

The Bromley Messenger

MAY 2012

Volume 27 No 2



Photograph courtesy of St George's Primary School

St. George's (C of E) School

Ghana

Thank you so much for the well wishes I received from children, parents and staff on my return from my trip to Ghana. I had an amazing time visiting our partner school, Sabronum DA, and meeting pupils and staff there.

I took samples of children's work as part of our joint project on land use. Each of our classes produced wonderful projects on local farming, mapping skills and our local environment. In return, children from Sabronum DA gave me their work to bring back and share with St George's. I also had the opportunity to visit a cocoa plantation and meet a local farmer.

Our school project this term is 'Eat a metre' and focuses on fair trade and the

food that we grow in Ghana and in the UK. Each class will be planting fruit and vegetables in 1m² raised beds, situated just outside each classroom. We would like to say a huge thank you to Deans Garden Centre for providing the compost and mulch lining at a significantly reduced cost.

There are many exciting teaching and learning opportunities as a result of our partnership and I look forward to hosting the return visit of Master Thomas, the Headteacher of our partner school, next term.

Julie O'Mara, Headteacher

More School news on page 4

THE FIRST PAGE

April and its Fools is past but at time of writing the April showers are well in progress and how we need them. However, one shower does not a reservoir make and we do need more. Rain butts are available from Essex County Council where they have an offer to buy one get one half price - the price being actually quite reasonable.

On page 23 Tendring District Council are announcing their coming change of plans for our waste collections; new coloured bins will soon be coming our way.

The changes to the road markings, designed to make our section of the A120 safer, have already resulted in three accidents with the result that a meeting of parish, district and county councillors as well as our MP, Bernard Jenkin, has been held on site. The report on this meeting is to be found on page 22. Let us hope the safety at the two junctions in question can be improved upon.

I took to the road with some other members of Great Bromley WI for a coach trip around the London Olympic sites. After meeting up with our guide near the O2 (the Dome) where the gymnasts will be displaying their talents we toured Woolwich, Blackheath, Greenwich

(shooting, archery, equestrian events, *inter alia*). As we went past the various venues we were regaled with the most extraordinary statistics, such as the number of loaves, duvets, TVs etc required, before arriving at the Stratford site (500 acres/357 football pitches in size and only one-sixth the size of the Beijing site). A very interesting day. I must confess to being excited at the prospect of the Games. My grandfather was picked for the 1908 Games although he sadly just failed in his heat to get through to the final race by a split second. Fortunately, we have tickets for his sport so are able to be a part of the experience. I can't wait!

Leonie Henderson



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Home of the Landmark Sausage

OPEN DAY

9th June

10.00am - 4.00pm

Visit us at Primrose Pork, Hall Road, Great Bromley CO7 7TR where you can see our summer BBQ range from sizzling sausages to succulent pork and apple burgers.

Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10am- 4pm.

Phone 01206 230454 or 07860774729 for more information.

KITCHEN CORNER

Green Gooseberry Crumble

Serves 4 to 6

900g (2lbs) gooseberries topped and tailed

170 to 225g (6 to 8 oz) Demerara sugar

A pinch of salt

170g (6oz) wholemeal flour

85g (3oz) butter.

Method

Put the washed gooseberries in a pie dish and sprinkle with half the sugar

Put the flour and salt in a basin and rub in the butter, use a fork to stir in the remaining sugar,

Then sprinkle over the fruit. Bake in a preheated oven 200oC 400F about 45 minutes.

Serve hot or warm with very fresh creamy yoghurt or fromage fraise.

Jill Frostick



GT BROMLEY & DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

100 Club winners for March

- 1st. Mrs. Fiona Garnham
- 2nd. Mrs. Pam Wright
- 3rd. Mrs. Julie Hitchcock





ST. GEORGE'S (C OF E) SCHOOL, GT. BROMLEY

Head teacher: Julie O'Mara
Telephone: 01206 230305

The Children and Staff at St George's School have been very busy lately with some very exciting events. As you have seen on the cover St George's partner school, Sabronum DA, has been visited in Ghana. Please read on for details of some of the events that have taken place.

Run a Mile 2012

On Friday 23rd March we held our annual 'Run a Mile' after school. The idea of raising money for Sports Relief and for the school by giving donations of £2 and then



running a mile is relatively simple. Due to the help of many parents, we had scorers and marshals at every turn to check that everything ran smoothly; we owe all of these a well deserved 'thank you'.

We had a fantastic day with 112 pupils, a few pre-schoolers and four staff (including Mrs O'Mara) taking part. Many parents came and watched the run, along with several ex-pupils who made themselves useful. The best part of the event is seeing the older children help the younger ones. The attitude shown by the pupils is a credit to them and something we are very proud of.

After working out the results I can give you some details from the race: 121 people took part, achieving a total of 346.7 miles. The greatest distance was by Ed Fairley who ran 6.65 miles. This year we ran nearly 50 miles more than last year. This is

a great result. Everyone who took part will receive a certificate telling them how much they personally achieved. Once again thanks to all those who took part, all those who helped and all those who just came and made this event so enjoyable.

Monies raised were as follows:

Class 1	£83.00	Class 2	£43.00
Class 3	£80.00	Class 4	£50.00

by Carol Cordwell

Class 3's Trip to Braintree Museum

On the 16th of March, Class 3 visited Braintree Museum for a Victorian day. First we ventured into a Victorian class room to see

what it would be like all those years ago. We had to write with a



slate and a board pencil. It hurt our ears (because of all the scraping.) The teacher was really nerve-racking!

After that we investigated some weird and wonderful artefacts, we thought something was a toilet plunger but really it washed the Victorian's clothes! The most unusual object of them all was the bacon rack.

We then had a look around the Museum, the detailed dolls house was just a bit bigger than a Wendy house. At last we headed home. So that was our Victorian day!

by Charlotte Haynes and Erin Burnby

The Summer Term will also be extremely busy with the extra topics/themes on the Olympics, the Golden Jubilee and a health week.

RURAL BROADBAND



Thank you to everyone who returned the forms in response to the survey carried out by the Parish Council and County Broadband. The turnout at the meeting in the Village Hall on 27th March was also very encouraging and there is obviously significant interest in the village for an enhanced broadband service.

Volunteers from the village will now be doing a house to house survey to firm up the numbers of people who are interested.

Please note that these volunteers are not

trying to sell the service - they are simply collating information on the numbers of people who may be interested. There is no obligation to take the service at this stage.

If there is sufficient interest it is hoped that the necessary infrastructure will start appearing in July. Up to date information will be appear on the Parish Council website - www.gbpc.org.uk

Neil Skinner

AIRSOFT

As a follow up on my last piece, I thought it may be of interest to Great and Little Bromley residents to know that the Airsoft Club (Airsoft is a sport in which participants shoot [round non-metallic pellets](#) launched via [replica firearms](#)) had an event today, 14 April. About 24 people turned up for the day and it really was enormous fun and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Anyone interested in giving it a go, it is open to anyone over the age of 16 who want to have fun and exercise with guns and battle scenarios. We have teenagers, mothers, grandmothers, fathers, grandfathers, single guys and girls. Today we even had someone playing with his ankle in plaster! By the end of the day you can guarantee that you will have plenty to talk and laugh about and will be nicely exhausted. If you want to find out more please phone David Beech in the evenings on 07825 300516 or look at the website www.airsoftgb.co.uk.

David Beech

IN THE GARDEN IN MAY

The potatoes should be through by now so start to earth them up but before you do this sprinkle a handful of 'growmore' along each side of the plant, then earth them up.



Plant marrow seeds this month; if you are short of space plant the bush type.

With the exception of beetroot, parsnip and carrots most other crops i.e. cabbage, lettuce, broccoli etc can be transplanted from the seed bed to their permanent position. I've written before that one of the most economical greens to grow is curly kale: it stands the severest of winters and you can pull off a leaf to leave the plant to continue to grow on. We get some very high winds in this area so I would advise to grow runner beans on the ground, the beans will not all be straight but just as tasty. When all your seeds are through plant short rows of carrots, beetroot, lettuce, in fact when any of your other seeds are through then it is time to plant more.

Frank Griffiths



VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

one of the items up for discussion with the new members at the meeting on 1st May. What could be more fun than to have a say in the Village Hall's activities?

The decorating has and is happening as I am writing this and the inside of The Hall is looking brighter, crisper and fresher. We have applied for a grant from the Parish Council to purchase new curtains for the Main Hall and are still awaiting the outcome.

We are still looking to upgrade the security on the oil tank with Martin coming up with some new ideas. We will keep you posted.

Future Events to look forward to

We are hoping to run a proper afternoon TEA with The Friendship Club to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on the Bank Holiday Tuesday, June 5th. Details to be firmed up but get this one in your diary if you fancy a real proper English Tea with all the trimmings.

Other ideas that are being planned include:

- A Bingo Night
- A Quiz Night
- Essex on Tour Cabaret Night
- a Murder Mystery Night
- as well as the usual favourites. More details soon.

That's all for now, as always thank you for your support and please put the Tea event in your diary. Leave spaces free for all those events yet to be planned. Let's all make the most of Great Bromley Village Hall in 2012.

Next Committee meeting Tuesday 1st May at **8:00pm**.. As always all welcome.

David Beech



It is just a couple of days away from the **AGM** as I am writing this and I still have my own report to write for that. It is that time year when we look back from the last AGM to see what we have achieved for the Hall over the last twelve months. We have had great events. Last May we had the Drop Dead Divas, last June the Hog Roast, a Farmers Market in July, Olly Day Cabaret Night in October, Christmas Fayre in December and who could forget the New Year's Eve Event? All were great fundraising events which not only raised money for the Hall but, more importantly, were events which were great fun and thoroughly enjoyed by all attendees. The Hall roof has been insulated, a new heating control system has been fitted and the Main Hall has been redecorated. Compared to the past two years we have not done nearly so much but in those past two years we really did change a lot of things - from a new roof to the new kitchen. Times have not been easy but we have had great leadership and huge efforts from all the Committee to achieve the great results listed above.

Surprisingly, nobody has owned up to stealing the heating oil and the same applies to the break in. No-one has been caught either. The Police have had nothing to report.

It has been proposed that the new Committee set up a Sub Committee to look after the fundraising. This will be, I am sure,



Charity No. 1136038
Company No. 7099414

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 club available every day

For more details/visits please contact us on 0785 7503103

WE ARE BACK -'Baby Dragons' Parent and Toddler Group. Come and have fun with other parents and their children. Every Wednesday at the village hall in the Millennium Room (term time only) 9.15am-10.45am. For further information or any queries please contact us on the above number.

Easter is always a busy time at preschool. The children enjoyed lots of fun activities including making cards, baskets and cooking chocolate nests with Linda. They also enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt – following footprints left by the Easter Bunny!

We are continuing to look at the Olympics and Paralympics and following the adventures of the mascots, Wenlock and Mandeville.

As we start our Summer Term we are looking forward to some lovely weather and enjoying our outdoor space.

Just to let you know that we are collecting both the Tesco and Sainsbury's Vouchers so please tell friends, family etc.

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:

31st May Joining the Jubilee
celebrations at St Georges School
4th June Half term week
11th June Return to preschool
13th June Barnardo's Toddler
22nd June ' Vegas Night'

THANKS

Kate would like to thank

everyone for their cards, presents and good wishes when she retired from Ardleigh Surgery at the end of March. She has not moved away, so is hoping to make a greater contribution to village life, and see you all at the various events.

Beryl Hurst and her family

would like to thank everyone for their kindness following the death of Geoffrey

Hurst in February.

It was really wonderful to see so many dear friends at the Church and afterwards at the Cross Inn, everyone's support made a difficult day so much more bearable.

The collection for St Helena Hospice has exceeded a thousand pounds.

Once again thank you to everyone for their kindness and donations.

Love from Beryl and family

Our speaker in April was a true inspiration. Karen Moss came to speak on the Colchester Neonatal Unit .

Karen is the ward sister who manages the special care unit at Colchester Hospital.

Karen began her talk with a brief history of the maternity services in Colchester. She trained in Ipswich but chose to follow a Midwifery Course at the "Mat Home" in Lexden Road many years ago. She described the scene of the "prem" babies who were at that time in a unit in the attic of the "Mat Home". The special babies were fed at midnight, tucked in warmly and left for the night!!

How things have changed today! 15 years ago the Maternity Hospital moved to a purpose built unit in the Constable Wing at Colchester General Hospital. The new building was big and spacious in comparison with the old, but even now the unit is too small.

The Special Care Baby unit is next to the delivery suite with three nurseries and two single rooms. There are three levels of care for special care baby units throughout this Eastern Area of England

Level 1: S.C. Baby unit where babies are slightly poorly and need extra care.

Level 2: A higher intensity of Care Unit where extra funding is available and more specialist training of staff is given.

Level 3: Centres such as Norwich, Addenbrookes, Luton & Dunstable where a high level of complex intensive care is offered.

Colchester Maternity Home is a Level 2 provider where they hope to admit and keep a baby rather than admit and send on to another unit.



Karen has a staff of 48 "Band 5" & "Band 6" nurses, 2 ward clerks, registrars and consultants. N.N.E.B. Nursery Nurses hold an important role in the special care baby unit, they are highly skilled – specialising in breast feeding and running the milk kitchen.

A new shift pattern of work has recently been established. The staff work an 11 ½ day shift and it is working very well.

Karen continued by describing the needs and requirements of the very sick babies who come to the unit. All babies in the neonatal unit are born pre-term and are from 23 weeks onwards. Some babies born very early are termed to be "edge of life" and have to fight to live. A lot of assessment takes place and with every baby 40% of care is with the babies but surprisingly 60% of care is with the mother and other members of the family who can be upset and shocked by the prem birth. The parents

and extended family have to take over the care of the new born baby ready for returning home supported by the neo-natal outreach team.

It is a huge learning programme for Mum and all the family. Mums feel so very shocked and often very guilty. The team make sure that the baby and Mum have very early physical contact especially "Kangaroo Care" which is snuggling baby on Mum's front skin to skin. Mums are taught to massage babies' bodies and they are taught that breast is best.

Karen described the many reasons babies may arrive in the neo-natal baby unit:-

- There may be cardiac and respiratory problems,
- the Mum may be drug dependent, which may have serious consequences for the new born baby
- or Mum may be suffering from AIDS.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Karen's unit is equipped and able to deal with most emergencies but in the event of a transfer to another hospital which has "Level 3" care the 'ANTS' team is on hand to transfer the baby. 'ANTS' is a dedicated ambulance team co-ordinated from Cambridge comprising of paramedics and specially trained nurses.

This was a fascinating and thought provoking talk given by Karen Moss, sister neo-natal unit Colchester Maternity Hospital, and we could have listened all evening such was the interest and content of the talk.

Karen is a new member of Great Bromley Women's Institute and we are very pleased that she has joined us. Karen's talk was amazing – her dedication, professionalism and knowledge of her chosen vocation is most impressive and awesome.

Thank you, Karen, we shall continue to knit for your babies at our "Knit and Knatter" sessions each month.

Next month our speaker is Natalie Smith talking about her "Black Sheep" which she farms in Little Bromley, please come and join us.



There are some mysteries which can never be explained??? The Club report for the April Messenger just disappeared - I typed, Leonie typed it but where did it go after that??? It contained a report about hop picking and also a big thank you to Mr

Nicholls for setting the tables and chairs in the Millennium Room so that we could sit comfortably in a smaller space - the Hall being

redecorated, but the tea ladies managed to get through to make the welcome cuppa.

As you know we need new members to keep our numbers up so the age is now over 50 years old - not necessarily living in the Bromleys. Everyone is welcome so if you have friends who would like to spend a couple of hours every third Thursday in the month with people who are full of life and chatty, together with entertainment do bring them along. Speakers on many subjects and/or a musical afternoon, the time is 2.00-4.00pm at the Village Hall and if you don't have transport just let us know.

The Competition for May is an Old Coin.

We are sad to report the death of Reta Gower who was a regular member and took part in the Friendship Players.

All for now folks!

Vicky Griffiths

Many apologies for the loss of last month's report. Somehow it got lost after I had sited it in the magazine - I have no idea how. - Editor



MISS THOMAS' CHURCH RECORDS

Miss Honor Thomas was the PCC treasurer and secretary to Rev Ransom; she started a Church Record for St George's some time in the middle of the last century. It is packed with fascinating information and photographs, starting with various collated information (previous rectors, details of the bells, some of the ancient artefacts) and has some historical entries dotted around, for example:

1889 *Lychgate built to commemorate Thomas William Nunn, who died 1888.*

I would guess it was created around 1948, as although there are regular entries from 1934 which would have been in recent memory, the detailed entries began in that year when Reverend James Henry Ransom was instituted as rector.

Miss Thomas retired from the PCC in 1969 but continued entries until 1974 (when I presume she died). New PCC treasurer, Margery West, updated the book with notes and various cuttings until her husband, Stan, died. The book was then passed to Mrs Ann Fairley until Margery's daughter, Jennifer Nicholls, came back to the village. Jenny still has the book in safe keeping and kindly allowed me to copy its contents.

Whilst some of the records are not entirely fascinating to most of us -

1948 *Pews in North Aisle treated for woodworm. Lightning conductor tested & repaired. Organ tuned*

- there are other records which certainly add to our social history. In due course I will get the book typed up to share in its entirety online.

The wartime years show:

1939 – Lead on roof and tiles on chancel repaired

1940 – Some windows broken in air raids

1941 – Photographs of the church taken, for purposes of records by the Churches Authority.

1942 – Cemetery gate repaired and rehung



1943 – Landmine, which did not explode, fell near the church.

1944 – On September 25th, blast from a flying bomb broke many of the church windows, and also some in the school. Celebration in the school on Sunday 8am on Oct 8.

1945 – On November 29th, a sale, at the rectory, for the church repair fund.

My sources tell me that Miss Thomas was a highly educated lady, a niece of Field Marshall Montgomery, and she was Secretary to the Archbishop of Canterbury. When she retired she moved to our village (I would love to know how and why that came about) – she lived at the Old Forge in Hare Green, which has since been demolished, and then in Spring Hill Close, with a housekeeper-companion known as Benny. Mary Hart remembers collecting their shopping for them.

Miss Thomas was something of a harridan, rather short (about 5') and thin and always wore black – perhaps a little scary for the children of the village! She went round in a 3-wheeled chair propelled by hand pedals which she parked in the Lych gate. She would always sit right at the back of the church and takes ages to make her way up to communion, which perhaps vexed Rev Ransom at times. (Please contact me or Leonie if you know anything more.)

Hugh Frostick

– with thanks to Jenny Nicholls, Mary Hart, Jill Frostick, Jean Austin and others.

GREAT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10 April 2012 in the Village Hall.

All were present except for DC Mrs R Heaney, Mr F Nicholls, Mr A Thomas and Mrs M Fawcett who gave their apologies.

1. Members' Interests: Cllr Perry in the Friendship Club. Cllr Hardy in the Cricket Club. Cllr Skinner in the Village Hall

2. Public Participation: There was no public participation.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting: The Minutes held of the Meeting on 14th February 2012 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes of 14th February 2012

- **Affordable Housing** - The Clerk has made contact with Mr Price and is awaiting a reply back.
- **Section 137 Grants** - Cllr Fawcett obtained quotes for chairs as per the S137 grant application received from the Church. The quotes were emailed to both the Chairman and the Clerk. In Cllr Fawcett's and the Chairman's absence from the meeting, the Clerk advised the Council of the quotes received.
- The grants were discussed briefly and a letter was received by the Clerk from the Friendship Club. The grants are still to be granted and the Clerk is to prepare a list of all grant applications received so that the grants can be decided and allocated from the funds available. Clerk is to check whether a S137 grant has been made to the Royal British Legion.

5. Reports

- **County Councillor** - No report.
- **Parish Councillors** - Cllr Williams has been asked by a member of the public when a line of trees are to be planted as apparently mentioned in the planning application for the second poultry shed at Bush Farm. The trees will shield the view from Carrington Road. Nothing has yet happened. Cllr Perry to follow this up. Cllr Williams also advised about the increasing amount of litter dumping. It was advised that the litter being dumped is not just little litter. The asbestos dumping was also raised and it continues to be dumped. TDC have been notified in respect to all asbestos which has been seen.
- Cllr Burnby advised she has spoken to the PCSO in respect to the speed gun equipment but is still awaiting to hear. Clerk is to find out

about Little Bromley's equipment. Cllr Burnby will also email Les Barnes regarding the above.

- It was also noted that the email address for Les Barnes is incorrect in the Bromley Messenger. Clerk to advise Bromley Messenger that email address appears to be wrong.
- Cllr Blowers advised he was able to participate in the forthcoming litter-pick, unfortunately Cllr Perry will not be able to.
- In respect to the broadband presentation by an independent broadband company, Cllr Skinner advised that leaflets are being distributed to all.
- Cllr Skinner advised that Cllr Nicholls will be advising regarding the Standards Board at the next parish council meeting. It is to be determined whether to use a model version or adopt our own. It maybe that Essex are doing a standard one.
- The Big Society Fund was mentioned, it appears that local opportunities are missing out as not enough is known about BSF. There is not definitive list for all those within Great Bromley that could benefit from the BSF. Cllr Hardy suggested perhaps a link to the BSF on TDC's website or in the Messenger. Cllr Burnby advised she will look into the BSF so that more is known so that hopefully no one who might be able to benefit loses out.
- Cllr Hardy reported that Hare Green is not on Agenda although he was absent from February's meeting. There is still a problem with moles. Clerk advised that she had not heard back but will follow-up.
- It was also advised that nothing further has been heard from Mrs Sands regarding Half Pipes.
- Cllr Hardy reported that Les Barnes mentioned the mini motorcycles on Hare Green late at night. Les Barnes has advised that he has been advising individuals that it is illegal on public land/highways and if seen on such land the mini motorcycles will be confiscated. Any further nuisances should be reported to Essex Police. There is only one field in Essex where these can be used within Essex.
- The notice board in Mary Lane South was found to be open on one side due to a faulty lock. Clerk advised that she has been in contact with the supplier and requested replacement locks to be fitted as they are less than a year old and therefore still under a warranty. It is definitely the lock as the same notice board in Church Meadow opens and locks perfectly. Clerk to

follow up with the supplier. However, Clerk did advise that after perseverance the notice board has now been locked on both sides.

- Cllr Perry advised he will enquire to find out who is responsible for the verge cutting on Carrington Road near the public house as the verges were cut back too much and disturbed a nest of grass snakes which are protected. The Clerk would like to advise the Council that Grass snakes are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

6. HM Queen's Diamond Jubilee – Weekend of 3 June 2012

- Cllr Skinner advised that unfortunately, due to personal reasons, he cannot undertake the role of Event Organising Committee. Cllr Hardy advised that the Cricket Club is to provide a marquee and a bar (marquee subject to weather). PTA would be good for games for children, perhaps a treasure hunt, balloon stalls with fun day. Cricket Club, BBQ but need to staff. Other groups are needed to fill the gaps. Tombola, stalls, face-painting, scalextric, music and food. Young and old a good weekend for all to enjoy. Church has advised they are keen to be involved. Cllr Skinner to contact Village Hall Committee regarding BBQ. Cllr Burnby to contact WI. Cllr Fawcett perhaps could contact the Church. Cllr Perry to contact with the Friendship Club. Cllr Skinner to contact the Men's Club. Insurance cover: Insurance company need to be advised of the events. All bodies are to hand in their risk assessment. The event is an event being led by the Cricket Club with contributions from organisations including the Village Hall.
- It was reported that the Village Hall was broken into last night, entry via the hatched window. Playgroup cupboard was forced open. A laptop and safe was stolen. The contents of the safe were old keys. Police have been informed, finger print checks were undertaken.
- No footpath warden as of yet.
- It was advised that Langham Crafty Ladies have asked if they could advertise on the GBPC notice boards. The Crafty ladies are to be advised that the GBPC boards can only be used for GBPC and TDC items. However, perhaps general notice boards are an option. Whilst on the subject of the notice boards it was advised that 3 of the old notice boards are in a bad state. It was mentioned that perhaps the notice board near the school is not necessary since the erection of a notice board on Church Meadow. The notice boards are to be an Agenda item for next meeting.

7. Payments

Approval for the following payments:

S Toller: Clerk's salary and expenses for January 2012	£303.35	
Less tax deducted (to HMRC)	£0.00	£303.35
HMRC: Tax Deducted for Mr K Bromfield Retirement Gratuity		£249.40
Tending Tree: Oak Tree on Hare Green Playing Field & Garden Services		£60.00

8. Other Competent Business

- The Clerk, in the Chairman's absence, advised the Parish Council of Council Resolution set out by the Chairman under Standing Order 3b(i) in that the Clerk may issue the summons for a council meeting, including time, date, venue and the agenda of the forthcoming meeting by email. Should a councillor wish to continue receiving these communications by post then the councillor should advise the Clerk. The Clerk also passed around the Council Timetable prepared by the Chairman for minutes and agenda and it was agreed by all present.
- Tree for the Jubilee - The planting of a tree to celebrate the Jubilee was advised and the suggesting planting area perhaps the Church Meadow or within the School. It was advised that it should be discussed in more detail at the next meeting in respect to type of plant and area of planting.

MAY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 8th May:

7.00pm The Annual Parish Council meeting

7.30pm Annual Parish Assembly to be held in Great Bromley Village Hall

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Great Bromley Parish Council would like to have its own list of people who may be interested in Affordable Housing within the Village. If you would like to be added to this list please forward your name address, telephone number, the number of adults & children in your household to:
Gt Bromley Parish Council
c/o Mrs M. Fawcett OAK LODGE,
HALL ROAD, GT. BROMLEY CO7 7TY
gbcouncillorfawcett@gmail.com

2012 EVENTS

MAY

- 1 Village Hall Trustees committee meeting, Village Hall, 8.00pm
- 2 WI meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8 Gt Bromley Annual Parish Council meeting 7.00pm followed by Annual Parish Assembly, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Lt Bromley Annual Parish Meeting, The Haywain, 7.30pm
- 9 Bat talk, St George's church, 8.00pm
- 10 Lt Bromley Annual Parish Assembly, The Haywain, 7.30pm
- 12 Plant and Garage Sale, Ilex Farm, 10.00am
Friends of Lt Bromley Church A.G.M., St Mary's church, 10.30am
Welsummer Singers, Thorington Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 17 Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall, 2.00pm
- 19 St Helena Hospice Summer Fete, Hospice,, 11.00am
- 26 Summer Fair, Lawford CofE Primary School, 11.30am
- 27 Lt Bentley Diamond celebration, Lt Bentley church, 11.00am

JUNE

- 2 Flower Arranging afternoon, Lt Bromley church, 2.00pm
- 3 Lt Bromley Jubilee Garden Party, St Mary's church, 10.00am
Gt Bromley Jubilee Celebrations, Village Hall & Cricket Ground
- 5 Jubilee Tea with the Friendship Club, Village Hall
- 17 East Anglian Single Reed Choir, Lt Bromley church, 6.00pm
- 29 Silver Jubilee Mass & Barbeque, St George's church, 6.00pm
- 30 Southend Festival Chorus - Jubilee Concert

We have organised an enjoyable afternoon of

FLOWER ARRANGING

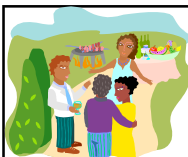
At Little Bromley Church
On Saturday 2nd June
2pm to 4.30pm

Have a go at making an arrangement with a **royal garden party theme** with our other flower enthusiasts.

All you need to bring are some flowers and greenery from your own garden or local area, a container suitable to hold some oasis, then have fun putting your own display together. We will supply anything else you might need. No experience necessary!

Don't be shy, come and have a go. So if you are free on this Saturday, come along and meet, talk, pick up tips and create whilst we supply you with tea and cake.

For further details phone Carol Cordwell on 01206 395103.



Little Bromley's Jubilee Garden Party

at St. Mary's Church
Sunday 3rd June,

10.00am – 4pm

Jubilee service of morning prayer at 11am, organ music with a royal theme. Songs of love and life by 'Two Cool Dudes' (guitar and voice) at 1 and 2pm. Presentation of Scarecrow prizes at 3pm. Also tea and cakes, cream teas (small charge). Activities for the children. Bring your own picnic and eat it whilst music plays in the church. If you would like to be involved or make some cakes please let me know. Phone Carol on 01206 395103.

Plant and Garage Sale

at Ilex Farm, Waterhouse Lane, Ardleigh
on 12th May
10.00am - 1.00pm



Proceeds to Philip Allam
Memorial Fund and St
Michael's Church, Thorpe-le-
Soken

Donations of plants or anything
for the garage sale (no books/clothes)
gratefully received before 12th May.

Friday 29th June
at 6 pm

To celebrate **25 years** of
Father Robert's ordination there will be a

SILVER JUBILEE MASS

followed by a **BARBEQUE**

at St George's Church, Great Bromley
The preacher will be Bishop Christopher,
the Area Bishop of Colchester

TEA

with the Friendship Club
to mark the Queen's Diamond
Jubilee

on Bank Holiday Tuesday, 5th June.
Details to be announced



"Jubilee Celebration Concert"

Saturday 30th June 2012
St George's Church at 7.30pm

The Southend Festival Chorus will
be presenting a "Jubilee
Celebration Concert"

Tickets including wine and a tasty
finger buffet are £10.

Please book your tickets early by phone
or email Jenny Nicholls 01206230688 or
jenny@fryerning.net

More details about the Southend Festival
Chorus on page 35



St George's Church, Great Bromley.

BAT TALK

9th May 2012 8pm

Come and Meet St. George's Bats !!

Robin Cottrill "Essex Bat
Group" will be giving a Talk in
St. George's Church on May
9th at 8pm.



Tea and coffee, light
refreshments will be available.

Donations towards our costs for the evening
will be appreciated.

*Q. "How did the female pipistrelle bat attract
the male?"*

A. By batting her eyelids!"

The Friends of Little Bromley Church

are holding their
Annual General Meeting
on Saturday 12 May

Coffee and music from 10.30 for 11.00.
Following the brief AGM, there will be the
opportunity to listen to more music on the
flute and harpsichord until mid-day.

All are welcome.

The East Anglian Single Reed Choir

will be giving a performance on
Sunday 17 June at 6.00pm

Tickets will be £6.00, free entry for under
20's. Refreshments will be served following
the concert. More details in the June edition.
Tickets available at the AGM on 12th May

In 'Diary'

Friday 31 August at 7.00pm

Ghost stories



Great Bromley Jubilee Celebrations

Sunday June 3rd

at the Village Hall and Cricket
ground

lots of fun and entertainment for all the
family

Full details to follow

**4th Local Producers' Market
at Lawford C of E Primary School's
Summer Fair
Saturday 26th May 2012
1130-1430hrs**

We have included a Local Producers' Market at the past three school summer fairs with great success. We decided to call it a Local Producers' Market (as opposed to Farmers' Market) to fit in with the school's educational programme about understanding the benefits of locally sourcing foods, Fairtrade which they are exploring with their links to Ghana, and because this event differs in that we only have **one** stall selling any one product

As well as promoting with the summer fair, we also promote the Local Producers' Market independently, which helps draw in those that might not ordinarily attend a school fete.

We have always been lucky enough to attract a good variety of stalls, and this year we have so far confirmed: Keeper's Cottage Fruit & Veg, Chutneys, Marmalades and Jams by Gina Coppin, Stour Valley Smokehouse, Knights Farm Honey, Totham Bangers, Harwich Town Brewing Company, Chosan a natural health drink and I am madly chasing another 15 stalls.

All this plus all the fun of the summer fair!

On 7th July 2012 **Father Nicolas Spicer** is celebrating 25 years as a priest. Everyone is welcome. I am organising a coach to Worksop Priory for that day. If you would like to know more contact James Wilde on 01206 230679



St Helena Hospice Summer Fete

on Saturday 19th May
11.00am – 3.00pm.

The Fete will again take place in the beautiful Hospice grounds at Barncroft Close, Highwoods, Colchester, CO4 9JU.

For further information on the Summer Fete, please call Catherine Venables at the Fundraising Office, on 01206 791740.



*St Mary Magdalen Frating with Thorrington
The Welsummer Singers*
**Invite you to *Music for a Spring Evening*
Saturday, 12th May**

7.30PM at Thorrington Village Hall
Tickets £8 (includes light refreshments)
raffle

From Rita on 01206 250805
In aid of Church Repair Funds

Crafty Ladies

We get together once a month to Patch work and Quilt, Knit, Crochet, Card Make or any other Craft at Langham Community Centre between 11am-4.30pm.

Arrive at any time and leave when you like for a fee of £4.00.

If you would like to join us we meet again on Wednesday 9th May.

For more information please contact Jacqui on 07979 947931.

Little Bentley Parish Council
Invite you to the dedication of
Little Bentley Diamond Jubilee Bench & Elm Tree

next to St Marys Church, Church Road, Little Bentley

by The High Sheriff of Essex,
Mr Christopher Palmer-Tomkinson
on Sunday 27th May 2012 at 11am
Followed by a short open air
service of thanksgiving.

Refreshments.

For more details call Nigel – 07802 282193.



Friends of Elmstead Church **Art Exhibition** 16th/17th June at Elmstead Church
Saturday 10.30am-5.30pm Sunday 12 noon - 5.30pm

A120 IMPROVEMENTS

Representatives of Great and Little Bromley, Little Bentley, the four District Councillors and the County Councillor met together with Bernard Jenkin MP, his researcher and June Clare, head of Environmental Services, Tendring District Council on 20th April for what was felt to have been a positive meeting.

Those present were in agreement that the works carried out to date are not an improvement and have, if anything, made the situation worse. Three accidents since the road works began speaks for itself.

Bernard Jenkin informed the meeting that he had been to see the Road Minister, Mike Penning, who has instructed the Highways Authority to carry out a safety audit on the junction. It is thought that in the short term a speed limit will be introduced along with average speed cameras. In the slightly longer term the possibility of a roundabout is very much in the minister's mind.

It was also agreed that TDC should instruct an independent traffic consultant to examine the safety aspect and to come up with a suggested way forward. This will be treated as urgent.

A120 IMPROVEMENTS POLL

On the Gt Bromley Parish Council website (<http://www.essexinfo.net/gbpc/>) there is a Poll asking for your thoughts on the A120 road improvements.

LT BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Report from the extraordinary meeting held on 12th April 2012.

The Chairman welcomed the new clerk, Mrs Sandra Shute, to the meeting.

The Parish Council financial management was discussed in detail and responsibilities reallocated to reflect recent councillor and clerk appointments. A revised budget plan for 2012/13 was accepted by the council.

The Chairman reported that there is a balance of £3612.74 in the amenity fund of which £1247.32 is ring-fenced for the repair of the village war memorial. Foundation repairs on the memorial will commence when there is no danger from frost. Councillor Middleton will join Councillor Hatch on the Amenity committee. The necessity of an annual audit was discussed and an internal auditor will be appointed accordingly.

The council's standing orders were discussed and it is planned to formally adopt these at the next council meeting.

It was reported that there is a dog fouling problem in the village. The clerk will report this to the Tendring Dog Warden for advice.

It was agreed that two Councillors from Little Bromley will attend a meeting in Great Bromley to discuss the A120 road changes.

Future meetings:

The councillors had to amend them so the new dates are:-

Annual Parish Meeting - Tuesday 8th May 2012 at 7.30. To be held in the Venue at the Haywain Public House.

Annual Parish Assembly - Thursday 10th May at 7.30pm. To be held in the Venue at the Haywain Public House.



The Bromley Scarecrow Festival & Competition

Great and Little Bromley invite you to design and make a 'red, white and blue royal' scarecrow in time for the Jubilee Celebrations at

**St. Mary's Church, Little Bromley
2nd/3rd June**

Fill in a registration form and return along with your £1 donation towards the PCC to take part in our competition.

The forms will be available from 1st May at Great Bromley Church, the Cross Inn P.O., Primrose Park, Little Bromley Church entrance, the Haywain, from Carol- c/o St. George's School and from Jenny at Fryerning, Hall Road.

For more details please contact:
Carol on 01206 395103 or Jenny on
01206 230688

Tendring District Council Weekly Recycling & Waste Service



How your new service will work:



Red Recycling Box Paper and card will be collected from your new red box the first week.

Weekly
(Alternate)



Green Recycling Box Cans and plastic bottles will be collected from your existing green box the second week.



Food You will receive two containers for food waste. A small caddy for your kitchen and a food tin to keep outside. You can use this to recycle all your cooked and raw food waste.

Weekly



Refuse You can use the black sack service for the very little remaining rubbish that can't be recycled or composted.

Weekly

Coming Spring
2012



NATURE'S DIARY

I learned something interesting about badgers - or rather dead badgers - the other day. If you should find a dead badger by the side of the road (or anywhere else) ring The Badger Trust on 07751572175 who



will remove the body. This will ensure that badger setts are left in peace and not disturbed by people who bait badgers when aware of their presence in an area.

On a happier note the first swallow has been sighted (20th April) in Little Bromley and a cuckoo has been heard nearby so keep your eyes and ears open.

Nightingales will also soon be arriving. Last year I went to Fingringhoe Wick Visitor Centre (Telephone: 01206 729678) on one of their nightingale walks which this year they are holding from Sunday 22nd April - Saturday 12th May 7.30pm - 9.00pm. All they ask is that you give a donation of £5/ per adult and £3/per child but you do need to book a place. **Do not** just turn up unannounced. It was a magical evening and one that I really recommend. Of course you may be lucky enough to have your own nightingale visiting your garden!

The cuckoo flowers are in bloom which attract orange tip butterflies and the bluebells,, also, are flowering. Look out for various bluebell open days in the area



where you can go to the woods and admire and enjoy the fabulous display of a sea of blue. The primroses this year have been flowering spectacularly and my cowslips are also out. There is a section of road on the way to Norfolk where there are cowslips in

their masses by the banks of the road just like they used to be in the meadows where I lived as a child.



Blackthorn, fruit trees, willows, dandelions, with hawthorn and elder soon also to bloom, are just some of the important sources of nectar and pollen for insects. The fields are full of rape round here - a mixed blessing for my bees as they adore foraging on the plant but the honey they produce from it has to be harvested speedily as it granulates in the hive and then even they cannot use it as it



becomes too hard. Bees can starve on a hive full of granulated rape honey but it is lovely to eat with your breakfast from a jar!

By mid-May dragon and damselflies are emerging and soon begin to breed - watch out for the Common Blue damselfly which are plentiful round here. The Cockchafer or May-bug, is also on the wing and moths and butterflies are also flying.

Neither the oak nor the ash trees have produced leaves yet though the oak possibly looks closer to bud burst. Remember the saying:

*Oak before ash, naught but a splash;
Ash before oak, you're in for a soak.*

Whichever comes first we do need a great deal of rain to properly soak the ground but, oh, how I wish it would feel warmer.

LMH

THE DOCTORS' SURGERY NEWS

Gt Bentley Surgery

Announcements about prescription charges seem to go almost unnoticed these days. I suppose we are so used to being bombarded with depressing economic news that a mere 25p per item increase hardly causes a raised eyebrow. Many people these days are exempt from prescription charges anyway, but the bad news for those of us who do have to pay is that the charge per item went up to £7.65 with effect from 1st April.

The better news is that the cost of prescription prepayment certificates (PPCs) has not been increased this year, so anyone who regularly has to take a number of prescription medications shouldn't pay any extra at all. A PPC covering all prescriptions, repeats and one-off items for a full year costs £104 – just £2 per week – and a three month certificate costs £29.10. The annual PPC can even be paid for by direct debit over ten months so that you don't have to find the full cost immediately. Just out of interest, if you regularly need two prescription items per month, an annual PPC could save you £70; for three items per month the saving can be £160 and for four items the figure goes up to £250, so if you have to pay (and please double check that you do before you splash out), it really is worth doing. If you want to buy a PPC, you can do it online at <https://apps.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/ppcwebsales/>, by telephone on 0845 850 0030, or you can get the necessary form from your local pharmacy. Please note though, that the direct debit option is not available via pharmacies.

Unfortunately, as prescription charges are a government tax, neither the surgery nor your pharmacy can waive them, much as we might wish we could. I suppose that if you really object to paying them you could move to Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland, all of which have now abolished charges completely. That's perhaps a bit drastic though.

As I told you a few months ago, Dr Letton is leaving us at the end of June. I promised at the time that I would announce who was to replace her as soon as I could and I can now tell you that Dr Bhatti is going to fill the gap by changing to working full-time.

There have been some interesting pieces in the

media recently about the overuse of antibiotics and its worrying consequences. Bacteria that were once dealt with very effectively by antibiotics are becoming increasingly resistant. This means that illnesses such as pneumonia, tuberculosis, meningitis – even ear infections and some skin conditions – are becoming more dangerous and harder to treat. You don't have to take my word for it – just Google "Antibiotic overuse" and be prepared to be scared. I make no apologies for jumping on the bandwagon and asking you again to help us avoid adding to the problem by not putting pressure on doctors (or nurses) to prescribe antibiotics when they make it clear that it is not appropriate to do so. The pressure most often comes from parents who are understandably distressed when their child is ill and expect antibiotics to be a quick fix. Very often, they aren't though. Believe me – this isn't a cost thing. Antibiotics cost pennies – in most cases literally. The simple truth is that they have absolutely no effect on viral illnesses, including colds, flu and many childhood ailments. They are completely wasted and gradually lose their efficacy against the nasty bacterial infections that they have helped keep at bay for the last few decades. Inevitably this will eventually put your child at greater risk when they contract something that does need dealing with by antibiotics.

So the message is **please** when you are told that antibiotics are not appropriate, accept what the doctor or nurse says. They are not being unsympathetic or trying to be difficult. They are not saving money. They are trying to make sure that there are still antibiotics that work when you – or your child – really need them.

Hugh Cronin, Practice Manager, Great Bentley Surgery

DR LETTON

As you will have read in Hugh's Surgery Notes, Dr. Debra Letton will be leaving the Great Bentley Surgery at the end of June. I am sure many of you will have been bitterly disappointed when you read this news. In appreciation of her work for the practice there will be a **secret** collection and if you wish to contribute please place your donation in a sealed envelope and hand it in to one of the receptionists at the surgery. Thank you.

ESSEX POLICE



If you need to talk to me for any Police Community problems, you can contact me on 07967 466876, or 101 ex 487607 (free phone) or email me leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police please note if you leave a message I will try to reply to your call the day I am next on duty.

Les Barnes PCSO 71909

Incidents in Great Bromley for the month of March

Fly Tipping - Carringtons Road

Theft Other - Hall Road - (Seven Rivers, money taken)

Suspicious Circumstances - Brook Street -
(Man in a truck in church car park)

Burglary Other - Rectory Road - (Village Hall)

Nuisance Vehicle - Back Lane East x 4 - (Mini Moto)

Theft from Motor Vehicle - Church Corner -
(Money taken from vehicle)

RTC - Chase Road

- Parsons Hill

- Harwich Road

Over recent weeks we have received numerous anonymous letters reporting anything from anti social behaviour to drugs misuse in certain areas. Although we are grateful for this information can I ask that if you are considering sending us any information please let us have some contact details. You will remain anonymous and your personal details are not divulged to anyone; I can also assure you that we will not attend your address if you do not wish us to.

Some of the information we receive cannot be acted upon unless we can get further details from you. All information, no matter how small, is welcomed and if we can do anything to help you with the issue you wish to raise then we will do so.

Thank you, in advance for your co-operation.

APRIL NEWSLETTER

Gang of con men sentenced - A gang who conned two elderly people out of more than £150,000 have been sentenced. The six men, four of whom are from Tilbury, posed as landscape gardeners and tricked their housebound victims from Leigh on Sea into paying for work they had not completed. Over a period of five years the gang, who traded as Chris Landscaping Limited, charged an 89-year-old woman £44,000 to build a garden path and collected a total of 67 cheques totalling more than £113,000 from a disabled man. The gang

leader, 35-year-old Christopher Barnes of Jay Gardens in Chislehurst, Kent, befriended his victims over a number of months, taking his two young children to visit them and encouraging them to introduce him to their families. He then turned up unannounced on a number of occasions and demanded money for work he had not been asked to carry out.

If you think you've been the victim of scam, please report it us. We need to stop tricksters working in our county.

Please be aware that an increasing number of residents have reported that they have been sent a letter indicating that they are due to inherit a sum of money. Whilst there are many variations to this theme, the current apparent scam involves communication from China which indicates that a relative has died and that the recipient of the letter is due to be sent some money. Whilst a direct request for cash may not be made initially once contact has begun this request is likely to be made shortly afterwards.

Also please be aware that these types of scams are becoming increasingly common and do not let yourself or your relatives become a victim. Should you receive a letter which you suspect is not genuine please contact Consumer Direct on 08454 040506.

The Office of Fair Trading are advising members of the public of a scam that is claimed is being made by the OFT. Persons unknown are calling and asking for money to assist them with help to assist in getting your bank charges refunded. THIS IS A SCAM. Should you receive a call you are to contact the OFT on 08454 04 05 06 or Action Fraud 0300 123 2040.

PCSO Barnes 71909

**INTRODUCING ...**

Firstly, may I introduce myself. My name is Simon TATTERSALL and I am the new Sergeant for Great Bromley. I have 13 years' service with Kent and Essex police and have gained recent experience at Colchester and Clacton towns. I will be spending a large amount of my time on foot patrol in your village and will be engaging with members of the public, publicans and other local shops and businesses. I like to take a no-nonsense approach to policing and will take early positive action to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour. I am based at Brightlingsea Police station but will be moving to the fire station very soon. This will have no impact on the service we provide and is one of the necessary cut backs Essex police are making.

I will update you on these cuts in the following issues together with our policing priorities.

If you have any information or concerns please e-mail me on 3030@essex.pnn.police.uk or call me one of the community phones
Brightlingsea - 07801316876
Thorpe - 07967466876

CHANGES ...

Essex police has brought in some changes about how your local policing works. Thankfully your neighbourhood policing teams remain.

If you have any issues/queries then please speak to one of your local officers. Visit the Essex police website and click on your local area, you will find us there.

If you have issues then all we ask is for you to inform us of them, this way we can work with you and the rest of the community to ensure your area is a safe place to live.

Your local team is now stationed at Brightlingsea and the team has increased in number so that we can always help you. We are dedicated to tackling anti social behaviour in whatever form it takes and reducing crime or better still preventing it. With the community's help, this can be achieved.

Hopefully you will start to see a visible presence more often in your area, if you don't then please let us know. Also, if you know of any areas that are suffering from any form of anti social behaviour, please let us know.

Pc 2176 Dan Heard (Dedicated Neighbourhood Constable)

One's Wonderful Norfolk Hideaway

"Hello, my dear," said the lady with a posh voice, "are you having a lovely time here at Sandringham? I do hope so. It's my favourite place of all my homes, you know - a place where I can really get away from it all, relax a little and have a good holiday."



"Oh yes, I do so agree," replied her new companion. "I'm on holiday too and I'm having a lovely time. I think it's all

the lovely countryside and the wildlife that do it. So many birds singing in the trees, the squirrels scampering about, the strutting peacocks and, OH! the rabbits! So many rabbits - and such fun to watch!"

"And do you like the House you are staying in? My ancestor, Edward VII (you know, Queen Victoria's rather naughty son, Bertie) had it built way back in the 1860's, you know."

"It's a lovely house," came the reply, "and my room is so comfortable, even nicer than my room back home at Seven Rivers in Great Bromley - that's in in Essex, you know. And the staff are wonderful. They look after us so well. Some people come with a carer but I'm on my own and they and the volunteers couldn't be more helpful. Are you staying at Park House too?"

"Oh no - I have a little place just over there," she replied, pointing to a nearby copse. "Just on the other side of those trees, it is."

"Did you know - you could be sleeping in the room where dear Princess Diana was born! Yes, she lived at Park House until she was 14 years old and only left when her family moved to Althrop Hall when her grandfather died."

"Well I never!" was the startled reply. "I've got lovely views from my window - I can see the trees and all the wild life, and there is a big pond just below, in the garden."

"Oh and the food is lovely," she went on. "Most of it comes from the farms on the estate - so

lovely and fresh it all is! And, oh, the apple juice! It all comes from their own apples, you know, and it is absolutely scrumptious!"

"Yes, we have some lovely orchards here, And do you know, most of the blackberries that go in to that Ribena drink comes from farms on the Sandringham Estate. Oh we do all sorts here! And it's all thanks to my husband, Philip; he looks after the place, you know."

"Well I never!"

I'm so glad you are enjoying your stay. I gave the House to Leonard Cheshire in 1983 and I gather it has been run as a holiday hotel for people with disabilities ever since so I'm really pleased you are having a good time. Now tell me, have you been to see the horses yet - I just love horses, don't you?"

"Oh yes, we had a tour of the stud farm yesterday. One of the volunteers took us around in the minibus. They breed a lot of racehorses here, you know. We saw those two fabulous stallions they use for breeding - one's called 'Royal Applause' and the other one's 'Motivator'."

"Do you know - they put the stallions to the mares every year - they get no rest - poor mares!"

"Well, my dear," said the posh one, "there was a time when my ancestors thought that was all we women were good for - breeding the next occupant of the winner's enclosure!"

"Ooh what a thing to say!"

"Well, it's been lovely talking to you, but I really must go now - the corgis will be waiting for their dinner. Please tell your friends back at Seven Rivers all about us and tell them they must come too, one day."



"Oh I will - thank you - and it's so nice to know that any disabled person can come here for a holiday, not just people who live at a Cheshire Home."

Goodbye!"

(Thinks: *What a nice lady - now where...?*)

Colin File, Volunteer Newsletter Editor.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

MAY DAY BASKET

You need:

- glue
- scissors
- crayons
- paper plate

To Make:

1. Make and colour some flowers and cut out (diagram 1)
2. Cut out the top half of the paper plate, leaving the rim intact (diagram 2)
3. Colour the bottom of the paper plate including the rim.
4. Trace the plate on to a piece of cardboard (old cereal boxes work well) and cut out.
5. Glue or tape the cardboard piece on to the back of the coloured plate which will create a

narrow pocket or basket.

6. Glue the flowers into the basket, some against the back and some inside the front and may be some hanging over the edge. (diagram 3)
7. Small sweets or chocolates can be put inside the basket.

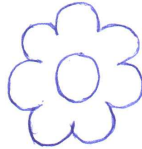


Diagram 1

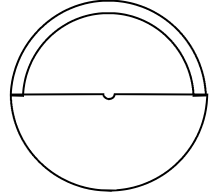


Diagram 2

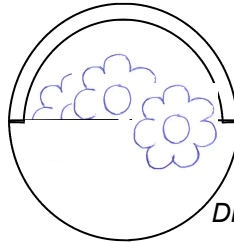


Diagram 3

DINGBATS

See if you can work out the answers (below) to these visual puzzles.

1. **cut**
cut cut

2. **MO**
EK

3. **CANCELLED**
S

4. **NO NO**
CORRECT

5. **XQQQMON**

6. **NOONT**

7. **ground**
feet
feet
feet
feet
feet
feet

8. **GROUND**
LONDON

9. **POTOOOOOOO**

10. **HEAD**
HEALS

Answers

1. cut above the rest
2. OK by me
3. Big show off
4. Right under your nose
5. Excuse my French
6. Afternoon tea
7. 6 feet under the ground
8. London Underground
9. Potatoes
10. Head over heels in love

THE RECTORY, GREAT BROMLEY

Dear Friends,

We were married at St. Margaret's Prestwich (Manchester) on January 7th 1989 and I was licensed as curate there on January 29th. It was a very happy time. On October 19th Adam was born and he was baptised on January 7th 1990 our first wedding anniversary. Fr. Martin, the Vicar, baptised Adam and he is one of his godfathers.

Our time at St. Margaret's was happy and fulfilling. It is a beautiful church which had been restored after a fire in the mid 1980's. The people were so friendly and of course they were delighted to have a new baby in the parish. Once again I was involved with the youth fellowship and the group became so large we had to split in two before I left and then I looked after the older ones. I shall never forget the trip to Blackpool, and I vowed that I would never attempt to go on such scary ride again! The worship at St. Margaret's was very uplifting. We had a very young and talented organist and a marvellous choir. It was all

very spiritually uplifting. Fr. Martin, the lay reader and I shared the services and there was opportunity sometimes to share in the services without having to lead the worship. I think it is important for a priest to be able to enjoy worship without always having to be responsible for it, but unfortunately these days that is well nigh impossible most of the time.

Fr. Martin allowed me to share fully in the ministry there and we worked so well together. Although we were so very happy, there was a feeling that I should be putting the experiences I had gained in two curacies to good use in a parish of my own. The places on offer at the time in the diocese of Manchester were not right for us and I was convinced that I would not just take a parish for the sake of it. As I have said before I firmly believe that God guides us through circumstances to the place he wills us to be to do His work. With love to you all,

Fr. Robert

"Jubilee Celebration Concert"

Saturday 30th June 2012

St George's Church at 7.30pm

The Southend Festival Chorus will be presenting a "Jubilee Celebration Concert"

Southend Festival Chorus was formed in 1969 and has become one of the leading choirs in the South East of England.

The Southend Festival Chorus has a reputation for outstanding performances of well known and less familiar Choral works. They have performed in Holland, France and Belgium. In the UK performances have ranged from major cathedrals to the Royal Albert Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Barbican Centre and the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham. The chorus works regularly with leading Orchestras such as Royal Philharmonic, The London Concert Orchestra and the

English Chamber Orchestra. On this special occasion the concert will be conducted by guest conductor Vanda Roberts.

It is a great privilege to be hosting a concert presented by such a well known and professional choir. The concert programme promises to be very exciting and will include compositions by Parry, Handel, Elgar, ..."I Was Glad," Zadok the Priest, "Blest pair of Sirens" to name just a few. The evening's programme will conclude with Land of Hope and Glory, Jerusalem, Rule Britannia and other music from "Last Night of The Proms".

Tickets including wine and a tasty finger buffet are £10.

Please book your tickets early by phone or email Jenny Nicholls 01206230688 or jenny@fryerning.net

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, GREAT BROMLEY

united with St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh



Church of England Services May

Sunday 6th	8.00am	5th Sunday of Easter	
	10.30am	Eucharist	St. George the Martyr
	6.30pm	Parish Eucharist with Holy Baptism Evensong	St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr
Sunday 13th	8.00am	6th Sunday of Easter	Rogation Sunday
	10.30am	Eucharist	St. Mary the Virgin
		Easter Parish Eucharist <i>followed by Blessings and Bring-and-Share Lunch at Wick Farm, Wick Lane, Ardleigh by kind invitation of Mr James Blyth</i>	St. George the Martyr
	6.30pm	Evensong	St. Mary the Virgin
Thursday, 17th	7.30pm	Ascension Day Sung Eucharist <i>Incense will be used at this service</i>	St. George the Martyr
Sunday 20th	8.00am	7th Sunday of Easter	
	10.30am	Eucharist Parish Eucharist	St. George the Martyr St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday 27th	8.00am	The Day of Pentecost	
	10.30am	Eucharist Parish Eucharist <i>Incense will be used at this service</i>	St. Mary the Virgin St. George the Martyr
	5.00pm	Pentecost Celebration	Mistley Parish Church

Holy Communion every Friday at 11.00am at Seven Rivers, Hall Road, Great Bromley.