



The Newsletter and  
“What’s On” Guide for  
Residents & Friends  
of Chelsfield Village

February 2011

# Saturday 19th February

## Chelsfield Village Hall

# QUIZ NIGHT



in aid of the Village Hall

Light Refreshments Provided

Bring Your Own Drinks

£6.00 per person

(teams consist of 6-8 people)

Starts 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Contact Anne Mead 01689 826349

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## Contributions PLEASE !

Amusing stories,  
anecdotes, old photos,  
forthcoming events?

## TELL ALL!

Contributions for our  
March issue should be  
emailed to:

[villagevoice@chelsfield.org](mailto:villagevoice@chelsfield.org)

or posted to:  
Chelsfield Village Voice  
2 Bucks Cross Cottages  
Chelsfield Village  
BR67RN

Visit

[www.chelsfieldevents.co.uk](http://www.chelsfieldevents.co.uk)

*Our thanks to Mr & Mrs Scoble for their kind donation towards the Chelsfield Village Voice!*

## Local Businesses - Personal Tutoring

After falling victim to the government cuts last year, I started my own tutoring business in the local area. I tutor Maths, Spanish and French up to A level for all ages. I offer a tailor made service in your own home, working closely with you and your child to ensure their specific needs are met.

My background is in Mathematics; I have worked as a mathemati-

cian in the private sector and for government for the last 8 years. I am a Member of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) and became a Chartered Mathematician and Chartered Scientist in 2007. I speak fluent Spanish, and I have studied French up to university level. I have years of experience in classroom teaching and teaching one-to-one.

I am hoping to start a Maths homework club in the local area in the near future – look out for the promotional posters for details!

For further details about prices and customer testimonials, please see my website:

[www.adelestutoring.co.uk](http://www.adelestutoring.co.uk) or feel free to give me (Adele Hill) a call on 07971 495 806. I look forward to hearing from you!

## Elsa Sjovorr

Elsa was an integral part of village life. Always with the best interests of the village at heart she had been an active member of Chelsfield Village Society from the start, serving many years in the role of treasurer. She was an enthusiastic supporter of the Produce Show, her entries providing stiff competition in many of

the classes – particularly the Country Fare classes as witnessed by her name inscribed on the Country Fare Cup and the flower arranging.

Despite her illness, Elsa managed the ice cream machine at last year's Summer Fair and made the effort to enter the Produce Show winning several prizes.

Elsa's computer difficulties were the seed of the Internet Café and it was pleasing to see her grow in confidence.

Elsa was a true village person - a cheerful and delightful neighbour and truly lovely lady who will be sorely missed.

*Catherine Gandolfi*

## Chelsfield Village Fair 2011

Planning for the 2011 Chelsfield Village Fair is underway. The date for

your diaries is 9th July and following the 2010 Fair, we are working at

ironing out as many of the annoyances (such as traffic?) as possible while

still providing a cracking afternoon's entertainment. We are all terribly sad that Elsa Sjovoor is no longer with us - the Fair won't seem the same without her wonderful ice cream stall, which raised over £500 last year(!), and we are keen to dedicate the 2011 Fair to her memory. One of the major changes in 2011 will be the layout.

Tentative plans include moving the Tea Rooms

know that the Kent Spitfire is booked once again. While the famous Battle of Britain station of Biggin Hill still has a Spitfire as one of its residents, we are keen to do our bit to show our appreciation. The aircraft are of course funded by the Chelsfield Flying Club, and not the Fair itself, so the charities who benefit do not suffer from our particular desire to make our Fair that bit different.

crack the traffic jam problem one day but don't hold your breath!

Last year, with your support, we donated £3,000 to Help For Heroes and £3,000 to local good causes such as the Housemartins, Village Hall, Village School etc. and despite these harsh economic times, we hope to match it this year. I will endeavour to update you on our progress in future editions of the excellent



*Photo Courtesy and copyright of Tony Stigle*

to the Village Hall and providing a larger disabled car park on the field itself. The arena is planned to move to the top end of the field and we want a more prominent position for the Bell Ringing demonstration nearer the entrance.

Fans of the aerial displays will be pleased to

The traffic is always an issue. 4,000 people descending on a village of our size is never going to be easy but we try to learn lessons each year with varying levels of success(!). As residents, we appreciate that it can be extremely inconvenient but we thank you for your continuing tolerance and support - we might

Village Voice and if you could all keep your fingers-crossed between now and July for good weather on the 9th, it'd be much appreciated.

*Dave Griffiths*  
 Chairman - Chelsfield  
 Village Fair  
 Telephone 07796  
 696065  
[www.chelsfieldfair.com](http://www.chelsfieldfair.com)

## SNT & Safer Neighbourhood Watch

### **Extract from the Chelsfield and Pratts Bottom SNT newsletter**

We are your Metropolitan Police Safer Neighbourhoods team dedicated to your local area.

We are here to listen to your concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour and find lasting solutions. A ward Panel, made up of members of the local community, meet regularly with us to set our priorities. The current ward priorities are: Youths engagement, reducing ASB Vehicle crime and Schools

### **LOCAL CRIME AWARENESS**

**Although this is a safe place to live your local Safer Neighbourhood Team would like to help you avoid becoming a victim by following a few simple rules about Home security.**

1. Always lock your doors and windows using good quality locks

2. Never leave your valuables visible

3. Fit a good alarm and security lights to your property

4. Mark your property with an ultra violet pen (House number and post code)

5. Use [www.immobilise.co.uk](http://www.immobilise.co.uk) to record the serial numbers of your electrical items

6. Photograph items that cannot be marked (Jewellery etc.)

7. Never let anyone into your home that you don't know and trust. Always ask for identification.

8. Consider security lights to the approach to the house

9. A House in darkness is an invite to a burglar. Use timers to turn on lights.

**Motor Vehicle Crime is another problem well worth considering so here's a few do's and don'ts around your**

### **cars and motorbikes.**

1. Never leave anything in your car! 63% of thefts of and from vehicles happen directly outside the home

2. Always keep your car locked. This includes sunroofs and windows.

3. If you do have to leave things in your car make sure they are hidden and locked in the boot.

4. Don't leave your stereo / satnav in the glove box.

5. Park in well lit areas and under observation of CCTV if possible.

6. Always chain you motorbikes and scooters to something fixed and solid.

7. Don't hang your keys near the front door. Thieves will hook them out through the letter box.

8. Get an alarm and immobiliser.

If you would like a member of the Safer Neigh-

bourhood team to visit and discuss any of the above or would like us to property mark your valuables, then please call us on 0208 721 2605, we'll be happy to help.

### **ACTION ON TRAFFIC**

As one of our ward priorities, we have been cracking down on Anti-Social behaviour by motorists, a Traffic Survey has been carried out in Rushmore Hill, Pratts Bottom, and PCSO's have additional powers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for vehicles that cause Nuisance parking.

PCSO's will continue to monitor parking and traffic outside schools, using Hi - Vis patrols, this has had a positive affect as a traffic calming measure and creates a positive impact for the children, who love to talk to police.

### **WARRANT**

A drugs warrant was issued at a local address on Thursday 16th December, under sec-

tion 23 of the misuse of Drugs Act 1971. Although no drugs were found, items of stolen property were recovered and four suspects were arrested.

If you have any information that may assist us in keeping crime down in your area, then please call either- **Crimestoppers** anonymously on 0800 555 111

Or your local **Safer Neighbourhood Team** on 0208 721 2605

**All calls will be treated in the strictest confidence**

### **DOG REGISTER**

As part of a new initiative on our ward we are currently running a Dog register, this will enable us, when we come across any lost dogs in the area to locate possible owners. We have had over the last few weeks, calls to dogs on the street and so far we have been able to locate the owners.

This register will also allow us to contact all

dog walkers to help us to find lost dogs, many dog walkers talk to each other and this is the best way to communicate, and pass on information the best way to describe it, is to see it as a Neighbourhood watch for dogs.

If you would like more information call us on 02028 721 2605

### **YOUR LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CONTACT**

I have recently taken on the role of Neighbourhood Watch contact for Chelsfield Village.

You may contact me on: 07711 304965, and if possible would you also advise me of the issue in question by email to:

[johnleach2000@aol.com](mailto:johnleach2000@aol.com)

And, if available, attach any electronic photographs from phones or camera's, with the time and location and a brief description of the issue, then I may see if any matters need taking further.

*John Leach*



## Village Hall News

Following the very sad death of Elsa Sjovorr we have had to find a replacement trustee for the hall. Bob Hogben has kindly agreed to fill this post, yet to be ratified in law. The fourth trustee is Leslie Virgo who has moved away but will continue in his role as long as he desires.

The freezing December played havoc with the water system in the hall, all pipes, cisterns, plug-holes and taps totally froze causing joints to pop. Before the thaw set in we turned off the water (with considerable difficulty) and have everything repaired and easy-to-use stopcocks in an easier location fitted



ted in the white cupboard. There is a water softener ready to be installed sometime to reduce the encrusting of the toilet cisterns and taps.

The next project is to enlarge both height and width of the serving

hatch. We did not get the applied for grant for a new kitchen so I suspect we may have to make do with redecoration and new lighting.

The new double glazed front windows have made a big difference.

*The Trustees*

## Theft From the Churchyard

Sad to report that a few weeks ago opportunist thieves stole the pillar base of the little Victorian font that has stood, quietly, by the yew tree for the past 15 years. They left the bowl, ei-

ther for a return visit, or because it had incriminating inscriptions and is heavy.

At the same time someone tried to break into the internal vestry which

set off the alarms and they fled, tearing open all the undelivered Christmas cards as they left so now no-one knows whose is who's!

*Philip Lane*

## Free Courses Available

I am writing to inform you about free courses for Bromley residents from now until the end of May.

They are for adults over the age of nineteen. Generally directed at those who are unemployed or retired, who would like to gain new knowledge and experience whilst interacting

and meeting new people.

You must be a Bromley resident to get access to these courses and they range from introduction to photography to Camp-fire cookery and bee-keeping. If you would like any more information on this then please just get in touch and I can sent you leaflets with all the

course titles available.

*Natalie Clark*  
Just4me Project Manager

London Borough of  
Bromley

[Natalie.Clark@Bromley.Gov.uk](mailto:Natalie.Clark@Bromley.Gov.uk)

Bromley Field Studies  
Centre,  
Grovelands Road,  
Orpington,  
BR5 3EG

## Bromley Residents Federation Report

Much of the meeting was taken up with a discussion about the proposed variation of the Biggin Hill Airport lease for the duration of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, from Friday 13 July to Sunday 23 September. A report of the current proposals is in this newsletter under its own heading. An expert delegate who has a long association with Biggin Hill as a private pilot and is a leading light behind the proposed Biggin Hill Heritage Centre filled us in. The increased number of flights which have been allocated to Biggin Hill are not disputed as the current number

is well within the permitted maximum. The amount of money Bromley Council will stand to make is questionable as the criteria for a £3 levy per passenger have not been refined. Is this for paying passengers only? It is not clear. The annual rent paid to Bromley Council is only £175,000. Currently only 15% of the aircraft movements are by jets. Much of the airport's income is from businesses on the industrial estate. Most of these businesses are not dependent on having an active runway. The current permitted early and late flying hours only ap-

ply to aircraft based at Biggin Hill. They are looking to change this. Biggin Hill has a niche position as a good business airport. Aircraft wishing to land at Biggin Hill will be subservient to those using London City Airport and will have to stack above Dartford. A growing number of councillors are against the proposals as they stand because acceptance will open the door to permanent changes. The Council is expecting further proposals from the Airport which, according to Mr Marc Hume, Director of Renewal & Recreation at Bromley Council,

would involve “wider variations” over and above the Olympics proposals. The leader of the Council was present and put his side of the argument. We were told that helicopters will be used to ferry passengers from the airport to Ebbsfleet station. He suggested that the Government/London Mayor may impose the expansion of Biggin Hill Airport to satisfy the perceived need to accommodate more air traffic in the future, not just for the Olympic period. When the poor infrastructure was raised he said that a new M25 junction at Westerham could be

built. This was, in fact, on the cards some years ago.

### **School crossing patrols**

To save money, the council proposes to do away with school crossing patrols and in their place to recruit and train parent volunteers.

### **New parking charges.**

Parking charges will be introduced to country parks. Will this cause parking in narrow lanes and/or less use of the facilities?

### **Primary Care Trusts**

are to be abolished with

GPs buying services and hospital staff, not administrators running the services provided.

### **Dangerous trees.**

A delegate mentioned an accident in his area where a tree branch, damaged by the heavy snow, fell on a dog walker leaving her badly injured. If you spot any dangerous branches plea report them to Bromley Council who will be obliged to deal with them or not be covered by their public liability insurance. It helps to point this out when reporting!

## **Local History Group**

In spring 2009, the Borough of Bromley Local History Society was given the manuscript of a dissertation on the geography of Bromley Borough and the Urban District of Orpington compiled in 1944-6 while the writer, Daphne Davies, was a student of Goldsmith's College but evacuated to Nottingham because of the flying bombs. Recently she decided to go into a care home in Cornwall,

and after half a century her manuscript was about to be thrown into a skip when it was noticed by her sharp-eyed daughter. Here is a very brief account of the work that she put into her project all those years ago.

Many of the contemporary postcards and photographs included are now of historical interest in their own right. The au-

thor gives a historical account of the development of this area of north-west Kent prior to 1930 and an analysis of the varying functions and layouts of settlements as they stood in 1945. The sources available were obviously restricted under the circumstances. Her many letters of enquiry drew mostly helpful responses. Paul passed around copies of some of the replies



Daphne Davies received to her queries in 1946. Most were very prompt and helpful. They apologised for the scarcity of maps: The British Museum replied "By no means all our maps are back yet"; Southern Railway could not reply as fully as they could wish due to "shortage of staff and other causes brought about by the war"; the Electricity Department of the Borough of Bromley regretted that up to date maps of the area were not available "as the position with regard to these has recently been somewhat difficult". A draper in Widmore Road Bromley was collecting personal photographs to send her. Population statistics showed a noticeable dip from 60,000 in 1939 to fewer than 50,000 in 1944. This was attributed to large scale evacuation. Most respondents took a lot of trouble to provide her with the information she asked for. However, we were all struck by the following from the editor of the Bromley and West Kent Mercury. Obviously the man does not understand the nature of original research.

*Dear Madam,*

*It seems to me that you are concerned with the past and I am concerned with the present. If I had to write a paper about the past I should consult a book about Bromley to be found in the public library.*

*I am willing to help if I can, but this is the best advice I can give. It is exactly what I should do myself.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*H Hanby, Editor*

Her conclusion found that most of the villages were to be found on the hill slopes and in the valleys although Bromley town is firmly on its ridge top.

There was widespread production of fruit for London markets, and a concentration of a small amount of industry along the valley of the Cray river, but every area was developing as residential.

The work concluded with a comparison of a post-war development plan proposed and agreed by Bromley Borough Council with that of the later Abercrombie Plan for

Greater London. It is evident that had Bromley had their way, areas which have remained as open space to this day would have been developed for housing. There was to be a "special shopping centre" at Keston. "Bromley's population would have risen to 70,000, but under Abercrombie's scheme the population would be more restricted. The special scenic areas that Abercrombie stresses in the south west of the Borough of Bromley, north and west of Keston Mark, and scattered in small doses throughout Bromley had been intended by the Bromley plan to be residential."

This was all 60 odd years ago. Daphne Davies gives a snap-shot of our area at that time.

After the break for refreshments Paul went on to talk about the Greater London Plan (Abercrombie Plan) of 1944, an extract of which is given here. It is interesting to read of the concerns given to the environment all those years ago.

Orpington itself has developed from an overgrown village surrounded by the three smaller village nuclei of St Mary Cray, Farnborough and Green Street Green, all of which are also fast expanding and have now joined up in a more or less scattered mass with Orpington. The pre-war development has tended to occur around the various stations in the district as, for instance, in Petts Wood, where there is a spaciouly conceived new shopping centre, which should eventually form a good focal point for the area about.

The road to Bromley South is almost continually built-up, but the narrow neck into the West Kent Golf Courses should be kept open so as to form an unbroken link from open country at Hayes Common through Oakley House and the golf course to join up with Petts Wood and Scadbury Park. It will thus be possible to keep Orpington as an individual community separated from the continuously built up

area of London. In the Farnborough and Green Street Green areas no further outward expansion should be permitted, Pratts Bottom being kept from joining up with Knockholt: any permission to develop already granted hereabouts should be drastically reviewed. The Farnborough By-Pass as far as Pratts Bottom should be kept free from building, while the new unfinished estate at the corner of Shire Lane should be filled in on the remaining vacant frontages and not expanded. Round Chelsfield Station development should be confined to the area shown on the map.

There is little justification for expanding extensively this dormitory area which lies on the outskirts of London in its Green Belt.

The report commented on the Crays: Foots Cray, St Paul's Cray and St Mary Cray were all charming villages on the old Cray Valley Road adjoining the River Cray with a restricted amount of local industry (mainly

paper mills dependant on a water supply from the Cray): now they are part of one of the really bad developments in the Region, extending along the Cray Valley from Foots Cray to Orpington. Factories, most of them new, with varied elevations, petrol stations, bungalows and houses, cafes, gravel pits and excavation plant, a boating lake and lido, are mixed indiscriminately in the vicinity of the Orpington and Sidcup By-Passes with, surprisingly enough, a large school at the junction of these two arterial roads. That all this should have happened under town planning control is unfortunate: no attempt has been made to group factories or to preserve the Orpington By-Pass as a through traffic road. Gravel excavation has greatly added to the general confusion: had the pits been properly filled in or landscaped the Cray Valley could have been converted into an attractive valley and streamside reservation.

*Thanks go to Paul for giving me a copy of his notes to use.*

## Orienteering

If you're looking to explore your local countryside, get fit, loose weight or looking for a value for money, family friendly sport, why not give orienteering a try this spring? Dartford Orienteering Club:

<http://www.dfok.co.uk>

are organising 4 events near Chelsfield in the next few weeks. Entry

fees are fantastic value: £4 or £3 for adults and completely free for juniors. You don't have to pre-enter or be a club member.

The aim of orienteering is to navigate between control points marked on a map to complete the course in the quickest time. It does not matter how young, old or fit you are, as you can run, walk

or jog the course and progress at your own pace. Competitors range from families who walk with young children to serious athletes who train several times a week.

The first event starts from Lullingstone Park Golf Course at 7.30 pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February. As this is a night event this is probably not one to try if you haven't got



much navigation experience, but if you fancy an adventure it will be a great experience.

The second event is at Downe Activity Centre in Biggin Hill on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. The activity centre is one of the most popular scouting centres in the UK, but also a great place to try Orienteering as it's a beautiful piece of Kent countryside, but is quite small so impossible to get too lost, and beginners courses will be available. There is also some picnic tables and a café to relax after your race.

The third event is at

Joydens Wood, Bexley, meeting at Birchwood Park Golf Centre, Wilmington. This will be a score format where you find as many checkpoints as possible in the 45 minute time limit. Since you don't have to get them all you can miss the harder ones, and just look for the easy ones on or near the paths.

The final event is a night street event in Swanley on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March. Although at night, this will be a good event for beginners as street maps are simple to use.

Check our website

<http://www.dfok.co.uk>

for further details and any changes. Basic instruction and equipment are provided, no map reading experience is necessary. We suggest you email us at [newcomers@dfok.co.uk](mailto:newcomers@dfok.co.uk) before the event so we can help get you started. Alternatively just ask one of the officials on the day.

*Picture: Andrew Thomas, of Saxons Orienteering Club, powering through the woods at Lullingstone Country Park.*

Sean Cronin (Coach, Dartford Orienteering Club).

## Biggin Hill Airport - Olympic Plans

We are fortunate in this part of the borough that we are not greatly affected by Biggin Hill air traffic. However we may like to have the chance to object to or support the application for a temporary change in the lease which may affect us. These changes are as follows:

Biggin Hill Airport Limited (BHAL) is seeking to expand its operations for

the London Olympic Games in 2012 and has requested a temporary relaxation of the restrictions on numbers of flights, timing and type of passenger contained within its lease.

BHAL's application to become an 'Olympic Gateway' airport would mean an extension of the current permitted opening hours from 6.30 a.m. until 23.00 p.m., seven

days a week. At present there are on average 32 business flights a day. BHAL wish to add an extra 21 flights a day making a total of 53 movements. BHAL also want to be able to welcome fare paying passengers which is not currently permitted in their lease.

Current restrictions in force:-



- Weekday opening hours 06.30 to 22.00.
- Weekend opening hours 09.00 to 20.00.
- Between 06.30 and 07.30 no flight arrivals permitted.
- No fare paying passengers.
- Annual flight allowance – 125,000.
- No flying outside of operating hours.

#### Changes proposed:-

- Extending weekday opening hours from 06.30 to 23.00.
- Extending weekend opening hours from 06.30 to 23.00.
- Between 06.30 and 07.00 three flights may arrive or depart.
- Flights may carry up to 75 passengers, including some who may have paid a fare.

Biggin Hill Airport Ltd. is asking its landlord [Bromley Council](#) for a temporary extension for the games from July 13 to September 23. The air-

port has been told by Bromley Council that it must consult local residents before making a decision.

Bromley Council leader Councillor Stephen Carr said: "I can understand and appreciate apprehension about noise and disruption and we will need to carefully balance these very real concerns. While the airport is asking for a quick decision, we will not compromise on our commitment to consult with residents before reaching a decision."

#### **Letter from Council Leader, Cllr. Stephen Carr, 11 January 2011**

Dear Reader

Please respond to Bromley Council's consultation about Biggin Hill airport. As we look ahead into the New Year, preparation for the Olympic Games will inevitably continue throughout the year. As a Council, we need to consider Biggin Hill Airport Limited's (BHAL) plans to use the airport as part of Olympic travel options for visitors. If this is an issue which you are interested in, please respond to our

consultation as the consultation period has been extended to February 18<sup>th</sup>.

Readers may not be aware that Bromley Council has an interest in Biggin Hill airport in that it owns the freehold. Consequently, BHAL, as the tenant, needs the Council's permission to change operating hours and other issues which are outlined in the lease and operating schedules. The primary reason the Council originally purchased the freehold was to protect residents' interests and to ensure that the airport continues to be viable.

We are committed to upholding these long term objectives and in line with this commitment we want your views before making any decision. BHAL would like to temporarily extend operating hours by an hour on weekdays so that the hours would be 06.30 to 23.00. The proposed weekend hours would be from 06.30 to 23.00, changed from the existing 09.00 to 20.00 hours. The temporary

period covers both the Olympics and the Paralympics and time for travel before and after these events. There are also other changes such as a temporary change to the ban on fare paying passengers for so-called air taxi users and a passenger tax of £3 payable to the Council as the landlord.

We have already received comments both for and against the proposal and I do not want to influence anyone one way or other. So, I would ask readers to consider the proposals and let us

know their views. Whilst we will not be replying to individual comments, we will consider them very carefully.

The extended consultation period closes on Friday 18 February 2011 at 17.00 hours. Comments can be e-mailed to "[airport.consultation@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:airport.consultation@bromley.gov.uk)" or made by writing to Bromley Council's Renewal and Recreation Department, Airport Consultation, Bromley Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Bromley BR1 3UH.

Councillor Stephen Carr

Leader of Bromley Council

### **Local Councillors' views**

Local councillors Julian Grainger and Samaris Huntington-Thresher attended the most recent Village Society committee meeting and guided us through the proposals. They both thought that the proposals as they stood were not acceptable due to the increase in operating hours. They hoped that this would be re-negotiated and will be letting their feelings be known.

## **An Early History of Chelsfield Village School - Part 1**

Chelsfield Village School represents one of the few remaining Institutions that constituted the largely self-contained community in Chelsfield and the surrounding area in earlier times. For over 130 years the Village School has been the Establishment from which children have entered the adult world of work, or in more recent times have continued their education in other facilities in the local area or further afield.

The Village School together with St. Martin's Church and the Five Bells Public House are the only remaining aspects of the original self-supporting community that has existed for centuries. Other once familiar and vital parts of Village life have now disappeared - notably the Post Office, the Smallwood Bakeries, the Village Shop (Neal's Stores) and the Blacksmith's Forge in Skibbs Lane.

The Chelsfield Village School therefore represents an integral part of the community with its long history spanning many generations of local families.

The first mention of a School at Chelsfield is in the year 1720 (in *Loxes Magma Britannia*) where it is reported "Chelsfield where there is a small school for poor children". Possibly this was held at Kidders where the upper room in the house runs the



whole length of the building and has been known as the schoolroom.

In 1823 the first School as such was built and the School Master was called Mr Edward Brooks who was paid by School fees. An old account book has entries such as:

Paid Edward Brooks for G. Dunmall 8 weeks to this day 2/-

For Richard and Philip Whitehead 5/-

For a writing book for

George Dunmall 7d. Edward Brooks was succeeded at the School by Mr. Thomas Colebourn. In addition to fees the School was also supported by subscriptions at that time.

In 1864 the present School was built on the site of the old one with the cost being met by voluntary contributions. In 1884 it was decided that as the cost of the upkeep of the School was being met by two or three donors only, a meeting of

the Ratepayers was held on 16th May 1884 and it was agreed that the formation of a School Board was the only solution to the problem. In 1902 School Boards were abolished and Kent Education Committee took over the role with local managers to represent the interests of the Parish residents.

*Written by Carol Margetts  
with additional information  
and inspiration from Mrs  
Vera Margetts*

## USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

### **Bromley Council**

Main switchboard:  
020 8464 3333

E-mail:  
csc@bromley.gov.uk

Opening hours Monday to  
Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm

Address: Civic Centre,  
Stockwell Close, Brom-  
ley, BR1 3UH

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

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

### **Mobile Library**

The mobile library stops

outside Chelsfield Village  
School on Tuesdays be-  
tween 11:15 and 11:45.

Books can be reserved from  
here, or over the Internet via  
the Bromley library website  
for later picking up from the  
mobile library.

### **Councillors**

Julian Grainger  
01689 889392  
julian.grainger@bromley.gov.uk  
Samaris Huntington-Thresher  
020 8464 3333  
samaris.huntington-thresher  
@bromley.gov.uk  
Russell Jackson  
russell.jackson@bromley.gov.uk

### **Chelsfield Village Society**

cvscontact@gmail.com

### **Chelsfield Village Voice**

villagevoice@chelsfield.org

### **Chelsfield Primary School**

01689 825827

BT Line Faults 0800 800151

Electrical Power Failure (EDF)  
08007838866

Thames Water Emergencies  
0845 9200800

Transco Gas Emergency Ser-  
vice 0800 111999

Orpington Police Station  
1000-1800 Monday-Saturday  
0300 1231212

Samaritans 01689 833000

NHS Direct 0845 4647

Safer Neighbourhood Team  
020 8721 2605



## 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 on  
01689 853215

#### EVERY TUESDAY

Brass Crosby Room

#### St Martin's Toddler Group

10.30am-12.00 midday  
Contact Sarah Ford:  
01689 853415

#### EVERY TUESDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall

#### Art Workshop

#### "Art for the Fun of it"

4.00pm-5.00pm 5 years  
and upwards £8.00 per child  
Details 01959 532761  
geraldinefranklin@bt.com

#### EVERY TUESDAY

Five Bells

#### Charity Quiz Night

from 9.00pm

#### EVERY WEDNESDAY

#### Hatha Yoga Classes

10.30am-12.00am  
Contact Pam Keeper on  
01732 458930

#### EVERY WEDNESDAY

#### Rugby for Girls

Any Age  
Evening training from  
September to May  
Contact Kevin  
0208 289 8566

#### EVERY THURSDAY

St Martin of Tours Church

#### Viva Acappella

Ladies Barbershop Chorus  
Practice  
Contact Helen 07984  
961696

### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### Wednesday 2nd February

Parish Room-Skibbs Lane  
**Internet Cafe & Local  
History Transcription**  
2.30-4.30pm

#### Thursday 3rd February

Five Bells

#### Live Jazz Music Just Friends

Starting 8.30pm

#### Sunday 6th February

Brass Crosby Room

#### Social Evening

Games, Scrabble Cards etc.  
Light Supper Provided  
£2 All Welcome 6.30pm

#### Wednesday 9th February

Five Bells

#### Open Mic Night

Starting 8.30pm

#### Thursday 10th February

(2nd Thursday Each  
Month)

Brass Crosby Room

#### Crafts For All

Come and Try Your Hand at  
a Range of Crafts  
11.00am

#### Sat 12th - Mon 14th Feb

Five Bells

#### Valentines Weekend

4 course champagne dinner  
on Monday 14th

#### Wednesday 16th February

Parish Room-Skibbs Lane  
**Internet Cafe & Local  
History Transcription**  
2.30-4.30pm

#### Thursday 17th February

(3rd Thursday each month)

Brass Crosby Room

#### Local History Group

10.15 - Midday

#### Saturday 19th February

Chelsfield Village Hall

#### Quiz Night

in aid of the Village Hall  
Light Refreshment Provided  
Bring Your Own Drinks  
£6.00 per person  
(teams consist of 6-8 people)  
7.00pm for 7.30pm  
Contact Anne 01689 826349

#### Wednesday 23rd February

Five Bells

#### Open Mic Night

Starting 8.30pm

#### 25th February

Five Bells

#### Live Music from MUTLEY

Starting 9.00pm

#### Saturday 11th June

The Rectory—Skibbs Lane

#### Church Fete

#### Saturday 9th July

Cricket Field

#### Chelsfield Fair