



February 2016

Supported by



Chelsfield
Park
Hospital

Book NOW for a romantic

Valentine Dinner

at

The Bo-Peep

Hewitts Road

Friday 12th & Saturday 13th February
Evenings only

Phone: 01959 534457

The Chelsfield

1 Windsor Drive

Sunday 14th February Midday - 9.00pm
01689 600656

The Five Bells

Chelsfield Village

Saturday 13th February 7.00pm

Sunday 14th February

2 sittings from Midday

01689 821044

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Residents & Friends of Chelsfield Village

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Contributions

We depend on your contributions to keep the Village Voice both useful and interesting so please send any details of events, articles, photos, drawings, articles or stories for the March issue to:

chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com

or post to:

Chelsfield Village Voice
2 Bucks Cross Cottages
Chelsfield Village
BR6 7RN

by Monday 29th Feb 2016

Visit: www.chelsfieldevents.co.uk

The Crab Spider

Last summer, in the days of heat and dust, rather than the wet winter days we now enjoy (not), I found an almost pure white spider on the head of a flower and wondered what it was.

A little research showed that it was a crab spider (*Misumena vatia*), sometimes known as a flower crab spider. I'd not seen a spider like this before. It's more usual to find spiders that are black and often hairy but this critter was very distinctively white and had very clean lines. As the name implies, these spiders can walk in all directions.

Along with similar species in the Thomisidae spider family, these spiders usually have a rather flattened body shape and longer front four legs than the back four which is also reminiscent of a crab.

This spider has an interesting approach to finding its lunch. As with all spiders this species is a predator, but rather

than going to look for its lunch or using a web, it sits and waits in ambush. It spends most of its life sitting on flower heads waiting for visiting insects and then launches its attack.

However one of the most surprising things about this spider is the size of prey that it can take down. The female of the species is the larger at around 3/8th of an inch with the male being around 1/8th (female spiders tend to be larger than the male as they need to carry eggs until they are ready to be laid).

Considering their diminutive size I was amazed to find that crab spiders will take bees and wasps (although I also found a reference that suggested that they are in turn eaten by wasps) but also less aggressive prey like butterflies and common flies.

After grabbing their prey, like other spiders they inject venom using their jaws thus disabling their victim's ability to either escape or retaliate. This venom then liquidates the victim's internal organs thereby allowing the spider to suck out the



resultant liquid meal.

Other than the size of its prey this spider's other interesting talent is its ability to change colour chameleon like, to suit the flower it choose as its lair. White and yellow are the two most common flowered colours chosen by this spider and indeed there are some species of crab spider that specialise in particular flowers.

The goldenrod crab spider being one example which chooses the native American plant of that name as its primary host and lair.

Don't imagine that this spider is going to change colour in the blink of an eye in the same manner as a chameleon does! Once sitting upon a new plant this spider can take some days or even weeks before it's appropriately camouflaged. It achieves this by creating a non-white pigment (usually yellow) in a hollow layer of cells closest to the surface of its body. If a change of camouflage on a white flower is required



then this pigment is excreted, a relatively quick process. Changing to yellow requires the creation of the new pigment and this is a slower process.

This spider is quite obscure so there is not that much more I can search out that will be of any interest to readers so I will have to leave this month's entry just a little shorter than usual.

Erratum.

One last point: last month I mentioned that a young Kestrel could, as an emergency measure, be fed milk and Hob Nob

biscuits. Although I have no reason to believe this is wrong with regard to a young kestrel, I mentioned that this diet was also suitable for hedgehogs. I now realise this is wrong as hedgehogs cannot digest milk or, indeed bread which is the other popular food used for these animals.

So please, if you should 'rescue' a hedgehog, please feed it good quality meat flavoured dog or cat food, but not fish flavoured food.

Steve Fuller
February 2016

Chelsfield Village Society - SGM

Further to the AGM held in November 2015 the Committee wish to revise the Working Constitution and therefore invite all members to attend an SGM to ratify the amendments.

prior to our normal Committee meeting scheduled for 1 March 2016 at 8 pm. Please could you confirm you attendance, so that the necessary venue may be organised.

Treasurer,
Melanie Stevens on
07900 171266,
(text or phone),
or by email at:
melanie@mmwatkins.co.uk
or by dropping a note
through the door of
Lillys, Chelsfield Lane,
to reserve a space.

The meeting will be held

Please contact our

Mutterings From The Millers

Have you ever wondered what is growing in some of the fields around Chelsfield? As more contributions have been requested, we thought we would inform you about life on the farm here at Court Lodge Farm each month.

As you are aware it has been a very wet January with 82mls of rain from 1st January to date, 16.1.16 and we need some cold, dry weather to firm up the soil, but are keeping busy with delivering hay and straw to stables locally. As you can see from the map, when Court Road was built the farm was split and obvious has shrunk in size over the years.

Great Grandfather came here 1899. We now farm 66 hectares.

For the first time in many years, we are not growing oil seed rape, hurrah, say those of you who suffer from hay fever. There are many reasons for not growing this:-

1 The new crop has to be planted by 1st September, so if we are late cutting the previous crop, it is a mad rush to plough the field and then drill it with oil seed rape. (Drill means planting the seed).

2 We cannot trim hedges before the crop is planted, as under EU law hedges cannot be cut

before the 1st September and after 1st March.

3 Pigeons and slugs love the stuff!

4 Because of the ban on seed dressing containing neonicotinoids, we have a serious problem with flea beetle. The beetle eats the emerging plants.

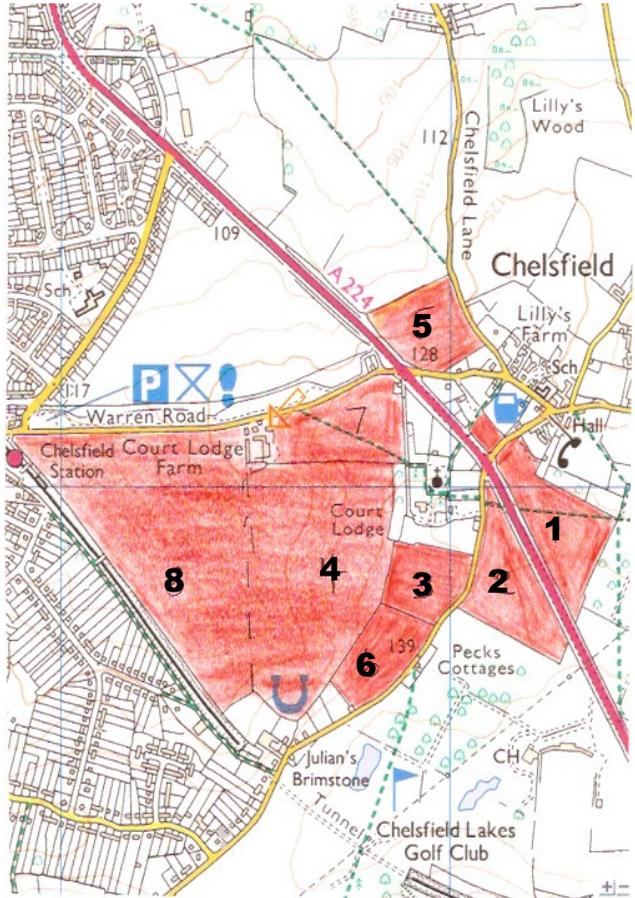
So this year, in fields 1, 2, 3 and 4 we are growing winter wheat. This will be harvested in August and we send it to a co operative, Weald Granary, in Mereworth to be sold to make bread.

Fields 5, 6, 7 and 8 are empty at the moment but all being well we will start ploughing them as soon

as the ground dries out. Some parts will be planted with spring barley to make malt and one of the fields will be planted with peas. These peas will be harvested with the combine harvester dry for either human or animal consumption depending on the quality. On other parts of the farm, we grow grass to make hay for animals. The grass and the peas are used as part of the crop rotation on the farm and to comply with the new EU law that all farms over 50 hectares must grow 3 or more different crops.

More mutterings from the Millers next month, hopefully we will have aired our tractors and will be busy ploughing.

Chris Miller



Join Us For a Game of Table Tennis!

Bored with Wednesday nights Telly, why not come along and play Table Tennis?

Players of any standard are invited to join a group of (more senior) players on Wednesdays evening from 8 pm to 10.00pm at the Scout

Building, its more than a hut! Highfield Avenue, which is off Glentrammon Road, Green Street Green.

Three tables can be in use so there is a good opportunity for a game, mostly doubles but singles can be played as well.

For more information contact Peter Greaves 01689 857458.



In Memory of Those Who Died

St Martin's Church – the War Memorial and the 100th Anniversary of the First World War

At the Remembrance Sunday service at St Martin's last November I listened to the names being read out reverently by Brian Kemp, always a moving moment as there are so many names for such a small parish. Commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the First World War started 18 months ago, but it hadn't occurred to me before to specifically think about the people that lived in our parish who died.

I was inspired to start a research project on them, to find out where they lived and when they died, in order to write a short article for the parish magazine each month on those who died 100 years before, so that we could remember and honour them individually. Although we're already one and a half years in, the research I've done shows most of the

casualties on the memorial died from 1916 onwards. The few that I have missed I will write about in months where there isn't someone to remember 100 years before.

Someone may have already researched this in the past but I'm very interested in genealogy and social history, so I've done it again for my own interest. However I have drawn a few blanks, so I'd be grateful for any help readers can give. Are you related to anyone on the memorial, or do you know anyone who might be? I know Jean Burgess' uncle George is on it and we had a lovely chat about him and her father. Do you know of any existing research? The names I'm particularly stuck on are Sidney Davis, William Finn, William Golding, Thomas Graves, James Hills [could be John], Noah Hillman, Walter Mathewson and Frederick Theobold [could be Theobald]. I can find military records

to match these names, but sometimes there are several people with the same name. Some census records for 1911 could also be a match, but there's not enough evidence to tie the two together. I have already employed some cunning detective work to trace Albert Miles, whose father Enos lived in Well Hill. There was another Enos Miles with a son Albert who also died, who lived in Shoreham, so I was led astray for a while, but the census helped unravel the mix up.

Ann Blatcher looked for church magazines for the relevant years, but interestingly none were produced for the entire period of the First World War. The memorial itself is not totally helpful! It's not in alphabetical order in places, and I think there may be spelling mistakes in a couple of surnames. The spelling of people's names in official records did vary quite a lot sometimes, but by the First World War things

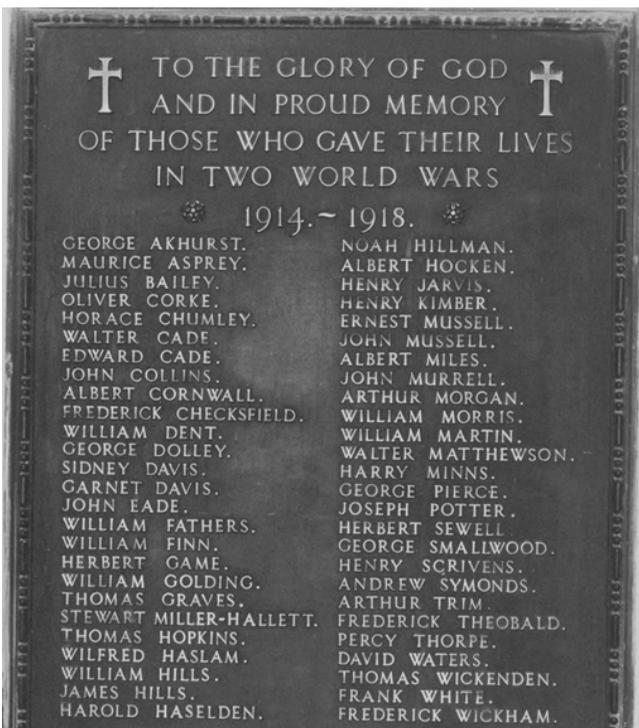
were more accurate. However the current memorial was made in the 1950's, to commemorate both World Wars, and replaced an old wooden one that may not have been in the best of condition and perhaps not legible in places. More will be revealed in future church magazines when I write about the individual soldiers, but for now if you do have any information I would love to hear from you.

Philippa Rooke

email:

pjrooke@hotmail.com

Tel: 07826 516481



Broadband Update

With about 60 replies in so far the door to door survey is starting to produce very convincing results in support of a faster broadband service for Chelsfield Village. If the survey has not yet reached you (or maybe you have been out) you can help by contacting me at the address below letting me know if you are interested in faster broadband. Hopefully you have all registered with

Virgin Media's Cable My Street.

Another alternative has arisen called BDUK Basic Broadband Subsidy Scheme. You can find out about this by visiting www.snipca.com/19273 This involves a government subsidy covering the cost of the installation and connection of a satellite broadband system for those not achieving a

download speed of 2 Mbps, which is the majority of us in the village. If you register and find you qualify for a subsidy you will find that several providers are available. I am advised that there are many drawbacks to satellite broadband including the high cost for any useful download allowance and the latency period causing a 700 millisecond delay in the signal making online

gaming unsatisfactory.

For your amusement, try searching your post code on the site below.

www.rightmove.co.uk/broadband-speed-in-my-area.html

People looking to move house can check the broadband speeds available. The company

providing the information thinks that we are super-

fast enabled here in Chelsfield Village.



Max available speed: 76.00Mbps

Local History Group - Operation Fortitude South

Paul Rason's talk this month concerned Kent's involvement in the war effort in World War II. The county had already suffered the Battle of Britain and the Blitz but was about to get involved in the great deception prior to the D-Day landings. Many successful and unsuccessful campaigns had taught the planners that elaborate preparations were essential. Thus, Operation Fortitude South was born. We were all handed the following passage to read.

Chislehurst Caves were again being used by the War Office as they had been in World War I for

the purpose of storing explosives and small arms. An immense quantity of small arms and munitions were being transported direct from factories in the Midlands by rail to the principal London Termini. These munitions travelled from the factories in crates mounted on small gauge trucks carried on the main line goods trucks. On their arrival at the London termini the small gauge trucks were unloaded from the mainline carriers and transferred to a small gauge electric railway line on which they were carried to the storage depots in and around the Chislehurst Caves. Here, vast reserves were being

built up for use at the time of the opening of the Second Front. Secret tunnelling of a small diameter had been in progress since the early days of the war for the purpose of extending the system of underground communications based on the London Underground railway system. This work had originally been intended to serve the purpose of supplying the defence aerodromes in the Outer London area and anti-aircraft emplacements in London with ammunition fed from these underground depots without risk their having to come in come to ground level whilst being transported during the

time of the Blitz. Later this network of communications was further extended so that it would be able to serve a useful purpose in connection with offensive, rather than defensive operations.

Among the latest developments in underground communications network there were a number of new lines, all terminating at Chislehurst. One of these connected the Chislehurst depots with the Woolwich dockyards via Eltham and Charlton;

another branched off from the main Underground line in the Kennington area and was intended to terminate near Waringham within easy reach of the aerodromes of Kenley, Croydon and Biggin Hill.

This was news to us all and we were told it was a hoax, being part of Operation Fortitude South. Double agent "Garbo" was instrumental in propagating this deception. Agent 4, a Gibraltar national and waiter who was stranded

in London at the outbreak of the war, was placed with the NAAFI in Chislehurst Caves by Garbo and proceeded to pass on further misinformation about the activities in Chislehurst Caves. This information along with the false information from the other members of Garbo's network, helped to convince the Germans that Calais was to be the Allies port of invasion.

Next meeting February 18th. The Orpington Car and its place in history.

Strange Cloud Over Chelsfield?

Did anyone else see this odd cloud formation over our area on the afternoon of Wednesday 30th December? We were out for a walk between Chelsfield Village and Skeet hill when we noticed it, looking like a large aircraft contrail and moving at quite a speed in the direction of the Dartford bridge. An aircraft contrail was a likely source until we noticed that smaller versions were forming and disappearing in the vicinity. In the picture

below – from street-life, these can be seen to the

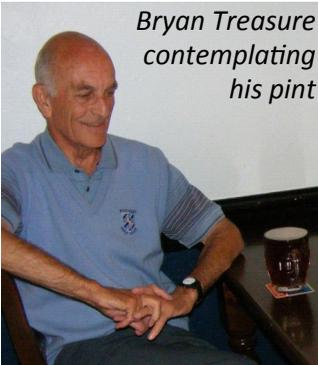
right of the largest tree in the foreground.



Bryan Treasure - A Local Man - 1936-2016

A WALK TO REMEMBER

Bryan was well known at the Five Bells, Bo Peep and Kent Hounds. His passing will be mourned by many. A Green Street Green man by birth but played football locally. He and I spent many happy hours in the local hostelries sharing banter and bitter, sometimes bitter banter! I shall always remember one memorable winter escapade after very heavy snow. The roads were impassable so he and I decided to walk up Warren Road, braving the drifts, to surprise Doug at the Five Bells and share a pint. The road was piled high with snow so we walked along the field edge, a blizzard driving into our faces and despite being 5.30pm, surprisingly light. The drifts were up to our waists and it was really quite exciting, as we talked of winters past, each one trying to outdo the other for dramatic reminiscences. As we eventually reached the main road and crossed



Bryan Treasure contemplating his pint

into the village, we were desperate for a pint. "Best use the public bar" said Bryan as he kicked off the snow from his wellies. In we traped across to the bar where Old Man Parkes greeted us, not with joy or

appreciation for this Arctic trek to sample his wares, but with a Parkesian expletive "Look at all the b----- snow you're leaving on my carpet!" (NB I have even had to mellow this abbreviation!) After a couple of cold pints we set off home again fortified with alcohol, and retraced our snow-filled steps whilst merrily singing Jingle Bells and chatting to the odd Eskimo encamped at Court Lodge Farm. Happy Days!

Philip Lane (Now a Seaford Highlander)



Warren Road closed by snow, 1962



RECEIVE CHILDREN. RECEIVE ME



Friday
4th March
Women's
World Day
of Prayer
All are welcome



Praying for Cuba

St Mary's Green St Green

10am for refreshments

Service: 10.30-11.30am

Orpington Baptist Church

1.30pm for refreshments

Service: 2-3pm

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PROVIDED

February Breakfast / Lunch Experience

FINCH HOUSE
258-260 High Street
Orpington
BR6 0NB

No one could ever say that there isn't anywhere to eat in Orpington High Street. With around forty cafes and restaurants spread through its entire length there must be somewhere to suit most tastes? Or is there?

One more new and very welcome arrival on the scene is a lovely spacious contemporary and bright cafe called Finch House.

Finch House provide a delightful selection of light and fresh breakfasts, lunches, soups and pastries, catapulting them within weeks of opening to being one of most popular refreshment stops in Orpington High Street.

It's a great place for meeting people too with several good sized tables. If you need to charge your phone or browse on the laptop it is



fully equipped with power, network and USB sockets.

The food is simple but fresh and of very high quality, with a good selection to suit all tastes.

HOW DOES IT RATE?

- Atmosphere** ☆☆☆☆☆
- Food** ☆☆☆☆☆
- Service** ☆☆☆☆☆
- Price** ☆☆☆☆☆



Bromley Youth Council Campaign Trail Underway

Bromley Youth Council are embarking on their 2016 elections.

Around 102 young people will stand to be elected from 16 schools and youth groups around the borough and 15,980 young people will take part in the exercise to elect 40 Youth Councillors to represent the views of young people in Bromley. Follow the progress via the Facebook page www.facebook.com/Bromleyyouthcouncil/.

Between 25 January and 5 February candidates will campaign in their schools and pupils will have a chance to elect their chosen

representatives in a ballot.

The Bromley Youth Support Service helps to facilitate the elections and to ensure everything is conducted fairly. All those elected to the Bromley Youth Council will attend a Manifesto event at the Warren in Hayes on Thursday 10 March to plan their campaigns for the year ahead. Young people will vote on their top two issues to be campaigned on by Bromley Youth Council for 2016/17.

Previous Manifestos have covered important topics, such as travelling safely, mental health issues and bullying. Each year

Bromley's Youth Council work to raise awareness of issues that are important to young people and work with politicians, and others, to ensure the views of young people are considered when decisions are taken.

Executive Member for the Education Portfolio, Cllr Peter Fortune said: "Young people have a right to be involved and have their voices heard in decisions that will impact upon them. We welcome the input of local young people through their elected representatives and look forward to hearing more about their Manifesto plans later in the year."

Orpington Cinema Opening Imminent

The seven screen cinema that was promised to Orpington to be open in 2014 is finally due to open its doors to the public.

With audience seating for over 950 it should be more than capable to

fulfill the needs of the local community.

The Odeon 7 screen cinema includes an ISENSE high-definition screen with premier seats and uses Dolby Atmos sound technology, a system still very new in

the UK.

The cinema includes a variety of small food outlets, popcorn, confectionery and pizza etc. within the premises. Passers-by will however have noticed that other food outlets are now

taking residence in the surrounding new shop units, Bella Italia being the first identifiable offerings.

With the opening proposed in time for Easter we can expect to see, very shortly, what films will be on offer for the local film going public.

WATCH THIS SPACE!!



Court Road / Warren Road Accidents

Tuesday 5th January late evening 23.00

It would appear that a car approaching the junction from the Chelsfield Station side of Warren Road, drove over the central island, destroying the two bollards as well as the lamp post supporting the junction traffic detector. The remains of these ended up the other side of the junction, together with large parts of the front end of a Mercedes car. A local resident reported seeing a car that looked as if it was on its roof, with at least 4 police cars at the scene, restricting access to Court Rd until the remains of the car was removed some hours

later. An ambulance also attended.

Residents may also remember an accident at the same spot a few weeks ago involving two cars, one of which smashed the railings at the entrance to Chelsfield

Village, as well as taking out a street light.

The image shows the resultant traffic island with its remaining stump of a lamp post. The remains of the bollards and post can be seen in the distance, the other side of Court Road.



We would like to thank

CHELSEFIELD PARK HOSPITAL for their sponsorship printing the Chelsfield Village Voice



Council Prosecutes Same Man Three Times

On Tuesday 19 January 2016, Mr Warren Day was found guilty on three counts of breaching an Abatement Notice at Bexley Magistrates Court, in the Council's third successful prosecution since the Notice was served on him five years ago. Mr Day of Perth Road, Beckenham denied all charges, however, Magistrates found in favour of the London Borough of Bromley on all three charges and he

was fined a total of £225, ordered to pay £500 costs and a £20 victim surcharge. The original Notice instructing Mr Day to cease playing loud music was served in December 2011. On the 4 December 2014, a Bromley Council Noise Officer witnessed loud amplified music heard from a neighbour's property and was satisfied of a breach of the Notice. From the evening of 14

January 2015 until the early hours of 15 January 2015, the Council obtained audio recordings of loud amplified music emanating from Mr Day's property. Further recordings were obtained from the evening of 16 January 2015 until the early hours of 17 January 2015. Following a review of these recordings, the Council was satisfied that there had been two further breaches of the Notice.

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,
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

BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital

Main Reception

01689 877855

Helpline

0845 6032932

Physiotherapy

01689 885914

Councillors

Keith Onslow

keith.onslow@bromley.gov.uk

Samaris Huntington-Thresher

020 8464 3333

samaris.huntington-thresher@bromley.gov.uk

Lydia Buttinger

lydia.buttinger@bromley.gov.uk

Chelsfield Village Voice

chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com

Chelsfield Primary School

01689 825827

BT Line Faults 0800 800151

EDF Electrical Power Failure
08007838866

Thames Water Emergencies
0845 9200800

Transco Gas Emergency Service 0800 111999

Bromley Police Station & Police non emergency 101

Samaritans 01689 833000

Safer Neighbourhood Team 020 8721 2605

Chelsfield Village Hall (bookings) **01689 831826** or email to: cvhlettings@gmail.com

Chelsfield Players

info@chelsfieldplayers.org

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
Contact Anne on
01689 826349

EVERY MONDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall

Pilates Class

6.30pm-7.30pm
Contact Francesca on
07791073445

EVERY TUESDAY

Brass Crosby Room

St Martin's Toddler Group

10.30am-12.00 midday
Now also 13.00 - 14.30
Contact Sarah Ford:
01689 853415
smartinstoddlers@gmail.com

EVERY TUESDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall

Pilates Class

09.00am - 10.00am
10.00am -11.00am and
11.00am to 12.00 midday
Contact Francesca on
07791073445

EVERY TUESDAY

The Chelsfield (Windsor Dr)

Quiz Night

From 7.30pm
Contact 01689600656

EVERY TUESDAY

Five Bells

Charity Quiz Night

from 9.00pm

EVERY WED & FRI

Pilates Classes

Chelsfield Methodist Church
Hall, Windsor Drive
Wed 8.00pm -9.00pm Fri-
day 9.35am-10.35am
Contact Bethany Lucas on
07415 638546
bethanylucaspilates@gmail.com

EVERY WEDNESDAY

(from 13th January 2016)
Christ Church Hall
(Charterhouse Rd)

Pilates Class

09:00am-10:15am
Private classes by
appointment.
Contact Sally 07786 035640

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Hatha Yoga Classes

10.30am-12.00am
Contact Pam Keeper on
01732 458930

EVERY THURSDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall

Art Classes

10.00am -12.00midday Con-
tact Leo 07583777065
leo77ok@hotmail.com

EVERY THURSDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall

Class Street Dance

4.30pm-6.00pm
Boys & Girls All Ages

EVERY THURSDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall

Pilates Class

6.30pm-7.30pm
Contact Francesca on
07791073445

EVERY FRIDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall

Pilates Class

3.00pm-4.00pm
Contact Francesca on
07791073445

EVERY SUNDAY

The Chelsfield (Windsor Dr)

Live Singer

5.00pm-8.00pm
Contact 01689600656

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday 6th February

Five Bells

Evening of BURNING FEET

The Firewalk Challenge for
Charity - Don't Miss This!!!

Wednesday 10th February (2nd Wednesday of Month)

Chelsfield Village Hall

Afternoon W.I.

Newcomers Welcome
Contact Irene 01689 835143

Tuesday 16th February (3rd Tuesday of Month)

Chelsfield Village Hall

Evening W.I.

Newcomers Welcome
From 7.45pm
Contact
Madeline 01689891533

Wednesday 17th February

Five Bells

Open Mic Night

So all you budding
musicians out there, come
along and have a go!
Starts at 8.30pm

Thursday 18th February (3rd Thursday each month)

Brass Crosby Room
Local History Group
10.30am

Wednesday 2nd March

Five Bells

Open Mic Night

So all you budding
musicians out there, come
along and have a go!
Starts at 8.30pm

Sunday 29th May

The Meadows
Chelsfield Park
Open Garden
From 10.30am
Children Very Welcome