December 2019

Supported by



Chelsfield Park Hospital

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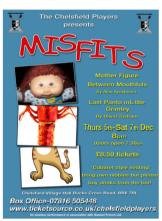
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The Newsletter and "What's On" Guide for Residents & Friends of Chelsfield Village

WHAT'S ON HIS CHRISTMAS?



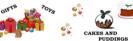
Thurs 5th - Sat 7th Dec

See Page 9



Saturday 7th December 10.30am - 12.30pm

Brass Crosby Room rtin's Church, Chelsfield BR6 7RF





event for St. Martin of Tours, Chelsfield Registered charity: 1131573

Saturday 7th December See Page 13



Monday 16th December See Page 14

YE OLDE FIVE BELLS

Monday 16th December 2019 from 8.16 The Greatest Carol Event in Chelsfield!

pastime XMAS PARTY

Saturday December 21, 2019 Chelsfield Village Hall 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm



Dances from all periods. Costume is welcome but not essential All dances will be called.

Food, Raffle & Entertainment Please bring your own crockery and utensils Tickets £10.00 at the door. Please reserve your place

For further information and to reserve a place contact: Tricia Vaiers at triciafa9@gmail.com or Tel: 020 8668 6895

Saturday 21st December See Page 10

The Wasn Mutterings from The Millers Chelsfield is a Top Village! Thank You for Finding Dog When is a Scam a Scam? Halstead Christmas Fair Festive Chocolate Quiz Situation Vacant Nuisance Fireworks Help to Run The Toddlers The Players "MISFITS" Pastime Xmas Party 10 Chelsfield Cricket Club 11 January Quiz Night 12 Christmas Market 13 Phil's Christmas Bash 14 Festive Quiz Answers 15 Phils Christmas Cartoon 15 Fox Beaten by Technology 15 16 Dates for your Diary

Start Your NEW YEAR with and article or letter for the Village Voice!

You have seen what other have to say in Village Voice - Why not have a go yourself Please send anything you feel suitable for the

January 2020 issue to: chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com

or post to:

Chelsfield Village Voice 2 Bucks Cross Cottages Chelsfield Village BR6 7RN to arrive by

Saturday 28th December 2019



The Wasp

Before moving onto the subject of this month's piece I thought I'd mention another tree that fell over in the village. This happened just as October moved into November and this time it was a tree on the property of Mount Hall on Maypole road, adjacent to the pond. On this occasion it was a small plum tree (I think) and only the top was ripped from the trunk by recent high winds. This fell onto the road and led to a temporary blockage to the R7 bus route. This is the fourth tree to fall in the village in less than a vear and the third on, or around Maypole road. As it happens, another of these fallen trees sat just across the road from the recently departed plum tree and was a small elm which was probably suffering from Dutch elm disease (still around) and this fell into the field and so was probably unnoticed by most people. The farm hands dragged it so that it aligned with the hedge making a very small but useful refuge for wildlife such as hedgehogs to over-winter in the coming season.

Back in January 2015 I

wrote a piece on the hornet as I had been stung just before Christmas one morning as I got out of bed. Yes. strange time of year to be stung as you'd expect any member of the wasp family to have retired for the winter season. I had thought the perpetrator was a hornet as it seemed very large but I did not catch the beasty until a few days later when I had used the experience to kick off a piece on hornets. So, following a recent conversation about the wasp nest in my allotment shed with Peter Gandolfi who maintains the local bee hives. I thought now would be a good time to tackle the wasp (Vespula germanica or common wasp - yellow jacket in the States) in a proper and fitting manner.

So, why do wasps sting. The real and proper purpose of a wasp sting is to predate on other insects. In the spring they are hunting for aphids, caterpillars, flies and spiders and are generally helpful to the gardener. The prey they catch are bought back to the nest to feed young wasp larvae. Wasps themselves cannot repeatedly sting which

eat what they catch as their digestive tracts are simply too small. They can only digest fluids. So the worker wasps chew their insect prey and feed it to the larvae who offer a sugary substance to the wasps. But why the seasonal 'wasps with attitude' syndrome that occurs every autumn? In the autumn the larvae leave the nest and the wasps have to survive on rotting fruit and tree sap. When they see sugary food in your picnic hamper or can of pop they are probably starving and go to great lengths to get to the goodies. This leaves you waving your arms like a lunatic which causes the wasp to feel threatened and leads to you being stung. Now, I'm sure this is probably true in many situations but it does not explain the wasp that stung me for no good reason as I got out of bed! So, I do think they simply become cranky due to a lack of sustenance at this time of year.

Now interestingly, male wasps do not sting. They simply do not have the equipment for the task. The females however can



they use to overpower their prey. Bees however have a stinger which is barbed and causes the bee to be disembowelled when it leave the site of the attack. So for bees stinging is a suicide mission while wasps will. if the nest is threatened give off pheromones which can cause a mass attack and they will follow you for some distance. I know of a friend's little girl who accidentally stepped on a wasp nest sited in a hole in the ground and they swarmed after her resulting in multiple stings. At this point it's worth noting for the pedantic among us that poison is consumed while venom is injected and so all insect stings are a result of venom.

So, the question is: how painful is a wasp sting? Well, believe it or not somebody has made a study of how painful stings are from various insects. This is called the Schmidt pain index and was created by Justin O. Schmidt, an entomologist at the Carl Hayden Bee Research Centre in Arizona. Essentially it is a big list of all the stings you can get from an insect to which both Schmidt and his team subjected

themselves in order to collect this data. The index is based on four levels, zero being almost painless to 4 which he describes as "you don't want to know". But there is also the duration factor. How long the sting is going to be painful. Without going into too much detail he describes a common wasp sting as a level 2.0 sting

electric) that I could find was attributed to the tarantula hawk (wasp) which makes a living by stinging and paralysing a tarantula and laying a single egg into the still living carcass. The egg hatches and feeds off the victim but that's another story.

Now, I need to clear that



that lasts for 4 to 10 minutes and describes it as 'hot and smoky'! Like having a cigar extinguished on your tongue.... However, some people suffer an allergic reaction which in extreme cases can lead to death and from personal experience I would say that the effects of a wasp sting last far longer than 10 minutes! But maybe Schmidt is merely referring to the initial scalding pain and not the longer lasting throb. Out of interest the highest scoring Schmidt pain score of 4 (blinding, fierce and shockingly

wasp nest from my shed....

P.S, just before offering this piece to The Village Voice I checked out the nest in my shed and found that it was surprisingly large and had been constructed behind a frost protection screen. I think a mouse must have found it as parts were scattered on the floor and it was in many pieces. No wasps though – phew.

Steve Fuller December 2019



Mutterings From The Millers

Not a lot to report this month due to the weather. The cover crop of phacelia, radish and rye is coping with the rain well as is the grass. We have been fairly busy re cladding a roof, when the wind subsided, and sides of a building plus concreting a barn floor. Managed to spend a bit more time on hobbies too!

Although some farmers have planted winter crops, the decision we made not to plant the wheat and barley was a hard one but with the continuous rain, we feel that we made the right choice.

The soil structure would have been comprised had we drilled it and all the hard work over the past few years would have been lost. Can you imagine the corners of the fields, they would be completely churned up with the constant turning of the tractor. As at the end of November, about 60% of Kent has been planted but a national

average is about 36%. Most of this has been done by ploughing, not direct drilling. Not planting the winter crops has given us a golden opportunity to help eradicate some of the grass weeds. Grass weeds are more prevalent in autumn sown crops but not in spring crops as the seeds don't have the time to make a good plant before harvest. It may come in the future that we have to go back to growing spring cereals and not autumn crops because of restrictions on chemicals.

The UK potato harvest has been affected too as you can imagine, but hope any of our readers have managed to lift theirs before the frost came. The biggest problem with potatoes nationally will be the storing of them if they are wet.

We came across the picture, hope you can see some of the faces, of a village outing touring Scotland with this picture taken at Gretna Green. Not sure when this took place but the lady in the front row is Violet Whitehead, (Steve's





great grandmother) the one with the veil is Ruby Miller (grandmother) the man who is she is supposed to be marring is Arthur French, the man with the top hat.
Grandfather, Eddie, is between Arthur French and a lady. The lady

second from the left is Rose Gibbons, great grandmothers sister.

This months weather prediction is:-

When squirrels early start to hoard,

Winter will pierce us like a sword.

The Miller family wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.



Steve & Chris Court Lodge Farm

National Recognition for Chelsfield!

Snippet from a recent Daily Mail article

England has 9,000 villages. Author Tom Fort has toured the land and here's his pick of the best national treasures.

Almost nothing speaks of England better than its villages. Many are the envy of the world, with their pretty churches, historic houses and village shops doing their best to survive against the might of out-of-town supermarkets.

While researching my book, The Village News, I visited scores of England's 9,000 or so villages and discovered some of the country's most beautiful places. Some are more ancient than the Domesday Book and are decidedly

charming.

What could be more pleasant than hunkering down for a weekend in one of these beauties?

(A number of examples of of St Martin of Tours. pretty villages are mentioned, and then-)

The Village News by

SPLENDID ISOLATION

Although it has a London postcode, rural **Chelsfield** was historically part of Kent, and it still feels that way, cut off from the suburban sprawl of Orpington.

The writer Dora Saint - known to millions as 'Miss Read' - came to live on the edge of Chelsfield as a young girl, and idealised the life there in a series of stories including Village School.

Much of old Chelsfield is still intact. There is a

village hall, a cricket ground, and a decent pub, The Five Bells. Don't Miss: The Victorian school which 'Miss Read' attended, and the Church of St Martin of Tours.

The Village News by Tom Fort is published by Simon & Schuster (£8.99).

Footnote:

Some of you may remember that a few years ago, I believe it was the same Tom Fort who turned up at a Chelsfield Village Hall AGM, and was made welcome.

https://www.dailymail.co. uk/travel/article-7692559/amp/Theprettiest-villages-England.html?fbclid=lwAR36 9J5yZtAc2mBOJ2a9qYw 7DpLd8fsDrSrBI11vwyE

G0v2xILErvGueCG8



A Big Thank You for Finding My Dog!

I wish to say a very big thank you to the lady who found my lost dog somewhere in the Well Hill area.

I was so very pleased

and relieved at having my dog delivered safely to my home that I did not ask the lady's name.

I did thank her many times but I hope she

reads The Voice and sees my grateful thanks once again.

Bridget O'Donnell

When is a Scam a Scam Itself?

We had two follow-ons from one of the scam warnings in the November issue, but although it would appear that that particular warning was extremely out of date we would still urge all our readers to be delivery-servicevery wary and remain extremely vigilant when it warning/ comes to returning telephone calls or initiating calls to unknown numbers.

If you have internet access it is always worth searching the dial code online prior to making a call, this will warn of any previous reported problems or scams associated with the number

Thank you both, Peter and Louise for the following:

"I wish to draw vour

attention to the following web article concerning the Postal Scam referred to on page 8 of the Nov 2019 newsletter.

https://www.hoaxslayer.net/pds-parcelpremium-rate-scam-

What has been printed in the newsletter appears to be an exact copy of a now non-existent scam

There is a full explanation as to the current status of the scam towards the end of the web article.

Publishing such misinformation without checking its validity only risks spreading the myth further.

I suspect several of your readership will no doubt

inform their friends / neighbours / family of this apparent risk.

In order to put people minds at rest I trust you will publish an update based on this new information in due course.

> Regards Peter Hill

Hi, I noted the following response from Action Fraud re the scam on page 8 of the November newsletter - the statement printed appears to be a scam in itself. Very bizarre!

https://www.actionfraud.p olice.uk/news/hoaxemail-from-pds-parceldelivery-service

> Best regards Louise



JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

HALSTEAD CHRISTMAS FAIR

7TH DECEMBER | 1400 - 1600

HALSTEAD VILLAGE HALL KNOCKHOLT ROAD TN147EX

* CRAFT STALLS * CHILDRENS STORY TELLING *
BOTTLE STALL * BARROW OF BOOZE * FESTIVE
REFRESHMENTS * CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



Festive Chocolate Quiz (Answers on Page 15)

What popular varieties of chocolate confectionery do these clues refer to?

1) Sly Giggles

- 2) High Class Thoroughfare
- 3) Dark Occult
- 4) Mother's Local
- 5) Clever Folk
- 6) Feline Equipment
- 7) Dairy Holder
- 8) Edible Fasteners
- 9) Even more out there!
- 10) Lots of Parties
- 11) Locals from Malta
- 12) Reward

Situation Vacant

Are you looking for additional or flexible working hours?

BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital are looking to recruit a Porter on a Bank contract covering various shifts as and when needed.

> For more information please email Rachel.beer@bmihealthcare.co.uk

> Closing date is 8th December 2019

Fireworks

I have lived in the village for 40 years and in this time have attended and even held in my garden fireworks parties which I have enjoyed, but hopefully I was

considerate of other people who have animals and/or young children.

Letting fireworks off after midnight (or in the weeks before or after the 5th

November!) is not being considerate, so in future years please enjoy your fireworks but before midnight. Thank you.

Bridget O'Donnell

Help To Run The Toddlers Group?

Sarah Ford has been running the Toddlers Group in the Brass Crosby room for very many years, and sadly the time has now come when she must move on.

We wish her all the very

best for the future and thank her hugely for all the time she has devoted to this important village group.

We hope that someone will be taking it over soon, but if there is anybody out @gmail.com

there who can help please contact the Village Voice and we will pass your details on or email the toddler group direct at:

stmartinstoddlers





The Chelsfield Players presents



MISFITS



Mother Figure
Between Mouthfuls
By Alan Ayekbourn



Thurs 5th-Sat 7th Dec Spm doors open 7.30pm

£8.50 tickets

'Cabaret style seating' bring own nibbles but please buy drinks from the bar!

Chelsfield Village Hall Bucks Cross Road, BR6 7RL

Box Office-07816 505448 www.ticketsource.co.uk/chelsfieldplayers

An amateur performance in association with Samuel French Ltd





XMAS PARTY

Saturday December 21, 2019 Chelsfield Village Hall 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Doors open from 3:00 pm, Dancing from 4:00 pm Changing room available



Dances from all periods.

Costume is welcome but not essential.

All dances will be called.

Food, Raffle & Entertainment
Please bring your own crockery and utensils
Tickets £10.00 at the door. Please reserve your place

For further information and to reserve a place contact: Tricia Taiers at triciafa9@gmail.com or Tel: 020 8668 6895



Chelsfield Cricket Club

You may not be aware but Chelsfield can trace its cricketing origins back to 1731!

The Grubb Street journal, the newspaper of that time, highlighted in the edition of the 27th May 1731 the following paragraph:-

"On Monday the 3rd will be played at Kennington Common a great cricket match between London and Sevenoaks in Kent, and at the same place, the next day following, will be another match between London and Chelsfield in Kent"

This shows that cricket in Chelsfield must have been played well before that date for there to have been a good enough representative side to play the Men of London!

Times move on however and the club has had difficulties in recent years in maintaining a playing membership of sufficient numbers.

This has now changed though and last season the club played a full season of games, many with exciting finishes. However the pavilion has

been showing its age for some time and is now in need of a high level of maintenance.

Club members erected the structure in 1983 having been offered the building by Sevenoaks Council on the basis that it was dismantled and removed from its site where it had been used as school classrooms.

It has served the club very well but an exciting prospect is now on the cards!

The club has been approached by Tfl to discuss the possibility of providing a toilet facility for their local bus drivers.

As a result of several meetings including our local councillor it is now proposed that the old structure will be replaced by a brand new building more suited to the needs of the club and other users and vastly more energy efficient.

Tfl architects are currently drawing up the proposals which will be circulated in due course.

Aesthetically it will be a much nicer building and

will look far more like a village pavilion than an old classroom!

The project will be the subject of a planning application which, on the basis that it's a like for like proposal, will hopefully be approved forthwith.

Tfl have said they would seek to prioritise the project such that is is completed in time for the commencement of the cricket season in the new year. Can the bus drivers hang on that long?!!!!

The intention is to have a grand opening when works are complete and to keep you aware of progress as we move through the various stages of the project.

We hope that you, like us, are excited by the of a valuable enhancement in the centre of our village and we value your support and any positive advice or comments you may wish to make.

If you want any further clarification on any aspect of the proposal, please do not hesitate to contact me.

David Lambert - Chairman davidjlambert@aol.com





SATURDAY, 11TH JANUARY 2020

7.00pm for 7.30pm start CHELSFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Bucks Cross Road Chelsfield BR6 7RE

Bring your own snacks and drinks - and glasses!

Tables - maximum of 6 people
Tel: Anne Ireland on 07767 783189
or Email: aistuff@icloud.com

to book a table



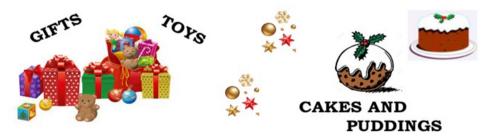
Fundraising event for St. Martin of Tours, Chelsfield Registered charity: 1131573



CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 7th December 10.30am - 12.30pm

Brass Crosby Room
St. Martin's Church, Chelsfield BR6 7RF





REFRESHMENTS AND MINCE PIES



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS



Fundraising event for St. Martin of Tours, Chelsfield Registered charity: 1131573







December 2019

We would like to thank

CHELSFIELD PARK HOSPITAL for their
sponsorship printing the Chelsfield Village Voice



Festive Chocolate Quiz Answers

- I) Snickers
- 2) Quality Street
- 3) Black Magic
- 4) Mars Bars
- 5) Smarties

- 6) Kit Kat
- 7) Milk Tray
- 8) Chocolate Buttons
- 9) Galaxy
- 10) Celebrations
- 11) Malteasers
- 12) Bounty

Thanks to John Francis for this bit of festive fun

A Christmas Contribution From Phil Lane!



Many thanks to Phil for this and the host of other cartoons he regularly sends to the The Village Voice.

We don't always publish them because more often than not there is simply not enough space.

If you wish to see more then contact Phil as he may still have some of his books available.

philip@philiplanephotography.co.uk

Local Fox Hit By Cyber Attack

At around 2pm on Thursday 21st November one of our local residents was sitting quietly in her garden catching up on a few missed television programmes on her new iPad, with her pet chicken happily preening herself no more than two feet away from the ladies feet. Suddenly a huge fox shot out from behind a tree and grabbed the poor hen then proceeded to drag her away flapping and squawking!

The woman (who prefers to remain anonymous) leapt after the fox and repeatedly struck it with her iPad!!! Eventually the fox released the chicken who then rushed out of the garden and up the road - the lady took pursuit with the fox chasing close behind.

The chicken dashed into the hedge with both the lady and fox attempting to get her first. The lady made it first, the fox even

tried to bite the lady in the process.

The result was that the lady and the iPad saved the life of the chicken even though the poor hen was petrified and very shaken but fully recovered the next day. The brave lady was fine although slightly bruised.

As for the fox, he (or she?) had to look elsewhere for his Thursday night dinner.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

WEEKLY EVENTS

EVERY SUNDAY

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive Live Singer

From 6.30pm Contact 01689 880288

EVERY MONDAY

Chelsfield Methodist Hall, Windsor Drive

Iyengar Yoga Classes

9.30am-11.00am

Suitable for Beginners Contact Denise 01689 853215

EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY

& SATURDAY Christ Church Hall,

Charterhouse Rd

Pilates Classes

Monday

10.45am Over 60's

6.00pm Beginners/Improvers Pilates

7.10pm Mixed Ability Pilates

Tuesday

7.15pm Beginners Pilates 8.25pm Mixed Ability Pilates

Wednesday

9.30am Mixed Ability Pilates 10.40pm Beginners / Improvers

Friday 8.45am Pilates with weights

10.00am Beginners/Improvers

Saturday

8.45am Mixed Ability Pilates 10am Beginners/Improvers Pilates see www.orpingtonpilates.co.uk for more information contact

sally@orpingtonpilates.co.uk Ph. 07786 035640

EVERY TUESDAY

Brass Crosby Room
St Martin's Toddler Group

10.30am-12.00 midday

Contact

stmartinstoddlers@gmail.com

EVERY TUESDAY

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive Quiz Night

From 8.00pm Info: 01689 880288

EVERY TUESDAY

Five Bells

Charity Quiz Night

from 9.00pm
EVERY TUES WED THURS & FRI
Pilates & Pro & Post Natal Pilates

Pilates & Pre & Post Natal Pilates Courses

Tues @ Warren Road School

7-8pm Pregnancy Pilates (from 14 weeks) 8.10pm Pilates (Mixed Level)

Wed @ Pratts Bottom Village Hall

9.35am & 10.45am (Mixed Level)

Wed@Chelsfield Methodist Church Hall

7pm (Beginners) & 8.10pm (Mixed Level)
7pm (Mixed Level) & 8.10pm (Intermediate)
Thursday@ Chalefield Mathediat Hall

Thursday@ Chelsfield Methodist Hall 8.20pm - Pilates (Mixed Level)

Fri @ Chelsfield Methodist Church Hall 9.35am (Mixed Level) & 10.45am

(Intermediate) 12-1pm—Post Natal Pilates (Babies

Welcome) For further information contact:

bethanylucaspilates.co.uk bethanylucaspilates@gmail.com

07415 638546

EVERY WEDNESDAYHatha Yoga Classes

10.30am-12.00am

Contact Pam Keeper 01732 458930

EVERY FRIDAY

The Chelsfield (Windsor Drive)

DJ NIGHT

From 8.30pm Contact 01689 880288

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday 29th Nov - Sun 1st Dec Coolings Garden Centre, Knockholt Craft Show

Gifts and Treats all handmade in SE England

Sunday 1st December

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive Gordon Dawn Live

from 6pm

Monday 2nd December

(1st Monday of Month)

Brass Crosby Room

St Martins Memory Cafe

2-4pm. Contact Jackie McCann 01689 854119

memorycafe@stmartinchelsfield.org.uk

Thursday 5th-Sat 7th December Chelsfield Village Hall

MISFITS (Chelsfield Players) 8pm - Tickets £8.50

Friday 6th December

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive
The Moroccan Moles Live Band

from 8.30pm

14.00 to 16.00

Saturday 7th December Brass Crosby Room

CHRISTMAS MARKET 10.30am - 12.30pm

Saturday 7th December

Halstead Village Hall
HALSTEAD CHRISTMAS FAIR

See Page 7 for full details Saturday 7th December

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive Singles Karaoke

Sunday 8th December

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive

Andrew Locksley Live

from 6.30pm

Saturday 14th December

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive

Keval Reggae Band

from 8.30pm

Sunday 15th December

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive

James Dyer

from 6.00pm

Monday 16th December Five Bells

Phil Lanes Christmas Carol Bash!

The fun starts at 8.15pm

Tuesday 17th December

(3rd Tuesday Every Month)

Chelsfield Village Hall

Evening W.I.

Newcomers Welcome

From 7.45pm Lisa Lobb (Secretary) on 01689 608070

Tuesday 17th December

Five Bells

Christmas Carol Singing around the Christmas Tree (opposite the pub)

followed by the pub Quiz

It all starts at 8.00pm

Saturday 21st December Chelsfield Village Hall

Pastime Xmas Party 4pm-8pm

Saturday 21st December

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive

Schiller Band from 8.30pm

Sunday 22nd December

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive

Kevin Jones

from 6.00pm

Wednesday 25th December

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive

Rachel Leach

from 8.30pm

Saturday 28th December

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive Singles Karaoke

from 8.30pm

Sunday 29th December

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive

Trevor Newnham

from 8.30pm

Saturday 11th January 2020

Chelsfield Village Hall

QUIZ NIGHT

from 7.00pm for 7.30pm Start See Page 12 for full details

Have a Wonderful Christmas and New Year!