



OCTOBER 2018

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CHELSEFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY



NEEDS YOU

GOD SAVE CHELSEFIELD

**Chelsfield Village Society Annual General Meeting
will be held on Wednesday November 7th at 8pm
in the Church Brass Crosby Room**

*All CVS members are invited to come along.
Note that the CVS is seeking new committee members. So, if
you are interested, please let us know on the night.
In addition, an update on present planning applications will be
given at the meeting.*

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Residents & Friends of Chelsfield Village

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What's Going On In and Around Chelsfield? Let Us Know!

You tell us what's going on
or planned, and we will pass
the details to the residents
and friends of Chelsfield
Please send anything you
feel suitable for the

November 2018 issue to:
chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com
or post to:

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

**to arrive by
Monday 29th October**

The Jay

Before I get onto the subject of this month's piece I'd just like to mention a great sighting of a kestrel that I had while on a recent break down in Cornwall. I was staying at a friend's place in the quaint old fishing port of Mevagissy which had great views along the coast to the north of that area. While admiring the view I realised that there was a kestrel sitting on a telegraph pole at the end of the garden. So I fixed a telephoto lens to my camera and slowly headed down the garden and to my surprise the bird stayed put allowing me to get some really good shots, one of which I have included below. Yes, I know they are relatively common but it was nice to be able to get close enough to get such a good view of him.

So this month I want to talk about the shy woodland bird the jay (*Garrulus glandarius*): a close relative of the magpie. It's a member of the corvid family (crows) and is indeed the most colourful of the British corvids and was once



described as the "British bird of paradise" due to the flash of electric blue on a general black and pink/brown plumage. In slang the word jay has a number of meanings. In the US it refers to somebody who chatters inpertinately while in the UK it has historically referred to showiness and Jay became a dismissive term for a flashy dresser or even a loose woman. Its bright plumage was often historically used by milliners, especially the lovely chequered blue and black covert feathers. The feathers are also highly prized for use in the making of fishing lures.

Although it has a similar reputation to that of the magpie it tends to eat

seeds and insects for most of the year but will take the young of other birds during the nesting season.

Jays are great spreaders of acorns which they bury away for the winter. In fact the Latin name *glandarius* means 'of acorns' such is the jay's preoccupation with them in the autumn. The jay's memory allows it to recall the location of possibly thousands of buried acorns although some will invariably be forgotten or never reclaimed and hence the jay must be a prolific broadcaster of oaks. The burying of acorns is not just an instinct but appears to be a task that is executed as part of a plan. This memory trick is an attribute that a number of different bird species possess and evolution has honed this ability to a very fine art in the pursuit of survival. Consequently the jay has high intelligence and appears to have the ability to even plan for the future.

Research conducted at Cambridge University has

shown that jays can mimic the crow in *Aesop's Fable about* the wise old crow dropping pebbles into a pitcher of water to raise the water level and allow her to drink. The Cambridge research recreated this fable to show that jays can, if need be, use pebbles in just this way.

On occasion the acorn harvest can fail in Europe and thousands of migrant birds flock over the North Sea to Britain. Unfortunately a European acorn harvest failure can also mean a British crop failure and the birds

continue to travel west looking for new food sources. During the last crop failure in September and October of 1983 the birds continued to travel west until large numbers of birds were seen in Cornwall. One observer noted a figure of 1800 seen within an hour near St Just. One would use the collective noun *party* or *band* of jays for such a large group of birds. Despite this occasional movement of birds back and forth across the North Sea this bird has great genetic variation across its range which spreads from Europe to

the east coast of Asia. Even the British and Irish populations are considered different races (*rufitergum* & *Hibernicus*) which are the British and Irish sub-groups of the family *Garrulus glandarius*.

Jays are very good mimics and it seems that mimicked sounds may be used by jays to transfer information such as using the sound of a predator as a warning. So, if a dog or a cat wanders by then jays have been known to 'bark' or 'meow' to warn other birds of the danger.

During the 19th century these birds suffered a great deal of persecution, particularly due to the game bird industry and numbers fell dramatically. Only during the 20th century have numbers recovered with the first pairs nesting in London again during 1920s. Since then the numbers have risen until, although not a common bird, it is also not considered rare either and can be seen, or often heard around the village all year round.



Steve Fuller
October 2018

Mutterings From The Millers

The spring barley was cut at the beginning of September and as thought was down on yield but the quality was reasonable under the circumstances. It should make malting though. The straw was obviously short, similar to the wheat but will be very welcome by the cattle farmers down in the West Country where it is destined.

Interestingly, where the cover crop was planted last autumn, the spring barley that was grown there was 25% better than on the unsown cover crop part of the field. You may remember, the cover crop consisted of phacelia, oil radish and oats. This year the mixture will be phacelia, oil radish and rye as we are bringing oats into our four-year rotation. As you probably have gathered, not our best harvest but the whole country and Europe have suffered the same. As you can see, the boys were pleased to have finished.

Delighted to report that the cover crop and winter wheat were planted in

mid September and just waiting for the barley seed to be delivered but as we had 27mls of rain over that very wet and windy weekend at the end of September, will have to wait for the ground to dry a little before we sow the barley seed. The oats will be planted in the spring behind the cover crop.

Pete has solved the problem over the missing crops on the boundary of the field with the footpath in next to Court road. For the past two years, sections measuring 3 x 25 metres have been missing under the trees. A bit technical but it seems that the drill

thought that the tractor wasn't moving as it had lost its GPS signal. After talking to our John Deere dealership, we now use the land wheel on the drill, which was solved by telling the computer to ignore the GPS! I will say no more but just pleased that the problem has been solved.

This is now our third year of not ploughing and using the direct drilling system and have been staggered by the changed in the soil structure, increased worm activity, less time spent on the fields and reduced costs ie plough points, fuel. Perhaps some gardeners could try



a no dig policy and see how they get on.

I hadn't seen any swallows for sometime and then two were weaving about the yard this morning, 23rd September, but I'm sure that by the time you read this, they will soon be off to sunny spots. A few chiff chaffs have been singing in the garden and I was lucky to spot them in the larch tree outside the house together with goldcrests.

The blue, great and coal tits visit the feeders together with goldfinches loving the niger seeds. Long tailed tits very occasionally come to the feeders but see and hear them in the trees. We don't see many spotted woodpeckers but the green ones and jays are regular visitors. Very surprised to see a tree creeper the other day too. We are lucky to see so many birds living next to the busy Warren Road, even the house sparrows

and dunnocks are happy flying in and out of the hedge alongside the road.

If you wish to enjoy the weather in October, plan an outing on the 18th, which is St Luke's Day as apparently it is often at the centre of a spell of particularly fine weather, know as St. Luke's little summer.

*Chris Miller
Court Lodge Farm*

Chelsfield Village Society AGM November 7th

The Chelsfield Village Society is looking for new committee members to bolster it's numbers and bring new ideas and added enthusiasm to the Society - 'new blood' to coin a phrase. The aims and objectives of the Society, as per the CVS Constitution, are (the full Constitution is available on the CVS website):

Aims and Objectives.

- Non-sectarian and non-political
- The protection of the interests of the individual and the community.

The improvement of the facilities and amenities of Chelsfield Village and preservation of the rural character of the area.

Encouraging the social life of the community.

Encouragement of high standards of architecture in the area and the preservation of the conservation and green belt concept.

Stimulate public interest in and care for the beauty, history and character of Chelsfield Village and the

immediate environment.

Pursuit of these ends by means of meetings, lectures, publications and other forms of social activity or publicity

Simply, care for the village and its community, and retain/improve the village culture and atmosphere.

The CVS Committee meets approximately every two months but really as and when required.

I have sensed a genuine 'coming together' and

collective goodwill in the village over the past few months, some might say difficult months, and it

would be good to carry this forward.

So, please come along to

the AGM and think about joining the committee.

Alan Johnson

Guided Autumn Walk



GUIDED AUTUMN WALK

Saturday 6th October

A Circular Walk around Chelsfield

**Starting at St. Martin's Church, Chelsfield
at 10.00am**

Approx 3.5 miles - some stiles to cross



**Tea and coffee
available from
9.30am**



**Brunch served
at the church
from 11.30am
£5**



Chelsfield Evening W.I.

This month's meeting was buzzing. We welcomed Tom Hart Dyke as our speaker who was very entertaining and funny and told us about his work at Lullingstone.

from captivity. Although his time in captivity was something no one could ever possibly imagine, his talk was humorous and our ladies laughed throughout.



So all in all a busy month for the Chelsfield Evening WI ladies.

If you would like to come and visit us and attend one of our meetings, our contact numbers are at the back of this magazine. You can attend three meetings free of charge with no obligation to join. If you would like to come then let us know in advance so we can give you a warm welcome.

You can also find us on twitter and Facebook, where you can view our full programme together with up and coming events.

Jules Phillips (President)



Afterward our ladies had the chance to talk to Tom whilst we all ate far too much delicious cake which was made by one of our ladies.

Although I grew up just down the road from Lullingstone, as a child I have only ever visited the roman villa. I am now planning to visit Lullingstone very soon to see Tom's work first hand.

We were also joined by the Chairman of the West Kent Federation, Annette Smith, who came to join us for the evening.

The sub groups, book club, and walking group continue to meet monthly, with further dates for lunch club and coffee club being arranged.

A group of our ladies also visited the Bethlam Gallery and Museum this month, where they viewed some amazing artwork.

Tom showed some wonderful photos of the world garden at Lullingstone that he has designed and built. He wowed the ladies with his story of being kidnapped in South America by suspected FARC guerrillas and how the world garden went from a design in a notepad to reality upon his release



Concert for St Martins

Griffiths Barnes Musical Collective!

**Sunday
21st October
2018**

**Music starts
4pm**

Tickets **£8** on
the door or from
**[ticketsource.co.uk/
chelsfieldevents](http://ticketsource.co.uk/chelsfieldevents)**
Includes light
refreshments

Featuring

Jazz

Lester Barnes - Saxophone
Henrietta Barnes - Bass
Dave Griffiths - Piano



Burntwood

Helen Griffiths - Electric
Cello
Dave Griffiths - Keyboards

Sax Duo/Trio

Beth Sawyer - Soprano
Saxophone
Dave Griffiths - Piano
Helen Griffiths - Electric
Cello

This concert is to raise funds for the continuing and very expensive upkeep of this wonderful church which is not far off 1,000 years old

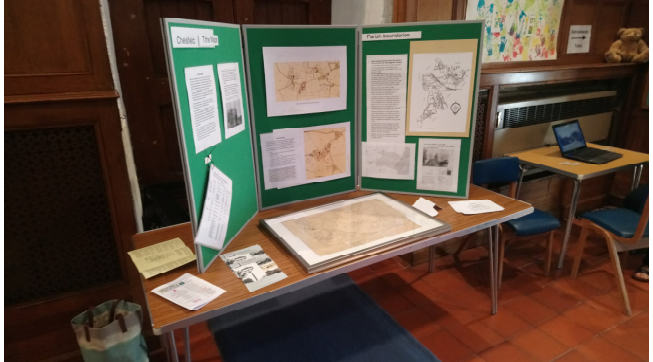
If you fancy staying for Evensong after the concert, the rector would be only too delighted to see some new faces.

And if you'd rather pop down to the Five Bells afterwards then they'd be equally pleased to see you! Or do both!

Painting: Sally Slade (sallyslade.weebly.com)

Heritage Open Day St Martin's - Report

Once again St Martin's took part in this nationwide cultural event which this year received a lot of publicity nationally. I think this probably helped with visitor numbers as we welcomed over 100 people in three hours, ten times the number of visitors last year.



A very big thank you to everyone that helped but particularly to Ann Blatcher and Pam Temple for putting so much time and effort into their detailed displays about church and village history, and Peter & Catherine Gandolfi for

researching and leading two very popular churchyard walks. And of course to the army of helpers who came forward to set up, make children's activities, serve refreshments, look after objects & displays, greet people, answer questions

and clear up afterwards - we truly couldn't have done it without you.

Put the weekend in your diary for next year!

Philippa Rooke

Chelsfield's Casualties of the First World War

There are several servicemen from the war memorial in St Martin's Church porch to commemorate, who died 100 years ago this month, and these are the last of the casualties who died during the course of the war.

The first is a late entry for last month, as I've only just found the information that makes the connection.

FREDERICK THEOBALD

Frederick Theobald was one of six names on the memorial I couldn't find details for. I could find several F or Frederick Theobalds who are listed as being casualties of WWI, but I couldn't find anything to link one of those to Chelsfield. I found a Frederick Theobald living in Green Street Green in 1911, and so I've used the information on

censuses and birth, marriage & death records to make an educated guess at which of the servicemen was 'our' Frederick. The Frederick Theobald in Green Street Green in 1911 was living with his wife Alice and two children in Flint (or Garden) Cottages; he's listed as born in Farnborough, Kent and he's a farm labourer. This Frederick is on the 1901 census living with his

parents John & Elizabeth in Ash Road, and he has the middle initial J. No service record survives that has any of this information to link it, but on the Army Registers of Soldier's Effects, the entry for one Frederick James Theobald lists his widow as 'Alice R'. An Alice Rose Kimber married a James Frederick Theobald at Chelsfield in 1905, and we have an Alice R and a Frederick James on the Soldier's Effects record. Frederick is listed on the 1891 census as James F so it looks like he swapped his two first names around at some point. I think all this is enough to assume this is probably 'our' Frederick, although research was slightly hindered by the fact that his surname is spelled differently (Theobald) on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.

If so, he was S/21984 Private Frederick Theobald of the 1st/28th Regiment of the Rifle Brigade, posted to the Artists' Rifles, and he was killed in action on 27th September 1918 in France. He is buried at Moeuvres Communal Cemetery Extension near Cambrai.



WILLIAM DENT

48859 Private William Dent of the 1st Battalion, the Northamptonshire Regiment, died of wounds on 23rd October 1918 aged 20, and is buried in the Highland Cemetery at Le Cateau in France. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission records show that William's mother was Ellen Golding of 7 Long Row, Green Street Green. Recently I've been doing some research to find William Golding, another of the six (now five) as yet untraced servicemen, and have come across letters from Ellen about the allowance she should be



paid as a soldier's wife with children. They show she was quite a character, and I will write about what I found in more detail another time.

They also show that William's family name was probably Dence not Dent. William was born in Belvedere, and in 1911 he's living at Maypole with mother & Thomas Golding. In 1901 he's living with Ellen and his father Harry Dence in Upper Abbey Road, Belvedere; Harry is a labourer and was born in East Malling.

HAROLD HESELDEN

290762 Private Harold William Heselden of the 1st Battalion, Bedfordshire Regiment (formerly the Huntingdon Cyclist Battalion) died at the VAD hospital at Ampthill on 26th October 1918 aged 27, and is buried in St Clement's churchyard in Skegness. Harold's surname is spelled Haselden on the war memorial but this appears to be an error as all records have it as above. The Bedfordshire Regiment were involved in the final 100 days of battle in 1918, and it seems that at some point Harold was injured and brought home to a hospital near regiment headquarters. I don't know



why he was buried in Skegness but perhaps his wife moved there.

Harold was the son of Walter and Susan, and in 1911 he's living with his widowed mother in Crown Road, Green Street Green, and gives his occupation as gardener. Also in the house is his sister Eleanor and her husband David Waters, whose name is also recorded on the memorial.

ARTHUR TRIM

115264 Driver Arthur Stanley Trim of the X 7th Trench Mortar Battery, Royal Field Artillery, died of wounds on 27th October 1918 aged 24, and is buried in the Giavera British Cemetery Arcade in Italy. He was the eldest son of Thomas and Mary Trim of 5 Chelsfield Lane, Green Street Green [the bottom end of World's End Lane].

In 1911 he is living with his mother and two brothers in Elm Road, and he is working as a grocer's assistant.

This census shows his mother was born in Portisham in Dorset, but he was born in Fulham. Further back in 1901 he, his mother and brother Frederick are living with his mother's father in Bradford Peverell in



Dorset. There is no sign of father Thomas on either of these censuses, but Mary is categorised as married rather than a widow, and Thomas is acknowledged on the war grave records, so perhaps his work took him away from home.

Arthur's Battery took part in the Passage of the Piave (23 October-4 November 1918) during the final Battle of Vittorio-Veneto, and it would probably have been during this action that he was injured, so close to the Armistice. The Italian

victory in this action marked the end of the war on the Italian Front, secured the dissolution of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and contributed to the end of the First World War just one week later. I'm nearing the end of this project, and I hope to publish it as a pamphlet to have in the church, and perhaps to sell for church funds, but some of this research was done late at night in time for a magazine deadline so I need to do a lot of cross-checking and referencing first. We are also coming up to perhaps the last significant anniversary of the First World War, the Armistice on Sunday 11th November; I do hope many of you will come to the morning service at St Martin's that day to commemorate all these men now that we know a little more about them.

If you have any more information about any of the servicemen I've written about, or the ones I'm still searching for, please do let me know. The 'missing' are William Golding, Sidney Davis, Noah Hillman, William Finn and Walter Matthewson.

*Philippa Rooke
Pjrooke@hotmail.com*

Date Fixed For Carols at the 5 Bells

Hi folks

After a lot of debate and discussion tonight with the Five Bells Chelsfield, we have come down on Wednesday 12th Dec from 8.14 I have also been booked for the Plough and Harrow in Littleington down here for Friday 21st if anyone is interested! It is a lovely cosy friendly pub with local ales and good food. The twins are looking forward to it again. Both events will be for raising

funds for MND Research. I shall be playing Chris's accordion again. Hopefully this will be OK for our loyal carollers. I intend doing this for as long as my little body will allow.

Just had a very jolly bash with the squeeze box at the Bells with two slots and 6 numbers. Great fun. I know Christmas is a long way off but venues get booked far ahead. My apologies, we shall not mention the X word again

till end of November.

Tomorrow looks like a beach day here in Seaford so one more swim may yet be possible. Maybe even the Kayak?

Dad sends his best wishes to everybody. 102 at Christmas. Now been retired many more years than he was working!!

*Best wishes
Phil and Jayne*

sWe've Been Banksy'ed!



You have probably all seen the artwork on our village signs, but for those that haven't, here they are!



THE
CHELSEFIELD PLAYERS

PRESENTS



BOX OFFICE:

07816 505448

WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/CHELSEFIELDPLAYERS

WEBSITE:WWW.CHELSEFIELDPLAYERS.ORG

THE VILLAGE HALL CAN BE FOUND JUST PAST THE FIVE BELLS PUB, CHELSEFIELD VILLAGE

A CHELSEFIELD PLAYERS ADAPTED SHAKESPEARIAN COMEDY

Much Ado About Nothing



BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

DIRECTED BY DIANA McDONNELL-PASCOE

SHOWING 8PM AT

22-24 NOV 2018

**CHELSEFIELD VILLAGE HALL
BUCKS CROSS ROAD
BR6 7RL**



Longlands Farm Nuisance

Since the change of use of farm buildings at Longlands Farm in Chelsfield my concern is the increase of sheds and containers making this site an eye sore in the green belt

Also the depositing and burning of large amounts of builders and garden rubbish in the fields

causing further pollution

There is also a large increase of nuisance noise with vehicles arriving sometimes as early as 6am for loading and unloading with machines working.

Activity on occasions continues as late as 9pm sometimes seven days a week.

How can we get a restriction on working hours, 9am to 6pm perhaps, with a complete closure weekends and bank holidays?

Our councillors seem oblivious of the laws

Local Resident

Computer Fraud

More than £21m has been stolen from over 22,000 people in the UK by fraudsters offering fake help with computer issues, according to new figures.

Action Fraud, the specialist nationwide reporting point for cyber crime run by City of London police, has

launched a campaign to educate people about Computer Software Service fraud.

It can start with either a phone call, an email or a pop-up message appearing on your computer, telling you there's something wrong with it or with your internet connection, and

claiming that it needs to be fixed. The scammers will then demand payment to fix the issue, or they will trick victims into installing software on their computer which could allow the criminals to access personal and financial details.

John. B. Leach

Cycling Photographer of Chang An Tang

Last year I was contacted by Stacey Lambrow, asking if I knew anything about a house called "Chang An Tang".

Demolished in the 1960s the site off Chelsfield Lane is now Nut Tree Close. It had been the home of Thomas Child a pioneering

photographer whose photographs of China from the late 19th century survive today.

The house that Thomas Child called "Chang An Tang", which has been roughly translated as

Studio of Everlasting Tranquillity, was on Chelsfield Lane — a pleasant and fairly isolated spot to choose for retirement in the late 19th century.

It stood roughly equidistant between the villages of Chelsfield and

Orpington, near the junction with present-day Avalon Road, which was not laid out until half a century later.

Along with neighbouring property "Normanton", Chang first appears on the Ordnance Survey maps in 1896. It was probably built around 1890, possibly by, or for, Child. What is certain is that the Child family moved there from Deptford after 1891.

It was a 14-room detached brick-and-slate house set in four acres, bay windows at the front with morning room, dining room and drawing room, five bedrooms and servants' rooms. It had substantial gardens with two lawns and outhouses and was valued in the 1914 Inland Revenue Valuation Office Field Book at £1,240. So Thomas Child, who had retired as a Gas Engineer in his late 40s, must have been a man of some means.

He needed a big house to accommodate his family — wife Ellen and six children aged between eight and 27. The standing of the family is revealed in 1896 when middle daughter Kate marries Earnest Pierson a chartered accountant. On

their marriage certificate Thomas is described as "Gentleman".

The *Bromley District Times* reports it as a local Society wedding at St Paul's Church, Brockley, where Kate had been christened. The flowers, the choir, more than 100 guests, what they wore and the wedding presents of "costly description" are all described in detail. Thomas and his wife gave, among other more costly things, a roll of Canton matting. The bride's going-away dress was of Peking (sic) silk and her brother Alfred and his family were not attending as they were in Peking.

The Chinese references were not surprising as Thomas spent most of his adult life in China. Born in Shropshire in 1841, he was the son of John Child, an engineer. The family moved to Greenwich and when he was 20 he married Ellen Mears. They had three children and at 29 Thomas accepted a five-year contract with the Imperial Maritime Customs Service of China¹ as a Gas Engineer. He took with him to Peking (today's Beijing) his camera. His family eventually joined him, three more children were born in China and they stayed for nearly 20

years.

When Thomas Child arrived in Peking there were only around 100 foreigners living there. He imported cameras to set up a sideline business as a portrait and landscape photographer and his works were published in magazines and books. He also marketed them to tourists and dignitaries. He took nearly 200 photographs — the earliest comprehensive survey of Peking and its surroundings.

To get to the Great Wall of China and the Nankou pass leading to Mongolia he had to travel around 80 kilometres with fragile photographic equipment and glass plate negatives on terrain without proper roads.

Other photos show shops and crowds, important architectural features, trade and commerce, and marriage and funeral rituals.

He was the only scientist in Peking and he "taught practical photography as well as something of electricity to a handful of Celestial princes, to say nothing of at least one enterprising princess".² Our enquirer, Stacey

Lambrow, curated London and New York exhibitions of these photographs in 2015.³ Commenting at the exhibition, she said: “Child was unique among early foreign photographers of the city.

He learned to speak Chinese, he spent time with Chinese people. “It’s not clear how Child learned to photograph, but it’s known that he took photographs before arriving in China. In Peking, he used the collodion process to produce albumen silver prints and sold them by word of mouth from his studio. He also sold them commercially through *Far East* magazine.

“Child left China when Peking was on the brink of the Boxer War. Much of what Child photographed was altered by that war, making his photos a unique and valuable record of the ancient city.”

According to the website *Historical photographs of China*, Child’s portfolio *Views of Peking and its Vicinity*, a series of signed and dated full-plate images, all numbered and captioned, soon became, in China and abroad, *the* visual reference on the old imperial capital.

Settled in Chelsfield, Thomas built a new life around his time in China and the photographs that had been so profitable. In 1895 he read a paper on Peking to the Society of Arts in London, illustrated with his photographs. As China was still a mysterious and largely unknown region to most people, the talk was reported in several papers nationwide.

But his retirement was short: Thomas died on 25 May 1898 of a “fracture of a skull caused by his having been accidentally thrown out of a car”. The car – A Battlesden Car – was a pony and trap which overturned. Ellen continued to live at Chang An Tang until her death in 1922. Her daughter, Edith, and her husband Frederick Ayling, a dentist, lived there until 1951. The house was demolished around 1960.

Philip Lane, who lived nearby as a child remembered the house. “Chang was a typical brick Victorian mansion built by a wealthy person, miles away from all but a handful of properties at the time,” he recalled. “It had a dark front garden surrounded by trees. A gravel drive went round in a circle in

front of the steps leading up to the front door. On top of one of the pillars at the top of the steps was placed a large heavy chunk of what appeared to be metal — grey in colour, jagged and rang like a bell. Mr Ayling told me it had come from China and was a meteorite.”

There are many questions still to be answered about Thomas Child and his time in Chelsfield. The 1896 Ordnance Survey map shows Chang An Tang with outhouses including a long glass building that could be a greenhouse or a daylight photographic studio. If he continued to take photos, did he document any of his new surroundings in Orpington and Chelsfield?

He may also have another claim to fame. The *East Anglian Daily Times* was one of those newspapers that carried Thomas Child’s exotic report of Peking. They also added a bit about the man: “For a long time he was the only cyclist in the capital, and his hairbreadth scrapes in that capacity may one day be told.”

So, did Thomas Child introduce the bicycle — for so many years *the* means of transport in China — to

the Chinese?

A selection of Thomas Child's photographs can be viewed on the website: www.hpcbristol.net/photographer/child-thomas and on other online sites as well.

If anyone else has memories of Chang An Tang or pictures of the house please let me know as both Stacey and Thomas Child's granddaughter, Kate Sheppard, are keen to find out as much as they can about Chang An Tang.

Christine Hellicar ² East Anglian Daily times.

¹ The Chinese Maritime Customs Service was set up in 1854 by foreign consuls in Shanghai to collect maritime trade taxes disrupted by rebellion. It was largely staffed at senior levels by foreigners – mainly British. Its responsibilities grew to include domestic customs administration, postal administration, harbour and waterway management, weather reporting, and anti-smuggling operations.

³ Thomas Child's collection is now owned by Stephen Loewentheil, founder of the 19th century rare book and photography shop in New York.

Sources

Geoffrey Copus archives; John Pateman, *The Ramsden Estate*; Wikipedia <http://www.slate.com/blogs> http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2016-10/01/content_26955468_10.htm

Where Has Our Produce Show Gone?

I would like to respond to *A Concerned Resident* writing in last month's Village Voice.

From its peak in recent years in 2010 there has been a gentle decline in the number of entrants. In 2015, the last year it was held, there was a dramatic fall in entries. In 2010 there were 279 entries from 50 entrants and in 2015 there were 115 entries from 21 people. There were no entries from the school and very few child entries. Well Hill entries heavily outnumbered those from Chelsfield Village.

It became apparent during the staging of exhibits that all the usual competitive exhibitors had decided not to enter at all. When our regular band of judges turned up, instead of being greeted with a hall bursting with beautiful flowers, attractive fruit and vegetables, enticing country fare and admirable handicrafts they saw a meagre offering from the residents and friends of Chelsfield Village and Well Hill.

The standard was certainly no lower than in previous years but the

judging was completed a lot faster. I think the judges were as embarrassed as we were. A lot of effort goes into preparing and running the show but it cannot take place without the support of the residents of the two neighbouring villages.

The usual organisers were very disheartened in 2015. If any one else with a fresh outlook and new ideas on how to enthuse residents would like to revive the show we would be delighted and would offer any assistance needed.

Catherine Gandolfi



QUIZ

– NOT JUST HORTICULTURAL TOPICS!

Thurs. 11th October 2018 - 7:30 for 8:00 pm

**HALSTEAD VILLAGE HALL, KNOCKHOLT ROAD,
TN14 7EU**

Light bites and nibbles included but bring your own drinks and glasses

Teams of six - £6 per head - PRIZES - RAFFLE

To book a table please ring:

01959 534497 or 01959 532085 or 01689 857209

Stroke rehabilitation and support

ICARE

**JOIN US FOR A CURLING CHARITY FUNDRAISER FOR
ICARE DAY CENTRE TRUST**

7.30pm on Saturday October 20th 2018

Fentons Rink, Dundale Farm, Dundale Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN3 9AQ

Entrance fee : £30 per guest

Includes playing equipment: curling shoes, brushes & stones & coaching

There is a fully licensed bar and there will be a raffle

For bookings contact Sue Chown on 01689 862883

Icare Day Centre Trust is a small charity in Green Street Green that provides rehabilitation, friendship and support for over 80 people who have suffered a stroke, and support and respite for their carers. Last year, due to budget cuts, the London Borough of Bromley ceased its funding grant for Icare.

Watch Out for Fake TV Licence Emails

We've seen a sharp increase in reports about fake TV Licensing emails claiming to offer refunds.

The emails state that the refund cannot be processed due to "invalid account details". The

links provided in the emails lead to phishing websites designed to steal personal and



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



financial details.

Always question unsolicited requests for

your personal or financial information in case it's a scam. Never automatically click on a

link in an unexpected email or text.

Bromley Neighbourhood Watch Association

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Bromley Council

Main switchboard:
020 8464 3333
E-mail: fixmystreet.com
Opening hours Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm

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

Reporting Problems to the Council

Can be reported via the council website, www.bromley.gov.uk/report, or if urgent by phone out of hours Emergency Duty Team 020 8464 4848.

Neighbourhood Watch

John Leach 07711304965.

NHS Non-Emergency 111

Chelsfield Primary School
01689 825827

BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital

Main Reception
01689 877855
Physiotherapy
01689 885920
Outpatients
01689 885905

Councillors

Mike Botting-
mike.botting@bromley.gov.uk
Angela Page
angela.page@bromley.gov.uk
Samaris Huntington-Thresher
samaris.huntington-thresher@bromley.gov.uk

Chelsfield Village Voice

chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com

EDF Electrical Power Failure
Call 105 or 0800 316 3105

BT Line Faults 0800 800151

Thames Water Emergencies
0800 714614

National Grid (Gas)
Emergency (leaks) 0800 111999

Bromley Police Station & Police non emergency 101

Samaritans
Freephone 116123

Safer Neighbourhood Team 020 8721 2605

chelsfield.prattsbottom.snt@met.police.uk

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

Chelsfield Players
info@chelsfieldplayers.org
www.chelsfieldplayers.org

TRADESMEN

CARPENTER

Les 07803 234859

ELECTRICIAN

Dean 07799 033363

GARDENER

Sean Wickenden
07516112502

JOINER

Paul 07966 194216

PAINTER & DECORATOR-

Pat 07954 387236

PLASTERER

James 07939 217725

PLUMBER

Jim 07788 851688

PLUMBER

Robert Cameron
01732 824389
or 07752 134858

WINDOW CLEANER

Darren Collins
07872447448

WINDOW CLEANER

Alan 07889 193391

WINDOW CLEANER

Christian 07429 137555

WINDOW CLEANER

Del 07940 048985

THE PROPERTY DOCTOR

(Locksmith & Property

Maintenance)

Freephone 0808 1556805 or
Mobile 07801 922006

BEAUTY & THERAPIES

Facials, Nails, Waxing,
Threading, Make-Up,
Massage, Eye lash and
brow treatments
Charlie 07540 487682

Any updates to our list, or further recommendations are welcome

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

WEEKLY EVENTS

EVERY SUNDAY

The Chelsfield (Windsor Drive)

Live Singer

From 6.00pm Contact 01689 880288

EVERY MONDAY

Chelsfield Methodist Hall,
Windsor Drive

Iyengar Yoga Classes

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

EVERY MONDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall and
Brass Crosby Room

Chelsfield Housemartins

Monday Afternoons, for local people who are unable to go out without help.

EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall,

InsideOut Pilates

Monday 6.30pm-7.30pm
Tuesday 9am-11am
Thursday 6.30pm-7.30pm
Contact Francesca on 07791 073445

iopilates@gmail.com

EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY

Christ Church Hall,
Charterhouse Rd

Pilates Classes

Monday

10.45am Over 60's/Osteo
6.00pm Beginners Pilates
7.10pm Mixed Ability Pilates

Tuesday

7.15pm Beginners Pilates 8.25pm
Mixed Ability Pilates

Wednesday

9.30am Mixed Ability Pilates
1.30pm Over 60's/Osteo

Saturday

8.45am Improvers Pilates
10am Beginners Pilates
Contact Sally 07786 035640
sally@orpingtonpilates.co.uk see
www.orpingtonpilates.co.uk
for venues and more info

EVERY TUESDAY

Brass Crosby Room
St Martin's Toddler Group

10.30am-12.00m midday
Contact Sarah Ford:
01689 853415

stmartinstoddlers@gmail.com

EVERY TUESDAY

The Chelsfield (Windsor Drive)

Quiz Night

From 8.00pm Info: 01689 880288

EVERY TUESDAY

Five Bells

Charity Quiz Night

from 9.00pm

EVERY WED THURS & FRI

Chelsfield Methodist Church Hall,
Windsor Drive

Pilates Classes & Pre & PostNatal Pilates Classes

Wed 6.50-7.50pm
& 8.00-9.00pm

Thursday 8.20-9.20pm

Friday 9.35-10.35 & 10.45 -11.45am

Post Natal Pilates 12-1.00pm

(Babies Welcome)

Call Bethany Lucas

07415 638546

bethanylucasplates@gmail.com

Further classes at:

www.bethanylucasplates.co.uk

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Hatha Yoga Classes

10.30am-12.00am

Contact Pam Keeper

01732 458930

EVERY THURSDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall

Class Street Dance

4.30pm-6.00pm

Boys & Girls all Ages

Info: Clare 07960 865518

www.class-streetdance.co.uk

EVERY FRIDAY

The Chelsfield (Windsor Drive)

DJ NIGHT

From 8.30pm Contact 01689 880288

SPECIAL EVENTS

Monday 1st October

(1st Monday of Month)

Brass Crosby Room

St Martins Memory Cafe

2-4pm. Contact Jackie McCann

01689 854119

memorycafe@stmartinchelsfield.org.uk

Thursday 4th October

Five Bells

Jazz Night with "Just Friends"

Our popular sextet with their swing jazz standards Starts 8.30pm

Saturday 6th October

Starting from St. Martins Church

Guided Autumn Circular Walk

Starts 10.00am Approx 3.5 miles

Some stiles to cross

Saturday 6th October

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive.

Karaoke

Starts 8.30pm Contact 01689 880288

Wednesday 10th October

(2nd Wednesday of Month)

Chelsfield Village Hall

Afternoon W.I.

Newcomers Welcome

Contact Sue on 01689 827407

Wednesday 10th October

Five Bells

Open Mic Night

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

Thursday 11th October

Halstead Village Hall, Knockholt Road, TN14 7EU

Quiz Evening

7.30pm for 8.00pm

See Page 17 for details

Tuesday 16th October

(3rd Tuesday of Month)

Chelsfield Village Hall

Evening W.I.

Newcomers Welcome

From 7.45pm

Contact Jules Phillips (President) on

0203 441 5669 or Lisa Lobb

(Secretary) on 01689 608070

Sunday 21st October

St Martins of Tours Church

Concert For St Martins

Tickets £8 on the door

See page 8 for full details

Wednesday 24th October

Five Bells

Open Mic Night

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

Thursday 25th October

(Last Thurs each Month)

Brass Crosby Room

Local History Group

Starts 10.30am

Thursday 22nd-24th November

Chelsfield Village Hall

Much Ado About Nothing performed by Chelsfield Players

Box Office 07818 505448 Tickets

£8.50

Saturday 27th October

The Chelsfield (Windsor Drive)

Live Band "Uncut"

Starts at 8.30pm

Wednesday 7th November

Brass Crosby Room

Chelsfield Village Society AGM

Starts at 8pm

Thursday 22nd-24th November

Chelsfield Village Hall

Much Ado About Nothing performed by Chelsfield Players

Box Office 07818 505448 Tickets

£8.50