THE BROMLEY MESSENGERAUGUST 2011Volume 26 No 5



Photograph courtesy of Colin File

Seven Rivers Annual Summer Fete

Service Manager, Jo Auger, receives special attention from a Seven Rivers resident.

Full report inside

THE FIRST PAGE

The bombshell this month is to report that our Treasurer, Len Christodoulides, has decided to retire from being our treasurer. He is taking a well earned rest after having done the job for 26 years; he also has family health problems.

Known to many of you as, simply, Len Christo, he was one of the founders of the Bromley Messenger when it came into being in 1985. Since then he has quietly and efficiently been looking after the money matters of it ever since, seeking out sponsors and dealing with advertisers. For me, since I took over as editor, he has always been there with support, calming advice and humour and never failing offers of help. He will be sorely missed by the BM team and has done much to help the Messenger reach



Photo taken at the BM anniversary party in 2006

the state of financial stability it presently enjoys. We wish him well for his retirement and on behalf of all of you, our readers, thank him very much for all the time he has spent looking after the financial health of the magazine.

Richard Perry, who will be known to many of you as the former landlord of The Cross Inn, has offered to take over Len's role. Thank you, Richard, and the BM team look forward to working with you.

Leonie Henderson

MATERIAL for the AUGUST 2011 edition of 'The Bromley Messenger'

should reach the Editor, Leonie Henderson, by **14th July, 2011** please. <u>Contributions from anonymous sources will not be printed</u>. Whilst the editor welcomes contributions, photographs etc this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to publish, that the item may be edited and that there is no breach of copyright. Publication is in good faith and neither the editor nor the publisher accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement, including any error or omission, responsibility for which remains with the author.

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For details of availability and costs for **ADVERTISING** in the 'The Bromley Messenger' please contact the Treasurer on 01206 251264

Please support the sponsors of our magazine.

KITCHEN CORNER



A nice Quiche for picnics or lunch in the garden.

Tarte au Chevre

Pastry:

200a flour 100a butter 1 egg volk a little milk to mix. Rub butter into flour, add egg and enough milk to make a firm dough. Pat out into a round then roll to fit 22cm loose bottomed tin. Lightly butter the tin then dust with flour. Lower the pastry in and push into the rim without stretching and check for holes or tears. Trim off edge and then chill for 20 minutes. Set oven to 200C. Line pastry with foil and fill with baking beans and bake 20 mins. Take out and remove beans and foil and return to oven for 5 mins to dry the surface. Then set aside, and reduce heat to 180C.

Filling:

400g onions 200g crème fraiche 25g butter 2 eggs

200g full cream milk 180g crumbly moist goat's cheese 2 tsp thyme leaves.

Peel and thinly slice onions. Melt butter in a shallow pan,add onions and cook gently 20 mins on low heat. Add thyme when softened and stir occasionally to prevent sticking. Whisk eggs in a bowl and beat in crème fraiche and milk season well.

Spoon the onions into the case, crumble in the cheese, pour in most of the egg mix. Transfer the tin to the hot baking sheet, pour in the rest of the custard and slide into the oven. Bake 40 minutes. Or until lightly risen.

Serve warm or cold.

Jill Frostick

IN THE GARDEN IN AUGUST

Onions and Shallots

Shallots should be lifted this month ready for pickling or can be stored for use in the kitchen.

In mid-August sow **seeds** in a seed bed. The soil should be well drained and worked to a fine tilth. If it tends to become waterlogged during winter draw up a little soil into ridges and make the drills on top of them. Sow seeds fairly thickly in drills ½" deep and 9" apart. The thinnings of most onion varieties can be used for salads.

Second early potatoes should now be ready for lifting, try to prolong the lifting so they last longer before the main crop of potatoes are ready for lifting.

If **new potatoes** are wanted for the Christmas dinner cut a gro-bag in half, stand on end, remove half of the compost and plant three potatoes that have sprouted in each and cover with the rest of the compost.Should we have an early frost in November, the bags can be removed to the greenhouse, garage etc.

Radishes can be sewn this month ready for lifting October-November. Do not allow radishes to dry out, keep well watered.

Spinach

Sow winter spinach at fortnightly intervals from early August until the third week of September. Choose a sheltered and sunny position. Drills 1" deep and 9" apart.

Bulbs

For indoor flowering plant daffodil and narcissi bulbs also hyacinths, at the end of the month.

Frank Griffiths



CARPET BOWLS



We've played four friendly matches during June and into July. Three at home and one away. Just scraped through against Brantham and Gt Bentley twice (away and return) and won decisively against Boxted who seemed unable to come to terms with our mats but played well nevertheless. It could be oh! so different when we visit them. There are three more to play over the summer period, but unable to go to Brantham due to their own venue refurbishment.

Nancy Kempster

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Auction

At our next meeting on 18th August. Start looking NOW for things for which you have no further use and bring them along to give us a good show for sale to boost our funds. NO Raffle or competition.

The outing to Maldon and Tiptree was a success but it was very disappointing to have so few people going. It takes a lot of work to arrange especially the coach during holiday times - wherever we want to go must be contacted to check a coach party can be accepted by phone and confirmed by letter. A meal sometimes takes days to find a venue, for example, Dunwich when not everyone wants the same menu (7 to choose from) so a list of how many want this or that to be sent ahead. Just an idea of how difficult it can be so -- a little more encouragement for next time! Only 17 for a 29 seater coach? Discussed at the committee meeting.

Vicky Griffiths

Julia Kempster

Bill and all his family would like to thank everyone who gave us such support during Julia's courageous battle with her illness, and for the messages of sympathy received since her sad passing.

We would also like to thank all who attended Julia's funeral, the ladies who made the church so beautiful with their floral displays and Father Robert for a lovely service.

Finally, a big thank you for the donations given in Julia's memory for her two chosen charities. Thanks to your generosity, we should be presenting them with well over £1,000, a lasting legacy of which we're sure Ju would have been proud.

Thank you all once again. Your continuing love and support has helped us through a very difficult time.

FROM THE PAST

Churchwarden's Accounts

In the 1640s the accounts were kept by the Wardens. They include- \pounds s d

1642 Fees for Parliament	00.08.00
Given to 4 poor folks w	ho
came from Ireland	00.01.00
For the King's Bench a	nd
maimed solders	00.08.00
1643 4 poor Irish women	00.01.00
7 Irish	00.02.00
An Irish man	00.00.06
A maimed solder	00.00.04

The maimed soldeiers had been fighting in the first Civil War, 1642. There were several more instances of assistance. More to follow.

John Appleby

Rural Broadband

As you may be aware, Great Bromley Parish Council has been campaigning to get high speed broadband to the village for some time now. The lack of such a facility adversely affects businesses in the area and there is now evidence to suggest that house values suffer in areas with poor broadband coverage.



Efforts to bring high speed broadband to Great Bromley are progressing and it is becoming clear that the subject is gaining momentum in a number of

areas. Great Bromley was represented at a recent seminar hosted by Essex County Council where potential suppliers of high speed broadband highlighted the many issues involved in bringing such a service to rural areas. It is clearly far from straightforward and quite apparent that the main suppliers, such as BT, will not be implementing a solution in these parts for many years.

However, there are alternatives that both Great Bromley Parish Council and Tendring District Council are investigating. The one thing that is absolutely clear is that any potential supplier of high speed broadband has to be convinced that there is a demand for their services to make their investment worthwhile.

As such we will be asking all households and businesses in the area in the coming months to add their voices to the call for high speed broadband. This is likely to be by way of completing a short questionnaire - details of which will be advertised in due course.

Remember - unless we, as a village, can demonstrate there is need for high speed broadband, the opportunity to do something about it will pass us by.

Neil Skinner

Leonard Cheshire Disability

It was a glorious Sunday afternoon for all our residents, families and friends at Seven Rivers recently we held our Annual Summer Fete. The event was opened by the Pearly King of Streatham and the crowds were entertained in the main arena by the Silver Supreme Majorettes, The Red Barrows, Belly Dancers and a Dog show. Throughout the day there was live music, with stalls galore and entertainment for the children including a Fancy Dress competition.

SEVEN RIVERS

One stall in particular drew particular attention when our Service Manager, Jo Auger, (see cover photo) took her turn at getting a good soaking in the stocks - and all in aid of raising funds for the residents Activities Fund..

We raised over £1500 which will go towards a new Summer House and trips out for the residents. Pauline Melton.



Volunteer Co-ordinator added "I am overwhelmed by the support of all concerned who made this year's Summer Fete such a great success, including kind raffle donations from Life House, Ramada, Waitrose and many more local businesses."

Colin File, Volunteer Newsletter Editor

GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

100 Club Winners Mav

1stMr. Richard Lawson2ndMr. Ian Lawson3rdMrs Barbara Hart

June

1st	Mrs. Claire Gosling
2nd	Mr. Henry Fairley
3rd	Mrs. Lisa Davis



St Helena Hospice your time...your hospice

St Helena Hospice Retail Update

We're pleased to announce that our Furniture shop, on Magdalen Street, Colchester, will now be opening its doors for longer! In response to an increase in sales and demand, the Furniture shop will start opening its doors on the first and third Sunday of each month from 11am to 3pm. We are also making an appeal for more donations. All of the Hospice's eight shops. which cover the areas of Colchester. Halstead, Frinton, Clacton and Dovercourt, are all looking for good quality donations. If you have any unwanted goods such as clothes, books, toys, collectables, household goods, bric-a-brac and furniture, then please bring these items in to your local Hospice shop. The furniture shop also provides a delivery service for furniture purchased in the shop, as well as a free collection service. Please call the Furniture shop for more information, on 01206 793937

Our Warehouse, based on Magdalen Street, is also looking for volunteers to

FRIENDS OF LITTLE BROMLEY CHURCH

Midsummer Tea Party

This was held in aid of The Churches Conservation Trust on 19th June. The weather held, we met familiar and new faces - young and slightly older, the cake table groaned with all the calories it

displayed and the flowers were delightful. We were entertained with informal music and by Peter Bumstead's organ concert. The



conversation flowed, as did the tea. All in all, a very happy afternoon. The magnificent sum of £495.00 was raised from donations on the day and subsequent donations.

A huge 'Thank you' to everyone from the committee on behalf of the Trust.

Our next event is a Bat Watch and Talk by



Robin Cottrill - Vice Chair of the Essex Bat Group on Friday 12th August at 7.30pm. Following Robin's talk, we will

go into the churchyard to see how many species of bats we have. Refreshments will be provided. There is no fee, but donations will be welcome.

We look forward to seeing you there.

meet and greet customers and donors, and help with sorting. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mike Hurst, Warehouse Manager, on 01206 793429. For more information on all of our eight shops, please go to http://

www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/

<u>HospiceShops.cfm</u> or contact the Fundraising Office, on 01206 791740 for more details.



Little Dragons Pre-School

Great Bromley & Frating Ofsted Inspected

Website: www.littledragonspreschool.org

Email: littledragonspreschool@gmail.com

Great Bromley Village Hall Monday & Wednesday 9.15-11.45am & 12.15-2.45pm Tuesday & Thursday 9.15-11.45am Children 2-5 years Lunch time session available Mondays & Wednesdays For more details/visits please contact us on 0785 7503103

On 20th June we took part in the **Barnardo's Toddle**. The weather was lovely and children and staff looked great dressed up in their safari and animal outfits (this year's theme). We had a lovely time 'toddling' around the field in time to the music. A big thank you to all who took part and for the money you raised.

The weather stayed fine for the Tendring Hundred Show too. Our display of the children's work was in the education tent. This year our topic was maths related. We would like to thank staff, committee members and helpers for their support beforehand and on the day.

We have also been busy entering a competition about 'Dora the Explorer'. The children have participated in lots of fun activities including making 'Dora' backpacks and going exploring outdoors. We have been harvesting our vegetables too. The potatoes were lovely.

As the Summer term comes to an end we have to say goodbye to some children leaving for school. A small presentation will be held for the children who are leaving us. We would like to say goodbye to Abigail, April, Daisy, Eleanor, Henry, Imogen, Joe, Phoebe, Scarlett and Scout. We shall all miss them very much and wish them many happy days in their new school.

May we also wish everyone a very happy holiday and we look forward to seeing you next term.

We take children from the age of two years and now offer a 'home visit' to families of children prior to them starting Pre-school. This gives the child the opportunity to meet their key-person in their own home, aiding the transition stage to pre-school. It also enables us to collect and share information in a confidential environment.

For further information or to arrange a visit to the setting please contact us on the above number.

Dates for your diary: Thursday 21st July Last day of term



VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

The sun shone and the band played, a great afternoon and evening's entertainment. Very laid back with everyone enjoying themselves. The Hog Roast event raised £124.90 for each of the three organisations who organised it. Well done everyone.

On a sadder note Philip Allam passed away in early May. Philip had been involved with almost all of the organisations in the village for many years and over those years worked tirelessly to better all things in the village. A very great man who will be sorely missed. Our very best wishes and thanks to all the Allam family. It was Philip's wish in his will to leave the Village Hall £1000 for general use. Very generous, very kind and very thoughtful. Thank you

After many years' service we had two people leave the committee in April. Both Beryl and Pat have been working on the committee much longer than they would care to admit. Pat has been involved with the Carpet Bowls and Beryl is still involved with the Friendship Club. I have worked with Beryl over the last two years with the Christmas Fayre which, I believe, she has worked on over the past twenty four years. A very big thank you to both of you from all of us.

The gutter work is now underway and so should be finished before winter. There is more roofing insulation ready to be laid when its gets a bit cooler and Pat has done a great job in weeding outside the front of the Hall. Jane and her committee continue to look at colour schemes to repaint the inside of the Hall which we are thinking will be done by volunteers. Tracy has been dealing with the stage curtains to good effect. More details later on the roofing insulation and the painting.

Future Events to look forward to

8th October - Cabaret Night Olly Day (very, very few tickets left)

22nd October - Farmers Market 10am-1pm 3rd December - Christmas Fayre 21st December (Provisional) - Farmers Market 6pm-9pm 31st December - New Year's Eve Dance with a live dance band

A warning. The Olly Day event in October is nearly sold out so please if want to see this very funny man, book some tickets very soon and get there early so as not to be too close to the front. We hope that by changing the seating arrangement from his last visit that we may fit in 110 people. At the time of the meeting on July 5th there were only 10 tickets left. Tickets are the same as before at £15.00 per head but will include food. Bring your own drinks and prepare to have fun.

That's all for now, as always thank you for your support and please put the forth coming event dates in your diary. Let's all make the most of our Village Hall in 2011.

Next Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday September 6th at 7:30pm. As always all welcome.

David Beech

Leonard Cheshire Disability

Seven Rivers Residential Home, Hall Road, Great Bromley. Phone: 0206 230345

Do you have a couple of hours to spare? Would you like to put them to very good use for us and for you? Our residents would greatly enjoy meeting you for a chat over a cup of coffee or a game of cards.

Ours is a very friendly home set in beautiful grounds which include gardens, open spaces, woods and a beautiful lake – just taking a stroll around is a pleasure!

The residents and staff are always pleased to see a new face and meet new people so you may be sure of a warm welcome if you decide to come and join us.

Just phone our Volunteer Co-ordinator, Pauline Melton, on 01206 230345 to find out more.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Jenny, our president, opened the meeting

and then Sue introduced our two speakers for the evening, Jackie Worth and Sarah Nicholls. They have worked together for the last five years at The Colchester Institute. "Forget the diet girls" we were in for a real treat. Hot and cold canapés. Jackie was cooking for the evening and Sarah was passing the items around for us all to taste.

Jackie started with a hot canapé of Leek and Mushroom tartlet with a cream and white wine sauce, Jackie explained that the cream must be double or the sauce would split, an alternative to use could be crème fraiche. This could also be served as a starter in a slightly larger pastry case. The next one to be produced was very simple avocado and prawns chopped, mixed with a seafood sauce and then spooned into a pastry tartlet case.

Number three was again hot but this time served in a filo pastry case and which consisted of Brie cheese chopped, mixed



with Cranberry sauce and then baked (absolutely delicious). Our final canapé was an Oriental one which was Duck breast that had been fried in a pan to seal, then

cooked in the oven before being thinly sliced length ways, covered in Hoi Sin sauce and served on a cocktail stick with thinly sliced cucumber. Jackie and Sarah were the perfect speakers and hostesses. They are going to produce an instruction sheet for us to have at the next meeting. We finished the demonstration with some audience participation: some of us were brave enough to have a go at making pate quenelles. The vote of thanks was given by Joyce.

One of our members, Sue, was fortunate enough to go to Denman College on the, W.I. "Essex Weekend". She gave us an

account of her very enjoyable time beginning with tea and cakes on arrival, followed by the official welcome and notices before meeting, with other participants, the tutor of Sue's chosen weekend 'Ramble and Cruise'. John Harris and his assistant Sylvia Waters. They started their tour the next day with a coach trip to Godstow with a ramble near to the Trout Inn (made famous by Inspector Morse). They took a picnic lunch near Folly Bridge and then John, a graduate of Oxford, took them for a walk around some of the Oxford Colleges. A cruise down the river to Abingdon followed, then back to Denman for tea. On Sunday a walk around the grounds at Denman and then down into Marcham. This was followed by visiting the other groups and perusing their work followed by lunch and then home. Sue would recommend that anyone try Denman; you don't need to be a W.I. member just an enthusiast.

Joy Rolfe



THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS

Gt Bentley Surgery

As mentioned last month, our regular changeover of Registrars happens in a few days and Dr Subha Nambi will be joining us for six months early in August. As ever, Dr Nambi is an experienced hospital doctor who has decided that her future lies in general practice. I don't know if she is coming to us because her husband, the Dr Nambi who did some time with us two or three years ago, told her how nice you lot out there are, or whether it's just one of life's happy coincidences that she has been allocated to us. However it has happened, we are delighted to renew our acquaintance with the family and I am sure that many of you will get to know. like and trust her over the next few months.

I have yet another retirement to tell you about this month. Jeny Gammer, who first started here back in 1984, has decided that she prefers the easy life in Cumbria with husband David and her dogs, to doing her two hectic sessions a week on reception here. We wish her well.

You'll probably hate me for raising the next subject as it's sure to be the kiss of death for the summer, but please don't forget over the next few weeks that extremely hot weather can be pretty well as dangerous to the elderly as a harsh winter. I know that the same applies to tiny children and to people with some chronic diseases, but they are more likely to have people around who can keep an eye out for them. An elderly person on his or her own might not, and could well need a bit of neighbourly support if we do get another exceptionally hot spell.

For anyone with internet access, a really useful website is <u>www.ageuk.org.uk</u> which is full of good advice about coping with hot weather. A lot of it is simple common sense, such as staying indoors at the hottest time of the day and taking a small bottle of water with you when you do go out. There is also some really good information on recognising the signs of heat exhaustion and heatstroke, as well as what to do if you think that you or someone else might be suffering from either. The leaflet "Staying Cool in a Heatwave", which can be downloaded without charge from the site, is excellent. (We'll put a link to this website on our own as it looks so useful.)

Anyway, if you have elderly relatives or neighbours and it does turn really hot again, please check on them now and then, just to be certain that they are managing. And don't forget your suntan lotion!

I happen to be writing this as we are experiencing some horrible problems with our usually ultra-reliable computer system. The difficulties have been going on for a few days now and appear to be gradually getting worse. The people who supply the clinical system, which is the bit that is going wrong, are working all hours to try to sort it out.

It doesn't seem possible, but the root of the problems is heat. I'm not going to get technical, but apparently the main computer is overheating which is stopping various programmes working properly. It is even making the machine close itself down now and then. Goodness knows what it would be like if we were having a really hot summer.

I'm really sorry that so many people have been inconvenienced by these problems and I just hope that by the time you read this they have been sorted out. It has reminded us once again how much we depend on our system and take it for granted. Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible.

Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager

EVENTS IN 2011

AUGUST

3

- 3 WI Craft Dabble Day, Village Hall, 10.00am
- 10 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm
- 11 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm
- 12 Bat Watch and Talk by Robin Cottrill 7.30pm St Marys
- 18 Friendship Club meeting, Auction, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 27 Lawford Farmers Market, Venture Centre

SEPTEMBER

- 6 Village Hall Trustees committee meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 10 Car Boot/Fete/Barbeque, Lt Bromley
- 18 Harvest Festival, Lt Bromley church, 6.00pm
- 21 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm
- 24 Dance to live Music, Village Hall, 7.30pm Lawford Farmers Market, Venture Centre

OCTOBER

- 1-2 St George's church Flower Festival
- 6 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm
- 8 Cabaret Night with Ollie Day, Village Hall
- 12 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm
- 13 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 22 Gt Bromley Farmers Market, Village Hall 10.00am-1.00pm
- 29 Lawford Farmers Market, Venture Centre

NOVEMBER

- 10 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 23 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm
- 26 Lawford Farmers Market, Venture Centre (Christmas Market)

DECEMBER

- 3 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall
- 7 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8 Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm
- 14 Beat Surgery, Village Hall, 7.30-8.30pm
- 17 Lawford Farmers Market, Venture Centre (Christmas Market)
- 21 Gt Bromley Farmers Market, Village Hall, (Provisional) 6.00-9.00pm
- 31 New Year's Eve Dance, Village Hall

JANUARY 2012

12 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

FEBRUARY

9 Gt Bromley Parish Council meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm Lt Bromley Parish Council meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm

MARCH



The Friends of Little Bromley Church Invite you to a

BAT WATCH and TALK

by Robin Cottrill the Vice Chair of the Essex Bat Group

in our lovely churchyard at St Mary's church, Lt Bromley on Friday 12th August at 7.30pm



Refreshments provided.

Come and see how many different species of bats we have!

GT BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL

EVENTS 8th October Cabaret Night Olly Day (very, very few tickets left)

22nd October Farmers Market 10am-1pm

> 3rd December Christmas Fayre

21st December (Provisional) Farmers Market 6pm-9pm

31st December **New Year's Eve Dance** with a live dance band



Little Bromley Church Sunday 18th September Harvest Festival Service 6.00pm

Car Boot / Fete / Barbeque

10th September Little Bromley

Watch this Space!!!

Great Bromlev W.I. Warmly invite you to a **CRAFT DABBLE DAY** Wednesday 3rd August 10am to 3pm Denman Tutor Sheila Gunson. Price £9.00 Venue Great Bromlev Village Hall Bring your own lunch. Complimentary Tea & Coffee Available all day. Come along and try some new crafts includina * Encaustic Work * Serviette Craft * * Iris Foldina Pyrography * All materials required are provided and are included in the price for the day. If desired bring your own craft scissors. cutting mat and a friend. To book a place or more information please phone or email Jenny Nicholls 01206230688 jenny@fryerning.net or Ann Jones 01206230563 e.iones@btinternet.com

Leonard Cheshire Disability Seven Rivers, Hall Road, Great Bromley.

DANCE TO THE MUSIC OF THE 60's, 70's and 80's PLAYED BY OUR LIVE BAND!

Saturday 24th September 2011 7.30pm – 11.30pm at the Village Hall

> Bring your own refreshments

> > RAFFLE

Tickets £7.50 obtainable from Seven Rivers on 01206 230345

GT & LT BROMLEY OIL BUYING GROUP

When I moved to Great Bromley in 1999 I was delighted that my first order for heating oil was at 13p a litre. It seemed a bargain compared to the gas prices I paid in London. Twelve years on and at 70p a litre it's not such a good deal.

Recently my neighbours and I have started checking with each other when we need oil, and I've obtained a slightly better price by ordering for 2 or 3 houses. When I mentioned this to my sister-in-law, she told me that she belongs to an online Maldon Oil Buying Group, which, with over 500 members, can get substantial discounts (51p a litre for their last order in June). The neighbours I've spoken to and the Great Bromley Parish Council have shown interest in the scheme so I thought I'd try and start one here.

I've spoken to the guys who setup and run the Maldon group. They have already helped setup schemes for other areas, so I have arranged an informal open meeting with them at the Great Bromley Village Hall on **Tuesday 23rd August at 7.30pm**. Assuming there is sufficient support, they will set up a website for a Great and Little Bromley Oil Buying Group, which I'm happy to co-ordinate. All it then needs is

enough members to get it off the ground, so we can place an order in autumn. There are no membership charges. Members buy their oil directly from the oil suppliers, but it's at a price



negotiated by the scheme co-ordinators with a group discount and costs are lowered because oil is delivered in bulk to the area on a fixed date. Running costs are met from a small commission paid by the oil suppliers to the people running the scheme.

If you want to know more, then there is lots of information on the Maldon Oil Buying Group website (<u>http://maldonlbc.co.uk/</u>) including some very useful FAQs. I'm happy to help answer questions but initially will not know much more than is on the website.

Assuming all goes to plan, I'll provide more information in the next Bromley Messenger, including details of our own oil buying website.

Lesley Broadbent (cradbent2000@yahoo.co.uk)

HEALTHWATCH

Following the consultation on the proposal for a shadow Local HealthWatch organisation in Essex, the county council has set up a web page to keep people informed about the developments of HealthWatch in Essex:

www.essex.gov.uk/Business-Partners/ Partners/Adult-Social-Care-providers/ Pages/HealthWatch-consultation.aspx

Essex County Council expects to hear whether or not the bid to be a HealthWatch 'Pathfinder' has been successful by the end of July, the early indication is that The Department of Health is supportive of the proposal. The website will be updated regularly to notify people of how HealthWatch is progressing. Please visit the website for information about

- The plans to set up a pathfinder HealthWatch in Essex
- Some of the most frequently asked questions about HealthWatch
- The wider changes that are planned in health and social care.

Duncan Wood MBPsS AMRS Head of Research & Intelligence Policy, Community Planning & Regeneration Directorate

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Great Bromley Parish Council www.gbpc.org.uk

Report of a parish council meeting held on 14 July 2011

Planning The Council considered the following planning applications and had no objections:

2 Chase Cottages, Honeypot Lane – detached garage and cart lodge Greenacre Cattery, Carringtons Road – appeal against Tendring District Council's refusal of a one-bedroomed self-contained annexe for staff and a single garage.

Tendring District Council has approved the following planning application: Bush Farm, Hall Road – extensions and alterations to existing barn.

Local Heritage List for Tendring Tendring District Council (TDC) is preparing a 'local heritage list' which will include buildings and historic features which do not meet the national criteria for formal 'listing'. A provisional list has been drawn-up and your comments on this are welcomed. Go to the TDC website (www.tendringdc.gov.uk) and search for 'local heritage list'.

Hare Green Recreation Ground The parish council would like to see more young people playing football at the Hare Green ground. It has therefore agreed in principal that the Great Bentley Youth Football Club can use the ground for matches on Sundays during the 2011/12 season. If you have a youngster aged between 5 and 13 who would like to play football locally then why not contact the Club at 07762 572035, 07977 044526 or info@greatbentleyyouthfc.org? **The next meeting** of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 8th September 2011 at Great Bromley Village Hall, (the council will not be meeting in August).

Reservoir (Manning Grove)

An 8-acre reservoir is being proposed by a consortium of local farmers, led by D Salmon, for land between Manning Grove Woods and Carrington Road in Great Bromley. In September 2011 an application is expected to be submitted to Essex County Council and Tendring District Council for the following: construction of an agricultural reservoir, the extraction and removal of minerals to be transported from the site to Martells Quarry Ardleigh, the construction of an access road from the site to Hall Road/B1029 and the construction of an ancillary buildings.

The construction period will last three years and will involve up to 60 lorry movements a day. The route of the access road will be across land owned by the proponents and through Long Cover Woods and Primrose Farm. Lorries will enter and exit Hall Road via a widened entrance to Primrose Farm.

Further information on this proposal can be obtained from Mineral Services Ltd, PO Box 10523, Stoke by Nayland Colchester CO6 4WJ tel: 0845 521 2165, email info@mineralservices.co.uk. Mineral Services can also provide the date and location of an exhibition on the project which will be held in Ardleigh.

Any comments you may have on the proposal can be sent to Mineral Services and Great Bromley Parish Council. Comments on the formal applications – when they have been submitted – can also be sent to Essex County Council (email: mineralsandwasteDM@essex.gov.uk, tel: 01245 435555) and Tendring District continued on next page.../

Council (email:

planning.services@tendringdc.gov.uk, tel: 01255 686868). These latter two authorities will be able to tell where you can see the applications. Otherwise further information, when it comes to hand, will be published in the *Bromley Messenger* and on the parish council's website.

The parish council expects to consider the applications at one of its meetings to which members of the pubic are invited to attend and give their views. Please see the *Messenger* or the parish council website for the date of this meeting.

This notice has been published by Great Bromley Parish Council for the information of residents

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The following matters were discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on 16th June. There were nine members of the public in attendance. More enquiries about Tesco. The future development of Tesco is ongoing and has been the subject of public meetings. Currently a report on traffic management and road safety is under discussion. It was reported that the asbestos sheeting left on the car park has been removed. The council was asked to investigate poor workmanship to drainage in the rear of 'Hannifore', Shop Road carried out by Tendring District.

An enquiry as to the procedure for dealing with excessively noisy barking dogs was put forward. The clerk will make enquiries and pass the information on to the complainant.

Speedwatch goes from strength to strtength and Steve has produced an up to date report which will be published in the Bromley Messenger. We still need more volunteers please. The War Memorial fund now stands at £400 thanks to two generous donations of £100 each. Many many thanks. Anyone who would like to contribute should make cheques payable to the Little Bromley Amenities Fund and it will be gratefully received. The 'website' we understand is now up and running. The saga of the dreaded 'hedgerow' continues, hopefully we shall see some progress soon. The village footpath would appear to be at stalemate in the present financial climate but we will keep trying for a result.

Better news though about the bus shelter. The planning application has been submitted and we await approval to get the go-ahead.

Firm details of the forthcoming Car Boot/Fete/Barbeque on 10th September will be discussed and published at the next meeting. It was agreed by all attending the meeting that it would be nice if our District Councillor attended some of our meetings; it was accepted that he is quite a busy person, however, he is in a position to keep us abreast of the broader picture in the district and to this end the Clerk will make sure that all dates of future meetings are available to him and his PA.

The Chairman presented a framed Certificate to Halina Bannister on her retirement from the Council after some 20+ years' service to the community. He thanked her for her dedication and wished her well for the future. A similar certificate was also present to the landlord and landlady of the 'Haywain', Andy and Dawn, for their many contributions to the cohesion of our village.

At this meeting it was confirmed by members of the Council that Mr Ken Hatch would be remaining as Chairman and that Mr Steve Wilcox would be his deputy.

The date of the next meeting will be on 11th August at 7.30pm in The Haywain.

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL ROAD SAFETY REPORT: JUNE 2011

Little Bromley Parish Council Road Safety Report: June 2011

Speed Watch

Little Bromley Community Speed Watch has been active for over a year and during that time we have:

- Held over 18 speed watches and now hold at least two per month
- Reported over 200 vehicles to the police
- Recently in 2011 the police have joined us on four occasions and have issued speed tickets and warnings
- Obtained agreement to erect permanent speed watch signs which will be designed and funded by Essex Police
- Become the most active speed watch in the area
- Eight trained members and we are always on the look out for more people

Whilst speeding and poor driving habits continue to be a problem, we believe that we are having an effect and that people are driving slower through the village. There is also evidence that the speed watch helps prevent crime. Unlike other villages, such as Ardleigh, who do not have a speed watch and where crime is increasing, crime is not increasing in Little Bromley.

Road Calming measures

The work by Highways Department has been completed (to repair defective road signs and provide painted Roundels). One sign has since gone missing and this has been reported to the Highways Department who have agreed to replace it.

Speed Limit, Bentley Road (40mph to 30mph)

The Highways Department have confirmed Little Bromley will be reviewed in 2011 and was due to be done earlier this year.

Despite a number of requests for a date, the council say, and that despite this review being high priority, they do not know when it will be done; there is no outline plan for Phase 3 (into which Little Bromley falls) of the Essex County Council speed limit review!

We have contacted the office of the County Councillor, Tracey Chapman, who is responsible for ("leads on") highways and they are looking into the matter.



Maybe some of you have joined in and counted for the Big Butterfly Count (16th-31st July). I have seen today, at time of

writing, Large White, Small White, Meadow Brown, Gatekeeper, Speckled Wood, Peacock and Red Admiral butterflies. There are also Essex Skippers, Commas, Green veined Whites and Holly Blues in the garden but I haven't seen at all this year any Small

NATURE'S DIARY

Tortoiseshell or Painted Lady butterflies. Perhaps I will soon.

Insects are dependant upon what local plants grow or are planted or are allowed to grow (ie nettles!) in our gardens, countryside and hedgerows etc and bear in mind the birds and mammals suffer also when there are no seeds/insects on which to feed or habitat in which to live. Hedges at this time of year are cut back which makes the place look tidy but in so doing the berries for autumn and winter forage is removed. A task really better for

PROPOSED CHANGES TO ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL'S RECYCLING CENTRES FOR HOUSEHOLD WASTE

Email received from Kevin Bentley, Member CC Sent: 13 July 2011 17:51

Dear All,

I am writing as a matter of courtesy to bring to your attention proposed changes to Essex County Council's Recycling Centres for Household Waste (RCHW) Service following the recent operational review.

As you may already be aware, the Essex Waste Partnership's successes of the last few years have included a significant increase in kerbside recycling services; resulting in a record high recycling rate of over 50% in 2010/11. An excellent achievement that will benefit both the environment and the council tax payers' purses.

While these new kerbside services have proven very successful they have led to a decline in use of RCHWs; as the frequency of visits and the range of materials taken to the RCHWs have diminished in favour of the convenience of kerbside collections. We believe this trend will continue as more kerbside recycling services are rolled out.

The proposals detailed below have been developed in response to the changing way residents access the service and have been developed following analysis of customer usage, site capacity and a review of customer impact. The focus for these changes have been to improve efficiency and value for money whilst protecting good levels of public access and providing sites at a time when people most want to use them. The headline service changes being proposed are

- Reduction in the number of sites from 23 to 21 through the closure of two sites which provide relatively poor value for money and are located close to a neighbouring sites with spare capacity
- Amendment to opening hours of all sites so operating hours better match observed usage
- Amendment to opening days of 9 RCHW sites to improve efficiency and better match customer use. The affected sites will operate for between 4 to 6 days a week rather than the current 7 days a week

Further information of how these changes affect individual sites are detailed at the end of this email.

Our RCHW site contractors have been instructed to proceed with the next phase of proposal development; this will initially consist of a 13 week staff consultation period. During this period we shall also be in dialogue with affected districts and boroughs through the officer and Member Waste Partnership meetings to ensure all factors are considered, and any required mitigation measures put in place before changes are implemented. It is our intention to implement any changes as a result of this review by the end of 2011.

I am aware that these proposed changes may well raise a number of questions and I encourage you to share with me any comments or concerns during this consultation period. Kind regards,

Kevin Bentley Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Waste & Recycling

ECC's Proposed Changes to the RCHW Service:

The proposed changes to the RCHW service are:

- reduction in the standard opening hours by opening at 09:00 every day as opposed to the current 08:00 opening time – this is currently the quietest time of the day and all sites have the capacity between 09:00 and 10:00 to deal with the additional throughput
- removal of late night Tuesday opening which operates between 17:00 and 19:00 between 1st May and 31st August (18 weeks a year) – use during these times is very low and capacity exists at other times of the day/week to deal with these visitor numbers
- reduction in number of sites from 23 to 21 to reduce site overlap by closing the sites in Ongar (Epping Forest) and St Osyth (Tendring) – current users of these sites will be able to access facilities at Brentwood (6 miles from Ongar) and Clacton (4 miles from St Osyth)
- reduction in opening days to better match public usage by operating 9 sites which currently open 7 days a week as part time sites; opening between 4 and 6 days a week. The proposed opening changes are (specific days subject to change following further contractor dialogue)

o Burnham on Crouch: Open 4 days a week, closed Tuesday – Thursday

o Chigwell: Open 5 days a week, closed Wednesday and Thursday

o Kirby Le Soken: Open 5 days a week, closed Wednesday and Thursday

o Dovercourt: Open 5 days a week, closed Wednesday and Thursday

o Lawford: Open 5 days a week, closed Tuesday and Thursday

o Waltham Abbey: Open 5 days a week, closed Tuesday and Wednesday

o South Woodham Ferrers: Open 5 days a week, closed Wednesday and Thursday

o Mountnessing: open 6 days a week , closed Tuesday

o Witham: open 6 days a week , closed Thursday In selecting the days for site closures the busiest days of the week have been protected (Monday, Saturday and Sunday) and the operating days of neighbouring sites have been considered to ensure that residents continue to have access to a facility even if their closest one is closed

 Retain the part-time opening of the West Mersea RCHW however align the opening hours across full days thereby opening 4 full days rather than the current 2 full days and 4 half days.

GAMES FOR THE BEACH

Beach activities:

Dig a channel to the sea.

Make a dam (use sand, pebbles and other beach finds).

Dig a hole and try to fill it up with water! Have a go at **sand sculpture** or **build a boat or a car**.

Search for driftwood, shells, seaweed, crabs, sea glass etc

See if you can find a pebble or shell with a ready-made hole in it, to string on a cord for **a necklace**.

Collect pebbles, shells, seaweed and other "found" objects and make them into pictures on the beach.

Draw pictures, words and puzzles in the sand with a stick.

There's always room on the beach for another **sandcastle** or maybe even a **city**.

Build a "sandman" - the sand equivalent of a snowman. He should turn a few heads!

Make footprints in the sand. They don't have to be your own - why not try some dinosaur footprints instead? With a little bit of preparation you can make a cast of your children's feet, hands, or perhaps some interesting objects that have been found. You will need to take a container in which to mix up your Plaster of Paris (use bottled water, not salt water). For really smooth edges you might want to take a container (perhaps a box or a cake tin) in which to make your mould, or you can just use the sand directly on the beach. First, make sure the sand is damp enough to hold a shape but not too wet. Press your object or body part into the sand to leave a good impression. Mix up your Plaster of Paris and guickly pour it into the mould. It should be dry enough to lift up carefully in about half an hour: wrap it loosely in bubble wrap or newspaper and take it home to dry completely before trying to remove any clinging sand.

Beach games: Ping Pong Ball Race

Dig a series of sloping channels wide enough (and smooth enough) to take a ping pong ball. Make them equal length, or have slightly longer channels for older children and adults. Place a ping pong ball at one end and then race each other blowing the ball down the channel to the finish line.

Beach Mini Golf

Make your own mini golf course in the sand. Players take turns with a plastic golf club and ball - or whatever you have to hand that you can improvise with. **Frisbee**

Get the Frisbee out and challenge the family to a game.

• Set up some targets in the sand and see who can throw the Frisbee nearest to them.

• Set up some "bottles" (plastic, please!) in the sand, and see who can knock them over.

Play Frisbee golf. Make your own devious course in the sand and take it in turns to complete a "hole", which might be a circle marked out in the sand. Perhaps you will have to go around the picnic basket to get there?

Beach Volleyball - Some beaches have a proper volleyball court but it is often monopolised by older children and young adults. If there is space on the beach you can always set up your own version, improvising with windbreaks, picnic baskets or a portable badminton net.

French Cricket is a very popular game with older children and teenagers, but it is fun in a family gathering too. You need at least 6 players for a good game, and a fairly large space to play.

And of course there is always **Bowls** (boules, petanque) to play if you have a set.

ESSEX POLICE



PCSO Les Barnes writes:

Incidents in Great Bromley during June

Obstruction - Meadow Close Assault - Harwich Road

- Theft - Brook Street - (Lead off school roof) - Hall Road - (Lead off church roof)

- Fairfield Close

Fraud

Suspicious Circumstances - Rectory Road - (2) males putting lead into a vehicle)

- Harwich Road Burglary - Mary Lane North - (Attempted)

Threats - Harwich Road

RTC - Harwich Road

July News letter

As from Friday 1st July the new non emergency number for Essex Police will be 101. 0300 333 4444 will also still be in use for the next 18 months or so but will eventually be discontinued.

Please be aware that there have been some burglaries in the Tendring area recently. Please be vigilant to anyone acting suspicious in or around premises/vehicles/beach huts and report any suspicious activity to police.

Police Non Emergency 101 Police Emergency 999

Please record descriptions of people – Ethnicity, Approx Height, Hair Colour, description of clothing; if the person is running from the area please record direction of travel. If making off in a vehicle please record the colour, make, model and registration number of the vehicle and report immediately via 999.

Mobile phone security

With mobile phones becoming more valuable and containing a lot more information these are now becoming desirable to thieves' and as such we are seeing a steady rise in thefts of these. There are some simple things you can do to prevent yours from being stolen:

Avoid displaying your phone in public

wherever possible especially if you are in an area where you feel a little more vulnerable and/ or have an expensive phone. Only take it out of your bag/pocket when you need to use. Especially if in an area as above set your phone to vibrate if possible to attract less attention.

Many people use their mobile phones at rail, tube stations and other crowded places - thieves know this, so if you need to make a call, be aware of your surroundings.

Trv not to walk and talk. you won't be paying any attention to what is going on around you.

If you have a recognisable expensive phone. don't use the headphones it came with as in the slightly rough areas it says to potential thieves "Hey look, I've got this really expensive phone right here ... "

Position yourself where you can easily get help if you need it.

Never leave your mobile phone on counter tops, or tables in coffee shops, pubs and restaurants

Keep a record of the unique reference number (IMEI) on your phone, if supplied with this some networks can permanently disable the handset if it stolen. To get this, dial *#06#

Record the model, phone number and PIN number details. Keep them somewhere safe Always use the phone's security lock or PIN number

Use an ultra violet property marker. Put your post code and house number underneath the battery and on the back of the battery itself

Register the phone with the Service Provider. If the phone is reported stolen the SIM card can be blocked

If you have an 4th generation IPhone how about downloading the free "Find my phone" App, (other makes of phone may have similar services available) http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/findmy-iphone/id376101648?mt=8

Lastly don't forget many mobile phones nowadays are mini computers and contain similar confidential information so when using them consider what you receive on them in the same way you would when using your computer. IT ONLY TAKES A SECOND

Pedal Cycle Crime Prevention Advice More and more people are choosing to ride a bike on a daily basis; therefore Tendring police and Community safety Dept. Tendring Council believe that it is essential that cyclists receive advice on how to protect their cycles. Although CCTV is available and has proven to be an asset in reducing and preventing crime in the town centre, Officers from Tendring police want to emphasise the importance of cycle security and cycle identification.

Basic security rules

Do not leave cycles in isolated places. Make sure you secure your bikes to proper cycle stands or robust street furniture (do observe any requests not to use certain items of street furniture and be sure not to cause any damage). Always lock your cycle up when leaving it unattended - even if it is only for a few minutes Lock cycles through the frame, and secure or remove wheels. Also remove smaller parts and accessories that can't be secured, especially lights, pumps and quick release saddles

Purchase a quality lock

Lock strength can vary enormously and you generally get what you pay for. Essentially any lock can be broken, but having a lock will definitely deter opportunistic thieves and using more than one type of lock will make stealing your bike even harder.

Sold Secure (a non-profit making company which assesses security products) have developed a security grading system which is used by many insurance companies.

Gold rated locking devices give you maximum security but may be too heavy or expensive for the average user. The Silver and Bronze levels may be lighter and cheaper but should still deter the thief. When purchasing a lock for your cycle you need to think about how much your cycle is worth, where you will be leaving it, and how often and for how long it will be left unattended. For a range of locks assessed by Sold Secure see www.soldsecure.com

A large number of bike thefts take place from the owner's property, so please make sure your sheds and garages are well secured and never leave your bike unattended outside your home.

Register your cycle

Keeping a record of your cycle frame number could help the police identify and return your bike back to you if it is stolen. Also we can POST CODE mark your cycle which will identify the cycle to your address. If you would like this done please contact Les Barnes 71909 on 101 ex 487603.

Les Barnes PCSO 71909 Thorpe Le Soken NPT Eastern Mobile 07967466876 Tel 03003334444 Ext 487603 Email : <u>leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police</u> website : <u>www.essex.police.uk</u>

THEFT of SOLAR LIGHTS

in the Harwich Road name and address supplied

WANTED

Secretary for St. George's, Great Bromley

Rev Farrell, Jenny & Ann are looking for a volunteer to be the new secretary to join a happy hardworking team at St George's Church. If you are interested and would like more information please phone anytime: 01206 231923, 01206 230688 or 01206 250229

PC Dan Heard writes:

To those lucky people who own a convertible. If you leave the roof down and leave the car, make sure you take any valuable property out of the vehicle, an opportunist thief will reach in and take whatever you have that is left in the vehicle. To those people who do not own a convertible, stop leaving valuables in your vehicle, theft of property from vehicles is on the increase.

Scrap metal thieves are everywhere and your metal that you leave by the side of your property is too tempting for them. If you want to keep it, lock it up or leave it somewhere that it can't be seen.

Do you sell stuff outside your house and leave an "honesty tin"! Lateley it seems that some people are not that honest and have either taken goods and not left any money or taken the tin!

Rogue traders are in the area! Especially ones that will repair your driveway for a few quid and then when you look outside the whole driveways done and you are being asked to pay thousands of pounds!!

Reputable companies will give you an estimate and will probably do the job you require them to do.

If you are approached by these sort of companies then either contact trading standards or us.

Police Constable 2176 Dan HEARD Neighbourhood Constable Elmstead Market/Frating/Great Bromley/ Thorrington/Great Bentley and Alresford Neighbourhoods

Tendring Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team

REPORTING THAT PROBLEM OR EMERGENCY!

You should be able to obtain help with most of the problems that may arise in the village by contacting one or more of the following agencies:

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL (01255 6868688):

For: abandoned cars, flooding/ waterways, recycling bins, litter and dog bins, road and verge cleaning, road name signs, rubbish and recyclable collections, trees and hedges, dogs, anti-social behaviour, noise, smells and environmental pollution generally.

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL (01255 686868 and 'waste crusader' at

wcrusader@tendringdc.gov.uk): For fly tipping and litter clearance.

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL'S HIGHWAY RANGER SERVICE (01255 686942 and engineeringservices@

tendringdc.gov.uk)

For: maintenance of street signs and furniture, weed/vegetation clearance, drainage grips, removal of graffiti, illegal signs and fly posting

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS (0845 603 7631 and

highways.eastarea@essex.gov.uk) For potholes, road defects and obstructions by vegetation, hedges, trees etc, footpaths and footways, verge cutting, road direction signs, road flooding and street lighting.

HIGHWAYS AGENCY (0300 123 5000 and ha_info@highways.gsi.gov.uk) Problems as above but for the A120 and slip roads.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (03708 506 506 and enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk) Flooding and polluted waterways.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS

(0845 603 7631 and highways.eastarea@essex.gov.uk) http://www.anglianwater.co.uk/For potholes, road defects and obstructions by vegetation, hedges, trees etc, footpaths and footways, verge cutting, road direction signs.

HIGHWAYS AGENCY (0300 123 5000)

Problems as above but for the A120 and slip roads

ANGLIAN WATER (08457 145 145 and http://www.anglianwater.co.uk/) For mains sewage problems

VEOLIA EAST (0845 1489299 and customerservices.east@veoliawater.co.uk) For mains water supply problems.

POLICE AND POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (07967466876, 0300 333 4444 ext 478603 and

Leslie.Barnes@essex.pnn.police.uk) Reporting incidents (except emergencies – to 999) including anti-social behaviour.



About Us - Victim Support is the independent charity that helps victims and

witnesses of crime. We offer a free & confidential service to victims of crime, their family, friends & anyone else affected. We give information, emotional support and practical help. The crime does not have to be reported to the Police and support can be provided at any time, whenever the crime happened.

How you can help - Volunteers are at the heart of what we do. Our charity has more than 4 volunteers for every paid member of staff. Whether they support a witness in Court, give emotional support to a victim or help with fundraising or administration, volunteers are vital to our success & to helping reduce the harm that crime does to our communities. Training, expenses and supervision is offered to all volunteers.

How we help you - We can help you develop new skills & offer new opportunities and experiences such as by playing a key role in your community through supporting people in need; finding out more about crime, criminal justice & the legal system; meeting new people; helping shape our charity & the work it does. For more information contact Sarah Atkins on 0845 4565 995

THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends.

I concluded my last letter in the year of 1962 after a new church had been dedicated in my home town. I really felt this excitement that a new church had been opened just at the tender age of eight. But 1962 was a very sad year. My grandfather, who had lived with us since I was three, died. I dearly loved my grandfather. He had been a Baptist, but he had left the chapel and never returned after the age of fifteen. This was in 1904 during the great Welsh Revival. The excesses of enthusiasm engendered by this sadly put him off and he was never to return. He was not faithless, and he constantly read the scriptures, and my mother and my aunts were brought up in the Church in Wales as my grandmother was an Anglican. My grandfather agreed to be baptised by our curate, but he died before we could organise it.

I remember the night he died. The Vicar and the Curate came to see us, and the Curate came up to my bedroom to comfort me. I had a little book of prayers and I remember telling the Curate that my grandfather had gone to heaven and, that he was happy but we were sad. Then I showed him the book of prayers and I had opened it in the section entitled "Bereavement".

I wanted to go to the funeral service, and everyone said I was too young, but the Curate persuaded my mother to allow me to go. It was a beautiful service, and although I was heartbroken, I knew my grandfather was with God. Even at this age there was that assurance of faith and peace, which has come subsequently throughout my life when faced with difficulties.

After my grandfather's death I became more and more aware of the importance of my relationship with God. There were other children in school which did not go to church. I used to feel sorry for them, and I used to pray that everybody would come to church and know how God could be a friend to them.

The next thing I wanted to do was to be confirmed, but there was a problem as I was only ten years of age, and in those days the average age was 13-14. The vicar agreed that I should go to Confirmation Class and be confirmed. I was eleven years old when the day of Confirmation came and I now knew that I was a full member of the church, and the Bishop who had knocked on the door of the new church had now laid his hands on my head and made this possible.

I shall continue the story next time.

Fr. Robert

Q. Why do the online page numbers not match the printed version?

A. We edit down (and cut out the adverts, for historical reasons) the online version—so it is several pages shorter! united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Church of England Services for August

Sunday 3rd	7th Sunday after Trinity		
8.00am	Eucharist	St. George the Martyr	
10.30am	Parish Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin	
8.00pm	Compline	St. George the Martyr	
Sunday 14th	8th Sunday after Trinity		
8.00am	Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin	
10.30am	Parish Eucharist	St. George the Martyr	
	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary		
6.30pm	Sung Eucharist with Procession to Lady Chapel St. Mary the Virgin Preacher: Fr Paul Watkin		
	Incense will be used at this service. Further details to follow in Pew Sheets		
Sunday 21st	9th Sunday after Trinity		
8.00am	Eucharist	St. George the Martyr	
10.30am	Parish Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin	
Sunday 28th	10th Sunday after Trinity		
8.00am	Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin	
10.30am	Parish Eucharist	St. George the Martyr	
6.30pm	Evensong	St. Mary the Virgin	
Sunday 4th September 11th Sunday after Trinity			
8.00am	Eucharist	St. George the Martyr	
10.30am	Parish Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin	
6.30pm	Evensong	St. George the Martyr	
Holy Communion every Friday at 11.00am at Seven Rivers, Hall Road, Great Bromley.			



Ardeigh Branch Autumn Term Starting Thursday 22nd September at 2.30 p.m.

BRUNEL - AN ENGINEER'S LIFE The tutor for this course will be Roger Mannion BSc

If you are interested in joining us for this course, please contact John Terry 01206230490 or Jill Frostick 01206250263