

November 2011



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



THE CHELSFIELD PLAYERS 75 Years 1936 - 2011

CHAIRMAN Mr Anne Allcock High Trees, Hunters Walk, Knockholt TN14 7NW Tel:- 01959 833 476 Email: Anne.Allcock@btinternet.com
SECRETARY Mr Jeremy Walls 72 Avalon Road Orpington Kent BR6 9BA Tel:- 01689 835 089 Email: jpwalls@btworld.com
TREASURER Mr Bernard West 'Chubby' 15a Hill Staversock Kent TN11 4GJR Tel:- 01732 750 205 Email: westacoundtheworld@hotmail.com

Booking notice to all Mailing List members

An opera house, a soprano, a phantom, plus a cast of witches, footpads, trolls, a cheesemaker and a very naughty recipe book. It can only be

Terry Pratchett's

Maskerade

adapted by Stephen Briggs

Performances on

Tuesday 22, Wednesday 23, Thursday 24, Friday 25 and Saturday 26 November 2011 at 8.00pm also Saturday 26 November at 2.30pm

in the Chelsfield Village Hall, Bucks Cross Road, Chelsfield BR6 7RE (opposite the 5 Bells)

Doors open a half hour before the performance starts

You are invited to purchase tickets at £7.00 each (including refreshments)

(Please make cheques payable to 'The Chelsfield Players')

Booking from Tuesday 18 October

For this production, please book using one of the following options:

- Phone: Bernard West 01732 750205 Brenda Payne 01689 831187
Post (and deliveries by hand): The Secretary % 72 Avalon Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 9BA
email: Chelsfield.Players@gmail.com
On line: chelsfieldplayers.ticketsource.co.uk (Note, a 10% booking fee will be applied)

If you would like any flyers please contact the Secretary. We look forward to seeing you. Thank you for your continued support.

You are receiving this e-mail because you are on our email data base. If you no longer wish to receive notification, please contact us.

Visit our web site at www.chelsfieldplayers.org

In This Issue:

The Oak 2
Willie Austen Report 3
Chelsfield Park Hospital 4
Broadband Speed 5
Village Society AGM 5
Chelsfield Remembers 6
All Creatures Great 7
Village Xmas Social 7
Turn Back Time 8
Local History Group 9
People of Court Lodge 10
Foodbank Talk 11
Cartoons Carols & Verse 12
Village Green 12
Energy from Waste 13
The Snow Merchant 14
Physio Unit Launch 14
Our Sponsors 15
Useful Contacts 15
Dates for Your Diary 16

Contributions PLEASE !

villagevoice@chelsfield.org or posted to: Chelsfield Village Voice 2 Bucks Cross Cottages Chelsfield Village BR67RN

By the 28th November please

Visit www.chelsfieldevents.co.uk

The Oak

This month I'm going to talk about a plant, the oak, rather than an animal. This species (*quercus*) has many varieties, the most common being English and Durmast (or Sessile). However, the species includes many more, for example Red; Pin; Turkey; Holm; Lucombe; Downy and Cork. Most of these come from North America and Europe and tend not to thrive as well as the native species. It seems that this species very easily inter-breeds with other forms of oak, creating around 600 species world wide and it is something of a mystery how each sub-species maintains its identity.

The English and Sessile oaks can be most easily identified by both the structure of the tree and the stalks leading to the acorns. The English oak tends to be shorter with powerful beams leading from the trunk at relatively low heights while the Sessile tends to be straighter with less

dominant branches. The powerful beams of the English oak were historically used to build timber 'men of war' and the tale goes that rich land owners would poison their oaks to cause the branches to become twisted and therefore useless to ship

many decades. The other means of identification is the acorn stalk, the English oak having long stalks while those of the Sessile have short or absent stalks. The word acorn comes from the Danish word 'koen' meaning simply 'oak seed' and good



builders who had the right to take any oak they pleased. This seems difficult to believe as oaks would take many years to become deformed and few land owners would have the presence of mind to do something that would only take effect after

crops of acorns only occur every few years during 'mast' years. Acorns are poisonous to many species (including humans) due to the high levels of tannin present but are a great source of food to squirrels, mice and many birds. One of the domesticated

animals that do enjoy acorns are pigs that even today are often left to forage during the 'pannage' season, a word that comes from the French 'pesner' meaning to 'grub with the snout'.

Probably the best example of an English oak in the village is on Warren road as you enter from the orpington by-pass. The big powerful beams arc over you as

you pass below. There is another example on Hawstead road, and I think on Jubilee Rd, but generally the Village is not well endowed with oaks. However, the prevalence increases as one travels further into Kent, there being some fine examples on Shoreham lane although as one approaches Shoreham, the Sessile species dominates. A

few good examples of English oak were lost during the great storm of 1987 when Shoreham lane became impassable for a week or more due to a number of these huge trees laying prostrate across the road. Happily oaks are a protected tree and so the inhabitants of Chelsfield will be able to enjoy them in perpetuity.

Steve Fuller

Willie Austen & Family Report

"Well done Terry Sparkes, family and friends.

The evening of Saturday 22nd October 2011 saw the inaugural fundraising event for local good causes, hopefully the first of many. The event was deftly organised and well attended by people from the village and surrounding areas who were treated to the superb acoustic pop and rock covers from the 50's and 60's. As ever, Charlie's solo set did not disappoint. This was a fantastic way to have an enjoyable evening, spend time with friends and yet still raise

money for local good causes.

Together with ticket sales, refreshments and a raffle on the evening the event not only managed to cover the cost of the band and refreshments but raised a total of £80; this time for the Cricket Club.

Thanks have to go to Terry Sparkes, family and friends for putting on a fantastic night of entertainment and we look forward to the next event which is tentatively pencilled in for Spring 2012.

We've learnt some lessons from this inaugural show that we can build on for the next event; the memory of this successful event together with a longer run-up to the event, better advertising and word-of-mouth recommendation should hopefully increase the numbers attending, thus ensuring that we are able to raise even more for the next chosen local good cause.

Watch this space!"
Many thanks

Peter Lamond
Treasurer
Chelsfield Village Fair

BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital

Chelsfield Village's best kept secret

You'd be forgiven if you'd never heard of BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital, "We're the villages best kept secret", commented the hospital's Executive Director, Ruth Hoadley, at a recent meeting with the Chelsfield Village Voice. But the hospital, located on Bucks Cross Road, is part of BMI Healthcare, Britain's leading provider of independent healthcare and as Ruth commented during our meeting, "We are part of a major hospital network and treat both private and NHS patients alike. Our consultant, nurses and staff are an integral part of life within the local community. As a hospital we sponsor the local cricket team and junior football team and have in the past supported both the local scout group and school. But, we want to do more and we are keen to start in our local community so that more people become aware of us and embrace the medical expertise

and facilities right on their doorstep."

With that it looks like the villages 'best kept secret' won't be hidden away for very much longer.

Ruth has been an Executive Director at Chelsfield Park Hospital for over 2 years and in that time she has overseen a series of new developments and changes at the hospital. These changes, "a natural progression", she commented, have allowed the hospital to become a leading medical centre in the fields of weight loss surgery, orthopaedic surgery, gastroenterology, gynaecology and assisted conception (IVF), but the 46 bed hospital building hasn't always been used for medical purposes. The hospital's main building is set back away from the main road in beautiful grounds more akin to something out of Downton Abbey. Indeed the oldest parts of the hospital including the main entrance, reception, administration offices and

even some of the larger patient rooms were built in the early part of the 19th century when the building was a Rectory. The Reverend Dr Tarleton, who commissioned the building, was wealthy and gave generously to both the Chelsfield and Farnborough parishes and played a large part in the preservation of the church in Chelsfield. However, as his financial position deteriorated, he suddenly died in 1849 and his estate was left in disarray. Two further rectors succeeded him, Rector Foliott Baugh and Reverend Nutt. Reverend Nutt finally sold the house along with 38 acres of land to Edward Norman in 1904.

Edward Norman did much to develop the building and acquired more land to expand his estate. However, he lost control of the house at the beginning of World War II, and it was during this period that the building was first used as a hospital to treat wounded soldiers. After World War II the house was aban-

done and left to fall in to disrepair. Eventually a developer converted it in to a Country House Hotel and it stayed like this up until the early 1980's. It was during this time the hospital started to take shape as the hospital it is now, an extension was added and the building

became BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital. "We are extremely proud of our hospital and its heritage and hope that in the future our hospital will become more active, more visible and more a part of village like", Ruth concludes.

BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital will be putting forward its consultants for upcoming features in The Chelsfield Village Voice. If you would like to know more about any specific medical topic please email me on ruth.hoadley@bmihealthcare.co.uk

Village Broadband Speeds

I thought that Chelsfield had one of the lowest Broadband speeds, (although it does seem to got a little faster recently), but it would appear lightning fast compared to the residents of Mount Pleasant in Halesworth, Suffolk, who from a survey undertaken by uswitch, have the UK's slowest broadband speed with an average download speed of just 0.128 megabytes per second (Mb/s). Chelsfield village is around 10 times faster.

Leamington Spa appears to be the fastest town, with an average download speed of 18.87 Mb/s

The research by www.uswitch.com is based on more than 1.5 million speed tests taken between March and August 2011, it appears that England's southern counties had the lowest broadband speeds.

In their list of the 50 slowest streets for broadband, all are slower than 0.5 Mb/s. The nearest entry to us is - Marlings Park Avenue,

Chislehurst, Greater London, at position 16 with a speed of 0.324Mb/s.

Let's hope that BT's proposed upgrade of our rural Broadband happens ASAP.

Superfast Broadband update

The Orpington exchange's upgrading to this service has fallen behind schedule and is now projected to be completed in March 2012. You can check progress by visiting www.superfast-openreach.co.uk

Village Society AGM

This is to be held on Tuesday 29th November at 7.30pm.

The venue is expected to

be the Brass Crosby Room, but there have been booking difficulties. If there is a change a notice

will be displayed on the village notice board and at the entrance to the church car park.

Chelsfield Remembers

In May 2008, Shoreham Aircraft Museum unveiled a beautiful stone memorial to Sgt John Ellis, a Hurricane pilot from 85 Squadron who perished when his aircraft crashed in a field between Warren Road and The Highway on 1st September

decided it would be nice to hold a minute's silence at the memorial on Remembrance Sunday to honour those who have perished in both World Wars and more recent conflicts. It was suggested that funds from Chelsfield Flying Club who fi-

to give as many as possible the opportunity to join us at the Memorial to observe a minute's silence after the wreath-laying which will take place at 11am on Sunday 13th November. It is not intended that there be any formal ceremony – more a chance to put aside some time to personally remember those who fought and continue to fight for our freedom.

Some of you may already be attending Remembrance Services but if you are not and would like to spend some reflective time with us, please pop along just before 11am on the 13th.

The Memorial, for those unfamiliar with its location, is on the grass bridlepath which runs from Court Road to Chelsfield Station alongside Warren Road and is approximately opposite Court Lodge Farm/Chelsfield Motor Works.



1940. A number of these stone memorials have been unveiled as part of the Museum's wonderful Local Memorials project which seeks to honour all pilots who crashed during World War 2 within 10 miles of the Museum.

Last year, the committee of Chelsfield Village Fair

nance the Spitfire display at the Fair each year could pay for a wreath on behalf of the Village and the 2010 event was moving although the attendance was rather small due to the last minute nature of the decision to mark the occasion.

This year we would like

*Dave Griffiths
Vice-Chairman
Chelsfield Village Fair*

...All Creatures Great and Small...

I was interested in reading the article on 'The Weasel' in the October edition of Chelsfield Village Voice. Quite often I am the first one at St Martin's Church on a Sunday morning and when I have prepared the church for the first service often sit quite still and silent staring into the churchyard.

It was only a few weeks ago that whilst doing this I saw a weasel (no black tip to its tail!) its head popped up from behind a gravestone, it watched me for some time. Then it ran to another stone popped up again and again watched me for a while. Having done this several times it made its way across the churchyard – fairly fast, and disappeared from view.

Sitting quietly in the

churchyard allows you to see many creatures small and large, we

have rabbits and foxes, badgers and weasels. This year we have more squirrels than I have ever seen before. Also tiny things which I think are shrews. I was watched one day by an owl sitting in a dead tree. We also have the parakeets which appeared in the area a few years back. There are woodpeckers and all the usual song birds. I was surprised to see two ducks (from next doors pond) walking solemnly across the church lawn one morning. We also have the proverbial church mouse – or in our case mice!

But the thing that really surprised and delighted me was to look up from my book out into the

churchyard and see just a few yards away a most beautiful deer. It studied me for quite

some time with its large dark eyes then suddenly kicked up its heels and was away. This to date is the only deer I have seen there

But it is not just creatures, there are many wild flowers and plants. A botanist once counted over 60 different wild flowers in the churchyard in one day – it depends on the time of year of course but it is always worth a visit.

The church is open every day so do come and have a look both inside and out. There are many seats dotted around the churchyard and you are always welcome.

Ann Blatcher

Village Christmas Social

The Chelsfield Village Christmas Social is a wonderful end to each year and chance to celebrate the start of the festive holiday season with

your friends and neighbours. Bring some food and drink to share to the Brass Crosby Room, 8.00pm on Tuesday 21st December.

Should current booking difficulties lead to a change of venue. We will notify you in the next, December, Village Voice.

Turn Back Time

Here are some of the services we had in Chelsfield Village not so very long ago.

I remember well:

Charterhouse Garage, Jack Setters, when you pulled in would come to your vehicle, put in the amount you asked for (without you getting out of your car), wipe your windscreen, take your money and wish you a good day.

Smallwoods the bakers would come to your door three times a week with a basket full of bread and

goodies for mum to buy.

The milkman who came to every house in the village every day of the week. The dustman who actually came to your door, took the bin out and emptied it, and then brought it back again.

Neals Stores, they would stand, waiting at their counter, when you went in and asked for something, they would pop off and fetch for you, there was even a chair at the end of the counter for older people who could not

stand for too long.

The village man, my father, Bill Hogben was employed by the local council to keep all the verges and hedges cut, he was very proud of his work.

The postman George Alwen who delivered every day including Christmas Day.

Times change, they call it progress, I think not. I have many happy memories of my life in Chelsfield.

Bob Hogben

*Chelsfield Shops 1860
courtesy Philip Lane*



Local History Group

The subject of the October meeting, addressed by Paul Rason, was escapers and evaders of World War II. Whilst searching details of prisoners of war at the Kew records office Paul came across a file on escaped and “home run” prisoners. Around 3000 prisoners escaped and got back to England. They were then interrogated to make sure they had not been turned into spies and to gather information about evasion tactics and escape routes. This interrogation was carried out by a department known as MI9. This department was responsible for designing escape paraphernalia such as compasses in buttons and maps sewn in uniforms. Escape kit was pooled in prisoner of war camps and controlled by the escape committees.

There were 2 types of escapees, those who had been imprisoned in POW camps and those who had evaded capture. These escapees managed by using their wits and with the support of the resistance movement. Much was learned by the interrogation process and is incorporated in “E&E” – escape and evasion exercises today as

part of forces training. Commandos, if captured, were always shot as they were feared by the enemy.

Paul handed round copies of the interrogation reports in which the escapees described how they escaped and/or managed to avoid capture. Some luck was involved. Many of the local French populace took huge risks helping the escapees, providing shelter and provisions and introducing them to the Maquis. Others were apparently helpful but passed their charges over to the Germans.

Some escapees managed to stay at large for 2 years before returning home, spending their time working on French farms. Reading through the reports we discovered that some escapees were extraordinarily persistent and ingenious, escaping 5 or 6 times before finally making their home run. Stanford Tuck, a wing commander stationed at Biggin Hill took off in January 1942 as part of a “rhubarb” operation, designed to mess up the German fighter planes by looking for dog fights. He was shot down by low level flak and captured. He was

involved in many escape plans and finally made it home after escaping during a withdrawal march. He settled in Maidstone and ran a mushroom farm.

A number of escapees have written books about their escapades. Among them are Airey Neave, Colditz escapee, who was second in command at MI9, Eric Williams, who lived at Chislehurst, wrote the Wooden Horse and Captain Pat Reid, Escape From Colditz, both the latter becoming films. A book, Wingless Victory, was written about Sir Basil Embry, whose wife was stationed at Biggin Hill, escaped after being shot down and continued to fly all types of planes, even though he had achieved the rank of Air Vice Marshall. Having been an escapee, it was important that, if captured again, he would not be recognized so he flew under the name of squadron Leader Smith. He also wrote his autobiography, Mission Completed.

Paul pondered how difficult it must have been for these men to return to their previous lives after such experiences.

“People of the Court Lodge 1066 to 1920” (Part 1)

A Talk by Geoffrey Copus

On Saturday October 8th about 60 invited people gathered in the billiard room of Court Lodge to listen to this local history talk. The proceeds were to be donated to the Village Hall.

Geoff began by saying it was very imaginative and kind of Sarah Needham to invite him to give the presentation today and that he was gratified that so many people have come here to this lovely house and particularly beautiful room. He was pleased that the funds raised would benefit the Village Hall.

Geoff has gathered the information from many diverse sources. In a passage from one which particularly appealed the author wrote that to judge by some of the older local histories one would think that the parish had been peopled exclusively by the parson, the squire and their relations.

The very earliest person we know to have lived in a house on this site was a gentleman called Ernulf de Hesding, otherwise Ernulf de Chelsfield, Lord of the Manor. Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, the half-brother of William the Conqueror gave him this Manor. Geoff showed a photograph taken of the beautiful charter dated 1143. The name of the parish has been mis-spelled but the Charter itself actually states that Ernulf and his family signed it

at Chelsfield, and where else would this have happened than in the Manor House on this site? The de Chelsfields continued in possession of the Manor for some two more centuries, but so far as I am aware the only visible memorial to them is the massive stone with barely legible inscription to the memory of a later William de Chelsfield in Halstead church.

We know a good deal more about Otho de Grandison, the Lord of the Manor who died in 1358, because his will has survived. Although the family's main residence was in Devon he himself was evidently attached to Chelsfield. He laid down that he was to be buried in the chapel of St. John of Chelsfield if he happened to die here. In the event, he must have been living in Devon at his death, as there is a massive monument to his memory in St. Mary Ottery church, with his effigy on it. A photograph of the effigy showed what the old warrior would have looked like. He was evidently proud of his enormous moustache, the longest Geoff has ever seen on a monumental effigy. It is an interesting thought that, had Otho died here, we could well have had such a monument in St. John's chapel today.

There is no further record of the inhabitants of Court Lodge until until the surviving Manorial records commence in the 17th century. In the mid 17th

century the Manor of Chelsfield had descended to the six sisters of Henry Lee, and by a complicated series of transactions all six portions were eventually acquired by Thomas Norton, who thus became Lord of the Manor. His son Graveley Norton succeeded him. It seems likely that it was he who rebuilt the house, substantially in its present form, in the late seventeenth century.

The Norton family lived at the Court Lodge for almost a century, their direct line finishing with Thomas Norton, Graveley's son, who died in 1749 and has that little monument with a rather frightening skull in St. John's chapel. After passing through other hands, the house and the Manor were acquired in 1758 by James Maud, a prosperous wine merchant, who died in 1769.

His only child, Mary, only 30 but already the widow of the Rev. John Tattersall, inherited from her father £20,000 in the Funds, the Manor of Chelsfield, the Court Lodge and the many broad acres in Chelsfield which went with it, plus an annuity of £1000 from her late husband. In 1769 she moved her furniture from Gatton in Surrey to the Court Lodge. Mary evidently decided that she would not need to keep the whole house for herself, or of course to farm the land that went with it, so by an agreement of the same year she let part of the house, together with

the dovehouse, wellhouse, granary, barns, stables, cart-house and other buildings, with the orchard, garden, yard and much of the land to Robert Harris.

A very eligible widow, particularly in the days long before the Married Women's Property Act, Mary Tattersall married the celebrated Alderman Brass Crosby in 1772, and in the archives at the Centre for Kentish Studies at Maidstone there is an enormous Marriage Settlement, designed to protect her interests as well as to secure the reversion of her property to any issue the couple should have.

Brass Crosby had a very interesting career. His fame arises from an incident in 1771 when he was Lord Mayor and Chief Magistrate of the City of London. He was briefly imprisoned in the Tower for refusing to convict a printer who had published an account of the proceedings of Parliament, then considered a punishable offence. His own imprisonment led to riots and he was released amid scenes of great jubilation. In 2002 he was honoured by the Borough of Bromley, with a Blue Plaque being placed in Church Road, the nearest public place to the Court Lodge. One of the speakers at the blue plaque unveiling had been the Editor of Hansard, who commented that he felt grateful to Brass Crosby for having in effect created his job. The unveiling

ceremony was a quiet, well-conducted and very English affair. Leslie Virgo the Rector spoke movingly about the sense of continuity encompassing all who had ever lived in the parish, blessed the plaque, and then invited us all

into St. Martin's. Here a large memorial candle had been lit before Alderman Crosby's fine monument, and we were able to see the original parish register, opened at the page where Crosby's burial in 1793 is recorded.



**You are invited to a
Talk
by Mary Beckingham from**



**Come and hear about the
work of the foodbank
at
Orpington Methodist Church
on 16th November at 8pm
Admission is almost free!
You are just asked to
COME WITH A TIN**

Cartoons, Carols and Verse

Hi Folks!

After 30 years of pub singing, and with a lot of help from son Nick, we have produced a high quality full colour,

professionally printed version of my **Christmas Carol Book**. Containing 40 songs and carols (including 5 of my own, with music bar lines) it

makes an ideal reference for all those well known carols. The first run is only 100 and they sell at the special introductory price of £2 plus 75p p/p if posted. I can now then offer not only my two cartoons/verse books **"Out of My Mind"** volumes **1 & 2**, but also my sheep cartoons, **"Bar Lambs"**. These are £5 each plus £1.50 p/p. Clipbound with acetate flysheet. Might make good Christmas gifts? Bar Lambs was enjoyed by Adam Henson of BBC Countryfile! I have the letter to prove it!

If you don't have our address, it's:
 Holly Cottage,
 49 Homestead Road,
 Orpington
 BR6 6HN.

With best wishes

Philip Lane



From The Open Spaces Society - Village Greens

Town and village greens are the essence of rural England and Wales. Story-book images of village greens tend to be of an expanse of grass in the

centre of a village complete with oak tree and seat, or a carefully-manicured recreation ground just outside the village, where cricket is

played in the lengthening shadows of a summer evening, and the villagers dance round the may-pole. In fact they are much more than that,

and very varied.

A green is any land on which a significant number of inhabitants of any area has indulged in lawful sports and pastimes, for 20 years, as of right.

Chelsfield Village Society have contacted our councillors with a view to registering the village cricket field as a village green. No reply has been received yet at the time of writing.

How can I protect the land?

If you can prove that local people have used the land without secrecy, force or permission for at

least 20 years for lawful sports and pastimes, you can apply to register the land as new green. This will protect it from development for ever and preserve it for use by local people.

You will need to show that a significant number of those people who use the land are local people.

You will need to show that those using the green have done so without permission, without being stopped or seeing notices which stop them, and without being secretive about it, and that between them they have done this for a continuous period of 20 years.

Protecting Village Greens

Under section 29 of the Commons Act 1876, together with section 12 of the Inclosure Act 1857, a person who:

encroaches on, or encloses a town or village green or a recreation ground allotted by an inclosure award, or

erects anything on, disturbs or interferes with that green or ground otherwise than for its better enjoyment for its proper purpose may, on the information of any inhabitant of the parish in which the green is situated, be summarily convicted by the magistrates' court and fined at level 1 on the standard scale.

Energy From Waste in Well Hill

You may be interested in this consultation which WILL affect Well Hill.

It relates to a site number 104 which is located near to the roundabout at the end of the M25 link road. It is about 500 yards from houses in Well Hill Lane. Most properties in Well Hill are within 1 mile of the site. It is about 1 mile from Chelsfield Village.

This area of land has been put forward for use as a biomass facility which would use waste wood to generate electricity. The material would arise from a range of sources included Commercial & Industrial and Municipal Solid Waste, 60% of which would be sourced from Kent.

The proposer (CD Waste Management Limited) of

this site says "The site is proposed for an energy from waste facility which would use waste wood to generate electricity. Wood would be sourced from within a 30 mile radius of the site and be transported by road with approximately 24 lorry movements per day. The site has potential access to the road network particularly the M25 and A224. The site is located

within the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a County Wildlife Site and part is Ancient Woodland and consideration would need to be given to the impact of the proposal on the surrounding area. Open storage of wood

waste in such a sensitive environment could adversely impact on the designated areas. There are no residential properties within close proximity of the site and the proposal has the opportunity to provide local employment opportunities. "

It will be discussed at Shoreham Parish Council's Planning Committee meeting on Thursday 3rd November from 7:30pm. The meeting will be held at Badgers Mount Memorial Hall, Orpington By Pass, Badgers

The Snow Merchant - Sam Gayton

Sam Gayton was a local boy who attended the Highway School.

His beautifully illustrated book is the perfect winter gift for boys or girls aged 9 to 11. the book, *The Snow Merchant* has received many glowing reviews both in the press and online. "A wonderful tale of alchemy, intrigue and the creation of snow. Featuring a boy with a stalk growing from his shoulder, a woman composed of air and a pigeon fashioned from clay, *The Snow Merchant* is

astounding in its imagination and creativity. At times it reminded me of the works of Enid Blyton or Philip Pullman but I am certain that I have never read anything quite this inventive before."

The Snow Merchant is the type of book that defies rating scales as I would give it six out of five stars if I could. Needless to say, it gets five out of five stars and I wholeheartedly recommend it. Whatever you do, make sure you get hold of this book this winter.



Paralympic Hopeful Helps Relaunch Physio Unit

BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital today officially announced the launch of its new look physiotherapy department. The new unit, located on the second floor of the Bromley Hospital, offers treatments and dedicated facilities across a wide range of conditions, from common back

pain, to more complex post-trauma rehabilitation. The unit was officially opened by David Goddard, a Chelsfield Park Hospital physiotherapy patient and 2016 Paralympic hopeful.

David was invited to launch the physiotherapy service and unveil the new depart-

ment at a special event held for Chelsfield Park Hospital staff and consultants. David, a former gymnast, has been a physiotherapy patient at Chelsfield Park Hospital for more than 12 years. After an accident ended his gymnastic career in 2005, David didn't give up on his sporting

ambitions and has since turned his hand to wheel chair rugby. He currently plays professionally for London and is hoping to make the squad for the 2016 Paralympics in Rio De Janeiro. Speaking at the launch of

the new department David comments, "It was an honour being asked to open the new physiotherapy department at Chelsfield Park Hospital. My physio, Gary, and all the team have been an amazing asset to me

over the past 12 years and I would like to thank everyone for the support they have provided me with. The new department looks amazing and everyone in the team and at the hospital should be very proud of it."

Chelsfield Park Hospital - Our Sponsors

We would like to thank Chelsfield Park Hospital, part of the BMI Group, for their very generous offer of printing the Chelsfield Village Voice each

month. Printing has always been a problem on our existing, somewhat worn out, equipment, and things always had a habit of going wrong at 1.00am

in the morning! We, in co-operation with the hospital, can now provide you with a much higher quality, full colour village magazine.

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.

Mobile Library

The mobile library stops outside Chelsfield Village School on Tuesdays between 11:15 and 11:45.

BMI

Chelsfield Park Hospital

Main Reception

01689 877855

Helpline

0845 6032932

Physiotherapy

01689 885914

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 Service
0800 111999

Orpington Police Station 1000-1800 Monday-Saturday 0300
1231212

Samaritans 01689 833000

NHS Direct 0845 4647

Safer Neighbourhood Team 020
8721 2605

Chelsfield Village Hall (bookings)

01689 855617

Village Neighbourhood Watch

Contact

John Leach 07711304965



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

Five Bells

Charity Quiz Night

from 9.00pm

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Hatha Yoga Classes

10.30am-12.00am

Contact Pam Keeper on

01732 458930

EVERY THURSDAY

St Martin of Tours Church

Viva Acappella

Ladies Barbershop Chorus
Practice

Contact Helen 07984

961696

SPECIAL EVENTS

Thursday 10th November
(2nd Thursday Each Month)
Brass Crosby Room

Crafts For All

Come and Try Your Hand
at a Range of Crafts

11.00am

Friday 11th November

The Five Bells

Rebecca Grace

Performs with a variety of
Music - Music from 9.00pm

Wednesday 16th November
(1st & 3rd Wednesdays)

Parish Room-Skibbs Lane

Internet Cafe & Local History Transcription

2.30-4.30pm

Wednesday 16th November

Orpington Methodist Church

Foodbank Talk

8.00pm

Wednesday 16th November

The Five Bells

Open Mic Night

Starts 8.30pm

Thursday 17th November
(3rd Thursday Each Month)

The Brass Crosby Room

Local History Group

10.15am

Thursday 17th November

The Five Bells

Beaujolais Nouveau Day

Special French Meal

Friday 18th November

The Five Bells

Charity Race Night

Racing Starts 8.00pm

22-26th November

Chelsfield Village Hall

Maskerade

Chelsfield Players Production
(See Front Cover)

Friday 25th November

The Five Bells

Fish Day

All Specials are Sea Food

Friday 25th November

The Five Bells

Mighty 45's Show

All sets are 45 minutes

Starts 8.30pm

Tuesday 29th November

Brass Crosby Room

Village Society AGM

Starts 7.30pm

Wednesday 30th November

The Five Bells

Open Mic Night

Starts 8.30pm

Thursday 1st December

The Five Bells

Live Jazz "Fix"

With "Just Friends"

Starts 8.30pm

Wednesday 7th December
(1st Wednesday each Month)
Orpington Village Hall

Country Market

10.00am-11.00am

Tuesday 21st December

Brass Crosby Room

Village Xmas Party

Starts 8.00pm
