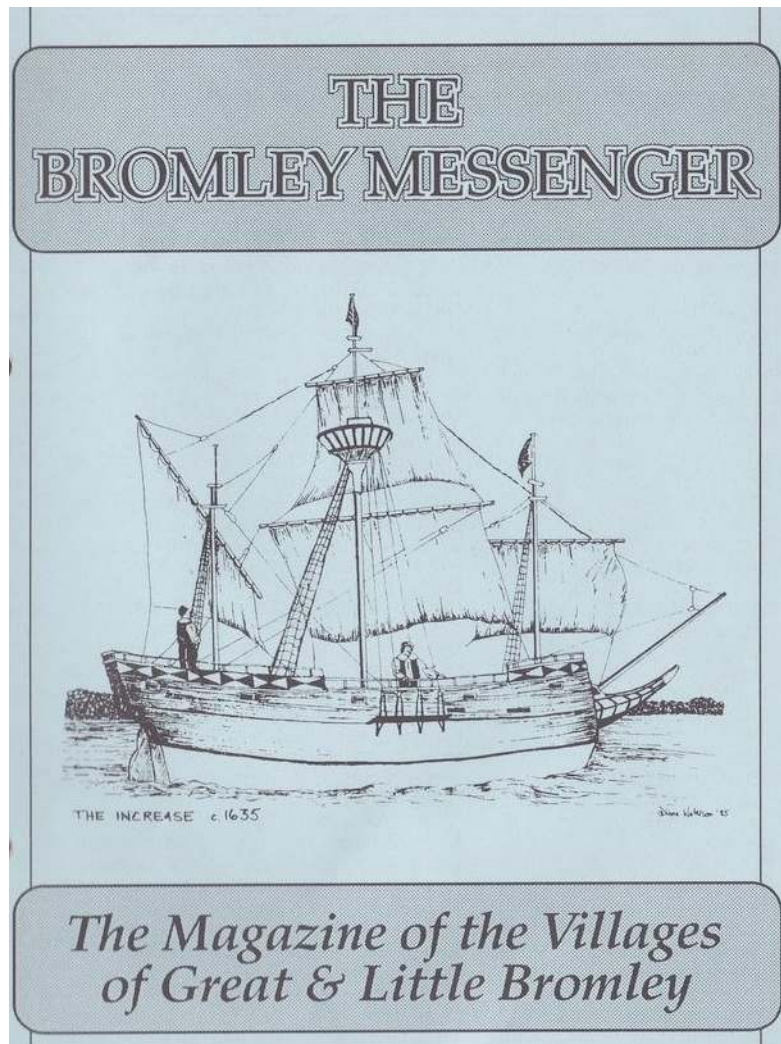


THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

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These old magazines have been scanned and converted to text for historical reference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.

Tel: 07722 253962 Email: hugh@greatbromley.org.uk
December 2021

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Police PC Christopher Phillips Police House, Chase Road
Gt. Bromley Parish Council Mr H. P. Booty, Church Cottage
Lt. Bromley Parish Council Mr R. T. M. Poulter, Rivoy, Shop Road, Little Bromley
Essex County Council Clr. D. Pallett, 15 Lushington Avenue Manningtree
Tendring District Council Clr. Ann Elvin, Paynes Farm, Ravens Green, Little Bentley
S. George's School Mrs Pat Fitzgerald, Headteacher 230305
Manningtree School PTA Mr R. Knott, Paynes Cott. Lt. Bromley
Mrs C. McGuinness, 3 St. George's Close
Parish Church The Rector, The Rectory
Burnt Heath Methodist Church Mrs G. Newman. Old House, West St. Wivenhoe
Balls Green Methodist Church Mr W. J. Sparrow, 21 Meadow Close
Lt. Bromley Methodist Church Mr R. Whitman, Wheatfields, Lt. Bromley
Methodist Minister The Revd. John Robinson 4A Ladysmith Avenue, Brightlingsea
S. George's Repair Fund Mr R. Harding, The Hollies. Colchester Rd
Village Hall Committee Mrs A. Rowe, Harris Farm
Badminton Club Mrs J. Golding, Meadowcroft, Kings Farm
Cricket Club Mrs L. Allam, Bluegates Farm
Men's Club Mr G. Hurst, Arethusa, Ardleigh Road
Friendship Club Mrs M. Purkis, "Bondi", Clacton Road, Elmstead
Women's Institute Mrs M. Clarke, Bedfords Fratign Rd
Ladies Circle Mrs C. Simons. 5 Meadow Close
Playgroup Mrs A. Rowe, Harris Farm
Garden Club Mr F. Griffiths, Trevallyan, Mary Lane South
Carpet Bowls Club Mrs G. Hubbard. Hiskeys Farm
S. George's Youth Club Mrs Suzanne Abbott, Fir Tree Cottage Cowey Green
Bromley Folk Dancers Mr R. Mears, Meronash, Colchester Road
Great Bromley Recreation Committee , Mrs G Grant, "Old Forge", Mary Lane North
Pantomime Group Mr. N. Rowe, Harris Farm
Bromley Buskers Mr P/ Wenden, The Pippins, Burnt Heath
Gt. Bromley Guides Mrs J. Terry, The Nook, Colchester Road
Gt. Bromley Brownies Mrs L Henderson, Badley Hall
1st Ardleigh Scout Group Mr J. Terry, The Nook, Colchester Road
Hamilton Lodge Vol. Association Mrs M. Hart, Pondfield, Parsons Hill
Civil Protection Contact Mrs I. D. Anderson, 8 Meadow Close
Essex County Standard Mrs V. Biddis, Berriedale
East Anglian Daily Times Mr S. West, Fryerning, Hall Road
Local History Recorder Mrs I Wilkinson, 11 Meadow Close
Treasurer Bromley Messenger Mr L. Christodoulides, Magnolia House, Bromley Road, Frating

THE PARISH OF THE BROMLEYS

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The Revd Paul Davis, The Rectory, Great Bromley

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Mr John Appleby, Little Pitchbury, Brick Kiln Lane. Great Horkesley

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Mr Douglas Rogerson Applelodge, Frating Road. Great Bromley

PCC TREASURER

Mr Gordon Jones, Wayside. Hall Road. Great Bromley

ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER

Mr Colin Whittle

CAPTAIN OF BELLS

Mr David Wenden, Girlings, Stone Road, Great Bromley

SERVICES

Sundays: 8.00 am Holy Communion

10.30 am Parish Communion

6.30 pm Evensong

1st Sunday Seven Rivers Home Chapel

2nd & 4th Sunday – S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh

3rd & 5th Sunday – S. George's Church, Great Bromley

MEETINGS

Mondays 7.00 pm Choir Practise

Wednesdays 6.00 pm S. George's Youth Club in S. George's School (term time only)

Fridays 7.30pm Bell practise

HOLY BAPTISM AND MATRIMONY

By arrangement with the Rector

THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please inform the Rector of any who are at home or in hospital and any who are housebound. The sacrament of Holy Communion is reserved in Church and can be taken at any time of the day or night to anyone who wishes it.

All contributions should be sent to the Rector - Editor.

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PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

1992 - 1993

MAY SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

JUNE BROMLEY PRIVATE HIRE and P&B DECORATORS

JULY TENDRING TRACTORS

AUGUST GREAT & LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCILS

SEPTEMBER THE BLACK BOY and STIRLING SAFETY LTD

OCTOBER PARISH CHURCH OF THE BROMLEYS

NOVEMBER R G GWINNELL & SON (Funeral Directors) Manningtree

DECEMBER GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

JANUARY J SARGENT, Builders and T & F MOTORS AUTO REPAIRS

FEBRUARY GREENACRE CATTERY and THE CROSS INN AND MOTEL

MARCH HOT-LINE PRINTERS

APRIL BROMLEY BUSKERS

The Bromley Messenger January 1993.

A very happy New Year to all our readers, and we hope that for all you who have suffered anxiety and distress during 1992, that it really will be happier. As is our wont, the New Year starts in the Village with the annual pantomime on 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th January. If you have not bought your tickets yet please order them from Amanda Rowe. This is, of course, only the first of the many and varied activities which occur in our community each year and which enables us to claim proudly that ours is, unlike so many other rural communities, a community of vitality and liveliness.

This month we are sponsored by John Sargent, Builders, Brumbella, Chase Road and T&F Auto Repairs, Horsley Cross Garage. We thank them for their generous help. Please support them if you can as a way of saying thank you to them.

Material for the February issue of 'The Messenger' should reach the Rectory by Monday, 18th January please. In addition to the sponsors we are always willing and able to carry additional advertisements, either small classified advertisements or larger displayed announcements. If you would like to take advantage of this facility, please contact our Treasurer, Len Christodoulides who can explain the charges and take a booking.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Our meeting was held at 'Berriedale' on 2nd December, followed by a social evening with lots of goodies to eat. Many thanks to all members who contributed. Our next meeting is the Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday, 7th January at 7.30pm at the Chairman's house.

Vicky Griffiths.

J. S. SARGENT

BUILDER * PLUMBER * DECORATOR

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START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT

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Who also holds the Diploma for Contemporary Social Dance & Dance Exercise at ARDLEIGH VILLAGE HALL on Mondays & Wednesdays

NEW TERM COMMENCES 11 JANUARY, 1993

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GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

A new year is upon us, we have enjoyed 1992 with happy memories and companionship, so now let us look forward to 1993. Our first guest of the year will be Mr. Ian Rose of Mistley who, at the January meeting, will be showing us his excellent slides of a 'Cashmere Experience. The competition - a floral Christmas card. *Mildred Purkis*

CARPET BOWLS.

Our Open evening in November brought us four people who watched and then tried the game, we hope to soon welcome them as new members. The end of December saw us half-way through the

league matches and we had managed twenty-five points, an improvement on previous years at this stage.

A singles tournament is running on club evenings at the moment. Each member playing against every other member one game of five ends and the highest number of shots achieved at the end of the competition decides the trophy winner. An update on that next month.

New dates to note: 13th January away match. 20th home match. 21st Club evening. 27th Club evening. 4th February Club evening. 5th Away match. 10th Home match. 11th Club evening. 17th Club evening. 24th Away match. 25th Club night.

1st GREAT BROMLEY BROWNIES.

The Brownies have had a very eventful and successful Autumn Term. We have tidied up the hut, made Christmas cards and presents for our parents and had a bonfire party round Brown Owl's house. We decided to raise money to help people less fortunate than ourselves as a special Christmas Good Turn. We held a Sponsored Sing which raised £120 and a Grand Sale for Sangam and Entertainments Extravaganza which raised another £60. All the money will go to help children in India. We were also the hostesses this year for the Vivian Chapman shield competition which was held in September. This is an annual event for the Brownies in the Manningtree District. Lawford Brownies won the competition this year and a good time was certainly had by everybody.

As well as all the other activities we have still had time to work for badges. Congratulations to Gemma on receiving her Rainbow badge, Jeni Footpath, Kelly Road and let Birthday, Katie B Animal Lover, Pack Holiday and Venture, Kizzy Needlecraft Level I and Craft, Beth Venture, Joanne Caley belated 2nd and 3rd birthday, Joanne Cobbold 3rd birthday and Sophie 2nd Birthday. We also welcome Katie D, Emily and Zara to our Pack.

Finally we would like to say a big Thank You to every-one who has helped and supported us in the last year and wish you all a Happy 1993.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE.

I would personally like to thank stallholders, helpers and everyone who donated items for raffle and stalls, to make the Fayre on 5th December such a success. The profit to the Village Hall and WI funds was £567.25 each. *Jean Wright.*

KITCHEN CORNER.

After all the rich foods of Christmass, something plainer might appeal. Here is a recipe from a collection of old Essex recipes produced by Great Oakley WEA branch and collected by Josephine Snow.

Betty Birketts Marmalade Tart

A recipe from her grandmother, probably about two hundred years old.

Pastry: 4oz plain flour, pinch of salt, 1oz lard, 1oz margarine.

Make a shortcrust pastry and roll out to line a 7" tin.

Filling: 2oz butter, 2 tablespoons caster sugar, 2 rounded tablespoons marmalade, 1 egg, 2 tablespoons milk and 1 tablespoon of SR flour.

Cream butter and sugar, stir in marmalade. Beat egg, milk and flour together then add to butter mixture and beat well. Pour into pastry case. Bake in a hot oven for 30 to 40 minutes until golden brown. Serve cold with cream if liked. *Jill Frostick.*

THE GARDEN IN JANUARY.

Tidy around the flower beds removing any dead leaves and stems which may be harbouring pests and diseases, do not compost this waste, it is better to burn it. As your spring bulbs start to emerge carefully loosen the soil surface with a hand fork which will help to aerate the soil, add a top dressing of Gromore or bone meal about 4oz to the square yard. Propagate carnations by layering and cuttings, also do root cuttings of anchusa and border phlox. Get your orders in early for seed potatoes, if you want early crops you will need to chit them, to get some strong healthy shoots. Leeks if you want some good sized ones sow a few seeds in pots under glass in January, plant out when about pencil thick, order seeds as soon as possible. Try to keep off lawns if there has been heavy snow, also check any shrubs with ties in case any have worn or broken. Watch out for bird damage to buds on fruit trees, plums currants etc., try to net if possible. Put your web feet away and hope for a little drier weather soon. *Fred Wickham.*

MORE ABOUT THE GUILDHALL, GREAT BROMLEY.

Have you noticed a wall tablet in the North Aisle of the Parish church of S. George? the inscription reads: In memory of Robert Rea, William Siday and William Wiles of this parish, yeomen. By a deed dated 7th January, 1665, they gave to Thomas Bowes, Esq., and other Trustees all that tenement called Guildhall in this parish, with lands thereto belonging, for the maintenance of the poor, also lands and tenements called Galfreid Barn with ten acres, Grangers with Twelve acres, Baron with three acres and half, Hawkins lecton and Crofts with four acres, all in this parish, for repairing and ornamenting this Church. The undermentioned trustees from respect to the worthy benefactors have erected this monument AD 1794.

The Revd. Brooke Hurlock, Thomas Baines, Robert Broadstreet, Esq., Joseph Nunn, Henry Gardener, William Lugar, Philip Smith, Alexander Smith, John Gardener, William Gardener. We will take another look at the Guildhall later. *John Appleby.*

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 3rd January Burnt Heath 11.00am

Sunday 10th January Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 17th January Elmstead 11.00am

Sunday 24th January Burnt Heath 11.00am

Sunday 31st January Balls Green 11.00am

S. GEORGE'S YOUTH CLUB.

Since moving the time of the weekly meetings, some of the helpers now find it impossible to continue with their assistance. Additional helpers are URGENTLY needed to ensure that this very well supported Village activity can continue. If you can spare one or two Wednesday evenings each week from 5-6.30pm please contact Mrs. Suzanne Abbott, Fir Tree Cottage, Cowey Green as soon as possible. The meetings resume after the Christmas holidays on Wednesday, 20th January, 1993.

PUZZLE CORNER.

The answers to last month's puzzle are: Taximeter cabriolet, omnibus, pianoforte, telephone, perambulator, reffridgerator.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

Family Service: After a great deal of thought, it has been decided to alter our Sunday Service arrangements for the first Sunday of each month. Instead of the parish communion we will have a less formal Family Service which we hope will be suitable for all members of the family, children, parents and friends. At most of these special services we are planning to use, for the time being, the hymn book which S. George's School use so that children who come will be able to sing hymns that are familiar to them. On very infrequent occasions during the year, when the first Sunday is a major Church Festival, we will have the Family Communion Service. On looking through the calendar it seems that the only occasion this year will be Palm Sunday, 13th April, when we will have the usual blessing and distribution of palm crosses. The first of these Family Services will take place on SUNDAY, 3rd JANUARY at 10.30am.

The Feast of the Epiphany.

Twelfth Night, the feast of the Epiphany, falls on Wednesday, 6th January. On that day we recall the visit of the Wise Men to the stable at Bethlehem. There will be a Sung Eucharist in S. George's Church at 8.00pm when we will be joined by members of S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh.

Children's Gift Service - Bosnia.

A really delightful and well attended Christmass service was held in S. George's Church on 13th December, followed by a very enjoyable tea in the school arranged by Olive Sparling and Yvonne Cobbold. I would like to express my most grateful thanks to all who contributed gifts which were sent to refugees and displaced persons in Bosnia through the Manningtree Refugee Concern. Thirty sacks of excellent clothing, blankets, toys and other good were sent. Thank you all for your wonderful support. *The Rector.*

The Bromley Messenger February 1993


On page three you will find a booking form for small advertisements and announcements which we hope to include in future issues of 'The Messenger'. In this way we hope to make this an even more useful publication, and it will help us in the financing of the publication. We do hope that this will be a useful innovation and one which readers will want to use. If you do not wish to use this means of publicising your wants this month, please tear out and keep the booking form for future use. If you do mislay it further separate copies will be kept at the Rectory and can be yours for the asking!

This month we are sponsored by The Cross Inn and Motel, Burnt Heath, Ardleigh Road (230282), and Greenacre Boarding Cattery, Briar Road (230436). We thank them very much for their support and hope that in turn, our thanks to them will be shown by our support of them. It will help if contributions for the March issue can be sent to the Rectory no later than Wednesday, 10th February please.

PIRATES AHOY.

Once again our congratulations must go to the Pantomime Group for their really splendid pantomime Pirates Ahoy. Not a 'traditional' production, it was nevertheless most appealing, and excellent entertainment value. This year it was written and produced again by Dave Underwood whose talents in this direction are well known to all of us. The cast was so large that it is not possible to mention individual persons, but all who took part obviously not only enjoyed their parts, but also gave performances of the highest possible standards. One aspect of the pantomime which appealed to me was the very high standard of the dancing sequences, especially those performed by the young children. Well done everybody. We look forward to next January and another memorable performance.

THE CROSS INN & MOTEL
Keith and Cherie Avis.
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**PERSONAL ATTENTION BY THE PROPRIETORS
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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT SECTION.

We start our Classified Advertisement Section beginning with the March issue of the Bromley Messenger. Why not raise some money on that unwanted article or advertise through our column for the item you have always wanted and never been able to get? Under the Personal Column you could wish someone a happy birthday or anniversary or congratulate them on passing an exam or their driving test. Fifteen words for £2.00, your phone number free for one insertion and £5.00 for three insertions. Please send your advertisement or message together with your remittance to Len Christodoulides not later than 10th of each month for insertion in the next issue of Classified Advertisements. Please use the form below.

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To: Len Christodoulides, Magnolia House, Bromley Road, Frating, Colchester CO7 7DR.

Please include the undermentioned advertisement for one/three insertions. I enclose cash/cheque for £... (Please make cheque payable to Bromley Messenger).

Advertisers Name :

Address:

Telephone No

BLUE PETER EYE APPEAL.

Charlotte Knappett and Claire Taylor are holding a Bring-and-Buy sale for the above appeal on the 6th February at 2.30pm to 4.30pm in the barn at Brundells Farm, off Frating Road, Great Bromley. Please come along and support this very worthwhile event. Any queries please ring 250040.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

At our February meeting nostalgia will no doubt play a part in our enjoyment of the records Mr. Brown will be playing to us on his gramophone.

The competition: a small cream jug. *Mildred Purkis.*

CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL.

Would readers please note that Mr. H. P. Booty, Clerk to the Great Bromley Parish Council, now lives at 93 Harwich Road, Colchester C04 3BX and his telephone number is 864328.

KITCHEN CORNER.

This month a recipe from the WI monthly magazine 'Home and Country' for a banana teabread. Serve this plain or buttered, but it is best kept a day in an airtight container before eating.

7oz self raising flour

¼ level teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

¼ - ½ teaspoon ground allspice

4oz butter or margarine

6oz caster or light soft brown sugar

2 eggs

1 lb ripe bananas

3oz chopped mixed nuts grated rind of 1 orange or lemon (optional)

Line a loaf tin 9"x5" with greased paper or non-stick baking parchment. Sift flour, bicarb, spice into bowl. Cream fat and sugar until light and fluffy then beat in eggs and finally flour. Peel and mash bananas and add to mixture with nuts and rinds if used. Mix well, put into prepared tin and level the top. Cook 350° F about 1¼ hours until well risen and firm to the touch. Cool on a wire rack. Wrap in foil or clingfilm when cold and store in airtight container. *Jill Frostick.*

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

Our Annual General Meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths on 7th January with twenty-one members attending. To the members who were not well enough to attend we wish them a speedy return to good health and look forward to seeing them soon. The next meeting at the Seven Rivers Chapel will be on Thursday, 4th February when Mr. Canham will be talking to us, with slides, on conifers.

'Tree Worship', a thing of the past, did you know that the Oak, the tree of Thor the Scandinavian God of thunder who protected his worshippers against the dangers of thunder and lightning. The acorn shaped bobbins we see attached to our blindcords were originally devised as charms to safeguard the home against the damage caused by storms. *Vicky Griffiths.*

THE GARDEN IN FEBRUARY.

Keep an eye on emerging bulbs, remove weeds and loosen soil surface around them to help them push through very important in clay soils, feed with a light feed of bonemeal or Gromore. Cut back clematis for those that flower on new growth, cut to three buds on Jackmania. Sow early peas in a cold frame or under cloches, sow some early lettuce, plant sets of shallots from early February, sow parsnips early February. Buy in early potato seed for sprouting in trays. Finish fruit pruning and protect buds from birds, they are vandals in early spring. Get ready for a summer show. *Fred Wickham.*

S. GEORGE'S (CE) CONTROLLED SCHOOL.

On Friday, 29th January, Mrs. Margaret Pedder who has been clerical and welfare assistant at the school for the past eight years retired, and to mark the long, loyal and friendly service she has given, a presentation from children, parents, staff and governors was made to her at the school assembly on that day. This term we welcome some new members of staff to the school:

Mrs. Harrington, clerical assistant.

Mrs. M. Brown, welfare assistant.

Mrs. P. A. Maggs, headteachers relief Wednesdays.

If you see the children coming to school in weird and wonderful outfits on Friday the 5th it will be because it is UNICEF National Non-Uniform Day. This is the children's own day to show that they care about children in other countries. They pay a small fee (25 pence) for the privilege of wearing clothes of their own choice and the funds raised in this way will be sent to help towards the UNICEF education programme in Zambia.

Would you like to know what the school is like? If so you need a S. George's School tea towel with portraits of the children and staff. These are only £3 each from the PTA Committee members or to be sold at the Easter Fayre on Tuesday, 30th March.

S. MARY'S CHURCH LITTLE BROMLEY.

Although S. Mary's Church, Little Bromley, is still in the process of being repaired and restored by the Redundant Churches Fund, it is now possible to open the church for visitors. The church is locked at all times but a key may be obtained from either Mr. W. H. C. Walker, New House, Little Bromley, The Post Office, Shop Road, Little Bromley or The Rectory, Great Bromley. The Redundant Churches Fund has recently published a very interesting, illustrated history of the church. Copies can be obtained from the key holders, price 40 pence each. I am informed by the Redundant Churches Fund that they hope to have completed all the current repairs and restoration by the late summer or early autumn. When and if this is so, there will be a special service in the church to mark the completion of the work. *Rector*

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

There will be a light lunch party in aid of S. Georges Church at the Hollies, Colchester Road, on Sunday, 7th February from 12 noon until 2.00pm. Tickets are £2 each and include an exotic raffle. Please ring in advance to book your lunch. All are invited.

COMMUNITY HELP SCHEME.

Several parishioners have been in hospital lately and at times transport for visits or to doctors, or for collection of medicines etc., has been difficult. Anyone prepared to go on a list as a possible occasional driver when the need arises is asked to contact any Parish Councillor or Jean Harding.

GRUESOME GOINGS ON IN LITTLE BROMLEY.

An inquest was held at Little Bromley on 10th April, 1571, before William Vernon Gent, the coroner. The body of John Elder of Little Bromley, aged 74, was on view.

Fourteen inhabitants swore on oath that John Robbins, alias Roberts, and Richard Wilson, his servant, of Great Bromley, sawyer, on 5th March, 1571, at about ten o'clock at night, assaulted John Elder in his house. Wilson held him on his bed while his master John Robbins struck him a mortal blow with a dagger on his right cheek and then strangled him. Both pleaded 'Not Guilty' but the verdict was 'Guilty'. What a lot of queries arise from this case. Why did the accused do this deed? Perhaps some day I shall come across a document which tells us about the punishment meted out to both John Robbins and his servant Richard Wilson. Did some of the wood used in the parish church come from the sawpits of the accused? *John Appleby.*

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION.

This month's great news is that Princess Diana has agreed to become patron of the HDA. This will be a wonderful boost for the families afflicted and we look forward to greater awareness of the general public to this hereditary condition. The February meeting on 24th in the Chapel at Seven Rivers at 10.30am will include a film 'A Family Apart' We feel there may well be some who would like to see this again, a true account of an East Anglian family known to me. All are welcome to come to this, or any meeting. Please. contact Jean Harding for further details if needed.

CARPET BOWLS.

Our last club meeting of 1992 took on a festive air when seasonal food and drink was served and the end of the evening was spent playing 'fun bowls' when no serious practise was intended. However, we started this year off with an away match at Wix resulting in a win for the home side. Club meetings resumed on 20th January, a bit later this year owing to the local pantomime. In view of the long break no further news of the club singles competition. We are

still trying to hold our place in the league table and February looks like being a busy month match-wise, but win or lose, we hope to have some very enjoyable evenings. *Nancy Kempster.*

GREAT BROMLEY WI.

There was a good turn out of members for our January meeting and all enjoyed listening to Mr. Brawns sixty year old, much travelled, wind-up gramophone. If you have not heard Deanna Durbin and Richard Tauber on original seventy-eights you aint heard nothing! The next meeting is on Wednesday, 3rd February, at Jean Wright's house for a video evening. The competition is a home-made Valentine Card. Early warning to all those who admit to being over sixty and live in Great Bromley: keep the afternoon of Thursday, 13th May, free as we would like you to come to a party. More details later.

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 7th February Elmstead 11.00am
Sunday 14th February Burnt Heath 11.00am
Sunday 21st February Balls Green 11.00am
Sunday 28th February Elmstead 11.00am

LENT.

The season of Lent commences on Ash Wednesday, 23th February. There will be a service of Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at 7.30pm in S. George's church. A leaflet with all details of the parish's observance of Lent will be available in church by 14th February.

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES - ARDLEIGH AND GREAT BROMLEY.

Sunday 7th February 6.30pm Seven Rivers Home Chapel
Sunday 14th February 6.30pm S. Mary's, Ardleigh
Sunday 21st February 6.30pm 8. George's Church
Sunday 28th February 6.30pm S. Mary's, Ardleigh

HOLY BAPTISM.

On Sunday, 16th February, Emma Susan Cole, the baby daughter of Peter and Angela Cole, was baptised at S. George's church.

DEATHS.

On Tuesday, 22nd December, the funeral service for Keith Hazell was held in S. George's church. Mr. Hazell was well known in the village for many years as the proprietor of his transport company and mobile home sales in Harwich Road. Just after his marriage he sold the business and moved to Spain. During the autumn he became ill and came home for treatment.

Unfortunately his illness was so severe that he died in Colchester General Hospital just before Christmas. A large number of friends and family gathered in S. George's church to pay tribute to him. Our sincerest sympathy goes to his widow, Gwen, in her very sad and unexpected loss.

George Barnett, a resident of Hamilton Lodge for eight years died in January and was cremated at Weeley Crematorium on 19th January. George was a well known personality in the village and particularly enjoyed coming to S. George's church on Sundays, as well as enjoying all the village activities. He will be sadly missed by all his friends at the Lodge, in the village and of course, by his brother and sister who live in London.

Billy Skoot, who died on 12th January at Seven Rivers Cheshire Home was buried in S. George's churchyard on 20th January. Billy had been a resident at the Cheshire Home since 1984 and had suffered since birth from cerebral palsy. This confined him to a wheel chair and made it very difficult for him to communicate. Although this was most frustrating to him, he lived most happily and had a most warm personality and derived great pleasure in all the activities of the home. He will be missed by many friends, residents and staff at Seven Rivers. Our sympathy for her loss goes to his mother.

Mrs. Mildred Woods died recently at The Grand Nursing Home, Frinton, and was cremated at Weeley Crematorium on 1st January. Older parishioners will remember her in Little Bromley where she was born (Mildred Payne) -and where she lived for many years before moving to Little Bentley and later to Lawford. She leaves her husband Charles, her two sons, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren and to them we offer our sympathy. We pray that these former residents may rest in peace.

PARISH CHARITIES.

There are five charities set up for the benefit of people living in Great and Little Bromley. In Great Bromley they are the Poorlands Charity, the Jacobs Charity and the Nicholls Charity. In Little Bromley they are the Crossman Charity and the Warrens Charity.

The Poorlands Charity was set up as long ago as 1665 when a tenement called Guildhall was conveyed to the parish for the maintenance of the poor. This house was eventually sold and the proceeds were invested by the Charity Commissioners to produce an annual income to provide for the elderly and widows in the parish. In 1852 Mary Jacobs left by will the sum of £100 to the Rector and Churchwardens of Great Bromley, the interest on which was to be distributed annually in bread at the discretion of the Churchwardens to the most aged widows and deserving poor in the parish. This distribution of bread continued annually until as recently as the 1950s when it was decided to give cash sums in lieu.

The Nicholls Charity was set up by Mr. Nicholls, formerly of Morants, to provide sacks of coal for the deserving poor. As is the case of the Jacobs Charity cash is now given instead of coal. This year these three charities have been distributed in Great Bromley, and as the interest this year produced more money than expected, the number of recipients was increased. Because of the changes ordered by the Charities Act 1992, it is proposed that these three charities will be combined in one charity with the distribution continuing as usual in January of each year. Neither of the Little Bromley charities have been used for very many years and the trustees are in correspondence with the Charity Commissioners to find a way of revivifying them. The Crossman Charity was set up by a former Rector of Little Bromley to provide a copy of a book on the church catechism which he had written to all the pupils at Little Bromley Sunday School. The trustees are trying to work out with the Charity Commissioners a way of using this money in a way which would be acceptable to the spirit of the wishes of the Reverend Henry Crossman who set it up over two hundred years ago.

In 1809 Elizabeth Warren left £200 to the village of Little Bromley, the annual interest of which was to be used to purchase coats and gowns for the deserving poor of the parish. This is a charity which has not been used for very many years. In view of the Charities Act, the administration of this charity has now been passed over to Little Bromley Parish Council who choose the trustees. They are corresponding with the Charity Commissioners to find a way of reviving this charity and they hope that it will be possible to recommence its distribution. When the decision of the Charity Commissioners has been received concerning all these charities, information about them will be published in 'The Messenger'.

The Bromley Messenger March 1993

I have been asked by several people to make alterations in the list of Organisations and Association Contacts which are printed on the inside front cover of 'The Messenger'. In order to keep our costs down our printer makes a plate to print these names at the beginning of our year, that is for the May issue. This means that we must keep the list as it stands for the whole year's issues. I am sorry that we cannot make alterations during the year as it would involve the cost of making a completely new plate. However, this is the time when we can make such changes and, as most organisations are holding their General Meetings at this time of the year, it seems to fit in with our needs. If there are any alterations to be made for the May issue onwards please can the details be sent to me as soon as you know them and, in any case, before the date when we need contributions for the May issue which will be Monday, 12th April. It is necessary to have a fairly early date for the receipt of contributions in order that we can receive the magazine from the printer before the last Sunday in the month.

The Treasurer has written on page 3 about the financial position and the future of 'The Messenger'. It may be necessary to find another way of producing finance to ensure our continued publication. If anyone has any ideas about this either the Treasurer or I will be pleased to hear from you. It will be necessary some time during the coming year to find someone else to edit and type the magazine. If anyone would be interested in doing this important work for the villages perhaps they would like to discuss it with me. I will expect a very long list of applicants!

This month our excellent printers, Hot-Line Printers, 24 Priors Way, Coggeshall, are sponsoring the magazine. I thank them not only for their sponsorship, but also for their very willing help and co-operation. Copy for the April issue to reach the Rectory by Monday, 15th March please.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR TREASURER.

I have just sent out my annual sponsorship request letters. We have enough money to print this and the April issue. Unless I get some response quickly we shall have to review publication, perhaps one issue every two months. If there is anyone who would like to either take over my position or can assist in encouraging more sponsors or advertisers, please contact me as soon as possible. We could ask you all for £2.40 per annum (as Frating do) to pay for it though personally I am against this as this magazine is your magazine and published by the Parish Council. We have got a few small advertisements this month, let us have some feedback from you as one way forward. *Len Christodoulides.*

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

Parish Council meetings will be held in the Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm, except for the meeting on the 18th March.

25th February.

18th March 7.00pm Council meeting and 7.30pm Annual Assembly:

22nd April & 20th May.

Parishioners are welcome at all meetings and any points they wish to make may be put to the Council during Public Participation. *H. P. Booty.*

LITTLE BROMLEY METHODIST CHAPEL.

Following the very successful Christmas Carol Evening held at the Chapel at Little Bromley, there will be a Service held at 10.30am on Sunday, 7th March. This will be a Guides and Brownies Parade Service for all the family whatever their age, but with special emphasis towards the young people present, some of whom will be taking part. The Service will be followed by refreshments to allow time for a chat with friends and neighbours.

It is also planned to hold a meeting in the Chapel on Mothering Sunday, 21st March at 3.30pm. It is hoped that the children of the village will come along to make a small gift to be presented to their mothers during a short service of thanksgiving.

During the summer months it is hoped to arrange other activities at the Chapel and these will be notified in the Post Office and in the Bromley Messenger. There is also a House Group held at Green Hedges, Little Bromley, on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm to which you are cordially invited. The aim of the group is to offer mutual support, friendship and fellowship. If anyone would like any further information, or is in need of transport, please telephone me

Maralyn Bambridge.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB.

On Thursday, 4th February we had a very interesting talk on conifers. Mr. Canham also showed us slides which encouraged the asking of questions. The conifer is usually looked upon as having green foliage but we were pleasantly surprised to see yellow, blue and bronze, and the one which sheds its leaves in winter does not mean you have to chop it down! 'Tree Worship' The yew retains a foothold in both pagan and Christian camps for it retains its ancient role as the guardian of the dead in our churchyards. Its evergreen leaves are perpetual reminders of everlasting life in mankind and nature.

Our next meeting is on 4th March in the Seven Rivers Chapel when a speaker from Otley College will be talking on the vegetable garden. *Vicky Griffiths.*

GREAT BROMLEY AND FRATING PLAYGROUP.

As we write to you this term we have lots of spaces for playgroup and toddler children so please come along with your child. We meet at the Village Hall in Great Bromley on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9.30 to 12.30 playgroup, and 9.45 to 11.45 for toddlers. We do have lots of fundraising events for this term and the summer term so please come along and support them! We are holding a Children's Fashion Show on Wednesday, 24th March with children's clothes at very reasonable prices from 10am to 12am, so do come along. Also we are hoping to hold a tabletop sale in the near future so look out for notices.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL, GREAT BROMLEY.

The PTA is holding a 60's Night on Saturday, 13th March from 8.00pm until midnight at Great Bromley Village Hall. Tickets, available from Amanda Rowe cost £4.50 and include a chicken and chips supper. Silver Lining 60's and Roadshow Disco. (60's dress optional).

You are invited to join the parents of pupils of our school for an evening of entertainment on 18th March at S. George's School, Great Bromley from 8.00pm to 10.00pm, when Charlie Wilson, professional storyteller, will enthral you with stories, music and song from around the world. £1 entrance fee includes refreshments and tickets are available at the school. *Pat Fitzgerald.*

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP.

A big 'thank you' to all who supported us this year with 'Pirates Ahoy' by helping with the show and for taking the time to watch and donate to our Treetops Fund. On Wednesday, 17th February, members of the group presented a cheque for £650 to the staff and residents at Treetops and our thanks go to you all in raising such a sum.

The AGM will be held at the Village Hall on 25th March at 8.00pm. Do come along, we will be pleased to see you there and you will be able to order your video of the show. *Nigel Rowe.*

FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

The meeting this month will be on 18th March when the speaker will be Barbara Gowlett, Advice and Information Officer from Age Concern. *Vera Biddis.*

NEIGHBOURHOOD HELP SCHEME.

We now have a few volunteers prepared to be called upon to help when all else fails, for transport needed for hospital or surgery visits etc. Please phone Jean Harding (230425) or James Wild (230679) initially and we will see what can be done.

THANK YOU.

Robert and Jean Harding thank all who came, or contributed towards the soup and cheese party in aid of the Church and report that £156 was raised. Their thanks too, for all the good wishes and cards which accompanied it.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED: A large shed in good condition. 1 Please telephone Mrs. L. Pinhey, Forge Cottage, Hall Road, Great Bromley, Colchester on Colchester 230126.

FOR SALE: Hitachi music centre: stereo: Dolby: CRO2: complete with speakers and shelf unit for £35.00. Mrs. N. F. Grant, 'Little Paddocks', Frating Road, Great Bromley. Telephone (0206) 251759.

WANTED: Experienced dressmaker with creative flair to make trousers, skirts and jackets for me. Mrs. N. F. Grant, 'Little Paddocks', Frating Road, Great Bromley. Telephone (0206) 251759
FOR SALE: Erika portable typewriter: very good condition: recently serviced: £25.00. Mrs. N. F. Grant, 'Little Paddocks', Frating Road, Great Bromley. Telephone (0206) 251759.

We think the idea of running a Classified Advertisement Section is excellent and wish you every success with it. We would also like to take this opportunity to say how much we enjoy the Bromley Messenger and how grateful we are for the dedication and the effort of the contributors. Although neither of us are in the position at the moment, to actively participate in the community, we really do appreciate the feeling of being a part of it by reading about the Village's news.

John and Norma Grant.

SINGING FOR FUN.

This is what the Leigh Singers do every Monday afternoon. We go to entertain at Residential Homes and local clubs, but we urgently need some more soprano voices. Anyone interested please contact Jill Frostick (250263).

THE GARDEN IN MARCH.

Vegetables, if you have not ordered your seed potatoes visit your garden centre soon as stocks soon run out, buy only certified stock of reliable names varieties, set them up to shoot in a frost free place and when the shoots are 1" long they can be planted out, put some tubers under polythene for an early crop. Onion sets, shallots and broad beans can be planted this month; I sow my peas and beans in plastic cups then plant them out to prevent the mice having them. Tip prune summer fruiting raspberries to encourage side shoots, cover strawberries with cloches, the fruit will ripen early. Lawns can have their first cut this month, treat moss with lawn sand or moss killer in March. Keep pets and children away from lawns when applying chemicals. Herbaceous perennials can be lifted and divided, discard the old worn out centres of the crowns, hardy annuals can be sown as soon as the soil warms up, keep hoeing in between the plants and mulch with compost. Finish all the pruning, spray against pests, keep weeding and get the half hardy plants set out in trays in the greenhouse; do not get too many back aches! *Fred Wickham.*

KITCHEN CORNER.

A meatless recipe for Lent, this comes from Sarah Brown's 'Vegetable Kitchen'. Adapt the choice of vegetables according to your own taste.

Crust:

2 lbs peeled potatoes, 4 oz Cheddar cheese, ½ onion peeled, 2 tablespoons oil and salt and pepper.

Grate potatoes, cheese and onion by hand or in a food processor. Mix in oil and seasoning. Line a 9" pie dish building up the sides to form a shell. Bake 45 minutes at 350° F until starting to brown.

Filling:

½ onion chopped, 3 leeks washed and chopped finely, 1 lb carrots scrubbed and diced, 1 small cauliflower divided into florets, ½ lb mushrooms sliced, 2 tablespoons oil and 2 teaspoons fresh parsley or rosemary.

Heat oil and fry onion, leeks, carrots and cauliflower slowly for 5-10 minutes turning often. Add mushrooms and cook with the lid on for 5 minutes, season and add herbs. Pile vegetables into baked crust, sprinkle with 4 oz grated cheese and 1 tablespoon chopped parsley. Bake for 20 minutes, serve hot with a cheese or tomato sauce and side salad or buttered spinach.

It would be nice to have some reader contributions for this column! Please write in with tips, hints or favourite recipes to me. Jill Frostick, Grove House, Frating Road, Great Bromley.

VARIOUS TRADES AND SKILLS OF YESTERDAY.

Little Bromley Number I.

Baptism Registers are treasure houses, this is where one finds out what an ancestor did for a living. Let us look at Little Bromley Registers. John Church, blacksmith, was registered as the father of Sarah Jane by his wife Elizabeth (nee Hunt) in April 1813. The child was born on 10th March 1813, a detail useful for the family tree.

William Church, blacksmith, brother of John, fathered a son in 1814. James Eade, blacksmith, appears in 1830.

John Cole, thatcher and Maria (nee Kenningale) his wife, had a son born to them on 2nd July 1813 and he was promptly baptised John Kinningale Cole, another useful detail for family history, on 25th July by Mr. Thomas Newman, Rector of Little Bromley.

Samuel Cole, thatcher, appears in 1818.

Carpentry was in the hands of Sampson Segars 1814-1835; Samuel Bowell 1821-1827; John Fordham 1823-1834. Joseph Steggals, wheelwright, of Lawford returned to the parish with his wife Sarah of the Boutell family of Little Bromley for the children's baptisms 1819-1832.

To purchase a pair of shoes one went to James Jefferies, from 1825 until at least 1859 when he received listing in the Post Office Directory of Essex. Have you researched your family tree? *John Appleby*.

CHURCH REGISTERS.

HOLY BAPTISM (Correction).

Emma Susan Cole was baptised on Sunday, 17th January, 1993, and not as reported in our last issue. My apologies to her family (Editor).

BURIAL.

Winifred Margaret Peck who died in Severalls Hospital on Sunday, 7th February, after being a patient there for thirteen years, and who had lived with her husband Frederick in Great Bromley for many years, was buried in S. George's Churchyard on Thursday, 11th February. May she rest in peace.

METHODIST SERVICES.

Sunday 7th March Burnt Heath 11.00am

Sunday 14th March Balls Green 11.00am

Sunday 21st March Elmstead 11.00am

Sunday 28th March Burnt Heath 11.00am

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Home on Monday, 15th March at 6.45pm. After the business meeting videos of the work of the Foundation and the life of Lord Cheshire will be shown, together with adequate refreshments. Information will be available about the proposed extension to provide accommodation for five more residents which are to be completed by the end of the year. All who are interested are warmly invited to attend.

The Annual Fete this year will be held on Saturday, 12th June.

HAMILTON LODGE.

The Annual Hamilton Lodge Fete will be held on Saturday, 26th June this year. NOTE: Please could any other organisations who are arranging summer activities please let us know the dates so that they too, can be announced in 'The Messenger' and help the villages to ensure that dates do not overlap.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH NEWS.

The season of Lent commenced on 24th February, a time when Christians are encouraged to learn more of their faith and to engage more positively in Sunday worship and prayer. It is an opportunity for all who have been a little negligent in their duty to God to make a start in more regular spiritual activity, especially by reception of the sacrament of Holy Communion. Lent reminds us that worship, prayer and Christian duties are not a hobby activity to be fitted in whenever we can, but a duty to God which must be performed. On Sunday mornings and evenings in Lent there are special courses of addresses to help develop our faith and commitment, and on Wednesday evenings there is a study group to which all are welcome. As there are no learned theologians among us, all the discussions will be on a very understandable level! Please do attend if you possibly can. The Wednesday evening meetings take place in either Great Bromley or Ardleigh as we are sharing this activity with the congregation of S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh.

Sunday Evensong in Lent:

Sunday 7th March Seven Rivers Cheshire Home

Sunday 14th March S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh
Sunday 21st March S. George's Church Great Bromley
Sunday 28th March S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh
Sunday 4th April Seven Rivers Cheshire Home

Wednesday Evenings in Lent:

Wednesday 3rd March Seven Rivers Cheshire Home
Wednesday 10th March Windsor House, Colchester Road, Ardleigh
Wednesday 17th March Seven Rivers Cheshire Home
Wednesday 24th March Lynton, Dedham Road, Ardleigh
Wednesday 31st March Seven Rivers Cheshire Home
Wednesday 7th April S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh.

FAMILY SERVICE.

The monthly Family Service commenced on 3rd January and continues on every first Sunday of the month. On page 3 of this issue Mrs. Maralyn Bambridge reports on a family service to be held in Little Bromley Methodist Chapel on Sunday, 7th March at 10.30am, the first Sunday in March.

In order not to clash with them Mrs. Bambridge, who will be conducting the service, has invited members of S. Georges to join with them. I am pleased that the PCC has warmly accepted this invitation. In view of this there will be no Family Service at S. George's on 7th March and I hope that many of the regular congregation will be able to support the service at Little Bromley.

However, not everybody will be able to get to Little Bromley so there will also be the service of Parish Communion at S. Georges at the usual time of 10.30am.

Sunday, 21st March is Mothering Sunday. There will be a Family Service at S. George's on that day when posies of flowers will be blessed and distributed to all mothers. Holy Communion will be celebrated as a separate service after the Family Service.

Palm Sunday is on 4th April. Because this is a very special day with the Blessing and Distribution of Palm Crosses and the reading of the Passion of Our Lord, the service on that Sunday will be our normal Parish Communion. Each year kind parishioners make special donations towards the cost of lilies to decorate the church for Easter, given in memory of those who have died. If you would like to donate the cost of a lily, 22 each, Mrs. Margery West, Fryerning, Hall Road, will be pleased to receive your donation.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING.

Advance notice of this meeting at which Churchwardens, PCC members and members of the Deanery Synod are elected is given. It will take place on Tuesday, 20th April at 7.30pm in the Seven Rivers Home Chapel. Before the Meeting the Church Electoral Roll has to be revised. This takes place between Sunday, 28th February and Sunday, 14th March. If anyone wishes their name to be added, the current Roll will be available in the church for checking and application forms, to be returned to the Rector by 14th March, will also be available.

THANK YOU

Finally a word of real thanks to Peter Rowe for making the beautiful wooden Altar Cross which is placed on the Altar on weekdays and also to Peter and Betty for their gift of three new white Offertory Bags for the church.

ST. GEORGE'S YOUTH CLUB
NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Due to demanding commitments I am forced to give up the running of the Youth Club with immediate effect. I have devoted much time and effort to the Youth Club since it started over 4 years ago and feel that it is now time to hand the reins over to someone else who has a little spare time and energy to run the Club. At present we have regular and part-time helpers. Of these, only one has children who actually attend the Youth Club. The others came forward the last time I asked for helpers, because they felt it would be a shame to close the Youth Club down.

The Club is very popular, it has currently over 35 members and continues to expand. We use the Village Hall as a venue which has ample room and facilities. The Club is open from 5 pm. to 6.30 pm. on Wednesday evenings during term time. The leaders/helpers usually arrive at about 4.45 pm. to set up the tuck shop. The children are always encouraged to help with the setting up of the table tennis, etc.

There isn't much to do, other than making sure that nobody gets hurt and keep things at order. In the summer we play rounders and football outside. Everything is left in the Village Hall except the tuck shop. I will happily continue to supply stocks for the tuck shop from Nurdin and Peacocks, as this works out a lot cheaper for the children. I need an adult who is willing to keep the tuck shop boxes at home, in the garage perhaps, and let me know when they need replenishing.

We also need someone to count the money after each Youth Club and put some of the money into the Youth Club account at Lloyds Bank. This does not necessarily need to be one of the helpers. My husband Peter has been doing this task for the past 3 years. It takes about 1/2 hour and it could be done at your own convenience - as long as it is before the next Youth Club meeting.

A letter was recently sent to the parents of each of our members asking for help - we had just ONE positive response. A meeting of the helpers decided, therefore, that there was no alternative now but to close the Youth Club down as from 24th February 1993. Notices have gone up on the Village Notice Boards to inform the children. I feel it is very, very sad that we cannot find anyone to take over from me.

There is no age limit for this post! Anyone who is even slightly interested, please give me a ring, perhaps we can come up with something, so that the children of Great Bromley can have their Youth Club back as soon as possible.

SUZANNE ABBOTT
0206-3230659
NOW

The Bromley Messenger April 1993

You will all have read the letter enclosed in last month's 'Messenger' from Suzanne Abbott concerning S. George's Youth Club. It looked as if this very well supported and necessary organisation was about to close. However the good news is that as a result of this letter Mrs. Diane Spurling from Little Bromley has come to the rescue and has agreed to take over the responsibility of running the club. It is a great joy to know that the opportunity that the young people of the village have to meet regularly .is being maintained and in welcoming Mrs. Spurling, I would like on behalf of the village, to thank her for undertaking this task. Suzanne Abbott has been involved in the club since it first opened in April 1989 and has been the leader for the past three years. The club members, their parents and the village are much in her debt for all the work which she has so unstintingly put into the activities of the club. We all owe her a great debt of thanks for the leadership and effort she has put into the work. Now that she can no longer find the time for this and has had to hand over the running to someone else, we must say "Thank you Suzanne, well done. We will miss you."

We have not yet completely solved the problem of financing the Messenger but we feel that we can go forward with the eighth year of issue in May. The Treasurer acknowledges very gratefully the donations he has received since his letter in last month's issue. In order to minimise costs we propose that, commencing with the May issue each edition must be limited to eight pages. This will save us about £20 per month. It may mean that the editorial pencil may have to be applied to overlong contributions, but I am sure that you would prefer that to the disappearance of the magazine.

I am very pleased to announce that from May, Mrs. Leonie Henderson, Badley Hall, Badley Hall Road, has agreed to take over the editorship. I welcome her and thank her most warmly for undertaking this monthly task.

On laying down the editorship I would like to say how much my wife and I have enjoyed this work and how pleased we are to know that what we started in 1986 is still flourishing. Could contributions for the May issue be sent to the Editor, Mrs. Leonie Henderson, Badley Hall, no later than Tuesday, 14th April please. I will be pleased to receive any alterations or additions to the list of organisations so that they can be included in the next issue.

GREAT BROMLEY YOUTH CLUB.

I would like to introduce myself as Diane. I will be taking over from Suzanne Abbott in the running of St. George's Youth Club. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her on behalf of the Club for her efforts over the last four years and hope I am able to live up to her standards. I would like to thank the helpers who continue to assist in the running of the Club and hope that we will make a good team. I would like to mention that there is still a need for more helpers and bear in mind that you would probably only be needed for 1½ hours per month and occasional outings. If you feel prepared to help in any way please ring me. The Club will be re-opening on Wednesday, 17th March. *Diane Spurling*

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Our speaker for April will be Mr. John Oliver from the Clacton Gardens Department. The competition a teaplate with floral design.

Here is a preliminary announcement. Our Spring Sale will be held on Saturday, 24th April at 2.00pm in the Village Hall. Please help us to make it a success. Thank you. *Mildred Purkis*

HUNTINGDON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION.

There will be a Wine and Cheese Party on Tuesday, 27th April from 6.00pm to 8.00pm at Tymperleys, Trinity Street, Colchester by kind permission of the Mayor of Colchester, Councillor Mary Frank. The Clock Museum will remain open until 7.30pm for the occasion. Tickets, £5 each, from Jean Harding.

GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

All residents of Great Bromley who are over sixty years of age are cordially invited to a party on Thursday, 13th May in the Village Hall at 5.00pm for 5.30pm. Transport can be arranged for you, please phone June Willgress. If you are new to the village and have not been to one of our parties before, do come you will be made most welcome.

There is a new Library Service for the housebound. Contact the Special Services, Prettygate Library, Col- Chester (563700). Someone in the village is already using this service and finds it very useful.

GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday, 28th April at 8.00pm at 1 Fairfield Close, Hare Green. We are looking for new members to join our committee. If you are interested and have a little time to spare occasionally, we only have two fund raising events a year, please come along to the AGM or contact Chris Taylor on 250024 or Carol Ockenden on 251524 for further information. Any new ideas or offers of help would be greatly appreciated.

Gertrude Grant

GREAT BROMLEY AND DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB.

Results of the 100 Club were as follows:

January: 1st Neil Granham, 2nd Mrs. J. Knappett and 3rd Mr. P. Wright.

February: 1st Mr. M. Thorpe, 2nd Miss K. Allam and 3rd Mr. E. Foot.

If anyone is interested in joining at £1 per month or £12 per year please contact Mr. Matthew Foley.

CARPET BOWLS.

The league season is almost at an end, just one more match to go. Our position is about halfway up the league table, a definite improvement on last year. It is good to try and improve our play by entering the League but we must not lose sight of the fact that bowls is for pleasure and our club evenings social events. Newly formed Thorpe came to us for a friendly match and both clubs enjoyed the evening. Joe Canham our most senior and also a founder member has bowled himself into the area final at Braintree in March and we wish him good luck.

This year we have welcomed Evelyn and Cyril Childs as members and hope they continue to enjoy their game. On 27th February eighteen members attended our Annual Dinner at the 'Wooden Fender' and voted the evening a great success. *Nancy Kempster*

COUNTRY AND WESTERN DANCES.

Bert is promoting four Country and Western Dances in the Village Hall in 1993. The first is on Saturday, 1st May another on Saturday 31st July, one on Saturday, 23rd October ending with a 'special' on New Year's Eve.

Four top bands have already been booked so watch for posters or ring Bert on 231428.

THE GARDEN IN APRIL.

The lawns will need regular attention from now on, feed and weed, try to find the cause of moss and treat. Start to sow vegetable seeds now as soon as the soil dries out, broad beans and early peas are a must, also have some lettuce plants in the cold frame to plant out. I prefer 'Little Gem' and 'Tom Thumb'.

Plant blackcurrant bushes right away so that they settle as soon as growth starts, use Weedol to control weeds around fruit bushes. Grow sweet peas for fragrance around the garden, keep pricking out the half-hardy annuals ready for the summer show. Plant a few lilies, there are some good offers in the garden centres, put a little sharp grit around the bulb when planting, also plant gladioli bulbs. Watch for insects which are beginning to show interest, Spray with Sprayday. Get the hoe out of the shed and prepare for the hard work. as soon as the seeds grow, so do the weeds.

The Friendship Club Spring Sale on 24th April will have lots of interesting plants for sale at reasonable prices. *Fred Wickham*

KITCHEN CORNER.

Fresh young rhubarb is one of the delights of this season. Wipe the sticks and cut them into small slices. Bring sugar and water to the boil in a pan and throw in the rhubarb. As soon as it comes to the boil draw off the heat and let stand for a few minutes.

Fruit salad: pour the hot rhubarb onto a mixture of frozen soft fruits (strawberries, raspberries, red or white currants).

Fruit Fool: Delia Smith's way is to strain the rhubarb in a sieve then mix with whipped cream folding it in gently so as not to break up the rhubarb.

Rhubarb and ginger Fool: for this recipe cook the rhubarb in two tablespoons sugar and no water. Process, then add 2-3 tablespoons chopped stem ginger and some of the syrup from the ginger jar. Process briefly. Mix together Fromage Frais and thick yoghurt and blend into the rhubarb mix.

Hot Nutty Cakes to serve with these recipes:

4oz butter, 2oz caster sugar, 2 drops almond essence, icing sugar, 1 egg, 4oz ground almonds, grated zest of lemon.

Cream butter and sugar, beat in egg and almonds, and essence and peel. Bake in individual tartlet tins for 10 minutes in a hot oven. Dredge with icing sugar.

HELP THE AGED.

Many thanks to all the residents in Frating Road who so generously contributed to the collection for this charity enabling me to send in a total of £40. *Jill Frostick*

VARIOUS TRADES AND SKILLS OF YESTERDAY.

Little Bromley Number 2.

At Little Bromley in 1843 John Bull was groom to the Rector. In 1844 William Burton was a servant of C. Nunn, Esq., and proud to have it recorded. Robert Cooper, a Mistlesey seaman, returned to Little Bromley, ancestral home of his wife Martha, for their child Robert John's baptism on 1st March, 1846. James Eade, blacksmith, lived at the Forge, Little Bromley, 1846, and no doubt knew Samuel Southgate, gardener, at the Rectory. Thomas Burgess, blacksmith, rang the anvil, 1854. Frederick Wolfe took over the Forge and 'The Fox and Hounds' by 1856 and gets a space in the Post Office Directory of Essex that same year.

Local thatching was ably practised by Abraham Woollard 1846-1853. Coal was carried by John Jennings 1859. Mr. Carrington Nunn's hounds were trained and cared for by William Barwick, his huntsman, 1850. Little John Cutting Wenden's father was a salesman, we do not know what he sold (the Register is silent about this) but it may have been wool and fleeces. Carrington Nunn at Little Bromley Hall had sheep as his shepherd was Adam Fordham, 1852. These pieces of information add to those given in the Census taken every ten years. *John Appleby*

PUTTING YOUR FEET UP?

When retirement comes to mind
And thoughts of work are left behind
With glorious day of ease and bliss,
Be warned, it's really not like this.
For when employed for worktime pay
Home jobs are subject to delay,
For lack of time just not begun,
Or hurried through, or left half done
Until retirement time is due
When untold leisure looms in View.
It's then the awful truth is learned
That tasks which formerly were spurned
Have now great urgency acquired
And far from being just retired
The days are spent amid turmoil
Of hard and unremitting toil
On work postponed so long ago
Which seems to just expand and grow,
A daunting challenge to one's vigour
Whilst all the time the list gets bigger
With items cropping up each day,
So, don't believe folk when they say
It's one long round of sheer enjoyment,
Retirement? No! It's Re-employment!

A.H.C.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SALE: Upright piano, German, iron framed, over- strung, dark wood. Very good condition. £350.

FOR SALE: Three piece suite, 2x2 seater settees, 1 armchair. Dark oak frame. Brown, fawn, green multi- coloured zip-off covers. £60.

The Rectory, Great Bromley, Colchester. (230344).

NEED HELP with decorating, the garden or general DIY? You supply the materials and I'll supply the labour. Reasonable Rates. Telephone Mr. Steers (0206) 250442.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER.

During this month Christians all over the world will be celebrating the great Festival of Easter. This commemorates those events in Jerusalem many years ago without which there would be no Christian faith today.

Easter is the culmination of a series of historical events in the last week of the life of Jesus, a week we call Holy Week. On the Sunday before Easter, Palm Sunday, we recall that Jesus entered Jerusalem to the acclamation of the crowds who really thought that they were welcoming a mighty and warring king who would rid the country of the hated Romans. As a welcome they tore down palm branches from the hedges, waved them as if they were flags and laid them down before Him like a carpet, all the while singing the chant, Hosannah. Four days later on the evening of Thursday, Maundy Thursday, Jesus gathered His disciples together in an upper room and, after washing their feet and giving them a new command (a mandate - maundy), he shared a final meal with them, the Last Supper. This he ordered His followers to continue in perpetuity "Do this in remembrance of me." Regularly week by week, the Church has throughout the ages obeyed this command by joining in this common meal, the Holy Communion. On Maundy Thursday Christians gather together to continue this tradition. Following the meal Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane to spend the night in prayer where, early in the morning, a band of Roman soldiers and representatives of the Jewish temple, Priests and others, came to seek Him out and to arrest Him. Following the arrest there followed the trials, at the last one of which the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, sentenced Jesus to the death of a common criminal, by crucifixion. On the day of this death, Good Friday, the crowd who had welcomed Jesus as he entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday came to jeer Him, this time, not shouting Hosannah, but Crucify Him. Over the centuries this day has been considered as a special day of fasting and prayer, the most Holy Day in the year for Christians.

Because of this it is sad to see that in our generation Good Friday has developed into one of the chief shopping and holiday days of the year. Following the death on the Cross the Body of Jesus was buried in a tomb where late on Saturday, Holy Saturday, a group of women, Mary, Mary Magdalen and Salome went to pray and pay their respects. To their great distress and consternation they found that the tomb was empty and, meeting what they thought was a gardener, they realised that Jesus had risen from the dead. This is the great news that they shared first with the disciples, and it was the first announcement of the resurrection of Jesus which the whole world celebrates on Sunday, Easter Day.

For Christians the resurrection is the most important of all the festivals; it is the basis of our faith and is the fulfillment of all the prophecies of the Messiah found in the Old Testament, as well as the fulfillment of the words of Jesus Himself. It is the sure and vital proof of God's plan for man.

Over the centuries the Christian Church has marked Holy Week and Easter with special acts of worship and ceremonies and these are continued to this day. On Palm Sunday Palm Crosses are blessed and given to those who come to worship. On Maundy Thursday the Holy Communion is celebrated in the evening followed by a silent watch .Of prayer in a darkened church. On Good Friday the Hot Cross Buns now sold immediately after Christmass and properly should be eaten only on this day, remind us of the Cross and the death of Jesus. In church on this day the Cross which has been covered by a veil is solemnly uncovered to proclaim that "He died that we might be forgiven." In the evening of Holy Saturday, ceremonies to mark the resurrection include the lighting of a large candle, the Paschal Candle, and the joyous singing of Easter hymns and Alelujah. The sadness of Good Friday changes dramatically to great joy and happiness at the glorious resurrection.

Easter Day is the one day in each year when all confirmed members of the church are expected to receive Holy Communion and to join in the thanksgiving for the rising of Jesus from the dead.

Easter eggs are given as a symbol of the events. The egg which looks lifeless is the source of new life when hatched. It shows us how from the disaster of the Crucifixion of Jesus comes the joy of knowing that God raised Him from the dead to proclaim the reign of God over the world. I hope that you will want to join with us at S. George's in some of the services of Holy Week and Easter.

Sunday 4th April PALM SUNDAY 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Blessing of palms and Parish Communion 6.30pm Evensong at Cheshire Home
Tuesday 6th April 10.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday 7th 7.30pm Holy Communion at S. Mary's, Ardleigh
Thursday 8th April MAUNDY THURSDAY 7.30pm The Last Supper and Watch of Prayer
Friday 9th April GOOD FRIDAY 10.30am Holy Communion and Unveiling of The Cross
8.00pm Hymns, readings and prayer at S. Mary's, Ardleigh
Saturday 10th HOLY SATURDAY 8.00pm Blessing of the Paschal Candle and first eucharist of
Easter
Sunday 11th April EASTER DAY 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Parish Communion and blessing of Easter eggs
6.30pm Festival Evensong at S. Marys, Ardleigh

A very happy Easter to all parishioners. Rector

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING.

This important meeting takes place this year on Tuesday, 20th April at 7.30pm in the Chapel of the Cheshire Home. First two Churchwardens must be elected. They must be communicant members of the church but all whose names are on the Parliamentary Register of Electors may vote. Following this twelve members of the PCC and three members of the Deanery Synod are to be elected and the audited accounts and other reports made. For this business only those whose names are on the Church Electoral Roll may vote. This meeting is the opportunity to ask questions and comment on the work of the church in the past year and plan for the coming year. I hope that all members of the Electoral Roll will be able to attend. *Rector*

S. GEORGE'S DAY.

As S. George's Day, 23rd April, our Patronal Festival falls this year on a Friday, we will be keeping the Feast on Sunday, 25th April.

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME - COMPUTERS FOR THE DISABLED.

Your old computers are wanted, all shapes and makes, also hardware, software, games, manuals, desks, papers, printers anything if it is associated with computing. If you could donate these items we would gratefully receive them. This is a fund-raising exercise with a difference, to provide computer equipment for our disabled residents. If you can help please bring anything you can spare to the Home or phone or call and we will gladly collect. Cindy Carey 230345 or (0376) 84799

THANKS.

This issue of 'The Messenger' come to you because of a very kind donation from The Bromley Buskers. Our thanks go to Peter Wenden, their Chairman and the members for their most welcome support.

The Bromley Messenger May 1993

A new year commences with this month's issue of The Messenger, with a slightly new format, which we hope will be well received by our readers. For this new year. it has proved to be more than difficult to obtain the usual sponsors to underwrite the cost of publications, but we hope that before the next month's issue further help will be available. This being the case, it is not possible to list our sponsors on the rear cover, but we will do so for next month. So far those who have generously agreed to help us are:

May: SEVEN RIVERS HOME

June: BROMLEY PRIVATE HIRE & RESIDENTS OF BOTH VILLAGES

July: GREAT AND LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCILS

August: No Sponsor

September: No Sponsor

October: S. GEORGES CHURCH

November: RG. GWINNELL & SON, FUNERAL DIRECTORS, MANNINGTREE

December: GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

January: No Sponsor

February: GREENACRE CATTERY and T & F MOTORS

March: No Sponsor

April: No Sponsor

Any donations from parishioners will be received with great thanks, as without income it will be difficult to continue our monthly publication. In order to keep down our costs, from this month, the magazine will be limited to eight pages only. It seems that Summer really is on its way. Our sponsor this month is the Seven Rivers Home, reminding us of their annual fete on Saturday, 12th June. We thank them for their welcome help: our thanks will be in the support we all give to the fete. Contributions for the June issue should reach the editor, Mrs Leonie Henderson, Badley Hall by Monday. 10th May please. *Rector*

SEVEN RIVERS FETE - CHESHIRE HOME GT. BROMLEY.

Saturday 12th June

TO BE OPENED AT 2.00pm BY MRS MARY WHITEHOUSE

KITE DISPLAY * RAINBOW MAJORETTES * FOLK GROUP * MORRIS MEN

* PONY RIDES * BOATING ON THE LAKE * PLANT SALES * TOMBOLA * REFRESHMENTS

* STALLS & SIDESHOWS * FREE PARKING

Please support us – you will have a great afternoon Adults 50p Children Free

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME - ADVANCE NOTICE

The ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING will be held on Thursday, 11th November, 1993 from 10.00a.m.-12 noon at Seven Rivers Cheshire Home.

GREAT BROMLEY AND FRATING PLAYGROUP

We are writing to you all to advertise some fundraising events to boost playgroup funds. We are holding a COFFEE MORNING at Bromley Village Hall on Wednesday, 19th May. The children are having a talk on Road Safety. There will be New, Adults and Children's clothes, toys and household goods on sale at very reasonable prices. There will also be a raffle. Everyone is welcome to attend.

On Monday 31st May, we are organising a TABLETOP SALE at the Village Hall. There will be Refreshments, a Cake Stall, Raffle, Clothes, Toys, Bric-a-Brac, Books etc. Admission is free so bring family and friends. If you would like to book a table please phone Estelle on 0206-2510415. The price is £6.00 per table payable in advance. She will also answer any queries.

We do still have a few Playgroup spaces available on Monday and Wednesday mornings (9.30a.m.-12 noon) and Toddler sessions on Wednesday mornings (9.50a.m.-11.45a.m.) If you would like to know more please telephone me and I will give you some more information. Enjoy the summer and please watch out for notices of all our fundraising events.

Thank you. *Carol Kynnston (Secretary)*

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We are to have Mr Julian Dawson with his real live owl to talk to us at our May meeting. The competition - A bird picture from a Magazine. The Friendship Players have now contributed over £200 to St Helena's Hospice. *Mildred Purkis*

BLUE PETER BYE APPEAL

Charlotte Knappett and Claire Taylor would like to thank all those people who kindly supported the above appeal, with gifts and donations. We raised £95.00. Never has so much been raised by so few. Thank you Claire and Charlotte

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

A very interesting talk by Mr Hudson of Ardliss Hall, Ardleigh, on Herbs was given at our meeting on 1st April, and a cheque has been sent to him, payable to "Riding for the Disabled" which he and Mrs Hudson support. Last month's report was overlooked in the printing, apologies from everyone involved. Our next meeting will be on 6th May when Mrs Rudge will be talking on, and demonstrating, "hanging baskets" - don't miss it. *Vicky Griffiths*

THE ROTARY CLUB of BRIGHTLINGSEA and DISTRICT

Do you play golf? We are holding a Pro-Am Golf Day on Wednesday, 12th May at Frinton Golf Club. Proceeds will benefit such charities as Market Fields School, Hamilton Lodge, Children's Hospice - Eastern Region. For more details ring Len Christodoulides on 251264

BROWNIES

The Brownies have had a very busy term. We welcomed Nikki to our pack and said goodbye to Sarah Ockenden, Joanne & Gemma Caley. We wish them well for the future. Eight Brownies have entered painted T-shirts into the Essex Handicraft Association Exhibition. The Brownies held a second international party evening to present a cheque for Sangam. The total raised now stands at £280.51 - THANK YOU to everyone who has supported us. Many badges have been gained this term. Congratulations to the following: Emma - Brownie Friendship, Highway; Joanne - Brownie Friendship, Musician; Kizzy - Jester & Sixer; Kate M - Artist, Jester, Highway & Seconder; Sarah - Jester & Seconder; Kelly - Jester, Brownie Friendship; Jeni - Jester; Zoe - Jester, Agility, Footpath; Claire - Hostess, Craft. Swimmer, Footpath; Katie B - Brownie Friendship, Hostess, Animal Lover; Beth - Jester, Swimmer, Brownie Friendship; Emily - Jester, Venture; Katie D - Jester, Venture; Nikki - Brownie Friendship, Venture. *Tawny Owl*

BROWNIES at the ESSEX HANDICRAFT ASSOCIATION EXHIBITION

Beth Newland. Zoe Clark, Emily Haynes, Nikki Elmes, Katie Dacosta, Jenifer Laurie, Katherine Beauchamp and Joanne Cobbold entered painted T-Shirts into the Essex Handicrafts Association Annual Exhibition held at New Hall School, Boreham. Beth came 1st in Class with her frog design and Zoe came 2nd in Class with her Count Duckula design. Well done. Our thanks also to Mrs Frostick who came and helped us. Some of the Brownies visited the Exhibition with Brown Owl and they had a wonderful time watching the sculptress. Nancy Coulson, creating figures; trying their hand - and succeeding - at Coggeshall Lace with Mrs Dudding as well as viewing all the various handicrafts exhibited. *Brown Owl*

YESTERDAY'S HOSPITAL CARE

In 1899, the 80th Annual Report of Essex & Colchester General Hospital (The Essex County to us), are details of the help given by the Bromleys before the days of the Welfare State.

Congregational collections at Great Bromley, per Revd A.E. Graham, £2.2s.0d. and at Little Bromley, per Revd H.H. Minchin, £1.5s.6d.

At "The Spread Eagle", Mr Ali. Firmin, collected £1.6s.0d. from customers. Mr GM. Sargeant's "Essex Arms" raised £1.0s.1d. George Patten at "The Fox & Hounds", Little Bromley, netted 9s.6d.

Subscribers and Benefactors included Mr Joseph Wilkin of Great Bromley with a twenty pounds donation while Mr Charrington Nicholl, Junior, who had died earlier, bequeathed £52.10s.0d. Legacies. which were registered in the Hall of the Hospital, recorded the gifts of Mr John Dawson, Great Bromley - £19.19s.0d. and Mr Thomas Harris, also from Great Bromley, - £10.0s.0d.

Pupils at Great Bromley School also helped. In 1918 in addition to 96 eggs brought by the scholars a cheque for £2.10s.0d. was sent to the National Egg Collection Society. Eggs were preserved in isinglass, a kind of jelly. so that they could be used by the Hospital in winter when eggs were scarce.

On 27th June, 1922, pupil Gladys Boltwood was told she had won a 1st Prize having entered a pair of socks and Ena Orman a 2nd Prize for making a chemise for the Joy Day Competition, held on 15th June, to raise Funds for Essex County Hospital. Colchester's Carnival was organised to raise funds for the work of the same Hospital. Miss Louisa Jones held a weekly collection of subscriptions to the Hospital Fund in Lion Walk, Colchester. If you subscribed you were more sure of a bed and treatment when you needed it! Have things changed? *John Appleby*

SCF COFFEE MORNING

A coffee morning for Save The Children Fund on Tuesday, 18th May at 5, Springhill Close. Great Bromley from 10.00-12 noon. With Bring and Buy Stall and Plants etc. Admission 40p includes refreshments. Please do come. *Rose F Field*

CARPET BOWLS

On 20th March Joe Canham competed in the Essex Finals at Braintree and won two of his four games. Although he bowled well, he didn't qualify for the semi-finals. Six members went along to support him and it was a very enjoyable afternoon, for players and spectators, with some good bowling. Well done Joe! April 3rd saw the annual North East Essex league matches at Gt Bentley. We entered two teams of four who bowled quite well but unfortunately didn't make the 2nd round. Eventually the host club won the trophy after a close final with Lawford. Our Wednesday evenings are still well attended and we have recently played Thorpe and Alresford in friendly away matches, both enjoyable events. Happy bowling. *Nancy Kempster*

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH

The monthly Family Service will be held on Sunday, 2nd May at 10.30am when it will include Holy Baptism.

ROGATION SUNDAY is on 16th May. This year the Rogation Service will take place at 10.30am at BOSCO FARM, HARWICH ROAD, at the kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Stennett. Once again we will be joined by the congregation of S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh.

ASCENSION DAY is Thursday, 20th May. There will be a Sung Parish Eucharist at 7.30pm in S. George's Church.

WHITSUNDAY is on Sunday, 30th May.

EVENSONG DURING MAY

Sunday May 2nd SEVEN RIVERS HOME

9th S. MARY'S, ARDLEIGH

16th S. GEORGE'S

23rd S. MARY'S, ARDLEIGH

30th S. GEORGES

FUND RAISING

The PCC have decided that the major Fund Raising for S. George's this year will be a TALENT SCHEME. At the Rogation Service on Sunday, 16th May, those who attend will be offered an envelope containing a £1 coin and an explanation of the scheme, and, after trading with it, they will be asked to return it at the Harvest weekend, September 25th and 27th. Envelopes will be available to any who can not attend the Rogation Service. We hope that this will be a successful and enjoyable way of supporting the Church. The Ardleigh congregation will also be offered talents to provide funds for their own church. In addition to this, we hope to have during the Summer and Autumn a series of smaller events, coffee mornings and similar activities.

THE BISHOP OF COLCHESTER is making an official Visitation of the Parish on Tuesday, 4th May. He will visit S. George's School at 9.00am for Assembly and to tour the school. He will be at the Rectory from 10.30-12 noon, where members of the congregation are invited to join him for general discussion about Parish matters. A warm invitation is extended to all parishioners.

Rector

BALLS GREEN METHODIST CHURCH

A COFFEE MORNING and BRING AND BUY STALL will be held in the School Room on Saturday, 29th May from 10.00am-12 noon. In aid of Church funds. All are welcome.

METHODIST SERVICES

Sunday May 2nd Elmstead 11.00am The Revd V Cameron

9th Burnt Heath 11.00am The Revd J Robinson

16th Balls Green 11.00am Mr M Abbs

23rd Elmstead 11.00am The Revd J Robinson

30th Burnt Heath 11.00a.m. Mr D Watts

CHURCH REGISTERS

Edith May Snowling, of Alma Cottage, Briar Road, died on Monday 15th March and was buried in S. George's Churchyard on Wednesday March 24th 1993. May she rest in peace

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE: Upright piano. Iron framed and overstrung. Dark wood. Very good condition. £250.

Apply: The Rectory, Great Bromley, Colchester Tel: 0206 230344.

NEEDED: Loan/Hire caravan with canopy Tendring Show 9/10/11th July for Huntingtons Charity. Tel: 0206 230425

The Bromley Messenger June 1993

Slowly but surely, the list of those who are able to help us by sponsoring the publication of 'The Messenger' is filling up, and we are now certain that we will be able to continue publication for another twelve months. In addition to the list published last month, our printers, Hot-Line Printers, 24 Priors Way, Coggeshall have offered to sponsor one month's edition. We are most grateful to them for this splendid help, and also for their most efficient and professional assistance in producing this magazine and other printed material.

This month we are sponsored by BROMLEY PRIVATE HIRE and RESIDENTS of both villages. We are most grateful to them for their support. It will help if reports and other material for the July issue can be sent to the Editor, Mrs Leonie Henderson, Badley Hall, Great Bromley by Monday, 14th June, please. *Rector*

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME FETE

The Annual Cheshire Home Fete will take place as announced in last month's issue on Saturday, 12th June, this year to be Opened by Mrs Mary Whitehouse of Ardleigh. One of the activities associated with the Fete which has been omitted for the past few years, and which will take place again this year, is that S. George's Church will be specially decorated with flowers, and it is hoped that visitors to the fete will be able to visit and see our glorious church. The Church will be open for visitors during the time of the fete and during Sunday afternoon of 13th June. Instead of Evensong on that Sunday, there will be a service of Songs of Praise, with hymns chosen by members of the congregation. For the benefit of visitors during the afternoon, cups of tea and cakes will be available in the Rectory garden.

GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our May meeting is when the National Resolutions are debated. Usually we have someone primed from County Office to help but this year Rita Gower, Ann Jones, Pippa Hardy and June Willgress led the discussions on Membership Fees, Water Conservation, Use of Food in Surplus and Domestic Violence. Were you aware that the W.I. had such diverse interests?

On Saturday, 17th July we are running a bus to the W.I. County Show at Cressing Barns - open to non-members and really worth a visit. The Barns themselves are splendid and will be full of delights! Phone Jean Wright to book your seat.

The June meeting (Wednesday, 2nd June, 7.30pm in the Village Hall, guests welcome) is Members Evening with a mystery speaker, bring and buy, 50p inc. lucky ticket. The competition is "A Cat in any Shape or Form" except a live one and don't even think about the other option.

MEDICAL HELP in The Bromleys

Last month I mentioned John Dawson, resident of Great Bromley, a benefactor of E.C. Hospital. John was surgeon and so, too, was his father, also named John. John Dawson, senior, died December 7th, 1870, aged 83 years. His wife, Diana, had predeceased him on July 17th, 1854, aged 65. Both were buried in Great Bromley churchyard.

The Harris family were farmers - hence the farm known as Harris's Farm.

Dr. Edward Williams, a physician and surgeon, lived at Great Bromley, from the 1840's. He was one of the Committee which founded St. George's School in 1863. Dr. Williams operated from a surgery in West Stockwell Street, Colchester; he was also attached to the E.C. Hospital, Colchester. He combined his medicine and surgery with politics and became Mayor of Colchester in 1849, 1854, 1859 and 1862.

John Will Cook, MD, of High Street, Manningtree, was calling on patients from the 1870's.

Thomas Peat, surgeon, High Street, Manningtree, was at home or E.C. Hospital, Colchester.

Charles Henry Furnivall, surgeon, practised at Great Bentley; Dr. Robert Chapman Atthill followed him in the 1880's.

Usually the doctor prescribed, and made up his own medicines but there was a chemist, John Billingsby Winter, in High Street, Manningtree.

John Appleby

SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

Seven Rivers Cheshire Home is holding a talk on "Life in the Submarine Service" by Mr Wade on Thursday, 17th June at 7.00 pm. £1.00 entrance, raffle and coffee. Everyone welcome.

ARTHRITIS & RHEUMATISM COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH

Mrs Eugster (Chairman) and the Committee of "The Bromleys" Branch invite you and your friends to a GARDEN PARTY in aid of this worthwhile cause at the Old Rectory, Little Bromley on Sunday, 18th July 11.00am-1.00pm. Entry £1.50 includes a glass of wine and a visit to this lovely garden, with stalls for Bring & Buy, Cakes, Plants, A.R.C. goods tombola & Raffle

IMPORTANT WARNING!

"COUNTRY COLLECTABLES" Antique Dealers, would like it to be known that a quantity of our business cards have been stolen, and anyone approached by someone showing one of these cards at your door with a view to purchasing antiques IS A BOGUS DEALER. PLEASE NOTIFY THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY D.C. King Tel.: 0206 392611



BUS SERVICE

Wednesday Only to Brightlingsea
Departs Little Bromley P.O. 0949
Returns Little Bromley P.O. 1237

Any fare paying passenger may use the school bus operated by Carters Coaches to Lawford, to connect with: Harwich to Colchester 0935 Lawford Place Colchester to Harwich 0925 Lawford Place

Manningtree and District have a Community Bus that is available for hire which you can book through:- Mr Ken Edwards on 0206 395091 or the Secretary on 0206 396236

A full list of bus and train times are available for inspection during Post office and Shop hours.
Peter Ollivant Transport Representative

WALKS WEEK 14th-20th June

This event is to promote walking as part of everyday life as a step forward toward helping prevent coronary heart disease in North Essex. Some of the benefits of walking are:

- it is good for the heart as well as being free
- you can walk alone or in a group at a time to suit you
- it helps you to relax and need not be time consuming
- you can appreciate the environment whilst keeping footpaths in use

I have details and sponsorship forms for the Walks Week promoted by Essex Rivers Healthcare each year. Whilst I am not organising any particular walks for the Parish should your Group or you and some friends decide to go for a walk in the parish (however long or short) during that week please let me know. *Mrs Leonie Henderson Tel.: 0206 231262* –

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB 100 CLUB RESULTS

March 1st Mr J Hodge 2nd Mr S Foley 3rd Mr B Kempster

April 1st Mr G Kempster 2nd Mr M Thorpe 3rd Mr P Rowe

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

Many "tricks" and "secrets" of the trade were passed on to us when Mrs Rudge gave us a most interesting talk and demonstration on hanging baskets on 6th May at our meeting at Seven Rivers. Next month the subject is "BONSAI" - how we would like to have those trees and shrubs which would normally grow much too big in a small garden. A donation of £5.00 has been sent to the "Messenger". *Vicky Griffiths*

GREAT BROMLEY AND FRATING PLAYGROUP

A Tribute

All the parents in Great Bromley must know Carol Cordwell. She has worked hard for the Playgroup for a number of years and has been popular with the children and parents alike. She has supported the committee in all of their fund-raising endeavours and has been the inspiration behind many fun activities that the children have enjoyed. We wish her well in her new job and wish her all the best in the future. *Carol Kynaston (Secretary)*

From the Editor

I hope nobody minded the size of the print last month but I am afraid that as a matter of economy the magazine is confined to eight sides only. Hence if I am to print all the news small print it will have to be. However, whenever I can I will use a larger type. *Leonie Henderson*

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Mr Tricker will be talking to us on Redundant Churches, at our June meeting. The competition - a small item of Brass

On behalf of the Friendship Club I would like to thank everyone who supported and helped in any way to make our Spring Sale such a success again this year, this is much appreciated. Thank you. *Vera Biddis*

If anyone has any old song sheet music they no longer require, our Friendship Players who entertain other Over 60s Clubs and donate the proceeds to the Hospice would be most grateful of same. Please contact V. Biddis on 230506. *Mildred Purkis*

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

This meeting was held on April 20th, too late for a report to be published in the May issue of the magazine. The first item was the appointment of two Churchwardens. We warmly welcome the appointment of Mr Peter Rowe, who was re-elected for a further year and Mr James Wild who was elected for the first of what we hope will be many years. I know that they both will give all they can to the performance of this ancient office.

Those elected to membership of the Parochial Church Council were the two Churchwardens, ex officio, Mr John Appleby, reader, Mrs Leonie Henderson, Mr David Skinner, Mrs Elizabeth Lennox, Mrs Meriel Davis, Mrs Olive Sparling, Mr Robert Harding, Mr Bert Smith and Major James Heaney. Elected also as representatives to the Deanery Synod and also ex officio members of the PCC were Mr Bill Walker, Mr George Kent and Mrs Anne Fairley.

As Mr Gordon Jones, who had served most efficiently as Treasurer, had to stand down because of his word commitments, Mr David Skinner was elected as Treasurer of the Council, and Mrs Leonie Henderson was elected as Secretary in place of Mrs Meriel Davis. The meeting expressed their thanks to Mr Jones and Mrs Davis for the very great contribution they had made to the running of the parish.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH ROOF

When S. George's Church was originally built, the nave roof was much lower than it now is. About one hundred years after the first stage of building, in 1524 during the incumbency of Rector Ottway, the present Double Hammer Beam Roof was constructed of Irish Oak. The roof was finished off by carved angels, removed in 1820, making it an Angel Roof. As a condition of the grant towards the Tower repairs, English Heritage required us to have a detailed architect's inspection of the roof. At the Annual Meeting, the Rector reported that he had now received the report and an estimate of the cost of repairs. There was found to be substantial Death Watch beetle damage in the roof timbers and very considerable erosion of the Stone work of the parapets on the North wall of the Church. Without drastic remedial work to the timber and stone work, there would be the danger that we might lose this magnificent and unique feature of the Church. As the cost of this is likely to be in the region of £80,000, it is not something that we can undertake immediately. Once again, the PCC is applying to English Heritage for grant aid, and when it is known how much of the cost they will bear, we will have to devise ways of raising the remainder of the cost. It is disappointing, after having to spend £130,000 on the Tower as we did, to be faced with the need to raise such a large sum so soon, but with a beautiful mediaeval building this is almost inevitable.

WHITSUNDAY 30th MAY

Whitsun, the birthday of the Church, falls on the last day of May. It has always been a very important festival of the Church. This year, it is pleasing to know that Whitmonday is once again a Bank Holiday. To mark Whitsun as a Special occasion, the congregations of the Bromleys and Ardleigh are joining together for a service of readings and music in S. George's Church on Whitsunday, 30th May at 6.30pm. The choirs of both churches will take part, and a warm welcome is extended to all parishioners to join with us.

HOLY BAPTISM

Last year a service of Thanksgiving for Baptism was held in S. George's Church at which all the Baptismal families of the last few years were invited. A similar service is to be held this year on SUNDAY, 6th JUNE at 3.00pm. Families from Ardleigh will join us this time. After the service there will be a tea party for the children and their parents in S. George's School. A personal invitation will be sent to all the families in our baptismal register, but if you do not receive one, please do come and join us for this very enjoyable event.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism . Sunday, May 2nd - Redigan Natasha Arthey of 24 Morants Road, Colchester
Holy Matrimony Friday, May 21st - Richard Howard Gibbs and Margaret Cawood Macaulay

METHODIST SERVICES

Sunday June 6 Balls Green 11.00am Mr H Nash
13 Elmstead 11.00am Mrs M Longley
20 Burnt heath 11.00am Mrs A Brook
27 Balls Green 11.00am Revd J Robinson

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES

Sunday June 6 6.30pm SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME
13 6.30pm S. GEORGE'S CHURCH (please note change from normal pattern)
20 6.30pm S. MARY'S CHURCH, ARDLEIGH
27 6.30pm S. MARY'S CHURCH, ARDLEIGH

APOLOGY

Due to the lack of space, the display advertisement from bromley private hire has had to be held over. It will appear in the July issue. Our sincerest apologies to Mr. Mead for this in convenience.

The Bromley Messenger July 1993

Some time ago the PCC of S. George's Church decided to support the "Keep Sunday Special Campaign", which aims at obtaining sensible Sunday Trading Laws. It is not advocating the strict puritanical controls that some of the media refer to, but a simple system that while allowing small shops, garden centres, garages and the like to trade on Sundays would prevent the large scale deregulation which many large businesses would like to enable them to trade seven days a week. They resist the idea for a "shoppers free-for-all" which would render Sunday practically indistinguishable from any other day. At the heart of the campaign is the need to protect the interests of those employed in retail trades who, often unwillingly, would be forced to engage in Sunday employment at the risk of their own jobs.

Many large retailers have taken a poll of their customers and report, on the basis of this polling, that by and large customers want to shop on Sundays and that by not opening they are denying them the freedom of choice. Those employed in retailing may not agree, for one person's choice is another person's obligation and one person's advantage is another's disadvantage. It is not only employees who will lose out, but hundreds of small shops who will continually be losing trade to out of town retailers and who will eventually be forced into ceasing trading. In both Great Bromley and Little Bromley we have still a village shop and Post Office which contribute a very great deal to the life of the community and without which we would be very much the poorer. In May a Private Members Bill to amend the laws along the lines of the Keep Sunday Special Campaign was "talked out" - in its place the government are to introduce a Bill to reform Sunday Trading. If we value Sunday, either from the point of View of the Bible "Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy" or from the point of View of the problems caused to employees and the risk to small shopkeepers, we should be prepared to give our opinions to our MP that the government may learn what is the true feeling of the nation, and especially those like us, who living in the country, rely more and more on services offered by our friendly village shopkeepers. Altering the law as radically as some suggest would lead to a significant and irretrievable change in the quality of life on Sundays - and not only for shopkeepers but for the whole community. *Rector*

BROMLEY PRIVATE HIRE

- ★ LOCAL
- ★ LONG DISTANCE
- ★ AIRPORTS
- ★ Etc.



8 - 16 SEATER MINI BUSES AND SALOON CARS AVAILABLE

SOUTHVIEW, ARDLEIGH ROAD, GT. BROMLEY
Telephone for a quotation without obligation...

COLCHESTER (0206) 230906

This month we are sponsored by BROMLEY PRIVATE HIRE and the many RESIDENTS of both villages who have generously contributed to the Messenger funds. Our warm thanks to them all. Contributions for the August issue should reach the Editor, Mrs Leonie Henderson, by Monday, 12th July please.

WHAT'S ON IN JULY

- 1st Cheese & Wine Party with Garden Club 7.00pm
- 4th Strawberry Tea - Bromleys Conservatives, Brundells Farm 3.00pm
- 5th Garden Party - Leigh Singers, Grove House 2.15pm
- 10th Tendring Hundred Show
- 17th Fun Day Recreation Field 3.00pm
- 17th WI County Show, Cressing Barns coach leaves 10.00am
- 31st Country & Western Dance, Village Hall 8.15

Future Events

- 4th Aug Day out to Dunwich with WI coach leaves 12.00

CHRISTMASS APPEAL 1992

Those who kindly donated gifts for Bosnia last Christmass will be pleased to know that I recently met a representative of SPICMA, the organisation through whom the gifts were sent who told me that all the gifts reached the Franciscans at Medjugorge in Bosnia and were distributed to those in need, who all received them with great gratitude. *Rector*

TENDRING SHOW - SATURDAY: 10th JULY

A visit to this annual show, at the Lawford Showground, is well recommended for a most interesting day out. Do not omit to visit the Church Tent - entitled "Loaves and Fishes". This is sponsored and run by churches in the Harwich Deanery. Next to the tent is the Mothers' Union caravan which provides facilities for nursing mothers.

CHESHIRE HOME - VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

At Seven Rivers we are looking for people willing to drive our minibuses on occasions (not on a regular basis) to take residents shopping, outings, or on theatre trips. If you can help please contact the Home ~ Colchester 230345

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION

The Wine and Cheese Party hosted by the Mayor of Colchester at Tymperleys was attended by the Patron of the Essex Huntington's Disease Association, Lord Braybrooke, both of whom made a point of speaking to all the H.D. families present. It was a lovely evening and realised £460. Many thanks to all who contributed.

We have been kindly offered a caravan by a local family for our use at the Tendring Hundred Show on July 10th, for which we are very grateful. Any contributions to the giant Tombola will be most welcome. Please contact Jean Harding

TO FRIENDS & EX-PUPILS OF ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL, GT BROMLEY

Unfortunately, at the end of this term we shall be saying farewell to Mrs Jean Tucker as she has decided to retire early. She has taught the reception children in the school for fourteen years. We are hoping to present her with a special gift to show appreciation for all she has given to the children, staff and parents. If you wish to make a contribution towards her farewell gift, please send/bring it to the school office before 9th July, 1993.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL

Mr David Skinner has been appointed a Governor of S. George's School, as an Essex County Council nominee.

CALL THE VET!

The Norman family and the Hazell family played a great part in the life of the parish in the early nineteenth century. Normans Farm and Hazells Farm recall the connection. Thomas Norman was a veterinary surgeon. He died 17th September, 1844, aged 63 years. He, with other members of the family, rests in Great Bromley churchyard. John Joseph Hazell, MRCVSL, MVMA, also practised from his father's house; he died 31st October, 1876. His remains are interred at Great Bromley.

In 1878 it was necessary to call George Simson, the vet, who lived at Whaley Farm, Ardleigh, or John William Taylor, of Mill Lane, Manningtree. *John Appleby*

BROWNIES

Jeni and I went to Thorrington Scout Camp for District Pack Holiday. We were in the Pandas. The sixes were different types of bears. We went on the assault course and we played games with the parachute. We did craft and made decorated digestive biscuits, a bear fridge magnet, a pasta bear and a 3D bear picture. We had a brilliant time. *Kelly Liddle*

17 Brownies, Guiders and helpers went to Colchester Zoo on 6th June joining up with Tawny Owl's Ipswich Pack where we had an action packed, hot day out. We saw the seal lions display, the elephants and even Brown Owl stroked the snakes! as well as feeding and stroking the cow, goats, ponies and guinea pigs. A song filled car transported us home. Grateful thanks to the Mums who came and gave us their help. *Brown Owl*

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We have a special guest artist for our July meeting. Mary Lines with her organ and we hope the competition will prove as popular as last month - this time it is a small wind-up musical item. .
Mildred Purkis

GREAT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD

We are having a FUN DAY on the Recreation Field on 17th July at 2.00pm. Numerous attractions include a display of dancing by Debbie Millers School of Dancing, a Bouncy Castle, Fancy dress tent for the children and refreshments. Tables for the Table Top Sale can be booked for £5 each. The play equipment including high jump, rounders bats, tennis racquets, and badminton racquets is available to all for a small deposit of £5, now kept at 1 Fairfield Close, Hare Green. A new Bye Law has been passed to the effect that NO DOGS (except Guide Dogs) to be allowed on the Recreation Field, Great Bromley. *Chris Taylor*

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

We were so fortunate in having lovely weather for the Coffee Morning on 18th May and raised £242.88p. Thank you all so much for your support - you are lovely people, it is really appreciated. *Rose F Field*

COUNTRY & WESTERN DANCE with THE WES CARDY BAND

at the Village Hall Saturday, 31st July - 8.15-11.30pm Tickets include Buffet. £4.00 on door £3.50 in advance Senior Citizens £2.50 Licenced Bar and Raffle. Enquiries or tickets contact Bert, Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Tel: 2312428

GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Two outings for you - open to members and non-members, firstly, SATURDAY, 17th JULY to the WI County Show at Cressing Barns. Coach leaves the Village Hall at 10.00am and secondly, WEDNESDAY, 4th AUGUST to see DUNWICH, have a late lunch at the famous Fish and Chip shop and then touring for the afternoon. Coach leaves the Village Hall at 12 noon and will be back about 6.00pm. Phone Jean Wright for full details and to book your seat. Treat yourself to a day (or two) out so give Jean a ring right now.

OUR POST OFFICE IS UNDER THREAT

The government is planning for pensions and allowances to be paid directly into a bank or building society. In a rural village such as Great Bromley this will be an inconvenience to a lot of residents as it will mean a journey into a town. If these changes take place there is a possibility that our sub-Post Office may have to close. The Post Office/Village Shop is very much a way of life in a rural community which provides not only goods and postal services but is also a meeting place so important for our way of life and we do not wish to lose the valued services that they provide.

If you are opposed to these changes please sign the petition form in the Post Office and also pick up a leaflet which explains the system. OUR POST OFFICE IS UNDER THREAT, PLEASE HELP TO SAVE OUR RURAL SUB-POST OFFICE.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

Unfortunately our Speaker on Bonsai was unable to be with us but we spent a very happy "social" evening together with time to chat amongst ourselves and also take part in two

"competitions" which Mrs Biddis kindly organised for us. 1st July is the date for our Cheese and Wine party - don't forget it will be from 7.00pm. *Vicky Griffiths*

GARDEN PARTY

The Leigh Singers are holding a Garden Party at Grove House, Great Bromley on Monday, 5th July, 2.15-4.30pm. Tickets are £1.50 for a view of the garden, strawberry and cream tea, and entertainment by the singers. Come and join us for a pleasant afternoon. There is a raffle and Bring and Buy stall. All are welcome. Tickets available at the Post Office or 'phone 250263.

KITCHEN CORNER

My sister gave me this recipe for a delicious ice cream to serve with summer fruits instead of cream. It also works well with soft fruit puree replacing the orange juice.

ORANGE PARFAIT Serves 8

3 egg whites

8oz granulated sugar & pinch of salt

¼ pt water

6½ oz carton frozen concentrated orange juice

½ pt whipping cream

Whisk egg whites and salt in electric mixer till they stand in soft peaks. In a small saucepan dissolve sugar in water over low heat, then bring to the boil and bubble fiercely for 3 minutes. Pour immediately in a thin stream on to the egg whites, whisking all the time at high speed. Whisk until it is a thick meringue mixture. Then whisk in the orange juice (this need only be slightly thawed). In another bowl, whisk cream till thick but not stiff. Fold gently into the mixture, pour into dish or container and freeze 5 hours or overnight. *Jill Frostick*

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - Meeting 10th June 1993

A sub-committee was formed to look at areas in the village that may need to be classed as conservation areas, this would then be discussed at the next meeting. An enforcement notice is to be served on the owner of the old Spread Eagle car park site as it is a total eyesore in its present state.

The Parish Council agreed on a quote for the war memorial to be cleaned and re-furbished. The Clerk would confirm this with the stone-masons and the work could then commence.

Councillor Ann Elvin reported that the district draft plan had been amended and would be available for the general public to inspect within the next few weeks. Hopefully this could be displayed in the Village Hall. A date will be announced later. Councillor Elvin also reported that gypsies in the area cannot be moved on until T.D.C. provide a suitable site.

GRANTS are available for organizations within the village if they apply direct. Details from A Elvin telephone 251179

T.D.C. Furniture Scheme: Any unwanted furniture in good condition could be collected and this would be distributed to those in need. Contact Mr D Woods, Community Services Co-ordinator telephone 0255 255148.

Copies of T.D.C. Environmental Charter which sets out the main policies and environmental objectives of the Council are available. Telephone 0255 255139

BROMLEYS CONSERVATIVE BRANCH

Strawberry Tea £2.50 (Children under 11 half price) 3.00pm Sunday, 4th July at Brundells Farm. Plant Stall. Ring Henry Fairley for tickets 250229. *Len Christodoulides*

EDITORS NOTE

There must be many of you in the parishes of Great and Little Bromley who do, go or see things that would interest others in the villages. I would like to print short articles/letters from parishioners on this thus making the magazine an even more interesting read.

GREAT BROMLEY AND FRATING PLAYGROUP

We would like to thank everyone involved in the Table Top Sale for their efforts, especially Stan West and Estelle Kemp who organised the whole event. We made over £100 for playgroup funds. The playgroup are thinking of becoming agents for Teddys Own Video Club, to hire out children's films, cartoons and educational videos. If anyone is interested please see me as we would like to determine demand. Thank you. *Carol Kynaston (Secretary)*

FOOTPATHS

Over the last year E.C.C. Public Rights of Way Officer, Mr Mallet, has visited the Parish on numerous occasions assessing work that needed to be done to put the footpaths in good order. This work has now been completed, it cost a lot of money and manpower. If footpaths are walked regularly it keeps down the vegetation and therefore they do not need so much maintenance. However, we are still receiving complaints that footpaths are un-walkable or obstructed. Most footpaths in Great Bromley have finger posts pointing the direction of path, it is an offence to obstruct any footpath or bridleway.

Guidance Notes: the Rights of Way Act 1990 are available from Countryside Commission or E.C.C. Telephone Chelmsford 492211

CARPET BOWLS

At last we have a winner of our singles competition which has been running for several months. The trophy, kindly donated by the Chairman's wife, Mrs Doreen Peteley, was presented to Brian Francis with his wife Linda coming a close second. The current knock-out pairs competition, hopefully, will not take as long to complete.

Recently we have visited Weeley for an inter-club event and entertained Wix for a friendly match. If anyone is interested to see how the game is played, please pop in any Wednesday evening and it can be explained and demonstrated to you. We have a lot of fun and maybe you could too.

Nancy Kempster

GREAT BROMLEY RURAL HOUSING PROJECT

The Parish Council working alongside the Rural Housing Trust has now located a suitable site for low-cost housing. Some time ago residents were asked to fill in a survey if they were interested in this type of housing. T.D.C. now requires an update on this information as there may be more people currently looking for affordable housing within this village. Next month a form will be inserted in the 'Messenger', PLEASE take the time to fill it in and return direct to Rural Housing Trust. Until the Trust knows the amount of interest the project cannot get underway. Many of you have probably seen that Ardleigh has its low-cost houses built, so when our forms have been sent to the Trust, we too, can get started.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH - SUNDAY SERVICES. JULY

Sunday, 4th July 10.30am Family Service and Holy Baptism

Sunday 18th July There will be no service at S. George's at 10.30am, instead there will be a service (Parish Communion) for the parishes of Ardleigh and The Bromleys at 10.15am at S. Mary's, Ardleigh, at which the preacher will be the Archdeacon of Colchester, The Venerable Ernie Stroud.

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES

Sunday 4th July 6.30pm Seven Rivers Cheshire Home

11th 6.30pm S. Mary's Ardleigh

18th 6.30pm S. George's, Great Bromley

25th 6.30pm S. Mary's, Ardleigh

S. GEORGE'S REPAIR FUND - THE RECORDER

After serving the Repair Fund most conscientiously and efficiently for a number of years, Mr Dennis Simons has laid down the post. Our grateful thanks go to him for all his effort and activity. The new Recorder is Mr James Wild of Ilex Farm - we warmly welcome him in this office.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH REGISTERS

Holy Matrimony

Saturday, 5th June Nigel Malcolm Rudkin and Mandy Lynne Waller

Holy Baptism

Sunday, 30th May Poppy Royana Tricker, daughter of Louise Tricker, formerly of Little Bromley

Sunday, 20th June Matthew George Robinson, son of Nicola and Kenneth Robinson of Badley Hall Farm

CHESHIRE HOME FETE WEEKEND

Our warmest thanks and congratulations to Betty Rowe and her team of ladies who so beautifully decorated the Church for the weekend. All the many visitors who came were delighted at the beauty of the Church. Between them they donated £106 towards the Repair Fund of the Church.

S. GEORGE'S BELLS

Our enthusiastic team of ringers are now able to ring for services on Sundays from time to time. They are always happy to welcome any who would like to learn the craft of ringing at their practice night on Fridays from 7.00-9.00pm. On Saturday, 31st July members of the NE. Essex Association of Ringers will be ringing the Little Bromley bells between 6.30pm and 7.30pm and the Great Bromley bells between 7.00pm and 9.00pm.

FOR SALE - SNOOKER TABLE, 6ft x 3ft with cues, balls, pool balls, scorer and triangle. £25 ~ £5 will be given to Messenger funds. Phone: Pippa Hardy on 230341

FOR SALE - NEW SINGLE BED with Divan, Mattress and white padded headboard. £70.00.
Telephone Colchester 230754

The Bromley Messenger August 1993

Well, here we are in August again, the traditional holiday month. The clatter of Combine Harvesters and the slow moving tractors and their loads in the lanes of the villages remind us, however, that for many, August is the busiest month of the year. The way the seasons go by, each with its particular work for our farmers, reminds me how privileged we are to live in such beautiful, busy and bustling countryside as we do. If we want to stop and think, we can see how clearly God provides for us, and how regular and liberal that provision is. Each year, not only does this month usually provide us with lovely enjoyable weather, but it also shows us how we are provided for by a bountiful God. All of us have a spiritual core to our lives, whether we realise it or not. We can think that we rely on the village shop or the supermarket for our needs of food and drink, but these, in their turn, rely on the provision provided by the farmer who in turn can only produce what God helps him to provide. When we breathe we breathe in life: the moment we cease to breathe we cease to live: when we eat and drink we are taking in life, when we cease, we cease to live. We do not produce the good air, we do not make the crops grow. There is beyond and outside us a great power which we all God, who is the author of all our needs. August is, then, not only a month for holiday, rest and relaxation, but also a month when we can really come to terms with the spiritual powers, the power of God, without which we simply could not live. *Rector*

This month we are sponsored by RESIDENTS of the VILLAGES and the .BLACK BOY PUBLIC HOUSE. In thanking them for their support, it is sad to learn that Peter and Maureen Sauvary, the Publicans of the Black Boy, will shortly be leaving. Both of them have contributed a great, deal to the life of Great Bromley. We will miss them, but we wish them both a very happy retirement in their new home in Norwich.



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.

AUGUST DIARY

4 Aug W.I. Barbecue £2.00 6.00pm
5 Aug Lilacs - Gt Bromley Garden Club, Seven Rivers 7.30pm
7 Aug Hats Bring & Buy Party - The Hollies 10.30-12.30

Future Events:

4 Sept Walking the Parish Boundaries

THOSE OLD NAMES

The Kelly Directory of Essex for 1882 records under Great Bromley that Thomas Archer farmed Dorley Farm.

Domesday Book, which was made in two books, Greater Domesday and Little Domesday, in 1085/6 A.D., can still be seen in The Public Record Office, London.

“Hundred of Tendring: = In Dereleia, Edric of Easthorpe held one manor Now Ranulf holds it and Roger from him. In 1066 there were two villagers now there is one. In 1066, one bound man now none. There was a plough that belonged to the lord of the manor now he owns a half of one. The men did have a plough now they have none. Three ploughs are really needed. There is enough woodland for 20 pigs; four acres are meadowland. Its value in 1066 was 30s. now it is worth 10s.”

“In 1066 Godwin the priest held DERLEIGH as a manor. It is one hundred and five acres. There was one plough here; now there is none. It was valued at 10s. now its worth is 30d.”

These entries show that Derleia or Derleigh became Dorley, which was in the north of the present parish of The Bromleys and mostly lay in Little Bromley. Did Godwin found the church at Little Bromley? Another missing piece of historical jigsaw. *John Appleby*

WALKING THE PARISH BOUNDARIES

On Saturday, 4th September, I invite you to join me in walking the boundaries of the Parish of The Bromleys, Great and Little Bromley. We will be leaving the Methodist Chapel at 10.00am, walking towards the Bromley Brook in Colchester Road, across the fields alongside the Brook in Harwich Road and continue along the Brook until we reach Morehams Hall Farm. We then walk towards Frating Road, continuing across field to the A120 until we reach Raven's Green. We turn towards Harwich Road to Park Farm, then over fields and Green Lane, past Welhams Farm to Stacies Farm. Here we walk largely over fields past Normans Farm and Waterhouse Farm and back to Burnt Heath. The whole walk is about 14 miles, and with stops for food and drink should be completed by 3.30pm. Please bring the necessary refreshments with you.

I am hoping that those of us who will take part will be able to obtain sponsorship to obtain funds for the upkeep and maintenance of the Church. There will be a supply of sponsorship forms in the Church and The Rectory for those who would like to take part. I will also provide a small map showing the route and the stopping places for refreshment. Please do join me. This will be the third time that I have walked the parish boundaries and each time was extremely enjoyable. I know that this year's walk will be equally happy and enjoyable. *Rector*

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

MAY 100 CLUB WINNERS 1st Mrs B Bullock 2nd Mrs M Cundy 3rd Mr P Rowe

JUNE 100 CLUB WINNERS 1st Miss T Marshall 2nd Mr M Foley 3rd Mr J Hodge

THE POST OFFICE

Many thanks to all who signed the petition regarding Payments of Pensions and Allowances at the Post Office. We had approximately 150 signatures which were sent off to our M.P., Mr Bernard Jenkin. Some of you, we know, have had a reply from Mr Jenkin. To our loyal customers, thank you for your support during the last seven years, and we hope the Post Office and Shop will be here for many years to serve you ALL. *Barbara and Michael Hall*

BROWNIES

60 Brownies from the Manningtree District came to Great Bromley for Revels in July. We revelled in the barn at Park Farm to the theme of Disney on a gloriously sunny evening. We sadly said farewell to Tawny Owl who started three years ago as a Young Leader before becoming a warranted Guider taking over the Pack last January. However work pressures mean that she can no longer get to the meetings easily. We wish her all the best for the future and hope we will still see her from time to time.

Kate, Emma and Joanne have left Brownies for Guides and we also wish them fun and success. Joanne gained her Highway Badge just before she left. St John's Ambulance came for two weeks and taught us First Aid (including resuscitation) with the result that Emma, Joanne, Zara, Sarah, Kizzy, Kate, Zoe, Kelly, Beth, Claire, Katy, Emily and Nikki all passed their First Aid Badge. Kate Martin, with help from Emma, Jo, Zara, Sarah and Kelly, organised a Fashion Show for the last meeting of term to which we invited parents and friends. For the production of the Show the new “GO” badges were awarded.

Term starts again on Thursday, 16th September, 5.30-7.00pm Any girls, aged 7 and over, are very welcome to come and join us. *Brown Owl*

THE GREAT BROMLEY CHARITIES

Over many years Three Charities have been operating in the Village of Great Bromley, The Mary Jacobs Charity, the Poorlands Charity and the Nicholls Coal Charity. These Charities are distributed in January of each year to elderly residents. In 1992 the income of the three Charities combined amounted to £161, of which £160 was distributed.

The Trustees are negotiating with the Charity Commissioners and are now awaiting their final approval for the amalgamation of these three Charities into one, The Poorlands Charity. The funds of the Mary Jacobs and Nicholls Coal Charity are all to be transferred into the Poorlands Charity, thus considerably simplifying the distribution. This will still take place in January of each year, but the Trustees have decided they will no longer have to attend at the Parish Church on New Year's Day to receive the grant, but, instead, the Trustees will deliver the charity monies by hand to the recipients during the month of January. The recipients of the three Charities in past years will continue to be considered for grants, but they would like to hear from any elderly persons in a difficult financial situation who might like their names to go forward for consideration when the annual distribution is decided.

Great Bromley Parish Council have taken over responsibility for the administration of the Charity, and the following have been appointed as Trustees: Mr Peter Rowe, Mr James Wild, Mr George Kempster and Mr Henry Fairley. Mr H P Booty, of 93 Harwich Road, Colchester (telephone 864323) has been appointed Clerk to the Trustees, and any enquiries concerning the Poorlands Charity should be addressed to him.

LEIGH SINGERS

Our garden party on 5th July was very successful and we had a lovely afternoon. Many thanks to all who came and supported us. A profit of £130.74 was made, which will be used to purchase new music and help us to pay for hiring the schoolroom for our practise sessions. We are always keen to have new members, and also bookings for entertaining. *Jill Frostick*

KITCHEN CORNER

Plums should be plentiful this year and make delicious puddings and pies. Here is a recipe for Clafoutis using 2lbs of plums.

Stone plums and lay in a greased overproof dish. Make a batter with:

4oz plain flour 4oz castor sugar 3 eggs ½ pt milk :1/4 pt cream 1 oz butter

1tbl brandy or rum if liked

Pour this over the plums and bake 40 minutes in a hot oven till nicely browned. Sprinkle with icing sugar and more alcohol if used and serve hot. You can use apples or pears etc. in the same way.

TALENTS SCHEME

Robert and Jean Harding are having a HATS BRING & BUY PARTY on Saturday, 7th August, 10.30-12.30 at Hollies, Colchester Road (230425). Men's, women's and children's hats please, from wedding hats to bobble hats etc. Also a plant stall. Anyone offering to help could use it as their talent effort too if wished! 50p including coffee. Proceeds to be divided between Restoration Roof Fund and Church Fund.

GREAT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUP

DO YOU have spare time on Monday and Wednesday mornings?

DO YOU hold a P.S.Y. Qualification or a Pre-school Foundation Qualification?

WOULD YOU like to join our friendly local playgroup? .

IF SO: please 'phone Carol Kynaston on 0206 230270 for more information. We look forward to hearing from **YOU!!!**

Contributions for the September issue should reach the editor by Monday, 16th August, please.

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

Our Cheese and Wine party was another occasion for us to enjoy a "get together" with plenty of goodies supplied by the members at the home of Mr and Mrs Griffiths. The competition guessing the number of seeds in the packet was won by Mrs Jones, Mrs Hurst and Mr Field.

AUGUST 5th is our next meeting at Seven Rivers when Mr Colin Chapman will be speaking to us on "Lilacs". Mr Chapman is the Vice President Europe of the International Lilac Society Inc. and has just returned from Canada where he was photographing the world's largest collection of lilacs. The time is 7.30p.m. - don't be late! *Vicky Griffiths*

GREAT BROMLEY W.I.

Unfortunately the Outing to Dunwich on Wednesday, 4th August has had to be cancelled BUT Rita Baxter has generously volunteered to host a Barbecue instead SO Members are invited to her house on that day at 6.00pm - £2.00 on the door.

We heard at a recent meeting about the Night Shelter for the Homeless in Colchester and asked if we could help in some way; home cooking is appreciated so a consignment of pies made by members has been delivered.

Denman, the W.I.'s own college of further education, is fund raising at the moment.

Interestingly, Mrs Newman, our July Speaker, first became engrossed in The History of Gardens, after a course she took at Denman. Her talk and slides revealed the knowledge and delight of this subject she has studied since then.

TALKS

Having studied with the Open University for over a decade I am willing to talk to any organisations/groups in the village about it. I am also willing to talk about the National Women's Register to which I also belong. I may be able to attend at short notice, other commitments allowing, to replace a speaker who has to cancel at the last minute. I can be contacted at home on 251691 -or at work on 893515. *Valerie Harris*

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL

Term ended at S. George's School on Friday, 23rd July after the usual very busy and successful term. Farewells were said to eleven pupils who have now completed their Primary education and in September ten commence the next stage of their education at Manningtree School and one at Colne High, and to Mrs Tucker who is retiring after fourteen years' teaching the Reception Classes. We wish them all well as they leave us, and particularly we wish Mrs Tucker a long and happy retirement.

The leavers are: Kevin Long, Matthew Cassap, Simon Fryer, Jonathan Shoulders, Christopher Wheatley, Ben Reed, Aaron Giles, Karina Allen, Emma Norman, Sarah Ockenden and Joanne Cobbold.

When next term commences in September, not only will we welcome the new five year olds, but also a new teacher to take this class. We are sure that Miss Emma Cameron will be warmly welcomed, and will have a long and happy stay with us at the school.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Adrian Ryder of Frating Road ran the Colchester half marathon on 6 June. Various members of the committee obtained sponsorship and raised £66.50. The Bromley Messenger offered £5 to whoever guessed the nearest to Adrian's time. This was won by Mr J H Osborne - 2 hours 10 mins - who very graciously gave it back to the Messenger. Well done Adrian, the committee and Mr Osborne. *LBC*

LOW COST HOUSING SCHEME

As mentioned last month the Great Bromley Low Cost Housing survey is enclosed with your magazine. If you have an interest please fill in the form and return to the Rural Housing Trust. The address is on the form.

PARISH COUNCIL

It has now been decided by the Parish Council that the war memorial, when cleaned and refurbished, will still remain on its present site. Mr N Rowe, Village Hall Committee, gave a report on Village Hall alterations and recommendations. The new kitchen is now complete and other works that were started several years ago will now be finished. It was reported that the

Village Hall suffered a great heat loss through the roof but hopefully this can be remedied. The Health and Safety Officer was satisfied with the Village Hall.

Valerie Harris reported on behalf of the Recreation Field Committee that the grass cutting was not satisfactory. It was also reported that the hedge needed trimming as visibility on the junction off Mary Lane/Harwich Road was obstructed. The Clerk commented that E.C.C. instructed the Parish Council to arrange for hedge cutting.

The Draft local plan has allowed for all the proposed conservation areas within the villages. A request for safety crash barriers at the School have been refused by the authorities, so it was decided to plant hedging to form a natural crash barrier. Details of this scheme will be looked into and will be discussed fully at the next meeting.

Rationalisation of footpaths was discussed in depth and it was hoped that landowners, on receipt of a letter from the Parish Council, would pass comments to the Clerk on this proposed scheme within the village. E.C.C. are once again clearing footpaths in the village paying particular attention to RP. No 8 which is adjacent to Portlands Farm leading off Harwich Road. If anyone in the village has complaints regarding parish affairs write to the Clerk: Mr Booty, 93 Harwich Road, Colchester CO4 3BX. Telephone 864328.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

Sunday, 4th July, 1993. Christopher William, the son of Nigel and Carol Thomson of 6 Fox Street, Ardleigh

Sunday, 11th July, 1993. Oliver James, the son of Steven and Dawn Walker of Jasmine Cottage, Frating Road, Great Bromley.

Holy Matrimony

Nesta Mary Clapham married Anthony John Waters on Saturday, 3rd July, 1993.

Sunday Services - S. George's Church

August 1st Family Service and Holy Baptism 10.30am Evensong - Seven Rivers Home 6.30pm

August 8th Sung Mattins 10.30am Evensong - S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh

August 15th Parish Communion 10.30am Evensong S. George's Church 6.30pm

August 22nd Parish Communion 10.30am Evensong - S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh

August 29th Parish Communion 10.30am Evensong - S. George's Church 6.30pm

Holy Communion every Sunday at 8.00am

FOR SALE Mountain bike to fit small adult or older child. 18 gears, needs slight attention (new tyres). £50. Can be viewed at Dairy Farm Cottage, Hare green. Telephone Valerie or Ian on 251691

Pair of Roller boots size 4-5. Pair of roller skates. £10 each or best offer. Telephone Valerie on 251691

[Hot-Line Printers and Carolina Radio 100.5FM Advert

The Bromley Messenger September 1993

Although most of the residents of Great and Little Bromley no longer depend on farming for their employment, the in-gathering of the harvest is an important time for a rural parish such as ours. It is a reminder to us all that agriculture is still the largest industry in our country, and also that the production of the harvest does not rely entirely on management. A factory, whatever it produces, stands or falls on the skill of the management and its workers. Raw materials arrive, and providing the work systems are efficient, the finished article leaves for marketing. In agriculture, the efficiency of management and workers is all important, but there is another important factor - the weather. Too much frost early in the year, too much rain, too much sun, lack of frost, rain or sun - all these variables can prove disastrous for the crops. The farmer can see his crops, the labour of many months hard work destroyed over night. The farmer knows all the time that he is dependent, in a way that the factory owner is not, on a power greater than man, the powers and concern of God.

This is why it is so appropriate each year to give thanks to God for the gifts of harvest which provide us and people throughout the world with their daily food. 'Give us this day our daily bread' we pray. Our daily bread does not drop down from heaven in answer to this prayer, but comes to us through the co-operation of man and God. It is through the planning and toil of the farmer that we obtain the sustenance that enables us to live our lives. During this month in the Methodist Chapels and the Parish Church we will be giving thanks to God for his harvest blessings, and showing that we realise just how much we depend on God - and his fellow workers, those who work on our farms.

This month we warmly thank our printers, HOT-LINE PRINTERS of Coggeshall for Sponsoring this issue.



Material for the October issue of 'The Messenger' should reach the editor no later than Monday, 13th September.

SEPTEMBER DIARY

2nd September Garden Club Meeting - 7.30pm
1st & 3rd Mon Badminton Club
9th Friendship Club visit to Westcliff Theatre
12th Thanksgiving for Confirmation - 6.30pm
17th A.G.M. Carpet Bowls Club
18th Dance - 8.00-midnight
24th Essex Police Band - 7.30pm
26th Harvest Lunch - 12.15pm

Future Events

25th October Guides Coffee Morning
30th A Party Dance at the Village Hall 8.00pm

THANKSGIVING FOR CONFIRMATION

On SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th at 6.30pm in S. MARY'S CHURCH, ARDLEIGH, there will be a reunion and service of Thanksgiving for all who have in the past few years been confirmed in this parish and the parish of Ardleigh. The service will be a Sung Eucharist with the re-making of the vows and promises made at confirmation. A personal invitation will be sent to those recently confirmed in both parishes, but, of course all who have been confirmed, perhaps many years ago will be warmly welcomed.

After service, refreshments will be provided in the Vicar's Room, Ardleigh, for which we are most grateful to the ladies of Ardleigh for arranging. [It is hoped that, like the annual service of Thanksgiving for Baptism this will become a yearly event, alternating between, S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh and S. George's Church.

VILLAGE HALL

Arrangements have been made by the Village Hall Committee for the appearance of The Essex Police Band in concert at the Village Hall on Friday, 24th September at 7.30pm. This band is not only popular in this country but has recently had a successful tour of European countries. Please book early. Tickets are in great demand - Adults £3.00, Children £1.00

THE ESSEX WAY

At last I've done it, I have completed the Essex Way. It has been something I have wanted to do for some time, but when my husband broke his arm last Autumn we had the chance to spend two separate days on The Way. One day we drove to Dedham, walked to Harwich (too far) and caught a train back in time to take a Cub meeting, and the other day was done using the two-car track between Dedham and Coggeshall. Then the opportunity came for a whole weekend walking, well Saturday afternoon to Monday afternoon (husband works nights and Guides and Cubs are Monday evenings). We were four, daughter and boyfriend were to join us, so a Sunday was found to practise carrying the rucksacks and try out new boots. Unfortunately it was that exceedingly HOT day, but we knocked another five miles off The Way allowing the backpacking to finish at White Notley. The week before was spent in choosing, weighing and discarding items. Food was a problem to start with as we are all veggies and the packs are almost all 'meaty', so our own mix was prepared. Then came the day, and after just a few hours' sleep, husband was roused, and we were off to Epping. The car was parked, the map consulted and within five minutes we were out of town. We used both maps and booklet because I feel safer with a map, but a lot of the route was signed. Some of it was excellent, but the slap and tingle of the wet thistles and nettles on Sunday morning will discourage any tendency to rheumatism we might have had! Both nights we found fields to camp in and kindly people to replenish our water bottles and we were away by half past eight both mornings. The weather was good even though the wet weather gear was definitely needed for a time. The villages were really lovely and we looked inside many unusual churches. Even White Notley station is different being on a single track, and as we had 45 minutes to wait, the wet socks were hung to dry and we had a brew up, hot water provided by a friendly stationmaster to 'save us using our cooker'. These are just some of the good things about the Essex Way which staggers from village to village, unlike several long-distance routes which bypass all towns. Next year we shall walk it again, perhaps starting at Harwich this time.
Jacqui Terry

GUIDES

It must be a year since 1st Great Bromley Guides had a paragraph or two in the Parish magazine but we are still alive and kicking. We've had three, and possibly four, Brownies join us in the Summer term, but we've also lost two older Guides and two more become Holiday Guides due to change of schools. We have been active in various ways; canoeing, camping twice for some, had a cycle ride treasure hunt (without the treasure, that is next time), held a party for the Brownies, been to London, improved our health and had visitors to tell us how to eat sensibly, how to puppy walk a future guide dog for blind people, and had a musical road show with the opportunity to try various instruments. We've also raised £57 for Elefriends by car washing and are currently working on raising £120 to dig a well in Africa so that a few more people can have water which we take for granted. We will be holding a Coffee Morning on Monday, 25th October, in half term, please support us. We have already picked strawberries and made jam, for sale at £1 per jar, and the Guides have other plans up their sleeves.

Various badges have been gained such as Culture, Child Care, First Aid, Advanced and Basic Camper, Hostess, Fitness, Craft, Patrol Purpose Patches, and all the Guides have gained Trefoils at different stages, but the main thing about being a Guide is keeping the Promise and Law and having fun, and this is just what all Great Bromley Guides do well. *Jazz*

YOUTH CLUB

Dear Members, I would like to thank all those who took part in our sponsored swim. We realised approximately £140 - Well done! ~ which will be used to purchase games equipment. .The club

is in need of board games and we would be grateful if anyone wishing to donate games could please drop them off at the club between 5.00 and 6.30 on a Wednesday evening. Youth Club will re-open on 8th September. We now have a waiting list if you wish to put your name down for the future. (For those aged 10-15 years). *Youth Club Leader Mrs Diane Spurling*

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION COLCHESTER & DISTRICT BRANCH

Thanks to innumerable generous people who gave prizes and their time, and loaned a caravan, supplies tables and equipment, our Stand at the Tendring Show, provided for us free of charge, raised £370. Also maybe even more important, awareness to the public of this most distressing family illness was alerted. And a few 'new' families were discovered. So thanks to all. It was very well worth while. *Jean Harding*

ARE YOU INSURED FOR ALL RISKS?

The Seventeenth Report of the Tendring Hundred Provident, Benefit & Sickness Club was printed by T Watts, Bookseller, High Street, Manningtree, in 1854. It shows that workers in The Bromleys, among other places, as well as the incumbents of Great and Little Bromley and the Landlords were interested in providing against the rainy day. Insured members from Great Bromley were - G Bowell, who also had an Endowment Policy; G Bowell, (Junr), James Bowell, Henry Bowell, William Bowell (with Endowment), Peter Bromley, Edward Church, W D Eagle, a lady named Alice Frost, Lazarus Marjoram, Francis Stebbing, another lady, Ann Talbot, and William G Youngs (with Endowment).

In Little Bromley - George Studd was The Steward for the parishes, with Arthur Almond, Joseph Bunch, Ann Ellis and Emma Ellis, Susan Good, Eliza Harrison, James and Thomas Herring, George Meeker, Henry and William Nunn, James Page, Sarah Powell, Daniel, James and William Sargeant, Elizabeth Torsbell and Joseph Young. Have you noted the number of ladies? Great Bromley had 10 members subscribing for sickness benefits and three for added endowments; Little Bromley had 19 subscribers for sickness only. Great Bromley members paid £10 1s 10½ d. Little Bromley - £14 5s 5½ d.

In 1853 Great Bromleians were sick 10 weeks on Full Pay and seven weeks on Half Pay, being paid £4 12s 0d in total, and Little Bromley had 24 weeks Full Sickness Pay, amounting to £9 12s 0d from the "Box".

Thus did the workers provide for themselves and their families in the 1850s. Have you noted the families still resident here today? *John Appleby*

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I refer to the article in the July issue of the Bromley Messenger under the heading 'Our Post Office is Under Threat', with respect I must submit the article presents a rather alarmist slant and leaves out several material facts.

In fact what the Government is considering is urging more people to agree to have their pension paid into a bank. The option to have one's pension paid this way has existed for years - obviously it reduces considerably the administrative cost of paying the OAP.

Since your local Post Office is an agent for Girobank plc there is nothing to stop anybody from opening an account with Girobank and arranging for their pension to be paid into that account. There is no need to go any further to get money than one has done in the past since it can be obtained over the counter of the very P.O. you allege is liable to disappear.

You make no mention of the very real advantages to be had from operating a bank account which include the ability to draw money from any P.O., for example when on holiday or when an extra sum is wanted whilst out in town shopping. Importantly, there is no need to keep more than a modest amount of cash about the house.

Name and address supplied

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

LILACS: Before Mr Chapman gave his talk, with slides, on Thursday, 5th July I am sure few of us knew there were more than about three colours i.e. pale and dark mauve and white, but we saw pictures from the palest pink to the darkest red, a lot of which are only seen growing abroad but there were some which are obtainable from local nurseries. We learned that lilacs are best grown in an open position fairly well spaced. Our next meeting on 2nd September is at the home of Mrs Headford to whom we offer our many thanks - don't forget your plants and cuttings (7.30pm.) *Vicky Griffiths*

A PARTY DANCE in aid of the Village Hall funds to be held on 30th October at 8.00 p.m. with the Derek Willis Band Tickets £5.00 with refreshments. Bar available.

"OUR VISITOR"

I have a little friend who comes to visit me,
every night at half past five, just in, time for tea.
Whiskas is his favourite food and he has his favourite chair,
and at half past ten I put him out, and he thinks this is unfair!
He's black and grey striped on the top with a white and ginger tum,
he likes to have his ears scratched, to him this is such fun.
Just now he has hurt a leg and limps around on three,
and when I go to put him out he looks for sympathy!
Bob is what I call him, though I know that's not his name,
he "must" belong to some-one because he is so tame.
If you think this is your cat then would you let me know,
so when I put him out tonight I'll know where he will go.
Sue Perry (Tel: 230037)

RECREATION FIELD

Our FUN DAY on the Recreation Field on 17th July proved to be quite successful despite only a moderate attendance. The total amount raised was £216.32 of which £100 has already been allocated as our share of the Field insurance. Unfortunately we may have to pay for repairs to the recently vandalised play equipment!
We would like to remind parents that while every effort is made to ensure that the play equipment is maintained in a safe condition it is essential that parents of young children check for themselves before allowing their children to play on it. *Chris Taylor*

Book this date. In aid of Great Bromley Village Hall. Reg. Charity. DANCE to 'Brian Lee and The Leaders' Saturday, 18th September at 8.00-12 midnight at Great Bromley Village Hall Licensed Bar available. Tickets £5.00 including Buffet
Ring for tickets.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Mrs Usher who is a Florist will be our speaker at our September meeting. Our outing to Windsor with the river trip was enjoyed by all. Now we are looking forward to a visit to the Westcliff Theatre on Thursday, 9th September. The coach will start picking up at Elmstead at 6.00pm. The Competition for September will be 'A Floral Table Mat'. *Mildred Purkis*

GREAT BROMLEY BADMINTON CLUB

At the A.G.M. held recently, it was decided to continue a men's team in the Colchester Federation League, but to withdraw the mixed team from that league and enter a less competitive Clacton Mixed League.

We are still short of players, and anyone wishing to join us will be welcome to come to club nights which will be held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, beginning on 6th September. Enquiries, 'phone Joy on 251027.

CARPET BOWLS

On 28th July we were hosts in a friendly with Weeley and have been invited for a return match on 31st August. Club evenings have continued throughout the summer and about 14 members were present to watch the final of the pairs competition. The score was level after 7 ends but Pauline Keeble and Cyril Childs took the last two from Jayne Bates and Roger Kynaston, winning the match by 13 shots to 9. Congratulations to Pauline and Cyril. Our A.G.M. is on 17th September. If you have any points to raise regarding the club in any way, please be there!

Nancy Kempster

SERVICES - SEPTEMBER

Sunday 5th Family Service and Holy Baptism 10.30am
Evensong Seven Rivers Cheshire Home 6.30pm
Sunday 12th Sung Mattins 10.30am

Eucharist of Thanksgiving for Confirmation - S. Mary's, Ardleigh 6.30pm Sunday 19th Parish
Communion 10.30am Evensong ~ S. Mary's Ardleigh 6.30pm
Thursday 23rd Thanksgiving for Harvest 7.30pm
Sunday 26th Parish Communion 10.30am Festival Evensong - S. George's 6.30pm

Holy Communion every Sunday at 8.00am

SPONSORED PARISH WALK

Please support the Sponsored Walk around the boundaries of the Villages of Little and Great Bromley on Saturday, 4th September. Details of this are available in the Church or from the Rectory. The PCC decided that the proceeds of this will be split between the Friends of Essex Churches and the Parish Funds. In the past the Friends have made grants to us towards the Tower repairs, and as we are likely to have to ask them for help towards the next stage of the repairs, the repairs to the Nave Roof, we really ought to support them as much as possible. They are arranging the annual Cycle Ride around churches on 11th September, but as that date is not convenient, we are undertaking the walk in its place. However, if any person would like to take part in the Cycle Ride, there is information with sponsor sheets available in the Church.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING 1993

This year the Harvest Thanksgiving Services will be held on Thursday, 23rd September at 7.30pm and Sunday, 26th September. At the service on Thursday Evening, the preacher will be Mr Roy Tricker, a Reader from the Diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich, who is also Field Officer for the Redundant Churches Fund, and who, in that capacity is responsible for S. Mary's Church, Little Bromley. He will be remembered by members of the Friendship. Club and the WI as a recent speaker at their meetings.

As a new venture, we are changing the arrangements for the Harvest Supper. This year, instead of a Supper, we are arranging a Harvest Lunch at 12.15 for 12.45pm. We have decided to reduce the cost of this for this year. The ticket prices will be £2.50 for adults and £1.50 for children. We hope that you will enjoy the menu which will be as follows:

Main Buffet menu: Cold Ham Cold Turkey Jacket Potatoes Salads

Vegetarian menu: Fish Pie Cheese Dish Jacket Potatoes Salads

Children's Menu: Sausages Cheese on Sticks Crisps Jacket Potatoes Salads

Sweet Course: Apple Pie Trifle Both served with Ice Cream Squash Apples Tea or Coffee

Wine will be on sale for those who would like it - or bring your own bottle. After the meal, a play area will be provided for children. TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL

The School Harvest Thanksgiving will take place this year on Friday, 8th October at 2.00pm.

"ODD-JOB"

Need help with the Garden, Painting, Decorating or General D.I.Y. at Reasonable Rates? Then contact "The ODD-JOB Man" on 0206 250442 (evenings)

CHURCH REGISTERS - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH

Holy Baptism

Sunday, 1st August Hayley Emma, daughter of Roger and Jill Steed of Touchwood, Shop Road, Little Bromley.

Blessing of Marriage

Saturday, 21st August Clive Malcolm Griffiths and Linda Guidi, married in Italy on 10th July, 1993

Burial

John William Rodgers of Seven Rivers Cheshire Home was buried in S. George's Churchyard on 15th July.

METHODIST SERVICES

Sunday Sept 5th Elmstead 11.00am The Revd J Robinson
12th Burnt Heath 11.00am The Revd J Robinson
19th Balls Green 11.00am The Revd J Robinson
26th Elmstead 11.00am Mr P Gill Harvest Thanksgiving

The Bromley Messenger October 1993

Our thanks this month are to the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of The Bromleys for sponsoring this edition of the magazine. Contributions for the November issue should reach the Editor by Wednesday, 13th October, please.

Due to the sad death of Flo Orman, of whom an appreciation is published later in this magazine, S. George's Church urgently need help in weekly cleaning of Brass and Silverware. Also further help would be appreciated in Church Cleaning. These tasks can be arranged on a rota basis if several people could help. Please contact the Rector (230344) or Peter Rowe (231067) if you would be able to spare any time to help.

OCTOBER DIARY

5th Lt Bromley Chapel Get-together 7.30pm

6th Coffee Morning in Little Bromley Chapel 10.00am-noon.

9th Tearcraft Coffee Morning 10.00am-noon

14th Fungi Talk Garden Club 7.30pm

23rd Table Top Sale at Lt Bromley Chapel

23rd Country & Western Dance Village Hall 8.15-11.30pm

30th A Party Dance at the Village Hall 8.00p.m.

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

It is our 32nd Birthday this month, October, and to help us to celebrate, our own Friendship Players will be entertaining us. The Competition - An Autumn Arrangement in a small kitchen utensil. *Mildred Purkis*

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

A happy evening was spent at the home of Mr and Mrs Headford on Thursday the 2nd for which many thanks for their hospitality. Could I now remind members that our next meeting will be on Thursday, 14th October at Seven Rivers when Mr Rose will be speaking to us, with slides, on FUNGI - usual time 7.30pm.

The meaning of the Passion Flower for which many people have asked - you will find marked in the flower a crown of thorns, the whip, tree, nails, and the five wounds of Christ. *Vicky Griffiths*

DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Exhibitions and Maintenance Grants for Educational purposes are offered to young people resident in Ardleigh, Bradfield, Great Bromley, Dedham and Stratford St Mary. Application forms may be obtained from Mr Christopher Barlow, Clerk to the Governors, 47 Butt Road, Colchester, CO3 3B2. The closing date for applications is 22nd October, 1993.

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION

The A.G.M. of the Colchester and District HDA will be held at Seven Rivers on Wednesday., 27th October at 6.30p.m. Our Essex patron, Lord Braybrooke, the Lord Lieutenant of Essex will be with us, and after the short business session, the new neurologist of the district, Dr Giles Elrington will speak. We hope that anyone interested, wanting to know more, or to help will come. If you can indicate your intention to do so to Jean Harding (230425) or a message at the Home, it would be a help but not a necessity. A light buffet will be available after the meeting and there will also be a video showing.

TEARCRAFT COFFEE MORNING on Saturday, 9th October at The Chase, Chase Road East, Great Bromley from 10.00a.m. to Noon Christmas Cards. Bring and Buy Stall Craft Gifts Refreshments Christian concern in a world of need. *Ian and Sue Orriss*

FLORENCE MAY ORMAN - Our Flo

Flo, born in Great Bromley in 1907, was one of the eleven children of Fred Orman and his wife, Harriett Elizabeth. Flo and the late Lottie (Charlotte) Downes were twin sisters. She attended the village school and on leaving worked for the Anning family. She, unlike her twin, never married but did have a boy friend once, and always received a posy on Mothering Sunday.

The Mansard or Dutch Cottage where the family lived in Brook Street was featured on many post cards of the Spread Eagle. When it was demolished the Annings built Brook Bungalow and here

Flo resided until her death. The Ardleigh Doctor's Surgery was held here every Wednesday and this open home became a "Coffee Club" after church on Sundays for many of us. The Rector remembers the excellence of Flo's cooking. There was an ever open door for all who called. As a member of the Friendship Club she proved a loyal and devoted friend. Her knowledge of the village and its families was very extensive.

Flo's maternal grandfather was parish clerk and sexton and succeeded by her father, Fred, to be followed by Flo - 123 Years of service to St George's! Before the days of a Ladies section of the church choir Flo and others sat in the front pew and sang the treble and alto line. Her chief delight was cleaning the church silver. Until five years ago she was a member of the PCC. It was Flo who tolled the bell and did all the clerk's duties.

At her funeral service the bells were muffled, the flag flown at half mast, and her numerous friends gave thanks to God for one who can truly be called, "The Mother of the Parish", a true and faithful friend of us all. Much has been said about her godly life and more will be remembered in future. May she rest in peace. *J.A.*

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL

The School Harvest service will take place this year on Friday, 8th October in S. George's Church at 2.00pm., with a theme of 'Sharing'. All parents and friends of the school are cordially invited to attend. On Monday, 11th October, the pupils in Year 6, Mrs Fitzgerald's class, will deliver the harvest goods brought by the children to elderly people in the Parish.

The Autumn term commenced in September with a total roll of 97 children. Among the newcomers who were welcomed was Miss Emma Cameron, appointed as Reception and Year 1 teacher.

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS

Would all parents please park their cars in Church Meadow when they go to the school to pick up their children. This is an important matter of safety to avoid any possible dangers caused by parking on the bend of the road outside the school. This is the urgent recommendation of PC Philips. The provision of Church Meadow for this purpose by Mr Charlie Pirie is very much appreciated.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

After 31 years as a School Governor, and 14 as Chairman of Governors, Mr George Kempster has decided that it is time for him to step down. His very many contributions to the life of the school are very much appreciated, and thanks are given to him for all his interest and labours on behalf of the school. In his place, Mr Henry Fairley of Park Farm has been appointed. Another vacancy has been filled by Mr David Skinner of Little Bromley. They both are warmly welcomed onto the Governing Body. By the time this magazine has been published, the Parents of Children at the school will have elected two Parents to join the school as Governors. Their names will be published in the next edition.

A BIG AND GRATEFUL THANK YOU

Audrey and John Appleby sincerely thank you all for the flowers, cards and good wishes received since Audrey entered Colchester General Hospital and was then transferred to Oldchurch Hospital, Romford. Your prayers have also made us stronger. Thank you all, so much.

RECIPE FOR A PARISH MAGAZINE

Choose a deadline each month

Sit back and hope and wait for copy.

Put clean sheets of paper in a large typewriter

Add news items and articles received

Together with church services, parish news and editorial.

Whisk in a few dances, concerts and other entertainments

Then mix together to look their best

Place in greased tin for printers to bake

To be served on the 1st of each month.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR TAX?

From 1696 Parish Constables were directed to make annual returns of men aged 21 to 70 who were owners of freehold or copyhold lands valued at £10 or more per year. The lists were affixed to the church doors for all to see. The lists were certified by the local JP. and passed to the Clerk of the Peace. Those listed then were liable for Jury Service. On the List for 1734 were the following in Great Bromely (sic):

Name	age	Estate Value	and in
Samuel Salmon	52	£80	Gt Bromley
Henry Gardiner	38	£25	ditto
John Gardner (sic)	32	£45	Gt & Lt Bromley
John Garwood	38	£30	Gt Bromley
William Gremcey	43	£24	ditto
Nathaniel Whiles	30	£12	ditto
Samuel Record	40	£17	ditto
Robert Wyles	45	£10	ditto
John Smith	42	£12	ditto
William Harrington	27	£30	ditto

It must be assumed that the ages given are as correct as memory served the informant. Further research in Quarter Sessions Records, etc., will prove whether these men were ever called.

John Appleby

COUNTRY AND WESTERN DANCE

There will be a COUNTRY AND WESTERN DANCE on Saturday, 23rd October in the Village Hall from 8.15p.m.-11.30p.m. Dancing will be accompanied by DAVE LORD AND COUNTRY GOLD. There will be a Buffet, Raffle and Bar. Tickets are £3.50 bought in advance, £4.00 at the door, and Senior Citizens £2.50. Please ring Bert on 231428 to reserve your tickets.

GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB 100 CLUB WINNERS

June	T. Marshall	M. Foley	J. Hodge
July	V. Biddis	T. Huish	T. Marshall
August	L. Foley	J. Taylor	C. Deere

LITTLE BROMLEY METHODIST CHAPEL

We are pleased to be able to confirm that activities are continuing in the Chapel building, to which all are very welcome. There is now a regular service held on the last Sunday in each month at 10.30am. and an evening meeting which takes a different form from a traditional service at 6.30pm. During October there will be a Coffee Morning held on Wednesday, 6th October in the Chapel from 10.00am to 12.00 noon - come and meet new friends over a cup of coffee.

On Tuesday, 5th October there is the monthly get-together at Green Hedges, Little Bromley (tel. 396041) at 7.30pm. where, again, we share friendship and offer the opportunity to meet your neighbours, be they close or more distant.

This month there will be additional services held on Sunday, 17th October at 10.30am. and 6.30pm. to celebrate the HARVEST FESTIVAL - any gifts for the festival and for decorating the Chapel would be greatly appreciated. Children are very welcome at all our services/get-togethers and are encouraged to take part wherever possible.

On Saturday, 23rd October there will be a Table Top Sale in the Chapel - this is firstly being arranged for local people and organisations ~ tables are only £3.00 each - please telephone me to reserve yours on 396041. There will be a limited number of tables due to space restrictions and as this is the first venture of its kind, please give us your support.

The services to be held on 31st October will be the HARVEST FESTIVAL services - any gifts for the festival and for decorating the Chapel would be greatly appreciated. *Maralyn Bambridge*

S. MARY'S CHURCH, LITTLE BROMLEY

There is still, sadly, delay in completing the restoration works at S. Mary's Church, Little Bromley, due to the fact that the contractors have difficulty in including the work in their schedules. The Redundant Churches Rund have authorised the completion of the work,

replastering the interior and the restoration of the Organ, and they report that the work will definitely commence in November of this year, and be completed by March 1994. With this assurance, it is to be hoped that occasional services will be able to recommence in the Spring, with, perhaps the first service at Eastertide.

ALL SOULS DAY

All Souls Day, the day on which we remember with special prayers the souls of the faithful departed occurs on Tuesday, 2nd November. At the Requiem, a special service of Holy Communion at 8.00pm., we will remember by name the recently departed, members of our families and friends and all those who lie in our Churchyards. Please let the Rector know of any person 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, 24th and 31st October, when names can be added.

PARISH BOUNDARIES WALK

On Saturday, 4th September, the Rector, Mr James Wild and Mrs Anne Fairley attempted the Sponsored Walk - successfully. As a result of the sponsorship, over £300 has been sent to the Friends of Essex Churches. Our half of this total will be returned to the Parish for the Repair Fund. Our grateful thanks are offered to all who so generously sponsored the walkers.

HARWICH DEANERY SYNOD

The Harwich Deanery Synod will be holding their quarterly meeting in S. George's School on Monday, 11th October at 7.30pm.

EVENING SERVICES DURING OCTOBER

Sunday 3rd October - 6.30pm S. MARY'S CHURCH, ARDLEIGH
Ardleigh Church Harvest Thanksgiving, when the service will be sung by the S. Cecilia's Singers.
Sunday 10th October - 6.30pm SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME
Sunday 17th October - 6.30pm S. GEORGE'S CHURCH
Sunday 24th October - 6.30pm S. MARY'S CHURCH, ARDLEIGH.

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

Sunday, 5th September Evan Robert Rowe of 4 Lavenham Court, Layer Road, Colchester

Holy Matrimony

Saturday, 18th September Ian William Farrow of Stanway and Lorraine Trudy Rachel Hammett of Lei-Raine, Mary Lane South

Funeral Services

Wednesday, 1st September Charlotte Elizabeth Downs, service at Colchester Crematorium.
Tuesday, 14th September Florence May Orman, buried in S. George's Cemetary, twin sister of Charlotte Downs.

FLO ORMAN MEMORIAL FUND

I would like to thank the family and very many friends of Flo Orman who have given most generously to the fund set up in her memory. The total given has not yet been finalised, but I hope to announce it in the next issue of The Messenger. As it was very much larger than was expected, a part of it will be used to purchase a memorial gift which will bear her name and will be used in the Church, and the remainder will be paid into the S. George's Church Repair Fund. I feel that this would meet with Flo's wishes.

The Bromley Messenger November 1993

Remembrance Sunday, 14th November is a timely reminder to us all of the need to remember the sacrifice of so many men and women, not only in the war of 1939-1945, but also of the many periods of war and fighting that our Armed services have been involved in since that time, which have enabled us to lead our lives in this country in peace and tranquillity. We ought to express our thankfulness that bitter fighting of which we see so much evidence on the television in other countries has not occurred in our own land. During our Remembrance Day observance we use the words "We will remember them". The very least we can do for those who were not able to lead their lives to the full, who in their early years sacrificed their lives for a righteous cause is to remember them with grateful hearts. We all have an opportunity to do this, whether we come to church or not, during the two minutes silence on 14th November at 11.00am which I hope very many will observe. *Rector*

This month, The Messenger is sponsored by R.G. GWINNELL, Funeral Directors, 24 High Street, Manningtree. We thank them most warmly for their support

Material for the December issue of this magazine should reach the Editor by Monday 12th November please.

WHAT'S ON IN GREAT BROMLEY

- 30 Oct Craft Fayre in Village Hall at 2.00pm
- 2 Nov. Tupperware Party (in aid of Children's Hospice) at Dairy Farm Cottage, 8.00pm
- 3 Nov Playgroup Bonfire Night
- 3 Nov WI. Annual Meeting Show
- 14 Nov REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
- 20 Nov Auction & Jumble in Village Hall at 2.00pm
- 4 Dec Christmas Fayre in Village Hall at 2.00pm

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

This month we have Mr and Mrs Minter to show us their slides of "All Things Bright and Beautiful". The competition - A Floral Birthday Card. *Mildred Purkis*

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL

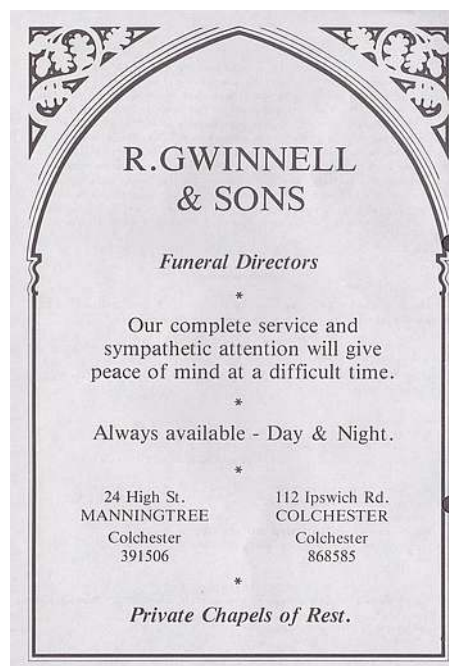
In September an election was held to elect two parents to join the Governing Body of the school. The two parents elected were Mr Philip Martin and Mr Nigel Rowe. At the Annual Meeting of the Governors held on 19th October, Mrs Jacqui Terry was elected as Chairman of the Governors in succession to the Rector.

FUNGI

This damp autumn has produced a fine crop of fungi. Have you tried those puffballs which are popping up on your lawn fried with your breakfast bacon? And if you're lucky enough to find a giant one cut it into inch thick slices, season them lightly with salt and pepper, dip in beaten egg, then breadcrumbs, and either shallow fry in oil or dot with flakes of butter and grill. They have a creamy texture and a very delicate flavour. Early on, a couple of ceps wandered into my garden, and years ago I used to find blewits along the ditch banks between Longmead and Strutt's. Believe me, none of these will give you even a tummy ache! *I. Wilkinson*

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

Another very interesting talk, with slides, by Mr Ian Rose on FUNGI. He entertained us last year with his "Journey through Kashmir", he certainly gets around! His knowledge of Fungi is amazing and whilst he explained that many of them are edible it is always advisable to treat with extreme caution as regards eating something which may prove fatal. The specimens he brought were fascinating especially the various sizes and colours and I'm sure our members will be taking a much closer look round their gardens. Our next "get together" is the Annual Dinner and we look forward to seeing you there. *Vicky Griffiths*



SPONSORED WALK

The total sum raised by the Sponsored Walk round the Parish Boundaries on 4th September amounted to £356. This sum was sent to the Friends of Essex Churches who have returned to us £178 which is to be paid into S. George's Church Repair Fund. In their note of thanks the Friends of Essex Churches described this as "A splendid effort". May I add my thanks to all who gave so generously to those of us who did the walking. *Rector*

HARVEST LUNCH 1993

Although this was a very new venture by the Parish, the Harvest Lunch on 26th September was a very great success, with those taking part, including a number of children, enjoying a really happy Parish party. My sincerest thanks go to those who organised the event, those who gave and prepared the food, and of course those who supported the event by attending it. There was a profit of £180 which has been paid into the Parish Funds. This was such a happy and enjoyable event that I am sure that we can look forward to it being repeated next year.

T.S. COLNE LIGHT COLCHESTER UNIT (88) SEA CADET CORPS

HYPHE QUAY, COLCHESTER

Colchester Sea Cadets would welcome, and are currently recruiting, boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 18. Monday and Wednesday 7.00-9.30pm - £1.00 per week. For more information call Lieutenant Tom Wright on (0206) 798895 or (0206) 870267. Or you can just come along. . You are guaranteed to learn new skills, make new friends and have in the process a good time.

GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

September 100 Club Winners Neal Garnham, Anthony Wright, Matthew Foley

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

On a recent BBC "Watchdog" Programme there was an item for anyone with the surname BROMLEY possibly being entitled to a share in a person's estate - but there were complications which we will not go into here. Here are some notes on some of the local Bromley families. Philips Bromley lived at Moze Hall, Ardleigh, in the late 18th century. He was born in 1746 and died in 1808. His wife, Elizabeth, born 1844, died in 1812. His family consisted of
(1) Mary, born 1769; married to Sam Cooper of Wick Farm, Ardleigh in 1797; died in 1855; had a son and three daughters, Samuel, Hannah, Mary and Elizabeth;
(2) Peter, born 1778; died 1801;
(3) Nathaniel, born 1780; married Susan Moulding or Holden of Shaws Farm, Ardleigh; died 1817: had two sons Nathaniel, 1810 and Thomas, 1812:
(4) Philips Bromley, born 1782; married Mary Stampers, who died in 1814; had a son Philips Stammers Bromley, born 1806;
(5) John Bromley, born 1784, married Elizabeth White of Lexden, died 1871.
Elizabeth Bromley died 24th April, 1852, aged 34 years, and lies in Great Bromley churchyard.
Mary Ann, wife of Carrington Bromley, died 19th December, 1867, aged 37 years, and was buried here with their infant daughter, Laura Elizabeth, aged 3 months.
Phil(l)ips Bromley, mentioned above (4) died 19th April, 1868, aged 86 years, and was interred at Great Bromley with his wife Elizabeth, died 3rd September, 1871 aged 84.
There were many others who bore the surname BROMLEY and so you can see that when we are called on to prove the family tree of any family that much research goes into the resulting document. *John Appleby*

GREAT BROMLEY YOUTH CLUB AUCTION and JUMBLE

20th November, 1993 Great Bromley Village Hall

Viewing will start at 1.30pm. Auction will start at 2.00pm .

2/3rds Selling price for you 1/3rd Selling price to Youth Club

Anything you wish to Auction should be brought to the Hall between 10.00-12.30pm.

NO ELECTRICAL GOODS.

Good condition jumble needed - please ring 395561 for collection or drop in at Youth Club, Wednesday evening between 5-6.30pm So why not sell some things you DON'T need and buy some things you DO need and help your local Youth Club in the process.

Diane Spurling

KEEP QARM, KEEP WELL

Help the Aged, Age Concern, Neighbourhood Energy Action and the Department of Health have produced a brochure to give practical information on how to keep warm and stay healthy during the winter months for everyone who may be at risk. We can all play a vital part in helping elderly and vulnerable people to cope with the bad weather by concerning ourselves with anyone whom we know to be at risk. Please tell any persons who are vulnerable about the booklet which they can obtain, or obtain it yourselves and give it to them. It contains ADVICE about diet, clothing, help available from voluntary organisations, benefits and grants, where to turn for help with heating bills and what to do in an emergency. The Brochure can be obtained by writing to: KEEP WARM, KEEP WELL, FREEPOST (SE2851), LONDON SE99 7XU. No stamp is required. There is also a winter Warmth 'phone line which can be used to obtain advice and information. The number to ring is 0800 289 404. This is a Free 'Phone number and will not cost you anything to use it.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

4th December 1993 at 2.00pm Great Bromley Village Hall Once again our own Father Christmas will be at the Fayre with all the usual stalls. If anyone has any items for stalls or raffles we would be very grateful. Items can be collected. The proceeds this year are to be shared between Great . Bromley Village Hall and S. George's Church, Great Bromley. Any offers of help for stalls ring the above number. Thanking you *J Wright*

BROWNIES

We welcome four new Tweenies - Gemma., Natasha, Rebecca and Elizabeth and congratulate Claire on gaining her Musician badge. Kelly and Emily have had Brownie birthdays. Jeni, Beth, Nikki and Katie formed a team for the Vivien Chapman Shield District event hosted this year by Ardleigh. A very good evening was had by all. We are most grateful to Mrs Landon for helping us make folded paper caterpillars and rabbits as well as cork Father Christmas and Dougal gonks. She also showed us how to make a lovely maggoty apple needlecase from felt. *Brown Owl*

KITCHEN CORNER

A good warming supper dish for autumn days, the traditional Northumbrian

PAN HAGGERTY.

Ingredients: 2 lbs potatoes 6oz mature cheddar cheese

$\frac{3}{4}$ lb onions 4tbls fat (dripping, bacon fat or butter)

Chop onions finely and fry gently in 2 tbls fat in a heavy based pan about 11-12" diameter. Meanwhile peel and thinly slice potatoes and grate the cheese. Remove pan from heat and lift out onions. Add more fat to the pan and spread half the potatoes over the base. Season well, lay onions over them and cover with cheese. Spread remaining potato slices over the top, and season again. Cover pan with lid or doubled foil and steam fry on moderate heat 30-35 mins or till tender. Remove lid towards the end to drive off moisture and brown underside, then brush the surface with a little fat and brown the top under the grill. Serve with a crisp green salad or watercress. *Jill Frostick*

CRAFT FAYRE at GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL

30th October 1993 at 2.00pm

Patchwork, Wooden Toys, Sugarcraft, Quilling, Knitwear, Quilting, Christmas items

Hand painted stationary Come and buy your Christmas presents and support GT BROMLEY RECREATION FIELD FUNDS. *Chris Taylor*

GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

There are several things to note for those members who couldn't make the October meeting. Our annual "Hospice Cake week" starts on 24th October, Doreen Petchey is organising this if you want to participate. Dovercourt are convening next years Spring Group Meeting - Thursday, 28th April; a date for your forward planner.

Wednesday, 3rd November is the Annual Meeting Show, you should have a schedule tucked away somewhere. N.B. Entries to be delivered to the Village Hall between 5.45 and 6.25pm, judging starts at 6.30pm. If you have a problem with this 'delivery time' 'phone June Willgress who has kindly said she would collect from you and deliver. A donation is to be sent to St. Helena's Hospice in memory of Betty Knight who joined our WI in 1980.

GREAT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUP

The A.G.M. was held on 15th September and a new committee was elected., Jeanette Cox took over as Chairperson, Dinah Jones as Vice-Chairperson, Diana McLean as Treasurer, Dawn Walker as Secretary and Cathy Brown, Hilary Fisher, Kim Knowles, Linda Person, Nicky Robinson, Dianne Seager and Sue Clark forming the rest of the committee.

The next fund-raising event for the playgroup is a Bonfire Night on 3rd November for all Playgroup and Toddler Group families. We will also be holding a Coffee Morning and Fashion Show before Christmas to help raise urgent funds.

We are still looking for a qualified Supervisor to help run the Playgroup from March 1994 when sadly Sue Clark will be Leaving us. If you are interested, please contact us.

We still have a few places available on our Monday and Wednesday sessions, so if you would like to send your pre-school child, please contact us. The Parent & Toddler Group is thriving too and is held on Wednesday mornings 10.00-11.45am - just come along. *Nicky Robinson*

TUPPERWARE PARTY

In aid of the Children's Hospice in Cambridge on Tuesday, 2nd November at 8.00pm at Dairy Farm Cottage, Hare Green All welcome on the evening. Donations or pre-party orders most gratefully accepted. *Valerie Harris*

VILLAGE HALL

"What a wonderful evening" – "Brilliant music" – "Superb soloists" – "Very enjoyable" – just some of the comments heard as the audience left the Great Bromley Village Hall, after listening to the ESSEX POLICE BAND, having recently returned from a tour of European Countries, on Friday, 24th September, and to which the humour of the Conductor, Mr Graham Sheldon, was an added bonus. As Friday night is Music Night watch out for more and join us again soon. Mary thanks to all our helpers who contributed to making it such a successful evening when a profit of £268.24 has gone to the Village Hall Funds.

Stan West and Frank Griffiths

CARPET BOWLS

The League season is here again and we have played our first match at Beaumont and although we lost 6-2 we enjoyed the evening. At our recent A.G.M. it was decided to try and buy a third carpet, hopefully with some grant aid. This will enable us to get club competitions played off quicker without restricting the playing time of non-competing members. The officers elected for the coming year are:- Pat Petchey (Chairman), Jayne Bates (Secretary), Dick Wilsher (Treasurer), Ron Copp (Captain) and Linda Francis (Vice-Captain). The Chairman thanked Gill Hubbard for her help and support during her six years as Secretary. Again, this September, we entered teams in the Charity Tours at Clacton and a Triples match at Great Bentley. From the two events approximately £1,335 was raised for the St. Helena Hospice. For a change, on 6th October, ten members went along to the Colchester Leisure Centre for Ten Pin bowling. It is a far more energetic game but we all survived. Happy Bowling

Nancy Kempster.

SOIL ENRICHMENT

There seems to be no modern cure
To quell the smell of farm manure.
A pity, for there's nothing found
That's better spread upon the ground;
This makes the gardener aspire
By hook or crook, to just acquire
A trailer Load, in steaming state
Delivered to his garden gate.
The nutrient value of the pile
Rates highest when it smells most vile
And people living round about
Shut windows tight to keep it out
And like the heap, they also fume
with rage inside their Living room.
They long to see it dug in deep

To quench the stench from that foul heap,
whilst wondering whether they in fact
Should now invoke the Clean Air Act.
Who would have thought the gentle art
Of gardening would somehow start
To rouse such passions, strong and deep?
All caused by a manure heap.
So, keep the peace and just relax,
Buy fertilizer sealed in sacks!

A.H.C.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Landowners in Great Bromley had now replied to the recent letter sent to them by the Parish Council regarding rationalisation of footpaths and the Clerk was instructed to send copies of these replies to Essex County Council.

Youth Club Four Youth leaders were present to give a report. A sponsored swim had taken place to raise money and this had helped swell the funds. An Auction will take place in Gt Bromley Village Hall on 20th November.

Village Hall It was reported that the main entrance was to be tidied up and the floor cleaned and re-sealed. The Village Hall is being well used at the present time.

Recreation Field A safety check on the play equipment had been carried out and a letter was read to the Parish Council stating all the maintenance that was needed. The Parish Council agreed to meet the costs of this work. Due to vandalism the litter bins were to be replaced. This cost would be met by the Recreation Field Committee.

Bernard Jenkin M.P. had written to the Parish Council regarding the gypsy problem in the area enclosing a copy of a Letter he had sent to Tony Baldry D.of.E. asking for action.

A donation of £100 was sent to Foundry Court in Manningtree.

The Rural Housing Trust had contacted the sub-committee reporting that a good response had been received from the Low-cost Housing Survey which was now under discussion with the T.D.C.

The next Parish Council meeting is on 18th November.

MAJOR HAROLD EDWARD VARNEY, 1913-1993

Major Varney, so very well known in Great Bromley and throughout the County, sadly died in his home on 27th September. He was born in Kensington, but spent most of his boyhood near Chelmsford, during which time he was a member of the choir of Chelmsford Cathedral. His long association with the Army commenced when, at the age of 16, he added one year to his age to enable him to join the Territorial Army. In 1932, he joined the Regular Army by enlisting as a Private in the Royal Tank Corps, serving throughout the war and finally retiring in the rank of Major in 1964 after a long and distinguished career.

On retirement, he and Eileen came to live in Great Bromley, where for the first twelve years of his retirement he worked as Service Manager for Pagans. At the same time, he commenced his long career in public service. In 1968 he was elected as a member of Essex County Council, serving for 17 years until 1985. This was followed by him representing Ardleigh on Tendring District Council. During this time, he also served as a member of Great Bromley Parish Council. As well as his political interest, he also developed a lively interest in gardening, and became one of the County's leading experts on bee keeping.

His early interest in the Church as a choirboy remained with him all his life. Stationed in Germany after the war, he was instrumental in the building and running of a Garrison Church in Hanover. Here in Great Bromley he took a full part in the life of the parish Church as sidesman, lesson reader, member of the Parochial Church Council of which he was Vice Chairman, and regular worshipper.

The discipline of his Army life, his very strong Christian faith, his uncompromising insistence on traditional values and his devoted family life coloured all he did. In 29 years in the village he contributed very much to its life, for which many of us are most thankful. Our sympathy goes to Eileen to whom he was married for 57 years. On 2nd October he was laid to rest in S. George's Churchyard. May he rest in peace.

GRATEFUL THANKS

Eileen and family wish to convey their heartfelt thanks for all the love, support and prayers they have received during Harold's illness. It has given us courage and strength to cope with the sad loss of one who has meant so much to us all. *Eileen Varney*

METHODIST SERVICES

Sunday 7th November Elmstead 11.00am Mr M Clegg
14th Burnt Heath 11.00am Mr B Clow
21st Balls Green 11.00am Mr D Watts
28th Elmstead 11.00am Miss S King

FATHER JOHN MCGRATH

Father John McGrath who has been Parish Priest of S. John Payne, Greenstead, and responsible for members of his church in Ardleigh and The Bromleys for 11 years is this month moving to become Parish Priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, Leigh on Sea. Many are grateful for his faithful ministry and his warm friendship to members of all churches. We wish him well in his new appointment, and assure him of our prayers. His successor will be Father Niall Harrington, whom we welcome most warmly.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 14TH NOVEMBER

This year we welcome at S. George's Church the members of the Elmstead and District Royal British Legion for the annual Remembrance Service on Sunday, 14th November. In order that we may be able to observe the Two Minutes Silence at 11.00am the time of the service will be changed from our normal custom. Members of the Royal British Legion will meet at the Village Hall at 10.10am and parade and march to the War Memorial at 10.35am. The Act of Remembrance, the reading of the names of the Fallen and the Two Minutes Silence will take place at the War Memorial, after which those attending will proceed into S. George's Church for the service which will commence at 11.05am. At the end of the service, at 12 noon, the parade will re-assemble and march back to the Village Hall for the dismissal. In the afternoon, there will be Remembrance Service at S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh, attended by members of the Burma Star Association. The service will commence in Ardleigh Church at 3.00pm. Because of this, there will be no service of Evensong on that Sunday.

SERVICES DURING NOVEMBER

Sunday 7th November 10.30am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong - Seven Rivers Cheshire Home
14th 11.05am Remembrance Service and Parish Communion
3.00pm Remembrance Service - S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh (NO EVENSONG at 6.30pm)
21st 10.30am Parish Communion & Holy Baptism 6.30pm Evensong - S. George's Church
ADVENT SUNDAY 28th 10.30am Parish Communion
6.30pm ADVENT CAROL SERVICE - S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

Sunday, 24th October Samuel Alan Melvyn Halsey, the son of Alan and Nicola Halsey of Frating Road.

Funeral Services

Saturday, 2nd October Major Harold Edward Varney, buried in S. George's Churchyard.
Thursday, 14th October Lilian (Betty) Knight, cremated at Weeley Crematorium after a Funeral Service at S. George's Church.

The Bromley Messenger December 1993

As we progress through the year and reach the month of December, we realise that not only are we coming to the end of 1993, but also that the great festival of Christmass is looming on the horizon. Christmass carols are being prepared, presents are being bought, the necessary cooking arrangements and decorations are being made ready. In the safety of England, most of us are certain to be able to enjoy a Happy Christmass. But there is another side to the coin. There are the lonely folk who will be alone at this time, the homeless who, if they are lucky will be able to take advantage of the arrangements made by "Crisis at Christmass" for them, there are those who are ill and in hospital, and those who will be suffering the sadness of bereavement.

Additionally there are those, in other countries who at this glad time will be fearing terrorist attacks and the bullet and bomb of civil war in their own homelands. For these people it will not be turkey and plum pudding but for them, survival will be the name of the game.

Whatever our circumstances, whether they be glad or sad, the Christmass message comes through, that the whole reason for this period of festivity is that it is a time for rejoicing at the birth in Bethlehem of the Infant Jesus, who like so many people today, was born as a refugee Himself. God's love in sending His son is provided for all of us, whoever we may be, wherever we may live or whatever our circumstances. In our Parish Church, in Cathedrals, Churches and Chapels throughout the land, in war-torn Bosnia, in terrorist struck Northern Ireland, people will congregate to celebrate this wonderful birth.

Christmass is a time for giving and our presents and carols make this very clear. It can also be a time when we can give ourselves to God and each other by our awareness of the sufferings and needs of others, and a determination to share as much as we possibly can the good things of life, which we so richly enjoy, with those whose lot has not fallen in such a fair ground.

A very happy and Blessed
Christmass to all our readers.

The Rector

This month the magazine is sponsored by THE GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP who hope that you will all obtain a ticket for their January production, 'CINDERELLA' to be performed in the Village Hall on Wednesday 12th, Thursday 13th, Friday 14th and Saturday, 15th January. This year the first performance on 12th January will be a Charity performance, the proceeds being given to the Huntington's Disease Association.



Great
Bromley
Pantomime
Group

Proudly
present

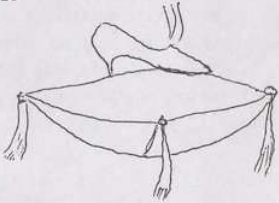
CINDERELLA

Wednesday 12th - Saturday 16th January, inclusive
(including Saturday Matinee)

AT

GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL
7.30 p.m.

TICKETS:
£3.00 ADULTS
£1.50 CHILDREN



There selling fast so order NOW!!
COL: (0206) 230398

From the Editor

I apologise for the poor quality of print in the November's Messenger. This is because my printer went wrong at the last minute and 'the man about house' was not around to sort it out before I sent it off to the printers! Contributions for the January issue should reach the Editor by Tuesday 14th December, please. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

IT'S PANTO TIME AGAIN Cinderella will go to the ball. Yes, another year has passed and Buttons is trying hard to learn his lines and the Sisters are trying their best to Look beautiful all for you to see starting 12th January with our special Charity Night this year for Huntington's Disease Charity which is aided by Mrs Jean Harding. Performances then continue Thursday 13th, Friday 14th and Saturday 15th with, of course, a matinee especially for those who aren't allowed up after 6 o'clock. Tickets will cost your £3.00 for adults and £1.50 for children, so please set my bell ringing with your orders and don't leave it too long or you might not be joining Cinders at the ball. Nigel Rowe on 230398

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE ASSOCIATION

Great Bromley Pantomime Group has very generously selected our branch as their charity for this year, and the proceeds of the first night on Wednesday, 12th January will be coming to us. We are expecting our Patron, Lord Braybrooke, the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, for the first night's performance and hope that some of our Huntington's families will be there too. *Jean Harding*

DECEMBER DIARY

1 Dec W.I. Christmas meeting at the Village Hall
4 Dec Christmas Fayre at the Village Hall
9 Dec Piper of Hamelin by St. George's School
12 Dec Carol Service - Burnt Heath Methodist Church - 6.30pm
16 Dec Friendship Club Christmas lunch
16 Dec WI Carol Concert - Lawford Church - 7.30pm
19 Dec Carol Service - St. George's Church - 6.30pm
19 Dec Brightlingsea District Rotary Carol Concert - Seven Rivers Cheshire Home - 7.30pm
24 Dec Holy Communion with Carols - Hamilton Lodge - 2.30pm
24 Dec Midnight Mass - St George's Church - 11.30pm

Future Events

12-15 Jan CINDERELLA. Pantomime at the Village Hall

TEARCRAFT COFFEE MORNING

Ian and Sue Orriss would like to thank all those who supported the Coffee Morning in October. £102 was raised to support poor and needy people overseas.

GREAT BROMLEY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Christmas lunch with entertainment and afternoon tea will be held at the Village Hall on 16th December at 12.45p.m. The pick-up coach will leave Elmstead at 12 noon. we send our best wishes for a Happy Christmas to all our readers. *Mildred Purkis*

FROM THE RECTOR

For some time now, my wife and I have been planning for our retirement. Having now obtained a house in Colchester, I will be retiring as Rector of the Bromleys and Priest in Charge of Ardleigh in January, 1994. My last Sunday as Rector of the Parishes will be on Sunday, 2nd January, 1994. It will be some time before a new Rector is appointed, at least, so I am told, about six months, though possibly longer. The new Rector, when appointed, will continue to live in Great Bromley Rectory. In next month's 'Messenger', I will be able to give details of the arrangements for the parishes during the Interregnum. Although I will be able to write next month about my thoughts at leaving, I can say now how much my wife, Rebecca and I have enjoyed being part of this parish and our real sadness at having now to leave. *The Rector*

BRIGHTLINGSEA ROTARY CLUB - CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

A Christmas Carol Concert will be held on Sunday, 19th December at 2.30pm at Seven Rivers Cheshire Home. David Gwyn-Jones at the piano. All villagers are welcome. Entry is FREE. A collection will be made and all proceeds will go to the new extension - the Cheshire Hing. Refreshments and Gift Stall available. *Len Christodoulides*

GREAT BROMLEY GARDEN CLUB

Such a happy evening was spent at Thorpe Lodge Restaurant where we held our Annual Dinner - Delicious food. It was really good to see everyone enjoying themselves and needless to say there was quite some hilarity, especially as we never did find out who had ticket 121! Our next meeting is at the home of Mrs Jean Wright who has been kind enough to invite us for a Social evening - we look forward to seeing you at 7.30pm. *Vicky Griffiths*

BROWNIES

New Brownies - Elizabeth, Gemma, Natasha and Rebecca - have made their Promise and we welcome them to our Pack. Well done to Beth who has gained her Roadway badge. Nine Brownies came to Brown Owl's house one Saturday in October and spent the day wool tambering a bag. The results are wonderful and beautiful to behold. Our grateful thanks to Mrs Dudding who so enthusiastically showed us how to make the bags and Mrs Landon for coming for a 'peek' and staying the whole day to help. Brown Owl wasn't much use as she was hopping around on crutches! *Brown Owl*

LOST PROPERTY from THE HARVEST LUNCH

Several dishes were left behind after the Harvest Lunch, and, as we do not know to whom they belong, we have been unable to return them. If one belongs to you, please ask the Rector or collect them from the Vestry after any Sunday service.

DON'T FORGET THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE

4th December 1993 at 2.00pm Great Bromley Village Hall

Once again our own Father Christmas will be at the Fayre with all the usual stalls. If anyone has any items for stalls or raffles we would be very grateful. Items can be collected. Ring 230663. The proceeds this year are to be shared between Great Bromley Village Hall and S. George's Church, Great Bromley. Any offers of help for stalls ring the above number. Thanking you *J. Wright*

REQUEST

Have you any items for the NEARLY NEW TOY STALL Peter and I are running at the Christmas Fayre on 4 December. we would also be grateful for any help anyone may be able to give us. If you have items for collection please ring us on 231067 or Leave it at the Village Hall on 4th December before 12.00. Many thanks *Betty Rowe*

UNIQUE CHRISTMAS IDEA

In time for Christmas and available in time for the sale on 4th December, there will be pottery models of St George's Church, Great Bromley at £15. These will make cherished souvenirs as well of weddings and baptisms at our parish church as well as being timeless memorials. They will be on sale in aid of the Repair Fund. *Jean Harding*

ADVERTISING DOES PAY!

I have received a letter sent to us about a small ad and because they were so pleased they gave the 'Messenger' £5. So now is your chance. Recently someone asked me if I knew someone who could decorate a couple of rooms, and someone else wanted a gardener and a bricklayer to build a small wall. Now for £20 p.a. all you folks who have skills to offer can have a 2 ½ x 1 ¼ inch block in the 'Messenger' published every month.

A SMITH

BUILDER NO JOB TOO SMALL
TELEPHONE NUMBER 0206 000000

Your business card will do. We will reduce it. I need 12 advertisements to fill a page.
Len Christodoulides

CALOR BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 1993

Village: GREAT BROMLEY

The following scale was used for marking:

POOR 1 - 2 FAIR 3 - 4 AVERAGE 5 - 6 GOOD 7 - 8 VERY GOOD 9 - 10

Excellent put +1 in 'remarks' column

Facilities available to be marked	Mark	Remarks
a. INFORMATION & ADVICE 1. Condition of notice boards and notices displayed	10	Three seen. All well looked after
b. TIDINESS & GENERAL APPEARANCE 2. Bus shelters		
3. Car Parks		
4. Churchyards, chapels and cemetery surrounds	9	This could have been 10 had the old part of the churchyard been a little better cared for. Could hardly be seen for grass!
5. Commercial; garages, light industry, etc	9	A tidy and litter free area.
6. Overall Appearance: Absence of litter, unsightly refuse dumps, the state of domestic gardens, hedges, fences etc.	9	
7. Condition of litter bins/baskets		
8. Playing Field & Recreation Ground	9	Cricket pitch & recreation area seen. Generally very good Suggest a litter bin near children's play equipment.
9. Public Conveniences		
10. Public Houses & surrounds	8	Tidy but nothing of note to give additional points
11. School surrounds	9	
12. Shop Windows & areas around shops	8	
13. Streams & ponds	10	I liked the pond. This has been cleared lately I would surmise.
14. Telephone Kiosks	9	
15. Village Greens and Commons		
16. Village Hall & surrounds	10	The area around the hall is well looked after with no litter.
17. Seats or benches	7	A mix - some good, some hazardous to sit on - a compromise mark.
18. Verges & footpaths		
19. War Memorial & surround	10	
20 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	7	It was interesting that no mention of community involvement was made on the Entry Form. However, I do know that there is considerable community involvement in the village. I therefore give them a mark in this section.

THE GOD WHO COMES

The four weeks Leading up to Christmas are all about expectation, longing and waiting for the arrival of the birth of the King of Kings.

Advent, the word the Church uses to describe this period originally had a secular meaning. It referred to an Emperor's accession to power or to the arrival of a Governor in a province or city to take up his responsibilities. So Advent is all about God coming to His own people, to His own home in order to set up His kingly power. But the expectation and Longing we experience at this time of the year isn't just to do with the few weeks before Christmas, it is something which holds true all through the year. We should always be waiting for the God who comes to us in unexpected moments and in a variety of ways. He must be watchful at all times because we will find Him in many unlikely places.

We must wake up in Advent, stop going on day after day in the same old way. God does make His presence felt, both when we enjoy a happy event or when we have to endure something unpleasant. But we must be alert, on the look out for Him, otherwise He will pass by unnoticed. It is very tempting to think God is only around when we feel His presence but in fact He never leaves us alone. The darkness and emptiness all speak to us of the divine. Man down the ages has waited, watched, long for the Messiah to come. Let us not then be afraid to acknowledge our own emptiness, praying that this Advent He will come to us in a new way. We so easily drift away and need to return to the source of light and life over and over again. Returning is a lifelong struggle. *Monica Rant*

GUIDES

The Guides would like to thank everyone who so wholeheartedly supported their Coffee Morning on 25th October. This was in support of Water Aid, a project to supply clean, safe water for people who, at the present time, have to travel many miles for their supply. We are delighted to be able to send a cheque for over £225, almost enough to dig Egg wells (just £15 short). The unsold dinosaurs and juggling fish are going to be taken to a children's ward along with an Advent calendar we are making. So although we are very low in numbers, it is clear that Guides know how to help others as well as enjoying themselves. He will shortly be moving premises. The Pirie family have sold the land for house development but have promised us, the Guides and Brownies, more accommodation, complete with loo, wash basin and kitchen sink. We are so very lucky. Perhaps this will encourage other girls to come and give Guides and Brownies a try. 12 years seems to be the magic age - they all disappear, something to do with peer pressure and Guiding is so 'old-fashioned and cissyish' - not in our unit it isn't! *Jazz*
Monday nights 6.45-8.30pm age 10 and over.

S. GEORGE'S SCHOOL

The pupils of S. George's School will be presenting their Christmass Play, a musical entitled "The Piper of Hamelin" in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 8th December at 1.30pm and on Thursday, 9th December at 6.00pm On Thursday, 16th December they will be making their annual visit to the Pantomime to see 'Robin Hood and The Babes in the wood' at the Mercury Theatre, and term will end on Friday, 17th December. Next term will commence on Tuesday, 4th January, 1994.

CHURCH TALENT SCHEME

On Rogation Sunday in May, I gave a number of pounds to members of the congregation and asked them to trade with them and return them at Harvest time. In all £27 was distributed, and a grand total of £551.90p was returned. I would like to thank most sincerely all who took part and helped to achieve such an excellent result. I have two prizes to award, one for the largest sum raised by one person, and another for the most interesting way of increasing the talent. The prize for the largest sum goes to Mrs Jean Harding, and the prize for the most imaginative way of raising the money goes to Mrs Betty Rowe. Congratulations to them, and to all who took part in what I hope was an enjoyable venture. *Rector*

GREAT BROMLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

There were 56 entries in the Annual Meeting Show - the judges commented upon the high standards. Jean Wright gained top marks with Margery West and Gwen Barrell having the next highest. Jill Frostick and I enjoyed organising this bit of fun - thank you for supporting it. Joy Clarke VCO made a very good job of ensuring that we will survive another year. Jean Wright is to be President, Mary Clarke the Secretary and Ann Jones the Treasurer with Rita Baxter, Vera Biddis and Gwen Barrell making up the new committee. It is hoped to co-opt a couple more bodies.

June wilgress has retired from the committee. In her three years as President she has lead our W.I, in her pleasant, quiet way, with tact, humour and patience. Rita Baxter has handed over her Treasurer's books after a most efficient term of office.

Wednesday, 1st December - Christmas Meeting; come with two plates, one full of food, one empty and a wine glass.

16th December - Carol Service at Lawford Church, 7.00pm.

Pippa Hardy .

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE COUNTRY & WESTERN plus MUSIC of the SIXTIES
with top Norfolk Band "ACE HIGH" Raffle - Buffet - Licenced Bar
Friday, 31st December, 1993 at Great Bromley Village Hall 8.00 till Late
Admission £8.00 Information and tickets ring Bert. Book early to avoid disappointment.

POORLANDS (GUILDHALL) CHARITY

During the past year, the Charity Commissioners have approved a scheme to amalgamate the three Parochial Charities, the Poorlands Charity, the Nicholls Coal Charity and The Jacobs Charity into one charity to be known as the Poorlands (Guildhall) Charity. This amalgamation has now taken effect. During the month of January, the Charity monies will be distributed as usual to the list of beneficiaries held by the trustees. The only change as far as those who receive a gift from this source is that they will no longer be required to attend on 1st January at S. George's Church to receive the donation. The trustees will arrange to deliver the money personally to the homes of the recipients. All those who have previously received a gift from the Charities will continue to be included. The trustees will be pleased to receive applications from any other residents of Great Bromley who are elderly and who would like to be included. Any application should reach the Clerk to the Trustees, Mr H P Booty, 93 Harwich Road, Colchester no later than Tuesday, 14th December, 1993. The trustees of the Charity are Mr H Fairley, Mr G Kempster, Mr J Wild and Mr P Rowe.

MEMORIAL TO MISS FLO ORMAN

The Parochial Church Council decided to purchase a suitably Inscribed Baptismal Ewer as a lasting memorial to Flo Orman. Any balance of the Memorial Fund after paying for this will be paid into the S. George's Church Repair Fund.

CARPET BOWLS

The past month has been quite a successful one regarding League matches. We managed to hold Thorpe to a draw and beat Gt Bentley, also Weeley. It would be nice to maintain that level of play for the other games, but time will tell. We enjoyed a social evening at Thorpe on 3rd November, our first experience of playing with brighter coloured woods. Hopefully we will return their hospitality in the New Year. Recently, Linda Francis has represented Essex County and thoroughly enjoyed the challenge. We have managed to purchase our third carpet and hope it will prove beneficial. To all club members, a very Happy Christmas. *Nancy Kempster*

BURNT HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

invite you to their Carol Service on 12th December at 6.30pm. This will be followed by tea and mincepies. Everybody most welcome. B D Hurst

FISH MOUSSE

This is my sister's way of making a delicious fish mousse. Vary ingredients according to availability, but salmon is plentiful and inexpensive if you buy the farmed ones.

2lbs cod or coley fillet ½ lb salmon (or prawns)

¼ pt double cream (or use part curd cheese or fromage frais etc)

salt, cayenne pepper 1 tablespoon chopped dill (or fennel) 4 egg whites

Blend together all the ingredients, then fold in the whipped egg whites. Bake in a loaf tin, standing in a baking tin with 1" hot water. Bake in a moderate hot oven for about 30 minutes.

Good hot or cold served with pepper or caper sauce. *Jill Frostick*

BELL RINGING

The Ringers under the Captaincy of David Wenden hope to ring the Church Bells for the Church Christmas Carol Service on Sunday, 19th December, for the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve and also to ring in the New Year on 31st December. They are also planning to ring a peal during the afternoon of 2nd January. A peal consists of ringing 5,040 different changes (that is, the order in which the bells are rung) without any repetition, and it takes about three hours. It obviously calls for a great deal of concentration on the part of the ringers, and is, therefore rung only by very experienced ringers, and then only very occasionally. This will be the first peal attempted on S. George's bells since they were brought back into use after the Tower repairs. David Wenden will be very pleased to hear from anyone who would like to learn this fascinating craft.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting on 18th November was held in the Village Hall with the Vice-Chairman, George Kempster presiding.

Major Harold Varney A donation of £25 was sent to the Church Repair Fund in memory of him.
Recreation Field The contract for the cutting of the grass on the field has been given to Alan Reason.

Village Hall A quote for £1,500 has been received for the cleaning and re-sealing of the main floor.

Community Grants Any applications should be submitted as soon as possible. Mrs Ann Elvin will help with any details.

Methodist Chapel Burnt Heath Methodist Chapel are asking the Council for help in repairs to the Chapel.

About 40 parishioners attended an Open Meeting held at the conclusion of the Parish Meeting. Also present were Mrs Ann Elvin, District Councillor, and Mr Doug Pallett, Essex County Councillor for this area. The reason for this meeting was to discuss the proposed gypsy site at Willow Farm. After a lively discussion it was decided to hold a public meeting for which a date has yet to be arranged.

A Parish Meeting will be held about the proposed gypsy site at Willow Farm in Great Bromley hopefully before 9th December. Venue as yet also unknown so please check the village noticeboards for further information as to date and place.

CHRISTMASS SERVICES - S. GEORGE'S CHURCH GT BROMLEY

Sunday 19th December

6.30pm CHRISTMASS CAROL SERVICE

Friday 24th December CHRISTMASS EVE

2.30pm HOLY COMMUNION WITH CAROLS Hamilton Lodge

11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS OF THE NATIVITY

Saturday 25th December CHRISTMASS DAY

8.00am HOLY COMMUNION

9.15AM HOLY COMMUNION - Seven Rivers Cheshire Home

10.30am FAMILY SERVICE and HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 26th December ~ 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.

EVENING SERVICES - DECEMBER

5th Dec 6.30pm Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Chapel

12th 6.30pm S. Mary's Church, Ardleigh

19th 6.30pm 8. George's Church (Christmas Carol Service)

25th No Evening Service

S. GEORGE'S CHURCH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

Sunday, 21st November Bradley Samuel Laurence Rabett, the son of Timothy and Deborah Rabett of Meadow Close

Holy Matrimony

Saturday, 6th November Michael Roger Bowman of Colchester and Gillian Tracey Fry of Frating Road, Great Bromley

Burial in S. George's Churchyard

Wednesday, 20th October Ronald Edward Bennington of Mary Lane, who died on Monday, 11th October.

METHODIST SERVICES

Sunday Dec 5th Burnt Heath 11.00am The Revd J Robinson

12th Balls Green 11.00am Miss M Holford

19th Elmstead ' 11.00am The Revd J Robinson

25th Burnt Heath 11.00am Mrs M Longley