, Christmas Carol singing etc. We hold table top sales in Ardleigh, our next one being 17th May, tables are still available for this. Your support would be appreciated, we usually raise between £200 and £300 at these events. *John Terry.*

#### BROWNIES.

The Spring term has fled by and we have sadly said goodbye to Rabbit who will be sorely missed. We have also said goodbye to Lyndsey who has gone to Guides, and to Beth: we wish them all the best for the future. Emma and Sarah O have become Sixers and Joanne and Kizzy their Seconders. Zoe and Claire have each taken their Promise and Joanne has joined us from Ipswich. We also welcome new Tweenie, Katherine, to our Pack. Lindsey gained her Advanced Swimmer badge; Jeni her Pet Lovers badge; Emma, Joanne Co, Joanne Ca, Sarah O, Kizzy, Kate, Sarah L, Kelly, Jeni, Claire and Sophie their Safety in the Home badge. Kizzy was awarded her Roadway badge while Lindsay and Beth gained their Highway badge. Well done all.

Tawny Owl went with some of the Brownies to District Thinking Day Service at Ardleigh. At our meetings we enjoyed a Thinking Day party when we dressed in foreign costumes; Mrs Totenhofer visited us and we spent the evening making enamelled brooches and necklaces.

Mrs. Frostick came on successive weeks to help Kate, Sophie, Emma, Joanne and Sarah O make painted and quilted cushions to enter in the Essex Handicrafts Association Exhibition at Chelmsford. Brown Owl with most of the Brownies visited the Exhibition to find the cushions had been graded Silver with Joanne coming 1st in Class and Emma coming 2nd. Many congratulations. The new term starts after Easter on 30th April. *Brown Owl.*

#### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

At our meeting on 2nd April at Seven Rivers we were happy to welcome guests from as far away as New Zealand, and we wish them a safe journey home. Our speaker was Mr. Rose who took us on a wonderful journey to the Kashmir through their days of wind, rain and snow, yes, there was sunshine too but whatever the weather and hardships it was a journey which most of us would rather enjoy in the warmth and comfort of a cosy room! It was very interesting to see flowers which we would normally see growing in this country, such as daisies, water lilies etc. The slides showing beautiful scenic views with an excellent commentary by Mr. Rose made a very interesting evening.

7th May at Seven Rivers is our next meeting with Mr. Revans talking to us on geraniums and pelargoniums. Join us if you can at 7.30pm. *Vicky Griffiths*

#### BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS.

Seven Rivers would be very grateful to have any spare books you have for a stall they are having at the Fete on 13th June. Please take them to the office at Seven Rivers. Thank you.

#### SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND.

Our Annual Coffee Morning in aid of the Save the Children Fund will be on Tuesday, 19th May, at 5 Springhill Close, Great Bromley from 10.00am to 12.00 noon, entrance 40p. Please do come and give us your support. There will be a bring-and-buy, plant stall and others. *Rose F. Field.*

#### BROMLEY MESSENGER FINANCES.

I am having trouble in obtaining sponsorship for this seasons twelve monthly publications. Due to the recession people are cutting back on such things as advertising. However, it is a well-known fact that the best time to advertise is during a recession because people when they begin to spend remember those who did advertise. If we do not get enough sponsorship then we shall seriously have to consider ceasing publication. I am sure that we all know people in the village who are in business but are not well known by others. Try to persuade them. What are the

costs? £35 for 1/3 page, £50 ½ page, £50 whole page in one month's issue, plus your name, address and telephone number on the back cover.

We have a very successful magazine and with your help, we can continue to have one free of charge to all households in Great and Little Bromley. *Len Christodoulides*

#### GARDEN TEA PARTY.

Mrs. Jill Frostick and the Leigh Singers invite you to Grove House, Frating Road, on Monday, 1st June at 2.00 to 4.00pm for afternoon tea and musical entertainment. Tickets 50 pence, raffle and bring-and-buy. Proceeds for new choir music and charity.

#### KITCHEN CORNER.

In February, June Willgress and I went to the WI college at Denham to do a course on embroidered boxes, and while there, we collected some good recipes from members who were taking the cookery course. Here is a tasty way with potatoes.

##### Lemon Potatoes.

1½ lbs old potatoes, peeled and cubed.

3 tablespoons oil or melted butter.

3 tablespoons lemon juice. Salt, pepper and herbs to taste.

Cover potato cubes with cold water and bring to the boil. Cook 4 minutes. Drain and put in a pie dish. Sprinkle then with the oil and juice and seasoning and bake 45-55 minutes in a hot oven.

*Jill Frostick.*

#### THE HARASSED HORTICULTURIST.

In the merry month of May

We see strong plant growth under way,

When sunshine's warmth plus gentle shower

Makes grass grow thirty miles an hour.

With deep distress and great frustration

I view this virile vegetation

And low morale falls even lower

As I reflect that, with the mower,

I'll pace the lawns three times a week

When rusty blades will clank and squeak,

And then as I this jungle view

I wonder how on earth it grew

To such a vast entangled state

At such a truly rapid rate.

Lawn fertilisers now abound

But I don't strew the stuff around,

To me it seems to court disaster

By making grass grow even faster.

This makes me think it might be fine

To just neglect these lawns of mine,

I could reject all condemnation

And claim it's Nature Conservation!

Then I could join the leisured class

And bid goodbye to mowing grass! *A.H.C.*

#### S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

The Annual Meeting was held on Tuesday, 19th April, when Mr. Douglas Rogerson and Mr. Peter Rowe were re-elected as Churchwardens. Elected to serve on the Parochial Church Council were Mrs. Ann Fairley, Mr. Robert Harding, Mrs. Yvonne Cobbold, Major Janes Heaney, Mr. Gordon Jones, Mrs. Elizabeth Lennox, Mr. Bert Smith, Mr. James Wild and Mrs. Meriel Davis. There was one vacancy as Deanery Synod Representative and this was filled by Mr. Bill Walker. The other two Representatives not due to be elected this year are Mrs. Olive Sparling and Mr. George Kent. The cheering news given at the meeting was that the whole of the tower restoration is now complete! After so many years of planning, fund raising and negotiation the task is now done. We do not yet have the final account for payment, but we imagine that the total cost for the work both inside and out, will have cost over £130,000. Although the work is done we still have to

continue our fundraising as we still have loans made to us to enable us to tackle the work which have to be repaid. One third of the proceeds of this year's Heritage Weekend will go towards paying off some of our indebtedness.

The completion of the tower project means that, after a silence of almost four years, we will be able to ring the church bells again. Mr. David Wenden, Girlings, Stone Road has taken over as Tower Captain and is anxious to gather ringers to enable the bells to be rung. Bell practise night is to be every Friday, commencing on Friday, 1st May at 7.30pm. He will be pleased to hear from any ringers who would like to ring again here, and from anyone who would like to learn. Please contact him, or the Rector, if you are interested.

Sunday, 24th May, is Rogation Sunday and we will be continuing our custom of Blessing the Crops. This year the service will take place at Norman's Farm, Little Bromley, and we will be joined by the congregation of S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh, who are sharing the service with us. All are most welcome to join us at the service which will be held at 10.30am. Our thanks to Tom and Joyce Fairley for inviting us to their farm.

On Tuesday, 26th May at 8.00pm, the Bishop of Colchester will be conducting a service of Confirmation for the two parishes of The Bromleys and Ardleigh. At this service the Bishop is to mark the coming together of this parish and the parish of Ardleigh, and the Rural Dean of Dedham and Tey, the Lay Chairman of the Harwich Deanery and the Churchwardens of both parishes will take part. I do hope that all members of the congregation will be able to attend this important service in the life of the parishes.

Thursday, 28th May, is ASCENSION DAY, when the church rejoices at the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven. In earlier times this was not only an important religious festival, but it was also a public holiday. There will be a service of Holy Communion in Seven Rivers Chapel at 11.00am, and the service in the evening at 7.30pm will take place at S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh.

On Whitsunday, 7th June, there will be no morning service at S. George's. Instead we will be joining the congregation of Ardleigh to share in their service at S. Mary's. Please note: the time of the service will be 10.15am.

Evensong during May will be as follows: 3rd May Seven Rivers Hone Chapel

10th May S. Mary's church, Ardleigh

17th May S. George's church, Great Bromley

24th May S. Mary's church, Ardleigh

31st May S. George's Church, Great Bromley.

#### METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday, 3rd May Balls Green 11am Mrs. A. Brook

Sunday, 10th May Elmstead 11am The Revd. Robinson

Sunday, 17th May Burnt Heath 11am Mr. L. Holden

Sunday, 24th May Balls Green 11am Miss S. King

Sunday, 31st May Elmstead 11am Mr. R. Gillingham .

#### CHURCH REGISTERS.

Baptism.

Rebecca Helen Robinson baptised on Sunday, 29th March.

Burial. The ashes of Miss Margery Nicholls were buried on Saturday, 28th March.

### **The Bromley Messenger June 1992.**

The good news this month is that we now have sufficient sponsors to ensure the continuation of 'The Messenger' for another year. We are most grateful to those who have helped us in this way. This month we are sponsored by Bromley Private Hire, Southview, Ardleigh Road, Great Bromley and P & B Decorators, 4 Greenfinch End, Colchester. To then we offer our warmest thanks. A complete list of the sponsors is to be found on the back page of the magazine. Please can all contributions for the July issue be sent to the Rectory by Monday 15th June.

The first Sunday this month, 7th June is of course, Whitsunday, a Festival now somewhat neglected since we no longer have a Bank Holiday on Whitmonday. Whitsun, or The Feast of the Pentecost, marks the remarkable events in Jerusalem, ten days after Jesus had Ascended into Heaven when the Apostles suddenly became filled with the power of the Holy Spirit and began their ministry of spreading the Gospel throughout the world. Because of this Whitsun is often called 'The Birthday of the Church'. Before the first Pentecost the Apostles were frightened and cowed, fearing that the Jews and the Roman authorities of Jerusalem would hound them down and put them to death as they did to Jesus. The coming of the power of the Holy Spirit completely changed them. Immediately after the events described by S. Luke in The Acts, Peter went into the streets and started to preach about Jesus; in the years that followed, the Apostles all went to far countries with the message of the Gospel, and in the end they all met with cruel deaths at the hands of their persecutors. Such was the change that the Holy Spirit worked in them. The Christian faith asserts that this very self-same power of the Holy Spirit has led to the growth of the Christian Church; from a handful of men and women 2,000 years ago into the largest religion in the world, claiming today something in the region of 800,000,000 believers in every nation and country of the world. On Whitsunday the whole Church celebrates this event and thanks God for the power of the Holy Spirit which is still found among us.

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#### **S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL - PTA BARN DANCE.**

The PTA Barn Dance will be held as usual at Park Farm, Great Bromley on Saturday, 27th June from 8.00pm until midnight. The caller will be Ron Coxall with live music from Icen Folk.

Tickets at £4.00 each available from Ruth Lawson after the 18th May.

#### **NORTH EAST ESSEX WALKS WEEK 15th to 21st June 1992.**

Age is no barrier, make a start on a healthier heart. It's free, it's easy and it helps you relax. It need not be time consuming so see posters for list of walks organised for that week. Go on! it is one foot at a time. For details phone Jacquie (230490) or Angela (230640).

#### **GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.**

We would like to thank everyone so much who helped to make our Spring Sale such a success. Thank you! There will be hand-bell ringers to entertain us at our June meeting and the competition - a small bell. *Mildred Purkis*

#### **THANK YOU.**

Many thanks to all who attended, or helped in any way, at the Huntington's Disease Coffee Morning at which £350 was raised. It was attended by ten HD families and as a result, we are planning a local family support group for occasional meetings. We are grateful to Jill for the offer of the use of Seven Rivers for that purpose. It is hoped that the first meeting will be in June. Any enquiries to Jean Harding.

### PLAYGROUP.

The summer term is always a busy one and this year is no exception. Already we have held a Tupperware party to raise funds and the children enjoyed the sponsored obstacle course held on 18th May. Coming up in June we have two outings to look forward to, the first is to Highwoods Country Park on a Monday morning for the over 3's and the second is for all playgroup children, toddlers and mums which will be a trip to 'Playworld' in Stowmarket. We are all travelling together by coach and there are a very few places still available for anyone wishing to join us. There will be a coffee morning and sale of children's clothes and greetings cards on Wednesday, 10th June, which is open to anyone, so why not come along?

We have recently spent some of our hard-earned money on some new play equipment which the children are really enjoying. If you would like your preschool children to join in the fun, come down to the Village Hall at 10am on Wednesday; also Fridays for over 3's.

May we take this opportunity to send our best wishes to Kerri and Ryan who left us recently to start school. *Amanda Rowe.*

### GUIDES.

So far this term we have been out every meeting. The Guides have followed a short trail round the locality, played games and had a cook-out in the garden of the Nook, and been canoeing. The canoeing was a first time and the weather and the water a bit chilly, but the Guides paddled up stream a fair way and then back to play some games. We have only recently welcomed Kelly to Guides and hope she continues to enjoy our company.

Several Guides took part in Centrek this year and Zoe was in the Overall Winning Team who gained the Golden Boot Award, and Eleanor's team won their sections First Aid and Best Turned Out certificates. Very good going you lot! *Jazz.*

### BROWNIES TABLE TOP SALE.

Di Coppin has very kindly offered to hold a Table Top Sale in her garden at 10 Harwich Road, Great Bromley on Saturday, 20th June at an in aid of our funds. There will be a raffle, cake stall and for the children, n Kiddies Korner. If you can let us have any jumble, unwanted books, toys, bric-a-brac, cakes or a raffle prize, please ring Di Coppin or Leonie Henderson. Arrangements can be made to have things collected and we shall be most grateful. *Brown Owl.*

### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Another interesting and humorous talk at our meeting on 7th day at Seven Rivers, which was well attended. Mr. Revans discussed the propagation of pelargoniums and the pitfalls when growing if they are over-watered or kept too close together. I am sure some of us made a bee-line for our greenhouses the next morning to spread our plants out 'to give them air'. The slides were a revelation showing the do's and dont's when 'showing' and many 'tricks' if you want a prize at the end of the day!! At the invitation of Mrs. Jean Wright our next meeting on 4th June will be held at her home in S. George's Close at 7.30pm. Mr. Revans has written a very instructive forty-six page booklet on pelargoniums at a cost of £1 each: anyone interested in purchasing one please let us know. *Vicky Griffiths.*

### THE GARDEN IN JUNE.

June sees the real start of the summer bedding displays when all your hard work begins to pay off. To keep your bedding at its best spend a few minutes each day checking it over, feeding and watering. Wake sure annuals have enough space to grow. Shade the greenhouse to prevent scorching, water regularly greenhouse plants, take cuttings of African violet, cape primrose and foliage begonia, pinch out sideshoots of tomatoes, and pot up fuschia and geranium cuttings taken in the spring. Cut the lawns regularly, lower the blades to cut it shorter. Sow seeds of perennials and biennials during June, divide polyanthus and primrose plants, dig them up and store carefully. Pull apart the separate plants, replant and water. Plant out summer bedding plants and plant up patio pots and hanging baskets with colourful annuals. Plant marrow and courgette seeds straight into the soil, plant runner bean seeds, carrot and beetroot can be sown now for autumn. Keep the hoe going and the mower oiled. *Fred Wickham.*

### KITCHEN CORNER.

Many thanks to all those who contributed recipes for the cook book we are publishing for the Heritage week-end. It will be full of interesting old recipes, so make sure you buy a copy! Thanks

too, for those who have offered cakes for the stall, but lots more are needed. Also needed, some freezer space to store cakes and bread made beforehand by those who have offered to make large quantities.

June is a good time to think about herbs for the winter. Dry or freeze leaves of parsley, mint, basil etc while they are at their freshest and best. It is useful to have some packets of chopped herbs in a carton in the freezer to quickly add flavour to your cooking. Here is another good recipe from Denham College:

Mars Bar Ice Pudding.

3 Mars bars (61.5g) 1 tablespoon milk ½ pint double cream 2 egg whites

Slice bars and melt with milk over hot water. Cool and stir for 10 minutes. Fold in whipped cream and egg whites. Put into a bowl and freeze for 3 hours. *Jill Frostick.*

#### WHEN I WAS BOUND APPRENTICE

The Overseers of the Poor were responsible for seeing that all who were poor and able to work did so. Poor families were sometimes glad about this. William Death was an orphan of Great Bromley and on 19th December, 1818, the Overseers paid £6.0.0 in fees for binding him apprentice to John Underwood of Brightlingsea to be taught the trade of an Oyster Dredger. A further 6s. 8d. was paid for Entering him in the Register Book and Expenses. Travelling and food etc., cost a further 7s. 6d.

The surnames of both Death and Underwood are well known in Brightlingsea even today and until recently both families were still connected with the Oyster Fishery. *John Appleby.*

#### GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

We are now accepting bookings for our Craft Fair to be held on Saturday, 24th October from 2.00pm to 4.00pm in Great Bromley Village Hall. Tables are available at £6 each. As we have already received a number of bookings, anyone wishing to make reservations for tables should do so as soon as possible in order to avoid disappointment. Please phone or write to me at Old Forge, Mary Lane South. *Gertrude Grant.*

#### GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL.

As from 1st June, 1992, please could all those wishing to book the Village Hall note that the Secretary is now Mr. R. Harding, telephone 230425.

#### S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

On Sunday, 7th June, WHITSUNDAY, there will be no service at 10.30am in S. George's Church. Instead we will all be going to S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh, to join the Ardleigh congregation in thanking God for the coming to man of the power of the Holy Spirit. The service at Ardleigh will commence at 10.15am (please note carefully the time!). There is ample parking in the car park opposite the church. If anyone needs a car lift to the church, can they please let the Rector or Churchwardens know so that arrangements can be made for then.

In the autumn of last year the Parochial Church Council decided to make a change concerning the arrangements for baptisms. Since then all baptisms now take place during the morning Parish Communion service, and a system of keeping in touch with the families of those baptised has started by the regular delivering of anniversary cards. It was also decided to have an annual service of thanksgiving for baptism on a Sunday afternoon in the summer, to be followed by tea for all who attend in S. George's School. This is to take place this year on SUNDAY, 28th JUNE AT 3.00pm in S. George's church. All the families whose children have been baptised during the past five years will receive a personal invitation, but of course, all will be welcome, young and old. We hope that this will be a very happy occasion. On that Sunday there will be no service of Evensong at 6.30pm.

The Chancellor of the Diocese has issued new regulations concerning the burial of cremated remains in the Churchyard. We are now required to have an area set aside for this purpose which must be clearly marked. We are setting aside an area to the East of the porch of the church which is marked by oak posts. The Chancellor will no longer allow individual memorial stones to be erected over the burial plots, instead it is required that we have in the church a Book of Remembrance into which the names of those whose remains are buried in the plot will be entered. We are therefore, to apply for a Faculty to have a Book of Remembrance in a glass-topped cabinet in the Lady Chapel in the church. I will be pleased to answer any enquiries or questions which this new regulation may suggest to you.



It is a real pleasure to be able once again to hear the sound of S. George's bells. At the moment we are able to ring on practise nights, but we do not have a sufficient number of ringers to ring for Sunday services. This we hope to be able to do very soon, but we do need more ringers. If you are an experienced ringer, or would like to learn and be able to ring on Sundays, please come to any practise night ring on Fridays at 7.30pm, or contact the Tower Captain, David Wenden.

#### SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME.

The Annual Fete takes place this year on SATURDAY, 13th JUNE, and is to be opened at 2.00pm by the well known romantic authoress, Mary Lyons, whose books will be on sale. All the usual attractions will be there with the Copleston School Steel Band, Morris Men and Laser Duck Shooting. Entrance is 50 pence for adults and children free, with plenty of free parking. See you there!

#### THE GREAT BROMLEY HERITAGE WEEKEND.

This is to take place on FRIDAY, 3rd JULY, SATURDAY, 4th JULY AND SUNDAY 5th JULY. The proceeds are to be shared equally between Great Bromley Village Hall Funds, S. Georges Church Repair Fund and S. George's Church General Fund. Activities are to take place in S. George's Church, the Village Hall and in gardens in the village.

#### FRIDAY, 3rd JULY - an ESSEX HORKEY.

A Horkey is an evening of songs, poems and sketches and these will all celebrate the life of Essex of old. As well as a most enjoyable entertainment, the evening will include a Cheese and Wine evening. Those taking part will include the Bromley Buskers and BBC Essex's 'Old Jos' with his dialect readings of entertaining old Essex customs and happenings. This will take place in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Any further details can be obtained from Peter Wenden - admission is by ticket.

#### SATURDAY 4th JULY.

In S. George's Church there will be an exhibition of old agricultural tools and household ephemera. Ancient Parish Registers and other Documents will be on display. An hourly Video Show will screen old postcards and photographs of the village. When there is no video showing there will be organ music. The church will be open from 10.00am until 6.00pm. At the church a new book of old postcards and photographs, entitled 'Where the Broom Grows' and a new edition of S. George's Church Parish History will both be on sale. Both of these books were produced specially for the week-end by John Appleby.

In the Village Hall there will be craft stalls recalling some of the ancient crafts of Essex. The Great Bromley Women's Institute will be selling a new cookery book, Essex Cookery Recipe Book, together with recipes for individual items and of course, food. There will also be fruit, vegetable plant, shrub and flower stalls.

In the garden of Copley Dene there will be old-time children's sports and games and Maypole dancing. Teas and refreshments will be available in the Village Hall throughout the day. The Hall will be open from 10.00am until 6.00pm. Some village gardens will be open and there is to be an exhibition of stationary engines and machinery. More details about these later.

#### SUNDAY 5th JULY.

At S. George's church the Sunday morning Parish Communion Service will have a heritage theme when the preacher will be Canon Richmond Gurney, son of the Reverend Archer Gurney, rector 1929-1944. The exhibitions will be open from 12 noon until 5.00pm. At 2.30pm there will be hand bell ringing in the church, and from 4.00pm until 4.45pm the church bells will be rung. After Evensong in the Cheshire Home there will be in Church at 7.30pm a Concert of popular classical and light music by local and invited musicians and vocalists. A special Concert Programme will be available shortly to admit you to this event.

In the Village Hall all the events of Saturday will be open. Admission to the Church Exhibition, to the Village Hall and other activities in the village, will be by programme, which can be obtained on the day, or in advance. A separate programme is necessary for each day.

Under 5's Free,

5's to 16's £1.00

Adults £2.00 (£1.75 in advance)

Families (up to two children and two adults) £5.00 (£3.50 in advance).

Further details of any of the events can be obtained from Jean Harding or John Appleby. I would like to express my thanks to all the very many people who are working so hard to organise these events and make them a success. I do hope that this will be very well supported. It is being advertised widely in publications and on the radio.

FROM BECKY.

Well ... I am afraid I shall not be around for a while. I am going into a specialist hospital in Kent for three months. Thank you all for your good wishes and prayers. See you in September!

EVENSONG AT CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL.

On Sunday, 12th July, we, together with the other parishes in the Harwich Deanery have been invited to attend Evensong in Chelmsford Cathedral. We are invited to arrive during the afternoon, have a guided tour of the Cathedral, have tea in the Chapter House and attend Cathedral Evensong. The Rural Dean is to arrange a coach for those who would like to attend. I will ask for names later in June. There will be no Evensong here or at Ardleigh on the Sunday. I am inviting the congregation of Ardleigh to join with us and I do hope as many as possible will be able to take this opportunity of worshipping at our Cathedral.

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday, 7th June 11.00am Burnt Heath Hrs. H. Deans  
Sunday, 14th June 11.00am Balls Green Revd. Robinson  
Sunday, 21st June 11.00am Elmstead Revd. Cameron  
Sunday, 28th June 11.00am Burnt Heath Revd. Robinson

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH REGISTERS.

Holy Baptism - Sunday 3rd May.

Harry James Hitchcock, Pendil, Mary Lane South.  
Nicholas Russel Wenden, Girlings, Stone Road.  
Chloe Jasmine Naylor, Lewis Darren Naylor, Nicholls Corner, Burnt Heath.

Confirmation - Tuesday 26th May.

David Rogerson.  
Brett Bowen.  
Lucy Starling of S. Mary's Ardleigh.  
Anne Jones.  
Janes Wild.  
Geoffrey Stutter.

Holy Matrimony - Saturday 23rd May.

Mark Gill Digby Chamberlain of Stratford S. Mary and Carey Joselyne Davies of Marks Farm.

Burials.

30th March Louisa Ethel Robinson of Sherwind, Back Lane East.  
14th May Peter Roy Charles Gosling of Harvesters, Waterhouse Lane, Burnt Heath.

MRS. MAY KEEBLE.

With sadness we heard of the death of Mrs. May Keeble of Burnt Heath, the mother of Mrs. Beryl Hurst, on Saturday, 16th May. Mrs. Keeble was ninety-four years of age and had, in her life, been a devoted supporter of Burnt Heath Chapel. May she rest in peace.

## **The Bromley Messenger July 1992.**

It is my annual attempt at being Editor as Paul and Meriel Davis were on holiday. July looks like a busy month for the Village which puts a lot of pressure on those of you who organise the events. Please support our different organisations which make the Bromleys one of the most active in Tendring. I have had to swap sponsorship due to technical difficulties this month with the Parishes of Great and Little Bromley. Remember this is your magazine and through the support of the sponsors it goes to all households free. May I thank all the sponsor, advertisers and contributors for their support. Copy for the August issue of the magazine should be with the Rector by the 13th of July.

Len Christodoulides TREASURER.

### What is an "average" local council?

The "typical" or average council has nine councillors representing a single parish of 1,700 people with a part-time paid female clerk and revenue expenditure of £15,000.

This average picture masks the great diversity of local councils. Some councils are run entirely on a voluntary basis with no paid staff and little expenditure. Others represent communities of over 30,000 people, may have a budget of over £1m and expenditure and staffing levels per head of population similar to the smaller district councils.

An overall picture emerges of extensive and increasing levels of local council activity. There is a broad positive relationship between size and the extent and nature of activities, but councils of all sizes may be very active or may choose to fulfil a limited range of functions.

### Most frequent issues considered at meetings of local councils.

Issue: % of councils considering issue at most meetings

Open spaces: 26%

Plans for area: 30%

Recreation grounds: 31%

Nuisance (litter etc) : 32%

Speed limits: 32%

Footpaths: 41%

Roads (traffic etc) : 45%

Roads maintenance: 57%

Planning applications :??% (highest)

### Percentage of councils spending money on:

Churchyards/burial facilities

Signs & noticeboards

Seats & shelters

Outdoor recreation

Open spaces/ greens/ commons

Village/community halls

**47-56%**

Lighting

Dealing with litter

War memorials

Information services

Local newsletters

Entering competitions

Maintaining footpaths

**28-33%**

Community surveys

Allotments

Roadside verges

**19-23%**

### HERITAGE WEEKEND - SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 4th & 5th JULY.

After a great deal of planning and thought the Heritage Weekend is now upon us. The various activities in the Church and Village Hall will be well worth visiting, and we hope that we will be able to welcome very many visitors. As well as visitors we will still be glad of helpers, both at the Church and at the Hall. If you can help please contact John Appleby or Jean Harding.

Tickets for all events are now available and tickets for the exhibitions can be obtained from Great Bromley Post Office, Little Bromley Post Office, the Black Boy Public House, from John Appleby, Jean Harding or the Rector. The tickets for the Sunday Concert in S. George's Church at 7.30pm can be obtained from Stan West, and for the Friday concert, the Horkey in the Village Hall from Peter Wenden.

The proceeds from the weekend are to be split three ways, to the Village Hall for the funds they need for upgrading the facilities, to the S. George's Church Repair Fund to help pay off the indebtedness caused by the extensive tower repairs and to S. George's Church to help with the maintenance of the church and churchyards which cost in total, in the region of £15,000 per year.

Please support all the events and encourage friends and everyone you know to come and see the exhibitions and discover some of the fascinating history of the village and the church.

### HATS AND BELLS.

To anyone who does not know S. George's Church, there will be no connection whatsoever between Hats and Bells. For us here in the Parish there is a very special connection. Under the tower, as you face East in S. George's Church, as you look up, you will notice a collection of hats, bowlers and billycocks. They all look very elderly, and some have a date painted on them. The earliest, the one on its own nearest the ceiling, was put up in 1716 and others are dated 1825, 1913, 1919, 1935 and 1972. The connection with bells is that all the hats belonged to, and were worn by, Tower Masters, persons responsible for the ringing of the church bells and they were all put up in the church on the death of their owners. This recalls an old Essex custom of a young man courting, he would only put his hat on the hat-stand when he had been accepted as a member of the family and suitable to wed the daughter of the house. Hanging these hats indicated that the Tower Masters were now given an official place in the church in the nearer presence of the Master who they had loyally served by ringing the bells to bring the faithful in to worship.

On Sunday, 2nd August, another hat is to be placed with the others, indicating loyal service over many years, by Felix Erith who died last year and who had served the church so well, not only in his interest in bell ringing, but also in his work as archaeologist and historian.

On the Sunday afternoon a service of Thanksgiving for Felix' life, and the dedication of his hat prior to its being put up with the others, will be held at 3.00pm in S. George's Church. From 2.00pm there will be open ringing and after the service members of the Essex Association of Change Ringers will ring a quarter peal in honour of Felix.

This will be a very special occasion and we invite all to join us. Many friends of Felix will be present and so too will many representatives of the world of ringing. He will be joined at this service by members of the congregation of S. Mary's, Ardleigh, and their choir. Felix of course, lived in Ardleigh and served S. Mary's faithfully throughout his life, as well as loyally supporting us in the Bromleys.

### SAVE THE CHILDREN COFFEE MORNING MAY 19TH

We were so lucky in having once again a warm sunny day for the Coffee Morning and we raised £214 for the Save The Children Fund. They have asked me to thank all those who supported this event. My sincere thanks to you all, as well for making it such a success. You are lovely people.

*Rose Field*

### GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Mr Wrate will be entertaining us with stories of the notorious Mary Catchpole, in July. The Competition this month is A Tankard. A letter of thanks has been received from the Bromley Messenger for our donation of £20. *M Purkis*

### GREAT BROMLEY W.I.

A goodly number of local tramps collected together for the June meeting and had a jolly evening. Roy Tricker gave an entertaining illustrated talk on Essex Churches interspersed with tales of his lifelong passion of Church "collecting".

The Barbecue date has been changed to WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JULY. Venue - New Bungalow, Seven Rivers. Price - £2. Start 7.30pm. Rita Baxter would like to know numbers expected, so please ring.

A few seats left for the OUTING TO THE W.I. COUNTY SHOW at CRESSING BARNES. Saturday 18th July, leaving Village Hall at 12.00. Ardleigh Car Park approx. 12.10. Returning from Cressing at 5.00. Cost £3.50 max. (less if full coach). £2.00 entry to Show. £1.50 if ticket purchased before 13th July. Phone Jean Wright to book. Non-members very welcome.

Summer outing on Wednesday 5th August to the Toy Museum at Stansted will leave Bromley at 12.00 returning after tea. Price not known yet but Jean Wright will reserve you a place.

### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

It is said one can learn something new every day and the two quizzes brought and arranged by Mrs Kempster proved it. Questions and pictures had most of us racking our brains for the answers but added fun to a very pleasant evening held at the home of Mrs Wright for which we offer many thanks. Our speaker at the next meeting on July 2nd at Seven Rivers will be Mr Chignall who will speak (with slides) on "Gardens and Flowers throughout the year". Join us at the usual time 7.30pm - guests welcome.

### THOU SHALT NOT STEAL

In times of great want persons are driven to stealing. In the seventeenth century times were hard and so it is not uncommon to find entries in the Quarter Sessions Records such as this: Easter Sessions Court 1650 "Wm. Pepper, of Great Bromley, labourer, on 25th March, stole there 2lb of butter worth 2d; a piece of pork worth 3d; a piece of beef worth 2d; a pitcher worth ½d and milk worth ½d off Thomas Toddy". He confessed and was whipped! All for 8p!!!

Sir Thomas Bowes, JP, ordered the punishment after listening to the case. He was the Lord of the Manor of Great Bromley. He dealt as harshly with other criminals. He was also a witch hunter and much was told of him being involved in catching a criminal and then sitting in justice on the bench to try the case. In 1654 he was an MP for Essex but was excluded at first from the House by Cromwells Council. *John Appleby*

### ST GEORGES YOUTH CLUB NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The Great Bromley Youth Club has been established for four years, during which time many of our village children have benefited from all that the Club has had to offer. This has included varied activities such as visits to the Rollerworld, Ice Skating, Swimming, Cinema as well as the normal weekly meetings at the School. We have also taken the children away for weekends at "Red Braces" and "Asheldham". The organisation for all these activities takes time and effort by a dedicated group of people, all of whom also have normal lives to lead!

After Richard Davy's departure at the end of this term, it will only leave myself and three other helpers to cope with approx. 30 children. The number of leaders is insufficient, accounting for absence and sickness etc. Unless we can recruit at least a further three helpers/leaders we will be forced to close the Youth Club at the end of the summer term. If you can possibly offer your help on a regular (weekly or fortnight) basis, please contact me. The children need this Youth Club. I believe the village needs to give them such a facility. I hope we do not have to disappoint them. Many thanks for your support. *Suzanne Abbott, Youth Club Leader*

### VILLAGE HALL NOTES - JUNE

Following on from elections in May, there was a meeting of the Village Hall Committee on 2nd June with Mr P Wenden in the chair when, with the exception of the arrangements for the Heritage Weekend, various administrative matters were dealt with. An application had been made to the Tendring D C for a grant towards improvements to the kitchen to which Mr Nigel Rowe was able to report it had been successful to the extent of £1,000 being made available by the Council subject to various conditions.

There was an enquiry, by letter, before the Committee asking about hiring charges payable by Village based societies. It is worth noting that the present scale of charges makes a distinction in favour of village societies compared to those made to Clubs and persons outside the Village.

### THE TENDRING HUNDRED SHOW 11TH JULY 1992.

The Show will be held at Lawford on Saturday 11th July. The subject arose the other day taking minds back 40 years or more when the Show was held at Great Bromley. The newly dug in picket posts along the line of trees at the Cricket ground began the recollection because in digging the holes much hardcore was found. This was the foundation to the hardened roadway which ran along the roadside boundary, beside the Copley Dene hedge to the field beyond the Cricket ground, which was the site of the show, all 14 acres of it, now it takes up 60 acres. This year there will be a departure from the usual content, as a look is being taken towards Europe, as the single market starts in 1993. There will be a considerable display of things European and the relevance of Europe to the Tendring Hundred Show. So come and look for yourselves. The Post Offices at Great and Little Bromley can sell you tickets at concession rates if bought before the Show Day. *R L Harding*

### THE GARDEN IN JULY

Now is the month to start harvesting fruit that is ripe, some varieties of raspberry, strawberry and gooseberry will start ripening in July and August. Start the pruning of summer fruiting can fruit including raspberry and loganberry. Sow some wall flower seeds outside in a prepared site, transplant when large enough to handle, plant about 6 inches apart and pinch out the growing tips, to encourage a bushy plant. Summer prune Wistaria by cutting back each side shoot to about six leaves this will reduce the number of buds for the plant to put its reserves into next year's flowers. Keep the greenhouse well ventilated, damp down floors and staging to increase humidity, watch for pests and diseases and deal with them promptly, continue to feed and water. Sow turnip, lettuce and endive for a continuous supply also sow spring cabbage in a seed bed. Indoor and outdoor tomatoes should be kept constantly moist, remove all side shoots and feed with a tomato fertiliser. Runner beans should be pinched out when they reach the top of the canes, and feed with a high potash feed. Mow the lawn at least once a week, and hope for rain. *F Wickham*

### KITCHEN CORNER

The soft fruit season is here again, and there are many delicious ways of using them; fools, pies ice, sorbets, souffles etc. For freezing it is best to choose only firm smaller fruits. Large strawberries are apt to collapse when defrosted. Freeze all fruits in open trays to harden before putting into bags. Damaged or overripe fruits are best mashed or sieved to a puree and frozen in small tubs to use as a sauce or for fools etc. Summer pudding is a great favourite in our family, but be sure not to use sliced bread for making this. You need a stale loaf cut thickly for good results. Another popular sweet is Scandinavian fruit fool.

### RODGROD MED FLODE

1 ¼ lbs soft fruit - I use ½ lb redcurrants ½lb blackcurrants ¼ lb raspberries or loganberries  
1 pt water 6oz sugar 1¼ oz cornflour

Stew fruit gently in the water until soft. Strain through a sieve (without pressing) to yield about 1 pint of juice. Add sugar and return to the pan. Use a little juice to slake the cornflour, add more juice then put in the pan and bring to the boil stirring constantly. It will thicken and clear, remove from heat and leave to cool stirring to prevent a skin forming. Pour into serving bowl when cold. *Jill Frostick*

### THE BROMLEYS AND LITTLE BENTLEY CONSERVATIVES

A cream tea will be held on Sunday 12th July at Brundells Farm at 3pm. Tickets £2.50. Contact Harold Varney to order tickets.

### PUZZLE CORNER

Supply the missing words:

40,000 f..... on a t..... t.....

144 eggs in a g.....

12 p..... in a s.....

4 s.... of a s.....

12 in..... in a f...

8 d... a w.... (Beatles song)

13 loaves in a b..... dozen

9 p.....in the s.....s....

12 m.....in a y....

3 1....on a tripod

3 c.....in the f.....

### THE TENDRING SHOW - CHURCH STAND

Once again there will be a Church Stand at the Tendring Show on Saturday, 11th July at Lawford. This year, under the title "Loaves and Fishes", there will be much more activity than in previous years, in which you are invited to join. There will be side shows, handbell ringing, music and singing and opportunity to meet members of the Mothers Union with their caravan offering facilities for mothers to attend to the needs of their babies. Do not miss it!

### LITTLE BROMLEY CHURCHYARD

The Parochial Church Council has arranged for the Churchyard to be maintained by a contractor. We hope that this will ensure its maintenance in a neat and tidy condition.

### ST GEORGES CHURCH

During the second week in July scaffolding will be erected inside St Georges Church. This is to enable the Architect and English Heritage to make a careful inspection of the roof timbers and to enable them to report to us on the condition of the roof and the possible cost we will have to face in repairing it. Unless the condition is dangerous, and we have no reason to suspect that it is, any repair work will be a project to be undertaken well into the future.

### ANSWERS TO PUZZLE CORNER

40,000 feathers on a thrushes throat - 13 loaves in a bakers dozen - 144 eggs in a gross - 9 planets in the solar system - 12 pennies in a shilling - 12 months in a year - 4 sides of a square - 3 legs on a tripod - 12 inches in a foot - 3 coins in a fountain - 8 days a week.

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM.

Unfortunately the afternoon Service of Thanksgiving for baptism, and tea, which was arranged for 28th June, has had to be postponed. I do apologise for the inconvenience. It will now take place on SUNDAY, 19th JULY AT 3.00pm IN S. GEORGE'S CHURCH. Personal invitations will be going out before the end of June to all the baptismal families, and a warm welcome is extended to all parishioners to this event which we hope will become an annual event.

### EVENSONG AT CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL - SUNDAY, 12th JULY.

There is a list at the back of S. George's Church which I would be grateful if people could sign who wish to come to Chelmsford for this service. The arrangement is that we arrive at the Cathedral at 3.30pm when we will be given a guided tour. At 4.30pm we will all be given tea in the Chapter House and attend Evensong in the Cathedral at 6.00pm. On that Sunday there will be no evensong at either S. George's or S. Mary's, Ardleigh. If there are sufficient numbers wishing to go I will arrange for a coach or minibus. I do hope that we will be able to find a sizeable contingent and take advantage of worshipping at the Mother Church of the Diocese.

### CHURCH REGISTERS - S. George's Church.

#### Holy Baptism

The infant son, Liam Alex, of Sonia Soanes of The Bungalow, Braham Hall, Little Bromley, was baptised in S. George's Church on Sunday, 14th June, 1992.

#### Blessing of Marriage

The marriage of Alan George Horsey and Frances Nicola Wright was blessed in S. George's Church on Saturday, 20th June, 1992.

### QUEEN OF HEARTS

Celebration cakes of any design for any occasion. Sugar Craft Classes held every Wednesday 9.30am - 2.00pm. BY Suzanne Abbott.

A GREAT VICTORY - LITTLE BROMLEY POWER STATION.

Eastern Generation Ltd., a subsidiary of Eastern Electric have now withdrawn their application for constructing a new power station at Little Bromley/Ardleigh. They told the Department of Trade and Industry that they would not now be proceeding with the scheme. Although there are no guarantees that they might not reapply some time in the future, it looks unlikely.

Because the local communities rallied round and united in opposition to this proposal, the degree of opposition has contributed a great deal to this most welcome decision. The efforts of countless numbers of people have helped enormously. The Rural Power Station Action Group would very much like to thank everybody for their sterling efforts. This application certainly made many people aware of the value and importance of the countryside. The Action Group would like to assure everybody that they will continue to monitor the application for power lines or anything which might affect adversely our rural communities. I am sure that all parishioners would like to express their thanks to the Action Group and its very active members for the great stand they made on behalf of us all.

This month 'The Messenger' is sponsored by Tending Tractors, Brick Barn, New Hall Farm, Horsley Cross. We thank them sincerely for their support.

Can contributors to the next issue send their contributions to the Rectory no later than Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> August please.



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S. GEORGE'S YOUTH CLUB.

The last meeting of the Youth Club this term, a very successful barbecue, was held on 15th July at the home of Suzanne and Peter Abbott when over forty youngsters were present.

At this meeting thanks were expressed to Richard Davy for all the help and support he has given to the club as a leader since its very beginning. He will be very much missed. As a result of the request made for further help, six willing persons have volunteered to assist in the running of the Club, making it now possible to continue next term when meetings will recommence on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> September.

Members, their parents and all who help in the running of the Club would like to thank Suzanne Abbott for the willing and most efficient and friendly leadership she has given to the Club for so long.



### S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

On Sunday, 2nd August, Evensong will be at 3.00pm when the service will be a memorial service to the memory of Felix Erith, and to mark the occasion of hanging his hat with the other ringers hats in the tower. The service will be preceded by a Quarter Peal to be rung by a band of ringers, all of whom were taught the art of change ringing by Felix. The service will be attended by members of the Essex Association of Change Ringers of which Felix was a member for very many years.

Tea and biscuits will be served in the Rectory garden after the service. Because of this there will be no Evensong at Seven Rivers Home on this Sunday, as is our usual practise.

### S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL - END OF TERM REPORT.

The Summer Term ended on 22nd July with a record number of one hundred and seven pupils on the roll. Thirteen pupils from year six are leaving and will be starting their Secondary Education at Manningtree Comprehensive School in September. The leavers are: James Fulcher, Scott Darrell, Steven Bennington, Simon Thompson, Mark Hoy, Matthew Essam, Alison Taylor, Christine Hart, Anna Bromfield, Chloe Phelp, Hannah Pinhey, Emma Anderson and Lisa Peck. At the final assembly of term they were all presented by the Rector, with a copy of the New Testament, a gift from S. George's Church.

The Sports Day held on 14th July was a great success when to the joy of all its members, Drake House won the Championship Cup. Mrs. Fitzgerald and her staff would like to express their thanks to all the parents and many friends of the school who have helped to make this such a happy and successful year. They look forward to welcoming all the pupils, especially the new entrants, when school re-assembles on Wednesday, 9th September.

4

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### S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL - CLERICAL VACANCY.

A person with computer experience is sought to help on a part-time basis in the School Office with general administration, and in particular with computer work. Hours and salary are to be negotiated. If any person is interested will they please apply to the Headteacher, Mrs. Pat Fitzgerald (230305) at the School when term commences in September. The Rector will be pleased to take the names of anyone interested and to give any preliminary and basic information about the vacancy.

### HARVEST THANKSGIVING - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

This year the Harvest Thanksgiving will take place on Thursday, 17th September, when the annual Harvest Service will be at 7.30pm. It is hoped that those who are learning the art of bell ringing will ring for the first time for this service.

The Harvest Supper will be held on Saturday, 19th September in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. As last year, the supper is to be arranged and organised by men of the parish under the efficient leadership of James Wild. Tickets will be available at the beginning of September at £3.50 for an adult and £2.00 for children. The Harvest Services will continue on Sunday, the 20<sup>th</sup> September.

### GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Mrs. Soloman, a Blue Badge Tourist Guide, will be entertaining us with some of her experiences at our August meeting. The competition - a small article from abroad. The coach for our outing to Sandringham on 12th August will leave Elmstead at 9.00am. *Mildred Purkis.*

### EX-SERVICE?

Finding things hard? finances stretched?. The Royal British Legion Services Committee may be able to help. For information please write to: Roy Warboys at Elmstead British Legion, Colchester Road, Elmstead. All enquiries fully confidential. Open to all ex-service personnel and their widows.

### CRIME DOES NOT PAY!!!

I wonder what Sir Thomas Bowes JP (see July issue) would make of today's criminals.

1989: a window broken by would-be burglar. Cost of replacement £50. Insurance? yes, if cost £100.

So paid out of victim's pocket.

1990: came to Court, pleaded guilty, compensation to victim £6.10 pence.

1992: Letter received from Inner London Magistrates Court: 'Payments under this order will be made to me by defendant and these will, when received, be forwarded to you monthly!

I am still awaiting my first instalment.

*Peter Ollivant.*

### CARPET BOWLS.

We still have a good attendance for the club evenings although outdoor activities are numerous just now. One or two of our regular bowlers are enjoying the outdoor greens this summer and are having some good games, gaining expertise which we hope, will be evident in our league matches next season.

We have just finished 3 singles knock-out within the club and the worthy winner this year is Linda Francis. Well done to her.

The pairs competition is still underway. Recently we entertained Wix for a friendly match and managed to win six out of the ten games played. On 9th July we visited Elmstead, also for a friendly and a very pleasant evening resulted in a win for us.

We welcome any readers from the Bromleys who would like to try their hand at bowling, especially ladies, who at the moment, are rather outnumbered. Dates for August meetings are 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th.

*Nancy Kempster.*

### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

A relaxing and interesting meeting at Seven Rivers with Mr. Chignall showing slides and answering our numerous question on 2nd July.

The Cheese and Wine, plus Show, will have been held on 30th July which unfortunately, had to be brought forward from 6th August. The report on this will be in the September issue. The next meeting on 3rd September, will be a 'plants and cuttings' evening, the sale of which will be for Club funds, at the home of Mrs. Headford, to whom we offer our thanks for her kind invitation.

The Club stall at the Cheshire Home Fete made £100 on the sale of plants for which we have received a letter of thanks from the Fete Committee. Our thanks to all the helpers, to the members who contributed plants and to Blenheim Nursery for their generous help. *Vicky Griffiths.*

### THE GARDEN IN AUGUST.

Prune trees and shrubs during August, hydrangeas cut back dead flowers to just above the next fat bud, remove any weak or straggly stems.

Harvest soft fruit for jams and freezing, keep picking runner beans to prevent seeding. Lift and store early potatoes.

Take cuttings of fuchsia and geraniums to overwinter for a great display next year, it is easy and it saves money.

On the lawn August is the last opportunity to apply a weedkiller. Use a selective weedkiller such as PBI BIO lawn weedkiller, now any lawn that needs it, mowing to low can weaken and destroy it.

Feed outdoor tomatoes, pinch out the growing tips when they have formed four trusses.

Harvest all vegetables as they mature, bend over onions to assist ripening.

Keep hoeing and hoping for rain as the ground is very dry.

*Fred Wickham.*

#### GREAT BROMLEY WI.

Grateful thanks to all those kind people who made cakes for our Stall at the Heritage Weekend - £185 was raised. Mr. Sparling donated a cake which was raffled and made £37.50 pence.

The August Outing is on Wednesday the 5th to the Toy Museum at Stanstead. There are a few places left and non-members are welcome. The coach will leave the Village Hall at noon and the cost is £4 maximum for the coach (less if the coach is full), entrance £2.50, £2.00 over 60's. We are stopping at Earls Colne for a meal on the way home and orders for this are being taken in advance. To book this, and your coach place, please contact Jean Wright (230663).

The next meeting is on Wednesday, 2nd September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall with a talk on Guide Dogs for the Blind. Visitors are always made welcome so if you are new to the village don't be shy, come and join us.

#### THE BROMLEY COOKBOOK.

There are copies of the Bromley Cookbook of Essex Recipes, with household and other hints, price £1.35, available from the Rector or Mrs. Jill Frostick.

#### ALEXANDRA ROSE DAY COLLECTION.

The Alexandra Rose Day collection for physically handicapped people in Essex raised £82.01 from its house-to-house collection. This was a splendid effort and many thanks go to all who helped. The money is used to enable handicapped people to have holidays and to buy special equipment.

#### KITCHEN CORNER.

August is the month for picnics and it does not need to be sandwiches every time! Quiches and pies travel well and are easy to make the night before, and pizzas are quick if you use a scone base instead of a yeast dough (omit the sugar!)

Pork and apple pie.

8oz shortcrust pastry. Use half to line a pie plate.

Filling: 1 lb minced pork

2oz diced bacon 1 onion chopped

1 sharp flavoured apple peeled and chopped ½ teaspoon dried rosemary

1 or 2 tablespoons stock or water, Salt and pepper

Mix all well together and spoon into pastry case.

Cover with rest of pastry and bake for 20 minutes at 400F, then 45 minutes at reduced heat 375F.

You can add sliced hard-boiled eggs if liked.

*Jill Frostick.*

#### BROWNIES.

Welcome to Katherine, Beth and Gemma who have taken their Promise and very well done to Kate, Sophie, Emma, Joanne, Kelly and Kizzy who gained their Agility badge. Well done to Emma, Joanne, Sarah, Sarah and Joanne who gained their Dancer badge, to Kate who now has her computer badge and to Zoe who has her hostess badge. Zoe also received a Venture badge.

Birthday badges have gone to Jeni, Sophie, Sarah and Emma.

A very big thank you to Di Coppin who held a Table Top Sale in June raising the wonderful sum of £102.34. Also thanks to parents, Brownies and friends who came along to help and support us.

A trip to Colchester Zoo was great fun, a walk during the Walking for Health Week, as well as making cork mats and stone paperweights have all been part of the past few weeks. We had had two good District Days this summer. Dedham hosted Brownie Revels, the theme being 'handicaps'. Each Brownie acted out a handicap for the afternoon, and we all learned how difficult it can be to do even simple things, but that fun can be had with just a little more thought from others around.

A big thank you to the kind person who heeded our plea and cut all the nettles from the front of the Hut; we no longer go home with tingling legs!

I hope everyone has good holidays and I look forward to seeing everyone again on Thursday, 10th

September at 5.30pm. Anyone over seven wishing to join the Brownies is welcome to come along, we would love to see you.

*Brown Owl.*

### ALL MY WORLDLY GOODS?

At 2.00pm on Wednesday, 3rd November, 1954, at The Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London, the auction of the Beaumont Collection of Lordships of the Manor began. Lot 3 was The Manor of Great Bromley.

Among the documents handed over to the purchaser of the Lordship was a modern Quit Rent Book. In pencil among the entries is the following:

5th October, 1895, David Barber, Quit Rent 9/11; Dead - heriot - 1 mark horse - the best'.

'1906 - Walter Grimston - 1/2 (about six pence) - marked a roan mare and set price - £9'

So until early this century the age old custom of 'marking heriots' was still in practice in Great Bromley.

What is a heriot? From Anglo-Saxon times when a person died the heir had to return to the Lord of the Manor the weapons and military apparel of the deceased originally supplied by the Lord. This gear could include a horse, harness, weapons etc. This 'Death Return' applied to freemen and villagers. In William I's reign the custom ceased and the Lord demanded instead the best beast or goods the deceased possessed. Later this became a money fee so that the heir could take over the estate.

*John Appleby.*

### LET'S TALK OF HERITAGE, HORKEYS AND THINGS.

The Heritage Weekend, 3rd to 5th July, was full of entertainment for all.

The Horkey on Friday evening was attended by some one hundred and fifty people who enjoyed over an hour and a half of Essex Entertainment given by Peter Wenden, John Appleby, (Old Jos of BBC Essex), Tubby Austin, Stan West and Fred Wickenden, Grace Gould, Mildred Purkis and Ida Rudd. Westley Sandford was a guest performer. The pianist was not only accompanist for the songs, but also gave two action playlets.

Saturday and Sunday saw much activity in the Village Hall with a display of International Sports and Swimming Costumes from Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Gurney's collection; various craftsmen and women demonstrating their crafts; the WI was engaged in bread making and other Essex confectionery etc. The Bromley Cook Book of Essex Recipes was on sale and copies may still be obtained from Mrs. Jill Frostick, or the Rector, at £1.35 each, post and packing extra! Teas and refreshments were on sale with Mrs. Ann Fairley and her helpers in charge.

At Copley Dene there were children's games and sports; maypole dancing and country dancing.

At the Parish Church James Wild's collection of agricultural and household things was on display. John Appleby had a video of old postcards and photographs of the village. His book 'Where the Broom Grows' was on sale at £3.95 per copy. There are still copies available from John Appleby or from the Great Bromley Post Office Stores. The ancient Parish Register showing Gregory Stone's baptism was on display, together with other documents. Peter Rowe had organised a Photographic Competition which was well supported. Betty Rowe and her helpers had staged some lovely floral arrangements.

Great Tey Hand Bell Ringers gave a one hour rendering of ancient and modern tunes.

On Sunday evening a good audience was enthralled with the performers at a Concert of Music from Carmen to Lloyd Webber. The younger performers were outstanding.

Refreshments were served in the interval. The organisation was in the hands of Stan West.

We sincerely thank all who helped in any way to make this Festival a success. Accounts will be available shortly; they will show that so far £600 has been given each to the Village Hall, the S. George's Church Repair Fund and to S. George's Church.

### S. GEORGE'S CHURCH REGISTERS.

Holy Baptism - Sunday, 12th July.

Jack David Charles Simpson and Charlotte Louise Brooks. .

Holy Matrimony - Saturday 18th July.

Wynford Ernest Rix and Lesley Janice Clarke.

Funerals.

Arthur William Taylor, who died on 17th June, 1992 was buried in Little Bromley Churchyard on 25th June.

Freda Merrick of Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, who died on 16th June, 1992, was cremated at Weeley on Tuesday, 30th June after a funeral service at S. George's Church.

## **The Bromley Messenger September 1992**

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 re-opens on Tuesday, 8th September, the Youth Club on Wednesday, 16th September, the Play Group recommences its activities on 14th 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 villagers 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. This month we are grateful to Peter and Maureen Sauvary at the Black Boy, and to Sterling Safety, for sponsoring this issue of the Messenger. As they support us, please support them. Contributions and articles for the October issue should reach the Rectory no later than Sunday, 13th September please.

### HARVEST THANKSGIVING AT S. GEORGE'S.

Thursday 17th September at 7.30pm. Offering of gifts and Thanksgiving Service. (See below).

Saturday 19th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Harvest Supper: tickets at £3.50 for adults and children at £2.50 available from the Rectory and the Church. Again this year the meal, which will be hot, is to be prepared by men of the parish and, in advance, I thank them for their efforts, which following the success of last year, will produce an excellent meal. As we can only accommodate about one hundred guests, please book your places early to avoid disappointment.

Sunday, 20th September. 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Parish Communion 6.30pm Festal Evensong This year I am asking that we take a theme for our thanksgiving, 'Harvest Help for the Homeless'. Canon Martin Wallace, Vicar of S. Mark's Church, East Ham, is appealing for help from other parishes in the Diocese to enable his congregation and other Christians in East Ham to continue their work of providing hot meals, clothing, blankets, books and candles for homeless people who sleep rough in Central London. They organise a regular evening visit to people in this condition to give them a hot meal of a stew with meat and vegetables in individual sealed foil containers. The Vicar says that as the need is growing at an alarming rate and it is a very costly exercise for his congregation to maintain, I feel that this is an important work in which we, insulated from the problems of Inner City living, ought to support. I hope that every person who comes to the Thursday evening service, the Harvest Supper and the services on Sunday, 20th September, will feel able to support this by bringing gifts which we can take to East Ham. The gifts that are most urgently required are tins of meat and vegetables suitable for making into stew. I do hope that this appeal will be well supported. If any person is unable to come to any of the Harvest activities and would like to share in this giving, any tins can be left at the Rectory. I am hoping that one of the persons who organise this 'food run' will be able to come to speak at the Harvest Service on Thursday evening. *Rector.*

\* \* \* \*

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### GREAT BROMLEY BADMINTON CLUB.

The new season's Badminton Club meetings begin on Monday, 7th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

### HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE.

The next meeting for the Family Support Group is on Tuesday, 8th September, in the Chapel at Seven Rivers from 10.30am to 12 noon. We are hoping to widen awareness of this sad family illness. A representative from the London HQ will be with us. Help is needed and anyone interested is invited to come, please do. For further information please contact *Jean Harding*

### GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD.

Great Bromley Recreation Field Craft Fayre is on Saturday, 24th October at 2.00pm to 4.00pm in Great Bromley Village Hall.

### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Once again luck was with us weatherwise, for our Cheese and Nine evening and our 'show' which was judged with excellence by Mr. Bill Hodgson of the Lawford Horticultural Society. Our entries were down a little on last year but quite a few of our members were away. Nevertheless, everyone who entered received a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> prize. Thanks to everyone who made the effort to make it worthwhile in spite of the adverse weather conditions throughout the early part of the year which made growing very difficult. The Village Sign site was brought up at our last Committee meeting when it was decided to write to the Parish Council regarding this.

Do not forget your plants and cuttings on 3<sup>rd</sup> September at the home of Mrs. Headford. Telephone the Chairman on how to get there. *Vicky Griffiths.*

### GREAT BENTLEY BYGONES EXHIBITION.

Our Bygones Exhibition will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday and Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Admission is £1 adults and accompanied children free. There will be Manorial Deeds, Parish Registers, Miss Athill's dolls and local crafts on show. There will also be a display and sale by Colchester Bottle Club and sale of East Anglian Archive films. There will be a film show on Saturday from 2.00pm onwards and a first chance to buy Great Bentley Past Volume II at a reduced rate! The same applies to the 1993 calendar by local artists.

### CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM.

S. George's Church of The Bromleys welcomed many children, adults and their families to a Celebration of Baptism on Sunday afternoon, 19<sup>th</sup> July, led by the Revd. Paul Davis. After a short and happy service the families and friends and other members of the congregation made their way to the Village School where a splendid tea awaited them in a party atmosphere. Sweet peas adorned the tables, balloons brightened the walls and a safe play area had been provided for the children.

We are sorry that a few people did not manage to attend because of holidays and other commitments. However, if you were one of them, do not despair, because as the afternoon was such a success, it will be repeated next year.

The ladies who prepared the tasty sandwiches and the pretty cakes suitable for the tiny appetites were many and we truly thank them for giving so generously of their time and talents and we must not forget the men who manned the teapots! They all assisted in making the party a real celebration both of baptism and of the friendship of those present. The presence of the children and their parents and grandparents gave us a wonderful feeling of a complete family.

### KITCHEN CORNER.

Marrows are plentiful and cheap at this time of year. I store mine in string nets and find, if hung in an airy dry place, will keep several months. We like them stuffed and baked in the oven. I use meat stuffing, or sometimes rice and vegetables or cheese. Here is an unusual idea you might like to try.

#### Vegetable Marrow Duck.

- 1 vegetable marrow about the size of a duck
- 2 large Spanish onions
- 6 sage leaves chopped fine
- 4 oz fresh breadcrumbs
- 2 oz melted butter
- 1 egg well beaten
- Salt and pepper

Peel Marrow, cut a slice off end and scoop out seeds without piercing the flesh. Parboil onions, chop them up, add sage, breadcrumbs, egg and seasoning and half melted butter. Mix well and stuff into marrow. Replace end slice and tape or tie with string. Place in baking tin, pour over rest of butter and bake in a Moderate oven (350°F 180°C) till tender, about 40-50 minutes. Serve with white sauce or cheese or tomato sauce. *Jill Frostick.*

### SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME.

We extend a very warm welcome to friends old and new . to join us for tea between 3.00pm and 5.00pm at the Home on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> September, to celebrate our Founders 75<sup>th</sup> birthday and forty years of the Foundation. PS Worm charming has been postponed.

### THE PLAYGROUP.

Now that the summer holidays are all but over why not bring your pre-school children down to the Village Hall on Monday and Wednesday mornings to join in the fun at Playgroup. We had lots of fun on our outings back in June and July and are now looking forward to our Autumn and Winter activities. Term commences on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am. The Annual General Meeting will be on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> September at 8.00pm. Please phone Amanda for details. We would welcome any new volunteers on our lively committee.

### TENDRING CARELINE.

The Parish Council has received a letter from Tendring Careline regarding a Community Alarm Service for the elderly and disabled. This service enables many clients to stay in their own home, safe in the knowledge that help is at hand twenty-four hours a day. The cost of this service is £2.35 per week. There is no equipment to buy and no connection or installation fee. Should any person desire this service but are unable to meet the cost, please contact Len Christodoulides who, through the offices of Brightlingsea Round Table, may be able to offer some assistance. The Careline will also provide a speaker for group meetings and this can be arranged by contacting (0255) 222727 extension 3203 and asking for Mr. Carroll. *H. P. Booty . Clerk*

### GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

As the summer draws to a close and the nights start to draw in many of us are looking forward to spending our evenings rehearsing for another pantomime. This year the group will be performing a totally new script fresh off the press entitled 'Pirates Ahoy'. Anyone wishing to join in the fun in any way as a budding actor or in an off stage capacity, please come to the casting meeting on Tuesday, 22nd September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. We are still looking for seamstresses to join our very competent team and would really welcome anyone willing to oversee the costumes and take on the grant title Wardrobe Mistress. All enquiries to Nigel or Amanda Rowe or a member of the Committee.

### HEALTH PROMOTION WALKS WEEK.

Though the number of local adult villagers taking part, three, in the walks organised through Angela Prior, The Bromleys had eighty-five walkers altogether. Thanks to the Youth Club, Brownies, Hamilton Lodge and Brightlingsea Rotary we came sixth out of forty villages in the percentage of population - 6.6%. We had the most walkers and received a plaque.

	Walkers	% population
Tilbury juxta Clare	15	11.9
Mount Bures	26	11.5
Sturmer	46	10.2
Wormingford	32	6.9
Bradfield	66	6.7
Bromleys	85	6.6

Altogether the hospital raised over £300 - well done Angela.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION.

Do you know about the Government proposals? Would you like to know more about them? Should the Parish Council arrange a meeting to inform you? If you think an informal meeting would be worthwhile contact your Parish Councillor so that if enough are interested, we can arrange one. *Len Christodoulides.*

### BALLS GREEN METHODIST CHURCH.

Our Harvest Festival service will be held on 27th September at 11.00am conducted by Mr. G. Patterson. The sale of produce will follow the service. All are welcome.

### TALK ON DIALECTS.

A talk on dialects by Mr. Westley Sandford will be held at The Cheshire Home, Great Bromley, on Monday, 28th September at 7.00pm. Tickets at £3.50, residents and staff £1.50 are available from the Home (230345). There will be coffee and light refreshments and a raffle. .

### THE CHURCH HATS.

On 2nd August, at a service attended by a very large congregation, a hat belonging to Felix Erith was dedicated to be hung in the tower alongside the hats of other notable Great Bromley Ringers, continuing a custom begun in 1761. On the following day members of a fire-crew from West Mersea, under the command of Mr. David Hussett, brought equipment into the church and completed the hanging of the hat. Before the service a band of ringers, all of whom had been taught the art of bell ringing by Felix Erith, rang a quarter peal in his memory. The details of the peal are as follows: 1,260 changes of Plain Bob Minor rung in forty-three minutes.

V. Joy Locke	Treble
Dominique Erith	Second
David Wenden	Third
Derek Bloyce	Fourth
Philip Erith	Fifth
Adrian Sempken	Tenor (Conductor)

### THE BROMLEYS AND LITTLE BENTLEY CONSERVATIVES Strawberry Cream Tea.

The Chairman, Major Harold Varney, would like to thank all those who came and those who helped to make the day a very successful one socially and financially.

### THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

The Revd. J. Robinson will be entertaining us at the September meeting. The competition - a small glass item. We enjoyed our trip to Sandringham and now look forward to our visit to the Westcliff Theatre on 4th September. . The coach will leave Elmstead at 6.00pm. *Mildred Purkis.*

### THE GARDEN IN SEPTEMBER.

In the vegetable garden dig the maincrop potatoes for storage. Allow them to dry first. Carrots, beetroot, parsnips and swede can be stored in boxes of sand, a layer of vegetables and a layer of sand. If you like spinach sow a row or two of winter spinach such as Sigmaleaf, the plants need a sunny spot and given cloche protection from October. Continue to pick beans, tomatoes and marrows as they mature. Sow Godetia and cornflowers. Choose where you want the plants to flower next summer, choose a sunny spot and sow thinly. Other hardy annuals can be sown, ie nigella, pot marigold, delphiniums and scabious. . Continue to pick apples and pears, collect any windfalls and use them while still edible. Start feeding lawns, sow any bad patches with lawn seed, the lawn will continue to grow so increase the cutting height. Dig over any vacant plots for the winter and manure, watch the backache. *Fred Wickham.*

### RUMMAGE AND BRIC-A-BRAC SALE.

A Rummage and Bric-a-Brac Sale will be held on Saturday, 5th September in Burnt Heath Methodist Church from 12 noon until 4.00pm. All are welcome.

### SUNDAY EVENSONG.

6th September Seven Rivers Home 13th September S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh.

20th September S. George's Church (Harvest Thanksgiving). 27th September S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh.

### METHODIST SERVICES.

6th September Balls Green 11am Revd. J. Robinson

13th September Elmstead 11am Hr. L. Warren Harvest Thanksgiving 6.30 pm Revd. J. Robinson

20th September Burnt Heath 11am Mr. A. Redfern Harvest Thanksgiving

27th September Balls Green 11am Mr. G. Patterson S.

### GEORGE'S CHURCH REGISTERS.

Burial. Jeremy Kemp aged 26. Died 23rd July, 1992, and buried in S. George's Churchyard.

### WHICH IS THE ODD ONE OUT IN EACH OF THESE?

1. Turban, fez, shako, topaz, sombrero.
2. Inch, foot, yard, millimetre, metre, yard, acre.
3. Square, cube, circle, triangle.
4. Listen, silent, tinsel, inlets, outlets.
5. I, V, O, X, L, C, D, M.

Question: write flown in figures eleven thousand, eleven hundred ani eleven.

Answers next month.

### REPORT OF CALOR BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION. GREAT BROMLEY.

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Mark</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Notice Boards	10	All in very good condition.
Churchyard	7	Accept high grass growing
Litter	10	Hardly any litter: well done.
Playing Fields	10	Very well kept Village Green.
School	8	Pleased to see a school pond being prepared.
Gardens, hedges etc	8	
Public Houses	6	
Shop	6	
Streams and Ponds	5	Pond: very little water in it, no fault of village. Stream nothing special.
Telephone Kiosk	8	
Verges and Footpaths	8	
War Memorial	10	Neat and well maintained.

Community Involvement. As a comment may I suggest that the community provides a few litter bins. This may appear to go against my comments under 'litter' but it could help. The pond in the school grounds: assume villagers helping.

NOTE. In order to standardise narking the following scale is used: POOR 1 - 2. FAIR 3 - 4 AVERAGE 5 - 6 GOOD 7 - 8 VERY GOOD 9 - 10



## **The Bromley Messenger October 1992**

One of the problems, and joys, of village life is its unpredictability. Two years ago it seemed that it might be necessary to close the S. George's Youth Club because of the lack of helpers. After an appeal in the Messenger persons came forward to enable us to continue this very well worth while activity. The same situation has occurred again. During the late summer it seemed likely that the meetings would have to be discontinued but, following an appeal, some parents and friends have again volunteered their help. This means that under the devoted leadership of Suzanne Abbot we are now able to continue. It is good to know that we are a concerned community and that appeals for help do not fall on deaf ears. Our warmest thanks go to all who have volunteered to help in this way. The meetings continue every Wednesday in S. George's School from 6.30pm to 8.00pm. Such is the popularity of the club, and because of the small size of the School Hall, it is likely that a limit on numbers may have to be set, and a waiting list opened. This month the Messenger is sponsored by the Parochial Church Council of S. George's Church. Please send in contributions for the November issue by Wednesday, 14th October.

### ALL SOULS DAY - MONDAY 2nd NOVEMBER.

On this day each year the church remembers with special prayers the faithful departed, members of families, friends and all who are buried in our churchyards. There will be a Requiem, a special service of Holy Communion on Monday evening, 2nd November at 8.00pm when the departed will be prayed for by name. Please let the Rector know of any persons you may wish to have remembered at this service and their names will be read out. A list will be provided in church on Sundays 25th October and 1st November when names may be added.

CONGRATULATIONS to S. George's Choir on their splendid performance in the Dedham Songs of Praise on BBC I, I hope you all saw it.

### S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

This year the School Harvest Service will take place in S. George's Church on Thursday, 1st October at 2.00pm. All parents and friends of the school are, of course, cordially invited to attend. On Friday, 2nd October, members of Year 6, Mrs. Fitzgerald's class, will deliver the harvest goods which the children will bring to elderly people in the parish.

On Monday, 4th October at 8.00pm there will be the annual meeting at which the School Governors present their report on the years activities of the school to the parents. At this meeting the parents have an opportunity to question the governors on matters affecting their children. After this short meeting there will be the annual meeting of the PTA. All parents are encouraged to attend these important meetings.

### EVENING SERVICES.

The arrangements for October are slightly changed in order to fit in with the Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday at S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh.

Sunday, 4th October at 6.30pm - S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh. Evensong will be sung by the S. Cecilia Singers under the direction of Harrison Oxley, a former organist of Bury S. Edmunds Cathedral.

Sunday, 11th October 6.30pm - Seven Rivers Chapel.

Sunday, 18th October 6.30pm - S. George's Church.

Sunday, 25th October 6.30pm - S. Mary's, Ardleigh.

### THANKS.

All at S. George's Church wish to express their thanks to Mrs. Barbara Erith for the gift she has made to the church of a new leather bound copy of the Prayer Book for use in the Rector's stall, in memory of her husband, Felix Erith.

### GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

On 15th October we shall be celebrating our thirty-first birthday and will be entertained by our own Friendship Players. The competition: cuff-links for men and ear-rings for the Ladies. We enjoyed our visit to the Westcliffe Theatre. It was a colourful show with lots of laughs. *Mildred Purkis.*

### GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD.

We are holding a Craft Fayre on Saturday, 24th October from 2-4.00pm in the Village Hall. There will be refreshments and a raffle as well as a wide variety of crafts. Please come and browse and you are sure to find that special Christmas present! A handful of tables are still available at £6 each. Please ring or write to me as soon as possible if you are interested. *Gertrude Grant.*

### GREAT BROMLEY CRICKET CLUB.

On Saturday, 12th September, Great Bromley Cricket Club held its Annual Single Wicket competition. After some exciting preliminary rounds and semi-final the competition was won by Pip Allam beating Steve Foley in the final. The trophy, kindly donated to the Club by Mr. Ernest Norfolk, was presented on his behalf, to the winner by Mr. Tubby Austin.

### GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

We have been happily active since our last meeting in July. The August outing to Stansted Toy Museum was voted a great success and the Barbecue optimistically held on S. Swithin's Day was a splendid evening and raised £89 for funds. Thank you Rita and Roland for your hospitality.

Visits were made to Dovercourt Women's Institute to help celebrate its eighth birthday, and to Erdelega in Ardleigh.

The September meeting started off a new season in good style with a most interesting talk by Mr. Walters ably assisted by his beautiful Guide Dog, a cream Labrador called Warren. Following the appetising food provided by the members we had an auction which was good value in all meanings. Half the proceeds were given as a donation to Guide Dogs for the Blind.

At our Annual Meeting on 4th November we are having an in-house show with fourteen classes which hopefully, will be well supported and a date for your diaries, Saturday, 5th December, when the Village Hall will be the venue for the Christmas Fair. More about this in the next issue!

### GREAT BROMLEY HERITAGE WEEKEND - 4th and 5th JULY.

The statement of accounts of the Heritage Weekend have now been received. The total income (less a £250 loan from the Parochial Church Council) was £2,203.42. The expenses (less the amount of the loan repaid) were £240.76 giving a profit of £1,962.66. This has been divided by three and cheques for £654.22 have been given to the Village Hall Committee, the S. George's Church Repair Fund and S. George's Church Parochial Church Council for the church general funds. A copy of the accounts has been given to the three recipients, one is published on the Church Notice Board (inside the church) and one is held by the Rector. Further copies can be supplied to anyone who would like one by application to the Rector.

We are all most grateful to all the persons and organisations who helped to produce this splendid result, and our special thanks go to Bevan Willgress who so efficiently administered the accounts.

### HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE.

The September meeting of Family Carers of those afflicted with Huntington's Disease left no doubt that this group greatly appreciates the mutual help and the outside interest that is being engendered. The afternoon session was attended by eighteen professionals from as far away as Southend and Harlow which reflects the need for more information on this neurological hereditary illness. The way is clear for us to turn ourselves into a Branch which will carry the full weight of the .D Association behind it. We need a Secretary and a Treasurer: is there anyone out there who would be prepared to ring Jean Harding to find out some more about it, or offer some commitment? The next meeting is in the Chapel of Seven Rivers on 1st October at 10.30am and we would be pleased to see you. *Jean Harding.*

### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Headford for their hospitality when we held our last meeting at their home. Numerous plants and cuttings were available which were sold for the Club funds; a most enjoyable evening.

A letter has been received from the Parish Council regarding the Village Sign site, in which they have agreed to have it landscaped after which the Club will maintain it.

Our next meeting on 1st October will be held in the Chapel of Seven Rivers and the speaker will be from Otley College. Please join us at 7.30pm. *Vicky Griffiths.*

### WEDDINGS.

Having decided to get married, and having booked the Church and begun the legal requirements, there are a host of other preparations for the bride and groom to consider: flowers, photographs, catering, cars, clothes, and many others. In order to give help and advice in these matters there is to be an exhibition of all that is required to make the wedding day go smoothly in the Village Hall, Ardleigh on Saturday, 10th October from 11am until 8pm. Not only will there be information about the church arrangements (and fees!), but also professionals who supply all wedding needs will be there to give help. Admission to this event will be £1.00 per person and, arranged by members of Ardleigh Church, the proceeds are to go to Ardleigh Church Fabric Fund.

### COUNTRY AND WESTERN DANCE.

Bert presents a Country and Western Dance at Great Bromley Village Hall, with the popular Wes Cardy Band, on Saturday, 10th October from 8.15pm to 11.30pm. There will be a buffet, licensed bar and raffle. Admission is £3.50 with Senior Citizens £2.50. Tickets are available from Bert at Seven Rivers Cheshire Home (tel: 231428).

### TEARCRAFT COFFEE MORNING.

There will be a Tearcraft Coffee Morning and Bring-and-Buy Sale on Saturday, 31st October, at The Chase, Chase Road East, from 10.00am to 12 noon. Do come along and buy your Christmas cards and presents and support needy people in Africa, Asia and Latin America. *Sue Orriss.*

### THE GARDEN IN OCTOBER.

Put greasebands on lower parts of apple tree trunks to stop the female winter moths climbing the trees to lay eggs, tie the greasebands tightly so they cannot get underneath it, inspect it regularly and renew if necessary. Finish the harvesting of pears and apples during October, if left they could be damaged by frost. Take hardwood cuttings of currants and gooseberries. Start feeding the birds with scraps of fat and nuts. Bring indoors any houseplants that have been standing outside for the summer, reduce the water to let them rest. Remove leaves from lawns as they fall, scarify with a spring type rake to remove thatch. Do any repairs, reseed where needed, raise the mower blades to keep the lawn neat and tidy. Overwinter tender cuttings of geraniums and fuchsia in a frost free room or greenhouse. Plant out some spring bedding plants such as pansies, polyanthus and spring flowering bulbs. Dig all waste ground up to get the frost and to break up any heavy soil. *Fred Wickham.*

### THE BROMLEYS AND LITTLE BENTLEY CONSERVATIVES.

A Barn Supper will be held at Brundells Farm on Saturday, 17th October. Tickets available from Harold Varney or myself at £4 each. *Len Christodoulides.*

### SO YOUR HOUSE INSURANCE HAS GONE UP!

Insurance premiums have risen and you may have noted that we are in a bad area for ground disturbances and even earthquakes. The Essex Earthquake of 1884 is our subject this month. Parish Registers have been used not only for entries of births, baptisms, marriages and funerals, but also for various random notes. Little Bromley's Register of Baptisms (1842-1902) has the following among the entries:

'A strong shock of earthquake was felt on Tuesday, 22nd April, 1884 at 9.20am. No damage was caused in this parish.'

Colchester was shaken by this earthquake and so were many villages around the town but in the report compiled by Messrs. Raphael Mandela and William White for The Essex Field Club there is only mention of Great Bromley feeling the shock. In Wivenhoe and Elmstead two-hundred-and-fifty-nine buildings were repaired and Wivenhoe Church and the Independent Chapel in West Street, Wivenhoe, also.

At Ardleigh the shock was recorded at 9.17am, at Mistley and Manningtree it occurred at 9.18am when clocks stopped and at Frating farm workers did not feel a shock but were unable to get their hoes into the ground because of some influence they did not understand and a rumbling noise was heard. At Ardleigh bells in the church tower rang and chimneys were reported to have been thrown down at Crockleford Mills.

Mr. Thomas Robinson of Phoenix Flour Mills reported that in his house his clock stopped and servants bells rang; sacks of wheat on the upper floor of the mill fell from East to West. I believe that this is the only place where the Little Bromley shock has been noted. Messrs. Mendola and White do report that at Great Bromley chimneys at the Rectory, now Copley Dene, were dislodged. *John Appleby.*

### HOLY BAPTISM.

On Sunday, 13th September, Mark Daniel, the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Skinner of Shop Road, Little Bromley, was baptised during the morning service at S. George's church.

### Advertisement.

#### TOP TO BOTTOM – COMPLETE HOME CLEANING SERVICE

We are two ladies offering to undertake a complete home cleaning service on a weekly or fortnightly basis, or as required. Prices from as little as £10 per house. Ironing also undertaken. Please telephone: Colchester (0206) 871783.

## **The Bromley Messenger November 1992**

Seventy-four years ago on 11th November, 1918, the 'War to end all Wars' was ended and the custom of keeping a special day each November as Remembrance Day commenced. Far from being the war to end all wars, it was only twenty-one years later that the sons of those who battled in France, and even some of the veterans of that earlier conflict, found themselves embroiled in another Great War. Remembrance was always the occasion to remember the fallen of the wars, and through the annual Poppy Day appeal, to help provide help and support for those whose wounds still affect the quality of their lives. It is a sobering thought to realise that since the end of hostilities in 1945 no single year has passed without British servicemen being called upon to take up arms, and for some of them to give their lives in the cause of freedom and right. The tragedy of so many young deaths, and we recall that very many of them were only eighteen years old, is a blot on all the efforts of successive governments of this country, of other countries and the United Nations to establish and maintain a true and lasting peace. Remembrance Day thoughts must include prayers for the rest of all those who have died and thanksgiving for their lives, but also our thoughts must include prayers for all the leaders of the nations of the world that they will strive for peace and understanding among the nations. This year Remembrance Day is on Sunday, 8th November when there will be a service of remembrance and two minutes silence at S. George's Church, followed by the laying of wreaths on the Village War Memorials, to which all parishioners are invited to attend.

This month the 'Messenger' is sponsored by R. G. Gwinnell & Son, Funeral Directors, 24 High Street, Manningtree. We would like to thank them for their help in ensuring the continuing publication of this magazine. Contributions for the December issue should reach the Rectory by Monday, 16th November please.



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*Private Chapels of Rest.*

### GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Miss Jean Rhodes is our guest speaker for November, her subject will be 'Save the Children Fund.' The competition - a printed picture of a child. Not a photograph. We enjoyed our visit to the Westcliffe Theatre, it was quite a happy evening. *Mildred Purkis.*

### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Our meeting was held at the Seven Rivers Home on 1st October when the speaker was Mr. Coghill from the Otley College. In the dull, dark days of winter so much colour could be seen in our gardens if we could have the various shrubs and trees he spoke about. The members present showed great interest in the correct botanical names which was greatly appreciated by our Speaker who mentioned what an attentive audience he had had. *Vicky Griffiths.*

### MUSIC FOR EVERYONE.

Music for everyone was certainly the case on Friday, 25th September at the Village Hall where we were entertained by Mary Lines on the Technic Organ, when I am sure she must have 'extended' fingers to reach all the notes, her legs swaying like a pendulum to the pedals! 'The mood of the music was excellently portrayed by the lighting effects created by Nigel Rowe. A good old sing-along for the audience went with a real swing at the end of a very pleasant evening. We would like to thank all those who supported us with their presence and Blenheim Nurseries for the stage flower arrangements. The amount raised for the Village Hall Funds was £185.00. *Stan West and Frank Griffiths.*

### GREAT BROMLEY AND FRATING PLAYGROUP.

A new term has started at Great Bromley playgroup with a few spaces now available on Monday and Wednesday mornings, so bring your children along. We meet at the Village Hall at 9.30am until 12 noon for the playgroup and 9.50am until 11.45 for toddlers. The half-term break is the 26th and 28th October. We are holding a coffee morning on Wednesday, 18th November from 9.30 until 12 noon with a raffle and a variety of stalls including Red House books, cards and gift wrapping paper, Wysiwg clothes, dried flowers and scented gifts, and a toy stall, so please come along as it is in aid of playgroup funds.

We have had some changes in committee as our Chairman, Janet Warren, Secretary Amanda Rowe and treasurer Dinah Jones have resigned due to work pressure and also for a well earned rest. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all the time and energy they have spent on the playgroup over the years and hope they enjoy their retirement!

Our new Chairman is Estelle Kemp, treasurer is Diana Mclean, secretary is Carol Kynaston. We are having a raffle for a superb Christmas hamper. Tickets are £1 each so buy as many as you like. The tickets are available from me. The draw will be held on 16th December. *Carol Kynaston.*

### S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL - CAR BOOT/TABLE TOP SALE.

The PTA will be holding a car boot and table top sale on Saturday, 1st November at 2.00pm at the school. Please ring Val Wightman to book your pitch or table. Price £4 booked or £5 on the day.

### CARPET BOWLS.

At our AGM held recently it was decided to have an open evening on 11th November when anyone interested in having a go at playing bowls will be made most welcome. It will be in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. The officers of the club are: Chairman Pat Petchey, Secretary Gill Hubbard, Treasurer Jayne Bates, who is taking over from Ian Anderson. Ian has held the post for five years and the Chairman thanked him for his services.

We have played in a Triples Tournament fielding three teams at Great Bentley, narrowly missing the quarter-finals, and entered two teams in a tournament at Clacton. There were one hundred and twenty eight teams from as far afield as Peterborough and Norwich. We did not win but did help to raise £1,375 for St Helena Hospice over the two days.

The league matches are under way again and we hope to be up the ladder a little way this year. At last we have the result of the pairs knock-out within the club. The victors were Pat Petchey and Roger Kynaston, runners up Gill Hubbard and Ian Anderson.

Dates for November: 11th Open Night, 18th Home Match, 25th Club Night.

Dates for December: 9th Club Night, 16th Home Match, 23rd Club Night.

### VILLAGE HALL FUNDS.

Dance to Derek Willis Band on Saturday, 7th November . from 8.00pm until 12 midnight at Great Bromley Village Hall. There will be a bar and refreshments and tickets at £5 each are available from Beryl Hurst.

### KITCHEN CORNER.

This month some ideas for Hallowe'en or Guy Fawkes night. Apples are plentiful so why not try making these:

#### Toffee Apples.

8-10 apples	¼ pint water
1lb brown sugar	1 tbs golden syrup
2oz butter	Toffee apple sticks (or dowelling cut into 6" lengths)
2 teaspoons vinegar	

Remove stalks from apples and impale each firmly on a stick. Put all ingredients, except apples, in a large heavy pan. Heat slowly until sugar is dissolved, stirring frequently. Bring to the boil then boil fast for five minutes without stirring. Test a few drops in cold water to see if it forms a hard ball. If not continue to boil for a few minutes until this hard ball stage is reached, testing again in cold water.

Quickly swirl each apple once or twice in the hot toffee and stand on a well-greased tin or non-stick paper. When cold and set, wrap each apple in cellophane paper.

After a few days the toffee becomes very sticky so use quickly!

### Novelty Hot Dogs.

Cooked chipolatas or frankfurters  
French or German mustard,  
Streaky bacon rashers  
Sliced cheddar cheese  
Fruit chutney.

1) Split sausages lengthwise, spread lightly with mustard and sliced cheese, press together and wrap in bacon rashers. Grill till crisp.

2) Spread with fruit chutney, lay cheese on top and grill till bubbling.

Serve in hot dog rolls.

Can be made in advance and wrapped in foil ready to reheat in a moderate oven.

*Jill Frostick.*

### AUTUMN TINTS.

When summer's lengthy days are gone  
And autumn beckons winter on,  
With early morning mist and haze  
To further shorten autumn's days  
Then windswept leaves are swirled around  
To litter far and wide the ground.  
What paradox, leaf fall piles higher,  
Creating fuel for a fire,  
And sure enough for miles around  
Bonfire enthusiasts abound  
Whose damp material won't deter,  
But acts upon them like a spur  
To their enthusiastic aims  
To generate more smoke than flames,  
With smouldering heaps which cloud for days  
The pale sun's weak and watery rays,  
Annoying folk, who cough and choke  
When breathing in the acrid smoke  
Of the polluted atmosphere  
So prevalent this time of year  
When linen hanging out to dry  
Is smudged by smuts a'drifting by,  
Causing quite a long tirade  
Of angry comments to be made,  
Consigning Guy Fawkes types to where  
Much hotter flames will blaze and flare  
Since autumn's mellow fruitfulness  
Now has thick smog in such excess!

*A.H.C.*

### WHAT WEATHER!

The Rector of Little Bromley (1878-1880), Mr. Richard Abbay, M.A., Fellow of Wadham College, Oxford, appears to have been interested in the weather.

In the Baptism Register he made this observation:

'The year 1879 has been the wettest and most sunless ever remembered. No fruits of any kind ripened properly and all edible roots and plants reduced deficient in nutritious properties. A five weeks period of intense cold, a very high barometer (30") began in November and Ended on 28th December. There is here 8° F, in York 6° F on grass. Trees planted in churchyard and near Rectory. (R(ichard) A(bbay)).'

This note assists in the age of certain trees in both the churchyard and what was the former rectory at Little Bromley. *John Appleby.*

### CHRISTMAS FAYRE.

There will be a Christmas Fayre on 5th December at Great Bromley Village Hall at 2.30pm, organised by Great Bromley Village Hall Association and Great Bromley WI. We trust you will give us your usual support. Any items for jewellery, books, cakes, raffle prizes and for all the usual stalls would be very much appreciated. Items can be collected if necessary, please phone Jean Wright.

There will be a New Year's Eve Dance in the Village Hall, also in aid of the Village Hall funds, from 8.00pm to 1.00am, music by The Bryan Lee Sound. Tickets at £8 each will be on sale shortly, please contact Jean Wright.

### THE GARDEN IN NOVEMBER.

In the vegetable garden sow broad beans and peas, outside from October Aquadulce Claudia is a good broad bean and Feltham First is a very early pea; Clear and tidy the vegetable patch as much as possible if you have a bonfire check for the odd hedgehog hibernating, check before lighting it. Dig over heavy soils for the frost to penetrate, also dig in plenty of compost, parsnips and carrots leave in the ground until required. On the lawn, depending on the weather, give it a final cut, trim and tidy the edges, then clean and oil the mower ready for next year. Start planning your garden for next year by ordering your seed catalogues, also go to a garden centre for any herbaceous plants to fill any gaps.

Leaves will be a trouble this month, best to put them in the compost heap to rot down with mowings and manure, keep the fork and spade going, watch your back! *Fred Wickham.*

### GREAT BROMLEY WI.

Russell Thomas, wood turner and artist, was the speaker at our October meeting. He works with English wood and brought many very fine examples of his work to show us. On the weekend of 14th-15th November at Wrabness Village Hall he is having an exhibition which, will be well worth a visit, especially for those members who missed the meeting.

Rita Baxter gave us a brief account of the exciting time she had on her gliding day organised by the County Office and we were reminded that our Hospice 'Cake Week' is at the end of the month.

November is our Annual Meeting with elections for a new committee and do not forget to enter our 'in-house' show. Ten pence per entry which can be delivered to the Village Hall from 4.00pm to 6.30pm.

### METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 1st November Elmstead 11am Revd. Robinson

Sunday 8th November Burnt Heath 11am Mrs. Longley Sunday

15th November Balls Green 11am Revd. Robinson Sunday

22nd November Elmstead 11am Mr. M. Clegg

Sunday 29th November Burnt Heath 11am Mrs. G. Watts

### SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME - GRAND FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

The Annual Fireworks Display will take place in the Home grounds on Thursday, 5th November, commencing at 6.30pm. Tickets at £2 each and £1 for children can be obtained from the Home or from Bert (231423). There will be a barbeque, and coffee will be served indoors.

### CANON HUGH PICTON, RECTOR 1981-1984.

A beautiful Paschal Candle Stand is to be blessed in memory of Canon Picton during the morning service on Sunday, 15th November at 10.30am. We are most grateful to Mrs. Picton for this gift she has made to Saint George's in memory of her husband. At the same service the new Prayer Book given by Mrs. Erith in memory of her husband Felix will also be blessed.

### RE-ORDERING OF S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

In order to provide a separate space within the church for children's activities, meetings and where possible coffee may be served after services, the PCC has considered several plans to accomplish this. Having taken the advice of the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches, it is proposed to provide such a space by enlarging the area immediately beneath the tower. The proposal involves removing the two back pews and the glass screen, reversing the screens which are to be increased in height and to position them where the front of the two rear pews now stand. The whole of this area is to be covered with a wooden floor at the same height as the present wooden floor in the pews. In order to go ahead with this proposal, the PCC has to apply to the Chancellor of the Diocese for a Faculty, which proposal will be applied for at the December meeting of the PCC. A plan with drawings will be posted on the noticeboard inside the church which it is hoped that parishioners will consult. It would be helpful if any comment or query about this proposal could be put in writing and given to the Rector by the end of this month. There will be no need for any appeal for funds to complete this project.

As this is only a minor alteration in the church, and as it will provide space which we really do need, I hope that the reasoning for this will be understood and the project given full support.

### SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES.

Sunday 1st November Seven Rivers Home Chapel

Sunday 8th November S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh(3pm)

Sunday 15th November S. George's, Great Bromley

Sunday 22nd November S. George's, Great Bromley

Sunday 29th November S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh

The service on 29th November, Advent Sunday, at S. Mary's Ardleigh, will be an Advent Carol Service at which both choirs will take part. On Sunday, 20th December, there will be a Christmass Carol Service at S. George's, again supported by both choirs.

ALL SOULS DAY - MONDAY, 2nd NOVEMBER.

The service of Requiem and Thanksgiving for the departed will take place as announced last month in S. George's Church at 8.00pm. This service is to be shared with the congregation of S. Mary's, Ardleigh.

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT S. GEORGE'S.

This was a subject discussed at the recent meeting of the Parochial Church Council. There was a feeling that somehow it should be possible to incorporate into the services, especially the Parish Communion, some of the new ideas which are being used so successfully in other parishes. As it was thought that members of the congregation might have ideas which they could contribute to such a discussion, it was decided to have an open meeting on TUESDAY, 17th NOVEMBER at 7.30pm in the Rectory to talk about this at a greater depth. It is hoped that this will be a very positive discussion which will help us to see a way forward. One important issue will be to consider how best we can encourage children and young people to be happily incorporated into our worship.

URGENTLY WANTED.

As Jamie Abbott who has kept the Churchyard grass so well tended is now no longer able to carry this out, the PCC is urgently seeking a person who would be prepared to undertake this task. An hourly rate of pay is offered which will be negotiated. If there is anyone who would like to undertake this, please contact either the Rector at the Rectory (230344) or the Churchwarden, Peter Rowe, 2 Hall Cottages, Hall Road.

ALSO:

Volunteers are needed to help to clean the church brassware and silverware on a regular weekly basis, or on a rota with others. Please contact Mrs. Meriel Davis at the Rectory if you can help. For many years this work has largely been undertaken by Flo Orman, Lorna Brown and others. Now that they feel that they can no longer undertake this, I would like to thank them most warmly for the work which I have so much appreciated.

WEDNESDAY, 11th NOVEMBER.

This is an important date for all members of the Church of England, and indeed for all who live in this country, for during the afternoon of that date, the members of the General Synod of the Church of England have to vote on the proposal to allow women to be ordained as priests in the church. You all will know that this is a highly controversial question which has its roots in the teaching of the New Testament, in Theology, in the tradition of the church and in its relation to the hopes and prayers of Christians for the reunion of separated parts of the Christian faith. If it is passed it could lead to the separation from the Church of thousands of clergy and laypeople who sincerely feel that this is a wrong decision. If it is not passed all who believe that this is the will of God will feel frustration and anger, and may well separate themselves. After the vote the Church of England will never be the same again. Please pray urgently that in this crucial matter God's Will may be done. I understand that the debate in Church House, Westminster, is to be broadcast on BBC Radio 4 and parts of the debate will be televised on Channel 2.



THE WONDER OF CHRISTMASS.

All of us will have in our minds the picture of an ideal Christmass. It may be the memory of Christmass as a child, it may be coloured by the picture of a certain kind of Christmass card with log fires, stage coaches and of course, gentle falling snow. It may be of the peace and contentment of a Christmass service in a church. Whatever the picture we have in our mind it will almost inevitably be very different from the experience of recent Christmasses, or of Christmasses to come. The harsh reality of life, bomb blasts in Northern Ireland and this country, fighting in the Balkan republics, depression, unemployment and economic problems and all the difficulties of daily life do take away some of the edge from our rejoicing at the time of this lovely festival.

Despite these thoughts Christmass is a time for happiness and thanks, a time for sharing greetings and joy with family and friends near and far, a time for rejoicing in the greatest gift mankind has ever had, the birth of the Son of God, our Lord Jesus in the stable at Bethlehem 2,000 years ago. The reality of that glorious birth needs to be shouted out to the nation. Whatever darkness may shroud the world Christmass gives us the opportunity of declaring our dependence on God and His importance in our lives by joining in worship, by expressing our love to family and friends with cards and presents and by enjoying our family and community festivities in the name of Him whose birth we celebrate. We cannot remove completely our anxieties by celebrating Christmass, but we can step back from them for a short while and perhaps, see them in a true light as temporary problems, seeing the most important aspect of our lives not in the minutiae of daily life, but in the certain and glorious knowledge that we are children of God, and that the God who gave His Son to be born at this time will in His good time, wipe away every tear from our eyes. 'O come to us, abide in us, Our Lord Emmanuel.' A very happy and blessed Christmass to you all.

GT. BROMLEY PANTOMIME  
PRESENT

**"Pirates  
Ahoy"**

WEDNESDAY 13TH  
THURSDAY 14TH  
FRIDAY 15TH  
JANUARY, 1993  
7.30 P.M.  
DOORS OPEN AT 7 P.M.

TICKETS:  
ADULTS - £2.50  
CHILDREN - £1.00

BOOKING NOW  
COLCHESTER  
230398

SATURDAY 16TH  
JANUARY, 1993  
2.30 P.M. & 7.30 P.M.  
DOORS OPEN AT 2 P.M. & 7 P.M.

AT  
GT. BROMLEY  
VILLAGE HALL

### THE MESSENGER.

We would like to thank all those people and groups who have sent donations to the magazine over the past year. Without these contributions the magazine would struggle to survive. We acknowledge gratefully donations from Mr. and Mrs. Forsdyke, Great Bromley Recreation Field Committee, The Garden Club, The Friendship Club, Mr. and Mrs. S. Cooper, as well as the advertisers and sponsors listed on the back page. More donations, advertisements and sponsors would be most welcome.

This month we are sponsored by the Pantomime Group, the announcement of their next production is on page 2. Because of the Christmass holiday, could contributions for the January issue reach the Rectory by Tuesday, 8th December please.

### S.GEORGE'S SCHOOL.

The children will be presenting this year a musical Nativity Play 'The Late Wise Man' in S. George's church on Tuesday, 9th December at 1.30pm and Wednesday, 10th December at 7.00pm. All parents and friends of the school are warmly invited to attend.

### PIRATES AHOY.

The rehearsals for this year's pantomime are well on schedule and are proving to be lots of fun for all involved. The pantomime 'Pirates Ahoy' written especially for us is proving to be very successful and shows all the signs of providing a good story and plenty of laughs. Anyone wishing to help out back stage in any capacity is still most welcome. Tickets at £2.50 for adults and £1.00 for children can now be booked from Amanda Rowe for the performances from Wednesday, 13th January to Saturday, 16th January at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. There will be a matinee performance on Saturday, 16th January.

This year the Wednesday evening performance will once again be a charity performance, all the proceeds will go to Treetops, Highwoods, a part of the John Grooms organisation which provides care for young people suffering from disabilities such as multiple sclerosis, motor-neurone disease and head injuries. The home has sixteen beds and provides permanent care for people from as young as sixteen years old. Our contributions to this home will go to a fund the League of Friends has set up to help provide a hydrotherapy pool. This is a charity which really must be supported. Please book early for this and all the performances as this is a very popular show bring in audiences from far and wide. *Amanda Rowe.*

### CHRISTMASS FAYRE.

There will be the Christmass Fayre on 5th December and I trust you will all give us your usual support. There will be a free visit for children to Father Christmas. Any items for our stalls will be much appreciated and if necessary, will be collected if you ring me. Tickets are now available for the New Year's Eve dance on 31st December. Please book early as the number of tickets is limited. *Jean Wright.*

### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

A very happy evening was spent with twenty-six of our members enjoying a delicious meal at the Wooden Fender on Thursday, 12th November. A small 'pressie' was given to everyone at the end of the evening in appreciation of their support during the year. Our Christmass Social will be held on Thursday, 3rd December when Mrs. Biddis has kindly invited us to her home. *Vicky Griffiths.*

### GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

We would like to thank everyone who supported, helped with, or contributed to our Craft Fayre in October to make it yet another success. We raised £138.25 after expenses. This will be used to improve the playing field where we urgently need new litter bins and a notice board. *Gertrude Grant.*

### BUS SERVICES.

People living in the Frating Road, Great Bromley, or likewise the Bromley Road, Frating, will be pleased to hear that at last there is a bus service past their houses each Wednesday. The 128 comes from Hare Green, turns left at the Black Boy and is scheduled to be at Balls Green at 9.50am, then going to Frating Green and Colchester, reaching there at 10.10am. It will leave Colchester at 12.30pm reaching Balls Green at 12.50pm. I am assured that if you stand on the correct side of the road and signal the bus it will stop outside your house. Please tell your neighbours.

### HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION.

We are pleased to report that the Colchester and District Branch of the Huntington's Disease Association based at Great Bromley, was officially formed recently, the only one in East Anglia north of Southend. We are now a Registered Charity. Sometimes described as 'the worst condition that can befall a human being, leading to irrevocable physical and mental destruction' it is sadly hereditary. We have joined the battle to help sufferers and carers with a family and mutual support group and we hope in time to help finance research into this disease for which at present, there is no known cure. Some wonderfully helpful meetings have already been held and will continue at the kind invitation of Seven Rivers, at the Cheshire Home on the last Wednesday morning of each month. Please contact Jean Harding for more information and we hope you will recognise the need to support the cause when fund raising activities take place.

### GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Our annual traditional Christmas lunch will be held in the Village Hall on 17th December. The coach will start picking up from Elmstead at 12 noon. There will be entertainment in the afternoon and mince pies and tea. There will not be a competition. We send Christmass greetings to all, with our best wishes for peace and goodwill. *Mildred Purkis.*

### SEVEN RIVERS.

On Sunday, 1st November, sixty-four residents, staff and friends travelled to Lincoln to attend a Service of Celebration for the life and work of Group Captain Lord Cheshire VC. OM. DSO. DFC. On entering the magnificent mediaeval Cathedral the band of the Royal Air Force, Germany, was playing, medals proudly worn by ex-service men and women, dignitaries with their chains of office and the uniforms of smartly dressed Air Force personnel helped to give the feeling of a great occasion.

At five-to-two a fly-past in honour of Lord Cheshire passed overhead which was the signal to stand for the entry of the procession which included representatives of the Cheshire Homes, the Royal Air Force, Lady Cheshire, the standards of 617 Squadron and the Bomber Command Association, the Mayor of Lincoln and the Chairman of the County Council. His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, accompanied by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Lincolnshire and the Dean, was announced by a fanfare of trumpets from the Royal Air Force.

The service that followed was a moving tribute to a much loved and honoured man. The tune 'Angels are Singing' for one of the hymns had been written by Hilary Callin, a resident of Le Court, the very first Cheshire Home. At the end of the service the Duke of Gloucester spoke to many of the residents and staff. One or two had difficulty hearing what he said as the band was playing. Nevertheless it was a good ending to a memorable afternoon.

### GREAT BROMLEY WI.

Mrs. Anne O'Riordon VCO was with us on Wednesday, 4th November, to help with the business of the Annual Meeting. The increase in subscriptions is not popular with some members; it would be a great sadness to lose members because of this. The Competition Cup was won by Beryl Hurst with Jill Frostick as runner up. June Wilgress, President, thanked her retiring committee for their help and support during the past year.

The new committee is June Wilgress, President; Mary Clarke, secretary; Rita Baxter, treasurer; Vera Biddis, Jean Wright, Ann Jones, Irene Willats and May Kutner.

The informal 'in house' show was a success. Seventeen members entered the fourteen classes with a total of sixty-eight entries. Barbara Hall came first with Beryl Hurst and June Wilgress joint second. It was decided to have a repeat performance next year!

There is to be a Group Carol Service on Tuesday, 15th December at 7.00pm in Lawford Church. The next meeting is Wednesday, 2nd December. Bring a plate of food with you and a handmade Christmas Card to enter the competition.

### TEARCRAFT COFFEE MORNING.

Ian and Sue Orriss would like to thank all those who supported the coffee morning at the end of October. A total of £140 was raised to support Tear Fund's work among poor and needy people in less developed countries.

### THE GARDEN IN DECEMBER.

Protect any containers by wrapping with bubble polythene and mulching over the roots with compost bark or straw. It is your last chance to plant hyacinths and tulips, make sure they are all neatly planted by the beginning of December otherwise you risk a poor display in the spring. Keep off lawns as much as possible when wet or frozen, continue to rake up leaves to give the grass and roots room to breathe. Do any repairs to fences to save them from further damage in winter, store garden furniture in a dry place. Check on stores vegetables and remove any which show signs of disease or damage, there is still time to plant early peas and broad beans. I plant mine in pots and plant out later because of mice. Replant the suckers of established raspberry canes by separating from parent plants, plant bare root fruit trees now. Do not forget to order your seeds for 1993 and have a very happy Christmass. *Fred Wickham.*

### KITCHEN CORNER.

Christmass is nearly here! Do not forget to make your cake and pudding now so they have time to mature. Some ideas for presents: there are still copies of the 'Bromley Cookbook' for sale at £1.35, an inexpensive stocking filler! Home-made mincemeat, attractively gift wrapped is always welcome. If you have an elderly relative who would appreciate a small Christmas cake try this idea.

Make your cake in a 12" tin. When cold and matured cut out a round from the centre about 4-5 inches across to make a small gift cake. Ice and decorate the ring you have left to make a 'garland cake' and stand a tall, fat candle in the centre. This looks very festive and is easier to slice. Any left-over marzipan or royal icing can be made into sweets. Add colours and flavours etc.

Home-made fudge is another favourite, easy to make too!

Recipe: 1/2 K sugar, 1/2 tin evaporated milk and 2oz margarine.

Use a large heavy based pan. Melt ingredients together over moderate heat until dissolved, then boil gently for about 10 minutes, stirring occasionally to prevent burning. Test for soft-ball stage (240° F)

Remove from heat, when bubbles subside add 1 teaspoon vanilla essence. Beat with a wooden spoon until almost setting, pour into a 7" square oiled tin. Cut into squares when nearly set. *Jill Frostick.*

#### METHODIST SERVICES - DECEMBER.

Sunday 6th Balls Green 11.00am Revd. J. Hardwick

Sunday 13th Elmstead 11.00am Mrs. M. Longley

Sunday 20th Burnt Heath 11.00am Revd. Robinson

Sunday 27th Balls Green 11.00am Mrs. M. Deans

#### MRS. JOYCE FAIRLEY.

Not for a very long time has S. George's Church been so full as it was on Monday, 2nd November, for the funeral of Joyce who died in the S. Helena Hospice on 26th October. This very fact spoke eloquently of the love and affection in which she was held by so many people. For all her married life Joyce lived at Normans Farm, Little Bromley, as a devoted wife to Tom, mother to Robert and John and a very active farmer's wife. In addition to her family responsibilities and her support and work for the farm, she found time for very many other activities. For many years she worked for the Cheshire Home, for the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, and most recently for the campaign to halt the building of the Electric Power Station. As well as this she was also Secretary of the Little Bromley Parochial Church Council, and member of The Bromleys PCC. Members of the congregation of the Parish Church remember with thanks and appreciation her acting as our hostess when on two occasions, the Annual Rogation Sunday Service was held at Normans Farm.

All who knew Joyce will have the happiest memories of the warmth of her personality and the smile which was her hallmark. Even up to a day or two before her death her courage, confidence and joy in the face of her acute pain and suffering was clear to see. All our sympathy goes to Tom, John and Robert in their sad loss. All of us rejoice that we have had the privilege of knowing Joyce; we pray that in God's loving arms she may now rest in peace.

#### DO GOOD UNTO OTHERS.

The Churchwardens' Accounts of Great Bromley for 1734 has the following.

"December the 30, 1724. (Attested at Bury S. Edmunds). A Clause of the Will of Mr. Richard Boweses, Clark, ...

Itt, I give and devise unto Mr. Alexander Smith, younger son of my sister and his herers, for ever my Two Small farms or Tenements called Caringtons and Cross House, lying and being in Much Bromly, in the County of Essex, Sublett never the Loss to and Charged with the payment of twenty shillings, Upon Crismasday in every year, to the Rector of Great Bromley aforesaid for the time being for the Euse of the Pore of the said Parish and the furdor Sum of five shillings per Annum for to buy Catechisms for the pore Children in that Parish for Ever.

This sett downe by Geo: Warren, then Churchward."

The Revd. Richard Bowes was the son of Sir Thomas Bowes, Kt., of Great Bromley. He was born at Great Bromley Hall. Gained his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Caius College, Cambridge, 1661. Ordained priest, Lincoln, 22 Dec 1661, Rector of Great Bromley 1661-1700, Rector of Stowlangtoft Suffolk 1668, Lecturer of S. James Church, Bury S. Edmunds 1685, Master of Arts, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, 1674, Died Oct. 14 1715, Were the 'Pore Children' ever given Catechisms? If they were, when was this practice ended? Here is another piece in the Jigsaw History of Great Bromley I am still researching.

*John Appleby.*

#### GREAT BROMLEY CHARITIES.

The annual distribution of the Jacobs and Poor Lands Charities will take place on New Year's Day, Friday, 1st January, 1993, in S. George's Church at 10.00am. Later in the month the Nicholls Coal Charity will be distributed.

#### GEORGE'S YOUTH CLUB.

As all members and parents will know the time and meeting place of the S. George's Youth Club have been changed. Because the School Hall was too small for the large number of members, the meetings now take place in the Village Hall on each Wednesday from 5.00pm to 6.30pm. The thanks of all who are involved in the Club go to Mrs. Fitzgerald for making the School hall available to the Club since its beginning. The final meeting before Christmass will be Wednesday, 16th December. The Club will recommence its meetings for the New Year on Wednesday, 14th January 1993.

#### S. GEORGE'S CHURCH CHOIR.

On Tuesday, 10th November, S. George's Church Choir were invited to visit the Post Office in Head Street, Colchester and to sing carols to mark the introduction of the Christmass stamps and to mark the opening

of the new Post Office Shop. After many photographs, the sharing of a cake and thanks from the organisers, the choir returned home, each having been given the gift of a complete set of the new stamps. The event was arranged by Barbara Hall, our own Postmistress, to whom all those who took part offer their warmest thanks for a most enjoyable and interesting morning.

#### S. GEORGE'S BELLS.

Many of you will hear each Friday the bells of S. George's during their weekly practise. The ringers urgently need some other people from the village who would like to learn to ring, and who would be available to ring the bells for the service on Sunday mornings. As most of those who come on Fridays ring in other churches on Sundays, they cannot ring for our services. If you would like to learn this fascinating activity please come up to the belfry on any Friday between 7.30pm and 9.00pm, or ring the Tower Captain, Mr. David Wenden, he will be very pleased to hear from you.

#### PARISH CHURCH EVENING SERVICES ~ GREAT BROMLEY AND ARDLEIGH.

Sunday 6th December Seven Rivers Home Chapel

Sunday 13th December S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh

Sunday 20th December S. George's Church - Christmass Carol Service (S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh, will also be having a Christmass Carol Service at this time)

Sunday 27th December NO EVENSONG AT EITHER CHURCHES

Please see the enclosed leaflet for the details of all the Christmass services.

#### MR. ROY TRICKER.

Many friends of Roy Tricker at Little Bromley and the Parish Church were saddened to hear of his death at the early age of sixty-five, in the Ipswich S. Elizabeth Hospice, on Tuesday, 17th November. Roy and his wife, Joan, moved back to Brantham a year ago after four happy years at Little Bromley. He was cremated at Ipswich Crematorium on 24th November. Our sympathy goes to his wife and their six children. May he rest in peace.

#### PUZZLE CORNER.

What are the full names of these common abbreviations:

1. Taxi 2. Bus 3. Piano 4. Phone 5. Pram 6. Fridge

Answers next month.

### **The Bromley Messenger December 1992**


#### THE WONDER OF CHRISTMASS.

All of us will have in our minds the picture of an ideal Christmass. It may be the memory of Christmass as a child, it may be coloured by the picture of a certain kind of Christmass card with log fires, stage coaches and of course, gentle falling snow. It may be of the peace and contentment of a Christmass service in a church. Whatever the picture we have in our mind it will almost inevitably be very different from the experience of recent Christmasses, or of Christmasses to come. The harsh reality of life, bomb blasts in Northern Ireland and this country, fighting in the Balkan republics, depression, unemployment and economic problems and all the difficulties of daily life do take away some of the edge from our rejoicing at the time of this lovely festival.

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PRESENT




"Pirates  
Ahoy"

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AT  
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The children will be presenting this year a musical Nativity Play 'The Late Wise Man' in S. George's church on Tuesday, 9th December at 1.30pm and Wednesday, 10th December at 7.00pm. All parents and friends of the school are warmly invited to attend.

#### PIRATES AHOY.

The rehearsals for this year's pantomime are well on schedule and are proving to be lots of fun for all involved. The pantomime 'Pirates Ahoy' written especially for us is proving to be very successful and shows all the signs of providing a good story and plenty of laughs. Anyone wishing to help out back stage in any capacity is still most welcome. Tickets at £2.50 for adults and £1.00 for children can now be booked from Amanda Rowe for the performances from Wednesday, 13th January to Saturday, 16th January at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. There will be a matinee performance on Saturday, 16th January.

This year the Wednesday evening performance will once again be a charity performance, all the proceeds will go to Treetops, Highwoods, a part of the John Grooms organisation which provides care for young

people suffering from disabilities such as multiple sclerosis, motor-neurone disease and head injuries. The home has sixteen beds and provides permanent care for people from as young as sixteen years old. Our contributions to this home will go to a fund the League of Friends has set up to help provide a hydrotherapy pool. This is a charity which really must be supported. Please book early for this and all the performances as this is a very popular show bring in audiences from far and wide. *Amanda Rowe.*

#### CHRISTMASS FAYRE.

There will be the Christmass Fayre on 5th December and I trust you will all give us your usual support. There will be a free visit for children to Father Christmas. Any items for our stalls will be much appreciated and if necessary, will be collected if you ring me. Tickets are now available for the New Year's Eve dance on 31st December. Please book early as the number of tickets is limited. *Jean Wright.*

#### GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

A very happy evening was spent with twenty-six of our members enjoying a delicious meal at the Wooden Fender on Thursday, 12th November. A small 'pressie' was given to everyone at the end of the evening in appreciation of their support during the year. Our Christmass Social will be held on Thursday, 3rd December when Mrs. Biddis has kindly invited us to her home. *Vicky Griffiths.*

#### GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

We would like to thank everyone who supported, helped with, or contributed to our Craft Fayre in October to make it yet another success. We raised £138.25 after expenses. This will be used to improve the playing field where we urgently need new litter bins and a notice board. *Gertrude Grant.*

#### BUS SERVICES.

People living in the Frating Road, Great Bromley, or likewise the Bromley Road, Frating, will be pleased to hear that at last there is a bus service past their houses each Wednesday. The 128 comes from Hare Green, turns left at the Black Boy and is scheduled to be at Balls Green at 9.50am, then going to Frating Green and Colchester, reaching there at 10.10am. It will leave Colchester at 12.30pm reaching Balls Green at 12.50pm. I am assured that if you stand on the correct side of the road and signal the bus it will stop outside your house. Please tell your neighbours.

#### HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION.

We are pleased to report that the Colchester and District Branch of the Huntington's Disease Association based at Great Bromley, was officially formed recently, the only one in East Anglia north of Southend. We are now a Registered Charity. Sometimes described as 'the worst condition that can befall a human being, leading to irrevocable physical and mental destruction' it is sadly hereditary. We have joined the battle to help sufferers and carers with a family and mutual support group and we hope in time to help finance research into this disease for which at present, there is no known cure. Some wonderfully helpful meetings have already been held and will continue at the kind invitation of Seven Rivers, at the Cheshire Home on the last Wednesday morning of each month. Please contact Jean Harding for more information and we hope you will recognise the need to support the cause when fund raising activities take place.

#### GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Our annual traditional Christmas lunch will be held in the Village Hall on 17th December. The coach will start picking up from Elmstead at 12 noon. There will be entertainment in the afternoon and mince pies and tea. There will not be a competition. We send Christmass greetings to all, with our best wishes for peace and goodwill. *Mildred Purkis.*

#### SEVEN RIVERS.

On Sunday, 1st November, sixty-four residents, staff and friends travelled to Lincoln to attend a Service of Celebration for the life and work of Group Captain Lord Cheshire VC. OM. DSO. DFC. On entering the magnificent mediaeval Cathedral the band of the Royal Air Force, Germany, was playing, medals proudly worn by ex-service men and women, dignitaries with their chains of office and the uniforms of smartly dressed Air Force personnel helped to give the feeling of a great occasion.

At five-to-two a fly-past in honour of Lord Cheshire passed overhead which was the signal to stand for the entry of the procession which included representatives of the Cheshire Homes, the Royal Air Force, Lady Cheshire, the standards of 617 Squadron and the Bomber Command Association, the Mayor of Lincoln and the Chairman of the County Council. His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, accompanied by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Lincolnshire and the Dean, was announced by a fanfare of trumpets from the Royal Air Force.

The service that followed was a moving tribute to a much loved and honoured man. The tune 'Angels are Singing' for one of the hymns had been written by Hilary Callin, a resident of Le Court, the very first Cheshire Home. At the end of the service the Duke of Gloucester spoke to many of the residents and staff. One or two had difficulty hearing what he said as the band was playing. Nevertheless it was a good ending to a memorable afternoon.

### GREAT BROMLEY WI.

Mrs. Anne O'Riordon VCO was with us on Wednesday, 4th November, to help with the business of the Annual Meeting. The increase in subscriptions is not popular with some members; it would be a great sadness to lose members because of this. The Competition Cup was won by Beryl Hurst with Jill Frostick as runner up. June Wilgress, President, thanked her retiring committee for their help and support during the past year.

The new committee is June Wilgress, President; Mary Clarke, secretary; Rita Baxter, treasurer; Vera Biddis, Jean Wright, Ann Jones, Irene Willats and May Kutner.

The informal 'in house' show was a success. Seventeen members entered the fourteen classes with a total of sixty-eight entries. Barbara Hall came first with Beryl Hurst and June Wilgress joint second. It was decided to have a repeat performance next year!

There is to be a Group Carol Service on Tuesday, 15th December at 7.00pm in Lawford Church. The next meeting is Wednesday, 2nd December. Bring a plate of food with you and a handmade Christmas Card to enter the competition.

### TEARCRAFT COFFEE MORNING.

Ian and Sue Orriss would like to thank all those who supported the coffee morning at the end of October. A total of £140 was raised to support Tear Fund's work among poor and needy people in less developed countries.

### THE GARDEN IN DECEMBER.

Protect any containers by wrapping with bubble polythene and mulching over the roots with compost bark or straw. It is your last chance to plant hyacinths and tulips, make sure they are all neatly planted by the beginning of December otherwise you risk a poor display in the spring. Keep off lawns as much as possible when wet or frozen, continue to rake up leaves to give the grass and roots room to breathe. Do any repairs to fences to save them from further damage in winter, store garden furniture in a dry place. Check on stores vegetables and remove any which show signs of disease or damage, there is still time to plant early peas and broad beans. I plant mine in pots and plant out later because of mice. Replant the suckers of established raspberry canes by separating from parent plants, plant bare root fruit trees now. Do not forget to order your seeds for 1993 and have a very happy Christmas. *Fred Wickham.*

### KITCHEN CORNER.

Christmass is nearly here! Do not forget to make your cake and pudding now so they have time to mature. Some ideas for presents: there are still copies of the 'Bromley Cookbook' for sale at £1.35, an inexpensive stocking filler! Home-made mincemeat, attractively gift wrapped is always welcome. If you have an elderly relative who would appreciate a small Christmas cake try this idea.

Make your cake in a 12" tin. When cold and matured cut out a round from the centre about 4-5 inches across to make a small gift cake. Ice and decorate the ring you have left to make a 'garland cake' and stand a tall, fat candle in the centre. This looks very festive and is easier to slice. Any left-over marzipan or royal icing can be made into sweets. Add colours and flavours etc.

Home-made fudge is another favourite, easy to make too!

Recipe: 1/2 K sugar, 1/2 tin evaporated milk and 2oz margarine.

Use a large heavy based pan. Melt ingredients together over moderate heat until dissolved, then boil gently for about 10 minutes, stirring occasionally to prevent burning. Test for soft-ball stage (240° F)

Remove from heat, when bubbles subside add 1 teaspoon vanilla essence. Beat with a wooden spoon until almost setting, pour into a 7" square oiled tin. Cut into squares when nearly set. *Jill Frostick.*

### METHODIST SERVICES - DECEMBER.

Sunday 6th Balls Green 11.00am Revd. J. Hardwick

Sunday 13th Elmstead 11.00am Mrs. M. Longley

Sunday 20th Burnt Heath 11.00am Revd. Robinson

Sunday 27th Balls Green 11.00am Mrs. M. Deans

### MRS. JOYCE FAIRLEY.

Not for a very long time has S. George's Church been so full as it was on Monday, 2nd November, for the funeral of Joyce who died in the S. Helena Hospice on 26th October. This very fact spoke eloquently of the love and affection in which she was held by so many people. For all her married life Joyce lived at Normans Farm, Little Bromley, as a devoted wife to Tom, mother to Robert and John and a very active farmer's wife. In addition to her family responsibilities and her support and work for the farm, she found time for very many other activities. For many years she worked for the Cheshire Home, for the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, and most recently for the campaign to halt the building of the Electric Power Station. As well as this she was also Secretary of the Little Bromley Parochial Church Council, and member of The Bromleys PCC. Members of the congregation of the Parish Church remember with thanks and appreciation her acting as our hostess when on two occasions, the Annual Rogation Sunday Service was held at Normans Farm.



All who knew Joyce will have the happiest memories of the warmth of her personality and the smile which was her hallmark. Even up to a day or two before her death her courage, confidence and joy in the fact of her acute pain and suffering was clear to see. All our sympathy goes to Tom, John and Robert in their sad loss. All of us rejoice that we have had the privilege of knowing Joyce; we pray that in God's loving arms she may now rest in peace.

#### DO GOOD UNTO OTHERS.

The Churchwardens' Accounts of Great Bromley for 1734 has the following.

'December the 30, 1724. (Attested at Bury S. Edmunds). A Clause of the Will of Mr. Richard Boweses, Clark, ...

Itt, I give and devise unto Mr. Alexander Smith, younger son of my sister and his herers, for ever my Two Small farms or Tenements called Caringtons and Cross House, lying and being iin Much Bromly, in the County of Essex, Sublett never the Loss to and Charged with the payment of twenty shillings, Upon Crismasday in every year, to the Rector of Grat Bromley aforesaid for the time being for the Euse of the Pore of the said Parish and the furdor Sum of five shillings per Annum for to buy Catechisms for the pore Children in that Parish for Ever.

This sett downe by Geo: Warren, then Churchward.'

The Revd. Richard Bowes was the son of Sir Thomas Bowes, Kt., of Great Bromley. He was born at Great Bromley Hall. Gained his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Caius College, Cambridge, 1661. Ordained priest, Lincoln, 22 Dec 1661, Rector of Great Bromley 1661-1700, Rector of Stowlangtoft Suffolk 1668, Lecturer of S. James Church, Bury S. Edmunds 1685, Master of Arts, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, 1674, Died Oct. 14 1715, Were the 'Pore Children' ever given Catechisms? If they were, when was this practice ended? Here is another piece in the Jigsaw History of Great Bromley I am still researching.

*John Appleby.*

#### GREAT BROMLEY CHARITIES.

The annual distribution of the Jacobs and Poor Lands Charities will take place on New Year's Day, Friday, 1st January, 1993, in S. George's Church at 10.00am. Later in the month the Nicholls Coal Charity will be distributed.

#### GEORGE'S YOUTH CLUB.

As all members and parents will know the time and meeting place of the S. George's Youth Club have been changed. Because the School Hall was too small for the large number of members, the meetings now take place in the Village Hall on each Wednesday from 5.00pm to 6.30pm. The thanks of all who are involved in the Club go to Mrs. Fitzgerald for making the School hall available to the Club since its beginning. The final meeting before Christmass will be Wednesday, 16th December. The Club will recommence its meetings for the New Year on Wednesday, 14th January 1993.

#### S. GEORGE'S CHURCH CHOIR.

On Tuesday, 10th November, S. George's Church Choir were invited to visit the Post Office in Head Street, Colchester and to sing carols to mark the introduction of the Christmass stamps and to mark the opening of the new Post Office Shop. After many photographs, the sharing of a cake and thanks from the organisers, the choir returned home, each having been given the gift of a complete set of the new stamps. The event was arranged by Barbara Hall, our own Postmistress, to whom all those who took part offer their warmest thanks for a most enjoyable and interesting morning.

#### S. GEORGE'S BELLS.

Many of you will hear each Friday the bells of S. George's during their weekly practise. The ringers urgently need some other people from the village who would like to learn to ring, and who would be available to ring the bells for the service on Sunday mornings. As most of those who come on Fridays ring in other churches on Sundays, they cannot ring for our services. If you would like to learn this fascinating activity please come up to the belfry on any Friday between 7.30pm and 9.00pm, or ring the Tower Captain, Mr. David Wenden, he will be very pleased to hear from you.

#### PARISH CHURCH EVENING SERVICES ~ GREAT BROMLEY AND ARDLEIGH.

Sunday 6th December Seven Rivers Home Chapel

Sunday 13th December S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh

Sunday 20th December S. George's Church - Christmass Carol Service (S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh, will also be having a Christmass Carol Service at this time)

Sunday 27th December NO EVENSONG AT EITHER CHURCHES

Please see the enclosed leaflet for the details of all the Christmass services.

#### MR. ROY TRICKER.

Many friends of Roy Tricker at Little Bromley and the Parish Church were saddened to hear of his death at the early age of sixty-five, in the Ipswich S. Elizabeth Hospice, on Tuesday, 17th November. Roy and his

wife, Joan, moved back to Brantham a year ago after four happy years at Little Bromley. He was cremated at Ipswich Crematorium on 24th November. Our sympathy goes to his wife and their six children. May he rest in peace.

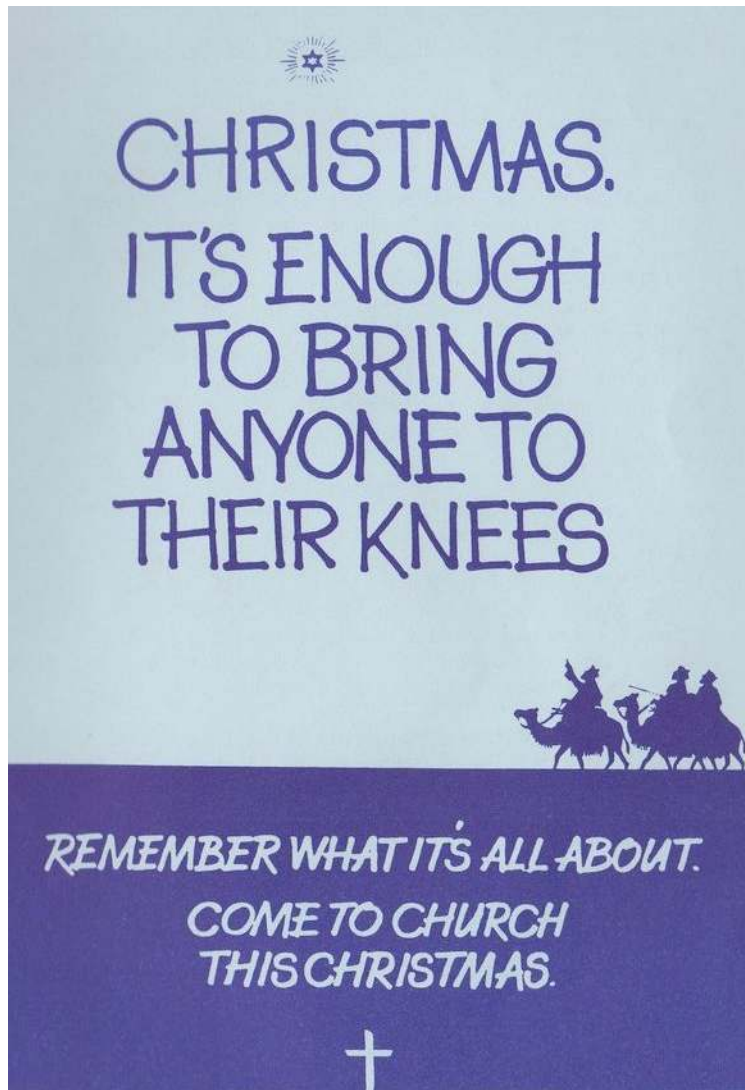
PUZZLE CORNER.

What are the full names of these common abbreviations:

1. Taxi 2. Bus 3. Piano 4. Phone 5. Pram 6. Fridge

Answers next month.

**Church News Supplement**



CHRISTMAS.

IT'S ENOUGH TO BRING ANYONE TO THEIR KNEES

REMEMBER WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.

COME TO CHURCH THIS CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMASS CHILDREN'S GIFT SERVICE

- SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER AT S. GEORGE'S CHURCH, GREAT BROMLEY AT 3.00pm

Christmass is a time for giving, giving to those whom we love, giving to our families, and giving to our friends. Can we this year, extend our giving slightly to include people, unknown to us personally, whose Christmas festivities, because their country is in the grips of a terrible civil war, will be very different from ours? Jesus, whose birth we celebrate at Christmass was born to a family of refugees in the most primitive of accommodation, a stable in Bethlehem. Our giving to refugees in a similar plight will be a most worthy Christian and Christmass act of compassion. We are associating ourselves with the Manningtree Refugee Concern, whose aim is to help alleviate the plight of some of the thousands of refugees and displaced persons in Bosnia and Croatia, whose terrible conditions of living are well known to us through television and newspaper reports. The support we are hoping to give is organised by relief agencies founded by Christian Churches in Croatia. All the gifts will be transported by lorry to a network of Franciscan Monasteries in the area of Medjugorje, a very well-known village in Croatia, whose Brothers will ensure that the goods are distributed to those whose need is most apparent and who are living in desperate conditions. Gifts which are most needed are simple medical supplies, baby food and equipment, high protein biscuits and other foods, and warm clothing. Simple gifts suitable for young children, such as

small soft toys, balls and playthings would be most welcome, as well as any goods, such as nappies, to help young mothers in the care of babies.

At the Children's Christmass Gift Service on Sunday, 13th December at 3.00pm we hope to be able to welcome you and to receive your gifts. The service which will include Christmass carols and readings, will be short and informal and during the service we will ask you and your children to place the gifts you bring around the Christmass tree in Church.

As soon as possible afterwards, they will all be parcelled up and sent on their way to Bosnia. Please do come and help us to share with others some of the Christmass joy and happiness which we enjoy year after year.

After the service we are pleased to invite all who attend to have tea and cakes with us in S. George's School Hall where a warm welcome will await you.

The Rector and Churchwardens wish all parishioners a very Happy and Blessed Christmass.

CHRISTMASS SERVICES  
S. GEORGE'S CHURCH, GREAT BROMLEY

SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER 1992  
3.00pm CHRISTMASS GIFT SERVICE (See note)

SUNDAY 20th DECEMBER 1992  
6.30pm CHRISTMASS CAROL SERVICE

THURSDAY 24th DECEMBER 1992 CHRISTMASS EVE  
2.00pm HOLY COMMUNION WITH CAROLS - HAMILTON LODGE  
11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS OF THE NATIVITY FRIDAY

25th DECEMBER 1992 CHRISTMASS DAY  
8.00am HOLY COMMUNION  
9.15am HOLY COMMUNION - SEVEN RIVERS HOME  
10.30am FAMILY SERVICE AND HOLY COMMUNION

SUNDAY 27th DECEMBER 1992 SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMASS  
8.00am HOLY COMMUNION  
10.30am PARISH COMMUNION

THERE WILL BE NO EVENING SERVICE AT GREAT BROMLEY OR ARDLEIGH ON THIS SUNDAY