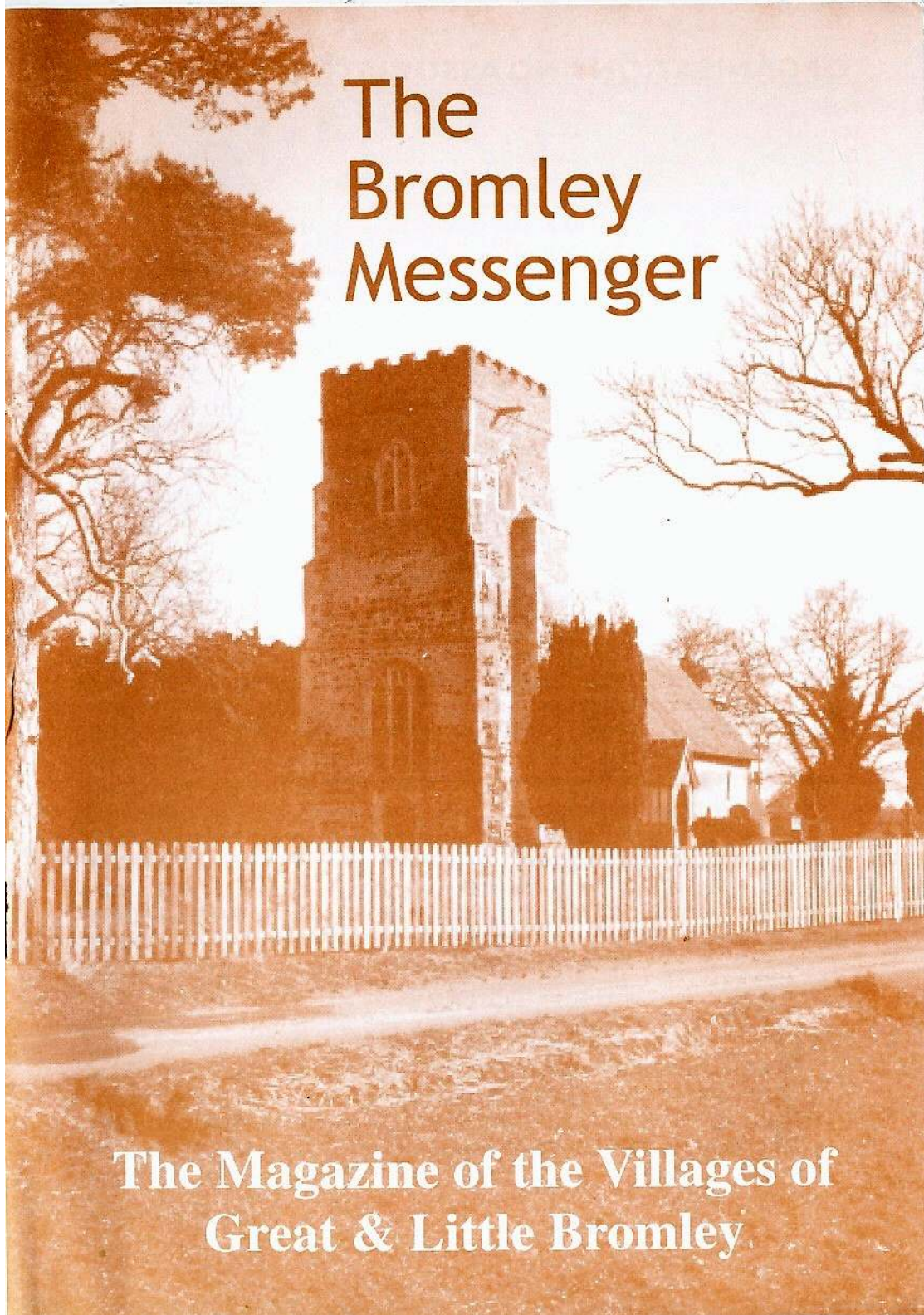


# THE BROMLEY MESSENGER

The Magazine of the Villages of Great & Little Bromley  
January to December 2003



*Edited and produced by Mrs Leonie Henderson*

These old magazines have been scanned and converted to text for historical reference  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](mailto:hugh@greatbromley.org.uk)

July 2024

Note – this copy is not intending to be verbatim; some typos corrected, many obsolete phone  
numbers & other contact details removed, and repeat adverts truncated.

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## **ORGANISATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS CONTACTS** *[most phone no's removed]*

Police - PC Christopher Phillips Mistley Police Station, CO11 2AQ  
Medical Practitioners - The Surgery, Dedham Road, Ardleigh CO7 7LD  
Gt. Bromley Parish Council - Mr Ken Bromfield, 4 St George's Close, Gt Bromley CO7 7HZ  
Lt. Bromley Parish Council - Major A. Downes, 3 Bentley Road, Lt Bromley CO11 2PL  
Tendring District Council - Clr. Gordon Jessop, Portlands, Harwich Rd, Great Bromley  
Essex County Council (Tendring Rural West) - Cllr. Sarah Candy, Wisteria Cottage, Shop Road,  
Lt Bromley CO11 2OL  
Parish Church Revd - Fr. Nicholas Spicer, The Rectory, Hall Rd, CO7 7TS  
Trinity Methodist Church - Mrs Gill Bucke, 3 Lilac Court. Chaney Rd, Wivenhoe CO7 9RY  
Methodist Minister - The Revd. Simon Coleman 4A Ladysmith Avenue, Brightlingsea  
Manningtree School - Mrs D E Hollister, Headteacher  
S. George's School - Mrs Pat Fitzgerald, Headteacher  
S. George's School P.T.A. - Mrs A Rowe, Lilleys Farm, Carrington Road, Great Bromley, CO7 7XA  
Air Cadets - Flt Lt G Cheeseman. Fleece Hse. Harwich Rd, Gt Bromley CO7 7UH  
1st Ardleigh Scouts, Cubs & Beavers - Mr R. Talbot, 30 Gurnon Road, Ardleigh  
Badminton Club - Mrs J. Golding, Meadowcroft, Kings Farm, Gt Bromley CO7 7UN  
Bromley Messenger Treasurer - Mr L Christodoulides, Magnolia House, Bromley Road, Frating  
Bromley Messenger Editor - Mrs L. Henderson, Badley Hall, Gt. Bromley  
Carpet Bowls Club - Mrs J. Bates Dolphins, Colchester Road, Gt Bromley  
Cheshire Home Homes Manager 230345  
Cricket Club - Mrs K Foley. Pussywillow. Mary Lane South. Gt Bromley CO7 7UD  
Essex County Standard - Mrs Ann Jones, Wayside, Hall Road Gt Bromley CO7 7TS  
Friendship Club - Mrs V Griffiths, Oak Cottage, Mary Lane North. Gt Bromley  
Gt. Bromley Guides - Mrs Els Connelly, 70 Nayland Road. Colchester  
Hamilton Lodge Vol. Association - Mrs M. Hart, Pondfield, Parsons Hill  
Huntingdon's Disease Assn. - Lorina Lumsden, 154 Stanley Rd Clacton  
Ladies Circle - Mrs D Taylor, Brundles Farm, Ball Green Gt Bromley  
Men's Club - Mr John Smith. The White House, Green Lane. Ardleigh  
Pantomime Group - Mr N. Rowe, Lilleys Farm, Carrington Rd  
Playgroup - Miss C Wheatstone, Playgroup Supervisor 252034  
Rambler's Assn. (Tendring) - Mrs Ann Jones, Wayside, Hall Road, Gt. Bromley  
Recreation Field - Great Bromley Parish Council  
St. George's Repair Fund - Mrs A Clapham, Copley Dene, Parsons Hill., CO7 7JA  
Village Hall Committee - Mr B Willgress, Lee Cottage, Great Bromley  
Treasurer & Bookings - Mrs L Allam, Bluegates Farm, Carrington Road CO7 7UZ  
Women's Institute - Mrs M. Clarke, 15 Meadow Close, Gt Bromley  
Youth Club - Mr M Beauchamp, The Beeches, Colchester Rd, Gt Bromley

### **THE PARISH OF THE BROMLEYS**

#### **RECTOR**

The Revd Fr. Nicholas Spicer, The Rectory, Hall Road, Great Bromley

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Mr Dennis Simons, Michaelmass House, Parsons Hill, Great Bromley

#### **PCC SECRETARY .**

c/o the Rectory

#### **PCC TREASURER**

Mrs Hilary Powell, 1 Ash Grove, Great Bromley

#### **CAPTAIN OF BELLS**

Mr David Wenden, Girlings, Stone Road, Great Bromley

**PLEASE CONTACT the Rector with requests for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. The Rector is pleased to hear of anyone who would like to receive a Visit and for Holy Communion at home.**

## MEETING VENUES & TIMES

1st Ardleigh Beavers - Wednesdays(term time only) Village Hall, Ardleigh, 6.00-7.00pm  
1st Ardleigh Cubs - Tuesdays (term time only) Village Hall. Ardleigh, 6.15-7.30pm  
1st Ardleigh Scouts - Wednesdays (term time only)Vicars Room, Ardleigh. 7.15-9.00pm  
Badminton Club - Mondays (match nights only) Village Hall  
Bell Practise - Fridays St. George the Martyr Church 7.30pm  
Carpet Bowls - Wednesdays (except 1st Wed in Month) Village Hall. 7.30pm  
Friendship Club - 3rd Thursday in month Village Hall Doors open 2.00pm  
Gt Bromley Parish Council - 3rd Thursday in month Village Hall. 7.30pm  
Ladies Circle - 3rd Wednesday in month Ring contact for venue, 7.30pm  
Mens Club - Tuesdays Village Hall, 7.00pm  
Women's Institute - 1st Wednesday in month Village Hall. 7.30pm  
Youth Club (9-15yrs) - Wednesdays (term time only) Village Hall 5.00-6.30pm

All contributions should be sent to the Editor Mrs Leonie Henderson, Badley Hall, Badley Hall Road, Gt. Bromley.. Published by Great Bromley Parish Council. Printed by Hot-Line Printers.

## BROMLEY MESSENGER SPONSORS 2002 – 2003

APRIL	THE OLD COURTHOUSE INN 01206 250322 Harwich Road, Great Bromley
MAY	SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME <i>01206 230345 Great Bromley, Colchester. Essex CO7 7TT</i>
JUNE	COLCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL 01206 573389 Wellesley Road, Colchester T & F MOTORS, <i>Horsley Cross Garage</i>
JULY	GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
AUGUST	HOT-LINE PRINTERS <i>24 Priors Way, Coggeshall 01376 561001</i>
SEPTEMBER	PARISH CHURCH OF ARDLEIGH & THE BROMLEYS
OCTOBER	R G GWINNELL & SON <i>(Funeral Directors) Manningtree</i> St GEORGE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
NOVEMBER	PLEASS THOMSON & CO - SOLICITORS <i>Clacton 01255 221133</i> LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
DECEMBER	GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP
JANUARY	PERSONAL AND CLUB DONATIONS
FEBRUARY	GREENACRE CATTERY, <i>Briar Road, Great Bromley</i>
MARCH	BROMLEY REFRIGERATION SERVICE LTD

“AN AUTUMN MUSICAL HOTSPOT”

Well that's what the blurb said and also that cheese and wine was included in the ticket price. Having spent hours worrying about how much there would be to eat, as one does, I settled for some marmite on toast to accompany my afternoon cup of tea and off we went to the village hall. There, Henry was on the door, as is his wont, flogging programmes at 20 pence a throw. Not wishing to wear out my trouser pockets with masses of change (why is it that a tenner is the lowest denomination dispensed by cash machines?) we didn't do a deal as I had no small change. No matter, I recognised almost everyone on stage and certainly all the tunes. It was fortunate that Anne had kept places for us as, frankly, the hall was bursting at the seams: she also very kindly got in the first bottle of red: a crunchy, cheeky Chilean, ripe on the palate and bursting with jolly, juicy, ripe raspberry and blackberry fruit with a fine, fat, full, Spicy, cedary, coffee-bean scented finish, yet reminiscent of myrtle berries, great on its own or, as an excellent accompaniment to Ivor Novello, Gershwin et al.

We became aware, twenty-five years ago, when we set up home in the village, that Great Bromley abounds in musical and thespian talent. At the concert, staged by the Occasional Singers Two, with the pupils of St. George's Primary School, it was plain to see that the talent runs in families, indeed over several generations, as is evidenced by the Roberts family whose matriarch, Rene, was the accompanist for the choir, with Tricia the linchpin for the whole evening and brother Stephen making a guest appearance. Jo Cobbold's excellent flute rendering from "Titanic" was witnessed by Yvonne singing soprano with the chorus, and earned her prolonged applause. And did you know that Gregory could play the piano, as well as the organ? You didn't! Silly moo! I spent ages trying to see any resemblances between Tricia and her brother Stephen, and failed. One can only be grateful that nature has ordained that brothers, not sisters, will lose their thatch in middle age.

I wonder if any mums felt inadequate when Peter joined Rene and Barbara in a rendering of Sisters. His falsies would have done wonders for the sales of Wonderbra. And, as for his pins, psalm 147 reminds us "Neither delighteth he in any man's legs".

The whole evening was, of course, a huge success. Thankfully, I was not offered any goat's cheese at the interval and one particularly sympathetic soul offered me an extra crust of bread. I even won two raffle prizes, cat food in both cases: would future organisers of raffles please note, we do not have a cat.

£950 was raised for the church repair fund and the village school. Tricia deserves our congratulations on a very slick production and all those who took part and who worked like demons on the day are worthy of our grateful thanks. Green was the theme on the night. It worked a treat, but my goodness, the seamstresses must have worked all hours of the day. Thank you all for a hugely enjoyable Great Bromley evening. *James Heaney*

*We thank PLEASS THOMPSON & CO. Solicitors and LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL for sponsoring this months magazine. Please support our sponsors.*

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The future of the Post Office is still looking bright but there has been a delay because of a dispute over boundaries. However things are still on course and we how that all will come to fruition in due course. The pillar box by the war memorial has now been reinstated. However already it has been vandalised by someone stuffing mud into it.

SUCCESS FOR LITTLE BROMLEY'S FIRST FIREWORKS CELEBRATION! We are delighted to report that the Fireworks Event held in November was a resounding success with around 160 people attending! Visitors of all ages from Little Bromley and neighbouring villages enjoyed the bonfire and fireworks, mulled wine and a barbecue.

We also had some excellent entries for the Guy competition with the weather remaining thankfully dry for the evening. Our thanks go to everyone who helped, especially the Hatcher family and Hiskeys Kennels.

We had hoped to announce our plans for Little Bromley's Village Green, a project which we had hoped would fulfil our aim to provide a recreation area for the village. We are extremely sad to say that circumstances beyond our control mean that although we had secured most of the funding criteria for this project, we have been forced to put plans on hold. Our commitment to providing better amenities for Little Bromley continues and the money raised from the Fireworks Event will be added to the Village Sign fund. *Kate Everett*

## NEW DISTRICT COUNCIL BOUNDARIES

The Boundary Commission has identified new demarcations of representation in our area for District Council. This means that in the next elections in May 2003, you will be voting for two candidates. They will represent Thorrington, Elmstead Market, Frating, and Great Bromley. Parish boundaries are unaffected since they were traditionally "church" designated. As you are already aware the hierarchy at the Tendring District Council (TDC) has also changed, more of a select committee than an all involved elected council. TDC has not produced any information to the public for publication, and the information above was obtained through a telephone call. Candidates, which for the forthcoming elections will be sought by the various political parties, will have a bigger responsibility as they will be representing twice as many voters.

*Len Christodoulides*

## COOKIES FOR A CURE WORLD Wold Leprosy Week 20-26 JANUARY 2003

Can you cook up a cure? Join in the Greatest Cookie Patty Ever - and help cure people of leprosy. LEPRO - the Leprosy Relief Association - is asking people to hold a Cookies for a Cure Party during World Leprosy Week. All the money raised will go towards supporting LEPRO's vital medical development programmes in Asia, South America and Africa. Simply bake (or even buy!) some cookies, and invite your friends, neighbours and colleagues to join in the fun at coffee break, lunch time, afternoon or evening. We'll send you, free of charge, all you need to make your Cookie Party a success. By collecting "cookie contributions" at your party you will soon raise the £21 it costs to cure one person of leprosy, restoring their health, hope and dignity. Leprosy is one of the oldest recorded diseases in the world, with references to it in the New Testament. Yet around 700,000 cases are still diagnosed annually and an estimated 4 million people have dreadful disabilities as a result of the disease. Every minute of every day one more person is found to have leprosy and some of these will already be severely disabled. Yet leprosy is easily curable and the complete eradication of the disease is the stated aim of LEPRO and the reason that the charity exists. To receive your party pack, which includes poster, balloons, invitations, collecting box and special cookie recipe, please send your name and address to LEPRO, FREEPOST, Fairfax House, Causton Road, Colchester CO1 1YY. Contact: Sally Ormond, Community Contact Assistant

## GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Great Bromley Parish Council was held on 5th December.

**Planning** There were no planning applications for consideration by the Council during November. Tendring District Council has approved the renewal of planning permission for a sewage treatment plant, brick shed for toilet, washing machine etc. and retention of wall and additional curtilage at The Caravan, Carrington Road, Gt. Bromley. Approval is subject to conditions and expires in November 2005.

**Highways and Footpaths** The Council noted that certain footpaths in the parish were being used by horse riders without the landowners\* permission. If this continues the County will be asked to install suitable barriers.

**Tendring District Council** The Parish Council and Clerk will be visiting TDC headquarters in January to be briefed by the Council on its role in supporting the work of its constituent parish councils.

**Budget** In January the Council will set its budget and precept for 2003-4.

**Recycling** It appears unlikely that TDC will be able to provide, in the near future, a tins and cans recycling bin at Church Meadow. However, as from April, 2003, TDC will collect recyclable materials (except glass) from properties every two weeks.

**Freedom of Information** The Council agreed a model publications scheme under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This will enable members of the public to obtain information on the parish council's decisions, plans and activities.

**Fly tipping** The Council alerts TDC of rubbish dumped on roadside verges. TDC then arranges for the waste to be removed by Onyx. Members of the public can also report fly tipping direct by telephone Environmental Services TDC on 01255 256198.

The Great Bromley Parish Council will next meet in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday, 23rd January, 2003. Agenda are posted on the village notice boards and residents are welcome to attend.

## GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Management committee met on 12th November in the Village Hall. Also, two Sub-committees have met to discuss the car park and storage.

The Hall is well used and the committee wishes to thank the following organisations together with private individuals for their support throughout the year. Those using the Hall are the Badminton Club, Carpet Bowls Club, Church Council, Cricket Club, Friendship Club, Guides, Men's Social Club, Pantomime Group, Parish and District Councils, Playgroup, Toddler Group, Women's Institute, School and Parent Teacher Association, as well as the Village Hall committee together with many private individuals for parties, dances and as a meeting place.

We welcome a fresh Dance Group to the Hall on Saturday evenings with a class on Thursday evenings in the new year. However, it is sad to report that during the past year for their own various reasons the Brownies, Youth Club and a Dance Group have stopped meeting at the Hall. Perhaps this coming year will see these reformed and again using our facilities.

Our Christmas Fayre on 30th November 5th a combined effort of Village Hall Committee and WI members, together with some individual supporters and the public raise some £490 for each of these two organisations. A splendid effort and thanks to all who took part, it is really appreciated and much fun was had in the process. A date for your new diary is Friday, 21st March, 2003 when John Appleby will be at the Hall to present another of his evenings with slides of various places, this - time I think of "old" Colchester.

The Village Hall committee next meet on Tuesday, 14th January at the Hall at 7.30pm. May I, on behalf of the Committee, wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year. *Bevan Willgress*

## **WEA**

Details of the Spring 2003 course are now to hand. Tutor for the ten week course will be Mr Dennis Hance whose subject will be "English Cathedrals" Cathedrals are a great attraction to tourists, historians, artists, etc. In them can be found line architecture from different ages, sculptures, paintings, woodcarvings, stained glass work and many other items. All this will be studied from the earliest influences to the latest examples.

Meetings are held in Ardleigh Village Hall, Station Road and will commence on Thursday, 16th January, 2003 starting at 2.30pm. Each lecture lasts for approximately one and a half hours with a break for a cup of tea. There will not be a half-term this time so the course will finish on 20th March. (There may be a field trip on 15th March). FEES: Full £26 per term, Concessions £20 per term, Unemployed - no charge. For further details or to book a place please contact the Secretary on 01206 230476.

## **PUZZLES**

1. Three friends go to a restaurant for a meal. The meal comes to £25.00. They each give the waiter a £10 note = £30.00 The waiter comes back with £5 change. They tell the waiter to keep £2 for a tip. He then hands the three friends £1 each. This makes it that they have only paid £9 each. So,  $3 \times £9 = £27$ , £2 to the waiter for a tip makes it £29. Where is the other £1.00?

2. This riddle **MUST** be done in your head only and **NOT** using paper and a pen. Try it.

Take 1000 and add 40 to it.

Now add another 1000.

Now add 30.

Another 1000.

Now add 20.

Now add another 1000.

Now add 10.

What is the total?

3. **WHAT IS...**

Above God?

Worse than the devil?

Poor man has it?

Rich man wants it?

If you eat it you die?

## A BIG THANK YOU

John Appleby gratefully thanks all who donated to the gift to him after forty five years service in the parish. He is delighted with the silver drum tray and the cheque. He will be with you whenever his duties at St Helena Hospice or other appointments allow, to pull peoples' legs. His family ask that we let future historians know that he has four sons, and has not lost one, and that he was "translated" from the "see of Elmstead" to become "bishop of Little Bromley" to all his Reader friends. Truly this gift was magnificent! Thank you again.

## THANKS

Occasional Singers Two together with pupils of Year 6 of St George's School presented their Autumn entertainment superbly well, as a video made on the night, proves. The ladies, the boys and girls, the gentlemen guests together with my brother Stephen who was bullied into "doing a bit", dear Gregory who came up trumps at the last moment and my mum Rene who turned out for every rehearsal whatever the weather, produced an evening's value for money that we are still being complimented upon from every side of Colchester and further afield as well.

A very pleasant evening, enjoyable for everyone who took part, with less stress than the last time we did something like this, and clearly the audience thought so as well. With a total in excess £900 clear profit we are all delighted. St. George's School will receive £400 to spend on some 'extras' for their renovated and extended building and St George's Church Repair Fund will receive £500 towards the final push for THE ROOF.

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported us so well, a special thank you to the children who all appeared every Monday since the summer and we hope that you have a super Christmas at school and at home..... you all deserve it. May we the "OC'2s" wish you all a VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR. *Tricia Hughes*

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### JANUARY

8-11 All the King's Money Pantomime, Village Hall 1  
16 Friendship Club AGM, Village Hall, 2.00pm  
WEA course, English Cathedrals, Ardleigh Village Hall, 2.30pm  
23 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7-30pm  
20-26 World Leprosy Week  
30-31 Commemoration of 1953 floods (see details within)

### FEBRUARY

13 Little Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm  
15 Valentine's Dinner Dance, Venture Centre 2000  
18 Cricket Club AGM, Copley Dene, 8.00pm  
20 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

### MARCH

5 Ash Wednesday, Eucharist, S Mary's Church, 7.00pm  
8 Eastern Angles The Last Laugh', Village Hall  
13 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

### APRIL

10 Little Bromley Parish Council Parish Assembly meeting, 7.30pm  
12 Cricket Club Quiz Night in aid of the Colts, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
17 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
20 Easter Day  
28 Celebration for S George's Day, S George's Church, 7.00pm

### MAY

3 Plant Sale, Ilex Farm, 10.00am  
15 Great Bromley Parish Council Annual Parish Assembly meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
25 Rogation Sunday celebration, 10.30am

JUNE 28 Cricket Club Chairman's Day

AUGUST 14 S Mary's Patronal Festival, 7.00pm

SEPTEMBER 6-7 Flower Festival, S George's Church

OCTOBER 5 Harvest Lunch, 12.30pm

**Puzzle Answers:**

1. ... Not great logic there... work it out in reverse!
2. The answer is 4100. Did you get 5000? The decimal sequence confuses the brain, which jumps to the highest decimals (100s instead of 10s)
3. "Nothing"

**GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP**  
present  
**ALL THE KING'S MONEY**



at Great Bromley Village Hall  
8th – 11th January, 2003  
Tickets £5 adults £3 children from  
Susanna Harknett on 01206 231337

**LOST**  
'PATCH', 2 year old  
small Jack Russell bitch on  
Sunday 1st December from  
Crown Lane North, Ardleigh. White  
with brown patch around one ear. If  
seen please call Mrs Woods on 01206  
231813/230544/230028.



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**VALENTINE'S DINNER DANCE**  
15th February  
at Venture Centre 2000, Lawford  
Live band "Words & Music" (very  
good!)  
Large raffle for  
Colchester Breast Care  
Unit.  
Tickets £21.00 from Linda  
Pinhey (01206 230126)



**ADVANCE NOTICE**  
Saturday, 8th March, 2003  
Village Hall  
Eastern Angles production of  
**"THE LAST LAUGH"**  
with supper beforehand.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR PARENT BABY & TODDLER CLUB**  
**TEEN TALK**  
17 Cliff Road, Dovercourt  
Wednesday 2.00 - 3.00pm

- ◆ Baby Massage
- ◆ Crafts
- ◆ Health Visitors in attendance
- ◆ up to 30 year olds

Free transport from rural areas. Phone  
01255 504800 for more information

**KITCHEN CORNER**

Apples are a popular and versatile fruit and there must be hundreds of different ways of using them! Here is a pudding which I was served at a party recently and found very delicious. Stew the apples with cinnamon and lemon peel till very soft. Sweeten to taste. The amount of sugar depends on the type of apple. Add a few sultanas as well while cooking. Turn them into a serving bowl and leave to get cold.

Topping: 6 oz digestive biscuits crumbled, 3 oz butter, 3 oz demerara sugar.

Melt the butter and stir in crumbs and sugar. Sprinkle this mixture over the cold apple. Serve with double cream and yoghurt whipped together, put in a dish and sprinkle with demerara sugar. If you make this in advance for a party or dinner, only sprinkle the crumb mix at the last moment, or it will not stay crisp. *Jill Frostick*



### GREAT BROMLEY AND FRATING PLAYGROUP

PLAYGROUP Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays - 9.30am- Midday £4.50 per Session  
The Children's Christmas singing for the parents/carers went down a treat, the Children doing really well! Their Christmas party was fun and NOISY; they all enjoyed themselves. Great Bromley and Frating Playgroup hope you all had a good Xmas and wish you the very best for 2003!

We said goodbye to a few children just before Christmas as they will be starting school in January, so the best of luck to Amy-Louise Comer, Charlotte Harries, and Thomas Conway. We also we welcomed some new faces this year so we hope that you all enjoy your time here with us. We sadly said goodbye to Melanie just before Christmas who has moved to pastures new. We all want to say a very big Thank you for all her kindness and help she gave to Playschool and wish her well now and for the Future! Finally on behalf of the Committee I want to say Thank you to Claire, Jane, and Kaye for all their hard work, I hope that you all enjoyed your Christmas break and that you are all bright and cheery for the New year ahead.

Our Parent and Toddler group currently runs on Wednesday mornings. It is often a very good introduction for younger children to our playgroup environment. They are able to begin to make friends with little children who they will go to playgroup with and often school too! It is a very informal and relaxed time. All the parents/carers who come along enjoy themselves and have also found many new friends. You can just drop in for a quick chat and coffee or stay the whole morning. First visit free, £1.50 thereafter. 9.45am-11.40am Contact Tracey on 01206 230625. The Parents and Toddlers all met up at Go Bananas for their Christmas get together with everyone having a great time! Parent & Toddler group hope you had a really good Christmas and wish all the best for 2003! We hope to see some new faces this year too!

*Kelly Sear! (Vice-Chair)*

### FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Wishing all our members and everyone a Happy New Year and a Peaceful 2003. Our appeal for wool is here again when our "knitters" are raring to go on the squares for blankets. If you have any spare wool which can be collected please give me a ring on 01206 230191, with thanks to everyone who contributed last time.

If you are marking your diaries for 2003 why not look at the THIRD THURSDAY in the month and try to join us at the village hall at 2.00pm. We may be 55 or over in age but a "younger" lot of people you are not likely to meet! The subscription is just £S per year which entitles you to free coach to and from the meetings - a lovely cuppa and biscuits served by our tea ladies - Jean, June, Mary and Heather - subsidised outings during the year and Christmas lunch. We have speakers and entertainers each month. If you are new to the village why not take this opportunity to meet and make new friends - our motto is "Friendship". We help each other in good times and bad, and hopefully we can look forward to meeting you soon.

Don't forget to save your stamps. The AGM is on 16th January. Please make every effort to attend. The competition is "A winter scene Christmas card?" *Vicky Griffiths*

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

19 members enjoyed an excellent evening meal on Wednesday, 4th December at The Cross Inn instead of our usual monthly meeting. Thanks are extended to Brenda, Richard and Staff for the lovely evening. We are not having our usual meeting in January 2003 as the first Wednesday is New Years Day and the second Wednesday is the local Pantomime performance. Instead we are going to the Mercury Theatre to see the Colchester Operatic Society's production of "The King and I" on Saturday, 1st February. All the members and myself would like to wish everyone a very Happy and Prosperous New Year? *June Willgress*

### GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

100 CLUB WINNERS for November: 1st. Mrs. I Rudd 2nd. Mrs. P Herring 3rd. Mr. R Prior. By kind permission of Mrs Anne Clapham the Gt. Bromley & District Cricket Club Annual General Meeting will be held at Copley Dene on Tuesday 18th February 2003 at 8pm. All welcome.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

12th April. QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the Colts. Village Hall 7.30pm.

28th June. Chairman's Day.

May we wish all members, supporters and friends a very happy and healthy New Year.

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Phone: 01206 509570 E-mail: [hugh@vcsnet.co.uk](mailto:hugh@vcsnet.co.uk)

**THE BROMLEY CROSS INN EVENTS for JANUARY**

New Year's Eve 8 till Late - LORD DICK and THE COOK invite the Lords and Ladies of the Manor, together with their man and maid servants to an evening of merry making. Appropriate dress please - tiaras and medals to be worn.

Wednesday 22nd - MUSIC NIGHT Play, sing or just listen and enjoy. 8.00pm start

Thursday, 30th - CHARITY QUIZ. NIGHT in aid of the Gateway Club

You may have noticed some internal changes (for the better!) to the pub. No - it's not a new landlady - it is lots of beautiful refurbishment and we would like to record our thanks and appreciation to Bob 'the Builder' Hewlett for the great brushstrokes, and to 'Telephone' John Morris for his wonderful way with wood. Also many, many thanks to Roy (and Lee) for the fantastic Christmas display.

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## FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Parishioner, As I write this the Iraqi government are handing over the dossier requested by the United Nations on the state of their weapons. Much posturing and political rhetoric is being handed about and it's hard to see what will happen next. As in most things there is little that is black and white, purely good or purely evil, although some would have us think so. Behind any statement or action there are always several agendas, some of them transparent and obviously for the good and security of the most people, others less so, more determined by national interests - economic and political. I find it difficult to sieve through what I'm being told and make sense, let alone a judgement on what is right.

A few months ago I wrote of the process a Christian goes through in trying to determine what is just and right and if military force can be justified. This month caught up in the celebrations of Christmas and the season of the Prince of Peace, I want to think on his teaching about enemies. In doing so I'm very much aware that some will say that: it is religion which is often the problem if not the cause of much strife in our world. Again I think I have to go back to the fact that there are often hidden agendas behind the mask of religion.

I'll try to strip away religion and read what Jesus is recorded as saying I find a strong message. "You have heard how it was said: 'Eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth'. But I say to this to you love your enemies, set no bounds to your love. just as your heavenly father sets none to his" (From Matthew 5:3 8-48). Jesus came to usher in a new way of living between enemies, one that if adhered to means one ceases to be enemies, maybe even become friends. It takes a lot of courage, of strength, of letting go of status and self-interest, but the danger is otherwise the whole world will end up blind and toothless

On the world stage this seems impossible, but then again, people of faith can place great store in prayer and hope for the human race. I'm still left with "what can I do?" I can write letters, yes, but more? I can try to explode the myth, often put about by the media that faith is the cause and not the answer. That Muslims and Christians and Jews are enemies and have something to fear from each other. I can go the extra mile, seek to be generous and to those who could have resentment towards me, make the first step of reconciliation, as someone once wrote pour colas of Christian kindness upon their heads! As part of this I am organising a second day - January 25<sup>th</sup> 10-4 - at the University for people to discover more about Islam. After the success of the last occasion there will be a larger input from the local Muslims, including providing lunch. If you're interested please send me £8.

It may simply be a drop in a bucket, but eventually buckets can fill up. It may bring into the open some of those agendas, dispel fear and develop trust. It will help me feel I am doing something rather than being powerless, it may do the same for you and bring blessings of peace to our community, it may save a tooth or an eye. I hope and pray so.

May God bless you, *Fr Nicolas.*

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh  
**Services for January**

**1st Mary, Mother of God**

11.00am Eucharist St George the Martyr

2nd 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

3rd 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

4th 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

**Sunday 5th Epiphany of our Lord**

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr

8.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr

10.30am The Parish Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St George the Martyr

6th 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

8th 6.00pm The Eucharist Hamilton Lodge

9th 7.00pm The Eucharist: St. Mary the Virgin

10th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

11th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

**Sunday 11th Baptism of the Lord**

8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

10.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr

6.30pm Evening Prayer St Mary the Virgin

15th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

16th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

17th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

18th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

**Sunday 19th Epiphany 2**

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr

8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

10.30am Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

20th 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

22nd 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

23rd 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

24th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

25th Conversion of S Paul

9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

**Sunday 26th Epiphany 3**

7.30am Morning Prayer St Mary the Virgin

8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

10.30am The Parish Eucharist St George the Martyr

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

27th 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

29th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

30th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

31st 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS at St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh  
TRINITY CHRISTIAN CENTRE Every Sunday at 10.30 am at Bromley Road, Elmstead Market

**TENDRING REVISITED**

It was a friend's Christmas present and she lent it to me. A jigsaw. Not a big puzzle, with only 250 pieces, but nonetheless it proved more difficult than I had imagined it would. It was an ordnance survey map with her house marked right in the middle of the jigsaw with the piece house shaped. The area covered was from Colchester (top left) to Clacton (bottom right). I sat down after lunch thinking half an hour, maybe a little longer, should see it finished. There was no picture (in any event I usually try to do jigsaws without reference to the picture and I therefore felt that to pull out the map as a reference would be cheating) and just my knowledge of 30 years of familiar territory to guide where the pieces would go. Having easily completed the four straight sides the half hour seemed a doddle. I found village names half on one piece and half on another. I joined them together and placed them where I thought they should go on my map around the central piece of my friend's house. The built up areas of Colchester and Clacton were done in a flash but as I joined up the familiar villages I became slower and slower as they never seemed to be as far over or as far down as I imagined them to be. In the end the lynch pin for me to completing the puzzle was the green ribbon of the A120 wending its way from the north west (top left!) of the map to the south east (bottom right). Everywhere seemed to fall into place around it although it took me almost to the finish to find "my" piece with our house on it (needless to say on two separate pieces). The creeks and rivers were surprisingly the most difficult of all. I hadn't realised there were so many winding their way through the landscape. and I had often no notion of their names so I have learnt a great deal putting this puzzle together. I spent a very happy relaxing afternoon - a complete time-waster of a day - piecing the bits together with happy memories of all sorts of occasions spent with the children and with friends at the various places around the Tendring Peninsula, out towards Rowhedge and along the creeks. A journey back in time with the anticipation of finding in the future some of the places marked that I have not been to before. It took me approximately four hours to complete!

*Leonie Henderson*

THE BROMLEY MESSENGER is very grateful and thanks all those who by their donations; have sponsored this month's magazine through PERSONAL AND CLUB DONATIONS

**THANKS**

Very many thanks to everyone who has supported the mini-market at St Georges this year. Your encouragement has been really appreciated and made the enterprise very worth while. This Christmas the market was able to send £520 to the Repair Fund. It is hoped the mini-market will start up again in the spring, when I also hope to be supplying again towards church funds the enchanting Barefoot Books - a magical range of childrens' and young peoples' books, many with a strong but subtle spiritual flavour. These sparkling tales really must be seen to be appreciated - my own grandchildren adore them even though they don't all come from specifically religious homes! *Caroline McShane*

**CAROL SINGING**

I am always delighted and impressed with the friendliness and generosity shown by the people of Great Bromley when we embark each year on our annual round of carol singing. Years ago, I am told, the carol singers would visit every house in the Village over a ten night period. These days it is a far more modest affair. Over the two nights we collected a total of £160.00 and a cheque for this amount has been sent to CRISIS to help in the work that they do assisting the homeless in this country. Thank you for your generosity and thank you to all those who came along and sang. *Dennis Simons*

**Wow! THANKS!** You gave an amazing £502!! A Huge Thank You to everyone who bought Christmas Raffle tickets in aid of mine and Tom's "Building Futures in Malawi" project. The draw took place on 15 December at the Old Courthouse Inn and was a brilliant success - we collected over £90 in that one night alone! Well done to Jo Cobbold for winning the 1st Prize of a Christmas Hamper. With all our fundraising efforts we have covered the cost of transporting almost 2 tonnes of books, computer equipment and Sports kit to Falls Secondary School in poverty-stricken Malawi, Africa. (See Bromley Messenger December 2002) Without your help this would not have been possible. I hope you had a Merry Christmas and have a happy New Year. Thank You Very Much again and I will update you of our progress in March when Tom and I have returned from the "Warm Heart Of Africa"... *Dominic Grant*

### **ANDY, SEVEN RIVERS AND THE LONDON MARATHON**

This year, Seven Rivers has its own personal runner in the London Marathon. My name is Andy Humphrey and I am the son of one of the nurses at Seven Rivers, where I also worked for 4 years. I am now in hard training for the 2003 London Marathon. It has been my ambition since a small child to run in this event, so this year will see my dream come true. Leonard Cheshire has enabled me to fulfil my ambition by granting me a place in the Marathon and, what is more, by doing so, I can raise money for an excellent cause. The money that I raise through Sponsorship will benefit Seven Rivers as it is my nominated Home. I want my hard work to raise as much money as possible, so I wish to appeal to all the people who live in the area to help me. Seven Rivers is a great Home and I really want to raise enough money to make a difference to the lives of the people who live there.

If you would like to sponsor me, you can do so by calling into the Reception at Seven Rivers itself or by signing up at the Village Store in Great Bromley. Thank you in advance. I shall complete the 26 miles and will, of course, let you all know what my final total of Sponsorship amounts to. Please help me to make a difference. *Andy Humphrey*

### **MISSING - FAMILY HEIRLOOM**

Following Robert Harding's funeral on 15th April 2002 a cover-let which lay beneath his coffin, made of Indian wild silk and decorated in gold lettering with the Nunc Dimittis (now lettest thou servant depart in peace) went missing. It was last seen draped over the choir stalls after the funeral. Any information please to Jean on 01206 826150

### **NEWS FROM THE DOCTORS' SURGERY "THE HOLLIES", GT BENTLEY**

This is our first bulletin bringing you news of developments and changes here at the surgery. From 2nd January, we are changing our appointments system to make access to the doctors very much quicker. For people with an urgent problem, there will be no change. They will still be seen the same day. However, the big improvement is that anyone wanting a non-urgent doctor's appointment will now be guaranteed one within two working days. (Working days incidentally are Monday-Friday). To make this work, we will only be booking doctors' appointments two days in advance except for specialist clinics, such as diabetic reviews. Don't be alarmed by this! We promise that when you want to see a doctor you will be offered a time within two working days, even when things are busy. Inevitably we need a little help to make this work. Most importantly, please do not press staff to book appointments further ahead than two working days. They won't be allowed to. Also, we won't be booking routine matters or follow-ups on our busiest days, which are Mondays and Fridays.

We know that some people like to see their favourite doctor every time. We cannot promise that this will always happen. (Some doctors might never go home if we did!) Please help us by accepting an appointment with whichever doctor is offered. If you insist on seeing your favourite and all appointments are booked, you will be asked to ring back another day. This new system which will be very much better for everyone, will soon be extended to cover the nurses. This is going to be possible partly because a new nurse has recently started here. Her name is Bonnie Beard. We also have a new part-time doctor starting in February. He will help out with the busy days and ensure that we keep to our promise about appointments.

*Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager*

### **GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Report on Great Bromley Parish Council's *ad hoc* meeting held on 9 January 2003

**Tendring District Council: Cultural Strategy** The Council noted Tendring's draft cultural strategy for the district and agreed to contribute its views in response to a questionnaire and at a consultation workshop in January.

**The Council's budget and Precept for 2003/4** The Council agreed that its budget for expenditure in 2003-4 should be £12,500 (the same as for 2002-3) and that this amount should be raised from parish Council Taxpayers via Tendring District Council. This money will be spent on the following: general administration and contingencies (£5,550), contributions to charities and voluntary organisations which benefit the local community (£1,300), contribution towards Village Hall costs (£2,500), costs of maintaining Council property including the playing field (£3,150). In addition to the Council Tax Precept the Council has an annual income of about £540 which includes £360 revenue from the Church Meadow bottle and paper recycling banks. The Council expects to maintain its reserves at about £10,000. The Council will draw on this fund when it makes a contribution towards the cost of additional equipment for the playing field.

**Next meeting** The Great Bromley Parish Council will next meet in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 23 January 2003. Agendas are posted on the village notice boards and residents are welcome to attend.

**GREAT BROMLEY POORLANDS CHARITABLE TRUST**

At its meeting on 21 December 2002 the Trust agreed grants £20 each to seven local needy individuals and £30 to one couple. This left a balance £55, from the Trust's annual income of £225, to be allocated for any special individual needs that might arise in 2003. The Chairman (James Wild) or Secretary (Ken Bromfield) will be happy to respond to any queries about the Trust.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Council considered and recorded no objections to the following planning applications:

Application no: 02/02256/FUL Erection of a two- storey side extension Location: 4 Peace Cottages, Badley Hall Road

Application no: 02/02308/FUL Lounge extension Location: The Old Courthouse Inn, Harwich Road Great Bromley

Future meetings of Gt Bromley P.C. 23rd January, 20th February at the Village Hall at 7.30pm.  
*Ken Bromfield*

**LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL** The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council will be held on Thursday, 13th February at 7.30pm. Please check the venue with the Clerk.

**GREAT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUP**

would like to welcome some new faces this term and they are, Max, Erin, Megan, Grace & George. We all hope you enjoy your time with us. We also would like to welcome two new members of staff who will be Playgroup assistants and they are Nicky Conway and Jo Smith. We hope you find it just as fun and exciting as the children do being part of the Playgroup environment, best of luck to you both!

Playgroup's Topic this term is, Me and My Family. We are sure the children will enjoy this one as they all love to talk about themselves and the rest of the family... There are some great activities lined up for all to enjoy and we really hope they do! Our Christmas Raffle, which took place just before we broke up for our festive break, did extremely well. We had some fantastic prizes one of which was a coloured TV. We had all our prizes donated by some well-known companies as well as the parents and carers of our playgroup children. So on behalf of the Committee and myself a big thank you to all those involved in such a successful raffle.

The Table Top Sale we held in December went extremely well too. Playgroup had some dedicated Mums Carers & helpers who worked really hard to get it organised and up and running. A very BIG thank you to you all. So with the two events mentioned we managed to raise approximately £400.00, which are much-needed funds for Playgroup. We will be holding many more fund-raising events so keep an eye out and we will keep you posted. Anyone with any ideas for raising much needed Funds, however small or large you think your ideas might be, you can approach any member of staff at playgroup or call Kelly Searl (Vice-Chair).

**PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP** is a great chance for you and your children to come along to a friendly and informal group. We have lots of fun, and even a drink and a biscuit! So why don't you come along and see us all! Wednesday Mornings 9.45am-11.40am. First visit FREE there after £1.50 Contact Tracey.

**GARDENERS' CORNER FOR FEBRUARY**

Welcome to a new year of gardening. ROSES: At the end of the month start to prune hybrid tea roses. It is not too late to prune climbers and ramblers. PERENNIALS: Remove all dead stems before new shoots begin to grow LILIES: Plant towards the end of the month in pots or in the garden. LAWNS: Keep the worm casts brushed off lawns. Get mowers sharpened for the first cut of the season. *Frank Griffiths*

**WHAT GOINGS ON**

Among the Quarter Session records are details of a long drawn out case which seems never to have ended. At Easter Sessions, 25th March, 1713 William Prime of Great Bentley, butcher, William Syday of Frating, brickmaker and John Dore of Great Bentley, labourer, were called since Prime was suspected of stealing a sheep out of the grounds of Thomas Mannock, Lord of the Manor of Great Bromley. They did not appear!



Again on 25th March 1713, Ann Vicar of Great Bromley, spinster, was called as a witness against William Prime. Also added to the charge was that of taking away several parcels of hay from the hay-stack of Thomas Paisey of Great Bentley. Also at court was Thomas Parsey (before it was Paisey), the yeoman of Great Bentley.

Thomas Mannock, Lord of the Manor was not only on the Bench but also appeared as a witness. What happened? There was a sheep - it needed feeding - there was hay available and the sheep had it. Maybe! *John Appleby*

**ESSEX COUNTY STANDARD VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT**

Vera Biddis has decided that she no longer wishes to be the Village Correspondent for the Essex County Standard newspaper. She has been regularly writing reports to go in to her column for over 25 years and we wish her a happy retirement from this post. Thank you Vera for all your hard work over the years.

Ann Jones of Wayside, Hall Road, Great Bromley has agreed to take on this task and would be grateful if in future all material for inclusion in the Great Bromley column of the Essex County Standard be sent to her.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**FEBRUARY**

- 5 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 13 Little Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 15 Valentine's Dinner Dance, Venture Centre 2000
- 18 Cricket Club AGM, Copley Dene, 8.00pm
- 20 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 20 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall. 7.30pm
- 26 Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, 7.00pm

**MARCH**

- 1 More of our Glorious Heritage, a talk, St Osyth Church. 7.00pm
- 5 Ash Wednesday, Eucharist, S Mary's Church, 7.00pm
- 7 Women's World Day of Prayer, Manningtree Methodist Church, 2.30pm
- 8 Eastern Angles "The Last Laugh", Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 13 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21 Edwardian slide evening of Colchester Pageant, Village Hall, 7.30pm

**APRIL**

- 10 Little Bromley Parish Council Parish Assembly meeting, 7.30pm
- 12 Cricket Club Quiz Night in aid of the Colts, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 13 London Marathon
- 17 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20 Easter Day
- 28 Celebration for S George's Day, S George's Church, 7.00pm


**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY of PRAYER**

takes place on Friday, 7th March at the Manningtree Methodist Church Hall at 2.30pm. The service this year has been prepared by the Christian Women of Lebanon under the title Holy Spirit, Fill Us. The Preacher will be the Rev. Pat. Prestney of Lawford. All are welcome. *Barbara Pearce.*

**EDWARDIAN EVENING**  
with John Appleby


Slides of the Colchester Pageant

Friday, 21st March  
at 7.30 pm  
in Great Bromley  
Village Hall



*Friends of St Osyth Parish Church*

*More of our Glorious Heritage*  
with  
*Roy Tricker*  
*An Illustrated Talk*



on Saturday 1st March, 2003  
at 7.00 pm in the St Osyth Church

Tickets including Refreshments £5  
from John Stiff, Estate Agents  
or Mark Roberts 01255 822310

**VALENTINE'S DINNER  
DANCE**

15th February

at Venture Centre 2000, Lawford

Live band "Words & Music" (very good!)

Large raffle for Colchester Breast Care Unit.



Tickets £21.00 from Linda Pinhey (01206 230126)



In Aid of St George's Roof Repair Fund

## DRAMA IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Following hard on the heels of the Great Bromley Pantomime comes the spring production of the Eastern Angles Theatre Company on Saturday, 8th March at 7.30pm.

### "THE LAST LAUGH"

is a new play by James Vollmar, author of "Crossroad Blues" which was performed for us two years ago and which received resounding applause from our audience. His new play is described as "a wry farce, a funny and quirky play, a comedy for the 21st Century". Buy a ticket and come and judge for yourself. If the recent productions are anything to go by, this will be an entertaining and stimulating evening. Add to its delights by buying a supper ticket as well. A hot meal will be served before the show at 6.00pm. A licensed bar will sell wine, beer and fruit juice.

Eating space, and therefore supper tickets, are limited! First come, first served!

Tickets: Play - £8.00      Supper - £7.00

Available from Anne Clapham (01206 230790), Tricia and Keith Hughes (01255 553885) and from Great Bromley Post Office.

### KITCHEN CORNER

Pancake day comes soon (4th March), but they are good on other days too. These recipes are for breakfast pancakes served the American way with bacon and maple syrup. They are also good with marmalade or honey or just buttered.

**BUCKWHEAT PANCAKES** I use equal quantities of buckwheat and wholemeal or plain flour. Either milk or yoghurt (plain) with water to mix. You can add a beaten egg for a richer mixture. Combine the flours with pinch of salt, gradually stir in liquid to smooth batter - consistency of thick cream is about right. Hot greased pan, drop in spoonfuls and cook both sides for a few minutes till nicely golden brown.

**POTATO PANCAKES** makes 4

1 small potato, peeled, cooked and mashed, 1 small egg, 30 g plain flour, 30 g potato flour (or use plain if unavailable), 50 ml milk, ½ teasp baking powder, salt and black pepper ground, nutmeg oil for frying

Cool the mashed potato, then put in a bowl with egg, flours and baking powder. Whisk to a smooth paste, gradually adding milk. Season well. Heat pan with a little oil, pour in ¼ of mix and cook both sides. Continue with rest. Can be re-heated when needed. These will be quite thick. Serve with bacon and syrup as above.

*Jill Frostick*

### FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Sweet Success - what an apt name for the success of our Christmas Lunch served to us by Linda and her staff in spite of the electricity failure for a while. Well done, Linda it was great - we certainly had a happy day. On to a new year - may it be a happy, healthy and peaceful one. Our membership has increased during 2002 but we still have plenty of chairs to fill! Our outings will be discussed over the next few weeks but if you have any suggestions of places you would like to visit please let us know. We have a full programme of speakers and entertainers booked for the year, which is a very difficult task covering twelve months. However our Chairman always manages to find something different to interest us and make our meetings a good day out. We have had a good response to our wool appeal, thanks to Mrs Marshall and Mrs Strowbridge. The knitting needles are clicking away and soon lots of squares will be ready to be made up into blankets for the Hospice and Retirement homes. The competition is silk scarf. *Vicky Griffiths*

## **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday: 5th February in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. The speaker is Gill Sleightholme who will tell us all about the Cheshire Homes. You are most welcome if you care to join us for the occasion. *June Willgress*

## **GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET**

Indoor cricket coaching, a series of four 2-hour indoor coaching sessions, will be run for Gt. Bromley Colts on 25th March, 1st, 8th and 15th April, 6-8pm. These sessions will be primarily open to the two colt age groups we are running this coming season which are Under 14 and Under 12. Anyone interested in the coaching sessions and who wants to play cricket for Gt Bromley Colts please phone Steve Wright on 230119.

Kwik-cricket will start outdoors at the end of April.

A Quiz Night in aid of the youth cricket section will be held on April 12th. Gt. Bromley C.C. Chairman's Day has been moved to July 5th.

100 CLUB WINNERS for DECEMBER

1st. Mr. G. Kempster 2nd. Mr. N. Garnham 3rd. Mr. A. Robinson

100 CLUB WINNERS for JANUARY

1st Mr. T. Marshall 2nd. Mr. M. Lamb (Snr.) 3rd. Mrs. K. Mitchell

## **CARPET BOWLS**

Our last club evening of 2002 was in the form of a competition called a 'Drive'. All entrants play games of 6 ends, changing teams but taking their personal scores with them to the next carpet and so on. 16 players started and at the final reckoning the highest number of points was achieved by Joe Canham. Well played Joe. It was a very enjoyable evening, helped along with festive fare supplied by the lady members. The league results so far were available that evening and Gt Bromley were at the top of the table at this stage but there is a long way to go. I would like to wish all our members and their families a very happy and healthy 2003. Happy bowling, *Nancy Kempster*

## **GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL**

The first meeting of the new year for the Village Hall Management Committee was on Tuesday, 14th January. There were many items on the agenda for discussion, ranging from Charity Commission news, Building Consultants' visit, finance, storage, Hall repairs and maintenance through to fund raising events. A date to remember is Friday, 21st March at 7.30pm when John Appleby will be at the Village Hall to present his "Edwardian" evening with slides of the Colchester Pageant. *Bevan Willgress*

## **THE BROMLEY CROSS INN EVENTS for FEBRUARY**

Wednesday, 9th - PSYCHIC SUPPER - £5 for ticket, 10 minute reading, light supper and chat

Wednesday 26th - MUSIC NIGHT Play, sing or just listen and enjoy. 8.00pm start

Thursday, 30th - CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the WAIFS Animal Rescue

## **FROM THE RECTORY**

Dear Parishioner,

As I write the Ark Royal has just sailed out of Portsmouth with a great deal of speculation as to where she is going and what the men and women on board will experience before they return home. The Prime Minister has spoken with a great sense of confidence in the path he is treading and the "Hawks" (a term I understand to be used for those hovering and eager to move militarily into Iraq) are crying louder. So what of the doves? Presumably they are the ones who are urging greater diplomatic efforts and questioning the approach. Rowan, the new Archbishop of Canterbury, has spoken of the Three Wise men who told Herod of the birth of a King and thus triggered the massacre of innocents. They are, he said, "like contemporary strategists who miss the huge and obvious things and wreak yet more havoc and suffering". Archbishop Rowan like other "doves", has the difficulty of finding alternatives to force. Part of this difficulty seems to me that the Iraq issue is at least one step removed from the war on terrorism.

As yet no one has been able to link Saddam Hussein or any Iraqis with al Qa'ida, September 11 2001, or any other recent terrorist attacks. More plausible is a desire for a regime change connected with oil interests. When the doves ask did we sign up for militarily bringing about regime changes and who decided (after all the list of governments with bad human rights issues, some of whom we count as allies and trading partners, is quite long) Iraq was to be first.

A few months ago many of you joined thousands of others on a march in London entitled "Liberty and Livelihood" because you felt passionately that things were being done in your name that threatened those things. I've never been on such a protest march myself, but am seriously thinking and praying about joining others on February 15th because liberty and livelihood are in my name being threatened because on the information I have, I come to a different conclusion to the Prime Minister. Military action will certainly strike at the liberty and livelihood of the Iraqi people, possibly de-stabilise the whole region, increase the possibility of revenge terrorist attacks, and trigger a greater insecurity in our world. May the doves, the men and women of peace and justice, find a voice, a viable solution, and a way to strengthen the things we hold dear and will march for. May God bless you, Fr Nicolas.

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING** of the Bromleys will this year take place on 26th February in the chapel of Seven Rivers after a 7pm Eucharist. This meeting is an opportunity for the Church Council to present the Annual Report and for you to raise any matters. Elections will be held for two places on the Council. The meeting is open to everyone on the Church Electoral Roll. Application forms are available in Church and you must be baptised and a resident in the parish or a regular worshipper.

### **Services for FEBRUARY**

1st 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin  
Sunday 2nd The Presentation of the Lord  
7.30am Morning Prayer St George the Martyr  
8.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr  
10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin  
6.30pm Evening Prayer St George the Martyr  
3rd 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr  
5th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr  
6th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin  
7th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers  
8th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin  
Sunday 9th 4th Sunday before Lent  
7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin  
8.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin  
10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr  
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin  
10th 9.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr  
12th 6.00pm The Eucharist Hamilton Lodge  
13th 9.30am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin  
14th SS Cyril and Methodius 11.00am Holy Communion Seven Rivers  
15th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin  
Sunday 16th 3rd Sunday before Lent  
7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr  
8.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr  
10.30am Parish Eucharist St Mary the Virgin  
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr  
17th 9.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr  
19th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr  
21st 11.00am Holy Communion Seven Rivers  
Sunday 23rd 2nd Sunday before Lent  
8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin  
10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr  
6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin  
26th 7.00pm The Eucharist Seven Rivers  
27th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin  
28th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers  
Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS at St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh  
TRINITY CHRISTIAN CENTRE Every Sunday at 10.30 am at Bromley Road, Elmstead Market

## **The Bromley Messenger March 2003**

A philosophy professor stood before his class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly he picked up a very large and empty jar and proceeded to fill it with rocks about 2" in diameter. He then asked the students if the jar was full? They agreed that it was. So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles, of course, rolled into the open areas between the rocks. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed that this time it was. The professor picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He then asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous - yes. The professor then produced two cans of beer from under the table and proceeded to pour their entire contents into the jar! - effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

"Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The rocks are the important things - your family, your partner, your health, your children - things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like. Your job, your house, your car. The sand is everything else. The small stuff.

"If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued "there is no room for the pebbles or the rocks. The same goes for your life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out dancing! There will always be time to go to work, clean the house, give a dinner party and fix the car.

"Take care of the rocks first -- the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the beer represented. The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of beers."

We thank BROMLEY REFRIGERATION SERVICE LTD for sponsoring this month's magazine. Please support our sponsors.

### GREAT BROMLEY PANTOMIME GROUP

A big thank you to you all. After "All the Kings Money" was counted a cheque for £700 will be winging its way to the Essex Air Ambulance as our chosen charity for 2003 as it was considered how vital they are to rural life these days. In 2003 yet another generation of valiant troupers trod the boards at the Village Hall. We realised that the group has been going for many years in fact after talking to many in the know 2004 will be the 50th Pantomime for the village. Therefore for the Golden Production we will be performing "Mother GOOSE" and the charity will be for the village. If you know of an organisation or individual who needs help please write to: Susanne Harknett, 2 The Limes, Ardleigh CO7 7RW WE NEED TO KNOW BY 31st MAY.

### DEEPEST AFRICA

Wednesday 29 January, 2003

Dear Messenger Readers, Moni! Muri Bwanji? (Greetings! How are you?) I am writing from Lilongwe, Area 1 - the frenetic capital of Malawi, Southern Africa. The air is heavy and thick. Angry monsoon clouds are gathering ominously overhead. From the last downpour, the earth is stodgy and obstinate. Everywhere, there is rich green foliage. Down the road, battered taxis and buses rush to and fro. Beyond that, traders sell bric-a-brac, or barbecued maize, or woven furniture Builders collect corrugated steel from the wholesalers. And on the other side of town is City Centre with its banks, corporate offices, international aid organisation headquarters and Capitol Hill - the financial and bureaucratic hub?

In the weeks before Christmas 2002, residents of Great Bromley and the surrounding region donated an amazing £502 as part of a Raffle at the Old Courthouse Inn in aid of the UK charity Building Futures in Malawi. In 1999 the charity founded Falls Secondary School and is continually striving to enhance its basic resources. (Very basic - trust me; the staff teach with a sum total of about twenty books - and this is the middle of the capital). With this and other generous donations, my friend Tom Bowden and myself were able to fund a 2-tonne shipment of books, computers and football equipment and still bring £400 with us to Malawi to spend on

further development projects. We are thinking of building a library to hold all those books when they arrive on 24 February?

After receiving us in the typically warm Malawian manner, the Headmaster put us to work. I am teaching Form 1 and 2 Mathematics while Tom is teaching English Literature to Form 3. English is the official language of Malawi, but the language barrier is still the most difficult to break.

Tom is also coaching the school football team twice a week with a girl's session on another day. I don't think any of them had seen so many footballs in one place before. The school team beat a local team (of older boys) 4-2 last Friday, and there is a Teachers v Pupils match tomorrow. The teams are wearing kits donated by Liverpool FC and Colchester United FC that we brought in our hand luggage. Football is a universal currency over here! The coming weeks should prove to be a time of exciting growth for the school. Thank You Again for all your support. Zicomo Quambiri! (Thank You Very Much!). Kindest Regards, *Dominic Grant*

#### FAMILY HEIRLOOM REGAINED

Thank you for all your co-operation. The decorated coverlet from Robert's funeral safely found. \*  
*Jean Hunting*

#### GARDENER'S CORNER FOR MARCH

**SHRUBS:** Rooted suckers from Cornus, Philadelphus and Lilacs may be severed and planted out. Shrubs for containers may also be planted this month. If you have a Forsythia take a few cuttings and place in a vase indoors - they will bloom and give a bit of colour - alternatively place the cuttings in a dark place when they will bloom white. **TEA ROSES:** Prune this month **CHRYSANTHEMUMS:** Propagate summer flowering types from new shoots on stools. **DAHLIAS:** Start tubers into growth by placing them in boxes of damp peat or old compost. Sow **SEEDS** at the end of the month. **IRISES:** Remove dead and dying leaves from Bearded Irises and apply fertiliser. *Frank Griffiths*

#### GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Great Bromley Parish Council meeting held on 23 January 2003 County Council **County Councillor reports** Mrs Candy reported that our Council Taxes were likely to increase by at least 20% in 2003/4 with further annual increases in prospect. She also reported that the A120 was unlikely be "dualled" before 2016.

**Environment** The Council continues to be concerned at the amount of rubbish and litter deposited by the roadside. The District Council is regularly reminded of its responsibility for clearing this away promptly. It was reported that rubbish was being dumped in Church Meadow and wind-blown litter was accumulating in the hedges. Residents are asked to assist with dealing with this problem. A dog-waste bin is to be installed in Back Lane East, where fouling has been reported. A six-day-a-week rubbish disposal facility is to be opened in Lawford.

**Highways and footpaths** The Council considered but could not support Tendring District Councils proposal that a section of footpath 25 . (Hall Road to Blue Gate Farm) should be diverted. This diversion was not considered to be in the public interest. Residents are reminded that blocks placed on roadside verges adjacent to their properties can be hazardous to both motorists and walkers. As such these blocks may be removed by the County Highways authority.

**PLANNING** The Council considered and recorded no objections to the following planning applications: "Camelot", Ardleigh Road, Great Bromley: proposed conservatory.

"The Caravan", Carrington Road, Great Bromley: continued stationing of caravan for residential purposes together with sewage treatment plant, ancillary building and additional curtilage.

2 Holly Dene Cottages, Briar Road, Great Bromley: proposed extension and alterations.

2 Meadow Close, Great Bromley: proposed two-storey side extension.

Barn adjacent to Portlands, Harwich Road Great. Bromley: continuing siting of mobile home for a maximum of one further year.

The Council considered but, in the absence of sufficient information, was unable to come to a View on the following planning application: Barn adjacent to Portlands, Harwich Road, Great Bromley: addition to barn and cart lodge (variation to previous planning permission).

Tendring District Council has approved the continuing use of Seven Rivers Bungalow without complying with a condition restricting occupation to staff.

**Tendring District Council** informs ' residents of proposed development in their neighbourhood. Residents are asked to let the Clerk have a note of any objections or comments they may have

on these proposals. Residents' views do help the Council in deciding its recommendations on planning applications.

Tendring District Council has approved the following planning applications:

4 Peace Cottages, Badley Hall Road: two-storey side extension and tree pruning

6 St Georges Close: rear extension and re-siting of garden chalet

The Old Courthouse Inn, Harwich Road: lounge extension

2 Holly Dene Cottages. Briar Road: extension and alterations.

Future meetings The Parish Council will next meet in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on 20 February and 13 March 2003. KB 7/2/03

### **LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

The next meeting of Little Bromley Parish Council (Parish Assembly meeting) will be held on Thursday 10th April at 7.30pm. Please check the venue with the Clerk (01206 391015)

### **GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES**

The Village Hall Management Committee met on Tuesday 14th January in the Village Hall. Storage at the Hall was discussed in some detail following the report of the sub committee set up to look in to the subject. It was generally agreed to dispose of items no longer required and to rearrange the existing facilities to the benefit of the majority of users. However, we will also be looking at providing some further cupboard space to ease the problems that some users are experiencing.

Hall repairs and maintenance are high on our agenda with much discussion being centred on the electrical system. The Hall was closed during the half-term week commencing Monday, 17th February so that our electrical contractors could disconnect the supply and work safely on upgrading and replacing part of the installation. We apologise for the club meetings that were cancelled or had to be rearranged at short notice. However, we must ensure the building is safe to use and meets the standards required legally.

Have you booked your tickets from Beryl Hurst for Friday, 21st March at 7.30pm when John Appleby will be at the Village Hall to present his "Edwardian" evening with slides of the Colchester Pageant? After discussion, we have moved away from running a Coronation Event at the end of May or early June 2003 and are now looking towards staging a dance or similar during September. The Management Committee will next meet on Tuesday, 4th March at 7.30pm in the Hall. *Bevan Willgress*

### **BARN OWLS - A TALK by DAVID WILKIN**

Wednesday, 5th March at 7.30pm Great Bentley Village Hall

Entry free but donations requested. All proceeds to fund new owl boxes

### **ST. GEORGES SCHOOL, GT. BROMLEY**

Tuesday, 25th March is our Governors Annual Meeting with Parents - what a difference a year makes. Last year it was rather chilly sitting in the hall with draughts coming through makeshift walls where new corridors were emerging behind. This year we will be in our new large hall. The new accommodation has been wonderful for the children. The IT suite is now up and running and each class is timetabled to use it each week. The Resource Room enables individuals or small groups of children to have tuition away from the big class. The County P.E. Adviser has spent time in school demonstrating the new gymnastic equipment installed in the hall. When the spring finally arrives, the school would like to develop the grounds. It is hoped to lay an all weather path around the perimeter of the field, landscape the mound and provide bench areas for parents and children. If anyone is interested in quoting for this work, please contact the Office.

The P.T.A. had a successful Quiz Night in February. Another Beauty Evening with Dawn Pegrum is to be held in the School Hall on 11th March, tickets £2.50 and a Car Treasure Hunt is planned for Sunday, 13th April, 1.30pm in the Church Meadow. More details are available from the school or any PTA member. We are very grateful for any Tesco Computers for School vouchers or Nestle vouchers. Please bring them in to the office - thanks.

More dates - Easter Fayre, 10th April, 1.45pm-3.00pm, School Hall

School Closes for Easter on 11th April, 3.00pm.

## GREAT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUP

Mondays Wednesdays & Thursdays 9.30am-12 Midday £4.50 Per session at Great Bromley Village Hall. Contact Penny (Secretary) on 01206 251937

Playgroup has been really busy doing lots of fun activities since the beginning of term. The children have made some excellent Chinese Dragons for the Chinese New Year celebrations; a lot of time and effort went into them from both children and staff. The children also had a visit from a dental hygienist who really gave the children lots of incentive to always clean their teeth regularly especially after sweets! (I'm sure she did not say every five minutes though??) They also made their families/loved ones some fantastic Valentines cards all personalised with their own photograph.

They really have been busy bees and to end their first half term the children have been getting ready for their "Sponsor a Song week". They have been learning/singing some of their favourite songs and are in the process of getting sponsors to help raise much needed funds for their playgroup. We are hoping they manage to get their families and friends to help them achieve this as their challenge is taking place the first week they come back after half term! So a big WELL DONE in advance to all the children who take part! We are always on the lookout for new ideas for fund raising so anyone with any suggestions please speak to any member of staff or call Kelly Searl (Vice-chair) on 07880965809 we would be most grateful.

## PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Our Parent and Toddler group is a great chance for you and your children to come along to a friendly and informal group. We have lots of fun, and even a drink and a biscuit! So why don't you come along and see us all! Wednesday Mornings 9.45-11.40am  
First visit FREE, thereafter £1.50 Contact Tracey on 01206 230625

## KITCHEN CORNER Herefordshire Apple Cake

150g/6 oz raisins  
100g/4 oz sultanas  
50g/2 oz cut mixed peel  
2 tabsp medium cider  
225g/8 oz plain flour  
½ teasp bicarb of soda  
½ teasp (level) ground cinnamon  
1 teasp (level) mixed spice  
¼ teasp (level) ground allspice  
100g/4 oz butter or marg  
150g/6 oz caster sugar  
2 large eggs  
225g/8 oz cooking apples, peeled and cored  
25g/1 oz stem ginger, finely chopped  
Grated rind 1 lemon  
A few crushed sugar cubes.

Grease and line 20 cm/8" round cake tin  
Soak raisins, sultanas and peel in cider for 1 hour or so. Sift flour with spices and bicarb of soda.  
Cream the fat with sugar till light and fluffy. Beat in eggs one at a time alternately with a spoonful of flour, then fold in rest of flour.  
Coarsely grate apples and fold in together with soaked fruit, ginger and lemon rind. Turn into prepared tin and level top. Sprinkle with crushed sugar.  
Bake moderate oven 170C/325F/Mark 3, 160C for fan ovens, for 1¼ hours or till skewer comes out clean. Leave to cool 10 mins then turn on to wire rack and leave till cold. Wrap in foil, or put in airtight tin or container 48 hours before cutting.

*Jill Frostick*

### MINI MARKET

The next mini market at St George's Church will be on Sunday, 23rd March. Produce, cards and the irresistible new Barefoot books for children will be available.

Any help with produce or help selling on the day would be most thoroughly appreciated.

This is all in aid of the Repair Fund which still needs our support.

*Caroline McShane*



### WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This takes place on Friday, 7th March at the Manningtree Methodist Church Hall at 10.30am. (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME). The service this year has been prepared by the Christian Women of Lebanon under the title 'Holy Spirit, Fill Us'. The Preacher will be the Rev. Pat Prestney of Lawford. All are welcome.

*Barbara Pearce*



### FRIENDSHIP CLUB SPRING SALE

Thursday, 24th April  
2.00 - 4.00pm.  
in the Village Hall

#### The White Elephant Stall -

This year we cannot accept any furniture or electrical goods - glassware and china only. If you have anything to be collected please give us a ring (01206 230191).



There will be the usual stalls, BUMPER RAFFLE, REFRESHMENTS etc.



## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

### **MARCH**

- 1 More of our Glorious Heritage, a talk, St Osyth Church, 7.00pm
- 4 Village Hall committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 Ash Wednesday. Eucharist, S Mary's Church 7.00pm
- 5 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 Talk on Barn Owls, Gt Bentley Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 7 Women's World Day of Prayer, Manningtree Methodist Church, 10.30am
- 8 Eastern Angles "The Last Laugh", Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 11 P.T.A. Beauty Evening, School Hall 1
- 3 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm ;
- 21 "Edwardian" slide evening of Colchester Pageant, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 22 Lentent Appeal. Methodist Church Room, Ardleigh, 11.00am
- 23 Mini market. St Georges Church

### **APRIL**

- 10 Easter Fayre, Gt Bromley School Hall, 1.45pm
- 10 Little Bromley Parish Council Parish Assembly meeting, 7.30pm
- 11 Race Night, Colne High School, Brightlingsea, 7.30pm
- 12 Cricket Club Quiz, Village Hall
- 13 P.T.A. Car Treasure Hunt, Church Meadow, 1.30pm
- 13 London Marathon
- 17 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20 Easter Day
- 24 Spring Sale, Village Hall, 7.00pm
- 28 Celebration for S George's Day, S George's Church, 7.00pm

## **Rotary Club of Brightlingsea & District RACE NIGHT**

Colne High School, Brightlingsea 11th April, 2003

Sponsor a race, own a horse - Cheese platter and glass of wine - £4.00

Details from: Len Christodoulides or just turn up and have a flutter in aid of Essex Air Ambulance.

The Christmas Santa Sleigh raised over £2,500 this year. Thanks to all who contributed. All of this went to Essex Air Ambulance towards our target of £3,500 for a new piece of emergency kit.

## **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

In lieu of our January meeting, a group of WI members together with friends went to the Mercury Theatre, Colchester on 1st February to see the Colchester Operatic Society's splendid performance of "The King and I" which we thoroughly enjoyed.

Gill Sleightholme came along to our February evening meeting to tell us about The Cheshire Home. Their founder was Leonard Cheshire, a Group Captain in the Royal Air Force in the 1939-45 War, during which he won the Victoria Cross. He joined together with some fellow officers after hearing of a friend, Arthur Dykes, who was very ill in hospital and needed somewhere to live and be cared for. They moved him into Lee Court, Hampshire and things developed from there. The Leonard Cheshire Home inspired other people to set up similar places around the country and, of course, Great Bromley has the Seven Rivers Home. In the UK nowadays, 19,000 disabled people are supported and encouraged to be able to live more independent lives. Some choose to live in the Leonard Cheshire Home, whilst others prefer to be in their own homes using their Care at Home services for the support they need. The Leonard Cheshire Charity helps to support projects in 55 countries around the world. Such as helping disabled people in the Third World to work but still providing necessary support facilities. Gill said that policy changes are gradually happening. Residents are encouraged to help and to become involved with the running of the home. Seven Rivers has 28 residents at the moment and do not admit anyone over the age of 55 years old. Fund raising methods are also changing. The Summer Fete has become much too expensive to organise, especially the insurance cover needed. They hope to run smaller events such as evening entertainment. The Cheshire Home logo, or badge, which as you probably know is a red leather, means "Prosperity and Peace" in Singapore. This month our speaker is Mr Derek Ladkin and his subject is "The Antarctic". If you would like to join us for what promises to be a very interesting evening, you will be most welcome at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 5th March in the Village Hall. *June Willgress.*

## **FRIENDSHIP CLUB SPRING SALE**

The date is 24th April. The time is 2.00 - 4.00pm. The place is the Village Hall. The White Elephant Stall. This year we cannot accept any furniture or electrical goods - glassware and china only. If you have anything to be collected please give us a ring. There will be the usual stall, BUMPER RAFFLE, REFRESHMENTS etc.

**Outings** Southwold with a salad tea at the Chapel. Caithness Crystal Visitors' Centre, Kings Lynn. The dates have not been arranged yet but will be discussed at the next meeting.

Although we didn't have as much space as in the Hall we had a very interesting talk, with slides, given by Mr Ian Rose on his holidays in Alaska at our January meeting.

**WOOL** Many thanks to Mrs Fox. Little Bromley for the large bags she donated.

**MANY THANKS** from everyone to Brenda and Richard at the Cross Inn-who organised a lunch for the members on 12th February. **COMPETITION** is a "Fancy button on a card" *Vicky Griffiths*

## **THE BROMLEY CROSS INN EVENTS for MARCH**

Wednesday, 19th - **STARTERS & PUDDINGS EVENING** - £12.50 per person. Bookings only

Wednesday 26th - **MUSIC NIGHT** Play, sing or just listen and enjoy. 8.00pm start

Thursday, 27th - **CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT** in aid of the Village Hall

Saturday, 31st May & Sunday, 1st June **BEER FESTIVAL**

Saturday, 31st May **MUSIC FESTIVAL** - 3.30pm until **THE MUSIC RUNS OUT!** All types of traditional music will be sung and/or played. If you would like to strut your stuff please contact Brenda (01206 230282) or tell Chris or Tom on Music Night and book your slot.

Sunday, 1st June **COUNTRY FAIR** - 2.00pm - 5.00pm Remember last June? Well we're doing it again! Lots of attractions - see next month's magazine for further details.

## **THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS**

Dear Parishioner, March 5th is Ash Wednesday which for Christians is a special day of prayer for repentance - saying sorry for wrongs acknowledged to have been done in the past - and reconciliation - making one again with God, neighbour and self. It is also the first day of Lent which is the season for increasing the awareness of God, neighbour and self. This year my preparations for this holy season are being overshadowed by the events of the world stage. The Bishops of the Church of England have issued their own response to the situation: "We continue to hold that a conclusive case has yet to be made in favour of military action against Iraq. We do not believe the evidence presented to date suggests a Clear link exists between Iraq and Al Qaeda or that Iraq poses an immediate threat to international security. Without compelling new evidence to the contrary, we contend that military action could not be morally justified. We call on Iraq to present credible evidence to support its claim that it does not possess Weapons of Mass Destruction. We believe that it is vital that proper focus and attention is given in any event to ensuring that the basic humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people are met and that a clear path is constructed for the swift and effective return of Iraq and its people who have long suffered under the regime of Saddam Hussein to a rightful place in the community of nations."

Traditionally Christians give any money saved through having gone without something, a meal or luxury, to a charity. This year we shall be sending our offerings to S John's hospital in Jerusalem. There they specialise in eye treatment and welcome anyone asking only for payment according to the patient's circumstances. In the present troubles they are having to deal with all sorts of injuries as most other hospitals only treat people with health insurance, which is beyond the wildest dreams of a lot of people. For me this will go some way to help ease the feeling of helplessness. If you feel you'd like to make a positive sign that the West does care for peoples of the East, regardless of faith held, please take a box from Church, returning it for Good Friday. May God bless you and give us His peace. Fr Nicolas.

**LENTEN APPEAL** Come for coffee and/or soup lunch **BRING AND BUY**

Saturday, March 22nd 11am - 2pm at the Methodist Church Room, Ardleigh

In aid of St John Eye Hospital, Jerusalem A centre of excellence providing ophthalmic care of high quality and relevance to the people of the Holy Land irrespective of race, creed, social class and ability to pay.

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY  
 united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh  
 Services for MARCH

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY  
 united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



**Services for MARCH**

<b>1st</b>		<b>S David</b>	
	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 2nd</b>		<b>Sunday before Lent</b>	
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>3rd</b>	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>5th</b>		<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>6th</b>	10.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>7th</b>	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
<b>8th</b>		Quiet Day	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>Sunday 9th</b>		<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>	
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>10th</b>	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>11th</b>	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>12th</b>	6.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>Hamilton Lodge</i>
<b>13th</b>	10.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>15th</b>	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 16th</b>		<b>2nd Sunday of Lent</b>	
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>17th</b>	9.00am	<b>S Patrick</b>	
		The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>19th</b>		<b>S Joseph</b>	
	10.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>20th</b>	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>21st</b>	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
<b>22nd</b>	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 23rd</b>		<b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b>	
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>24th</b>	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>25th</b>		<b>Annunciation of our Lord</b>	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>26th</b>	10.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>28th</b>	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
<b>29th</b>	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>30th</b>		<b>4th Sunday of Lent</b>	
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>31st</b>	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

Every Sunday at 8.50 am ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS  
 at St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

TRINITY CHRISTIAN CENTRE  
 Every Sunday at 10.30 am at Bromley Road, Elmstead Market

**WHERE ARE WE HEADING?**

I am writing this as war breaks out in Iraq. Already there have been casualties. What a shame diplomacy broke down and we are reduced to this. I feel helplessness, coupled with resignation, and acceptance of the situation we have been led into by our government. I have in the past experienced the same of lack of control that one has over one's destiny. Years ago when the children were very young a car came off the road on the spot where they had been playing only five minutes earlier: the IRA blew up the pub in Bishopsgate where my husband had been just the day before: my son, when in Northern Ireland with his girlfriend, decided at the last minute not to go into Omagh the afternoon that town was hit by the bomb. The latest fear from aeroplanes is not terrorists or hijacks but an invisible flu-like virus that is being carried here from the Far East. Life is full of near misses and we cannot just stop living our normal lives for fear of what might happen.

The same with this war. I fear how it is going to change the world and that it may not be for the better. I also feel annoyed with myself as I can't seem to positively make up my mind whether I am for or against such a war. Originally the talk was to find and convict international terrorists with which I agree, though what this by itself would achieve is hard to see as attempts in Northern Ireland have shown. Then suddenly everything shifted against Iraq. Saddam Hussein has long been a problem which no-one seemed too bothered to sort out, regarding him as contained, so why suddenly now? Why not apply the same effort to the much older and equally pressing problem of the conflict between Palestine and Israel from which it could be said most of the problems in the Middle East stem. What about North Korea or the Pakistani-Indian dispute and their atomic abilities. I am not persuaded by American diplomacy or could one say lack of it. I feel they are trying to walk roughshod over us and the rest of the entire world using their money and strength as levers. Equally I do not like France's inflexible approach and feel that they have their own agenda in seeking to reassert themselves on the world stage.

Why then is Blair risking everything for, to me, no apparent reason. Is there something that we do not know about which he does and for that reason he is placing his country at risk for the greater good. I am just so confused. I no longer know what to think. Perhaps it is as well that something is happening so that we can now all move on to pray for as few casualties as possible on all sides and support our troops in what they have been ordered to do. We should also pray that the powers involved make a better job of sorting out the mess resulting from this conflict if it is not to be futile. *Leonie Henderson*

**OLD COURTHOUSE INN** Harwich Road, Great Bromley Tel: 01206 250322

In the 17th Century this Inn was the local courthouse with the gallows across the road. Since Terry and Carole Marshall bought this Inn nine years ago they have been awarded four diamonds by the English Tourist Board so you are now sure that a more welcoming atmosphere awaits you. Over the years they have enlarged the Inn adding five more bedrooms making a total of ten letting rooms all with en-suite facilities. As the new rooms are designed to look like a stable block the rooms have been named after famous race horses, which is the hosts' favourite pastime. The large restaurant and bar menu specialises in fish, steaks, home-made dishes, pies, vegetarian meals and puddings as well as daily specials. Thursday night is curry night with three courses for 8.50 plus the normal menu still being served. There is a special Sunday lunch of one, two or three courses but once again the usual menu is still served.

In April we will be opening our new comfortable lounge area where, because we now stay open all day, we will be serving breakfasts, morning coffees (cappuccino, hot chocolate etc), lunches and afternoon cream teas. The full menu will also be available all day until 10.00pm and 9.30pm on Sundays. The room rate for accommodation is Single £40, Double £65. Family rooms negotiable.

**GARDENER'S CORNER FOR APRIL**

**LAWNS:** Now is a good time to sow seed for new lawns or to repair bare patches

**RHODODENDRONS:** remove faded flowers - mulch with peat or garden compost. Keep lime well away from them. **DAHLIAS:** Plant tubers. Take cuttings of tubers started into growth in March.

**CARNATIONS & PINKS:** Feed border plants with a general fertilizer. **ANNUALS:** Sow hardy and half-hardy annuals

**BULBS:** Plant GLADIOLA this month - keep deadheading bedding daffodils and narcissus. **HOUSE PLANTS:** Increase watering and give regular feeds. Pot on plants that are

root bound. *Frank Griffiths*

### DID SHE KEEP AN EYE ON YOU?

As the last Headmaster at Little Bromley School it was interesting to find details of a former Headmistress there, especially as her family, like mine, originated in Boxted, Essex in the mid-1500s. Daisy Lavinia, one of William Robert and Anne Maria Johnson's large family was born at Stanway on 14th March, 1886 and baptised on 24th April at Stanway St Allbright's church. Children always noticed something special about Daisy and they remembered it too. She had a glass eye. It was her brother, Claude Johnson, who accidentally poked her in the eye and blinded her. She did not marry but spent her life teaching. In the 1930s and for ten years she was the Headmistress of Little Bromley Council School, as it was then known, but moved on to become Headmistress at Kirby County Primary School. She retired after twelve years at Kirby because of ill health. Daisy died in 1971, two years after Little Bromley Primary School closed. She was eighty five. Daisy's eldest sister, Agnes Maude, born 10th April, 1880, also became a teacher at Aldham School. She was a Red Cross Nurse in WWI.

*John Appleby*

### KITCHEN CORNER

A non-meat dish for the season of Lent.

**VEGETABLE BIRYANI** serves 4 people . Preparation 10 minutes Cooking time 40-50 minutes  
1 large red onion cut into wedges; 1 courgette sliced thickly; 1 red pepper de-seeded and cut into 6, 1 sliced carrot, 1 aubergine thickly sliced; 2 tblsp olive oil, 2 tblsp mild curry paste, 125g (4oz) basmati rice; ½-¾ pt hot vegetable stock; 2 tblsp chopped fresh coriander (if available) salt and pepper

Heat oven to 190C/375F. Toss vegetables in oil, season and spread into roasting tin. Cook 20 minutes till starting to turn golden. Stir in curry paste, rice and stock. Cook in oven 20-30 minutes till liquid absorbed and rice tender. Stir in coriander and serve immediately.

*Jill Frostick*

### GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

The A.G.M. was held at Copley Dene on February 18th, 2003. The retiring Chairman, Mr. Tim Biscoe said it had been a rather difficult year on and off the field, and he thanked the officers of the club for their hard work. The following were elected for the 2003 Season.

President - P. P. Allam, Esq.	Chairman - T. Biscoe, Esq.
Treasurer - M. Foley, Esq.	Secretary - Mrs. K. Foley.
Captain - P. Brinkley, Esq.	Vice-Captain - M. Foley, Esq.
Fixture Secretary - M. Blinman, Esq.	Match Manager - D. Hardy, Esq.
100 Club Manager - P. Allam, Esq.	

#### **The 100 CLUB winners for February**

1st. Mr. H. Fairley 2nd. Mr. B. Wright 3rd. Mr. B. Jones

Kwik-cricket and Colts cricket starts outdoor practise at the cricket club ground on 24th April.

Kwik-cricket 6-7pm. Colts cricket 6-7.30pm Contact Steve Wright on 230119

Also a reminder of the Colts Cricket Quiz Night on 12th April. Phone Phil Allam on 230375 to book a table. *Phil Allam*

### CARPET BOWLS

For various reasons since the start of this year we've had very few club evenings for practice, but it doesn't seem to have adversely affected the play matchwise as since I last wrote we have played four matches winning three and one drawn game. This leaves just one home game against Lawford on 26th March. If we win we could be near the top of the league, but Lawford could force us down a place. However, it will be watched with great interest. Our first venture into the summer league last year was very popular so we hope to enter a team again this season. The format is a little different - all games being singles so there is just a small element of the old butterflies without team mates around you for support, but enjoyable nevertheless.

On 15th March we hosted our annual fours tournament for charity and it was a wonderful day. Sixteen teams arrived for a 12 o'clock start and some good and some not so good bowling made for a lot of "if onlys" and "near misses" discussed around the tea tables. As usual, the refreshments were enjoyed especially by our visitors and the chairman thanked the Gt Bromley lady members for their hard work in providing and serving them. In the semi-finals, Boxted were beaten by Walton 6 shots to 12, but a much closer game in the second when Silver Dawn took it 7 - 3 from Thorpe. The nine ends final was a runaway Start for Silver Dawn quickly reaching 5 - 0, but by the 5th end Walton had drawn level. It stayed a close game but in the 8th

end, Walton's skip with five bowls round the jack and just one opposition wood holding shot, came in with a cracking pressure shot and took the shot bowl out adding five more to their score. Silver Dawn did well to take two more points on the last end which meant a 10 - 7 victory for Walton. The cup and shields were presented by secretary, Jayne Bates. £303 was raised for the RNLI over the day and sincere thanks to all friends and visiting teams for the prizes donated for our bumper raffle. *Nancy Kempster*

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We had a very interesting talk about the Antarctic given by Derek Ladkin at our March meeting. His son, Russell, has spent 12 years as a scientist working in the lowest temperatures, -59C on average during the winter. Staff and stores annually voyage the 9,500 miles by sea and calling in at South Georgia Island to visit the explorer Ernest Shackleton's grave on the way, eventually arriving at their destination at the base of an ice shelf. The base Commander has been sworn in to act as a Magistrate and Head Postmaster. There is always a doctor on hand and everyone takes a sheepskin to sleep in. The scientists camp consists of tubular buildings built on the ice some 8-10 years ago, which are now covered by 20 feet of slowly moving ice and has to be constantly monitored. Deep crevasses appear in the ice and the scientists are trained to descend into them in case of accidents i.e. personal or equipment falling in.

Ice cores and other various samples are taken and brought back to Cambridge to be studied. Solar powered weather stations in remote areas have to be recorded and maintained. Ozone levels are monitored and the ozone hole is measured. Derek showed us some beautiful slides of the area and the other inhabitants, such as a colony of about 10,000 Emperor penguins and some seals. He also told us how his son was awarded the Sir Vivian Fuchs Antarctic medal for his work out there.

Brian Hogg is coming to our April meeting to give us a talk "Art and Architecture of the Mediterranean" Come along to the Village Hall for 7.30pm on Wednesday, 2nd April and you will be made very welcome. *June Willgress*

### GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Report of Great Bromley Parish Council meetings held on 20 February and 13 March, 2003  
**PLANNING** The Parish Council considered and recorded no objections to the following planning application: 4 Hall Cottages, Hall Road: rear extension

Tendring District Council has approved the following planning applications:

1. 4 Peace Cottages, Badley Hall Road: two-storey side extension and tree pruning.
2. 6 St Georges Close: rear extension and re-siting of garden chalet.
3. The Old Courthouse Inn, Harwich Road: lounge extension.
4. 2 Holly Dene Cottages, Briar Road: extension and alterations.
5. 2 Meadow Close, Great Bromley: two-storey side extension.

Tendring District Council has refused the following planning application: 1 Barn adjacent to Portlands, Harwich Road: continuing siting of mobile home and addition to barn and cart lodge (variation to previous planning permission).

**Environment** Tendring District Council has published new schedules for cleaning roads, verges and footways. Rural roads and lanes will be cleaned every 12 weeks (Tuesday 15 April, 8 July, 30 September 2003). Roads with housing will be cleaned every four weeks (Wednesday 16 April, 14 May, 11 June etc 2003). Please let the Parish Council know if your road has not been cleaned on these dates.

**Recycling** A reminder to all households that as from 2 April Onyx will be collecting recyclable materials from your door step on alternate Wednesdays. Please leave out tins, cans, plastic bottles and paper in carrier bags or cardboard boxes, (not black bin bags). Glass will not be collected but can be deposited in the recycling bins at Church Meadow.

The Council has installed a dog waste bin at the end of Back Lane (East). A larger litter bin will be installed at Church Meadow. The Council has agreed 2003/4 hedge and grass-cutting contracts for the following parish land: Church Meadow, Cemetery, Hare Green recreation ground and Brook Street-Saint George's Close. With the support of District Councils "Tendring in Bloom" scheme there will be 10 flower tubs on display during the summer months. The Council has planted nine trees on the land it maintains adjacent-to Brook Street/St George's Close.

**Community activities** The Council has agreed that the Hare Green recreation ground can be used occasionally by local voluntary groups for fund-raising car boot sales.

**Road safety** The Council has asked the County to introduce a 30 or 40 mph speed limit on the Frating Road between Balls Green and the Harwich Road intersection. Waiting restrictions are being introduced on Brook Street and at the entrance to St Georges Close. Alternative car parking for parents of school children is available at Church Meadow where the Parish Council is working with the School and Essex County Council to improve the surface.

**Council donations** The Council has made contributions totalling £1,364 to the following community organisations during 2002/3: Bromley Messenger, Hamilton Lodge, Bromleys PCC: (for St George's Church grass cutting), Tendring District Council's Coastal Fun 2003, Tendring Citizens Advice Bureau, St George's Primary School and the Royal British Legion.

**Future meetings** The Parish Council will next meet in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on 17th April, 2003. *KB 17/3/03*

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting, which is the Annual Parish Assembly, will take place in Great Bromley Village Hall on Thursday, 10th April, 2003 commencing 7.30pm. The Amenities Committee will also be in attendance and would welcome any ideas from members of the parish with regard to functions, fetes or the like in the forthcoming year. *A C Downes MBE. Clerk*

#### ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL, GT. BROMLEY

The netball and football teams have been doing very well all season in the Constable League, with most matches being won! Dawn Pegrum's Beauty Evening was a great success and a lot more ladies now know how to look after their nails. Next PTA function is a CAR TREASURE HUNT on Sunday, 13th April. It starts in Church Meadow car park at 1.30 pm and finishes at the same place (hopefully) for afternoon tea at the school. £5.00 per car. More information from Sue Skinner on 01206 396673.

The EASTER FAYRE will be held in the school hall on Thursday, 10th April from 1.45-3.00pm. Stalls, Cakes, Tombola, Children's Crafts, Toys, Books, Games, Raffle, Teas. Children's competition is a decorated Easter Hat. School closes on Friday, 11th April for the school holidays and re-opens on Monday, 28th April.

#### GREAT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUP

Great Bromley & Frating Playgroup will be losing eight children after the Easter break. They will be starting their new schools after the half term. The children are Melissa Mullenger, Max Woodhouse, Alice Smith, Aiden White, Francesca Thorington, Harry Long, Shannon Carey and Ollie Tyler. We wish you all the best in your new schools. The children's sponsored sing song did extremely well and we will be purchasing new equipment for the playgroup in due course. We would also like to say a very big Thank you to Jennie Thorington who has been the playgroup's treasurer for a while now but who is sadly now leaving us due to her daughter starting school after Easter. She has done a wonderful job and both Playgroup staff and committee are grateful to her for all her hard work! We would like to finish by wishing you all a very HAPPY EASTER. Term Dates: Break up for Easter - 10th April Return after half term - 28th April No Playgroup on Thursday 1st May due to polling day in Village hall. We are always on the lookout for new ideas for fundraising so anyone with any suggestions please speak to any member of staff or committee member.

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP Great Bromley Village Hall! Our Parent and Toddler group is a great chance for you and your children to come along to a friendly and informal group. We have lots of fun, and even a drink and a biscuit! So why don't you come along and see us all!

#### GREAT BENTLEY CONSERVATION GROUP

The recent talk on Barn Owls given by David Wilkin and John Sibley raised £118.40 which will fund another two Barn Owl boxes for erection in the Tendring area. If you have seen a Barn owl recently or find one injured or dead please give him a ring on 01255 862374 as all information aids his invaluable work.

The Gt Bentley Conservation Group was formed by a small number of people wishing to protect a few Ling Heather plants on the village green. The area, now known as "The Heather Patch" was found to contain rare grasses and mosses, a relic of the heathy acid grassland once common in the Tendring area - hence Weeley Heath, Tendring Heath, etc. Their next event is a guided walk around Flag Creek on 22nd April leaving the village hall car park at 1.45pm or if preferred from the lay-by at the top of Holly Bush Hill at 2.00pm. This will be conducted at a leisurely pace, is approximately 3 miles long and will encompass marshland, meadows and the creek plus the Gt

Bentley Brickworks and the port of Gt Bentley. Further details of forthcoming events can be obtained with s.a.e. from Mrs R Coles, 3 Wents Close, Gt Bentley CO7 8P2. *Mary Maskell*

### GREAT BROMLEY GUIDES

With great sadness the Great Bromley Guide Unit has closed due to other commitments by the Guider. If anyone is interested in running the unit please contact the District Commissioner on 01206 393313.

### FRIENDSHIP CLUB

MY typing error - The Sale is on 26th April NOT the 24th - Saturday, 2.00pm to 4.00pm. At our February meeting we had a very interesting talk by Mrs Jill Frostick with assistance from her daughter, not forgetting her granddaughter, on Brazil, with lots of photographs.

WOOL - Please keep it coming, our knitters are working overtime!! If you have a quantity of squares they can be collected - just give us a ring.

OUTINGS - CAITHNESS CRYSTAL CENTRE 12th June - starting at 9.00am

SOUTHWOLD with tea at Stowmarket. 24th July starting at 10.00am

Competition: a fish ornament. *Vicky Griffiths*

### Forthcoming Events

#### APRIL

2 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

3 Drink & cat, St Mary's Church, 10.30am

10 Easter Fayre, Gt Bromley School Hall, 1.45pm

10 Little Bromley Parish Council Parish Assembly meeting. Village Hall. 7.30pm

11 Race Night, Colne High School, Brightlingsea, 7.30pm

12 Cricket Club Quiz Night in aid of the Colts, Village Hall, 7.30pm

13 P.T.A. Car Treasure Hunt, Church Meadow, 1.30pm

13 London Marathon

17 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm

17 Great Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

20 Easter Day 26 Friendship Club Spring Sale, Village Hall, 2.00pm

28 Celebration for S George's Day, S George's Church, 7.00pm

29 Village Hall Committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

#### MAY

3 Plant & Garage Sale, Ilex Farm, 10.30am

11-17 Christian Aid Week

14 Village Hall Committee A.G.M., 8.00pm

#### JUNE

12 Friendship Club outing - Caithness Crystal Centre

#### JULY

24 Friendship Club outing - Southwold, tea in Stowmarket

### EASTERN ANGLES - THE LAST LAUGH

We were not disappointed on the evening of 8th March, when Eastern Angles brought their Spring 2003 play to the Village Hall. "The Last Laugh" is a clever play which the company acted and presented brilliantly. Through the evening the audience laughed a lot but the author, James Vollmar, was also concerned with more serious issues. The supper beforehand induced the right mood for enjoyment and St George's Roof Fund is gratefully the richer by £737. Very many thanks to Eastern Angles for an excellent Show and to all those who helped to make this a very successful evening.

*Anne Clapham*





## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Since I last wrote, Gt Bromley has suffered a number of crimes. We have recently suffered a spate of garage and shed breaks in the Frating Road area. It is thought those responsible moved on to the Ardleigh area where a male was disturbed. One person has been arrested and enquiries are continuing in this matter. A pedal cycle has been stolen from Meadow Close and a motor vehicle has also been stolen from Mary Lane South. A strange occurrence has been the theft of rabbit traps from a field off Brundells Road. These are humane traps, used because the vast numbers of rabbits are destroying crops. It is possibly somebody who is unhappy that the rabbits are being trapped. However, it is perfectly legal and the removal of the traps is theft. If anybody has any information regarding the above offences, please let me know. Recently we have had a few reports of nuisance youths in the Home Green area. This includes debris being thrown from the bridge on to the A120 on the B1029, stones being thrown at houses and youths running across peoples gardens. This is unacceptable behaviour and can be extremely dangerous. Lt Bromley has not suffered any crime of note.

PC 1061 Chris Phillips Community Policing Team, Mistley EXT 16241

## GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Management Committee last met on 4th March in the Village Hall with all members except one present. Storage at the Hall continued to be discussed. The storeroom opposite the committee room door has had a new floor covering laid and shortly we will provide three cupboards in that area. Some items no longer required or used have been removed from the Hall to further ease the problem of storage space. Further work will be carried out on the electrical system with the rewiring of the boiler room and upgrading the earthing system. We are also looking at replacing part of the emergency lighting installation and carrying out some improvements to the car park area. Unfortunately, the Guides no longer meet at the Hall. However, the Hall continues to be well used with several clubs and groups meeting on a regular basis during the week. The past month has also seen Eastern Angles, Brumbella Trophy carpet bowls, John Appleby's Colchester Pageant and others at the Hall for which we are very grateful for their support.

In May we are considering organising a sponsored walk and if you feel able to join or support us you will be very welcome. Nothing too strenuous, just a gentle stroll around a pleasant area yet to be decided. On 20th September we are planning to bring the Tom Collins Dance Band back to the Hall for an evening of jazz and dance. Watch this space for further details.

The Christmas Fayre will be on Saturday, 29th November, the proceeds this year being divided between St Georges Church and the Village Hall. The Management Committee will next meet on Tuesday, 29th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The Village Hall Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 14th May at 8.00pm at the Hall. *Bevan Willgress*

## LETTERS

The following letter has been received from Mr G C Hubert of Grove Farm, Elmstead Market which is a salutary reminder to us all to keep our dogs under control at all times and particularly at this time of year with the lambing season.

## **DOGS SHOT FOR SAVAGING SHEEP**

Most regrettably on 25th February we found it necessary to shoot - ONE FATALLY - two dogs for savaging our sheep. The police were called, as was the vet, to attend to the sheep. We found it most distressing to see our sheep with wool, skin and flesh torn from them. One sheep died two days later from stress and two aborted their lambs, both with twins. I am sure this was equally as distressing for the dogs' owners, particularly their children to have to collect their dead dog. The surviving dog required veterinary attention and may still lose an eye. Obviously the whole episode will result in overall expense to the dog owners of several hundreds of pounds. May I strongly appeal to all dog owners to keep their dog under control particularly when walking the footpaths in the countryside. As well as you feel you know your dog & dog is a safe dog, regardless of breed and will quickly revert to its hunt and kill instincts when not controlled. We would hate a repeat of this episode but would of course have course to respond similarly should our stock, including game and wildlife, be threatened. We try and keep the footpaths open and marked, as do most landowners, and enjoy and encourage people to use them properly.

### HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT LITTLE BROMLEY!

Concerned about Council Tax costs? Worried about home and road safety issues? Want to know what is happening with the village Sign? Find out what is happening (or not) in Little Bromley at the Annual Public Assembly Thurs 10th April Great Bromley Village Hall 7.30 pm

### THE BROMLEY CROSS INN EVENTS for APRIL

Easter Sunday, 20th - Booking now being taken for lunch.

Wednesday 23rd - MUSIC NIGHT

Thursday, 24th - CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the MS ASSOCIATION.

Thursday 1st May - Many Morris Men will be following the ancient tradition of dancing the Sundown, swiftly followed by drinking and singing the Sundown.

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MAY 11-17TH 2003

A large packet sits on my desk of information for this year's Christian Aid week. Is there any Christian person who would like to co-ordinate a collection in this area? Or an event? The theme is "You can help change the world" and plenty of ideas are offered. Please contact me, Fr Nicolas on 230344 if interested, otherwise I'll simply send the envelopes out with the Messenger and Advertiser as in previous years and trust to people's good will to return them. Thanks.

### WELCOME ALL!

Following on from the successful Shrove Tuesday lunch, 8 Mary's has been asked to organise an opportunity for people to get together in the day for a drink and a chat. So with our new tower screen making under the tower lighter and warmer we'd like to extend an invitation to anyone to come to Church for a drink and a chat on Thursday 3rd April 10.30am - 12.30pm. As always in Church there will be things to occupy any youngsters who come. If it is popular, and enough people come forward to make the drinks, then we can think about doing it monthly, or even weekly. *Fr Nicolas & The Churchwardens.*

### AN OLD PRAYER

Give us Lord, a bit o' sun

A bit o' work and a bit o' fun.

Give us in all the struggle and sputter

Our daily bread and a bit o' butter.

Give us health our keep to make

And a bit to spare for others' sake.

Give us, too, a bit of song

And a tale and a book to help us along.

Give us Lord, a chance to be

Our goodly best, brave, wise and free.

Our goodly best for ourselves and others

Till all men learn to live as brothers.

### THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner,

Holy Week & Easter are the highlight of the Christian year and so kept with much devotion and care. This year we are privileged to have Fr John Gribben of the Community of the Resurrection (one of the parish patrons) with us. Fr John (a humorous and holy Irishman) will give a brief talk at each of the celebrations during the week helping us to walk with Jesus. Anyone is welcome to come along and listen. Coming as it does at the end of Lent he will help us draw together what we have learnt of God, self and neighbour and to celebrate that. Christians do not keep this week thinking Jesus is going through it all again; God is not dead on Good Friday and Holy Saturday! Rather it is a time for looking at Christian discipleship in the world today and tomorrow. Jesus' death and resurrection are a once for all event. Good triumphs over evil; God is in complete control even when faced with evil men and women content to see an innocent man put cruelly to death. The events of Holy Week and Easter are to show this to us humans and bring comfort and encouragement. One of the Easter promises of Jesus is that he will not leave us as orphans, "I will be with you till the end of time" (Matthew 28:20). Yes there will be an end of the world, a time when all will be brought to completion, but no one knows when that will be, and until that happens, God promises to be with the world. That should give us comfort. It should also put human actions into perspective. God is in control of the world, good has

conquered evil. We humans can choose whether to join in with God's plan - for all to have peace and security, for all to be fed and educated, for all to have work and dignity; or we can work against that for our own selfish ends. But in the end all we can do is frustrate or delay God's plan for awhile, making it more unpleasant for our brothers and sisters and probably If we are honest more unpleasant for ourselves.

May you and the world be blessed this Holy Week and Easter, that is God's desire, may we celebrate that. *Fr Nicolas*

**ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY**

*united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh*



**Services for APRIL**

<b>2nd</b>	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>3rd</b>	10.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>4th</b>	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
<b>5th</b>	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 6th</b>		<b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>7th</b>	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>9th</b>	6.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>Hamilton Lodge</i>
<b>10th</b>	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>11th</b>	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
<b>12th</b>	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 13th</b>		<b>Palm Sunday</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Palm Sunday Celebration	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>14th</b>		<b>Holy Monday</b>	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>15th</b>		<b>Holy Tuesday</b>	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>16th</b>		<b>Holy Wednesday</b>	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>17th</b>		<b>Mundy Thursday</b>	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist of the Last Supper and Silent Watch until Midnight	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>18th</b>		<b>Good Friday</b>	
	11.00am	Stations of the Cross	<i>from St. Mary's School</i>
	2.00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>19th</b>		<b>Holy Saturday</b>	
	8.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 20th</b>		<b>Easter Day</b>	
	5.00am	The Easter Vigil	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	9.00am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>21st</b>		<b>Easter Monday</b>	
	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>23rd</b>		<b>Easter Wednesday</b>	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>24th</b>		<b>Easter Thursday</b>	
	10.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>25th</b>		<b>Easter Friday</b>	
	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
<b>26th</b>		<b>Easter Saturday</b>	
	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>27th</b>		<b>Second Sunday of Easter</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>28th</b>		<b>Of S George</b>	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>29th</b>		The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>



**MALAWI**

I know Great Bromley has supported Dominic who has been teaching in Lilongwe, so I thought I'd add a line giving a different aspect from the viewpoint of a visitor. I stayed with my niece/goddaughter and her 4 children for 3 weeks in March. She has lived there for 10 years having married a Dutch paediatric surgeon. His parents, also doctors were and one still is. heavily involved in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Blantyre.

First I was struck by the totally different outlook. All the internationals and professionals I met who were working there, some of whom were Malawian, mostly funded by donor aid, had a much broader caring view of life than we meet here. Their problems are AIDS, cerebral malaria, malnourishment, corruption and ill conceived or inappropriate aid. PLUS FREQUENT power failures.

At crossroads one is faced with huge notices from the President stating "AIDS is killing Malawi. Change your behaviour" (They tell me he doesn't!) But tribal conditions still maintain, also ignorance and suspicion has to be overcome before this will happen. It is one of the most highly infected countries in the world and at the International school concert I went to, the 6th formers were singing a song insisting we all use condoms! Yes, I saw people dying of AIDS in the hospital being cared for mainly by their family members. Nurses are few and far between most having been seduced to work for the NHS. At one hospital I visited there were brand new mosquito nets for the children's ward, never used; the mothers who slept under the beds didn't like being shut in! Large industrial washing machines given from the aid programme lie ill-used, broken and no one to repair them.

I had the opportunity to accompany a mission up country to deliver supplies to 80 or so Grannies, selected by the three chiefs as being the most in need of those who were caring for extended families of AIDS orphans. Nearly all the Malawian workers I met had this added responsibility. A sack of maize, a bar of soap, a T shirt and a knitted woolly blanket seemed heaven sent. They all stood up and danced as a thank you for us "do-gooders" and the blind children, being educated separately where we were delivering a Braille machine (which I might say didn't work when tried - such is the "aid" sometimes!) gave us a song.

The country is beautiful. dominated by the great lake 365 miles long, and surrounded by mountains. The international school in Blantyre teaches the UK school curriculum despite the wide range of races, 70% Malawian with, it would appear, no racial prejudice. Playtime is lake pursuits: swimming, sailing, fishing avoiding the croc, and climbing the great Mulange mountain.

Two young men, also gap year boys whom I suspect were there under the same organisation as Dominic, working in Limbe, dropped in one weekend, greatly appreciating the music, food and swimming in this very happy home. One Malawian boy I met had graduated barefoot from his village school, and had now got a scholarship to Cambridge. So it can happen.

There is every possible variety of church there, all faithfully used, in the villages, built from reed and mud to the wealthy mosques. Having arrived with a heavy case of books, I off-loaded and returned laden with local crafts and with only the clothes I stood up in, as I left the rest behind for the "boys" and their extended families. Any support you can offer will be welcomed I know. *Jean Harding*



**OPEN DAY  
AT  
SEVEN RIVERS**

Wednesday, 14th May  
10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Come and meet the residents and staff and find out what goes on behind the doors.

There are job opportunities, too for carers and domestic staff and volunteering opportunities too.

We look forward to seeing you.



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## **Bromley Messenger**

### Statement of Accounts

	2002/2003	2001/2002
Income	£	£
Carried forward	254.22	23.62
Creditors	0.00	120.00
Donations	49.00	69.57
Advertisements	810.20	635.80
Sponsorship	1108.00	1285.00
Interest	2.10	1.87
Total	2223.52	2135.86
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Printing	1726.05	1667.25
Postage	19.00	20.80
Expenses	32.97	73.59
Debtors	125.00	120.00
(Loss) /Gain	320.50	254.22
Total	2223.52	2135.86

Honorary Treasurer L.B. Christodoulides MBE

11 April 2003

### Report

We show another healthy profit this year. Income from advertisements and sponsorship are satisfactory, personal donations continue to decline. We seem to be attracting some outside the village advertisements which is encouraging.

Keep up the good work Contributors, and let's have a few more "articles". Thanks a bundle to Ann and the Deliverers who keep fit delivering the Messenger to all the households in Great and Little Bromley. We all thank Leonie, the Editor, for her hard work in collating all the copy and

Natalie who does the proofreading. If anyone has any questions about these figures please let me know, and I will do my best to answer them. *LBC*

### GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Report of Great Bromley Parish Council meeting held on 17 April 2003

**PLANNING** Tendring District Council has approved the following planning applications:

1. "The Caravan" Carrington Road: continuing approval subject to conditions, of caravan, ancillary building and additional cartilage.
2. "Camelot", Ardleigh Road: conservatory.
3. 4 Hall Cottages, Hall Road: rear extension.
4. 2 Meadow Close: two-storey side extension.

### **Local Election -Thursday 1 May**

A reminder to vote for your nine parish councillors and two district councillors on 1st May. The Village Hall polling station will be open from 8.00 am to 9.00 pm. Those elected will have an important task in representing your interests.

**RURAL HOUSING TRUST** Following the recent considerable interest in a tenancy at Lakewood the Council was briefed by Trust officials on the possibility of a further scheme. Although there appeared to be demand for affordable housing in the parish a detailed assessment would need to be undertaken. The Council will have further discussions with the Trust and consult with the community.

**RECYCLING** A reminder that recyclable materials will be collected on Wednesday 14 and Thursday 29 May. The Church Meadow recycling site raised £65 for parish funds during the period October to December 2002.

**SPEEDING** In spite of the introduction of new speed limits the Council is concerned at the incidence of excessive speeding on the parish's roads. The police will be checks and the Council is consulting with increasing the number of speed the County's Highways Department as to what other measures can be introduced to deter speeding.

**'PARTICIPATION' ALLOWANCES** The Government is introducing optional attendance allowances for parish councillors. The Council agreed that its councillors should continue to carry out their responsibilities on a voluntary basis. Attendance allowances, which would have been a charge to council tax payers, will therefore not be paid to Great Bromley parish councillors. KB

**ANNUAL GREAT BROMLEY PARISH ASSEMBLY** The annual meeting between the parish council and residents takes place at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 15 May. Come along and meet your new councillors elected on 1<sup>st</sup> May and hear a report of the council's activities during the past 12 months. This is also an opportunity to ask questions and raise issues of concern.

(The Parish Council will next meet in the Village Hall at 7.00 pm on 15 May immediately prior to the Annual Assembly.)

## **PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

Public transport through Great Bromley is limited and details of bus routes follow:

**Route 105/7** Walton to Colchester via Hare Green/ Old Court House/PO/Cross Inn  
Times at Hare Green: 0756, 0956, 1146, 1336 and 1546

**Route 105/7** Colchester to Walton via Cross Inn/PO/Old Court House/Hare Green  
Leaves Colchester Bus station at: 1023, 1213, 1403 and 1630

**Route 109** Walton to Colchester via Hare Green/Old Court House/Elmstead Market.  
Time at Hare Green: 1758

**Route 109** Colchester to Walton via Elmstead Market/Old Court House/Hare Green.  
Leaves Colchester Bus station at: 0833

Above services run Monday to Saturday only.

**Route 86** Wednesdays only from Aingers Green to Colchester via Balls Green (1047)

**Route 86** Wednesdays only from Colchester Bus Station (1400) to Aingers Green via Balls Green.

**Route 76/76** operates every day between Colchester and Clacton via Frating.

**Village Link Route 2** operates Monday to Saturday between Mistley and Clacton via Manningtree Station and Little Bromley.

**Route 85** operates Wednesday only between Mistley and Brightlingsea via Little Bromley.

The above services operate under contract to Essex County Council. If you have a complaint about a particular service then a report form is available from the Clerk - Ken Bromfield.

Tendring has a parish passenger transport representatives group which meets periodically to both consider concerns and identify improvements. If you have any suggestions then please let the Clerk know. We understand that official grants are available for improving rural transport. Further information on local bus, coach and railway services can be obtained by either telephoning the national public transport "Traveline" number: 0870 608 2 608 or consulting the website: [www.essexcc.gov.uk](http://www.essexcc.gov.uk).

## **PROMOTION OF PARISH ACTIVITIES**

Activities organised in the parish can be publicised in the Messenger and on the Councils four notice boards. Tendring District Council is also happy to display posters etc in the Clacton Tourist Information Centres window. Please send any publicity materials direct to the TIC at 23 Pier Avenue Clacton-on-Sea CO15 1QD or email to [emorgan@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:emorgan@tendringdc.gov.uk). The Council will also be providing the Tourist Information Centre with some general information of Great Bromley's attractions and services. Please therefore send details of your business etc to the Clerk. KB 14/4/03

## LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Recycling News - Little Bromley A district-wide collection started in April. The collection dates for May are: Tuesday, 6th May Monday 19th May There will be a collection every two weeks on a Monday (excepting Bank Holidays). Please put out your recyclable materials in carrier bags or in cardboard boxes where they can be seen at the boundary of your property. Please do not use black or non-transparent bags as they will not be collected. Put out by 8.00am on collection day.

**WE DO NOT TAKE:** Glass: Textiles: Shoes: Plastic coated papers: Waxed cartons: Polystyrene: Contaminated cartons (with food) **IF IN DOUBT DON'T PUT IT OUT!**

**WE TAKE:** Food tins and drinks cans (please rinse and flatten if possible) Plastic bottles (please remove the screw top first) Plastic flower pots, tubs and containers Newspapers: Magazines: Junk mail: Leaflets: Cardboard: Catalogues: Directories: Envelopes: White/coloured paper, Greetings cards:

1. There is no need to separate these items as they will be sorted at their destination.
- 2 Please do not place your recyclables in any container you wish to retain, as all items left out for collection will be taken away.
- 3 If your day of collection is the same for refuse, please keep any recyclables separate.

## St John Eye Hospital Coffee Morning/Lent Lunch

Thank you to all who contributed and supported this convivial occasion. £81.80p was raised.  
*Pru Simons*

## GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB 100 CLUB WINNERS FOR MARCH

1st. Mrs. Alison Eadie 2nd. Mr. Philip Allam 3rd. Mrs. Gill Christmas

### GREAT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUP

Mondays Wednesdays & Thursdays 9.30am-12 £4.50 Per session at Great Bromley Village Hall. Contact Penny (Secretary) on 01206 251937 We hope you all enjoyed your Easter break and that you did not eat too much Chocolate? Great Bromley and Frating Playgroup's Theme for this Term is The Living world. The Children will be looking at creatures and their habitats. We would also like to welcome some new children to our Playschool. They are Eloise, Emily and Joshua. We hope you all enjoy your time with us at Playgroup. Just a few reminders: 1st May there is no playgroup (Village hall used for Voting). Monday 5th May no playgroup (Bank Holiday)

**ATTENTION:** I still have just a few more dates to cover with the Parent/Helper rota. The dates are: June 16th & 30<sup>th</sup>, July 2nd 10th 16th and 17th. If you feel you are able to help out please see me or put your name down on our calendar, which we have out at each playgroup session. Once again a really big Thank you for your help. We are always on the lookout for new ideas for fund raising so anyone with any suggestions please speak to any member of staff or committee member. Just one last item I must let you all know about. We had three members of our Staff celebrate their birthdays during the Holiday period, so I would like to wish a belated Happy Birthday to Kaye (40) Jo (32) and Nicky but unfortunately I did not manage to find out *how old?* So looks like you got away with it hope you all enjoyed your day. *Kelly Searl.*

### PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP Great Bromley Village Hall

Our Parent and Toddler group is a great chance for you and your children to come along to a friendly and informal group. We have lots of fun, and even a drink and a biscuit! So why don't you come along and see us all! Wednesday Mornings 9.45am-11.40am  
First visit FREE, thereafter £1 .50 Contact Tracey on 01206 230625

### FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our March meeting our thoughts were with the Forces engaged in the Iraqi conflict. John Appleby said special prayers for the wives, sweethearts, children and parents who are anxious and worried about their loved ones. The entertainers were the Manifest Concert Party, a lively group of people who encouraged us to "sing- along" with them. The competition for April is a FISH ornament. Vicky Griffiths

### THANKS

YES, I did It! On Sunday 13th April 2003 I achieved one of my life's ambitions - to run the London Marathon. I ran for a charity called "Get Kids Going!" which raises money to build wheelchairs so that disabled children can participate in sporting events. So far I have raised £2500 through sponsorship and a successful disco in the Village Hall on Saturday 29th March. The disco alone raised £1,000 - A big thank you to all who have supported me, I couldn't have done it without you! New York next year?? I think I'll let my knees recover first! *Clare Phelps*

### CARPET BOWLS

In the last match of the winter league and in spite of Bromley doing their best, Lawford defeated us by 6-2 leaving us 3 points behind Walton the eventual winners. Coming second place was a better position for us than last year so that was very pleasing. Two matches have been played so far in the Tendring Singles Summer League, Bromley losing 4 points to 5 away to Wix but managing to beat Walton 6-3 at home. The Club Pairs competition was concluded on 3rd April, Brian and Linda Francis beating Nan Percival and Pat Petchey in the final. Jayne Bates presented the cup. We spent a very pleasant evening at Brantham on 17th March playing a friendly and meeting this club for the first time. Along with Ireland's Patron Saint on that day, our Chairman Patrick, celebrated his (of more recent years) birthday too, with the Bromley team giving him a victory of 5 games to 3. We extended an invitation to Brantham club for a return match later in the year. *Nancy Kempster*

### LETTER - RECYCLING

Being environmentalists we were delighted when we heard about our new recycling collection service. However, we were disappointed when we drove through the village on the first collection day and noticed the small response. There were even black plastic bags left out, although it was requested that these should not be used - in fact these were not collected. Then on Friday we noticed large quantities of cardboard (recyclable) put out for the ordinary refuse collection. We have the chance to reduce the demands on our landfill sites - so Support the Recycling Collection! *The Twilley family*

## WELL DONE

I have just been on my first marathon. Not as a runner but as a supporter although the amount of energy needed to be a supporter, if one is to race from one point to another to wave at the runner, is quite high! My sister is the runner. She has been running in marathons, half marathons and fun runs for some years but this was her first London Marathon. Her chosen charity is the National Kidney Research Fund which is as a direct result of her husband's renal problems over the past 27 years and more recently a transplant. Previously I have only ever watched on television. Being at the event itself bears no relation to how one views it on the box. It was a lovely happy, yet determined, day. It was wonderful to see so many people running for so many charities and it was fascinating chatting with other people around you and hearing about who they supported and why the runner was there in the first place. Talk always invariably came back to how hard it is to train and to keep it up. Some do most of their training in the gym; others, like my sister, pound the streets. This may have to fit in not only around work and the family but also, like my sister, being a carer.

We set off early on the train to Stratford and stationed ourselves at Canada Water (9 miles) where we missed her in the pack but apparently where I was seen by Claire Phelps (see her report on page 8). Having learnt that we had missed her we went on to Canary Wharf (15 miles) where she briefly stopped for a kiss and a hug before zooming on and we were off to Narrow Lane (21 miles) for another wave before diving beneath ground again for Blackfriars (24 miles) where we arrived just too late to see her. The mobile phone I discovered is a must under these circumstances as various family members kept in touch with each other to say where they were sited and when she was last seen. She wasn't "alone" long on any part of the route.

We gave up at Blackfriars and did not try to join the melee to get to the finish - we would probably have been too late if we had, so we found a cup of tea and with great relief sat down before wending a weary way home along with others some of whom had already completed their run and had their medals proudly round their necks.

Sister finished in 4 hours 56 minutes and 46 seconds - under her 5 hour goal. Well done to everyone who ran. Having watched you all day I now fully understand what a lot of guts it takes.

*Leonie Henderson*

### Please Support Our Charity Event for Children at:-

*Go Bananas, Cowdray Centre, Colchester.*

*In Aid of:-*

**SCOPE: for children with Cerebral Palsy**

On Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> May 2003, from 6.45pm until 8.45pm

Tickets available at £3.50 per child, from Jane or Ian

Taylor on 01206 231645.



### ST GEORGE'S PLANT & GARAGE SALE

at Ilex Farm,  
Waterhouse Lane, Ardleigh  
on Saturday, 3rd May  
10.30am - 1.00pm

All proceeds towards Flower Festival Funds

Anyone who has plants or anything for the Garage Sale please contact Ann on 01206 230679

### ST GEORGE'S MINI MARKET

This month's Mini Market will be on Sunday, 18th May.

Cards, Produce and some lovely new Barefoot

Books for spring!  
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.

Any help with either produce or help selling on the day would be most appreciated.



### ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING & PLANT SALE

in aid of St Helena Hospice

Saturday 17th May

10.00am - 12 noon

Gt Bentley Village Hall

Contributions of cakes, plants, bric-a-brac, Raffle & Tombola prizes gratefully received -

Ring Barbara on 01206 250145

### Jean Harding is having a COFFEE MORNING

entry £1  
in aid of

HUNTINGTONS DISEASE families

on

SATURDAY 14th JUNE

10.00-12.30

- BRING & BUY
- CAKE STALL
- RAFFLE

She would so pleased to greet any old friends at 43, WEST ST, WIVENHOE

Turn right opposite the Church into West St where you CAN park all day despite the, at first glance, apparently forbidding signs. The house is on the left towards the station





## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**MAY** 1 Parish Council elections, Village Hall

3 Plant & Garage Sale, Ilex Farm, 10.30am

7 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

11-17 Christian Aid Week

14 Open Day, Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, 10.00am

14 Village Hall Committee A.G.M., Village Hall, 8.00pm

15 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm

15 Gt Bromley Parish Council Assembly, Village Hall, 7.30pm

17 Coffee Morning & Plant Sale, Gt Bentley Village Hall, 10.00am

18 Mini Market, St George's Church

24 Charity Event at Go Bananas, 6.45pm

**JUNE** 12 Friendship Club outing - Caithness Crystal Centre

14 Coffee Morning, 43 West St, Wivenhoe, 10.00am

**JULY** 15 Guide Dogs 'Shades for a Day

24 Friendship Club outing - Southwold & tea in Stowmarket

**SEPTEMBER** 20 Tom Collins Dance Band, Village Hall

**OCTOBER** 7 Autumn Sale, Village Hall

**NOVEMBER** 29 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall, 13 Coffee Morning, Seven Rivers Cheshire Home

## Seven Rivers Cheshire Home events

Saturday 14th June Street Collection in Colchester - Volunteers urgently required - please contact Barbara Bolton (01206 392520)

Saturday 21st June Supper Dance at Nether Hall, Thorrington Street. For further details please contact Barbara Bolton

Tuesday 30th September Talk by Claire Macdonald at Marks Tey Village Hall. For further details please contact Barbara Bolton

Tuesday 7th October Autumn Sale at Gt Bromley Village Hall

Thursday 13th November Coffee Morning at Seven Rivers

Further details of all these events can also be obtained from the Home.

## ARDLEIGH WEA

Tutor for the Spring Course will be Mr Denis Hance on "English Cathedrals" Thus we were told of the subject matter for the ten weeks beginning in January. If I can quote from the leaflet handed out to all attending students "Cathedrals are great tourist attractions. In them can be seen fine architecture, sculptures, glass and woodwork". We were also told we would trace their development from the very early stages up to the present day. Well, we didn't quite dig out the foundations, but as good as. We started at the beginning - Anglo Saxon times (yes, there were cathedrals then), and then throughout the ages. "By your arches ye shall be known!" The Normans had the Roman arch (i.e. a rounded arch) whereas the Early English went for the pointed variety. Each age had its own speciality for roofs, windows, arches, floor tiles, furniture and fittings. Different ages found different ways of holding up the roof. We were shown the different designs . and methods of designing the shapes that were used in the arches and the columns. The different monuments, the stained glass. You name it we saw it. All this with the help of a very extensive and excellent series of slides. A very good field trip to Norwich and Ely cathedrals was a fitting climax with even the weather turning up trumps. Yes, we could see why cathedrals are so attractive, and we could appreciate the work of the master craftsmen and ordinary workmen who built them, and not least the people who found the money to pay for them - just as important. in days of old as today. The marvellous thing is that so many are still standing, and in use, after hundreds of years in some cases. Yes, there are some modern ones too. They don't look quite the same, but then things do change over the years don't they? I hope so, and I hope there will be the equal of Dennis Hance to teach them all about it. Thank you Dennis for a very instructive and interesting ten weeks.

At the recent AGM a successful year was reported on. Officers elected were: Joint Chair - Mrs J Frostick and Mr K Rolin, Vice-Chair - Mrs J Munson, Secretary - Mrs D Browne, Treasure - Miss M Clachan, Committee - Mesdames Delgaty, A Salmon, H Waye.

Final details for the Autumn Course 2003 have not yet been received, but will be made public as soon as possible. *Barbara Pearce*

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

From the deep frozen Antarctica at our March meeting we moved to the warmth of the Mediterranean with Mr Brian Hogg, our speaker, for April. Mr Hogg started by telling us he had attended a course on the Art and Architecture along the Northern edge of the Mediterranean and what a vast subject it is, stretching from Turkey to the South of France. In Turkey, a fine example of the use of marble and coloured tiles is the famous Blue Mosque, a Christian church that was converted into a Mosque with wonderful mosaic pictures. Greece has famous temples, the Parthenon and Acropolis for instance, with marvellous marble columns, each cut to size and a wooden dowel inserted to absorb shocks from earth movement. These temples were for "Mythical Gods". The marble had to be transported six miles on a horse drawn cart. The Greek Islands are famous for Blue Domes, a colour which was thought to be nearer to heaven and also beautiful icons carved in Yew wood and covered with gold leaf. Also, round pots were works of art, coming in all sizes from 2 foot to 6 foot high decorated with three dimensional figures in black, brown and sienna.

Rome has many famous buildings. The Forum has very high columns filled with concrete - the Romans had discovered how to make concrete by this time. St Peters has famous paintings on ceilings and sculptures by Michelangelo. The Partheon has the largest dome in the World and is the oldest building at 2000 years old built by the Romans.

In Florence there is the 18 foot sculpture of David carved from a single piece of marble. Other famous works of art include the Leaning Tower of Pisa. built 1000 years ago, 680 high with an 85 tilt. The Cathedrals exterior is faced with white, green and red marble and has a wonderful fresco of "The Last Judgement".

In Venice many of the Palaces are now art galleries. St Marks in St Marks Square, is a very beautiful building rich with paintings and mosaics with statues of horses on the front. The architecture of Southern France is very similar to Greece and Italy.

This month on Wednesday, 7th May is our Resolutions Meeting. Mrs Ann O'Riordan, Women's Institute Adviser, is coming along to discuss the Resolutions for the National Women's Institute Annual Meeting in June. *June Willgress*

## GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY

The Village Hall Management Committee were scheduled to meet on 29th April in the Village Hall. In May, the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Charity takes place and will be on Wednesday, 14th May at 8.00pm in the Hall. You are welcome to come along and take part. The Management Committee is made up of five elected, seven appointed and up to three co-opted members. The present committee is elected - Peter Wenden (Chairman), Carol Cordwell, June Willgress, Henry Fairley, Pat Petchey; Appointed - Lynda Allam (Treasurer and Bookings Officer), Vera Biddis, Gill Christmas, Beryl Hurst, Martin Frostick, Nigel Rowe, vacancy; Co-opted - Dean Dasley and Bevan Willgress (Secretary). The Hall Caretaker, Marion Britten, also takes part in the committee meetings.

We are very grateful to John Appleby for his talk and slides show in March to raise funds for the Hall. On 20th September, Tom Collins Dance Band will be presenting an evening of jazz and dance, more details later. The Christmas Fayre will be on Saturday 29th November, the proceeds this year being divided between St Georges Church and the Village Hall.

*Bevan Willgress*

## BROMLEY CROSS INN - EVENTS for MAY

Thursday 1st May - MORRIS MEN will dance, drink and sing the Sun down.

Thursday, 22nd - CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the Essex Wildlife Fund.

Thursday 22nd - MUSIC NIGHT Play, sing or just listen and enjoy. 8.00pm start

WEEKEND BEER FESTIVAL & MUSIC FESTIVAL - Saturday, 31st May Open all day Music starts at 3.30pm

COUNTRY FAIR & BEER FESTIVAL - Sunday, 1st June 2-5pm including B.B.Q., Cream Teas, lots of Side Shows. Fun for all the Family. All profits to go to Essex Wildlife Fund.

Saturday, 14th June - 40s NIGHT - lots of fun for all.

## GARDENERS CORNER FOR MAY

LAWNS: Cutting should be in full swing now with the blades lowered. Feed poorly growing grass with a sulphate of ammonia - 1/2 oz per square yard. ANNUALS Plant out half hard annuals after risk of frost has passed. Sow seeds of biennials - Canterbury bells, foxgloves, Sweet William and wallflowers. PRIMROSES & PRIMULAS: Why not grow your own - after flowering leave seeds

on to ripen then plant in a seed tray. Sprinkle seeds on the surface of moist compost and cover with a sheet of newspaper then a piece of glass. Keep away from the hot sun. Pot up young seedlings as soon as they are big enough to handle, i.e. when they have their two true leaves.

*Frank Griffiths*

### KITCHEN CORNER

May is the month when all the herbs begin to grow again strongly, so there are plenty to flavour our dishes. Here are some ideas for herb butters which you might like to try.

#### **CLASSIC GARLIC BUTTER**

2 large new season garlic cloves, peeled

1 small shallot, finely chopped

A handful of green fresh parsley

225g/8oz unsalted butter at room temperature

Mash garlic to a paste, beat into the butter with parsley and shallot. When fluffy, place on to a square of kitchen foil and roll up to seal. Put in fridge or freezer till solid. Cut off slices as needed.

1) Use on grilled meat or poultry 2) Mix with breadcrumbs to top mussels etc. before grilling.

#### **SPICED BUTTER**

100g/4oz unsalted butter (room temp)

3 small spring onions, white part only, chopped

2 plump cloves garlic, peeled and chopped

1 tabsp cumin seed

1 teasp coriander seed

1/2 teasp chilli powder

Small handful chopped parsley

Salt

Mash butter and stir in onion and garlic. Toast seeds in dry pan until fragrant. Add chilli powder and warm a few seconds then grind all to a fine powder. Stir into the butter with chopped parsley and a little salt. Use with meat, fish or vegetables.

#### **PARSLEY BUTTER**

100g/4oz softened butter

5 tabsp fine chopped parsley

Juice of 1 lemon

Salt & fresh ground black pepper

Cream butter with a fork and fold in other ingredients. Use for fish, lamb chops etc. This recipe can be used with tarragon, chives, coriander, dill, basil or pink peppercorns. *Jill Frostick*

### UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner,

Like most people who live in Limete, an area in the centre of Kinshasa, capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Therese Atatu has not had an easy life. Now 63, Therese has brought up 14 children, all of whom were born in military camps when her late husband was a serving soldier. Yet although she has reached an age where most of us would be looking forward to taking things more gently, Therese has turned her energies to bringing up an even greater number of grandchildren. Among Therese's extended family is her daughter-in-law Josephine, who came to live with her after her husband died of AIDS five years ago. Josephine is herself HIV-positive as is her son Junior, who is 16 but looks about half that age. Although Josephine also comes from a different tribe, Therese refused to follow the usual custom of rejecting her son's widow. On the contrary, Therese decided she would take in all her grandchildren who have lost one or both parents to AIDS. She reckons that she has brought up, or is bringing up, a total of 18 grandchildren! Besides that, she is involved in her local church, taking part in their work of distributing food to the poorest people in the capital. Josephine receives support from one of Christian Aid's partners in Kinshasa, Fondation Femme Plus, who offer help with health care, psychological counselling and income generation to women who are HIV-positive. They also organise seminars for people like Therese who are caring for family members living with HIV/AIDS. Therese's grandchildren know that their grandmother is a very special person. Eleven year old Gloria explained: "When we're naughty she scolds us but she never smacks us. She tells us we won't have anything to eat as a punishment but she soon calls us to come and

eat after all. We love her very much". Seven-year-old Dorcas said simply, "I love her, she cuddles me". When Therese was asked what motivated her to devote herself so unstintingly to caring for her family she replied: "It's the love that I carry inside me. I can't abandon the grandchildren or my daughters-in-law - where would they go? It's much better to have them with me. Since I was young, giving is all I've known how to do. My Christian faith helps me to live and builds feelings of love within me. "

This year Christian Aid Week is focusing on ordinary people like Therese who are changing the lives of people around them, some of them from the UK, all others from overseas. Please use the envelope in this magazine; be generous, drop it into Church or the Post office, or simply pass it to someone you know goes to Chapel, Church or Mass. Thank you. May God bless Therese, bless us all. *Fr Nicolas*

### **Services for MAY**

1st - SS Philip & James

10.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

2nd 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

3rd 11.00am Summer Festival Cathedral

6.00pm Confirmation Thorpe le Soken

Sunday 4th - Third Sunday of Easter

7.30am Morning Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. Mary the Virgin

6th 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

7th 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

9th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

10th 9.00am The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 11th - Fourth Sunday of Easter

7.30am Morning Prayer St George the Martyr

8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

6.30pm Evening Prayer St. George the Martyr

14th 6.00pm Holy Communion Hamilton Lodge

15th 7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

16th 11.00am Holy Communion Seven Rivers

Sunday 18th - Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

10.30am The Parish Eucharist St. George the Martyr

6.30pm Evening Prayer St Mary the Virgin

21st 7.00pm The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

22nd 10.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

23rd 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

24th 9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

25th - Sixth Sunday of Easter

7.30am Morning Prayer St. George the Martyr

8.00am The Eucharist St. George the Martyr

10.30am Parish Eucharist: St. Mary the Virgin followed by Rogation Blessings and Picnic

6.30pm Evening Prayer St George the Martyr

26th National Pilgrimage to Walsingham

28th 10.00am The Eucharist St George the Martyr

29th Ascension Day

7.00pm The Eucharist St Mary the Virgin

30th 11.00am The Eucharist Seven Rivers

31st The Visitation of Our Lady

9.00am The Eucharist St. Mary the Virgin

**DID YOU VOTE?**

The right to vote is a precious thing. In this country the universal right to vote did not arrive as quickly as some would have wished and many used all sorts of means in order to gain this right. Some have even died to this end. Even now in parts of the world there are those who would give their all, including risking their lives, for the chance to vote. For them the right to vote is an emotive thing.

Over the past years it has been reported after each election, both general and local alike, that numbers of people voting are down. This year was no exception when it came to the local elections although apparently where there is now a postal vote numbers were up slightly. One of the main problems must be that we are being asked to vote for people who we frequently know nothing about nor how they stand on matters that concern us even if we know who they are. Presumably the view at national elections is that we are voting for one party or the other, or is it now their leader, and the idea of electing a candidate to put forward the views of his or her electorate is a fiction. Not a new problem; just listen to the words of Private Willis in the opening of Act II of *Iolanthe* in 1882: *“When in that House MP’s divide, If they’ve a brain and cerebellum, too, they’ve got to leave that brain outside, and vote just as their leaders tell ‘em to”*

This year I hardly knew that there were to be elections, such was the silence, until the polling cards arrived. Even at that point it was a total mystery as to who the candidates were until a few days before 1st May a leaflet from one party was pushed through the door. Whilst I am sure that their candidates are both very able people with our best interests at heart. I have neither seen nor heard them. The other party who I later learned had put up two candidates retained their mystery by doing nothing at all to gain our vote (at least down our road). I think it is folly for candidates in local elections simply to rely on the coat tails of their national party leaders. They should ensure that everyone knows that they are standing for election, who they are and what they stand for as individuals if the general disdain for local elections is to be reversed. On the other hand it may suit them simply to seek election relying upon the support of the party faithful. No wonder independent candidates are successful where there is a clearly defined and important local issue on which they stand.

Fortunately party politics do not play a part in the election of parish councillors and long may this be so. They present the interests of the parish on numerous matters to the District Council with appreciable influence. We should be very grateful to them for all the time they give up voluntarily and for the hard work they put in for us all with probably few thanks.

However I would like to know before I enter the Village Hall to vote just who is standing for election. I like to think about it. I do not want to be surprised as to who is or is not on the list before me. I want to vote for who I feel will do their best for us. This year Great Bromley had more candidates than places which is excellent news as it shows that people are wishing to take an active part in community affairs. If you do not vote you should not moan about the results. However it is difficult to be enthusiastic about visiting the polling station if you do not know whose names you will find on the list before you arrive.

*Leonie Henderson*

ALL MECHANICAL & BODY REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN  
WELDING & SPRAYING  
CRYPTON TUNING

**T. & F. MOTORS**

(Props. A. R. Sharpe & F. J. Peck)

**HORSLEY CROSS GARAGE**  
HORSLEY CROSS

**COLCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL  
INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL**

(Boys 3 - 16 years; Girls 3 - 11 years)  
Principal: Andrew Moore MA (OXON) PGCE  
NURSERY 3 - 5 years; PREP 4½ - 7 years  
JUNIORS 7 - 11 years; SENIORS 11 - 16 years

- ◆ Friendly caring atmosphere
- ◆ Small teaching groups
- ◆ High academic standards
- ◆ Strong in music & drama
- ◆ Convenient central location

You are most welcome to visit the school  
For further details please telephone (01206) 573389

### PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Our Parent and Toddler group is a great chance for you and your children to come along to a friendly and informal group. We have lots of fun, and even a drink and a biscuit! So why don't you come along and see us all! Contact Tracey.

Wednesday Mornings 9.45am-11.40am First visit FREE there after £1.50

### GREAT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUP

Mondays Wednesdays & Thursdays 9.30am-12 Midday £4.50 Per session at Great Bromley Village Hall. Contact Penny (Secretary). We are always on the lookout for new ideas for fundraising so anyone with any suggestions please speak to any member of staff or committee member.

### ST. GEORGES SCHOOL, GT. BROMLEY

Headteacher: Pat Fitzgerald Telephone: 01206 230305

The netball team has gone from strength to strength this year. The team, consisting of Imogen Redfern, Charlotte Pegrum, Leanne Fahy, Chloe Saltmarsh, Stephanie Seager, Shannon Wright, Chantelle Jackson, Katie Calderbank, Lorna Carey and Marc Skinner have won all their matches this year in the Constable Netball League, against other small schools in the Tendring Hundred. In May they entered the Colchester Small School Tournament at The Ormiston Centre (in a thunderstorm) and after seven very competitive matches, the St George's team had the most points. Two days later it was the Tendring Small School Cluster Rally and again in the drizzling rain the girls finished the afternoon with the most points. A great end to the season. The team thanked their coaches, Sue Skinner and Nicky Robinson, with gifts and a thank you card.

The football team has also done extremely well and also won the Constable Football League. They have yet to play their Tendring Small School Tournament. Year 4's have started their swimming lessons, this year at Sir Charles Lucas School on a Wednesday morning. Year 6's are having Cycling Proficiency lessons on Wednesday and Thursdays (so watch out for them around the school area!)

**PTA events:- Table Top Sale** at the school on Saturday, 14th June, 2.00-4.00pm, phone Debbie on 250962 for more information. **Family Fun Day** on Sunday, 27th July - more information next month.

School reopens after half-term holiday on Monday, 2nd June. Monday 23rd June is a non-pupil/staff training day.

### GARDENER'S CORNER FOR JUNE

**SHRUBS:** Take leaf bud cuttings of clematis and softwood cuttings of fuschia and cotoneaster early in the month. **ROSES:** Disbud Hybrid tea roses if large blooms are wanted.

**CHRYSANTHEMUMS:** Complete the stopping of outdoor flowering plants. **LILIES:** In humid weather spray with Bordeaux mixture to prevent lily disease. **IRISES:** Tall bearded irises may need supporting. After flowering cut back stems. At this time of the year with weeds and grass growing like mad, don't worry too much about it - always remember where weeds and grass won't grow, nothing will grow! *Frank Griffiths*

### KITCHEN CORNER

#### **BREAST OF LAMB cooked in the daube style to serve 8 people**

This recipe needs a long slow cook, so is ideal for entertaining, as can be prepared well in advance.

5 rashers smoked bacon, cut in small strips	1 bottle good red wine
5 large carrots, diced	2 x 200g tins chopped tomatoes
4 sticks celery, chopped	olive oil
2 onions, chopped	6 cloves garlic
Rosemary, bay, parsley stalks tied in a bunch	2 x 1.5kg breast of lamb on the bone
Salt and pepper	

Put bacon in large heavy-bottomed casserole. Heat gently till fat runs. Add vegetables and 1/2 tbsp olive oil. Squash in the lamb and tuck herbs under. Season well.

In separate pan bring the wine to the boil and set alight. When flames die down, pour over the meat. Add the tomatoes, pushing them into wine. Cover pan with a sheet of grease-proof paper and the lid. Cook at 300F for 3 hours. Skim off as much fat as possible and serve with mashed potato. *Jill Frostick*

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The following is a police bulletin currently being circulated on the internet. PC 1061 Chris Phillips has checked it with the Crime Reduction Officer at Clacton police station who advises that these articles are still current. The only part he might dispute is the figure given for percentage of women burgled. However the bulletin is still well worth noting.

“We have been informed of the following scam which is targeting females in particular. They receive a phone call from the Post Office asking them to confirm their postcode. When this is given, they are told that they have become eligible for some gift vouchers for their co-operation and are asked to provide their home address and postcode in order to receive the vouchers. So far 90% of the women who have provided this information have been burgled, as it is assumed that their homes are empty during office working hours. The police are aware of this scam and the Post Office have confirmed that they are NOT conducting any postcode surveys. Also, it has been reported that if you receive a telephone call from an individual who identifies him/herself as being a BT Service Technician who is conducting a test on that line, or if anyone else asks you to do the following DON'T. They will state that to complete the test the recipient should dial nine, zero (90) then the hash key and then hang up. This will give them full access to your phone line, which allows them to place long distance, international or chat-line calls. These are then billed to your account. The information which the Police have suggests that many of these calls are emanating from prisons. The information has been checked out by the police and is correct. DO NOT PRESS 90 FOR ANYONE.

## THANKS St George's Plant and Garage Sale

Very many thanks to everyone who so kindly contributed, all who helped to make our sale such a successful morning. We were very fortunate to have good weather and a fantastic number of people. We raised to date £630. Thanks to all. *Ann and James Wild*

## SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME Forthcoming Events

Saturday 14th June Supper Dance at Nether Hall, Thorrington Street For further details please contact Barbara Bolton (01206 392520)

## GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

### **RESULTS OF THE LOCAL ELECTIONS**

The following were elected members of Great Bromley Parish Council on 1 May: Mrs S Del-Guidice, Mr H Fairley, Col M Frostick OBE, Major J Heaney, Mrs B Perry, Mr C Phillips, Mrs S Rampling, Mr P Richardson and Mr K Robinson.

The following were elected Tendring District Councillors for the Elmstead, Frating, Great Bromley and Thorrington ward: Mr G Jessop OBE and Mr I Dimmock.

### Report of Great Bromley Parish Council's Annual General Meeting held on 15 May 2003

The Parish Council agreed the following appointments:

Major J Heaney: Chairman of the Parish Council

Mr C Phillips: Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council:

Mr A Sievwright: Footpaths warden:

Col M Frostick: Representative councillor, Great Bromley Village Hall

Mr C Phillips: Representative councillor Hare Green Recreation Ground:

Major J Heaney: Representative councillor, Tendring District Association of Local Councils;

Major J Heaney: Representative councillor of Tendring in Bloom;

Mrs S Rampling: Tree Warden;

Mr John Turner: Internal Auditor.

Major J Heaney and Mr J Wild: Representative Trustees of the PoorLands Trust

Ken Bromfield (telephone - 01206 230089) remains Clerk to the Council and he will be happy to deal with any queries or concerns by residents.

**Church Meadow car parking** The Council has now improved the car park with a further gravelled area. Following a site visit the Council accepted the County's proposal for a new pedestrian access to the car park and crossing to the school. The School will brief parents on the best use of the car park and the new pedestrian access.

**Recycling** Our apologies for misleading residents but there appear to be different dates for collecting recyclables - depending on location. For most of the village collections are on alternate Wednesdays - which for June are the 11th and 25th. However for roads around Burnt Heath. (Briar, Ardleigh, Carrington and Colchester Roads and Lilley's Lane) the collections are on alternate Mondays which in June are the 2nd, 16th and 30th. (see Recycling Table)

**Tendring in Bloom 2003** The Council has asked the District Council to leave the ten flower tubs in place until the end of September. However they will need to be watered during this month. Please let the Clerk know if you are to assist with this task.

**Dog Bin (Back Lane - East)** Our apologies that the recently installed dog bin has yet to be emptied. Originally the District Council agreed to arrange this but we were subsequently informed that Onyx must be contracted directly by the parish council. This has now been done.

**Planning** The Council considered and agreed no objections to the following planning applications:

- 1 Barn adjacent to Portland's. Harwich Road: renewal of temporary living accommodation (NB: but until 31/12/03 only).
- 2 Michaelmas House, Rectory Road: removal of condition 3 (agricultural occupation only) from existing planning approval.
- 3 Orchards, Frating Road: conservatory.
- 4 The Cottage, Chapel Lane: single storey kitchen extension.

At the Annual Parish Assembly, which followed the AGM four residents were present to hear reports on the Council's work and ask questions of councillors. Residents are reminded again that if they are notified by the District Council of a planning application then they should let the parish council know if they have any objections. These can then be taken into account when the Council considers the application.

The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 12 June at the Village Hall. *KB*

<b>RECYCLING IN THE BROMLEYS FOR JUNE/JULY</b>		
Area: <b>Most of Great Bromley</b>		
Wednesdays	11th, 25th June	9th, 23rd July
Area: <b>Briar, Ardleigh, Carrington &amp; Colchester Roads &amp; Lilleys Lane</b>		
Mondays	2nd, 16th and 30th June	14th, 28th July
Area: <b>Little Bromley</b>		
Mondays	2nd, 16th and 30th June	14th, 28th July
<b>ONYX</b> - Please put out your recyclable materials in carrier bags or in cardboard boxes where they can be seen at the boundary of your property. PLEASE DO NOT USE BLACK OR NON-TRANSPARENT BAGS AS THEY WILL NOT BE COLLECTED. PUT OUT BY 8.00 am ON COLLECTION DAY.		

THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY was held on 15th May, 2003.

The Chairman reported that the full parish council had met on 13 occasions during the year plus an annual parish assembly. There had been 7 joint planning meetings with Ardleigh parish council as well as a training session on planning. The Council considered 28 planning applications, compared with 43 in 2000/1/2. Council considered and responded to a number of strategic consultations, such as the upgrading of the A120 and the proposed Bathside development in Harwich with Councillors also representing the parish's interests at a number of external meetings.

He reported that the Council has taken steps to improve the village's general appearance. The parish has assumed responsibility for maintaining the highway land at Brook Street and 9 trees planted. A litter bin and dog bin were installed at Church Meadow and Back Lane respectively. Flower tubs were placed at 10 locations during the summer. However, in spite of representations to the District Council, roadside litter and fly-tipping continued to be a problem. The parish council continues to maintain Church Meadow, the cemetery and the Hare Green recreation field. To ensure that the recreation field is useable throughout the year drains were installed at a cost of £5,000.

With increasing traffic the Council was concerned with road safety. There has been an extension of the 40 mph limit on the Harwich/Frating Roads. Parking at Church Meadow has been improved with the installation of drains and additional hard surfacing. Further parking restrictions are to be introduced near the school. In spite of representations the noise from the A120 and slip roads continued to be unacceptable. The Council works with the County's



highways department to ensure that footpaths are maintained and, together with roadside verges, kept clear of obstructions.

The Vice-Chairman and councillors were thanked for their commitment and hard work on behalf of the parish during the past 12 months. The Clerks were also thanked for their efficient support of the Council, in particular Mrs Sandra Shute who resigned in 2002 after long service. Thanks also to Mrs Nicky Robinson who assisted on a temporary basis prior to the current Clerk's appointment in November 2002.

The Chairman thanked the County and District Councillors for continuing to represent the parish's interests and for keeping the Council informed of external developments.

**Report by the District Councillor** The Tendring District Council constituency has been extended to include the parishes of Elmstead, Frating, Great Bromley and Thorrington and will in future be represented by two councillors. Mr Jessop will continue to represent the interests of both individual constituents and the parish as a whole.

**Report on the Hare Green recreation ground** The representative councillor, Mr Phillips, reported that the recreation ground continued to be in good condition particularly following the installation of drains. The grass and hedges are cut regularly. The annual ROSPA inspection report was satisfactory although some minor repairs were carried out on the play equipment. Some small trees have been replaced. The Council has established a committee to oversee the purchase of new recreation equipment for young people. £500 currently in the recreation field account, would be used for this and grant aid was being sought.

**Report on the Village Hall** Mr Fairley presented a report on behalf of the representative councillor Col Frostick who was unavoidably absent. 2002/3 was another successful year for the hall with a healthy financial position. The hall is used by a wide range of organisations from both within and outside the village. Improvements to the hall were undertaken during the year and would continue in 2003/4. These included essential electrical work and resurfacing of the car parks. The parish council's support for this work was gratefully acknowledged.

**Report on the Poorlands Charitable Trust** The Trust's chairman, Mr Wild, reported that in January 2003 Poorlands distributed grants totalling £170 to nine elderly and needy parishioners. The trust presently had investments valued at about £4000. The parish council is responsible for appointing trustees and two were approved at its recent annual general meeting.

**Report on Parish Council accounts** Mr Richardson reported that the Council's precept has been maintained at £12,500 supplemented by some income from the provision of services. There were some major items of expenditure during the year in particular drainage for the recreation field costing about £5,000. This expenditure had led to reserves being reduced by £2,400 to about £11,500. Annual commitments included maintenance of the Council's properties and the village hall. £1,364 was shared among seven organisations which benefited the local community.

**Report on policing matters** Mr Philips reported that 38 crimes were reported in the parish during the year of which 12 were satisfactorily detected. The parish continued to have a low incidence of crime compared with similar local areas and detection rates (eg 50% for burglary) were relatively good. He highlighted the importance of all crimes being reported to the police. Speeding continued to be a concern and more radar checks would be carried out when safe to do so and resources allowed.

**Report on footpaths** Mr Sievewright confirmed that the parish's footpaths were well maintained with paths being reinstated by farmers after planting. Residents should continue to report any difficulties to the parish council's footpath officer, Mr Sievewright.

**Questions from the public** It was reported that some of the parish notice boards were difficult to open and needed renovation. It was suggested that parish council notices should also be posted on the village hall notice board.

**THANKS** I would like to thank the Parish Council for their help in keeping their part of our council tax to a minimum. In the media we see articles about abuse and fiddles of allowances by councillors so it was good to read in the Messenger that Great Bromley Parish Council have voted to continue with the tradition of carrying out their responsibilities on a voluntary basis and continuing to bear the cost of their unpaid local government position. Many Thanks *Val Harris*

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

- JUNE 4 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 Flower Festival meeting at The Rectory, 7.00pm
- 7 Garage Sale, Vicar's Rooms, Ardleigh 10.00am
- 10 Village Hall Committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 12 Friendship Club outing - Caithness Crystal Centre
- 12 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14 Coffee Morning, 43 West St, Wivenhoe, 10.00am
- 14 PTA Table Top sale, St George's School, 2.00pm
- 14 Cheshire Homes Street Collection, Colchester
- 14 EHA Craft Exhibition, Hylands House, Chelmsford, 10.00am
- 13-15 Family weekend, Thorpe Hall, Thorpe-le-Soken
- 19 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 21 Supper Dance, Nether Hall, Thorrington Street
- JULY 5 Cricket Club Chairman's Day
- 15 Guide Dogs "Shades for a Day"
- 24 Friendship Club outing - Southwold & tea in Stowmarket
- 27 PTA Family Fun Day

<p align="center"><b>GARAGE SALE</b> (Sale of Church Hall items etc) Saturday, 7th June 10.00am - 12 noon Vicar's Rooms, Ardleigh (adjacent to St Mary's Church) Items include: stackable chairs and tables, piano, timber, cupboards, heated trolley, crockery, pans, trays, 2 pews, Hi-Fi cabinet, speakers, radiogram, clock, chairs, tables, clock, table tennis top, pool table, trestles and tables tops etc.  <i>All proceeds to St Mary's Church</i></p>	<p align="center">Jean Harding is having a <b>COFFEE MORNING</b> entry £1 in aid of HUNTINGTONS DISEASE families on - SATURDAY 14th JUNE 10.00-12.30  • BRING &amp; BUY • CAKE STALL • RAFFLE She would so pleased to greet any old friends at 43, WEST ST, WIVENHOE <i>Turn right opposite the Church into West St where you CAN park all day despite the, at first glance, apparently forbidding signs. The house is on the left towards the station</i></p>
<p align="center"> <b>ESSEX HANDICRAFTS ASSOCIATION</b> <b>CRAFT EXHIBITION 2003</b> plus Craft suppliers - Craft demonstrations - Raffle and Refreshments at Hylands House, Chelmsford on Saturday 14th June 10am-6pm Entrance fee £3.20 Concessions £2.20</p>	<p align="center"><b>SAVE THE CHILDREN FAMILY WEEKEND</b> To be held in the beautiful gardens at Thorpe Hall, Thorpe-le-Soken Refreshments available all these days Friday 13th June 10.30am-3.00pm Sotheby's Valuation Day (£2.00 per items) Antique stands 7.30pm -10.00pm Quiz Night, teams 6-8 £2.50 per person BBQ and Bar available Saturday 14th June 10am-4pm £5 per car Beauty demonstrations by The Studio Thorpe Hall Farmers Market/Food Fayre, Classic cars, Trade stands, Toddlers Corner, Birds of Prey 7.30pm-midnight Pop Idol Disco (book in advance only) Sunday 15th June, Father's Day Family fun day and entertainment 11.30am-5pm £5 per car Craft Fayre, Classic cars, Rogers Road Show, Pony rides, Rally car rides, Arena events, Hog roast and BBQ Interested in the above? For further information contact: Irene Clark 01255 427675, Jackie Chappell 01255 427742, Phyllis Mitchell 01255 476707</p>
<p align="center"><b>ST GEORGE'S FLOWER FESTIVAL</b> 6th-8th September Please note these dates in your diary and keep them free. A lot of help will be needed and a planning meeting is to be held on Thursday, 5th June at 7.00pm at the Rectory to which everyone is invited. </p>	

**GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES**

The Village Hall Management Committee met on Tuesday, 29th April in the Village Hall. The Secretary reported on the correspondence dealt with and the Treasurer spoke of the current financial position and gave an end of fiscal year report based on the accounts which had recently been examined by our independent auditor.

Waste disposal from the Hall was discussed, something we have to pay for by the bin load. The waste contractors seemed to have tightened their procedures recently, only willing to take material actually in the bin. Anything outside the bin is left and may become a hazard, all attracting vermin. We would be pleased if any empty bottles could be taken to the bottle bank, the nearest one being on Church Meadow.

Storage has been under consideration these past few months with some re-arrangements and provision of additional cupboard space which has eased pressure on the Hall a little. Further work has been done on the electrical system with the rewiring of the boiler room and you may notice some changes taking place in the south car park which we hope will be advantageous to those who use the Hall.

Fund raising events are forever to the fore. We must thank Beryl Hurst and John Appleby for bring the Colchester Pageant evening to the hall in March and for the £421 raised. Also, our thanks go to Brenda and Richard at the Cross Inn for running a Quiz evening and the resultant donation of £118 to the Hall. Next, we have a Coffee Morning Light Lunches from 11.00am till 2.00pm on 19th July at "The Pippins", the home of June and Peter Wenden. Tickets are available or pay at the entrance. We would like your support. On 20th September, the Tom Collins Jazz Band will provide the music for a Dance at the Hall with tickets available from either Dean Dasley or Beryl Hurst.

On Wednesday, 14th May the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Charity took place with 15 people present. The Management Committee for the next 12 months comprises of Peter Wenden (Chairman), Lynda Allam (Treasurer and Bookings Officer), Vera Biddis, Gill Christmas, Beryl Hurst, June Willgress, Dean Dasley, Henry Fairley, Martin Frostick, Pat Petchey, Nigel Rowe and Bevan Willgress (Secretary). The Hall Caretaker, Marion Britton, also takes part in the committee meetings. We are extremely sorry to lose Carol Cordwell from the committee and are very appreciative of all her hard work over the past years on our behalf. The next committee meeting is on Tuesday, 10th June at 7.30pm in the Hall.

*Bevan Willgress*

#### GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION Stour Valley Branch

Please! As well as collecting used postage stamps Guide Dogs can now raise much needed fund by recycling MOBILE PHONES. If you have a mobile you no longer need/use or are updating we would be pleased for you to donate it to us. If you can help us please phone Rhoda Crisp or Marjorie Culham.

Sunday 22nd June - DOGGY WALK - Approximately 2 ¼ miles starting and Finishing at the Royal Square Dedham, walks commencing from 10.30am (last walkers to start by 2.45pm). Come and enjoy a pleasant stroll along the Stour Valley. If you haven't got a dog, you are still welcome to join us. Minimum donation of £2 please or sponsorship forms available.

**Guide Dogs for the Blind "SHADES FOR A DAY"** 15th July (or a day of your choice) This event raises funds as well as raising awareness of the importance of looking alter your eyes in the sun. By paying £1 to wear your shades at school, college or the office, you'll be helping Guide dogs to continue vital work providing mobility and freedom to blind and partially-sighted people. Schools benefit too - for every £1 raised in schools, 50p comes to Guide Dogs and 50p to your school. Guide Dogs provide all you need: sticky badges. information and great ideas for a fun filled day. Log on to [www.shadesforaday.org.uk](http://www.shadesforaday.org.uk). Local contact Marjorie Culham.

If you would like more information about our charity or would like a Speaker at your group. or would like to be a member of Stour Valley branch (membership £3 pa) please phone Marjorie.

#### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We began our May Resolutions) meeting by congratulating our President, Mrs Ann Jones, and the committee on the recently held successful Spring Group meeting with Great Bromley W.I. as the convenor. It was at Great Bromley Village Hall and attended by a large number of members of the Constable Group of Women's Institutes. Mrs Ann o'Riordan, our Women's Institute Adviser for the evening, took us through the three Resolutions chosen to be discussed and voted upon at the National Federation of Women's Institutes Annual General Meeting being held at the Royal Albert Hall in London on 11th June. The Resolutions were: 1. Care of the elderly 2. Vocational training of young people 3. Children's diets, exercise and health.

Each was discussed in some depth, with Members giving their thoughts and views. At the vote, they were all supported and carried. This month is our Members' run meeting when our hard working President and the committee are given a well-deserved evening off. Anyone wishing to come along and join us will be made most welcome at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 4th June in the Village Hall. *June Willgress*

#### FRIENDSHIP CLUB SPRING SALE.

After a hectic day before, during and after the Sale, I hope everyone is fully recovered by now. It must be pointed out that "behind the scenes" work would not be carried out without the help of

our "Friends of the Sale" helpers who worked hard bringing the goods into the hall and clearing up at the end. To them and all the members who set out and manned the stalls a big Thank You To All, non-members included. Although the attendances were down compared to other years we were able to make just over £700 for the Club funds. Well done to everyone! Our next meeting is on 19th June and the competition is a pretty tea plate (I got it right this time!!) *Vicky Griffiths*

#### GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

100 CLUB WINNERS FOR APRIL 1st. Mr. B. Wright 2nd. Mrs B. Jenno 3rd. Mrs. N. Kempster  
A very successful Quiz night was recently held at Gt. Bromley Village Hall in aid of the Gt. Bromley Colts. A total of £550 was raised. The team from Elmstead won the Quiz with Gt. Bromley C. C. coming second and Ardleigh CC. coming third. Thank you everybody who came for making it so successful. Forth coming event:- Chairman's Day Saturday 5th July.

#### CARPET BOWLS

Most club evenings are taken up with league matches at the moment, so there has been a lot of to-ing and fro-ing as well as entertaining. So far in this Summer League we have played 8 fixtures and Gt Bromley have notched up 42 points out of a possible 72. These matches have all been very pleasant social occasions.

The annual dinner was held at the Wooden Fender, Ardleigh on 10th May when 20 diners enjoyed a 3 course meal in comfortable surroundings and managed to find lots to chat about apart from bowls. A very nice social event and our thanks to Pat for organising the evening. We all wish good weather and safe journeys to four of our members who are holidaying abroad in late May and early June. All the best to them. *Nancy Kempster*

#### **NO ONE IS FORGOTTEN!**

George Martin, a yeoman of Great Bromley, left a huge will dated January 1602. He was buried in Great Bromley. To the poor of both Little Bentley and Great Bromley he left 20 shillings apiece. To the poor of Wormingford and Little Bromley there was 10 shillings per parish. George had a married daughter, Alice Hoyer. To his grandson, George Hoyer, a minor, he gave land of eight acres in Reynes Hath, Little Bentley; it was leased to a Robert Clark. George also inherited his grandfather's house, lands called Newmans alias Harwoodes and Hodgkyns; a farm called Bussardes also Eastwoodes in Great Bromley; land and tenements called North Lands and Howlettes purchased from William Pyrton, esquire; free land in Great Bromley, once in the ownership of a Mr Cooper; and copyhold lands in Weeley. If George died before he was 21 then the ownership of all these passed to Edward Hoyer and Elizabeth Hoyer. Edward Hoyer, his son-in-law was to collect rents, etc., until George reached his majority and he was to see that George was educated and well fed.

(unnamed) Quarles' wife of Dedham was given a young cow (already in his possession) Elizabeth Bonner, his niece, received ten shillings, John Bonner, his nephew, had a cow. The following were each left ten shillings - Thomas Perry, William Fuller, whose bond was also forgiven, Christopen Fuller, plus a bullock, George Fuller. Lancelot Fuller had a bullock. Mary Martin's children, (unnamed) had 10 shillings. Michael Davy's children from Great Bentley were to receive five shillings when they reached eighteen years of age. Richard Mont, a servant, was recipient of a bullock and six shillings and eight pence (6s. 8d). Young Pyrton, Lord of the Manor of Little Bentley, etc.. had a cache of silver plate. In Great Bromley. to produce ongoing cash, John Upcher was to farm North Lands and Howlettes at the rent of £13 6s. 8d., per year and entitled to have three loads of wood as fuel. The generous donor left forty six shillings and eight pence (46s. 8d.) to the church officers of Great Bromley to distribute to the poor of the village who attended his funeral. Every one of the servants who were living in his house at this death received six shillings and eight pence (6s. 8d). Charles Cardinal, Lord of the Manor of Great Bromley landed four pounds. Ralph King, the Rector of Little Bromley, maker and writer of the will netted forty shillings. The will was witnessed by Thomas Rolfe, David Stone, Ralph King and Alice Day. Many local people were remembered as can be seen and there is much more that can be added about their births, marriages and deaths. *John Appleby*

#### BROMLEY CROSS EVENTS

**40s NIGHT** Saturday, 14th 8.00-11.00 pm Hosted by the RNA. If you remember, enjoy the nostalgia. If you're too young, enjoy the atmosphere. Fancy dress Optional. **CHARITY QUIZ** Thursday, 19th 8.30 pm start for ARDLEIGH PRE-SCHOOL. Teams of 4 £2.50 per head (incl. light supper) **MUSIC NIGHT** Wednesday, 25th 8.00 pm start Sing, play or watch and enjoy

UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner, On June 14th the Churchwardens and myself will be sitting at the Lytch Gate again for a Parish Gift day. Last year the weather was good to us, and many of you were very generous too. One of the pleasant things about the day is people simply stopping to say hello, or introduce themselves. It's just as well that there are some good things about the venture because it is not my favourite way of spending a day, but unfortunately it is a necessary one. S. George's Church here in the Bromleys is a vibrant and growing one. In the past two years the members of the congregation have increased their regular giving by 17%. Sadly this is still not enough for us to cover the upkeep and running costs of the building, let alone carry out any improvements, or save for that rainy day. The Church Of England does not receive any funding from the state or government. Its members and generous friends fund it. Occasionally grants are received from the Heritage Lottery Fund (like for the roof), but this is because it is building architecturally important to the country, not because it's a Church. We try to raise money at events, like the flower festival and plant sale, and these go a long way to helping. We still need to appeal to you to make a donation to help us cover the bills and invest for the future. To give you an idea of some of our expenses this year the Parochial Church Council will have to spend: £944 on grass cutting in Great Bromley and £824 in Little Bromley £2,184 on Insurance £1,003 on heating and lighting £13,677 on the contribution to central Church funds £1,878 on costs of the priestly ministry.

Due to a lot of hard work by the Repair Committee and generosity through the years by many of you, we think we are almost there with the work to repair the roof. We have just received a quote to upgrade the sound system of £1,100 to provide basic loo and meeting facilities circa 50,000: and no one knows what will be

next on the need list of this beautiful mediaeval building. I appreciate that it is a small minority who get the most benefit from S George's being alive and open and they are doing their best. All I ask is that if you feel able this month, or on any other occasion to make a donation to our life here, you do so. Thank you for your generosity, and care for this generation who find sanctuary in S George's and those to come. God bless you.  
*Fr Nicolas.*

**THE MINI MARKET** will be closed for some months. We are having the builders in and cooking and storing in any quantity will not be possible for a while. We have been quoted 20 weeks for the time it will take so I hope to be able to open again in time for Christmas - hopefully earlier. Meanwhile, many thanks to everyone for your support and encouragement. The proceeds for Christian Aid at the Easter Day mini- market came to £100.  
*Caroline McShane*

**Services for June ->**

1st	7.30am 8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>Easter 7</b> Morning Prayer The Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer	St. Mary the Virgin St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin
4th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
5th	10.00am	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
6th	11.00am	The Eucharist	Seven Rivers
7th	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 8th	7.30am 8.00am 10.30am	<b>Pentecost</b> Morning Prayer The Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Bishop John's farewell at the Cathedral	St. George the Martyr St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin
9th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
11th	6.00pm	The Eucharist	Hamilton Lodge
12th	10.00am	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
13th	11.00am	The Eucharist	Seven Rivers
14th	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 15th	7.30am 8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>Trinity Sunday</b> Morning Prayer The Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer	St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin
16th	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
18th	10.00am	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
19th	7.00pm	<b>Corpus Christi</b> The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
20th	11.00am	<b>S Alban</b> The Eucharist	Seven Rivers
Sunday 22nd	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>Trinity I</b> The Eucharist Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer	St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr
23rd	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
24th	10.00am	<b>Birthday of John the Baptist</b> The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
26th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
27th	11.00am 8.00pm	<b>Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus</b> The Eucharist Solemn Eucharist	Seven Rivers Thorpe le Soken
28th	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 29th	7.30am 8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	<b>SS Peter and Paul</b> Morning Prayer The Eucharist The Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer	St. Mary the Virgin St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin
30th	9.00am	The Eucharist	St. George the Martyr

ONE MAN'S WEED IS ANOTHER MAN'S FLOWER

At 4.15 am on 31st May I was up and wandering down the lane to get a better view of the sunrise on the horizon as my view is partially blocked by trees. I wanted to see the annular eclipse which won't occur again for another 80 odd years and well past my sell-by date! I was disappointed as although it was a beautiful bright, balmy morning there was too much cloud around to see the sun. However I was rewarded by the song of the birds filling the countryside around me with the most glorious sound as they chatted away to each other in the dawn hours. It reinforced my thinking of how lucky we are in Great Bromley to be able to have the bonus of the countryside with some good sized towns nearby and with no light pollution we can see the glory of the heavens by night. The lanes as I write are looking lovely with the wild flowers blooming all, along the verges where they have not been cut by the Council. I decided to look more closely and I list below the ones I easily found by the roadside. Wild flowers are a controversial subject - in the garden they are regarded as a weed, in the field as detrimental to the yield of a crop, by the road as a safety hazard but in a meadow as being beautiful. All but the most tenacious are disappearing due to agricultural methods and the desire by gardeners not to have a "weed" in sight. Wild flowers attract insects and therefore birds and other small mammals who feed from them. They are the modest, unshowy cousins of a lot of big blousy blooms so beloved these days and yet without them our countryside would be so much the poorer. But, except in nature reserves, we do not try to look after them. We remove them, we spray them, we cut them back in their prime before they can seed and then we bemoan their lack. I counted 55 varieties of wild flower around the verges in my part of Great Bromley. None of these was a "rare" species but even these are finding it hard to survive and none grow in abundance. I wonder how many will be left by the next annular eclipse?

Common sorrel, Broad leaved dock, Fat Hen, Greater Stitchwort, Lesser Stitchwort, Red Campion, White Campion, Creeping buttercup, Field poppy, Hedge mustard, Shepherds Purse, Blackberry, Dog rose, Field rose, Broom, Gorse, Vetch, White clover, Herb Robert, Cut leaved crane's bill, Common mallow, White bryony, Rose bay willowherb, Cow parsley, Hogweed, Goosegrass, Bindweed, Green Alkanet, Red Deadnettle, White Deadnettle, Hedge Woundwort, Foxglove, Common Field Speedwell, Toadflax, Elder, Yarrow, Scentless mayweed, Pineapple . mayweed, Mugwort, Groundsel, Goatsbeard, Field sow thistle, Smooth sow thistle, Spiny milk thistle, Lesser Burdock, Dandelion, Hawkweed, Cat's ear, Bittersweet, Greater plantain, Ribwort plantain, Bracken, Wild sage, Stinging nettle and Common Figwort (one plant only).

*Leonie Henderson*

This month's edition of The Bromley Messenger is sponsored by GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL. The Council works for the benefit of the community. Although most of our public services are provided by other authorities the Council will make representations where it can. If you have any concerns, complaints or comments then please do get in touch with either the Parish Clerk or any of the councillors.

KITCHEN CORNER

**LIGHT GINGERBREAD** This is the favourite gingerbread recipe in our family. Not so sticky as the traditional type. You can slice and butter it if liked, especially for packed lunch boxes.

220g plain flour 2 teaSp baking powder 2 tbsp golden syrup 3 heaped teasp ground ginger  
2 tbsp black treacle 1 teasp cinnamon 2 tbsp dark brown sugar 2 tblsp ground almonds  
2 eggs, beaten 110g butter 1 teasp bicarbonate soda 90 ml warm milk

175 g chopped stem ginger in syrup 4 tabbsp raisins

Butter and line 20 cm loaf tin. Sieve flour, baking powder and spices, stir in almonds. Melt butter, syrup, treacle, sugar in a pan then stir in flour etc. Mix well but gently. Remove from heat, stir in eggs. add ginger, raisins and bicarbonate of soda dissolved in milk. Pour into tin and bake 45-50 minutes at 180C/350F/Gas Mk 4. *Jill Frostick*

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE

May I say thank you to all the Great (in both senses of the word) Bromleyans who crossed the border to attend the Huntingtons Coffee Morning. It was wonderful to see you all and we raised £300. *Jean Harding*

**A Huge Thank You** to the people who so kindly stopped and assisted in helping our cat, Shadwell, when he was hit by a vehicle on Parsons Hill, by Back Lane West on Wednesday 4th June. Unfortunately, Shadwell has since lost part of his hip due to the seriousness of the accident, but he is recovering well from his operation. My husband and I would like those people who helped him to contact us so we can return the jumper he was wrapped in and to pass on our thanks in person. We, unfortunately, do not have any details of the people except that it was one man driving a white pick-up truck. Please contact us. Thank you once again. Mrs Jo Saunders. 2 Hill Cottages Parsons Hill Great Bromley.

#### SCOPE CHARITY EVENT

Following a very successful evening at Go Bananas on Saturday 24th May 2003 we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everybody who attended the evening, provided raffle prizes and made donations. We managed to raise £825 in total, which will go to help children with Cerebral Palsy through the "Scope" school for parents network. Once again thank you for all your support, it is very much appreciated. *Jane & Ian Taylor*

#### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Members' meeting took place in the Village Hall on 4th June. The President, Ann Jones, held a short business meeting before handing over to Beryl Hurst, the Members' Convenor for the evening, saying how nice and bright the Hall looked. The committee was June Willgress (Secretary), Barbara Hall (Treasurer), Jill Frostick and Annette Wenden. Gwen Barrell and Grace Gould were on the door and sold the raffle tickets. Beryl welcomed everyone present explaining it was to be an Irish evening, which was why everything was green and white. The Secretary then read the minutes of last year's meeting which were approved and signed. Mr Stevens, the speaker for the evening, was introduced by Beryl. He brought along his DVD player and a film called Thoughts of Home with Daniel O'Donnell singing Irish songs as he travelled around lovely parts of Ireland. Jill Frostick gave the vote of thanks and told how Mr Stevens had recently lost his electronic equipment in a disastrous fire at his home in Clacton. Refreshments, which were mostly traditional Irish recipes, were served and an Auction was held with Vera Biddis as the Auctioneer. The Competition, "Something with an Irish connection" was won by Annette Wenden, 2nd Gwen Barrell and 3rd Beryl Hurst.

Flower of the month was won by Jill Frostick. After the raffle was drawn the President thanked Beryl and her committee for a very enjoyable evening and the meeting was closed. The meeting in July, which will be our birthday meeting, is going to be a Garden Party at Jill Frostick's home. Our Annual Outing in August is by coach to Bury St Edmunds. There are some seats available if anyone is interested. *June Willgress*

#### FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The outing to Caithness Glass Centre was most enjoyable. The weather was gorgeous and the meal at the Centre was excellent. Watching the glassmakers at work was very interesting and browsing round the factory shop where there were plenty of bargains. ended the day. 24th July is our outing to Southwold with tea at Stowmarket Chapel for tea. 17th July is the next meeting and the competition is "A Rose". *Vicky Griffiths*

#### GARDENER'S CORNER FOR JULY

**LAWNS:** Leave off feeding until the weather changes - best to wait until we have some rain. Mow twice a week then there is no need to use the box - the cuttings are so fine they soon disappear. **SHRUBS:** Take semi-hard cuttings of Cistus, Hydrangeas, Skimmia and Pyracantha. **ROSES:** Keep dead heading and apply fertilizer spray to keep the green fly at bay. **DAHLIAS:** Tie in young shoots if long stems are required for cutting. Disbud some of the side shoots. **IRISES:** Tall bearded irises may be divided at the end of the month. *Frank Griffiths*

#### GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

We are holding a Bar-b-que and Disco on Saturday 23rd August at the cricket ground. The day will begin at approximately 12p.m. with a 40 overs a side cricket match between local players. At approximately 6pm. it will be the Colts and Terriers turn to play cricket. We will be serving food from about 7pm. followed by the Disco in the Village Hall during which the Colts will be presented with their trophies. Tickets will be £6 per person £3 for children, available from Katherine Foley or Lynda Allam). **100 CLUB WINNERS FOR MAY**  
1st. Miss Sarah Munden 2nd. Mr. Mick Thorpe 3rd. Mr. Peter Herring

## **FRIENDSHIP**

Friendship is worth its weight in gold  
Especially when one is growing old  
You meet and cheer each other up  
Over that ever welcome 'cup'.  
A friend helps you in the crises of life  
A comfort in sadness and strife  
Yes, friends really are worth their weight in gold  
Especially when one is growing old.  
*Betty Rowe*

## **LETTERS**

*With regard to my foreword to the magazine last month I have pleasure in publishing clarification of the situation by Major James Heaney, Chairman of Great Bromley Parish Council.*  
May I have the opportunity to comment on your remarks, (in the June 2003 magazine), about the dearth of information about prospective councillors at our recent parish council elections? First, all candidates who stood for election were not obliged to inform the parish council beforehand. Of course, councillors knew which of their colleagues intended to stand, but only just before the closing date for nominations in one or two cases. Even if there had been time to put a notice in your magazine about the candidates, (and there was not), the parish council would not have been allowed to do so under the electoral rules. Candidates who might have wished to inform the electorate about their suitability for office would have had to do so under their own arrangements and at their own expense. With regard to the district and county elections the situation is different in that the political parties arrange the publicity for their candidates and meet their expenses. Independents, of course, have to fend for themselves. The Parish Clerk was given the names of all the candidates for election to the parish council by the Electoral Office at Tendring District Council the lists were posted on the notice-boards throughout the village three weeks before the election. Yours sincerely,  
*James Heaney Chairman Great Bromley Parish Council*

## **GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES**

The Village Hall Management Committee met on 10th June in the Village Hall with 11 present and two members unavailable.  
To help with the strong sunlight at times, a blind has been fitted to the kitchen window, which we hope will eliminate the glare previously experienced. Whilst you are looking out of this window, you may notice some changes outside. We would appreciate it if car users drive gently over the new surface for a while to enable the materials to settle and bind together.  
The Rural Community Council of Essex from time to time offer short training courses, those currently available are Basic First Aid and a Funding Workshop. Other activities include giving advice to Charities, Club and Groups on a wide range of subjects. They are based at Chelmsford. Some repair work is in progress on the external brickwork of the building. We are also turning our attention to the Halls emergency lighting system to bring it more in line with current requirements thus making the building a better place to use.  
Why not join us for a Coffee Morning/Light Lunch from 11.00 am till 2.00 pm on 19th July at The Pippins, Lawford Road, Burnt Heath, Ardleigh, the home of June and Peter Wenden by their kind invitation. Tickets are available or pay at the entrance. We would like your support. On 20th September Tom Collins Jazz Band will provide the music for a dance at the Hall, 7.30pm till late, tickets are available from Dean Dasley or Beryl Hurst. Maybe you like walking, then perhaps a sponsored stroll in Rendlesham Forest of 3 or 6 miles on Sunday, 28th September would suit you. Meet at the car park (off Orford Road), toilets and picnic area available. The next committee meeting is on Tuesday, 2nd September at 7.30pm in the Hall.  
*Bevan Willgress*

## **BE SOMEONE WHO CARES**

Essex County Council launched this year's foster carer recruitment campaign during Foster Care Fortnight (12-23 May 2003). The campaign "Be someone who cares" is aimed at dispelling myths about the types of people that can become foster carers. Many people who would make excellent foster carers sometimes don't come forward because they think they will be turned down. Fostering is not just for couples with children of their own. Single people, those without children and people whose children have grown up and left home are also needed. Carers can



be working full time or not working at all. There is no upper age limit to becoming a foster carer as long as you are in good health.

Phil Miller, a foster carer from Colchester, said "As a disabled person I initially thought it might be difficult for me to become a foster carer due to other people's attitudes. However, after calling the Essex Adoption and Fostering information line and talking through the issues with a Social worker, I realised it would not be the battle I had thought it might be. I expect that many disabled people will probably think they can't foster, but I am proof that they can. All they need to do is pick up the phone and call the freephone number. As far as I'm concerned, fostering is definitely one of the most rewarding things I have ever done.'"

Essex County Council are looking for more carers in your area to be able to offer a local service to local children, to increase their chances of returning home and enabling them to maintain links with friends, family and school. Foster carers look after children of all ages from babies to teenagers. There is a particular need for carers who can look after children aged 8 years and above, children who need long-term placements, children with disabilities, and for brothers and sisters who may need to stay together. Foster carers provide a variety of care ranging from a few days each month, to a few weeks or months and sometimes longer.

Essex County Council offers support and training to foster carers and there are also fee paid schemes with very competitive rates and training opportunities. All carers receive an allowance that meets the costs of looking after a child. You can find out all about becoming a foster carer by calling the freephone number on 0800 801 530, Be someone who cares and call today.

#### ST. GEORGES SCHOOL, GT. BROMLEY Headteacher: Pat Fitzgerald

The school was delighted to hear that they have won a School Achievement Award. These are for schools that substantially improved their results between 1999-2002. The hard work and dedication of teaching and support staff are crucial to a school's success. School Achievement Awards are intended to celebrate and reward these efforts.

July is always filled with fun activities for the children. On 3rd July the school will host its Annual sponsored Fun and Games afternoon, with all monies raised going to improving the school grounds. End of year outings will include a trip to Parkeston Quay for years 1 and 2 and the remaining children will visit Mersea Island Outdoor Pursuits Centre - sounds like fun! At the end of term we will be saying goodbye to Gill Davies, Class 4 teacher, who is heading west for a change of scenery. Also Class 3 teacher, Valli Godsell will be going on Maternity Leave, so we wish her well in her pregnancy. So there will be a few new faces in September. The football team competed in the Tendring Small School Cluster Tournament. Ten schools had entered and after some tough matches on a hot Monday afternoon finished 3rd - well done to Charlie Austin, Harry Hitchcock, Sam Platt, Frazer Redfern, Marc Skinner and Edward Wright.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

##### JULY

- 5 Garage/Yard Sale, Wheatsheaf Cottage, Little Bromley 10.00am
- 5 Cricket Club Chairman's Day
- 15 Guide Dogs 'Shades for a Day'
- 17 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 17 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall. 7.30pm
- 19 Coffee Morning/Light Lunch, The Pippins, Burnt Heath. 11.00am
- 24 Friendship Club outing - Southwold & tea in Stowmarket
- 24 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 27 PTA Family Fun Day

##### AUGUST

- 9 Mini-Fete, Waterhouse Farm, Ardleigh, 10.30am
- 14 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 23 Cricket Club B-B-Q and Disco at Cricket Ground, from 12 noon

##### SEPTEMBER

- 2 Village Hall committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6-8 Flower Festival, St Georges Church, Gt Bromley
- 20 Tom Collins Dance Band, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 25 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 25 WEA course starts. Ardleigh Village Hall, 2.30pm. More details next month
- 28 Sponsored Stroll in Rendlesham Forest (see Village Hall report)
- 30 Talk by Claire Macdonald, Marks Tey Village Hall

### AN AMERICAN OLD HOUSE

21 Lennaen Street, Cambridge, U.S.A., known as the Cooper-Frost-Austin house, belongs to the Historic Monuments Society. It is the oldest house in Cambridge. Boston. Gregory Stone's stepson, John Cooper had it built. Gregory was a resident in Great Bromley and he and his brother, Simon, owned land etc, in the village as well as at Nayland, Suffolk. *John Appleby*

### GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

B-B-Q and Disco 23rd August ; at the Cricket Ground 12 noon  
40 overs a side cricket match ; 6.00pm Colts & Terriers cricket matches  
7.00pm Food served followed by Disco in the Village Hall  
Tickets £6 per adult, £3 per child from Katherine Foley or Lynda Allam

### FLOWER FESTIVAL ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

6th-8th September TOMBOLA Please if anyone is able to donate a tombola prize please contact Corina, The Thatched Cottage, Brook Street, Great Bromley

### SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

Tuesday 30th September Talk by Claire Macdonald at Marks Tey Village Hall  
Tuesday 7th October Autumn Sale at Gt Bromley Village Hall  
Thursday 13th November Coffee Morning at Seven Rivers  
Further details of all these events can also be obtained from Barbara Bolton or the Home.

### GARAGE/YARD SALE

Saturday, 5th July 10.00am - 12.30pm Wheatsheaf Cottage, Lt Bromley (old Wheatsheaf pub) Shop Road, Little Bromley Including: CDs - Books - Videos - Magazines - Plants - Crockery - Bric-a-brac (good quality) Clothes-Curtains Proceeds to Tendring Cats Protection & Wildlives Rescue Centre, Thorrington

### MINI-FETE

Saturday 9th August WATERHOUSE FARM Waterhouse Lane, Ardleigh 10.30am until 2.30pm VARIOUS STALLS including: Cards Mini Market, Tombola etc, Things to Buy PLUS FUN AND GAMES FOR THE CHILDREN REFRESHMENTS ALL WELCOME All proceeds for Church Funds

### GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Report of Great Bromley Parish Council meeting held on 12 June 2003

**Planning decisions** Tendring District Council has approved the following planning applications: "Essex Stores", Harwich Road: change of use of highway land to garden.

"Orchards", Frating Road: conservatory

The Cottage, Chapel Lane: single storey kitchen extension.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS** The Council considered and agreed no objections to the following planning applications:

"Sept Annee", Back Lane East: construction of pitched roofs over existing extension and garage and canopy roof.

Hazels Ltd, Harwich Road: retention of portacabin for office use (for a maximum of one further year).

RAF tower, Hillyards Road: additional panel and dish antenna.

The Council considered and notified the District Council of its objections to the following planning applications: Pond Farm, Hall Road: illuminated signs

Pond Farm, Hall Road: variation of condition of planning permission relating to colour of joinery.

**LITTER AND DOG BINS** Onyx has been contracted to empty the Council's litter and dog bins

**HIGHWAYS** Following representations from the Council the County has agreed in principle to extending the present 40 mph Speed limit from the Harwich/Frating Roads intersection to Balls Green. The Council continues to press both the District Council and County to meet their obligations to maintain and keep clean the parish's highways and verges. The County cannot agree to the installation of speed camera signs.

**RURAL HOUSING TRUST** The Council agreed that the Trust should be asked to assist with a housing needs survey with the ultimate aim of building further affordable homes.

**HARE GREEN RECREATION FIELD** A timber "ball wall" has been ordered for the field.

**FUTURE MEETINGS** The next two meetings of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 17 July and 14 August 2003 at the Village Hall.

## LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Election At the recent Parish Council elections the following were returned unopposed and have accepted their appointments. Chairman: Mr K Hatch Deputy Chairman: Mr G Kent Councillors: Mrs C Eugster, Mrs H Bannister, Mrs M Roughley. Clerk: Major (Rtd) A C Downes MBE  
Dates for future meetings are as follows. However the venue for each meeting could vary, timings being 19.30 hours and unless notified always on Thursday.

2003 24th July, 25th September, 20th November

2004 8th January, 11th March, 15th April

*Maj AC Downes MBE*

## CHILDREN'S CORNER LADYBIRD MOBILE

Ladybird, ladybird, fly away home...

You will need

Card	Thin black sugar paper	Red sugar paper
Black felt-tipped pen	Bubble wrap	Thread Scissors
2 strong & wide non-bendy drinking straws	Glue stick	
Brass paper fastener	Hole punch	

1. Draw a ladybird shape on to card (a wide oval about 10cm long). Use this as a template to draw 4 ladybird shapes in black paper and four in red.

2. On the red shapes draw in the black head and spots.

3. Cut 4 ovals of bubble wrap a bit smaller than the ladybird shapes. Glue over the "wrong" side of each shape, place the bubble wrap in the middle and sandwich the shapes together.

4. Punch a hole in the top of each ladybird. Next, cut a length of thread that is three times as long as the straw.

5. Pass the thread down the length of one straw and tie a ladybird to each end.

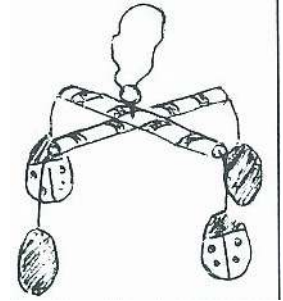
6. Cut another piece of thread that is four times as long as a straw and pass this through the remaining straw. Tie a ladybird on to each end as before.

7. Using a pin or a needle, pierce a hole in the centre of each of the straws.

8. Push the paper fastener through the holes so that the straws are joined in a cross shape.

Bend the end of the fastener into a loop - wrap it round a pencil to do this - then tie on a hanging loop of thread.

9. Before hanging, make sure the ladybirds are balanced.



## The Cross Inn, Great Bromley

CONGRATULATIONS - You DID IT AGAIN!

£1,000 was raised during the charity weekend 31 May-1 June. Well done and a huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the resounding success of both the music festival and the country fair. (Thanks also to the weather gods for being so kind!)

Saturday saw our first attempt at a "major" music event. and we were a little apprehensive about the outcome. Thanks to a superb sound system and excellent sound management skills - courtesy of Christine and Tom Trimby - a glorious afternoon/evening of music was enjoyed by a very appreciative audience. More than 20 acts performed and the event was everything we could have hoped for and more. As a bonus, the amount collected for charity got our fundraising off to a great start.

Sunday morning passed in a blur of activity. and, despite the conviction that we would never be ready in time, by 2pm all the stalls were in place - thanks to Chris Haine (MC. Head stallmaker and chief enabler) - and the first customers were beginning to trickle in. By 3pm the fair was in full swing and the buzz of enjoyment and pleasure was audible. Each sideshow brought its own amusement from the traditional fishing for ducks to the more recent invention of the human fruit machine. By 5pm the china was all smashed, the tin cans had been demolished, the tombola and raffle prizes had all been won and the cream teas had all been eaten. Just enough time was left for the "St Trinian girls" to show us what they were made of (raising another £35!) and £1,000 was in the kitty.

So many people were so generous with their time, energy and contributions and we thank each and every one - the sponsors, Sabrina and Aaron who for the second year running, gave nearly all the prizes for the Lucky Dip, the stall holders, the tea ladies, the BBQ'ers, "Street Legal" who provided the indoor music, and all the behind-the-scenes workers who put so much into making the whole weekend successful. And, of course, everyone who came along and dug deep into their pockets. As a reward, we are doing it all again next year! *Brenda and Richard Perry*

## QUICK AND EASY WAY TO UNDERSTAND WORLD POLITICS

1. FEUDALISM: You have two cows. Your lord takes some of the milk.
2. FASCISM: You have two cows. The government takes both. hires you to take care of them. and sells you the milk.
3. PURE COMMUNISM: You have two cows. Your neighbours help you take care of them. and you all share the milk.
4. APPLIED COMMUNISM: You have two cows. You have to take care of them but the government takes all the milk.
5. DICTATORSHIP: You have two cows. The government takes both and shoots you.
6. NIGERIAN DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. The government takes both. shoots you and sends the cows to Zurich.
7. MILITARISM: You have two cows. The government takes both and drafts you.
8. SINGAPOREAN DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. The government fines you for keeping two unlicensed farm animals in an apartment.
9. PURE DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. Your neighbours decide who gets the milk.
10. REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. Your neighbours pick someone to tell you who gets the milk.
11. AMERICAN DEMOCRACY: The government promises to give you two cows if you vote for it. Alter the election, the president is impeached for speculating in cow futures. The press dubs the affair "Cowgate". The cow sues you for breach of contract.
12. BRITISH DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. You feed them sheep brains and they go mad. The government doesn't do anything.
13. EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY: You have two cows. At first the government regulates what you can feed them and when you can milk them. Then it pays you not to milk them. After that it takes both, shoots one, milks the other and pours the milk down the drain. Then it requires you to fill out forms accounting for the missing cows.
14. CAPITALISM: You have two cows. You sell one and buy a bull.
15. HONG KONG CAPITALISM: You have two cows. You sell three of them to your publicly-listed company. using letters of credit opened by your brother-in-law at the bank. then execute a debt-equity swap with associated general offer so that you get all four cows back, with a tax deduction for keeping five cows. The milk rights of six cows are transferred via a Panamanian intermediary to a Cayman Islands company secretly owned by the majority shareholder, who sells the right to all seven cows' milk back to the listed company. The annual report says that the company owns eight cows. with an option on one more. Meanwhile, you kill the two cows because of bad feng shui.
16. LESBIANISM: You have two cows. They get married and adopt a veal calf.
17. TOTALITARIANISM: You have two cows. The government takes them and denies they ever existed. Milk is banned.
18. MALE CHAUVINISM: You have two cows. You're married to one and the other is your mother in law.
19. POLITICAL CORRECTNESS: You are associated with (the concept of ownership is a symbol of the phallogocentric, warmongering, intolerant past) two differently aged (but no less valuable to society) bovines of non-specified gender.
20. COUNTERCULTURE: Wow; dude. there's like these two cows. man. You have got to have some of this milk.
21. SURREALISM: You have two giraffes. The government requires you to take harmonica lessons.

## THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner, In the five years I've lived here I haven't yet visited Colchester castle and museum, or the zoo! Yet I know they are fascinating, fun places that draw visitors from all over the country. I don't think I'm unusual in this, often it's easy to take for granted people who we see regularly or places on our doorstep. It's easy too to be negative, or run down places or people we know. This came to my mind during the recent Ofsted inspection of S Mary's school. Here were four complete strangers coming in to find out everything they could about the place, and you can't get more thorough than an Ofsted inspector! And what did they find? Actually as I write it's still confidential, but look at the evidence yourself, and while we're at it include St George's school too.

Ardleigh and Bromley children have a good reputation for arriving at secondary schools with a good knowledge base and attitude. A high percentage of children live outside of the catchment

areas. That means parents choose to drive here because they judge the schools to be the best in the area. I'm not a great fan of the regular testing and even less of the league tables (when 1 child can represent 15% of the figures statistically they are very dubious) but the schools are up there holding their own. Both schools have this year been given government achievement awards for raising standards. Both are well equipped, friendly places where all the staff know all the children, and both children and staff enjoy being there, well most of the time!

All of this, and there's more, but I'm not sure if you'd pick it up from village people or even at the school gate. It'll be the negatives and moans, some of which are seven, eight years old! Surely by now we all know the incredible time and devotion it takes being a teacher. They're all in at 8am and seldom leave before 5pm, often taking work home; weekends and the "holidays" are often spent in planning and preparation. In other words it's a normal busy job!

Michael Moore writes in *Stupid White Men* - "Teachers, thank you so much for devoting your life to my Child. Is there ANYTHING I can do to help YOU? Is there ANYTHING you need? I am here for you. Why? Because you are helping my child - MY BABY- learn and grow. Not only will you be largely responsible for her ability to make a living, but your influence will greatly affect how she views the world, what she knows about other people in this world, and how she will feel about herself. I want her to believe she can attempt anything that no doors are closed and that no dreams are too distant. I am entrusting the most valuable person in my life to you for seven hours each day. You, are thus, one of the most important people in my life! Thank you!"

I don't have a child, but I want to say thank you teachers because these are the ones who are going to be running the world when I'm looking for retirement! I expect that making a decision about where to educate a child is one of the more difficult ones parents have to make. We are most fortunate in these parishes in our schools, let us celebrate that and let it be known.

*Fr Nicolas*

## Services for JULY

2nd	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
3rd		<b>S Thomas</b>	
	10.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
4th	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
5th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 6th</b>		<b>Trinity 3</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
7th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
9th	6.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>Hamilton Lodge</i>
10th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
11th		<b>S Benedict</b>	
	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
12th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 13th</b>		<b>Trinity 4</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
14th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
16th	9.30am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
17th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
18th	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
19th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 20th</b>		<b>Trinity 5</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Youth Service	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
21st	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
24th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
25th		<b>S James</b>	
	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
26th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 27th</b>		<b>Trinity 6</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
28th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
30th	9.30am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
31st		<b>S Ignatius</b>	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>

### WHERE DO YOU MEET?

There is much space given on the news and in local papers when facilities to an area close down - usually through lack of use by the very people they are there to serve. Great Bromley, despite being a small village, is luckier than most and boasts a school, a church, three pubs, a village hall, a mobile library and a Post Office Stores. Little Bromley has a pub but no longer has its Post Office Stores and more recently in our neighbouring village Frating its PO/Stores closed through lack of support.

The village hall hosts a wide variety of events throughout the year, some in aid of its own funds. It is also used for the benefit of other local organisations as well as being a venue for meetings for large companies - who hasn't seen the amazing gaggle of gas vans? - as well as for culture in the form of concerts, drama etc. The hall is constantly being refurbished and up-dated with the new Millennium Room adding to its impressive facilities.

A mobile library visits both villages every Thursday - Great Bromley Back Lane 9.20 - 9.30am. Chase Road 9.35-9.45am and Little Bromley Shop Road 9.55- 10.05am. The length of time it stops apparently reflects the number of users so I assume there cannot be many but what a shame if we were to lose it. Colchester Library are offering to help set up a reading group (see page 5) within Gt Bromley. We should not turn the offer down so do make an effort and contact them.

The Post Office Stores is another focal meeting point as well as being essential. It is a convenience store which caters amply for our day to day living needs. Offers a paper delivery service as well as a wide range of magazines in the shop. Has stationery items and some luxury items such as CDs etc. A dry cleaning service is also offered. PLUS it has the Post Office. The Post Office has recently introduced new functions which are an important facility for rural communities. They now offer an automated banking service for customers with an Alliance 8; Leicester, Barclays and Lloyds TSB current account, or who have a basic bank account (with Abbey National, Bank of Ireland, Bank of Scotland, Clydesdale Bank, Co-operative Bank, First Trust, Halifax, HSBC, Lloyds TSB, Nationwide, NatWest, Northern Bank, Royal Bank of Scotland, Ulster Bank and Yorkshire Bank) or a new Post Office card account. With all these accounts using bank cards and a PIN system cash can be withdrawn over the counter. The PO is also able to take debit cards for payment of stamps, BT bills, DVLA and TV licences with other products soon to be joining this list. Government pensions, benefits (such as child allowance etc.) and some tax credits can be paid into one of the above bank accounts or the new Post Office card account for withdrawal over the counter.

We have all these wonderful facilities in our midst. We do not need to go miles to Colchester, Manningtree, or wherever unnecessarily. **USE THEM OR LOSE THEM!** *Leonie Henderson*

### NEWS FROM ARDLEIGH SURGERY

**Dr Gunawardena heads for Peru** The GP Registrar at Ardleigh Surgery, Dr Sayomi Gunawardena, will be participating in the St Helena Hospice Trek to Peru 12th to 21st September. The Trek group will be following the Inca Trail which includes very different terrain from high desert plateau to tropical rainforest. Their ultimate destination is Machu Picchu, the "Lost City" of the Incas. If you would like to sponsor, Sayomi to help raise funds for the St Helena Hospice, there is a collection pot on the surgery counter.

**Practice Nurse changes** Practice Nurse Catherine Caumont has left Ardleigh Surgery to work closer to home at Wimpole Road surgery, Colchester. We are pleased to have appointed Catherine Arter who will be joining the practice on the 7 August. We have also appointed Janet Burgess as a Phlebotomist who will be taking blood every morning for an hour to free up nurse appointments.

**Surgery moving towards 'paper light' organisation** In common with a number of other surgeries, we are progressing towards making as much use of the practice clinical computer system. This means that GPs and Nurses are recording consultations on the computer rather than in the medical record. Referral letters are being saved on the computer and since February we have been receiving some pathology results from the hospital electronically via the NHSnet. The next phase starting later this year will be the scanning of letters received from the hospital on to the computer which are then attached to the individual patient medical record.

*Fred Merrin, Practice Manager*

## DANCE

to  
Tom Collins Jazz Band  
at  
Gt Bromley Village Hall  
on  
20th September  
7.30pm till late



Tickets from:  
Dean Dasley or Beryl Hurst  
*In aid of Village Hall Funds*

## Great Bromley & Frating Playgroup Table Top Sale

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September  
2-4 pm

Great Bromley Village hall

Tables booked in advance £5 or £7 on  
the day, all bookings contact Penny on  
01206 251937.



Cakes,  
Refreshments,  
Tombola and much  
much more, come  
and support your  
local Playschool!

## SPONSORED STROLL

in Rendlesham Forest  
3 or 6 miles  
Sunday 28th September  
Meet at the car park (off Orford  
Road)



*In aid of Village Hall  
Funds*



## CRICKET CLUB QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 11th October  
at 7.30p.m.  
in Gt. Bromley Village  
Hall.

## MINI-FETE

Saturday 9<sup>TH</sup> August  
WATERHOUSE FARM  
Waterhouse Lane, Ardleigh  
10.30am until 2.30pm  
VARIOUS STALLS  
Including: Caro's Mini Market,  
Tombola etc, Things to Buy  
PLUS



FUN AND GAMES FOR  
THE CHILDREN  
REFRESHMENTS  
ALL WELCOME

*All proceeds for Church Funds*

Please come and support our  
**CAR RALLY**

on  
Sunday, 31st August  
At 2.00 pm  
Starting from Gt  
Bromley Village  
Hall  
£5 per car



Tea and biscuits  
at the end of your journey  
Raffle

*In aid of Village Hall Funds*

## GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

### B-B-Q and Disco

23rd August  
at the Cricket Ground  
12 noon 40 overs a side cricket  
match  
6.00pm Colts & Terriers cricket  
matches  
7.00pm Food served  
followed by  
**Disco**  
in the Village Hall  
Tickets £6 per adult, £3  
per child  
From Katherine Foley  
(251780) or Lynda Allam (230375)



## FLOWER FESTIVAL

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH  
6th—8th September  
Saturday, 6th 10am-4.30pm  
Sunday, 7th 11.30am-5.00pm  
Monday, 8th 10am-4.00pm (sale  
of flowers)



Stalls, barbecue, raffle,  
music in church,  
tombola, teddy bears'  
parachute jump from  
tower, children's  
competitions

Teas  
Admission £1.50  
(accompanied children free)  
Ample parking

## SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

### Forthcoming Events

**Tuesday 30th September** Talk by Claire Macdonald at Marks Tey Village Hall  
For further details please contact Barbara Bolton  
(01206 392520)

**Tuesday 7th October** Autumn Sale at Gt Bromley Village Hall

**Thursday 13th November** Coffee Morning at Seven Rivers  
Further details of all these events can also be obtained from the Home.

## ROTARY CLUB OF BRIGHTLINGSEA & DISTRICT

A new year has just started in Rotary; in fact 2005 will be 100 years since its inception. We have just given away all the funds, collected during 2002/2003, that were left. £300 went to each of the following: Salvation Army, Brightlingsea Scouts towards refurbishing their Hut, RNLI - Harwich, St Helena Hospice and Parkinson's Disease aid. The Essex Air Ambulance has done well this year as we have already contributed 50% towards some diagnostic kit costing £5,600 and we are about to donate another £4,000.

During the year we have promoted a stone garden for the disabled at Canterbury, Ability Net - gear to make using computers easier to use by the disabled, a training course for a local person to learn sign language and last month we had a walk for "Make-a-Wish" which raised about \$400. "Where does the money come from?" you may well ask. YOU THE PUBLIC is the answer. We have a sleigh and Father Christmas with which we do a door to door collection, we had a race night, a Sale of the Century and a golf day. The British people do give generously to charity. Sometimes there appears to be too much collecting for the myriad of charities out there, but Rotary tries to give you something for your money, and now you know where it all went. *Len Christodoulides*

## SAFER JOURNEYS TO SCHOOL

The response to the survey was very good - 44 parents and 19 residents. There were lots of written, very credible comments as well. These have all been collated and debated. All the measures are to be implemented, except the footprints, subject to the required statutory procedures where these are relevant. We shall never be able to satisfy everyone in these circumstances; the work aims to be completed by the beginning of the autumn term. The philosophy of the Essex scheme is not only to reduce indiscriminate parking, thereby causing potential for an accident, and the awareness of the 30mph speed limit but also to encourage parents to share cars, and for children to walk or bike to school in order to reduce pollution. This process will be ongoing with certain aspects of safer journeys becoming part of the policy and curriculum at the school

## Age Concern Essex advice and information service

Getting older? Need information on services, benefits and activities available? Age Concern Essex can help! We have a telephone advice and information service that specialises in issues that affect older people and is confidential, free and impartial. If you want to know such things as how to get a 100th birthday message from the Queen, the arrangements for paying for care, or where to get a blue badge, ask us. Elizabeth, Alan and Joy are available on 01245 264499 or 01245 346106, Monday-Friday from 9.30am to 4.30pm. You can also e-mail us or write to 112 Springfield Road, Chelmsford CM2 6LF. We welcome calls from all older people.

## WEA ARDLEIGH BRANCH

The course for the Autumn Term 2003 will be "Mohammed, Charlemagne and the Birth of Europe." The tutor will be Mr Christopher Thompson who is an experienced W.E.A. and Open University lecturer and who regularly teaches, in our area, courses on local history, early modern history and European history. This exciting course looks at the end of the world of Classical Antiquity in the fifth and sixth centuries AD. when the barbarian invasions of Western Europe overwhelmed the late-Roman Empire. We shall look at the survival of Byzantium in the East and its long-running wars with Persia. The rise of Islam, which partly severed the connections between the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean, in the seventh century will be a major point of focus. The religious complexities of the period between 400 and 800 AD. and the emergence of the Catholic Church as the dominant body in Western Europe will be examined. Then we shall look at the emergence of new kingdoms like those of the Franks and Lombards as well as those of the Angles, Saxons and Jutes in the British Isles. Finally, we shall look at the foundation of the Holy Roman Empire and its role in the creation of a new Europe.

The venue is Ardleigh Village Hall which has access for the disabled. The first of ten lectures (which is free) will be held on Thursday, 25th September and the final one will be on 27th November - no half-term. Times are 2.30pm to 4.15pm including a tea break.

Full Fees £26 per term; Concessions £22 (State retirement age); Unemployed - no charge. Please phone 01206 250263 to reserve a place.



### READING GROUP BOOK CLUB

The Mobile Library visits Great & Little Bromley every Thursday but would you like to join a reading group/book club in Great Bromley? Andrew Fitch of Colchester Library is keen to encourage and support reading groups in east Essex and is wanting and offering to help start up local rural groups. He has the know-how as to how to start up such groups - he just needs to know who would like to join. Venue and timing can be worked out after that. If you are interested please contact him on 01206 24590.

### THANK YOU

We would like to thank all those who supported our Garage/Yard Sale at Wheatsheaf Cottage on 5 July. We didn't get crowds of people, but those who did come were very generous and we raised £70 in total. This means Tendring Cats Protection and Wildlives Rescue Centre at Thorrington will each get a cheque for £35 - so many thanks indeed! *Claire & Paul Quilter.*

### FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our June meeting Mrs Barbara Hill, a representative from Sainsburys, made her talk very mouth-watering with the variety of "tasters" she handed round - non-fattening but nutritional! 21st August is our next meeting and the competition is - A BELT. *Vicky Griffiths*

### GREAT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUPE

We are always on the lookout for new ideas for fundraising so anyone with any suggestions please speak to any member of staff or committee member. We have had a very busy term and we have been learning about Frogs, Tadpoles, Octopuses, Worms, Fish, Caterpillars, Butterflies and Seahorses. Our summer outing to Walton by a train was a really good day out and all enjoyed it. On our last day of term we had a summer fun and games morning followed by a picnic. The children had a wonderful morning and it was a really nice way to finish for the summer holiday break. We sadly said goodbye to Jade, Emily, Frank and Chloe. They are all starting school in September and we wish them good luck. Enjoy your summer break and we look forward to seeing you all back in September. **IMPORTANT DATES:** Return to playschool- Monday 15th September Table Top Sale- Saturday 27th September Playschool AGM - October 2003 (Date to follow in due course)

### CARPET BOWLS

We continue to hold our weekly club evenings through the summer and attendances have been good. Two weekend competitions have been entered recently the Fours tournament for the Weeley Trophy, in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind, was at the end of June and is run on similar lines to our own Brumbella Cup. In that, our team of Jayne, Linda, Derek and Andrew got right through to the final to lose by only 2 shots to Walton. A splendid effort and well done to them. On 6th July Joe, Pam, Andrew and Derek visited Gt Bentley for another charity competition, this time for Essex Wildlife but managing to win only one of their five games. They enjoyed their day anyway and that is the essence of the whole game of bowls. With two more matches left in the Summer League we find ourselves at the top, but a few more results are yet to come in so we will just have to wait and see if we can stay there. Good to see Dick Wilsher playing regularly again after his spell of illness earlier in the year. We wish him good health from now on. *Nancy Kempster*

### GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

#### 100 CLUB WINNERS FOR JUNE

1st. Mr. David Goss, 2nd Mr. James Wild. 3rd. Mr. Simon Presney.

Forthcoming events:

Cricket Club Quiz Night, Saturday 11th October, 7.30pm. Gt Bromley Village Hall.

### **FLOWER FESTIVAL**

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH  
6th—8th September



#### **TOMBOLA**

Please if anyone is able to donate a tombola prize please contact Corina, The Thatched Cottage, Brook Street, Great Bromley (01206 230977)

The Vineyard Delicatessen  
23-24 Eld Lane  
Colchester  
Essex

Tel/Fax: 01206 573363

*Purveyors of fine food and wine*

FROM OLIVES TO ANCHOVIES, WE HAVE A FULL RANGE OF FOOD AND WINE FROM AROUND THE WORLD FOR EVERY OCCASION.

WE PREPARE HAMS, TERRINES, PATES AND MUCH MORE IN OUR OWN KITCHENS USING ONLY THE FINEST NATURAL PRODUCE

WE STOCK A RANGE OF RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

## ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL

**PARENT GOVERNORS** - Three nominations for the parent governor vacancies were received. As a result Mrs. N. Robinson, Mr. N. Fortescue and Mr. L. Conway were elected unopposed.

**ACTIVITIES** - Two very successful outings took place in July. The younger classes visited Parkeston Quay and the older years had an action packed day at Mersea Youth Camp. The weather was especially kind to us this year for these trips and also for the Rounders Rally, where St. George's came 3rd, and Sports Day. With the large number of pupils on roll more heats had to be run for each race. Amazingly in the hot sun the children still ran their hearts out and the "Scott" house won the day.

**VACANCIES** - We are looking for a Mid-day Assistant for five hours per week - contact the school office for more information. Also extra helpers in the classroom are always needed to assist with a variety of activities. So if you have a little spare time, please contact the school. You do not need to have a skill in a particular area, we will train you!

**FUND RAISING** - This year through the generosity of parents and friends the school has supported the following charities:- UNICEF, Leukaemia Research Fund, Marie Curie Cancer Research, Poppy Appeal, Comic Relief, Colchester Fire Swim and of course, the St. George's C of E school. And finally, our best wishes go to the Year 6 pupils who will be moving on to the following schools: Manningtree High School 12 Colne Community School 8 Gilberd School 2 St. Benedict's College 1, East Bergholt High School 2. School will reopen on Thursday, 4th September at 8.45pm

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### AUGUST

- 9 Mini-Fete, Waterhouse Farm, Ardleigh, 10.30am
- 14 Ct Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 23 Cricket Club 8-8-0 and Disco at Cricket Ground, from 12 noon
- 31 Car Rally, starting from Village Hall, 2.00pm

### SEPTEMBER

- 2 The Bromleys Parochial Church Council meeting, 7.00pm
- 2 Village Hall committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6-8 Flower Festival, St George's Church, Ct Bromley
- 11 Ct Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20 Tom Collins Dance Band, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21 Guide Dogs for the Blind service, St Marys Church, Lawford, 3.00pm
- 25 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 25 WEA course starts, Ardleigh Village Hall, 2.30pm.
- 26 Harvest Barn Dance, Ardleigh Village Hall
- 27 Playgroup Table Top Sale, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 28 Sponsored Stroll in Rendlesham Forest (see Village Hall report)
- 30 Talk by Claire Macdonald, Marks Tey Village Hall

### OCTOBER

- 5 Harvest Lunch, Village Hall, 12.20pm
- 7 Autumn Sale, Village Hall
- 11 Cricket Club Quiz, Village Hall, 7.30pm

### NOVEMBER

- 29 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall
- 13 Coffee Morning, Seven Rivers Cheshire Home

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the invitation of Jill Frostick we spent our July meeting, which coincides with our birthday, in her lovely garden. The weather could have been better but in between a couple of light showers, there was plenty to do such as croquet, bowls, badminton or just wandering around the garden. Later, we had refreshments including a very nice chocolate birthday cake made by Pippa Hardy and then the raffle. The competition, "a posy of flowers" was won by Joyce Golding with Beryl Hurst and Annette Wenden. "Flower of the month" was won by Beryl Hurst. Ann Jones closed the evening by expressing thanks on behalf of the members to Jill Frostick. This month, August, we have our annual outing and are going by coach to Bury St Edmunds. There are still a few seats available on the trip if anyone would like to join us, please ring for details and booking. *June Willgress*

## KITCHEN CORNER

### **STUFFED COURGETTES**

6 large courgettes ; 1 onion, chopped; 2 cloves garlic, chopped ; 5 tbsp olive oil  
8oz (220g) high quality sausage meat ; 4oz (110g) fresh brown or white breadcrumbs  
1½ oz (45g) pine kernels; 1½ oz (45g) currants ; 1 level teasp ground cinnamon;  
1 level teasp cumin; 2 tbsp chopped parsley; 1 egg, beaten; 3 tbsp tomato puree;  
1½ tbsp castor sugar; 1 tbsp red or white wine vinegar; 7 ½ fl oz (220 ml) water  
Salt and pepper

Cut courgettes in half lengthwise.

Remove centre leaving sturdy shells for stuffing.

Sprinkle insides with salt and turn upside down to drain.

Chop up the insides. Fry onion, garlic, courgette innards in 2 tbsp olive oil until tender and translucent without browning.

Mix thoroughly with sausage meat, - breadcrumbs, pine kernels, currants, spices, parsley, salt and pepper. Add enough egg to bind without becoming sloppy.

Fill courgette shells with the mixture, mounding it slightly. Arrange snugly in oiled ovenproof dish. Mix tomato puree with sugar, vinegar and water and pour around. Drizzle remaining oil over the top.

Bake 190C/357F/Gas Mk 5 for 40-45 minutes, basting occasionally with juices till shells are tender. Serve hot, warm or cold.

## GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Report of a Great Bromley Parish Council meeting held on 17th July, 2003

**PLANNING DECISIONS** Tendring District Council has approved the following planning applications: "Sept Annee", Back Lane East: construction of pitched roofs over existing extension and garage and canopy roof.

Hazels Ltd. Harwich Road: retention of portacabin for office use until 30 June 2005

RAF tower, Hillyards Road: additional panel and dish antenna.

Tendring District Council has refused the following planning application: Barn adjacent to Portlands, Harwich Rd renewal of temporary living accommodation.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS** The Council considered and agreed no objections to the following planning applications: 1 Alma Cottages, Briar Road: Conservatory. 3 Manor Cottages, Mary Lane South: Two storey extension. Park Farm. Hillyards Road: Amend eaves height (of an agricultural building), close access and new planting.

The Council considered and notified the District Council of its objections to the following planning applications: 2 Hall Cottages. Hall Road: To increase width of existing road access; Primrose Farm, Hall Road: Outline planning for a new farm manager's dwelling.

**Highways** Officers of the Essex County Council Highways Department will attend the Council meeting on 11 September and answer questions. The Council shares residents' concern at motorists exceeding speed limits throughout the village and which sometimes lead to accidents. The Council continues to press the police and county highways department to take appropriate action to ensure the safety of pedestrians and road users. The Council believes that, following its representations to the district council, highways cleaning is improving.

**Hare Green recreation field** A timber "ball wall" will be installed shortly. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents has carried out a safety inspection of the playground equipment and reported some minor defects. The Council has instructed a specialist contractor to undertake remedial work.

**Future meetings** The next two meetings of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on 14 August and 11 September 2003 at the Village Hall. - KB 18/07/03

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL next meet on 25th September at 7.30pm. Please contact the Clerk as to the venue.

## MINI-FETE Saturday 9TH August WATERHOUSE FARM

TOMBOLA Pat and Keith Hughes would be very pleased if people could make a donation to their tombola stall at the Waterhouse Farm Fete. Boxes have been put at the back of both St Georges and St Marys to collect any bottles, toiletries, jewellery, photoframes, unwanted small gifts etc. but with respect no bric-a-brac or out of date produce, and will be collected, regularly up until the 8th August. Thank you in anticipation and looking forward to seeing you all on the 9th.

## GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

So how do we have a village hall and cricket ground? Way back in the 1920s the Hall was built by and on land of Percy Crossman. His son, Douglas Peter Crossman, in 1946 conveyed the land and buildings to be held on charitable trusts for the benefit of the inhabitants of Great Bromley, in memory of his father. In 1966, a Deed of Appointment was drawn up and in 1967 a Trust Deed was established whereas the Parish Council became the "Custodian Trustee" and the "Committee of Management" are the administering trustees. Later in 1967, a Deed of Rectification amended the wording of part of the Trust Deed. It is the 1967 Trust Deed as amended that is followed today and we are a charity registered with the Charity Commission. The Village Hall has no endowments, all income must come from lettings, fund raising, grants, donations and the like. We are fortunate in having many regular booking throughout the year. However the Committee has to fund raise and we are very appreciative of other supporters who raise money and donate to us. In the last couple of years the Parish Council has also helped us with the cost of some repairs and upgrades carried out at the Hall, for which we are very grateful.

Our income for the last financial year was about £13,700 and from that we have to meet all day to day running costs, repairs, insurance together with upgrading the premises to meet modern day standards and expectations We need to meet health, safety and statutory requirements for the licensing of the premises for public entertainment, we also pay a fee to the Performing Right Society. The committee at their meeting in June, after reviewing the Hall Hire Charges, decided an increase from 1st September, 2003 was necessary (the first for two years!)

Vera Biddis is organising a Car Treasure Hunt for Sunday, 31st August, starting at 2.00pm from the Village Hall, £5 per car. - There will be a raffle, cup of tea and biscuit at the finish. Will you support this event?

On 20th September, Tom Collins Jazz Band will provide the music. for a dance at the Hall, 7.30pm till late, tickets are available from either Dean Dasley or Beryl Hurst. Maybe you like walking, then perhaps a sponsored stroll in Rendlesham Forest of 3 or 6 miles on Sunday, 28th September would suit you. Meet at the car part (off Orford Road), toilets and picnic area available.

The next committee meeting is on Tuesday, 2nd September at 7.30pm in the Hall.

*Bevan Willgress*

## GARDENER'S CORNER FOR AUGUST

Shrubs: There is still time to take semi- hard cuttings of flowering shrubs including Hydrangea, Ceanothus, Escallonia and Wisteria can be layered. Chrysanthemums: Keep well supported and tied in. Continue to disbud. Feed and keep watered pot grown plants outside. Lilies: Towards the end of the month propagate lilies from bulblets. *Frank Griffiths*

## CROSS INN EVENTS for AUGUST

MUSIC NIGHT Wednesday, 27th 8.00 pm start Sing, play or watch and enjoy

CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT Thursday, 28th 8.30 pm start for LEONARD CHESHIRE SEVEN RIVERS HOME. Teams of 4, £2.50 per head (incl. light supper)

## THE PCC OF THE BROMLEYS

The PCC met on 19th June and discussed the following issues:-

**Finance Report** The financial position is deteriorating with the consequent result that there is a deficit compared to budget of £223. £230 has been received from Little Bromley Parish Council towards the cost of grass cutting. The recent Gift Day produced a very disappointing result of £180. However, further monies are still being received. It was suggested that more publicity be given to encourage people to complete Standing Orders and that we publish running costs so that everyone is aware of how monies are Spent.

**Maintenance Plan** There is a requirement for the Repair Committee to have a Maintenance Plan and a draft document was considered and, subject to minor change, adopted by the PCC. It was agreed that a notice should be pinned to the notice board stating that the First Aid Box is located under the Tower.

**Fabric** There are on-going problems with sub-standard work carried out in repairing the West Window and the Diocesan Legal Adviser is to be approached for guidance. Plaster has fallen from the inside wall near the north east corner of the north aisle and around the priest's door. The Conservator will be asked to take a look when he comes as part of the investigation work that is shortly to take place in connection with the next stage of roof repairs.

Scaffolding, to enable the investigation work to be carried out. is due to be erected on 7th July. It is unclear as to how long it will be required albeit it will need to be removed before weddings take place in late August.

**Room and Toilet Facilities** A meeting took place in the Church on 5th June between Church representatives, the Architect and members of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC), There was general agreement with the proposed siting of the room and toilet. albeit some modifications to the layout were suggested. It was agreed that a further meeting should be held to include a representative from English Heritage, and the DAC will include the project on the agenda for their next meeting.

**Tendring Show** A church tent will be at the Tendring Show. Other churches within both St. Osyth and Harwich Deaneries will also be taking part. There is to be a service of celebration on 11th July at 6.30pm to 7.15pm at the Show Ground.

**Fete** Mike and Mary Raper have offered to host a fete on Saturday 9th August from 11.00am to 2.30pm, the proceeds to be split equally between St. George's and St. Mary's. Ardleigh PCC has offered to organise a bookstall, a Trade Craft stall and tombola. Ideas are being sought as to other attractions.

**Flower Festival** A meeting was held on 5th June to discuss arrangements for the Flower Festival.

**Youth Services** There is to be a Youth Service at 6.30pm at Lawford Church on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June and St. Georges is hosting a further such service at 6.30pm on 20th July.

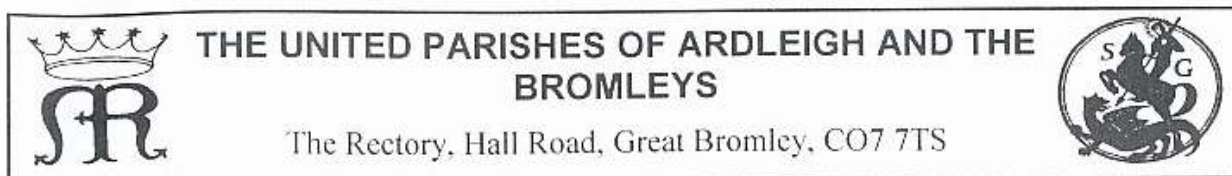
**Parish Assistant** The PCC agreed to fund half the cost of such a post. Initially, a person would be sought to undertake two hours work a week. Ardleigh PCC has yet to agree to fund the other 50% Sharon Stephenson has agreed to continue editing the Parish Magazine up to Christmas.

**Children's Report** A request has been made for a sound system to be installed in the tower room at St. Mary's Church so that the children can hear the service at the same time as they participate in Sunday Church Club. Amanda Watts is organising a competition for the Flower Festival and children will be coming into Church from St. George's School at 2.30pm. on the Monday. The flowers are to be sold off at 3.30pm.

**School Governors' Report** Mrs. Davis is leaving at the end of the year. Mrs. Godsell is expecting a baby and will be taking maternity leave.

**Archdeacon's Report - Ministry** The PCC discussed issues contained in the Archdeacon's Report albeit it is difficult to make recommendations for future ministry without knowing what is happening throughout the remainder of the Deanery.

**Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2nd September 2003 at 7.30pm in the Rectory.



### THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner

It used to be said that the C of E went on holiday during August and after the last few weeks publicity I think that may be a good idea. It is never good when family matters are aired in public and not very edifying when its Christians doing the arguing. Part of the issue with the C of E is that the media quite rightly say if you still wish to be The Church of the land then we've a right to publish what is going on. In all of this Canon Jeffery John, who appears to be the only one to come out of the debacle with his integrity intact, deserves our prayer and praise. The Church of England in her latest teaching on sexuality upholds Marriage as the rightful place for sex, as a consequence of a man and woman living faithfully together for life. and as a result of which children may be born and nurtured. For gay and lesbian people who do not feel called to abstain from sex, the Church encourages them to lifelong, full. and loving partnerships. The Church then places the discipline on her gay and lesbian clergy to be celibate, ie abstain from sexual relationships.

To all her members the Church calls for love and compassion, for an end to prejudice, particularly homophobia, and encourages congregations to be welcoming and supportive of all people regardless of their sexuality and state of life. Canon John's crime seems to have been that he has challenged the discipline of the Church as being inconsistent, but he has declared

(more than any other candidate has ever been required to do) that he is celibate and observes the disciplines of the Church. Indeed those who have spoken out against homosexuality are the ones not in line with the Church of England's teaching. We preach that all fall short of the perfection that is God, but thankfully he understands that and is forgiving. All he asks in return of those who receive his unconditional love is that we love Him, ourselves and our brothers and sisters. On August 15th we celebrate that when Mary died she was taken straight up into heaven as a Sign to all humanity that their destiny can be heaven too. That is the Christian hope which the congregations here try to live and demonstrate. May we be blessed in that, may you be blessed in your: response to Love as well. *Fr Nicolas.*

Diary dates August 15th 7pm In St Mary's Ardleigh Patronal festival- preacher Fr Ernie Stroud former Archdeacon Of Colchester. 17th - 10.30am Celebration for the 120th anniversary of the re-dedication of S Mary's Ardleigh - preacher Fr Graham Leonard, former Parish Priest. September 2nd - 7pm The Bromleys Parochial Church Council. 6th-8th - Flower festival 26th - Harvest Barn dance in Ardleigh Village hall. 28th - 6.30pm Harvest evensong in S Mary's little Bromley October 5th - 10.30am Harvest thanksgiving in S George's Great Bromley. 12.20am Harvest lunch in Gt Bromley Village hall.

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY  
*united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh*



**SERVICES FOR AUGUST**

1st	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
2nd	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 3rd		<b>7th Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
4th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
6th		<b>Feast of the Transfiguration</b>	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
7th	10.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
8th	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
9th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 10th		<b>8th Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
15th		<b>Assumption of our Lady</b>	
	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
16th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 17th		<b>9th Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
18th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
20th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
21st	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
22nd	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
23rd	9.00am	The Eucharist & Rosary	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 24th		<b>10th Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
25th	12 noon	Sick & Handicapped Pilgrimage at Walsingham	
27th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
28th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
29th		<b>Beheading of John the Baptist</b>	
	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
30th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
Sunday 31st		<b>11th Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	7.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>



**BALMY DAYS**

At the back of my childhood home in Sussex was a 50 acre field. At harvest time as children in the early 1950s we played amongst the stooks as they awaited collection. Later we built bale houses which became more complicated as we got older. Such joys are all very transient like sand castles by the sea. Haystacks were built by our back gate and from a willow tree in our garden elder sister taught me to climb up and onto the stacks. She used to jump from one to another but I wasn't big enough. My mother was furious when she discovered these antics. The school summer holidays and the summer recesses both in Parliament and the Courts were all timed to enable as many people as possible to take part in the harvest. The land owners returned to their estates and large numbers of those living in cities left the bright lights to work in the country for hop and fruit picking, where they could breathe the fresh air and see the sky in all its glory by day and by night the only light to spoil their view of the stars being the "village lantern" depending upon her fullness. As a consequence most city dwellers had a greater contact and understanding of the countryside than they appear to have today. Harvest is a wonderful time. It is the fruition of one's labours with the added satisfaction of having seen the full cycle of seasons. The fields transform from green to golden. The combine harvester is now master of all as it majestically sweeps the field and the horses and thresher of my memories are relegated to museums. There is that distinctive smell of warm, cut straw on hot sunny days. The butterflies and damsel and dragonflies are in abundance - this year more so than most - and there have been small clouds of them in our garden and paddocks along with the lazy late summer sound of grasshoppers and crickets. The fruit is ripening on trees and in the hedgerow and Nature's bounty is waiting to be collected to see us through the cold months of the year.

*Leonie Henderson*



## FLOWER FESTIVAL

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH  
6th—8th September

Saturday, 6th	10am-4.30pm
Sunday, 7th	11.30am-5.00pm
Monday, 8th	10am-4.00pm (sale of flowers)

Stalls   Barbecue   -   Raffle   Tombola

Music in church

Teddy bears' parachute jump from tower

Children's competitions

Teas



Admission £1.50 (accompanied children free)  
Ample parking



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## CELEBRATIONS OF THE HARVEST

Please bring offerings of groceries to Church for distribution to the Hospice & local Homes.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September**  
7.30pm Barn Dance in Ardleigh Village Hall  
Tickets from Church & Wendy 230314

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September**  
10.30am Harvest Eucharist in S Mary's Ardleigh  
6.30pm Harvest Evensong in S George's Great Bromley

**October 5<sup>th</sup>**  
10.30am Harvest Thanksgiving in S George's  
1pm Harvest Lunch In Great Bromley Village Hall  
6.30pm Harvest Evensong in S Mary's Ardleigh

**" Come ye thankful people, come"**

**THANKS**

June and myself would like to thank all those who helped, donated and supported the Coffee morning at "The Pippins", and who gave so generously enabling us to raise the magnificent sum of £515 towards Village Hall Funds. Many thanks. *Peter Wenden, Chairman of Village Hall Committee*

**READING GROUP BOOK CLUB**

Please note that the number given in the August Messenger with which to contact Andrew Fitch of Colchester Library if you are interested in joining a rural reading group in the village should be 01206 245900 and not as printed last month.

**MY LIFE - MY NEEDS PROJECT**

**TEEN TALK** (Harwich) and Tendring Adult Community College in Partnership Funded by Harwich Connexions. Would you like to learn basic computer skills? Would you like to improve your English? Do you need help with numeracy? Free courses by qualified tutors - want to know more? Every Tuesday 2.00-4.00pm Starting 17th September 17 Cliff Road, Dovercourt. All classes free, Free transport available from rural areas Phone 01255 504800

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### THE EAST WINDOW AT ST GEORGE'S

Maybe some day there will be a picture of an older East window which was installed before that given by the Graham family. The Revd Wm. Hall Graham was Rector of Gt Bromley, 1837-1858. His widow, Helen, and Arthur Etaugh Graham, his son, put in an East Window which was received and dedicated on 10th October, 1867. There was a brass plate to record the fact. On 25th September, 1944 the blast from a nearby German Flying Bomb smashed the window. In 1953 The Bishop of Barking dedicated the present East Window. It was designed by the Nicholson Stained Glass Studios, London and in July 1953 The War Damage Commission paid £906 2s. 6d. towards it. The inscription reads: "In remembrance of William Hall Graham, 20 years Rector of this parish, a window was placed here in 1867. Destroyed by a German bomb on September 25th, 1944 and replaced by the present window in 1953". It is clear why we see St Helena with St George - Helen was the devoted wife of Mr Graham.

*John Appleby*

### MINI-FETE Waterhouse Farm Saturday 9th Aug

Many thanks to all who attended and to those who worked so hard on the day to make this event such a success. Well done! Grateful thanks also to Deans, Blenheim and Craft Nurseries for their willing donations of plants, the Cross Inn for the loan of the Stocks and Simon Baines for the loan of "Splat the Rat", plus Carol Cordwell and Pat Swanston for the vintage vehicles. The proceeds of the day amounted to £1,160 which will be equally shared between St Georges and St Marys churches. These churches like all others are not centrally funded and rely solely on monies received through collections, appeals and events in the community to pay their way. Your support is therefore much appreciated. *Mike and Mary Raper*

### WEA ARDLEIGH BRANCH

The course for the Autumn Term 2003 will be "Mohammed, Charlemagne and the Birth of Europe" The tutor will be Mr Christopher Thompson who is an experienced W.E.A. and Open University lecturer and who regularly teaches, in our area, courses on local history, early modern history and European history.

This exciting course looks at the end of the world of Classical Antiquity in the fifth and sixth centuries AD. when the barbarian invasions of Western Europe overwhelmed the late Roman Empire. We shall look at the survival of Byzantium in the East and its long-running wars with Persia. The rise of Islam, which partly severed the connections between the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean, in the seventh century will be a major point of focus. The religious complexities of the period between 400 and 800 AD. and the emergence of the Catholic Church as the dominant body in Western Europe will be examined. Then we shall look at the emergence of new kingdoms like those of the Franks and Lombards as well as those of the Angles, Saxons and Jutes in the British Isles. Finally, we shall look at the foundation of the Holy Roman Empire and its role in the creation of a new Europe.

The venue is Ardleigh Village Hall which has access for the disabled. The first of ten lectures (which is free) will be held on Thursday, 25th September and the final one will be on 27th November - no half-term. Times are 2.30pm to 4.15pm including a tea break. Full Fees £26 per term; Concessions £22 (State retirement age); Unemployed - no charge. Please phone 01206 250263 to reserve a place.

### WEA GREAT BENTLEY BRANCH

You are invited to join us in Great Bentley Village Hall for the autumn series of talks. This autumn we have Lynn Porter talking to us about GOLD, to explore its history, geology and mining practices. During the first evenings there will be discussion about a field trip to a site of relevance; in previous visits we have gained entry to places which are not usually accessible to individuals. The first talk will be held in the Mitchell room of Gt Bentley Village Hall, which is easy to find since it is right by the level crossing, on Monday, 29th September. Please arrive early, just after 7.00pm to give time to register before the 8.00pm start. The fee will be £28 for the ten talks with reductions for senior citizens. Students and unemployed persons are not charged. For anyone who is hard of hearing the hall has the use of a "Hearing Loop".

We look forward to meeting you. *Michael Turner, Chairman*

### GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION

The Stour Valley Branch Guide Dogs for the Blind annual "Doggy Walk" was a very successful event with 20 dogs taking part. The 2½ mile walk was enjoyed by 20 dogs of all shapes and sizes



varying from Westies to an Old English Sheepdog. Two working guide dogs and two retired guide dogs joined the parties of walkers, the furthest having travelled from Bury St Edmunds. Despite early morning rain spirits were not dampened and the event raised over £500 for Guide dogs. Grateful thanks to everyone who supported in any way and we look forward to meeting for another walk next year.

The annual service celebrating the work of Guide Dogs for the Blind will take place on Sunday, 21st September, 3.00pm at St Marys Church, Lawford. Everyone is most welcome to join us for this joyous service which is followed by refreshments in the adjoining Church Hall.

#### GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

We are very grateful to Peter and June Wenden for organising and inviting us to their home and garden for a fund raising coffee morning and light lunches event during July. Many willing hands helped with the raffles, tombola, cake and flower stalls plus several games for all to try their hand. With brilliant weather in place and the support of lots of friends, an excellent time was enjoyed by the many people who attended the event. Thank you all very much. £515 was raised which the committee appreciates greatly.

Will you come and join Vera Biddis' Car Treasure Hunt on Sunday, 31st August starting at 2.00pm from the Village Hall, £5.00 per car? There will be a raffle, cup of tea and biscuits at journey's end. On 20th September the Tom Collins Jazz Band will provide the music for a Dance at the Hall, 7.30pm till late. Tickets are available from either Dean Dasley or Beryl Hurst. Maybe you like walking, then perhaps a sponsored stroll in Rendlesham Forest of 3 or 6 miles on Sunday, 28th September would suit you? Meet at the car park (off Orford Road) from 11.00am. Toilets and picnic area available. The next committee meeting is on 2nd September at 7.30pm in the Hall *Bevan Willgress*

#### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our outing to Bury St Edmunds last month was very successful, even though we chose one of the hottest days that anyone could remember! Some members found shade in the beautiful Abbey gardens. Others kept fairly cool by visiting the Cathedral and other churches or the exhibition in the Manor House. Everyone said that they had enjoyed the day. This month our speaker is Mrs G Tester, who will be telling us about "Clearing Clutter/Making Space". I think that I will, for one, benefit from some advice on that subject! If you feel interested do come along at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 3rd September in the Village Hall. You will be made to feel very welcome. *June Willgress*

#### FRIENDSHIP CLUB BERNARD'S HOLIDAY - ADVANCE NOTICE

Destination: Paignton Date: 17th - 23rd September, 2004. For a few years now Bernard, who is our regular driver From Kings Coaches on our outings, has arranged a holiday for the Friendship Club and friends. Anyone who has been on one of these holidays will know they are great FUN and worry free. No more searching through travel brochures, booking your tickets etc. BERNARD does it all. At the moment all you have to do is think it over and say "YES" - sit back and save your pennies (a £30 deposit payable in February, the balance at a later date). You will be picked up at your door - can't be bad! The holiday is open to anyone - the FULL price is £340. If you want a good day out try Southwold where we had our outing in July. The sun was shining, the sea was calm and it was a lovely lazy day, which included a salad tea provided by the ladies at the United Reform Church at Stowmarket.

We enjoyed the singing by "Just Me" at our last meeting. Look forward to seeing you on the 21st. GET WELL SOON to any of our members who are on the sick list. KEEP COOL! *Vicki Griffiths*

#### GARDENER'S CORNER FOR SEPTEMBER

**Shrubs:** Take semi hard cuttings of evergreens - conifers. holly. laurel and acuba. **Roses:** Keep dead heading - as necessary tie in new shoots on climbers **Chrysanthemums:** Take late flowering types into the greenhouse at the end of the month. Move stools of early types into a cold frame. **Carnations & Pinks:** Plant young border plants - pinch out growing tips **Bulbs:** Plant daffodil and narcissi bulbs. Pot up bulbs for indoor flowering. *Frank Griffiths*

#### CRICKET CLUB - 100 CLUB WINNERS for JULY

1st Mr. George Kempster. 2nd. Mr. Bryn Jones. 3rd. Mrs. Lyn Allam.

Cricket Club Quiz night is on Saturday 11th October at the Village hall. 7.30p.m. Please phone Phil Allam to book your team.

## KITCHEN CORNER

### **REDCURRANT BUNS**

This recipe makes 10 muffins or 16-18 small buns. Use greased bun tins or paper cases. 6oz.-170g plain flour; 2 teaSp baking powder ; 5oz/140g caster sugar; 2 eggs, separated; 8 tblsp sunflower oil; 6 tblsp milk; Juice and zest of half a lemon; 6oz/170 g prepared redcurrants; Creme fraiche, icing sugar, sprigs of currants to decorate.

Heat oven to 180C/350F, Gas Mark 6. Sift flour and baking powder into a bowl. Mix sugar, egg yolks, oil, milk, juice and zest of lemon together and stir into the flour. Whisk egg whites till stiff then fold into the mixture. Stir in the redcurrants and drop the mixture into the bun or muffin tins. Bake 15- 20 minutes. Cool on a wire rack, then dollop on a spoonful of creme fraiche and a few redcurrants. Dust with icing sugar before serving. I think this recipe would work well with other fruits such as blueberries. I am going to try it with blackberries. *Jill Frostick*

## Forthcoming Events

### SEPTEMBER

- 2 The Bromleys Parochial Church Council meeting, 7.00pm
- 2 Village Hall committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 3 WI meeting - "Clearing Clutter" Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6-8 Flower Festival, St George's Church, Gt Bromley
- 11 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
Essex County Highways Dept District Manager & Maintenance engineer present
- 13 Friends of Essex Churches Cycle Ride
- 17 My Life - My Needs Project starts at Dovercourt
- 18 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 20 Tom Collins Dance Band, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21 Guide Dogs for the Blind service, St Marys Church, Lawford, 3.00pm
- 25 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 25 WEA course starts, Ardleigh Village Hall, 2.30pm.
- 26 Harvest Barn Dance, Ardleigh Village Hall
- 27 Playgroup Table Top Sale, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 28 Sponsored Stroll in Rendlesham Forest
- 29 WEA course at Gt Bentley village hall, 7.00pm
- 30 Talk by Claire Macdonald, Marks Tey Village Hall

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

A programme of learning opportunities designed specifically for volunteers within the Tendring District to be held in Clacton and Harwich. Courses include: Roles & Responsibilities of committee members; Taking Minutes; Writing a successful grant application; Successful charity marketing; Recruitment & retention of volunteers; Listening skills & customer care; Writing a business plan; Health & Safety; moving and handling; Monitoring & evaluation; Positive communication & influencing skills; Organising a charity event; Presentation skills & public speaking; First aid appointed persons; Time management; Leadership skills - motivating your team; Let's put your newsletter together; Confident behaviour; Gaining a quality standard; Budgets and cashflows (incl. role of book-keeper/treasure); Team building/motivating your team; Roles & responsibilities of committee members; Volunteer support, supervision & appraisal; Chairing an effective meeting; Food hygiene foundation certificate.

Fees: The cost of all the courses is fixed at £5 for the first course and £10 for any subsequent courses. However volunteers are not expected to pay for these courses themselves.

Organisations can take this opportunity to send volunteers and staff on a unique heavily subsidised training programme specially centred for community groups. For further details contact Tendring Community Voluntary Services at Imperial House, Rosemary Road, Clacton-on-Sea CO15 1NZ




**Great Bromley & Frating Playgroup**  
**Table Top Sale**  
**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September**  
**2-4 pm**  
**Great Bromley Village hall**



**Tables booked in advance £5 or £7 on the day, all bookings contact Penny on 01206 251937.**

Cakes, Refreshments, Tombola and much much more, come and support your local Playschool!



**CRICKET CLUB QUIZ NIGHT**  
Saturday, 11th October  
at 7.30p.m.  
in Gt. Bromley Village Hall.  
Phone Phil Allam on 230375 to book your team

## CARPET BOWLS

This year the A.G.M. was brought forward to 6th August on account of holidays and prior arrangements by members. 14 people were present. The chairman reported a good year for attendance and achievement, Gt Bromley finishing second in the Summer League, to overall winners Tendring. Our financial situation is sound which bodes well for the immediate future, and the short agenda was soon dealt with. Essex rules are being changed slightly for the new season and they will be explained at the start in October. The newly elected committee for next year is:

Chairman - Pat Petchy; Secretary - Jayne Bates; Treasurer - Dick Wilsher;  
Captain - Andrew Childs; Vice-captain - Linda Francis.

Pam Frostick agreed to carry on running the catering. The date for our next Brumbella Cup Tournament is 13th March, 2004. Just before the meeting closed Pat Petchey announced the retirement of Ron Copp from the captaincy after 15 years in office. Arranging fixtures and selecting teams is no easy task and Ron was warmly thanked and applauded. On behalf of the Club Jayne Bates presented him with an inscribed tankard to mark the occasion.

*Nancy Kempster*

## THE FRIENDS OF ESSEX CHURCHES ANNUAL CYCLE RIDE

Saturday 13th September I have been participating in this for a few years now and I can thoroughly recommend it as a most enjoyable fun day out either on your own or with a group you are raising money at the same time with half of which going to the church of your choice. If you would like a sponsor form or if you have suggestions for routes to avoid the worst hills please let Susan Tilbrook or myself know. Nearer the time we will be asking for people to man our churches, so if you don't fancy cycling you could sit in church for an hour or so to welcome the cyclists of other churches. Whichever you do, I guarantee you'll meet lots of lovely people. *James Wild*

## READERS WRITE

### **From: James Heaney**

The Rector last month in his letter addressed the serious divisions within the Church of England which have been brought to light by the Canon John saga. In his letter he tells us that "the church encourages gay and lesbians who do not feel called to abstain from sex to have lifelong, full and loving partnerships". I was surprised to read this letter as having worshipped in Great Bromley since coming here 25 years ago I had not seen such views on Christian teaching expressed before: views which appear to me to be inconsistent with what is in the bible.


### **From: Betty Rowe - "Good Old Days"**



When Peter and I came to Harris Farm (now Lilleys Farm) in 1953 Great Bromley was a great village. The Carnival was run every year by Derek and Jean Wright and a willing committee. Sadly when much loved Jean and Derek died, so gradually did the Carnival. Great Bromley Pantomime Group formed 50 years ago has put on many shows until last year but the recent A.G.M. brought forth 6 members and getting a cast was proving very difficult this year. No Cast - No Panto! I appreciate our "Commuter Villagers" arriving home at 7.30pm do not want to turn out but there are also weekend activities to support. We are so lucky to have our wonderful Post Office Stores who are always so helpful considering the long hours they put in. Thank you, Michael and Eileen. You young generation have got what it takes so show us your community spirit. Let us see Bromley rise out of this apathy and again be truly "Great". It would be such a tonic to the "over 80s."

## CROSS INN EVENTS

**MUSIC NIGHT** Wednesday, 24th  
8pm start Sing, play or watch and enjoy

**CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT** Thursday,  
25th 8.30 pm start in aid of  
Hamilton Lodge Home. Teams of 4,  
£2.50 per head (incl. light supper)

<b>TOM JAZZ</b>		<b>COLLINS BAND</b>
<b>RETURNS</b>		
to 7.30 p.m. till 11.30 p.m.		
<b>Great Bromley Village Hall</b>		
Saturday 20th September		
Tickets £7.50 per person including Buffet		
Bar serving Wine/Beer/Soft drinks		
Contact Beryl Hurst Tel 01206 230578		

	<b>SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME</b>	
<b>Forthcoming Events</b>		
<b>Tuesday 30th September</b>	Talk by Claire Macdonald at Marks Tey Village Hall For further details please contact Barbara Bolton (01206 392520)	
<b>Tuesday 7th October</b>	Autumn Sale at Gt Bromley Village Hall	
<b>Thursday 13th November</b>	Coffee Morning at Seven Rivers	
Further details of all these events can also be obtained from the Home.		

## GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Report of the Great Bromley Parish Council meeting held on 14 August 2003 12

**Roads and rights of way** Essex County Highways Department is responsible for maintaining our local roads, footpaths and bridle ways. The departments district manager and maintenance engineer will be attending the next parish council meeting at 7.30 pm on Thursday 10 September at the village hall. Residents are welcome to come along and put their questions, views and complaints.

**Planning decisions** Tendring District Council has approved the following planning applications: **1 Alma Cottages, Briar Road:** Conservatory. **2 Hall Cottages, Hall Road:** To increase width of existing access. **Michaelmas House, Rectory Road:** removal of condition concerning agricultural related occupancy from existing planning permission.

Tendring District Council has refused the following planning applications: **Pond Farm, Hall Road:** illuminated signs. **Pond Farm, Hall Road:** variation of condition of planning permission relating to colour of joinery.

**Planning applications** The Council considered and agreed no objections to the following planning applications: **Byeways, Mary Lane North:** Single storey kitchen extension  
The Council considered and agreed to defer its decision on the following planning application until further information on the background has been provided by the district council:

**Gresham's Farm, Harwich Road:** renewal of permission for continued use of mobile home.

**Highways** Because of the concerns with speeding the county Highways Department has agreed to undertake a Speed survey in the area of the Harwich/Frating Roads intersection and report its findings to the council. The county Highways Department is expected to install a hard surfaced footway along the north side of Brook Street between the post office and telephone box.

**Hare Green recreation field** The Council will be applying for grants towards the cost of purchasing a youth shelter, seats and a hard playing surface for young people.

**The environment** The district council is considering employing private investigators to gain evidence of fly-tipping so that prosecutions could be brought. It was hoped that this will act as a deterrent.

**Future meetings** The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 11 September 2003 at the Village Hall.

**Parish Council Accounts** Local electors are reminded of their rights to inspect and ask questions about the parish council's accounts. Details of these rights are posted on local notice boards and are available from the Clerk. The 2002/3 accounts will be subject to external audit in September. The approved accounts are available from the Clerk and following audit will be posted on notice boards. KB 19/8/03 .

**LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL** The date of the next meeting is 25th September at 7.30pm. For details of venue please contact the Clerk, Maj AC Downes

## CHURCH FINANCE REPORT

*“Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen nineteen six, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, result misery.”*  
According to the above quotation, like Mr. Micawber the Bromleys PCC should be miserable but we are still making plans “in case anything turns up.” The following tables indicate the main categories of income and expenditure:

Forecast Income 2003		Forecast Expenditure 2003	
Planned giving	12.4%	Ministry	7.6%
Collections in church	36.1%	Heat/light/water	3.8%
Donations	8.3%	Insurance	10.5%
Box	1.9%	Upkeep of services	1.2%
Marriage/burial fees	5.8%	Grass cutting	6.6%
National savings	1.5%	Quota	50.9%
Tax rebate	14.2%	Church repairs	1.5%
Churchyard fund	0.4%	Charitable donations	9.7%
Grass cutting Parish Council	3.4%	Fund raising	2.8%
Fund raising	15.6%	Photocopier	1.1%
Other income	0.6%	Other expenditure	4.3%

We have many successes of which we can be proud:

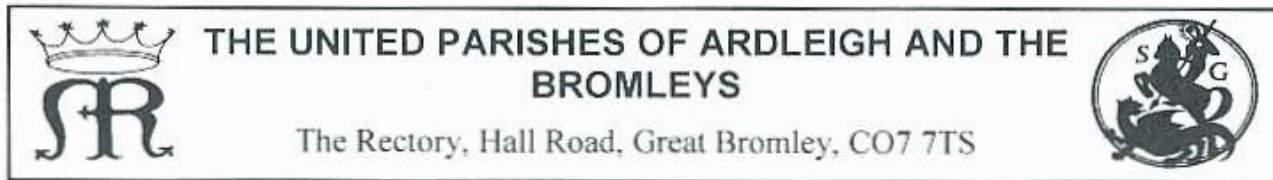
- Parish Share (family purse) has been paid in full for the past 3 years
- Funds are available to finance the roof repairs
- 17 people have signed up for Gift Aid - allowing us to claim an extra 28p for every pound donated
- Planned giving by standing order increased by 49% in 2002
- Over £7,000 has been given to charity in the past 3 years following a PCC resolution to donate 10% of income

On the negative side, however:

- The general fund has shrunk by £6,000 in the past 3 years and is projected to reduce by a further £1,000 by the end of 2003
- Collections during services have fallen in the past year
- Parish share is forecast to rise by 6.9% (nearly £1,000) in 2004
- A potential £1,500 was lost in 2002 when donations were not Gift Aided
- Approximately £50,000 is needed to bring S George's Church into the 21st century by providing a meeting room and toilet.

The overriding financial message is that The Bromleys reserves are being eroded purely by the day to day running of the Church. income needs to increase by £1,000 annually simply to break even, before we even start to think about enhancements or further major repairs to the building.

*Hilary Powell Treasurer, PCC of The Bromleys*



#### FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Parishioner,

I write this as I'm still a little sleep deprived from the recent Youth Camp at Walsingham or to give it its proper title "Youth Pilgrimage". That's not to get people to sign up before they realise that it means sleeping in a tent, but to acknowledge that Walsingham is a place of pilgrimage and that this week is specially designed for teenagers. So there was the usual sporting, dancing, creative, workshops, a trip to the local pool, a disco and (horror of horrors) a karaoke evening. All intermingled with times of prayer and praise, of great noise and great peace, of walking the holy mile barefoot, of talking and listening. All in all our youngsters did us proud by entering into the whole experience in an open and remarkably mature way and so coming away with a sense of joy at being a pilgrim.

For this I'm full of thanksgiving. Actually I enjoy the few days myself, though I do need more sleep, hot water and privacy than is on offer. In the weeks running up I have to remind myself why I'm doing this again this year. The things that motivate me most are a thankfulness that here we have teenagers walking alongside the adults and youngsters as pilgrims. I get an enormous amount from them, and I know that it isn't easy admitting in the playground that you are a Christian.

Thankfulness too that when I was a teenager adults took time off work to take me away on Scout and Church Camps. Memories too of the men and women who week by week were at the Scout hut, youth club, who invited me and my friends into their homes after Church. They gave me space and encouragement to grow and find out who I was, and yes what God wanted me to do.

This is the time for celebrating the harvest. For some of you there will be a sense of satisfaction that the harvest is in. I expect for most of us actual harvesting is a mystery, unless you can count the weekly trip to Tesco as "gathering in". So we need to find different ways of being thankful and expressing that as a community. Sunday by Sunday day by day I seek to do this here in offerings of worship to God by the pilgrims here. Thank yous for past experiences, past people, and places may be a good way to start. May God bless you. *Fr Nicolas.*

# ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



## Services for SEPTEMBER

1st	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St Mary the Virgin</i>
2nd	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
3rd	6.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>Hamilton Lodge</i>
4th	10.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
5th	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
6th	9.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 7th</b>			
	7.30am	<b>12th Sunday after Trinity</b> Morning Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>8th</b>			
	8.30am	<b>Nativity of Our Lady</b> The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
11th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
12th	11.00am	Holy Communion	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
<b>Sunday 14th</b>			
	8.00am	<b>The Triumph of the Holy Cross</b> The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Parish Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
17th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
19th	11.00am	Holy Communion	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
<b>Sunday 21st</b>			
	8.00am	<b>14th Sunday after Trinity</b> The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
24th	7.00pm	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
25th	10.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
26th	11.00am	The Eucharist	<i>Seven Rivers</i>
27th	9.00am	The Eucharist & Rosary	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
<b>Sunday 28th</b>			
	7.30am	<b>15th Sunday after Trinity</b> Morning Prayer	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	8.00am	The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
	10.30am	The Harvest Eucharist	<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>
	6.30pm	Harvest Evensong	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>
<b>29th</b>			
	9.00am	<b>S Michael and All Angels</b> The Eucharist	<i>St. George the Martyr</i>



**JUST WORDS!**

My use of the word "stooks" last month was questioned so I looked it up in the dictionary to find the definition. It was defined as "a group of sheaves, set up in a field" - which they were, supporting each other usually in sets of three, looking like wigwams. It was inside these that we used to try to secrete ourselves with less success as we grew. With the dictionary still open I looked up sheaf: "a bundle of stalks of corn, bound side by side"; haystack: "a large pile of hay built in the open air of regular form and finished off with a pointed or ridged top"; hayrick: "stack of hay, regularly built and thatched". My Dictionary of Nursery Rhymes tells me that in the rhyme of Little Boy Blue the boy who looks after the sheep was asleep under a haycock - "a conical heap of hay in a field". It also tells me that Little Boy Blue was a reference to Cardinal Wolsey, the son of an Ipswich butcher, who as a boy probably looked after his father's livestock. All these words are now rarely used as newer more modern words come into daily parlance. The words "computer" and "calculator" featured in my old school dictionary as a person who either computed or calculated rather than having the additional meaning of a particular machine. Other words have had their meanings altered through their association with other ideas which sometimes renders them unusable in their original form.

There has been much fuss recently over apostrophes and spellings and I must confess that I am in the camp of those who abhor their misuse along with pronunciations of words that have altered as they return here from across the Atlantic. Grammar, spellings, punctuation, figures of speech all make our language easy to read and understand as well as more precise, colourful and fun if perhaps more difficult to learn in the beginning. How dull if we ignored it - we might as well just grunt!

However does all this matter when I receive, just as I am about to send this to Natalie to proofread, an email headed "Rscheearh". It goes: "Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at an Elingsh uinervtisy, it deosnt mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer is at the rghit pclae. The rset can be a toatl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit porbelm. Tihis is bcuseae we do not raed ervey lteter by it slef but the wrod as a wlohe." What hope have I left?  
*Loneie Hdnreeosn*

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GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Village Hall Management Committee met on 2nd September with all but two members present. Several items of correspondence were discussed. The Charity Commission News 6/03 has information on a Data Protection scam, New Charities Bill, changes within the Charity Commission, Complaints code and merging charities. The Rural Community Council of Essex's "Village Halls Update" provides information on funding for various activities, Licensing, Oil Storage Regulations and the results of the various Essex Competitions and Awards. Also our Annual Return to the Charity Commission has to be made shortly.

The South car parking area was reviewed and it was agreed to allow it to settle over the winter months before carrying out any further activities other than making good any low areas. You will notice a change to the Halls emergency lighting equipment, which has been brought up to the current standard. Please make sure it is lit when you are using the Hall, it is there for your safety! A special thank you to the local contractor for carrying out the work promptly and efficiently for us and to the Parish Council for assisting us with the cost.

A big thank you to Vera Biddis and helpers for organising a Car Treasure Hunt at the end of August, raising £151.50 for our funds. We also hope that you will have enjoyed the return visit of Tom Collins Jazz Band to the Hall in September or you may have supported or taken part in the Sponsored Walk in Rendlesham Forest, both in aid of the funds for the Hall.

The next committee meeting is on Tuesday, 18th November at 7.30pm in the Hall.

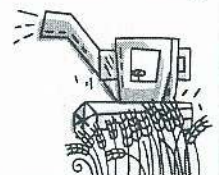
*Bevan Willgress*

**'HARVEST HOME'**

No more teas in the 'Harvest Field'  
Discussing how the crops will yield.  
The combine's whine is heard no more  
Grain safely stored on the barn floor.  
Bales all stacked in the Dutch barn  
Protected from the winter's harm.  
Swallows wheeling low under evening

sky  
Thanks to God for  
another Harvest  
'Safe and Dry'.

*Betty Rowe*



## NEWS FROM THE DOCTORS' SURGERY

### ARDLEIGH SURGERY THE SURGERY, DEDHAM ROAD, ARDLEIGH

It is influenza vaccination time again! The Department of Health recommends patients should have vaccination against influenza if they are aged over 65 or at particular risk if they have one of the following medical conditions; heart disease, diabetes, respiratory disease including asthma, renal disease or are immunocompromised. Patients are reminded to contact their doctors surgery to book into a flu clinic held during October. We will also be offering vaccination against pneumococcal infection for patients aged over 80 in accordance with advice from the Chief Medical Officer.

Ardleigh Surgery will be holding vaccination clinics for patients on Thursday 2, 9, 23 October and 6 November at 2pm and Saturday morning 18 October. Please make an appointment with the receptionist to attend a clinic or to see a practice nurse at some other time

### **Dr Vernon Bettle**

At the time of writing, Dr Vernon Bettle is still on sick leave, having suffered a subdural haematoma at the beginning of August. He underwent brain surgery at Oldchurch Hospital to remove the blood that had collected and he is at home recovering. He is likely to be off work for sometime to allow him time to recover fully. He and his family are most appreciative of the cards and messages he has received and he has been delighted and touched to have received so many kind thoughts. We have managed to obtain help from Locum GPs at various times to cover his surgeries, but, obviously the surgery is under some pressure and, therefore, request patients to be patient. *Fred Merritt, Practice Manager*

### GREAT BENTLEY SURGERY THE HOLLIES, THE GREEN, GT BENTLEY

The main news this month is that Primecare have extended their service to include Saturday mornings. This means that from September we won't be opening the surgery at all on Saturdays. Doctors and staff can now enjoy a proper weekend every week. Saturdays mornings have always been for emergencies only - at least that was the intention. Primecare's doctors are, of course, all fully qualified and experienced. So, as anything urgent enough to need attention outside normal surgery hours can perfectly well be dealt with by any doctor, out of hours care should be just as good as if our own GPs were providing it. However, any new system can have teething troubles so if you experience any problems please let us know so that we can put them right. If you need urgent, out of hours attention on Saturdays - or any other day - please ring Primecare on 0845 601 8802.

We are already making appointments for the flu jab clinics which start soon, and if you haven't booked yours yet, now is the time! Also this year, anyone aged 80 or over is entitled to a jab against pneumonia. Just like the flu jab, it's NOT a live vaccine, so it can't give you pneumonia. It could save a very nasty illness though and most people only ever need to have it once. Why not book to have the two together if you qualify?

By the time you read this the extension will be well and truly finished, the builders will be gone and we'll probably be missing their company. We already have the doctors' car park back and the new consulting rooms should be furnished, equipped and in use by 22nd September. We think it's looking great, but your comments, positive or negative, would be appreciated. What on earth shall we do next?

One thing that continues here is our charity book sale which is still raising money (over £200 has gone to the Red Cross Iraq Appeal recently) - thanks to the book-worms amongst you.

*Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager*

## GREAT BROMLEY'S RECTORY

B Anthony Bax in his book, "The English Parsonage" quotes Great Bromley - "1610 Terrier

The Parsonage Home at Great Bromley is compared with a Mote, a Gate house with a large Chamber, and a substantial bridge of timber adjoining to it, a little Yard, an orchard and a little Garden, all within the Mote, which, together with the circuit of the House, contain about half an acre of ground; & without the Mote there is a yard in which there is another Gatehouse & a Stable & a Hayhouse adjoining also a Barn of 25 yards long and nine yards wide" *John Appleby*

## GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Rural Housing Trust is exploring with the parish council the possibility of a further low-cost housing scheme. The first step is to establish whether or not there is a need for additional affordable housing. Accompanying this magazine you will find a housing survey form. Whatever your circumstances or housing needs it would be helpful if you could complete this form and



return it in the freepost envelope provided. This will take about five minutes and your name and address are not required. Further copies of the form are available from the parish clerk, Ken Bromfield

### **Report of the Great Bromley Parish Council meeting held on 11 September 2003**

**Planning applications** The Council considered and agreed no objections to the following planning applications:

The Bungalow, Hillyards Road: change of use of piggery building to the manufacture of sectional portable buildings and fencing and storage of timber.

Marks Farm, Frating Road: single storey extensions.

Portlands Barn, Harwich Road: provision of rear addition to barn conversion.

The Council noted that Vodafone proposes upgrading the mobile phone mast at Manor Farm, Rectory Road (adjacent to A120 bridge). Planning approval is not required although views or requests for further information can be sent to: Daly International, 41 Northbrook Street Newbury Berks RG14 1DT.

**Highways** The County highways department's district manager and maintenance engineer spent about an hour and half explaining how our local roads and footpaths are maintained and kept safe. The highways officers also took delivery of a number of questions, comments and complaints. Although the department attempts to give a good service it is inevitably constrained by money. Queries concerning roads or footpaths can be sent to either the parish clerk or directly to the highways department. The "no waiting" zones near the school, along Brook Street and St Georges Close have now been approved and the yellow lines will appear shortly.

**Tendring District Council Chairman** The District Councils Chairman and Mrs Bevan visited the parish on 23 August and enjoyed the hospitality of the Cricket Club. The Chairman acknowledges with thanks the generosity of the Club and other residents in contributing towards his hospital charities.

**Future meetings** The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 16 October at the Village Hall Gt Bromley. - KB 14/9/03

### Church Meadow glass and paper recycling banks

It is apparently not economic for Tendring District Council (TDC) to call at Church Meadow on a regular basis in order to clear the recycling containers. It will however respond to telephone calls reporting that a container is full. TDC's telephone number is noted on the containers. If you see that a container is over-flowing please telephone ... Thank you!

### LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The date of the next meeting is 20th November at 7.30pm. For details of venue please contact the Clerk, Major A C Downes (01206 391015)

### KITCHEN CORNER

#### **Pear Tart**

285g/10 oz. shortcrust pastry

675 g / 1½ lb pears - ripe but not mushy ; Juice of 1 lemon

225g/8 oz whipping cream; 2 eggs + 1 yolk ; 85g/3 oz caster sugar

Roll out pastry to line 9-10" /23cm flan tin with sides at least 1"/2.5cm high. Prick base, put in foil/beans/rice to stop middle rising up. Bake blind 12 minutes in a hot oven. Remove foil etc.

Peel, core and slice pears and lay in to pastry, sprinkle with lemon juice to prevent discolouring.

Mix cream with eggs, yolk and sugar. Pour over tart and return to oven. Reduce heat to

190C/375F 20-25 minutes until cream is just set. Cool 10 minutes before serving, or allow to get completely cold. *Jill Frostick*

### GARDENER'S CORNER FOR OCTOBER

**Shrubs:** It is not too late to take cuttings of lavender. The cuttings should be about 3" long, insert into a mixture of sharp sand and compost then place in a cold frame, keep cool and away from the hot sun. **Roses:** Start to prune climbing and ramblers at the end of the month, the cuttings can be used to strike new plants. Plant where you want them to remain permanently as this will avoid disturbing them once they have rooted. **Perennials:** These can be divided and replanted this month. **Dahlias:** As soon as they have finished flowering cut down the stems, dig them up and store in boxes in a frost free place. **Bulbs:** If you are going to pot up hyacinths for Christmas flowering make sure you buy the "PREPARED" bulbs. **House Plants:** Reduce feeding of all house plants. *Frank Griffiths*

### FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Amber Singers entertained us at our last meeting with amusing monologues and songs which enabled us to have a good old sing song with them. The next meeting is on 16th October - 2.30pm at the Village Hall - even if you are not already a member do come along, there is no obligation for you to join, no fees to pay for your first visit, but we hope you will enjoy the afternoon and decide to COME AGAIN! The competition for October is a SMALL FANCY BOX. The weather is still a bit hot so SLOW DOWN and KEEP COOL. *Vicky Griffiths*

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Regrettably, the speaker for our September meeting failed to turn up, so we had to entertain ourselves. In the business part of the meeting, we discussed whether to maintain the custom of singing 'Jerusalem' at the beginning of each meeting and agreed to continue so doing. We then had a sale of white elephant items which were brought along for the monthly competition. After refreshments, our social secretary, June Malcolm, ran a Spot the Difference puzzle. Then Sylvia Mangan had a Quiz, with each answer being a type of sweet (not desserts). During September, a group of members hope to see the film "Calendar Girls" in Colchester. In October, Ian Rose, a popular speaker of ours, is coming to tell us, with the help of slides, about The Yorkshire Dales. All visitors will be welcome in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 1st October at 7.30pm. *June Willgress*

### GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

#### 100 CLUB WINNERS FOR AUGUST

1st. Mrs Judith Knappett. 2nd. Mr. Steve Wright. 3rd. Mr. Peter Wright.

This is the last draw in the current year. May I take this opportunity to thank all those who took part. We managed to raise £590 for Gt. Bromley Cricket Club. I look forward to your continued support.

The Colts have now finished their season- The Under 12 side had a brilliant season losing only one match and finishing top of their league. The Under 14's in their first year finished third in their league, a very good effort. The Colts Awards night and Disco held on 23rd August raised £700, once again thank you for your support.

The following were presented with their awards:-

**UNDER 12's** Batting Award Jimmy Pirie, Bowling Award Jimmy Pirie, Fielding Award James Read

**UNDER 14's** Batting Award Lewis Perrin, Bowling Award Lewis Perrin, Fielding Award Leam Fisher

Kwik Cricket has also been played and the youngsters entered into several tournaments and really enjoyed themselves. All those who took part were presented with certificates. In July the Colts fathers challenged the cricketers to a game of football. The match was played on the hottest afternoon in July with the cricketers winning by 2 goals to 0! Afterwards they went on to a Bar-b-que at Matt and Kate Foley's. £150 was raised for the Club.

The Colts cricket has been so successful that we are proposing to raise three Colts sides next year: Under 12, Under 13 and Under 15 and, of course, the Kwik Cricket. We will by then have two new coaches, Richard and Chris Lawson, to help us. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Matt, Did, Peter and Pip for all their hard work this season.

Please remember the Quiz Night on October 11th at the Village Hall at 7.30pm. so please contact me to book your table. *Phil Allam.*

### DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Exhibitions and Maintenance grants for educational purposes are offered to young people resident in the parishes of Ardleigh, Bradfield, Great Bromley and Stratford S Mary. Application Forms may be obtained from Mr N Taylor. Clerk to the Governors. 47 Butt Road . Colchester CO3 3BZ The closing date for applications is 24<sup>th</sup> October 2003

### RECYCLING IN THE BROMLEYS

Area: Most of Great Bromley Wednesdays 1st, 15th, 29th October 12th, 26th November

Area: Briar, Ardleigh, Carrington & Colchester Roads & Lilleys Lane Mondays 6th, 20th October 3rd, 17th November

Area: Little Bromley Mondays 6th, 20th October 3rd, 17th November

ONYX - Please put out your recyclable materials in carrier bags or in cardboard boxes where they can be seen at the boundary of your property by 8.00 am ON COLLECTION DAY.

## **Forthcoming Events**

### OCTOBER

- 1 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 2, 9, 18, 23 'Flu vaccination clinics, Ardleigh Surgery
- 5 Harvest Lunch, Village Hall, 12.20am
- 6 Playgroup A.C.M., The Cross Inn, 8.00pm
- 7 Seven Rivers Cheshire Home Autumn Sale, Village Hall, 10.30am
- 9 St George's School Harvest Festival, St Georges, 2.15pm
- 11 Cricket Club Quiz, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 16 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.30pm
- Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 18 PTA Table Top Sale, School Hall, 2.00pm
- 22 PCC meeting, The Rectory, 7.30pm
- 31 PTA Hallowe'en Disco, Village Hall. 8.00pm (Adults only)

### NOVEMBER

- 6 Flu vaccination clinic, Ardleigh Surgery
- 13 Coffee Morning, Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, 10.30am
- 18 Village Hall Management Committee meeting. Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Contact Clerk for venue, 7.30pm
- 28 PTA Festive Fayre, School Hall, 6.00pm
- 29 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall

### **HARVEST CELEBRATIONS & LUNCH**

October 5<sup>th</sup>

- 10. 30am Harvest Thanksgiving  
in S George's
- 1pm Harvest Lunch In Great  
Bromley Village Hall
- 6.30pm Harvest Evensong in S  
Mary's Ardleigh



**" Come ye  
thankful people,  
come"**



### **CRICKET CLUB QUIZ NIGHT**

Saturday, 11th October  
at 7.30p.m.  
in Gt. Bromley Village  
Hall.

Phone Phil Allam on 230375 to book  
your team

### **CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

29th November  
in the Village Hall



### **PTA FUND RAISING EVENTS**

18th October  
**TABLE TOP SALE**  
in the School Hall  
2.00pm-4.00pm  
Tables £5  
To book a table  
contact Debbie  
Wright on 01206  
250962



31st October  
**HALLOWE'EN DISCO**  
in the Village Hall  
8.00pm  
**ADULTS ONLY**  
Bar  
Tickets available from  
Debbie Wright or the  
school office

28th November  
**FETIVE FAYRE**  
in the School Hall  
6.00pm



### **SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME Forthcoming Events**

**Tuesday 7th October** Autumn Sale at Gt Bromley Village  
Hall 10.30am - 3.00pm

**Thursday 13th November** Coffee Morning at  
Seven Rivers 10.30am - 12 noon



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Brenda and Richard welcome you to **THE BROMLEY CROSS INN** EVENTS for OCTOBER

**MUSIC NIGHT** Wednesday, 22nd 8.00 pm start Come and sing, play or just listen and enjoy. This is a very relaxed evening for you to be entertained by all types of traditional music and poetry.

**QUIZ NIGHT** Thursday, 30th 8.30 pm start in aid of the Badger Group. £2.50 per head (Teams of 4), includes a light supper

**PSYCHIC SUPPER** Wednesday, 8th £5 per ticket. This is a charity event in aid of the East Anglian Childrens' Hospices and Essex Wildlife Trusts. Your ticket entitles you to a 10 minute reading from one of 6 mediums, a light supper and the opportunity to chat informally to a medium later on in the evening.

**FUTURE EVENTS TO WATCH FOR:**  
Saturday 25th October Trafalgar Night Date to be arranged - An informal evening of Songs from the Shows - music for everyone  
Wednesday 5th November - Guy Fawkes Night - start saving your pennies now for those fireworks  
Tuesday, 2nd December - Beauty Therapy evening

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL, GT. BROMLEY Headteacher: Pat Fitzgerald

School reopened on 4th September with lots of new children and two new teachers. Mrs Batchelor and Mrs Cairns now teach class 3 and Mrs. Brandys is teaching class 4 & until Mrs Godsell returns from maternity leave. After school clubs are up and running with netball, art club and football in the community run by Colchester United.

**Forthcoming dates:-** 9th October - Harvest Festival in St. George's Church 2.15 - all welcome  
10th October - Year 6 children will deliver Harvest baskets around the village 13th October - non pupil day to enable staff and governors to undertake training!

**PTA Fundraising events include:** 18th October - Table Top Sale in the school hall from 2 - 4. Tables £5. To book a table contact Debbie Wright.

31st October - Halloween Disco in the Village Hall 8.00pm (ADULTS only). A bar will be open. Tickets available from Debbie Wright or the School office.

28th November - Festive Fayre - 6.00pm in the school hall.

**VOUCHERS/TOKENS etc...** Last year we collected 24,429 Tesco vouchers. Not quite enough for a new computer so we have banked them for next year. Walkers Crisps tokens collected totalled 2900 which enabled the school to order 16 new books. Persil Stars - we collected 1,200 stars and have received a chunky pencils assortment for the school. Cadburys Tokens - we have not yet counted these tokens as the scheme is still running. Please continue to send tokens to school to enable us to place an order for some sports equipment later in the year. Nestle Box Tops - We are once again taking part in this scheme. Box tops are found on Nestle cereal packets.

### GREAT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUP

We are always on the lookout for new fund raising ideas, so any suggestions please speak to any member of staffer committee member. We have had a few new children join us, so we would like to give them a warm welcome and hope they enjoy their time with us at playschool. We have sadly said goodbye to Nicky Conway, our Playgroup Assistant. A big thank you to her for all the time and effort she put into Playgroup. Both staff and committee are grateful. We have our AGM coming up on Monday: 6th October at 8.00pm be held at The Cross Inn, Gt Bromley. All parents/carers are welcome. Please do come along if you are interested in finding out how you could become more involved with your local playgroup! We will also be organising another night out for the ADULTS so keep your eyes peeled for dates and details to follow

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## NEWS FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

At a recent meeting it was agreed to apply for permission to redecorate the interior of S Mary's Church. In the New Year the organ is due to be removed for restoration and this seems an ideal time to repair the inner walls and decorate. The first phase of the plan is to paint the brown walls a cream colour, and so returning to the pre 1970s design. This will considerably brighten the Church and set the architecture and Sanctuary paintings off as originally planned. At the moment this is the first stage of consultation asking the congregation and parishioners their views. then we shall apply to the Diocese. and English heritage for what is in effect planning permission. If you have any comments to make on this plan please contact the Rector or Wardens. The Church Council are seeking to appoint an Admin assistant to work with Fr Nicolas, for two hours a week, starting at £5.50 an hour. The work would basically involve being at the Rectory in Great Bromley, typing and dealing with correspondence, the news-sheets. writing up making copies of the registers. If you would like to chat more about this possibility please contact Fr Nicolas on 230344.

## THE PCC OF THE BROMLEYS

The PCC met on 2nd September and discussed the following issues:-

**Finance Report** There is a surplus of £1,303.00 as at the end of August but, based on the latest best estimate, there is likely to be a deficit of £1,600 by the end of the year.

**Faculty Application** The PCC accepted the offer of a memorial hardwood bench to be sited in the north east corner of the churchyard.

**Charitable Giving** In line with current PCC policy 10% of annual income is donated to charities. The chosen charities for 2003 are:-

- World Vision (To support a child in a third world country)
- Church Army,
- Katate Missionary Hospital in Zambia,
- St. John, Jerusalem Eye Hospital

**Children's Report** A recent five day Youth Pilgrimage to Walsingham was a huge success. Two enjoyable Sunday Evening Youth Services have now been held in conjunction with churches in Lawford and Ramsey. It is suggested that they should be extended to the whole Deanery.

**School Governor's Report** Following the resignation of the Church Governor representative, a replacement Governor is being sought. The replacement person must be a practicing Christian.

**Benefice Magazine** Discussion took place to decide whether or not to continue with the Magazine for a further year or whether to look for an alternative way to keep parishioners & congregation abreast of Church news etc. One possibility would be to purchase space within the Bromley Messenger. A decision will be made at the next Meeting.

**Harvest Lunch** This will be held on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October and will follow the usual format.

**Barn Dance** The Benefice Barn Dance will be held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September in Ardleigh Village Hall.

**Christmas Services** These were agreed as follows:-

21st December - 5.00pm Carol Service - St. Mary's, Little Bromley

24th December - 4.00pm Christingle at St. Marys, Ardleigh

24th December - 5.30pm Christingle - St. Georges, Great Bromley

24th December - 11.30pm Midnight Mass - St. Georges, Gt Bromley

25th December - 10.30am Family Eucharist - St. Mary's, Ardleigh

**Churches Together in Manningtree** It was agreed that the Parish will join the Manningtree group of churches involved in this National initiative.

**Re-marriage of Divorced People Where a Partner is Still Alive** Each PCC has to make a decision as to whether or not the local Church may be used for the re-marriage of divorced people where a partner is still living. After much discussion, a vote was taken with a majority being in favour of not allowing the Church to be used. The situation will be reviewed in three years time.

**Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd October 2003 at 7.30pm in the Rectory.

Dear Parishioner Later this month a group of us will be travelling from the parishes on pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi. Traditionally people of all faiths have made journeys to places of spiritual importance to deepen their relationship with God. People made journeys to give themselves a break from ordinary life to put things into a different perspective; to stand back and reflect if you like.

Rome is visited because it has been the spiritual centre of western Christendom for centuries as the place of martyrdom of SS Peter & Paul. Assisi is the home of S Francis, one of the Church's greatest figures. They are two very contrasting places. Rome is a busy capital with all that entails, witnessing to a great proclamation of the faith, whilst Assisi still tries at least to cling to its more peaceful role in being a place where solitude can be found.

Pilgrimages such as these are not just for those privileged to be on them, for every pilgrim carries in their heart people and situations. You can be part of a pilgrimage by asking to be remembered at a certain church or place. You can make a spiritual pilgrimage by travelling with us in your thoughts and prayers.

Walsingham was recently voted in a BBC poll the nation's favourite spiritual place and we are fortunate that it is only a couple of hours drive away. Anyone can visit the village and its numerous shrines, you don't have to go in an organised group. The place is a living witness to the Incarnation- that God became a man in Jesus Christ and walked among us.

Even more fortunate are we here to have Churches that are open during the day to find peace and quiet. You don't have to ask anyone or make an appointment, simply go and open the door, sit or wander. Light a candle or leave a written prayer. Reflect for a while, thank God for blessings, bask in His presence and know that He loves you.

May we all be blessed in the pilgrimage to Rome, may you be blessed in your finding peace and love where ever you can. *Fr Nicolas*

**ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY**  
*united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh*



**Services for OCTOBER**

|                    |                                       |                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st                | 7.00pm                                | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>                                                                                               |
| 2nd                | 10.00am                               | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>                                                                                                 |
| 3rd                | 11.00am                               | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>Seven Rivers</i>                                                                                                        |
| 4th                | 9.00am                                | <b>S Francis</b><br>The Eucharist                                                                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>                                                                                                 |
| <b>Sunday 5th</b>  | 7.30am<br>8.00am<br>10.30am<br>6.30pm | <b>Trinity 16</b><br>Morning Prayer<br>The Eucharist<br>Harvest Eucharist<br>Harvest Evening Prayer           | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i><br><i>St. Mary the Virgin</i><br><i>St. George the Martyr</i><br><i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>     |
| 7th                | 6.00pm                                | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>Hamilton Lodge</i>                                                                                                      |
| 8th                | 7.00pm                                | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>                                                                                               |
| 9th                | 7.00pm                                | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>                                                                                                 |
| 10th               | 11.00am                               | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>Seven Rivers</i>                                                                                                        |
| <b>Sunday 12th</b> | 8.00am<br>10.30am<br>6.30pm           | <b>Trinity 17</b><br>The Eucharist<br>The Parish Eucharist<br>Evening Prayer                                  | <i>St. George the Martyr</i><br><i>St. Mary the Virgin</i><br><i>St. George the Martyr</i>                                 |
| 16th               | 7.00pm                                | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>                                                                                                 |
| 17th               | 11.00am                               | Holy Communion                                                                                                | <i>Seven Rivers</i>                                                                                                        |
| <b>Sunday 19th</b> | 7.30am<br>8.00am<br>10.30am<br>6.30pm | <b>Trinity 18</b><br>Morning Prayer<br>The Eucharist<br>Harvest Eucharist<br>Evening Prayer                   | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i><br><i>St. Mary the Virgin</i><br><i>St. George the Martyr</i><br><i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>     |
| 20th               | 10.00am                               | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>                                                                                               |
| 22nd               | 7.00pm                                | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>                                                                                               |
| 23rd               | 10.00am                               | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>                                                                                                 |
| 24th               | 11.00am                               | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>Seven Rivers</i>                                                                                                        |
| 25th               | 9.00am                                | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>                                                                                                 |
| <b>Sunday 26th</b> | 7.30am<br>8.00am<br>10.30am<br>6.30pm | <b>Last Sunday after Trinity</b><br>Morning Prayer<br>The Eucharist<br>The Parish Eucharist<br>Evening Prayer | <i>St. George the Martyr</i><br><i>St. George the Martyr</i><br><i>St. Mary the Virgin</i><br><i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
| 29th               | 7.00pm                                | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>                                                                                               |
| 30th               | 10.00am                               | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>                                                                                                 |
| 31st               | 11.00am                               | The Eucharist                                                                                                 | <i>Seven Rivers</i>                                                                                                        |

**OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR!**

The Mercury Theatre described "OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR" as a "Stylish piece of musical theatre promising to entertain, affect, amuse and confront. Joan Littlewoods' play brims with song, dance and joy and overflows with the tragedy of war." The Essex County Standard, headline on page 25 on 3.10.03 announced "OH WHAT A LOVELY SHOW."

It was indeed all that the two accounts described but oh, so much more too. Our emotions were certainly taken on the roller coaster promised as the light hearted singing gave way to scenes and sounds of bombing, shooting and sights of actors' bodies strewn around the stage and 'trenches'. The reality of the horror of the First World War was presented in contrast to the bursts of enthusiastic singing from the talented group. We were thankful for the relief of the old songs and, for me, they stemmed the flow of tears as the story unfolded.

The audience was very mixed. Rows of students rocked in their seats and hooted with laughter as the sergeant major put the 'la-de-dahs' through their paces using walking sticks as rifles. Their laughter also rang out when the several actors realistically depicted the wounded and the blinded soldiers as they struggled up the steps between the filled seats. A voice, deep inside me wanted to call out, "Don't laugh, to those who experienced the war this was a nightmare."

Although he never talked about it my father was part of that war and it could not have, ever, been described as lovely. In 1914, at the age of 16, along with many other idealistic young men, to help King and Country he took the shilling that, I am told, was offered to those who volunteered to face the enemy. In 1918, at the age of 20, he returned home having been gassed in the trenches. He could have applied for a pension but that would have prevented him from going back to work and without work there was no future for him. My memory is of a father who constantly suffered long bouts of choking coughing and was unable to work for at least three months of every year. His life ended painfully at the age of 52. His wife, our mother, was 48. He was one of the lucky ones?

At the end of the spectacular performance at the Mercury red poppy petals fluttered on to the stage. Silence was kept. A young man once said to me that he felt that Remembrance Day should not be celebrated as the two world wars happened so long ago and what was the use of dragging it out year after year? Humanity has still not learned to live in peace, families feud and there is gang warfare. Wars do not usually suddenly erupt. Perhaps we should start in our homes, schools and work places as aren't we all brothers and sisters under our many shades of skin and our varying religions? Let us keep on remembering the thousands upon thousands who were killed or injured, the thousands more who starved, regardless of on which side they fought.

The newspaper was right in declaring it a lovely show but it never was and never could have been a lovely war. Buy your poppy and wear it with pride. Carry on remembering, please.

*Olive Sparling*

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LITTLE BROMLEY AMENITIES COMMITTEE

**LITTLE BROMLEY VILLAGE SIGN** We are pleased to announce that we have approved designs and hope to appoint a local craftsman to construct a traditionally made sign for Little Bromley. The finished article should be an impressive addition to our village, and although a site has yet to be decided, we hope to have the sign in place in the New Year.

**GUY FAWKES EVENT** We hope you will agree that last year's event was an unprecedented success and was thoroughly enjoyed by almost two hundred visitors! The numbers attending last year surprised us all, and whilst we would love to repeat the event for 2004 we will need a few more volunteers to become involved. If you think you can help please get in touch.

We do plan to hold at least two events next year as it is a great way for villagers to meet up and get to know each other. Again, if you think you could offer any support please get in touch.

The next meeting of LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL is on 20th November 2003 at a venue to be confirmed. You are welcome to attend, please telephone for details. Contact Kate on 01206 397111 or Carol on 01206 395103.



## BUS SERVICES



VillageLink Services run a 2 hourly bus service, Monday through to Saturday operated by Hedingham Buses. The route is: Mistley, Manningtree, Lawford, Little Bromley, Little Bentley, Tendring, Weeley, Little Clacton, Clacton Factory Shopping Village, Clacton-on-Sea.

### Mondays to Saturdays

|                           |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Clacton, Jackson Rd       | 0640 | 0840 | 1040 | 1240 | 1440 | 1710 |
| Clacton, Rail Station     | 0642 | 0842 | 1042 | 1242 | 1442 | 1712 |
| Little Bromley, P.O.      | 0717 | 0917 | 1117 | 1317 | 1517 | 1747 |
| Manningtree, Rail Station | 0726 | 0926 | 1126 | 1326 | 1526 | 1756 |

### Mondays to Saturdays

|                           |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Manningtree, Rail Station | 0749 | 0947 | 1147 | 1347 | 1547 | 1827 |
| Little Bromley P.O.       | 0758 | 0956 | 1156 | 1356 | 1556 | 1836 |
| Clacton Rail Station      | 0833 | 1031 | 1231 | 1431 | 1631 | 1911 |
| Clacton, Jackson Rd       | 0835 | 1033 | 1233 | 1433 | 1633 | 1913 |

A bus service is operated by Essex County Council Mondays to Saturdays. The route is Colchester Bus Station, Hythe, Crockleford, Burnt Heath, Great Bromley, Elmstead Market, Great Bromley Courthouse Inn, Hare Green, Little Bentley, Tendring Heath, Tendring, Thorpe-le-Soken, Kirby Cross, Kirby-le-Soken, Walton, Frinton, Walton

|                             |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Service No.:                | 109 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 107 | 105 |
| <b>Mondays to Saturdays</b> |     |     |     |     |     |     |

|                            |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Colchester Bus Station     | 0833 | 1023 | 1213 | 1403 | 1630 | 1820 |
| Gt Bromley Cross Inn       | -    | 1041 | 1231 | 1421 | 1649 | 1837 |
| Gt Bromley, Courthouse Inn | 0849 | 1044 | 1234 | 1424 | 1651 | 1840 |
| Hare Green                 | 0850 | 1045 | 1235 | 1425 | 1652 | 1841 |
| Walton, Kino Rd            | 0918 | 1113 | 1303 | 1453 | 1723 | 1909 |

|                             |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Service No.:                | 107 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 109 |
| <b>Mondays to Saturdays</b> |     |     |     |     |     |     |

|                            |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Walton, Kino Road          | 0725 | 0928 | 1118 | 1308 | 1518 | 1730 |
| Hare Green                 | 0756 | 0956 | 1146 | 1336 | 1546 | 1758 |
| Gt Bromley, Courthouse Inn | 0757 | 0957 | 1147 | 1337 | 1547 | 1759 |
| Gt Bromley Cross Inn       | 0800 | 1000 | 1150 | 1340 | 1550 | -    |
| Colchester Bus Station     | 0818 | 1018 | 1208 | 1358 | 1608 | 1815 |

## CHRISTMAS FAYRE

29th November  
in the Village Hall  
2.00pm

In aid of St  
George's Church &  
the Village Hall



## SEVEN RIVERS CHESHIRE HOME

Thursday 13th November

Coffee Morning  
at the Home  
10.30am



## SUFFOLK CONCERT BAND

St Mary's Church, Ardleigh  
Saturday, 22nd November  
at 7.30pm

A wonderful programme of light classical music will mark the debut of Mr Roger Jones, Band Master for the Royal Hospital School at Holbrook, as Director of the Suffolk Concert Band.

It promises to be an evening of terrific music, offered with light refreshments, in support of the Organ Fund.

Admission is just £8 adults, £6 seniors and £3 children under 16.

Advance tickets may be purchased from:

David 231745, Michael 394143  
or Clive 230205.



## READING GROUP/ BOOK CLUB

Due to a good response to the piece in the August 'Messenger' there are to be two Reading Groups meeting monthly:

### EVENING GROUP

Friday, 24th October, 8.00pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall

### AFTERNOON GROUP

Thursday, 6th November, 2.00pm at the Cross Inn

Bring along your reading loves and hates - plus the titles you always wanted to read but never got around to. It doesn't matter that this is totally personal and subjective, that's what the reading process is and it makes for great discussions. The aim is not at a Lit. Crit. or WEA course - it is meant to be fun.



Andrew Fitch, Librarian



If they **can't** get to us, can you **go to them?**

Call **Library Direct**

Library Direct volunteers take the library direct to people in their own homes. Interested in becoming a volunteer with Essex Libraries?

Can you offer a few hours per month? Library Direct visits those people who can't get to their local library because of age, disability or caring responsibilities. The service relies on the help of volunteers. It's not necessary to know a great deal about books as training is given, but it is necessary to enjoy meeting people and be reasonably fit. Staff are always happy to help and you will receive mileage expenses.

For more information about becoming a volunteer or about the service contact your local library or phone **01245 438438**.

## REMEMBER, REMEMBER 5TH NOVEMBER

Remember, remember safety this November

If you are planning your own display this year, there are some simple rules you can follow to keep safe:

- \* Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- \* Never give sparklers to children under 5
- \* Only buy fireworks marked with the British Standard BS7114
- \* Keep fireworks in a

- closed box
- \* Follow the instructions on each firework carefully
- \* Light them at arm's length using a suitable taper
- \* Stand well back
- \* Never go back to a lit firework
- \* Never put fireworks in your pocket
- \* Never throw fireworks
- \* Keep pets indoors
- and ... Enjoy yourselves!



## NEWS FROM THE DOCTORS SURGERY

### GREAT BENTLEY SURGERY THE HOLLIES, THE GREEN, GT BENTLEY

It's amazing how suddenly we've gone from glorious late summer to chilly autumn. The doctors are packing away their mobile air-conditioning units and fumbling with the thermostats on their radiators. The staff have that pinched, hunched look about them and are pulling on their woolly jumpers. Our 'Enry's back on telly selling flu jabs and even the Christmas adverts are being rolled out again! At least the new heating system is working well and we won't have to worry about running out of oil this year. Whilst on the subject of heating, we've got some leaflets in the surgery entitled "Tendring Warmth" issued by the Tendring Home Improvement Agency. They tell you how to get information on grants or other sources of funding to help with home insulation and heating. It's definitely worth picking one up if you or somebody you know might struggle to keep warm this winter. Incidentally, we have available dozens of different leaflets on a wide variety of health and social issues. If you need information about a health matter, or perhaps want the name and address of a particular patient support group, we've probably got it, either on display or tucked away in our new store room. Do ask if you need help finding something.

As I hope you know, we are always on the look out for ways to improve access to the doctors for those who really need to see them. For this reason, our nurses and other staff often undertake special training courses to enable them to deal expertly with more complicated matters. A recent development is that our senior nurses, Jan and Jayne, have both now completed and passed their Diagnostics course (congratulations!) and can look after many more minor ailments such as sore throats, ear or tummy aches, eye infections - even children with temperatures. We also now have Healthcare Assistants who are specially trained to take blood pressures, remove stitches and check dressings amongst other things. As a result, when you request an appointment these days, the receptionist should ask for some basic information about the reason for your visit. This isn't nosiness! It's a genuine effort to get you in with the right person and to keep waiting times to a minimum, so please help us by giving us a rough idea of why you need to come in. *Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager*

### GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL CHARITY TRUSTEES

We are now well into the autumn and the Village Hall Committee are grateful and appreciative of the groups and people who use and support our great asset, the Village Hall. Originally built during the 1920s, it has provided a meeting place for around 80 years (many a villager has a tale to tell related to the pleasure given by attending some function during this time - why not tell your story in the 'Bromley Messenger?') On Monday, Wednesday and Thursday in the mornings, the Frating & Great Bromley Playgroup provide facilities for the pre-school children, also a Toddlers' Club on Wednesday morning. Monday evenings, the Badminton Club play on the Halls court and Tuesday evenings, the Mens' Club meet to play snooker, cards etc. Wednesday evenings (except first in the month) are taken by the Carpet Bowls Club and Thursdays it is Line Dancing. The WI meet on the first Wednesday evening and the Friendship Club on the third Thursday afternoon.

Several dances, parties, sales, competitions and the like use the Hall on Saturdays and sometimes during the week. These are advertised locally on notice boards and in the Messenger. Sadly the Brownies, Guides, Scouts and Youth Club have all fallen by the wayside, together with the Pantomime Group. The Committee Room or the Millennium Lounge may be hired separately for meetings, similar to those of the Parish Council. Perhaps we have something to offer you at the Hall?

The return visit of Tom Collins' Jazz Band was thoroughly enjoyed, thank you to Dean Dasley. Beryl Hurst and all who helped to make a successful evening and £434 was raised for Hall funds. A week later, the sponsored walk was held in Rendlesham Forest organised by Peter Wenden. A large thank you to Peter and all those who took part or supported him in any way; to date the amount raised is around £600.

This month on Saturday, 29th November there is the Christmas Fayre at 2.00pm in the Hall. Please come and support it. there are many goodies to be had, and it is in aid of St George's Church and the Village Hall. The next committee meeting is on Tuesday, 18th November at 7.30pm in the Hall. *Bevan Willgress*

## GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

Report of the Great Bromley Parish Council meeting held on 16 October 2003

**Planning applications** The Council considered and agreed no objections to the following planning applications:

Nettle Croft, Chapel Lane - first floor extension.

Michaelmas House, Rectory Road - change of use: from agricultural/caravan site to residential curtilage.

The Council considered and agreed to object to the following application which it believed would lead to overdevelopment of the site and contravention of an existing condition of planning approval: Coppice View (the Caravan) Carrington Road: garden store and car port.

Tendring District Council has approved the following planning applications:

Byeways, Mary Lane North: single-storey kitchen extension.

3 Manor Cottages, Mary Lane South: two-storey extension.

Park Farm, Hillyards Road: barn eaves height. new planting and access.

Gresham's farm, Harwich Road: renewal of temporary mobile home.

Tendring District Council has refused the following planning applications:

Primrose Farm, Hall Road: farm manager's dwelling.

Marks Farm, Frating Road: single storey extension.

**Highways** Following its presentation at September's meeting the County Highways Department has provided a detailed written response to the issues raised by the council and local residents. Further information can be obtained from the Clerk. The bridge over the A120 at Parson's Hill (81029) was badly damaged by a vehicle in July. Repairs will be undertaken in early 2004 but, until then, a single lane with traffic lights will be operated.

**Rural Community Council of Essex** The Council is now a member of the Rural Community Council which can provide advice and assistance with a wide range of community projects.

**Village Hall** The District Council will be assuming responsibility for licensing premises and will consult the parish council on applications. The council considered and raised no objections to the village hall's application to renew its public entertainment licence. The Council agreed a grant of £2,500 to the village hall for the renewal of emergency lighting.

**Environment** The council has agreed in principle to apply for a grant from the district council towards the cost of trees to be planted at the Hare Green recreation field.

Onyx now clears weekly the council's litter and dog bins. Please let the Clerk know if this is not being done. Councillors have cleared away broken glass deposited near the Hare Green play equipment and which was clearly dangerous.

**Future meetings** The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 13 November 2003 at the Village Hall Great Bromley.

**Stour Valley Market Town Partnership** The Partnership aims to undertake community activities and projects in Lawford, Manningtree and Mitley that benefit residents of both these areas and adjacent villages. The first annual general meeting of the partnership will be held at 7.30 pm on 6 November at the Ogilvie Hall, Wignall Street Lawford. All those interested in learning about the partnership or who would like to make suggestions for future projects are invited to attend. Further information from the Partnership's Secretary Ken Scott

*KB 17/10/03*

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Once again Brenda and Richard at the Cross Inn provided an excellent lunch for our members and we thank them most sincerely and look forward to seeing them again soon. At our last meeting we had a talk on Katmandu, with slides, but I feel there were too many hills to climb to encourage me to try it! Christmas Decorations is our next subject this month and the competition is a Small Christmas Figure. Make sure you are booked in for the Friendship Christmas Lunch on 18th December - 12 for 12.30pm at the Village Hall - the coach will pick up as usual. *Vicky Griffiths*

## GARDENER'S CORNER FOR NOVEMBER

**LAWNS:** The final cut should be made this month, but with the weather being mild one has to play it by ear. Also this is the month to apply fertiliser. **HOUSE PLANTS:** Give all plants plenty of light, but remove from window sills at night - just keep the plants moist but not wet during the winter months. **PONDS:** Make sure you remove all dead leaves from the pond, especially from water lilies. Oxygenating plants can be thinned this month. This will be the last GARDENER'S CORNER for the year. I look forward to being back in February. Wishing everyone a HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A GOOD NEW YEAR - keep dry and warm. *Frank Griffiths*

## REMINDERS IN BIBLES AND OTHER VOLUMES

A Bible once used at Little Bromley had the following details inscribed in the inside front cover. "This copy of the Sacred Scriptures at one time used in the Church of St Mary the Virgin Woodford Halse cum membris In the Diocese of Peterborough was given to this Church of St Mary the Virgin, Little Bromley in the Diocese of St Albans in the year 1885 and was rebound in the year 1900. H H Minchin Rector, W H Grimsey Church Warden."

A Prayer Book stated - "For the use of the Parish Clerk of Little Bromley Used for the first time on Whit Sunday June 9th 1887. H B Newman MA, William Orman Church Warden, Thomas George Parish Clerk" It appears that Thomas George could read, as he was a scholar at the first School in Little Bromley.

*John Appleby*

## WOMENS' INSTITUTE

We had two speakers at our October meeting. The first was Ian Rose, whose talks are always enjoyable and this one proved just as fascinating. The subject was The Yorkshire Dales with its glorious countryside and the great variety of plants. Some thrive on the limestone, whilst others manage to find the many nooks and crannies, especially in the fissures of the white rock, which provides shade and other conditions suitable for growing. Ian showed us slides and told us about a trek he and his wife took with a guide in order to see a very rare orchid, the site of which is kept highly secret.

After refreshments, our local policeman, PC Chris Phillips, showed us a video .and gave a talk on "Distraction Burglaries", which seem to be on the increase nationally. He gave us advice and showed us some items he had brought along that would deter these bogus people, for instance, a special chain on the door with a bar that crosses over and makes it much harder to push the door open. PC Phillips said that the video can be borrowed in order to be shown to groups and clubs, telephone 01206 395555.

This month, November, we hold our Annual Meeting. Mrs Judith Rose, Women's Institute Adviser, will be along to guide us through the elections. How quickly the year has gone by!

## GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

### 100 CLUB WINNERS FOR SEPTEMBER

1st. Mr. Andy Pirie 2nd. Mr. Frank Griffiths 3rd. Mr. Pip Allam

## KITCHEN CORNER

By special request, another vegetarian dish this month. This idea is from Sarah Brown's "Vegetarian Kitchen".

### **RED DRAGON PIE** Serves 4

4 Oz (110g) aduki beans

2 oz (50g) wheat grain or rice

2 pts (1.1 ltr) water for boiling

2 pts (1.1 ltr) water for soaking

1 tbsp oil

1 onion, peeled and finely chopped

8 oz (225g) diced carrots

1-2 tbsp soy sauce, 2 tbsp tomato puree, 1teasp mixed herbs, Salt & pepper

1/2 pt (275ml) aduki bean stock

1lb (450g) peeled potatoes

1 oz butter



Wash beans and rice and soak overnight (or steep 1 hour in boiling water). Drain, rinse and bring to the boil in fresh water. Cook 50 mins till soft, drain but reserve the stock. Heat oil in pan and fry onion 5 mins, add carrots and cook 2-3 mins, then add cooked grains and beans. Add stock, puree, herbs and soy sauce and simmer 20-30 mins, season to taste and add more liquid to make a moist mixture.

Put in to a greased 3 pt (1.5 litre) casserole. Boil potatoes till soft then mash with butter, season well and spread over the bean mixture. Bake 35- 40 mins till potato is crisp and browned. 350F, 180C.

*Jill Frostick*

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### OCTOBER

- 24 Reading Group, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 31 Halloween Disco (adults only), Village Hall, 8.00pm

### NOVEMBER

- 4 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6 Flu vaccination clinic, Ardleigh Surgery
- 6 Reading Group, Cross inn, 2.00pm
- 13 Coffee Morning, Seven Rivers Cheshire Home, 10.30am
- 18 Village Hall Management Committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 22 Suffolk Concert Band, St Marys Church, Ardleigh, 7.30pm
- 20 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Contact Clerk for venue, 7.30pm
- 28 PTA Festive Fayre, School Hall, 6.00pm
- 29 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall, 2.00pm

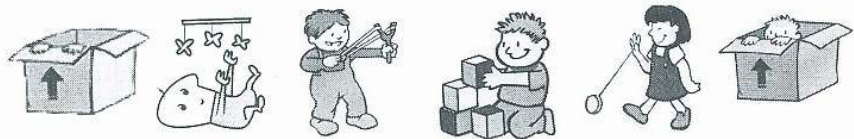
### DECEMBER

- 18 Friendship Club Christmas Lunch, Village Hall, 12 noon

## GREAT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUPE

This term the children's theme is "Books". We will be looking at different types of books including fictional, reference and poems. The new children who have joined this term are Carys, Fern and Thomas who we do hope will enjoy their time with us. Gt Bromley & Frating Playgroup is open to all children not just the village and Frating. So anyone who knows others who would be interested, or you yourself, to find out more on how their child can attend please do call Gayle, our Secretary. She will also be able to advise you on the Government's new 3 year old funding scheme and will also be able to put you in touch with our Playgroup Supervisor. Our AGM, on 6th October, was an eventful evening: we had new parents step forward for the committee and we also said goodbye to a few. Firstly I would like to thank Sarah, Penny, Caroline and Tracey, who stood down from the committee, for your involvement with the playgroup over the last few years. Sarah, who was our Chairperson, has said she will leave at Christmas when her son leaves to start school in January and Tracey has also said she will be doing the same as her daughter is also due to leave. Thanks to them for their ongoing help. Thanks too to Penny who has been our Secretary for a couple of years; she too had put a lot of time and effort into the running of Playgroup. Our new Chairperson is Natalie, so welcome Natalie - we hope you enjoy your new role with us. Our new Secretary is Gayle - once again welcome. Last but not least I must say how grateful we are to Lisa, our Treasurer, who will continue with her role until someone steps forward to take over. (Anyone who thinks they could become our new treasurer please speak to Natalie, our new chairperson, or Lisa herself). Our new committee members are Laura, Maxine and Lisa D, I would also like to say a belated THANK YOU to three very kind mums who back in the summer did a sponsored SLIM! They lost between them an amazing 62lb in weight and raised an even better £213! So thanks to Fiona, Lisa and Zoe.

I have a sincere apology to make from the playgroup committee and staff to anyone who had made plans to attend our Table Top Sale, which should have been held in September. Unfortunately we had to cancel it due to the LACK OF SUPPORT. We are aware that some of you were disappointed with this event not taking place and we are very sorry for any inconvenience to your afternoon out. *Kelly Searl*



## **SCALLYWAGS**

FOR 0 - 5 YEARS

FRIDAY MORNINGS 9.30AM - 12 PM  
AT GREAT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL

**STARTING 14th November 2003**

Come and play, sing songs and make things, you can even have a drink and a biscuit

Babies, children (0 - 5 years), to be accompanied by an adult  
Adults must stay and help supervise their children at all times!

£2 for 1 adult 1 child, and 50p for each child thereafter  
Additional tea and coffee will be available to purchase

Please come along and have fun with Us!

Contact Tracey on 01206 230625 or

Kelly on 07880965809

ST. GEORGES SCHOOL, GT. BROMLEY Headteacher: Pat Fitzgerald

**Required** Early Years Learning Support Assistant Hours: 15 per week (mornings) (term time only) Starting: January 2004 £6.59 per hour. Close date: 12 November 2003

We wish to appoint an Early Years Learning Support Assistant for our small, happy village school. Do you have patience, initiative, flexibility and a sense of fun? Then come and join our friendly, hard-working team. Initially for two terms with the possibility of the post becoming permanent. Experience an advantage. Details from school office on 01206 230305

We would like to increase the range of after school activities and need your help. We are looking for volunteers who can offer their time and skills in running an after school club. Topics could include: Country Dancing, ICT, Calligraphy, Chess, Needlework, Gardening, Modern foreign language, Cookery ... This list is not exhaustive and if you have a talent in a particular area (however obscure it might be) then let us know.

Activities could be for one hour a week, taking place at school between 3pm-4pm - and do not have to run for the whole term (eg. 10 weeks). Please contact Mrs. Fitzgerald.

Football club is now up and running on both Tuesdays and Saturdays for children in years 4-6. Matches for the Constable Country Football League should commence in November. School reopens after the half term break on Monday, 3rd November 2003.

**P.T.A.** The AGM was held on 2nd October and was well attended. Thank you to all existing and new members. A new committee has been selected.

Fund raising events: 31st October: HALLOWE'EN DISCO in the Village Hall, 8.00pm (Adults only). A bar will be open. 28th November: FESTIVE FAYRE 6.00pm in the School Hall.

### CONKER MAD

The long dry summer has prompted the trees to go into "panic mode" and produce an abundance of fruit. It will be interesting to see how much germinates over the winter. After the 1987 storm I had masses of alder and copper beech seedlings as well as the more usual oak, hawthorn, holly and sycamore. I have never yet had any lime seedlings.

This year walking through Castle Park on my way to work I walked past a fresh overnight fall of conkers. As I walked past I admired their beauty - their shiny brownness, their shapes. All of a sudden I had to have one. I turned back and picked one up but the one beside it was a slightly different shape and I then wanted that one too. They nestled in my hand glowing in the sun fresh out of their protective prickly cases and I wanted the others as well. I found myself gathering them all up until I had every last one in my arms. I realised I had been there for a few minutes and would have to hurry to work. What to do with my booty? It must have been a ridiculous sight for all those serious looking people passing by on their way to wherever to see a be-suited mature woman (no child by her side any more as an excuse) to be doing such an exercise, crouching there gathering up conkers in a possessed sort of way. Having gathered them I simply couldn't continue on my way with them in my arms. Nor could I leave them behind so they went into my handbag which then wouldn't close!

I rejoiced to myself that I had gathered this horde and when I secretly looked at them jostling together for space oh how beautiful they looked. However there was no-one with whom I could share their glory. How do you tell anyone of these fabulous objects in your possession? I was supposed to have grown out of collecting conkers years ago. I would dearly have loved to string some of the really big ones and have conker fights (with all the attendant concerns of whether best to bake, pickle in vinegar or use fresh!) - but who to fight with? Children would look askance if I challenged them to a fight - and anyway do they still have conker fights or is it deemed too dangerous for the playground? - and I would be too embarrassed to challenge an adult to pit their conkers against mine. So I have my cache by the back door which are already becoming dull coloured. Eventually I shall cast them round the countryside in suitable places and hope perhaps one will germinate and create a tree to give joy to future generations. Meanwhile I await next year's shining crop when this mad need to possess will probably overcome me once again. *Leonie Henderson*

**LETTER** to Parish Clerk from Mr B A Pitkin, Project Manager of the Highways Agency in Bedford. **A120 Parsons Hill Bridge** On 28th July 2003 a vehicle struck the Parsons Hill Bridge, causing extensive damage. The bridge carries the 81029 over the A120 to the . south of Great Bromley. As you will be aware the B1029 has been reduced to one lane with traffic light control. This has been done in order to keep traffic away from the damaged edge of the bridge. Our agents are carrying out further testing on the bridge to establish the full extent of the damage. It is anticipated that the repair work will be carried out in early 2004.

Call Library Direct - Pick up a good book without leaving home

If you can't get to us, we can come to you. If age, disability or caring prevents you visiting the library, Library Direct deliver all the latest best-sellers, blockbuster movies and great music direct to your door. We want everyone to be able to enjoy the services of their local Library. If you are unable to get to the Library then Library Direct can reach you in various ways:

- A neighbour, friend or relative can be given a ticket to collect books, videos, audio cassettes or DVDs on your behalf.
- Trained volunteers can bring the library to you in your own home.
- Books on tape can also be delivered direct to your home.
- An information service is available by telephone or email.
- Mobile libraries visit many residential homes and day centres

How to contact us? If you would like more information about Library Direct or any other library services please speak to your local library or ring our Answers Direct team on 01245 438438.

THE BROMLEY CROSS INN

EVENTS for NOVEMBER

Wednesday 5th - GUY FAWKES NIGHT - 7.00pm. Bring your kids, yourselves, some fireworks and enjoy a great evening. Burgers etc. available. Please give your fireworks to the marshalls who will ensure they are let off safely. Note: ALL children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. No unaccompanied minor will be admitted.

Thursday, 20th CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT 8.30pm in aid of East Anglian Children's Hospices and Essex Wildlife Trusts. Tables of 4 only £2.50 per head, bookings only.

Wednesday, 26th MUSIC NIGHT 8.00 pm. Come along and sing, play or just listen and enjoy a relaxed evening of traditional music and poetry.

Saturday, 29th MUSIC FROM THE SHOWS You are invited to come and sing along to all the songs you know so well with Dave (Mr Piano) Storm tinkling the ivories to keep us all in song.

**RURAL ACTIVITY GRANT SCHEME (RAGS)**

Your group could be eligible for funding

Up to 50% funding for community projects in rural Tendring, maximum contribution of £1,000

- Turning ideas into actions
- Limited funding is available
- DON'T MISS OUT!"

Contact Clare Evans (Rural Projects Officer) on 01255 256103 or [cevans@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:cevans@tendringdc.gov.uk) NOW

The amount of grant requested must not be more than 50% of the project costs, up to a maximum of £1,000 and matched funded by another source, eg own fund raising, Private sector, Parish Council or any other source of financial support. The total grant requested and the other sources of funding must equal the total costs of the project.

(The RAGS Scheme has helped Bradfield Village Hall, Dumont Luncheon Club, Sapphires Entertainment Group, Wrabness Nature Reserve, Wrabness Bowls Club, Baumont-cum-Moze Children's playgrounds among others.

If you have an idea for a larger project please call me on 01255 256103. There are many types of funds available in rural Tendring and together we can change ideas into actions.

THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner, I'm told very few of you read this letter, something for which last month I am grateful for! For those of you who don't read it in the Ardleigh Advertiser - somehow I managed to press a wrong key and send to the editor a list of one liner jokes someone mailed me. You may or may not find them amusing, but lumped together as a letter they made odd reading. I apologise to those of you who were offended, those of you who were confused, two of the last things I would wish to do. Later on in the month I found myself amazingly helping a friend with a new e-mail system. Two hours later we had still only managed to send one, and that twice! The two incidents made me think about how sometimes communication between people can be very difficult, even with or sometimes because of, modern technology. So maybe my attempts at communicating with God, praying, aren't as hopeless as I sometimes think. Day by day I try to set aside time to be still, quiet and reflective in Church. I can only echo the words of a past Archbishop - Michael Ramsay - when asked about his prayers "sometimes in the 29th minute of half an hours prayer time I will feel I am at prayer." As Christians though we believe that God

sees our efforts, hears our prayers and responds. Not always as we would desire, and often only appreciated when looking back, but he does answer. During November Christians traditionally pray for those who have died, our loved ones, and those who have died during conflicts. This is bringing people to mind and asking God that according to His promises made in Jesus Christ, the departed will know peace and joy with Him. Those who have died cannot communicate with us, however much we desire it to be so. In fact trying to communicate with the departed can be unhealthy and destructive, especially for the young or vulnerable. May your communications with each other and God be blessed and bring blessings of peace. *Fr Nicolas.*

**ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY**  
*united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh*



**Services for NOVEMBER**

|                    |         |                                           |                              |
|--------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>1st</b>         | 9.00am  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>Sunday 2nd</b>  |         | <b>All Saints</b>                         |                              |
|                    | 7.30am  | Morning Prayer                            | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
|                    | 8.00am  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
|                    | 10.30am | The Parish Eucharist                      | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
|                    | 6.30pm  | Evening Prayer                            | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>3rd</b>         |         | <b>All Souls Day</b>                      |                              |
|                    | 7.00pm  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>5th</b>         | 6.00pm  | The Eucharist                             | <i>Hamilton Lodge</i>        |
| <b>6th</b>         | 10.00am | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>7th</b>         | 11.00am | The Eucharist                             | <i>Seven Rivers</i>          |
| <b>8th</b>         | 9.00am  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>Sunday 9th</b>  |         |                                           |                              |
|                    | 7.30am  | Morning Prayer                            | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
|                    | 8.00am  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
|                    | 10.45am | Act of Remembrance & the Parish Eucharist | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
|                    | 10.45am | Act of Remembrance                        | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
|                    | 6.30pm  | Evening Prayer                            | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
| <b>10th</b>        | 10.00am | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
| <b>11th</b>        | 7.00pm  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>14th</b>        | 11.00am | The Eucharist                             | <i>Seven Rivers</i>          |
| <b>Sunday 16th</b> |         |                                           |                              |
|                    | 8.00am  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
|                    | 10.30am | Harvest Eucharist                         | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
|                    | 6.30pm  | Evening Prayer                            | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>19th</b>        | 10.00am | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
| <b>20th</b>        | 7.00pm  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>21st</b>        | 11.00am | The Eucharist                             | <i>Seven Rivers</i>          |
| <b>22nd</b>        | 9.00am  | The Eucharist & Rosary                    | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>Sunday 23rd</b> |         |                                           |                              |
|                    | 7.30am  | Morning Prayer                            | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
|                    | 8.00am  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
|                    | 10.30am | The Parish Eucharist                      | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
|                    | 6.30pm  | Worship for All                           | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>24th</b>        | 10.00am | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
| <b>27th</b>        | 7.00pm  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>28th</b>        | 11.00am | The Eucharist                             | <i>Seven Rivers</i>          |
| <b>29th</b>        | 9.00am  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
| <b>Sunday 30th</b> |         |                                           |                              |
|                    | 7.30am  | Morning Prayer                            | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
|                    | 8.00am  | The Eucharist                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |
|                    | 10.30am | The Parish Eucharist                      | <i>St. George the Martyr</i> |
|                    | 6.30pm  | Evening Prayer                            | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>   |



## The Bromley Messenger December 2003

It is usual in December for "The Messenger" to be sponsored by the Great Bromley Pantomime Group. Unfortunately due to lack of committee and cast the Group has folded and put away its costumes and filed away the scripts with the result that in its 50th year it has ceased. On top of that the sad news has come through of the death of Betty Rowe, a long term staunch supporter of the Pantomime Group and also of anything run in the village. She was always there helping, or offering to help, and will be much missed by everyone with whom she came into contact. Our deepest sympathies to the Rowe family at this time.

"Christmas is coming and the goose is getting fat." The last time I ate goose was probably in the 1950s. I cannot remember what it tasted like but I do remember the size of it coming out of the oven on Christmas Day filling the room with a delicious smell and feeding the hungry tummies of my parents and siblings. We used to go to church in the morning and were not allowed to open any presents until after lunch and the washing up done so that my mother could relax and join in the fun with the rest of us. The evening was usually spent around the latest board game. I remember the Christmas we were given "Risk" when my brother, with the black army, managed to take over the world much to the disgust of the rest of us. That was a game but as we speed towards 2004 one can't help wondering if the world as we know it is changing forever with people becoming increasingly frightened for their safety. Two millennium ago Christianity was born on Christmas Day and love, laughter, excitement and optimism became synonymous with this time of year. Let it prevail with the wish that you all enjoy a very merry peaceful Christmas.  
*Leonie Henderson (Editor)*

### WHAT ON EARTH ARE "CALLING BIRDS"?

We are all familiar with the Christmas carol The Twelve Days of Christmas, but whatever is it all about? "Calling birds", "French hens", "maids a-milking"! What have all these to do with Christmas?

Well, this carol has a hidden meaning. During the 16th century Catholics were not allowed to practise their faith in England, and so, in order to teach their children the basic doctrines, they made up nonsense songs so as not to arouse the suspicions of those non-Catholics around them.

The meaning of The Twelve Days of Christmas:

A partridge in a pear tree - Jesus on the cross

Two turtle doves - the Old and New Testaments

Three French hens - French hens were expensive in the 1500s and so they symbolised the three gifts brought by the Wise Men. They also depicted the three virtues - Faith, Hope and Charity.

Four calling birds - The Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Five gold rings - the first five books of the Old Testament, known as the Law.

Six geese a-laying - the six days of the Creation

Seven swans a-swimming - the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit (Romans 12:6-8)

Eight maids a-milking - these refer to the eight blessings referred to in Matthew 5:3-10 (Blessed are the poor...)

Nine ladies dancing - the nine fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)

Ten lords a-leaping - the Ten Commandments

Eleven pipers piping - the eleven faithful apostles.

Twelve drummers drumming - the Apostles Creed ("I believe in God the Father, Maker of heaven and earth ...")

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Last month we held our Annual Meeting, but unfortunately Mrs Judith Rose, WI Adviser, was unable to come along to guide us through the elections for our Officers and Committee. Mrs Jill Frostick kindly stepped in and as every member of the current year agreed to stand for a further year, they were elected *en bloc*. The committee is:

President - Mrs Ann Jones.

Secretary - Mrs Mary Clark.

Treasurer - Mrs Sue Orris

Vice-President - Mrs Paula Bradshaw,

Committee Members - Mrs Gwen Barrell, Mrs Jean Dalgety and Mrs Sylvia Mangan.

Do you know who the ACWW are? The Associated Country Women of the World. One of the National Federation of Women's Institutes' long standing links is with the ACWW since 1933.

ACWW is the largest international organisation for rural women, representing one million women in 70 countries. Although non-governmental, it works very closely with the United Nations. The aims of ACWW are:

- a) To raise the standard of living of rural women and families through education, training and community development projects.
- b) To provide practical support to members - eg. by helping women's groups set up and run income generating schemes.
- c) To support educational opportunities for women and girls and eliminate gender based discrimination.
- d) To give rural women a voice at international level through links with UN agencies.

Every year WI members raise money for ACWW Coins for Friendship fund, which along with donations from other member societies is the main source of income. It receives no government funding. East, West and Central Africa is part of nine areas world-wide declared a priority area for ACWW help, as this area suffers from high levels of poverty, poor communications and transport.

This month we have our Christmas party on 3rd December. Members are reminded to bring along glasses, plates, bowls and cutlery for their guests and themselves. On behalf of our members, may I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year. *June Willgress*

# RECYCLING

## WHY BOTHER?

For the cynics amongst us who ask this question there is a simple reply. We have no option. The present government targets have been set for Tendring District Council and must be achieved. Last year 11.2% was recycled, 2003 sees 16% as our goal and by 2005/6 in line with national targets we must attain 24%. If we do not achieve this then the Government will step in and we will have to pay the price of failure.

## FACT

In 5 years' time all Landfill Sites in this country will be FULL and an E.U. ruling decrees that no more will be allowed. We apparently lag behind Europe in this field by about 20 years.

## HAVE THE NEW RECYCLING DAYS HELPED?

Approximately 44% of the local population are supporting this initiative BUT WE ALL HAVE TO PLAY OUR PART. After 6 months of the new system 6 tons per fortnight have been collected, which equals 150 tons per year, but we still ave 900 tons per year to improve on!! If we could recycle 84% of our waste then for every 6 bags we accrue 5 would go for recycling and only one would have to go for waste disposal.

## HOW BEST CAN WE HELP?

**DO NOT PUT RECYCLABLE MATERIALS IN BLACK BIN BAGS.** If the collection for recycling and household waste falls on the same day this will cause confusion. If a SINGLE black bag is mixed with a recycling collection the entire load is rejected.

## WHAT HAPPENS TO THE STUFF THAT IS COLLECTED?

Everything is sent off to a factory known as a "Material Reclamation Facility" or MRF, where it is tipped on to a conveyor belt and sorted by hand. Not a very pleasant task. Markets are found for the bulk of the goods and much is exported eg. plastics to China, plastic milk bottle containers are converted into the fleeces worn during the winter or into compost bins, garden furniture etc.

Aluminum cans are made into more cans and metal or steel tins converted into low grade metal items eg. Meccano, or washers.

## PLEASE DO

- RECYCLE as much as you possibly can.
- USE THE BOTTLE BANK IN THE VILLAGE
- USE TEXTILE and CAN BANKS
- COMPOST YOUR GARDEN WASTE

'Tis the season to be jolly ...

Please remember to recycle your wrapping paper, packaging, cards, bottles, Christmas cards etc.



## TRADITIONAL FRESH FARM CHRISTMAS TURKEYS

BRONZE or WHITE

Hazels Farm, Great Bromley  
01206 230232



## Orchard Boarding Cattery

Orchard Cottage  
Little Bromley Road  
Little Bentley  
near Colchester CO7 8SS

Tel: 01206 397 096  
Email: ken@littledev.demon.co.uk



## RECYCLING IN THE BROMLEYS

Area: **Most of Great Bromley**

Wednesdays 10th, 31st December

Area: **Briar, Ardleigh, Carrington & Colchester Roads & Lilleys Lane**

Mondays 1st, 15th December

Area: **Little Bromley**

Mondays 1st, 15th December

### FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We are sad to report that our member of many years, Mrs Betty Rowe, passed away last week. She will be greatly missed especially for the hard work she put in on various things in the village.

HOLIDAY with BERNARD: I regret it has been cancelled as the hotel wanted a definite booking earlier than was expected and two other parties were on the waiting list for the same dates. Unfortunately I was unable to contact people due to my phone being out of order for over a week - SORRY!

CHRISTMAS LUNCH: At the Village Hall with the time being 12 for 12:30. If you wish to have a cup of tea or coffee with your mince pie please bring your own cup or mug together with your own drinks. The coach will do the usual pick-ups - if you want to know the time please phone Trevor. Christmas is almost upon us and whether it be a white one or whatever, I hope the sun shines for you and brings you happiness and good health for the coming year. The Chairman and Committee wish everyone a VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS and look forward to seeing you all at the AGM on 15th January, 2004 - don't forget to bring your membership card. *Vicky Griffiths*

### CARPET BOWLS

Two months into the winter league and we've made a reasonable start. Lost the first match 6-2 away to Wix but winning the next three, all at home, Tendring 6-2, Walton 5-3 and Weeley 5-3. Not such a good result at Gt Bentley when playing in the Tendring Fours Charity Tournament. Representing Gt Bromley were Jayne, Linda, Derek and Andrew. but unfortunately they didn't make the second round. This month Joe has taken up residence in Elmstead Market and all members of the club wish him well and hope he'll be happy there. He is still near enough to continue playing for us. Time again - already! - to wish our friends and supporters a very Happy Christmas and a good New Year. *Nancy Kempster .*

### GREAT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

The Cricket Club would like to thank everyone who came to the Quiz night on October 11th and helped to raise a massive £502 for club funds. With the kind permission of Ann Clapham the Annual General Meeting will take place at Copley Dene on 24th February, 2004 at 8 pm.

#### 100 CLUB WINNERS FOR OCTOBER

1st. Mr. P. Herring 2nd. Mr. M. Lamb (Snr.) 3rd. Mr. B. Wright

### SCALLY WAGS at Great Bromley Village Hall

£2 for 1 adult 1 child & 50p for each child thereafter. Come along play, sing and make things. Adults must stay and supervise their children at all times. Come and join in the fun! Contact Tracey or Kelly

### GREAT BROMLEY & FRATING PLAYGROUPO

We sadly are saying quite a few goodbyes this term as many of our children will be starting their chosen school after the Christmas break. They are Lauren, Harry, Luca, Tommy, Joe, Charlie, Erin, Jessica, Solomon, Katie and Nicolas. We all wish them good luck. Our Christmas party with Jo Jingles was good fun and went well. A big Thank you to the staff and the committee for all their hard work this year.

Important dates: Break up - Thursday, 11th December Return - Monday 12th January, 2004

On behalf of the committee and Playgroup staff I would like to wish all our children and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2004. Enjoy your break and we look forward to seeing you next year. *Kelly Searl*

### ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL PTA

Table Top Sale on 18th October. We held a Tabletop Sale at the school and managed to raise £95 approximately although this event was poorly supported. Thank you to all who came along on the day. Hallowe'en Disco 31st October. This event had to be cancelled due to lack of support. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets. If you have not had a refund please contact the school office. **CHRISTMAS FAYRE** Our Christmas Fayre will be held at School on Friday, 28th November in the School Hall between 6-8pm. Father Christmas will be there. Hot mince pies. sausage rolls and mulled wine, craft stalls, games, fantastic raffle and loads of fun activities for all the children and family. Please come along and support your local school and have an enjoyable festive evening.

## KITCHEN CORNER

The game season is here again, so a recipe to try for pheasant. This comes from Warwickshire.

### **WARWICKSHIRE PHEASANT CASSEROLE**

A brace of pheasant, prepared

A knob of butter

4 rashers back bacon, chopped

1 tbsp flour salt & black pepper

$\frac{3}{4}$  pt chicken stock

2 onions. peeled & chopped

1 carrot, peeled & sliced

4-6 shallots, peeled & left whole

Bouquet garni (bay leaf. 2 sprigs parsley, sprig thyme tied with string)

$\frac{1}{2}$  pt red wine, 2 tbsp brandy

6 Oz button mushrooms

Melt butter in frying pan and quickly brown pheasant on all sides. Remove to a casserole dish, fry bacon in residual butter, then stir in flour and seasoning. Pour in stock. stirring well. Add vegetables and bring to the boil. Pour over pheasant and add the herbs. Pour wine over, cover and cook  $2\frac{1}{2}$  -3 hours very moderate oven, 325F. Remove herbs, add mushrooms and brandy and cook another 30 minutes. Serve with creamed potatoes and a green vegetable. *Jill Frostick*

## NEWS FROM GREAT BENTLEY SURGERY - THE HOLLIES, THE GREEN, GT BENTLEY

I can't believe that 2003 is on its way out already. However, when I think of all that has happened over the last 10 months or so - staff coming and going, the SARS scare, WMDs, the extension, a new Tory leader, births, marriages and deaths - perhaps it is just that time goes more quickly not that I've hit late youth. Anyway I've written my letter to Father Christmas early this year and I thought I'd let you see a copy.

"Dear Father Christmas, Please get everyone to put their prescription requests in early this year and to leave us plenty of time to process them. If anyone needs us on Christmas or New Year's Eve, please get them to let us know as early as possible so that we can all get off and start to enjoy the fun. Don't let the powers that be make too many changes to the NHS next year. We've put a lot of effort into sorting out the latest round and could do with a period of stability. Please let Homebase have a bag or two of rock salt left when I finally get there. Oh, and please hold off with the snow and ice until I've managed to get some salt. Please let us have Dr Steiner back fit and well before too long. Please let the other doctors and all our staff get through winter without being poorly. I shudder every time I see someone coughing over them at this time of year, even though most of them are hardened by years of exposure to all sorts of bugs and viruses. Finally, please may all our patients be fit and well over the next few months and have a marvellous Christmas. (We'd love to see you all over the festive season, but preferably not here in the surgery!)."

Have a really good Christmas and a happy, healthy 2004. *Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager*

## GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Report of the Great Bromley Parish Council meeting held on 13 November 2003

**Planning applications** The Council considered and agreed no objections to the following planning application: Bay Cottage, Chase Road - replacement porch. The Council considered and agreed that it could not give a view on the following planning application without further information on the scale and nature of the proposed development: Field House, Parson's Hill - proposed new stables.

Tendring District Council has approved the following planning applications:

03/01768/FUL: Michaelmas House, Rectory Road Change of use: from agricultural/caravan site to residential curtilage.

03/01639/FUL: The Bungalow, Hillyards Road Change of use of building from piggery to the manufacture and storage of sectional portable buildings and fencing (approval with conditions)

03/01499/FUL: Nettle Croft, Chapel Lane First floor extension

Tendring District Council has refused the following planning applications: 03/01600/FUL:

Portlands Barn, Harwich Road Provision of rear addition to barn. 03/01817/FUL: Coppice View (the Caravan) Carrington Road Garden store and car port.

**Future meetings** The next meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 4 December 2003 at the Village Hall, Great Bromley. KB 18/11/03

## **ELIZABETH (BETTY) MARION ROWE 14.08.20 - 12.11.03**

In 1953 Peter & Betty Rowe arrived back in Gt Bromley to take up the tenancy of Harris Farm after a brief sojourn at Clipt Hedges farm. Within a short time both became involved in village life soon being advised that one had to be in the village for 21yrs to be a local and allowed to stand for various committees. Undaunted thence began a lifelong love affair with home "Gt Bromley" with Peter pursuing Parish Council, Village Hall, Church Council and Betty the W.I., Church and, of course, Pantomime as one of the original members still active to the final curtain, something she just could not understand nor accept failing at its 50th show. Always a doer and organiser, Betty liked nothing better than to arrange flowers at the church, write minutes and send letters on behalf of any good cause. From the School to the Friendship Club, if it was to do with Gt Bromley Betty would be there in any way she could even if she hadn't a clue - as was the case with cricket where she spent many happy hours watching the cricket team.

So to the people of Gt Bromley her family wish to say thank you for providing Betty with so much friendship and happiness. I think after 50 years we can safely say she was a local.

*Nigel Rowe*

## **CHILDREN'S CORNER**

(ADULT SUPERVISION NEEDED)

### WOVEN BAGS for the CHRISTMAS TREE

*Simple to make and ideal for holding small gifts or sweets*

You will need

Craft knife/scissors

Strong, coloured paper, or laminate giftwrap to cartridge paper for the container base

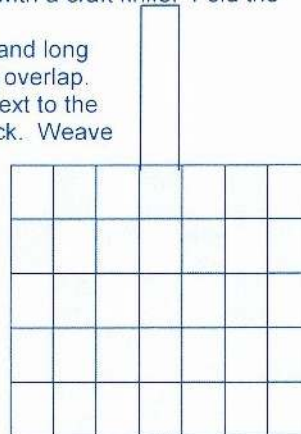
Contrast papers (prepared to equal weight) for weaving

Clear craft glue

1. To make the base, follow the diagram. Cut a rectangle 16 x 7.5 cm from paper. Draw a live 6mm all round inside the outline. Within this, measure and mark lines 1cm apart. Cut along the lines with a craft knife. Fold the paper in half across its width.
2. Cut 6 strips of contrast paper, each 1cm wide, and long enough to wrap round the bag with a generous overlap. With the base folded, weave one strip across next to the fold line. Continue weaving across the back. Weave in the ends securely into the inside and outside of the bag. Trim the excess strip so that the ends do not show on the outside. Continue weaving in the same way with 4 more strips.

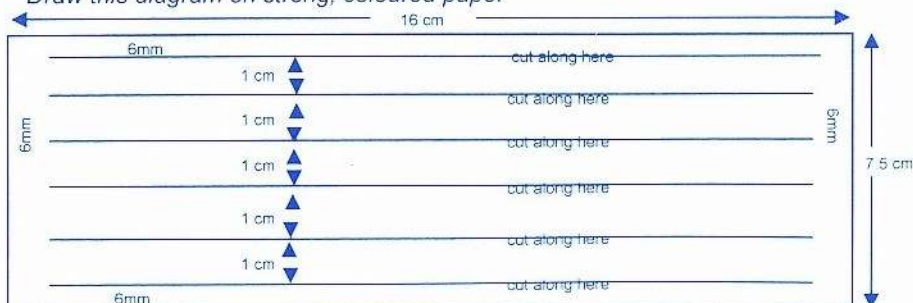
Handle

3. To make the handle, cut the remaining strip 20cm long and weave each end into the pattern at the centre on the insides of the bag. Secure with glue.



*Finished bag*

*Draw this diagram on strong, coloured paper*



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### DECEMBER

3 WI Christmas Party, Village Hall, 7.30pm

4 Gt Bromley Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

18 Friendship Club Christmas Lunch, Village Hall, 12 noon

### JANUARY 2004

14 PCC meeting, The Rectory, 7.30pm

15 Friendship Club A.G.M., Village Hall 2.00pm

### FEBRUARY 2004

24 Cricket Club A.G.M-, Copley Dene, 8.00pm

## THANKS - Harvest Lunch 2003.

Many thanks to those who provided the food and to those who served; to James for selling the tickets and Ann for decorating the tables; to Vera and Co for running the raffle and those who gave prizes. Also to the 8 o'clockers for preparing the room, and finally to those who got on and helped on the day. Thank you all very much. A special thank you to Linda Pinhey of "Sweet Success" who once again lent equipment free of charge. A convivial occasion. There was a profit of £305 which will be sent to the Sisters of Mercy who provide food for the needy. *Prue Simons*

## RECIPE FOR CHRISTMAS CAKE

|                      |                     |              |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1 cup water          | 1 cup sugar         | 4 large eggs |
| 2 cups dried fruit   | 1 teasp baking soda | 1 teasp salt |
| 1 cup of brown sugar | lemon juice         | nuts         |
| 2 pints vodka        |                     |              |

1. Sample the vodka to check for quality. Take a large bowl. Check vodka again. Sniff suspiciously to make sure it is of highest quality. Pour one level cup and drink. Repeat
2. Turn on electric mixer. Beat 1 cup of butter in a large, fluffy bowl. Add 1 cup of sugar. Beat again. At this point it'sh best to make sure the vodka is shrill okay. Phwee. Try nother cup, jussin case.
3. Turn off the mixerer.
4. Break 2 leggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cupla dried fruit. Pick fried druid off the floor.
5. Mix on the turner. If the druid fright gets stuck in teh beaterers pry it loose with a drewscriber.
6. Sample the vodka to check for tonsisticity. Next. sift 2 cups of salt. Or something. Who gives a git?
7. Check the voddie for body. Now shift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one table.
8. Adda spoona sugar or something - make a medicine go down. Whatever you can find.
9. Grease oven. slosh in fridge. Turn cake tin 350 degrees, hold on to floor for balance.
10. Don't forget to beat off the turner.
11. Finally. throw the bowl throught the window, finish vodka and dog up the pick.
12. Fall into bed, dream of Cherry Mistmas. Who likes fruitcake anyway.

## LITTLE BROMLEY NINETY YEARS AGO

Of course the Census taken on 6th April, 1911 is not yet available to the public but you first saw these details in The Bromley Messenger!

Inhabited houses 85

Uninhabited houses 4

(Buildings not used as houses 8)

Population in 1911

Males 183

Females 178

Total 361

Increase in population between 1901 and 1911

57

Can you guess why there was an increase?

In 1921 there were 306 inhabitants, a further decrease of 55 persons. *John Appleby*

## WISHING FOR A FAMILY

National Adoption Week was held during 3-7 November. Essex County Council marked the week by releasing pictures of real children wishing for a family.

James, 17 months, is a delightful, engaging little boy who loves the company of others. He is very affectionate and would benefit from a family who have a great deal of love and patience possibly with experience of special needs children.

Ewan, 2, is an energetic, inquisitive and happy child. Ewan loves playing outside and with cars. He also enjoys reading and music. Ewan would be best placed with a two parent family who are outgoing, energetic and affectionate.

Carl, 3, is a sociable child who loves cars and painting. He is a very active little boy and interacts well with other children. Carl needs to be the youngest child in a family where he can receive lots of one to one attention. He would enjoy having older children in the family although there should be a gap of several years.

Toni, 7 and Page, 5, are half-sisters who need to stay together. Toni is a bright, friendly and outgoing child who is eager to please. She enjoys reading and physical activities. Page is an affectionate child who loves playing with her dolls. She enjoys painting, drawing and watching TV. They would be ideally placed with experienced parents or a couple who have a lot of contact with children.

Callum, 7 and Rebecca, 8, are brother and sister who need to grow up together. Callum is bright, cheery and sociable. He is affectionate, sensitive and is making good academic progress. Rebecca is a lively child who needs praise and encouragement. She is talented in artistic work and is anxious to be placed with her 'forever family'.

These children are among 60 in Essex waiting for adoptive families. The "wishing for a family" campaign aims to raise awareness of the type of children who need adopting including older children, brothers and sisters and ethnic minority children. The campaign also hopes to dispel some of the myths surrounding adoption. Many people who would make excellent adopters rule themselves out for the wrong reasons. Single people as well as couples can adopt. There is no upper age limit for adoptive parents, though it is important to be fit enough to care for a child for the rest of their childhood. The only real criteria are that people are over 21 and in good health. For more information please telephone 0800 801 530 or visit [www.essexcc.gov.uk/adoptionandfostering](http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/adoptionandfostering)

## THE BROMLEY CROSS INN EVENTS for DECEMBER

Tuesday, 2nd BEAUTY THERAPY EVENING from 8.00pm Jo Saunders will be demonstrating Virginie beauty products and treatments.

Wednesday, 17th - CHRISTMAST MUSIC NIGHT - An evening of music and rhyme, ending with carols by candlelight around the Christmas tree - bring a warm coat!

Thursday, 18th CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT 8.30 pm start in aid of the Elizabeth Svednsen Trust. (a branch of the Donkey Sanctuary) which trains rescued donkeys to provide riding and therapy for Downs Syndrome and autistic children and for elderly residents in care homes. £2.50 per head - CHRISTMAS EVE Got an instrument? Want to jam? "Double Trouble" will be giving it large from 8.00pm, so if you fancy some informal, seasonal music (acoustic only), come and join in or just listen and enjoy a traditional Christmas Eve at the local.

CHRISTMAS DAY OPEN FOR DRINKS MIDDAY - 2.00pm only.

BOXING DAY - Lunches midday - 2.00pm - bookings only. - Restaurant closed in the evening.

NEW YEAR'S EVE - WALT DISNEY PRESENTS an EVENING of MUSIC and DANCING to bring in the New Year. and welcomes his favourite cartoon Characters to join the fun. 8 till late. Light supper provided

## ENGLISH!

Reasons for why the English language can be quite hard to learn. 1. The bandage was wound around the wound. 2. The farm was used to produce produce. 3. The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse. 4. We must polish the Polish furniture. 5. He could lead if he would get the lead out. 6. The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert. 7. Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present. 8. A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum. 9. I did not object to the object. 10. can I intimate this to my most intimate friend? 11. The insurance was invalid for the invalid. 12. There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row. 13. They were too close to the door to close it. 14. The buck does funny things when the does are present. 15. A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line. 16. To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow. 17. The wind was too strong to wind the sail 18. After a number of injections my jaw got number. 19. I shed a tear when I saw the tear in the painting 20. I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.

## THE PCC or THE BROMLEYS

The PCC met on 20:5 October and discussed the following issues:- The Parish is predicted to be in deficit at the year end. A member of the congregation suggested that the PCC should stop giving money to charities until the financial deficit is cleared. It was pointed out that a fundamental principle of the Church of England is that it is a missionary church and, if we were to adopt that approach, we would be in danger of becoming totally self-centred and inward looking. The Parish Share for 2004 is currently under discussion, throughout the Deanery. The Benefice of Ardleigh and the Bromleys is likely to see an annual increase of 2%, making a total payable for the year of £30,966. It has been suggested that a Fundraising Co-ordinator be appointed and the PCC would support the creation of such a post.

**The Harvest Lunch** was a success generating a surplus of £305 which is to be donated to the Sisters of Mercy for their work in feeding the poor and hungry. Thanks were given to everyone who helped.

**Childrens Report** The MAGI will be leading the next combined Youth Service that is due to be held on Sunday 23rd November at 6.30pm in Ardleigh Church.

**Benefice Magazine** After publication of the December/January edition, a news sheet will be produced in its place.

**Fabric** The West Window has not been repaired to a satisfactory standard and it was decided an approach be made to the manufacturer in Birmingham with a view to obtaining a quote for renovation. Investigatory work, associated with the next phase of Church repairs, has now been completed and it was agreed not to start any work before the spring of 2004 to avoid erecting scaffolding twice.

**Access Audit** An 'Access Audit' carried out at the request of English Heritage has been received. There are no material matters that require action.

**Churches Together in Manningtree** Father Nicolas attended a meeting of Churches Together. The annual Christmas card, showing Services to be held throughout the Manningtree area, will also incorporate Services at Ardleigh and the Bromleys and supplies of the card will be made available for distribution throughout both Parishes.

**Worship - Parish Eucharist** Various matters were discussed. Since combining the two Churches: numbers at the 10.30am Services have increased. It was therefore suggested that a second area be identified for administering communion.

**Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14th January 2004 in the Rectory

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### **Holy Baptism**

28th September at S Mary's:

Benjamin David Mayne, Edward James Smith, Charles Henry Smith, James William Smith

5th October at S George's

James Alexander Carver-Hardy

"We welcome you into the Lord's family"

### **Funerals**

7th October at S Mary's Syd Thomas

9th October at S George's Florrie Bowell

22nd October at Weeley Crematorium Des Pryke

23rd October at Seven Rivers Jim Lovell

29th October at Colchester Crematorium Cyril Foster

"Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord"

## THE UNITED PARISHES OF ARDLEIGH AND THE BROMLEYS

Dear Parishioner. For us Christians December has a split personality! The first 24 days are of Advent a beautiful season of expectation and preparation. The Church calls her members to ponder on the coming of Christ into the world; to know that 2,000 years ago God chose to be born in the poverty of a stable; that he lived, died, and rose again to save the world from itself; that one day we shall be brought face to face with him in person and be called to account for how we lived our lives according to His love. Advent is a time for spiritual preparation at the beginning of a new Church year. So we sing and pray "Come Lord Jesus".

The last days of December and the first few of January are in contrast of great celebration. The greatest thing ever to happen to the world is to be celebrated with everything we are and have. "Yea Lord we greet thee" we sing and pray. Jesus Christ is born of a lowly Virgin; God is revealed



to those on the margins of society, the uneducated, the poor, the outcasts, the shepherds. God is revealed to the whole world, Jew and non-Jew, in the Wise men. The twelve days of Christmass are truly to be celebrations of God's love for the world and expressions of that love amongst you and me, His children.

A Christian December can be summed up by "Joy". A joy that is about past events 2000 years ago and also in our own lives as we reflect on how God has come to each of us, and how we should respond to that. A joy of future promise of forgiveness, acceptance and welcome into God's awesome presence. A joy of what has been, what is, and what is to come. Have a good Advent. Prepare yourself well with your Bibles, Housechurches, Prayers, Visits to Church and Celebrations of the Sacraments, particularly the Eucharist and Penance. Celebrate Christmass with all that is in you at Church, home and in your daily life. May God continue to pour out his blessings on you, your homes and families. May you be given the way to reflect on his presence past, present and future in the world and your life. May he bless you with His love this December and always.

*Fr Nicolas*

On 18th December **The MAGI** (Mary's & George's Investigators - the teenagers from Church) will be carol singing in Arleigh village. If any teenagers would like to join us we plan to leave Church at 5.15pm. Please be accepting of our musical offerings and generous in your financial giving towards the Children's Society.

**Pilgrimage** to places such as the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham have been part of the Christian life for centuries. They give an opportunity to move out of ordinary life for a while to take stock or make a decision, or simply have some rest and relaxation, The food and accommodation at Walsingham are always of a high standard with much to recommend them. Last year Radio 4 listeners voted Walsingham the country's most spiritual place and it's only a two hour drive from here! Places have been booked for our parishes in June 18-20 - that is Friday Supper to Sunday lunch at a cost of £72. Travel in cars is not included. If you would like to book a place please let Fr Nicolas have a £10 deposit by the end of January, stating if you have any dietary requirements. need a downstairs room and a preference for sharing a room or not.

## Services for DECEMBER

|                    |         |                                                               |                               |
|--------------------|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1st                | 10.00am | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| 3rd                | 7.00pm  | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| 4th                | 10.00am | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| 5th                | 11.00am | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>Seven Rivers</i>           |
| 6th                | 9.00am  | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| <b>Sunday 7th</b>  |         |                                                               |                               |
|                    | 7.30am  | <b>Advent 2</b><br>Morning Prayer                             | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
|                    | 8.00am  | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
|                    | 10.30am | The Parish Eucharist                                          | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
|                    | 6.30pm  | Evening Prayer                                                | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| <b>8th</b>         |         |                                                               |                               |
|                    | 10.00am | <b>The Immaculate Conception of Our Lady</b><br>The Eucharist | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| 10th               | 6.00pm  | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>Hamilton Lodge</i>         |
| 11th               | 7.00pm  | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| 12th               | 11.00am | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>Seven Rivers</i>           |
| 13th               | 9.00am  | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| <b>Sunday 14th</b> |         |                                                               |                               |
|                    | 7.30am  | <b>Advent 3</b><br>Morning Prayer                             | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
|                    | 8.00am  | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
|                    | 10.30am | The Parish Eucharist                                          | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
|                    | 6.30pm  | Evening Prayer                                                | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| 15th               | 10.00am | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| 17th               | 7.00pm  | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| 18th               | 7.00pm  | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| 19th               | 11.00am | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>Seven Rivers</i>           |
| 20th               | 9.00am  | The Eucharist & Rosar                                         | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| <b>Sunday 21st</b> |         |                                                               |                               |
|                    | 7.30am  | <b>Advent 4</b><br>Morning Prayer                             | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
|                    | 8.00am  | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
|                    | 10.30am | The Parish Eucharist                                          | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
|                    | 5.00pm  | Bible Readings & Carc                                         | <i>St. Mary's, Lt Bromley</i> |
| 22nd               | 10.00am | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| <b>24th</b>        |         |                                                               |                               |
|                    | 3.00pm  | <b>Christmass Eve</b><br>Christmass Carol Ser.                | <i>Hamilton Lodge</i>         |
|                    | 4.00pm  | Christingle Service                                           | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
|                    | 5.30pm  | Christingle Service                                           | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
|                    | 11.30pm | Midnight Mass                                                 | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| <b>25th</b>        |         |                                                               |                               |
|                    | 9.30am  | <b>Christmass Day</b><br>Morning Prayer                       | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
|                    | 10.30am | The Parish Eucharist                                          | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| <b>26th</b>        |         |                                                               |                               |
|                    | 11.00am | <b>S Stephen</b><br>The Eucharist                             | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
| <b>27th</b>        |         |                                                               |                               |
|                    | 9.00am  | <b>S John the Evangelis</b><br>The Eucharist                  | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| <b>Sunday 28th</b> |         |                                                               |                               |
|                    | 7.30am  | <b>Holy Family Sunday</b><br>Morning Prayer                   | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
|                    | 8.00am  | The Eucharist                                                 | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
|                    | 10.30am | The Parish Eucharist                                          | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |
|                    | 6.30pm  | Evening Prayer                                                | <i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>    |
| <b>29th</b>        |         |                                                               |                               |
|                    | 10.00am | <b>S Thomas Becket</b><br>The Eucharist                       | <i>St. George the Martyr</i>  |