



August 2017

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The Newsletter and "What's On" Guide for  
Residents & Friends of Chelsfield Village

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## Fast broadband is coming to Chelsfield Village

### What does this mean ?

A new fibre optic broadband service for 99 Chelsfield Village residents on the 01689 exchange is expected to become available in early August

Find out if you can get Superfast fibre by following this link  
<https://www.homeandwork.openreach.co.uk/>

### What you need to do ?

When the service is ready, you will need to apply for a fibre broadband service via one of the service providers: these are expected to be:

BT (BT Infinity)

Sky (Sky fibre)

TalkTalk (TalkTalk faster fibre)

You will need to talk to them to work out what is best for you and take out a new service contract for a set period (often 12 or 18 months). There may be a set-up fee. The prices will vary according to whether you want to include phone service, line rental, TV services etc, and what maximum speed you want

If you are happy with your current service, you need do nothing

### What happens next ?

An engineer visit will be necessary to install a modem in your house, and maybe a new router. The broadband service will come into your house over your existing telephone line

### When will the service be ready ?

Watch out for announcements in Chelsfield Village Voice for when the service will be switched on. You may be contacted by service providers as well

### What speed can I expect ?

The speed you will get depends on the distance from your house to the new fibre street cabinet at the Warren Road/Court Road junction - the further away you are, the lower the broadband speed will be. The maximum speed anyone will get is 76mbps download but some properties may get a download speed in the range 15 to 24mbps

Catherine Gandolfi cvhlettings@gmail.com

## NEWS? EVENTS? REPORTS? PHOTOS? STORIES?

**You tell us what's going  
on or planned, and we will  
tell the residents and  
friends of Chelsfield  
Please send anything you  
feel suitable for the  
September 2017 issue to:**

[chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com](mailto:chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com)

**or post to:  
Chelsfield Village Voice  
2 Bucks Cross Cottages  
Chelsfield Village**

**BR6 7RN**

**to arrive by**

**Tuesday 29th August 2017**

## The Tree Bee

On a spring morning earlier this year I found an interesting looking bee exploring the step to my back door. I recognised it as the same species that a year earlier had built a nest in a bird box that I had put up in a neighbour's garden (as suitable bird box locations are not common in a garden as small as mine). Unfortunately, when I went to clean the box out the following autumn I found that the bees had built their nest (bumble bees build nests not hives) on top of an existing blue tit nest containing the remnants of some chicks and must therefore have driven the parents away in the process. Once the chicks died I then saw the bees driving blue bottle flies attracted by the dead chicks away from the entrance hole. Such is the way of nature.

So, intrigued by these unusual looking bees that build their own nest in those intended for birds I found that they were a type of bumblebee called a *Tree bee* (*bombus hypnorum*) due to their habit of building nests in

trees, or in this case the conveniently available bird box. This bee is a large 'bumble bee' type of bee with a rounded head and a ginger thorax with black hair covering the abdomen but the tail is always white (see photo below). Note that the thorax often has a 'bald' patch. The drones are larger than the worker bees and because of the considerable size of my visitor it's pretty safe to assume the bee that visited my doorstep was a drone. This bee has an interesting range which stretches from Europe to the east of Asia but apparently does not reach as far as the Mediterranean. A kind of cool weather bee I guess! Of more interest is the fact that while most bees are in decline, this bee is doing very well for itself and is a new arrival in Britain having first been reported in Wiltshire in 2001. It has since become very common and has just recently been found in southern Scotland and even Iceland.

The Queens can be seen searching for nesting

sites in March and April after emerging from hibernation. Once a nest has been established, within six weeks larger workers take over the foraging, preferring flowers that hang down, such as comfrey, while the smaller bees become 'house' bees. Residency within the nest can last four to five months and a colony may reach as many as 400 individuals before they die out and the queen leaves the nest, goes into hibernation over winter and starts the cycle again by searching for a new nest site the following spring.

Despite having enjoyed recent success across Britain this bee does have predators. One of these is the wood mouse which invades the nests looking for scraps of honey, grubs and even the occasional bee. I've also heard that mice can build nests in honeybee hives and one way to discourage them is to give the hive a kick which agitates the bees and the mice usually scarpers! Strange to imagine that a mouse could be a danger to a



even dead bees. Eventually they become predatory which is unusual behaviour for a moth and begin feasting on the young bee larvae themselves. Only a few months ago in the May 2017 edition of *The Voice*, I mentioned this very moth as it has been discovered that it can digest plastic! However, despite the attention of both mice and moths, these bees are doing well in Britain.

Returning to my earlier description of cleaning out the bird box in my garden, I found a mass of silk cocoons with grubs inside them. I now realise that the queen bee would have abandoned the box some months earlier and what was left inside were the cocoons of the wax moth. I initially tried to remove this but found that the silk was incredibly strong and eventually left the cocoons for nature to take its course. Now knowing the full nature of what I was dealing with I may well have persevered (Sorry Lester – our resident lepidopterist).

nest or hive of bees, one would expect each female to be capable of killing the mouse with a single sting (male bees do not sting). Interestingly it is only the females that sting because the egg laying apparatus became adapted through evolution to also be capable of being used as a weapon. Males never had the equipment to begin with!

Another, possibly even more deadly foe is either of two types of wax moth, the greater and lesser wax moth (is our resident lepidopterist listening?). These innocent grey/brown dappled moths, also sometimes

known as bee moths, are parasites of both bees and wasps. They usually wait until nightfall when nest activity is at its lowest and make their way into the nest and hunker down. These moths have a very similar pheromone scent to that of the bee and thereby avoid attack. The moth builds a silk screen to protect itself from the bees and lays around 100 eggs which hatch in a week. The young larvae then stay behind the screen for protection. As they grow they build their own webs within the heart of the nest and begin eating wax cells, pollen, nectar, droppings and

*Steve Fuller  
 August 2017*

## Mutterings From The Millers

The hay has been cut but phew what a tense time. Firstly, the weather seemed set fair, we needed a clear four to five days without rain to make hay, but then the forecasters predicated heavy rain in four days time so we didn't make it. The rain didn't come so lost a week there. Decided to cut the following week and blow me down it rained the next day. The damper grass was made into haylage, borrowing a friends wrapping machine and then the sun shone so made hay with the rest. We made only about 2/3rds of the amount we made last year.

Hay, haylage, silage? Haylage is grass is grown and cut in the same way as for hay but it is left to dry for less time, ideally it has approximately 30-40% moisture content. The bales are wrapped straight after baling and are compressed to approximately two thirds of the original size, which aides storage. Natural fermentation preserves the grass as haylage and it has about

90% the feed value of grass. Haylage can be thought of as highly nutritional hay that does not have dust and spores present and horse haylage is not the same as silage. Silage is a fermented, high moisture feed, cut before the seeds are set and only wilted before being baled. This is usually only given to cattle not horses.

The barley is ready to be cut but we are waiting for a window of settled weather, the rain so far has only knocked down a little of the standing crop so hopeful that any further rain won't do any damage. The wheat is due about mid August to be cut. The peas will have to be desiccated this year before harvest because the growth has been so uneven due to the cold and dry during the growing season. We don't expect a heavy yield this year but we'll get what we can.

Cover crops. Owing to a change in farming practise by our friends over the channel, we have now to be even

more environmentally aware, so this end, we have to grow cover crops on about 10% of the farm. This is a tri mix of oats, phacelia and radish, which will be sown directly after harvest. This will stay growing until the beginning of January, before the land is prepared ready for drilling with a spring crop. This tri mix will mop up any nutrient left in the soil so avoiding nitrates and phosphates being washed through the soil into the watercourses.

It has been interesting this year to notice so many different species of wild flowers on the green, a few more pictures to show you. The Lady's



*Lady's Bedstraw*



Red Bartsia



Pete repairing the roof, protected from Bees



Agrimony

Bedstraw has a lovely fragrance, so can only imagine the smell as it was stuffed into

mattresses.

Peter is really excelling at the electrical work, he has been working on the big old barn recently and needing high ladders and the man frame on the loader to reach to the top. It is a mixture of updating and laying new cables, all under the supervision of a qualified commercial electrician of course. The picture of Pete in a bee suit came about because the roof needed repairing but the beehives are next to the hives and Steve

had already been stung. It was quite hot work at you can imagine!

No rain on St. Swithin's day this year! This month's weather offering is about St. Bartholomew's Day, which is on the 25<sup>th</sup> August

*If St. Bartholomew's Day is dry and clear, There'll be a good autumn in that year.*

Chris Miller

## Chelsfield Village Fair— What a Day!

Once again, the Chelsfield Village Fair has been a great success. On a beautiful sunny day 2,500 paying adults and at least as

many children under 14 enjoyed free entrance to see the flying displays, birds of prey flights, Force 10 Jazz Band and steel band, all the fun of

the fair, complete with a Fun Fair!

The fair is definitely the biggest and most prestigious event of its

type in the area.

The event has raised over £9,000 for charities and local good causes. We would also like to thank; Welling and District Model Engineering Society and Tonibell Ice Creams for their generous donations.

As a result the Fair has been able to make the donations shown at the bottom of the page.

In addition, Chelsfield Cricket Club received £850 and the Village Hall £290.

There were over 30 charity stalls at the Fair all of whom have said that they had a very profitable day.

The flying displays by the Extra 300 aerobatic plane and Spitfire where as ever, the star

attractions. This year the flying display cost over £ 3,500 and was entirely paid for by the Chelsfield Flying Club and our Commercial Sponsor WJ King Garages. The Chelsfield Flying Club consists of local people who choose to make donations towards the flying displays, this year they were; P Skinner, J Leach, C Parsons, R Walters, J Tranter, M Pring, D Lloyd, H Gould, P Lane, C Reynolds, P Townsend, P & M Lamond, N & M Lamb, N Cash, A Wells & B Temple, D & H Griffiths, J Kemsley, A Johnson, R Kennett, J Brooks, S Fuller, D Padilla, T Stevens, J & J Ellard and T Glaum. There was also a substantial donation from the regulars at the Five Bells pub.

We would also like to

thank JJ Brooks Construction, G3 Joinery Ltd, G J Day Electrical Ltd, P. A. Townsend Butchers Ltd and Clive Reynolds Autos for generously donating the raffle prizes.

The Fair is a large undertaking. There were over 50 helpers who gave up their day to make the Fair a success manning the gates, directing traffic, running the bar and tea rooms etc. The full list of people is too numerous to mention here but we thank you all! We would also like to thank the 5th Petts Wood Scout Troop who did a wonderful job of running the car parks for which a donation of £300 was made. Not least but last, our thanks go to Kay and Ade Stone and the Five Bells Pub who provide the bar license, lent us their gazebos and provide us with copious quantities of ice. They also, ran a splendid fundraising evening for the Fair.

The cost of advertising the event including the programmes and flyers in the local papers was entirely funded by our advertisers. Lockyer Motors and Chelsfield Motor Works were co-sponsors of the

St Christopher's Hospice	£5,000
Village Hall	£560
The House Martins	£1000
St Martin de la Tour Church	£1,400
Well Hill Mission Church	£900
Chelsfield Village School	£500

programme and there were also contributions from; The Bo-Peep, Clive Reynolds Autos, Langford Rae Van Bergen, Childbase, Chelsfield Flooring Ltd, Browns School and Prestige Cars.

The Village Fair Committee would also like to thank the Church for the use of their field as a car park and Jane Parkes for letting us use her field as a car park

which this year due to popularity was also needed for customers as well as local residents and exhibitors.

Each year the Fair also donates the wreath for the memorial on Chelsfield Green on Remembrance Day and the Village Christmas Tree.

We appreciate that the Fair is a huge disruption to the Village and would

like to thank all the residents who put up with us so graciously.

If you have any funding requests / charities / projects for next year we would love to hear about them as we are always on the lookout for local good causes and we need to choose a head line charity for next year's fair.

*Nigel Lamb*

## The Spitfire is Back!



Here is a cartoon to celebrate the Battle of Britain after Dave's great effort to get a Spitfire back for the Chelsfield Fair.

*Phil Lane*

## Those Red Kites Again!

No doubt summoned by the editor's plea for August articles, a pair of Red Kites duly appeared over Park Gate on the afternoon of 25 July.

My wife Val first spotted them low over the fields that drop down towards Crockenhill – almost at once they started drifting towards Park Gate House and the entrance to the Park; one of them remained fairly low but the other caught a

thermal and rose to well over a thousand feet.

That's the first time I've seen one climb so quickly and cruise with steady, open wings. Usually we see them from the M4 or M40, wheeling and swooping low down, displaying that characteristic agility and forked tail. I lost sight of the lower bird as it moved across Firmingers, heading towards Chelsfield Village, and

then the higher one followed the same general direction, losing a little height in a long straight glide.

I hope they joined forces for a low level display over the Five Bells – anyone else see them?

It was 4.30pm on Tuesday 25 July.

*David Rea,  
Chestnut Cottage,  
Park Gate Rd.*

## Local History Group - Killed In The Line of Duty

Orpington resident Zoe Percy enthralled Chelsfield Local History Group with a mixture of family history, local history and the story of a Second World War tragedy at its June meeting.

Her mother Ethel's family moved to Beckenham from the East End in 1913, when Ethel was two. In her late twenties, Ethel met her future husband, George John Joseph Hall, who had a well-paid job as an electrician for a glass manufacturer and was buying the terraced house at Warwick Road,

Anerley, where he lived with his parents, who had come from Bermondsey. Forced to find another job when his employer, a German Jew, was interned and the factory closed, George joined the Auxiliary Fire Service, set up in 1938 to assist the established fire service in the event of war.

Originally recruits were unpaid volunteers, but George joined Beckenham AFS District Three team as a full-timer at £3 a week.

In July 1940 he and Ethel were married and George continued with his firefighting duties, now a

vital part of the war effort. At the height of the Blitz, on the night of 19/20 April 1941, London suffered its heaviest single wartime attack when over 1,000 tons of high explosives and 153,096 incendiaries fell on an area stretching from Tower Bridge to Woolwich.

With London fire crews fully occupied, four AFS crews from Beckenham were dispatched to Old Palace School, Poplar. The pupils had been evacuated to the country and the school was now designated Sub-station 24U.



Twenty-one Beckenham firefighters, including George, arrived at the school/fire station at 1.30 in the morning and mustered in the playground alongside crews from Bow and Homerton – a total of 34. Twenty-three minutes later, the school received a direct hit from a bomb: a large part of the building was demolished and fire swept through the rest.

All 32 fireman and two firewomen died – the

largest number of fire service personnel lost in a single incident in the history of Britain's fire service. Most were in their twenties and thirties (George was 30) but the oldest was 46 and the youngest a 17 year-old messenger.

Two of the Old Palace School victims were buried on 24 April at the parish church of St John the Baptist in Layhams Road. Their 19 colleagues were buried next day in a mass grave

at Elmers End cemetery after a memorial service at St George's and a solemn procession through the town. The grave was dug entirely by comrades of the dead men.

The coffins were carried in a convoy of hearses, preceded by two fire engines covered in wreaths and daffodils. So many uniformed officers followed the coffins that it took half an hour for the procession to pass any point on the route.

All the firemen killed in the line of duty in 1939-45 are commemorated on the Beckenham war memorial, and on a plaque outside Beckenham Road fire station.

When Council flats were built in the area in the 1950s each block was named after local firemen killed in the war. George is remembered at Hall House in Bailey Place, off Newlands Park, Sydenham.

A total of 30 Beckenham firefighters lost their lives in the war and Patrick Hellicar told the Group



the story of these other men and the incidents in which they perished. Five based at Coney Hall were killed on 19 March 1941 when a parachute mine exploded and obliterated their pump which was part of a convoy travelling along Plaistow Road, West Ham, on its way to Silvertown.

They were buried at St John the Baptist in West Wickham after a procession of five flower-covered fire engines from West Wickham fire station followed by 500 mourners. A memorial to these men was erected at St John's in 1953 and a plaque was installed at

Plaistow Road in 2013. A further four firemen died at the junction of Wickham Road and Court Downs Road, close to Kelsey Park in Beckenham, on the night of 16/17 April 1941 – three days before the Old Palace School disaster. A high-explosive bomb fell on a house as they passed in their firefighting appliance on their way back from a blaze. Flying fragments of the bomb pierced the petrol tank, which exploded and engulfed the vehicle in fire.

Three of the crew were killed outright and the fourth died seven months later from severe

shrapnel wounds. He had been rescued by the driver who had managed to escape the vehicle then, despite being injured, returned to pull his friend from the blazing cab. He was awarded the George Medal for his heroic deed. Three of these firemen are buried at Elmers End and the other in Sittingbourne. All the Beckenham names are inscribed on the National Firefighters Monument which stands close to St Paul's Cathedral.

**THERE WILL NOT BE A LOCAL HISTORY GROUP MEETING IN JULY OR AUGUST**

## Chelsfield's Casualties of World War 1 - Part 1

We are fortunate this month as Shaun Brown has sent us a detailed and beautifully written account of the lives of his great uncles from the Hills family. One is on our memorial in St Martin's Church, the other was also born on Well Hill but for some reason doesn't appear, perhaps because he had moved to Stockwell.

### **Well Hill Brothers in Arms**

**William Hills (1876 – 1917)**

**John Thomas Hills (1880 – 1917)**

*When my parents sent me to board at Cannock House School in 1960 I had no idea that the parish of Chelsfield, in which the school was located, had such a powerful connection to my family. My mother knew that her father, Albert Victor Hills, had come from this area and that an aunt still lived up*

*on Well Hill but not that this had been the home of the Hills family for hundreds of years.*

*When I turned 16 I asked the local rector, the Rev Leslie King, if I could be confirmed only to discover that first I had to be christened! With my parents in Nigeria I arranged with the Rev King for the christening to be carried out at the parish church of St Martin of Tours in front of a small group of school*

*friends and my relative from Well Hill. Lottie Parrott was the daughter of my grandfather's twin sister Beatrice. She took me aside from my giggling school friends and presented me with a prayer book. "You do realise," she told me "that your grandfather was christened at this very font. And if you look at the war memorial by the door you will see the name of your uncle William."*

*I'm sure I expressed suitable interest although, in truth, my youthful insensitivity meant I had already filed the information under "Whatever".*

*But 50 years later, when I began to investigate my family history I recalled Aunt Lottie's comment. Now I had many questions that, sadly, she was no longer able to answer. But she had planted in me not only the seed of a story that I knew deserved to be told but also the responsibility to be the one to tell it.*

Winter was receding and the promise of spring was in the air when Thomas and Elizabeth Hills celebrated the arrival of their second son William

at their cottage on Well Hill overlooking the village of Chelsfield. Thomas Hills, like most of his neighbours was an agricultural labourer. He had married Elizabeth Baldwin from the adjacent parish of Eynsford just six years earlier. At first they lived with Thomas's parents, Richard and Ann in the Black Cottages, a terraced row that still stands today near the old Kent Hounds public house. But by the time William was born in 1876 they had moved to their own cottage along the road. Elizabeth's parents Thomas and Charlotte lived next door.

Times had been hard. Elizabeth had already lost two children, Ada Jessie (twin of their eldest son Richard) in 1873 and Charlotte Lilly in 1875. Neither had achieved their first birthday. They wasted little time in having William christened at the ancient parish church of St Martin of Tours on March 19, 1876. The couple were to have another five children, ten in all, over just 16 years. Among them was another son they named John Thomas, born in

December 1879 and baptised at St Martin's the following month. While such an extensive family may have been a blessing it was also a considerable practical burden. When William was five and John just one, both parents were obliged to work as agricultural labourers to feed the growing family. But even that was insufficient, and so circumstances required that once the children reached their early teens they had to leave home and make their own way. Not surprising then that in 1891, William aged only 15, was lodging with the family of John Mitchell, the foreman of Court Lodge Farm where he was employed to tend the horses. John, only 11, had also moved, although only next-door to live with his grandparents.

In February 1898, William now a young man just turning 22 married Susan Ann Hayes. Her father George had been born in Chelsfield although the Hayes family were now living in Orpington. That's where William and Susan first set up home in a house in Lower Road. But it meant William had

been obliged to leave the land and work instead as a navy on the railways.

He must have been keen to get back to farm work because he used his family connections to escape the grinding labour on the railways. By 1911 he was working for his uncle, John Baldwin, as a waggoner at Hulberry Farm. It meant he was back tending horses, the job he'd first enjoyed at Court Lodge Farm. Hulberry farm sits in the Darent Valley between Crockenhill and Eynsford and it was only a pleasant stroll through Lullingstone Park to his parents' home on Well Hill.

John had to move further afield to find work. By the time he was 21 he had followed two of his other brothers to Stockwell in London where he worked as a "contractor's carman".

He must have maintained some contact with the Chelsfield region because when he married in 1904 it was to a girl from Crockenhill. Emma Harriet Payne was the daughter of Frederick Payne, an agricultural



labourer, and his wife Sarah Ann. John and Emma had their first and only child a year later, a little girl they called Dorothy.

But William and Susan had to wait an agonising 15 years before they had their first child. Florence was born in November 1913. But whatever sense of contentment this brought William was sadly short-lived. In less than two years his life was twice rocked by tragedy. Little Florence, the source of so much joy, lived only a few weeks and died in February 1914. The couple moved to another farm, Waldens, just three miles along Eynsford Road from Hulberry

Farm. William had secured another position there, again as a waggoner.

Suddenly on Friday, August 7, 1915 Susan collapsed. The local doctor Alan Tennyson Smith was called but she was already dead. Dr Tennyson Smith certified the cause of death as a cerebral haemorrhage. In just 18 months William had lost his entire family. This personal tragedy took place in the midst of a national crisis. Across the channel the savage conflict in France and Belgium was accompanied by daily reports of a staggering loss of life among the British forces. At the time of Susan's death the

Could he have avoided service? After all his age was borderline and his work on a farm might have given him grounds to challenge his eligibility. But he made no such attempt.

Perhaps grief played a role in resigning himself to fight or maybe it was purely a sense of duty? Or perhaps he had heard that his younger brother John had enlisted and was on his way to France.

John had joined the London Regiment of the 1/17<sup>th</sup> London Battalion. Known as the Poplars it comprised, at the outbreak of the war, recruits almost exclusively from the East End; civil servants, council workers, clerks from the docks and other members of the new urban respectable working class. Although John came from south of the river, he would have had little difficulty fitting in. By now he was working for the local council as a dustman; his lifestyle, aspirations and values were very similar to those of his new mates from the East End.

By the late summer of 1916 Rifleman John Thomas Hills was thrust into the front line at the Battle of the Somme. On September 14 his unit was ordered into the trenches bordering a wooded area called Bois des Foureaux. But to the British infantry it was simply High Wood, the scene of such constant fighting that only a few blasted tree stumps amidst the mud and craters testified to its former status.

The trenches John found himself in had been constructed back in July in such a hasty and disorganised manner that the parapets comprised the bodies of fallen comrades scarcely covered with soil. Now

two months later, the rain and enemy bombardment had exposed the putrefying corpses behind which John and his comrades sheltered. From this horrific base The Poplars joined the attack on High Wood. Despite the extensive bungling of those in command the wood was taken from the Germans – but at what a price. The 141 Brigade, which included the Poplars, lost two thirds of its troops, killed, wounded or missing.

John and the other survivors were relieved after five days at the front. They were given eight days to recover before being ordered into battle once more. His brother William was by



*Shaun Brown by the headstone of William Hills*

now also in action. Curiously, on his attestation form William had described himself as an “excavator” rather than a waggoner. This, together with his diminutive stature (he was only 5 foot 4 inches tall) meant he was immediately identified for one of the most demanding jobs on the front - a tunneller. Sapper William Hills joined the 254<sup>th</sup> Tunnelling Company of the Royal Engineers and was sent to Clipstone Camp in Nottinghamshire for a month’s training before posting to Flanders.

In September 1916, while John was fighting at High Wood, William was engaged in an altogether different form of combat 40 miles to the north near the town of Bethune. Here by the tiny village of Givenchy the two armies had been waging a underground war since the start of hostilities. Throughout the second half of 1916 William and his comrades in the 254<sup>th</sup> were digging tunnels deep under enemy lines. When the mines they placed in those tunnels were detonated everything and everyone immediately above was destroyed. The work was

backbreaking and dangerous and the risk of a tunnel collapse ever-present. Sometimes it was just an accident but more often it was the consequence of enemy listening devices detecting the Allied digging.

*© Shaun Brown  
Sydney, Australia  
2017*

***The second, and final part of this interesting history will be published in the September issue of Chelsfield Village Voice***

## **Orpington Police Scam Warning**

The following scam was reported by Orpington Police on June 17th. Please be aware should you receive a telephone call along the following lines.

### ***How the Scam works:***

1. You receive a phone call from a local number

2. The voice on the end introduces themselves and the company they supposedly work for

3. Then they ask: “Can you hear me?”

4. Your answer is recorded without you being aware

5. If you say “yes, your response will be edited to make it seem as though you have agreed to a verbal contract for a major purchase.

*John Leach  
Safer Neighbourhood  
Watch*

## **A Big Thank-You!**

**We would like to offer a big thank you to those of our readers who donate money towards the purchase of paper to keep the Chelsfield Village Voice free and independent.**

We would like to thank  
**CHELSFIELD PARK HOSPITAL** for their  
sponsorship printing the Chelsfield Village Voice



## Litter Picking

Things have been rather quite on the litter picking front! Francesca who kept the road between the hospital entrance and Skibbs lane moved out of the village some months ago and that piece of road no longer has a custodian. So if anybody would like to adopt that piece of road then please get in touch via the Village voice. The same advice goes to anybody that would like to adopt a new piece of road in the village. Also, if any of the

existing litter pickers need more purple plastic bags then do get in touch with me.

Most villagers have probably noticed that the grass lay-by near the upper pond on Maypole Rd has now been fitted with a large white fence. I spoke to Andy Whitehead the owner of the land who said that he was tired of people using it as a dumping place. It may well stop the worst offenders but time will tell

if it achieves all of its goals!  
I have noticed that there is an accumulation of litter on the part of Shoreham lane that runs up to the paintball centre. Possibly a coincidence but it surprises me that the management does not take some simple measures to ensure that their customers experience of their day out is as pleasant as possible by keeping on top of the matter.

*Steve Fuller*

## USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

### **Bromley Council**

Main switchboard:

020 8464 3333

E-mail: [fixmystreet.com](mailto:fixmystreet.com)

Opening hours Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm

Address: Civic Centre,  
Stockwell Close,  
Bromley, BR1 3UH

### **Reporting Problems to the Council**

Can be reported via the CVS website, or if urgent by phone out of hours  
Emergency Duty Team  
020 8464 4848.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

John Leach 07711304965.

### **NHS Non-Emergency 111**

**Chelsfield Primary School**  
01689 825827

### **BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital**

Main Reception

01689 877855

Physiotherapy

01689 885920

Outpatients

01689 885905

### **Councillors**

Keith Onslow

[keith.onslow@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:keith.onslow@bromley.gov.uk)

Samaris Huntington-Thresher

020 8464 3333

[samaris.huntington-thresher@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:samaris.huntington-thresher@bromley.gov.uk)

Lydia Buttinger

[lydia.buttinger@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:lydia.buttinger@bromley.gov.uk)

### **Chelsfield Village Voice**

[chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com](mailto:chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com)

**EDF Electrical Power Failure**  
Call 105 or 0800 316 3105

**BT Line Faults** 0800 800151

**Thames Water Emergencies**  
0800 714614

### **National Grid (Gas)**

Emergency (leaks) 0800 111999

**Bromley Police Station & Police non emergency** 101

### **Samaritans**

Freephone 116123

### **Safer Neighbourhood Team**

020 8721 2605

[chelsfield.prattsbottom.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:chelsfield.prattsbottom.snt@met.police.uk)

### **Chelsfield Village Hall**

(bookings) **01689 831826** or  
email to:  
[cvhlettings@gmail.com](mailto:cvhlettings@gmail.com)

### **Chelsfield Players**

[info@chelsfieldplayers.org](mailto:info@chelsfieldplayers.org)  
[www.chelsfieldplayers.org](http://www.chelsfieldplayers.org)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### EVERY MONDAY

Chelsfield Methodist Hall,  
Windsor Drive

#### Iyengar Yoga Classes

9.30am-11.00am  
Suitable for Beginners  
Contact Denise  
01689 853215

#### EVERY MONDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall and  
Brass Crosby Room  
**Chelsfield Housemartins**  
Monday Afternoons, for local  
people who are unable to go  
out without help.

#### EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY

Christ Church Hall,  
Charterhouse Rd

#### Pilates Classes

Monday 6.55pm Beginners  
Tuesday 7.45pm Beginners  
Wed 9.15am Mixed Ability  
Wed. 1.30pm Over 60's  
Saturday 8.45am Beginners  
Saturday 10am Intermediate  
Contact Sally 07786 035640  
orpingtonpilates@gmail.com  
see

[www.orpingtonpilates.co.uk](http://www.orpingtonpilates.co.uk)  
for venues and more info

#### EVERY TUESDAY

Brass Crosby Room  
**St Martin's Toddler Group**  
10.30am-12.00 midday  
Contact Sarah Ford:  
01689 853415  
stmartinstoddlers@gmail.com

#### EVERY TUESDAY

The Chelsfield (Windsor Dr.)  
**Quiz Night**  
From 7.30pm Contact 01689  
600656

#### EVERY TUESDAY

Five Bells  
**Charity Quiz Night**  
from 9.00pm

#### EVERY WED THURS & FRI

Chelsfield Methodist Church  
Hall, Windsor Drive

#### Pilates Classes & Pre & Post Natal Pilates Classes

Wed 6.50-7.50pm  
& 8.00-9.00pm  
Thursday 8.20-9.20pm  
Friday 9.35-10.35 & 10.45-  
11.45am

Post Natal Pilates 12-1.00pm  
(Babies Welcome)  
Call Bethany Lucas  
07415 638546

[bethanylucaspilates@gmail.com](mailto:bethanylucaspilates@gmail.com)

Further classes at:  
[www.bethanylucaspilates.co.uk](http://www.bethanylucaspilates.co.uk)

#### EVERY WEDNESDAY

**Hatha Yoga Classes**  
10.30am-12.00am  
Contact Pam Keeper 01732  
458930

#### EVERY THURSDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall  
**Class Street Dance**  
4.30pm-6.00pm Boys & Girls  
all Ages  
Info: Clare 07960 865518  
[www.class-streetdance.co.uk](http://www.class-streetdance.co.uk)

#### EVERY SUNDAY

The Chelsfield, Windsor Dr.

#### Live Singer

5.00pm-8.00pm  
Contact 01689 600656

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### Thursday 3rd August (1st Thursday each month)

Five Bells  
**JAZZ NIGHT with JUST  
FRIENDS**

Music Starts at 8.30pm

#### Wednesday 9th August (2nd Wednesday of Month)

Chelsfield Village Hall  
**Afternoon W.I.**

Newcomers Welcome  
Contact Gwen on  
01689 834879 or Sue  
on 01689 827407

#### Saturday 12th August

Bishop Justus School  
Magpie Hall Lane Bromley  
**Mother Daughter Day**  
9.30am-4.00pm  
Workshops, Stalls, Pamper  
Treatments

#### Tuesday 15th August (3rd Tuesday of Month)

Chelsfield Village Hall  
**Evening W.I.**  
Newcomers Welcome  
From 7.45pm  
Contact Madeline 01689  
891533

#### Wednesday 16th August

Five Bells  
**Open Mic Night**  
So all you budding musicians  
out there, come along and  
have a go!  
Starts at 8.30pm

#### Saturday 19th August

Five Bells  
**ANNUAL DOG SHOW**  
£5 Registration Fee (goes to  
Foil Farm)  
Registration at 3.00pm for a  
3.30pm start  
This show is not for "Show  
Dogs" but for the lovely  
gorgeous dogs you have at  
home that wag their tails  
every time you return home!

#### Monday 28th August (BANK HOLIDAY)

Five Bells  
**Sumo Wrestling Contest**  
We are setting up challenges  
for a Sumo Wrestling  
Competition. Do register  
yourself and your opponent.  
From 12.00-5.00pm

£2.00 per person which is  
going to charity.  
Pub closes at 6.30pm tonight

#### Thursday 30th November

Chelsfield Village Hall  
**Floral Workshop**  
Wreath Making From 7.30pm