



April 2012

*Supported by*



Chelsfield  
Park  
Hospital

## Down House Reopens for the Summer Season

**Down House, Luxted Road, Downe, Kent BR6 7JT**

only 5 miles from Chelsfield Village, has an Easter trail for children over the holidays, offering prizes for the winner.



With its unique place in the history of science, Down House, the home of Charles Darwin, is one of the major visitor attractions in the South East. See the study where Darwin wrote 'On the Origin of Species', still as it was when he worked here, and stroll through the extensive gardens that so inspired the great scientist.

### Entrance fees

English Heritage Members	Free
Adults	£9.90
Child	£5.90
Concession	£8.90
Family	£25.70

Open daily until 15th April 11.00am - 5.00pm

After April 15th same times but closed Monday & Tuesdays

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

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## Contributions PLEASE!

**TELL US WHAT YOU THINK**

**Send your ideas, articles, events, photos or whatever contributions for our May issue to:**

villagevoice@chelsfield.org  
or post to:

Chelsfield Village Voice  
2 Bucks Cross Cottages  
Chelsfield Village  
BR67RN

by the 27th April please

Contact Number 01689 859119 or 0870 3331181  
For information visit [www.darwinatdowne.co.uk](http://www.darwinatdowne.co.uk)

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

## The Goldcrest

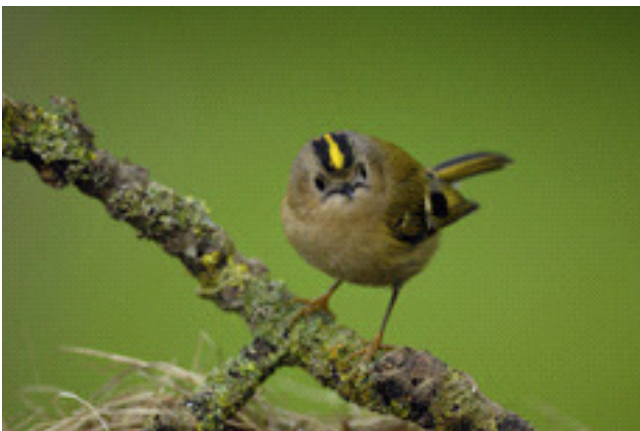
The goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*), or sometimes called the Golden crested wren is a remarkable little bird. It is the smallest bird in Britain and Europe (not the wren as is commonly thought) and weighs the same as a twenty pence piece ! Some argue that the goldcrest's cousin, the uncommon firecrest is smaller but it is a very close thing.

Other than its size, the other distinctive feature is, as its name suggests, the gold crest that runs along its crown. This crest is a wonderful fluorescent limey yellow which is very distinctive. Although not a common garden bird, I have seen one of these bird on half a dozen occasions in my garden over the last two years. It may be that it is attracted to the over-grown leylandii that surround my property as they have a preference for conifer trees.

The call is very high pitched and sounds similar to that of a wet finger being dragged over a pane of glass

albeit with a regular warble. Such is the pitch that its call is often considered as a good hearing test as it is the

rarity but the increase in conifer trees now makes this an interesting bird rather than a great prize for bird lovers.



first birdsong that old age loses ! At one time it was considered to be a great

Surprisingly for such a small bird the goldcrest endures the British winter



although numbers can tumble during a cold one. In fact many European goldcrests migrate across the North Sea in the autumn to avoid the continental chill. One old wives tale tells of these birds migrating under the feathers of waders such as woodcocks. Somewhat unlikely but these birds have been known to settle on fishing boats in the North Sea during their migration and are known as 'herring spinks' to fishermen.

The goldcrest is surprisingly tolerant of people. The first time I saw one of these birds it was sitting on a branch about 12 foot away and then flew to another, halving the distance between us. Its character in this respect is similar to that of a robin. There are even stories of these birds exploring the tweed of ones jacket looking for a meal !

Up until a couple of years ago I had never

seen a goldcrest. This may mean that the numbers are on the increase or that I was once very unobservant! I have heard of sightings down at horeham station but these are the only reports of these birds that I know of. If one is lucky enough to see one of these birds in your garden then their brave nature is likely to give you a good view of a tiny but wonderfully plumed ball of feathers.

*Steve Fuller*

## **Can You Help? - You CAN Help**

### **CHELSFIELD CHURCHYARD IS IN NEED OF SOME FRIENDS**

Many people walk through the churchyard at St Martin's and many take time to sit a while, it is a lovely place. We have many wild flowers, at the moment there is a carpet of snowdrops and later there will be Ladies Smock and cowslips amongst many other things. There is too a lot of wild life, so always

something to see or look for and many benches to rest a while.

BUT all of this takes a great deal of upkeep. It is a vast area and about to become even larger as we plan our new churchyard extension.

The people who have given so many years to keeping the place under control are getting a little older and new, younger help is needed.

We have someone who cuts the 'wedding' lawn but need other areas of

grass cut. We also need one or two people to use the trimmers as parts of the churchyard will suddenly 'run wild' during the growing period.

People who tend the churchyard do need to strim with care to safe guard the flora and fauna that is enjoyed by walkers and visitors regardless of their religious leanings. We also need people to come along on special clearance days when a group work together to clear the tougher bits. At

the moment many of the trees are being pruned and tended in order that they will continue to grow and remain healthy.

Many local people have already benefited from the free logs which will continue for a while yet. We shall be so grateful for any help that avoids

spending our limited funds for a contractor, who might not have the same empathy for the graveyard that we need.

If you can give a few hours here and there we will be very grateful. Contact Philip Lane who will show you the how and where. If you cannot

give a little time on a regular basis then how about finding out when the 'clearance' morning will be and come along then. All details from Philip Lane on: 01689 858634

Thank you very much in advance.

*Ann Blatcher*

## Chelsfield Village Fair 2012 - A Flying Feast

The Fair is taking place on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2012 on the Cricket Green in the centre of Chelsfield and we have pulled out all the stops in this Jubilee and Olympic year to upstage both of them! That might be a slight exaggeration I suppose...

Local good causes and charities had a bumper year from the Fair last year thanks to your generosity and some handsome matched funding provided by Bank of America. Each year our headline charity receives around half the charitable pot with local groups receiving the remainder and this year we have selected The Maypole Project as our headline charity. The Maypole Project are a locally

based charity and provide a lifeline of support for children with complex medical needs and their whole family. They support over 160 children with life threatening, life limiting illnesses and their families every year across South East London.

We have taken on board comments from last year's

Fair and have made some small changes; we will have more toilets, ten more stalls, more catering and some of the signposting on the field itself will be improved. A one-off for this year, and definitely subject to weather, will be tethered hot air balloon rides. The balloon will be inflated at the top right and end of







the field and for a modest fee you will be able to ascend to a giddy 40-50 foot to view the village as you've never seen it before. The Johnson family who own the balloon are keen supporters of The Maypole Project and are donating their time to raise money for the charity – we want very light winds so please keep everything crossed!

We are not joking when we say Flying Feast. No Fair would be complete without the nostalgic sight and sound of the Kent Spitfire and you will be pleased to know that we have booked this wonderful aircraft once again. You might also be interested to know that Peter Monk, the Spitfire's owner has set up what amounts to a Spitfire

factory at Biggin Hill with four airworthy Spitfires and two being restored at this minute.

We are thrilled that we will also have participation from the Royal Air Force in the shape of their Douglas DC3 Dakota which will be performing a full display, not just flypasts as she did in 2007. Chelsfield Flying Club 2012 is open for donations and anyone donating over £50 gets to wear the exclusive 2012 Flying Club T-Shirt on the day. The Flying Displays would not happen were it not for the funding from Chelsfield Flying Club and potential individual or corporate donors can contact me at: [admin@chelsfieldfair.com](mailto:admin@chelsfieldfair.com) or 07796 696065 (or in the Five Bells from 10pm most

nights!).

An earlier and more magical form of flying will be on show in the arena thanks to Eagle Heights with their fabulous Birds of Prey flying display. So what with birds, planes and balloons, I think we've pretty much covered aviation! In terms of music, the Croydon Steel Orchestra will be providing summery sounds and 103 Company Fusiliers will be handling our car parking as well as entertaining us with their band.

Having been Chairman for two years, I have stepped down and the boss this year is Mandy Lamond who is doing a cracking job. I am sure you will want to support her and the Fair and we appreciate your tolerance as we turn the village upside down for one day each summer. If you would like to be one of our volunteers, there are a million and one things to do on the day and Sharon will be collecting names, if you would like to email her at:

[sharon@chelsfieldfair.com](mailto:sharon@chelsfieldfair.com)

*Dave Griffiths*  
Vice-Chairman  
Chelsfield Village Fair  
2012

## Aftermath of the August '11 Troubles

The police are still following up on the disorder in the borough last August, and to date, have made 91 arrests of suspects

between the ages of 15 and 45. If any body does have any further information, then please provide it to our local Police.

Local Police Safer Neighbourhood telephone number is:  
07920 233 857

## Parking

Issues of irresponsible parking are still a real concern to many residents. This may be during the school drop off and pickup times or for longer periods. The areas around each school in the Borough report similar problems of distress and frustration. The police and LBB officers are aware of concerns and are targeting areas to try

to ease the situations. The LBB officer can be contacted to report any incidents which should be investigated and some action taken. The officer is Beverley Pharo, tel 0208 461 7713 or email, [beverley.pharo@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:beverley.pharo@bromley.gov.uk)

Sevenoaks Council introduced parking meters in the area of Knockholt railway station which

have undoubtedly forced commuters to migrate into the Chelsfield area. This has put further pressure on parking and no doubt, created further pressures on shops and other parking areas. We understand the LBB are reviewing parking restrictions which is known to be a very sensitive issue.

## Scams

Remember never to give out your credit card or computer details to anybody calling you, however genuine they seem. There are a few scams

around at the moment, one suggesting you have an issue with your computer which they can sort out. The tricksters are very good at their opera-

tion and you can be so easily lulled into a false sense of security. Any doubt, ask for their phone number and get the police to check them out

## Rogue Trader Round Up

Trading Standards have saved thousands of pounds of residents' money by intervening when they have been

targeted by rogue traders. If you see anything suspicious or are targeted yourself contact the team straight away.

Find out more at [www.bromley.gov.uk](http://www.bromley.gov.uk)  
Trading Standards Rapid Response:  
07903 852090

## Orpington Man Part 1

Fifty years ago this month, the people of Orpington woke up one Thursday morning to find the town's name splashed across the front pages of all Britain's national newspapers and on the lips of every newsreader on the radio. The day before, Wednesday 14 March, Orpington's voters had queued at polling stations across the constituency to put their crosses on their ballot papers in a parliamentary by-election and they had delivered a spectacular result that is still remembered in political history as the moment "Orpington Man" ignited hopes of a revival of the Liberal Party's electoral fortunes.

It was a classic David-and-Goliath story: a 33 year-old local man called Eric Lubbock had snatched the seat for the Liberals in a landslide victory, turning a Conservative majority of 15,000 into a Liberal

one of nearly 8,000. The 22% swing was the biggest in UK electoral history since universal suffrage was introduced in 1928 and for many of those who had kept the

1915.

Lubbock, heir to a peerage and from the wealthy family that owned the High Elms estate at Farnborough, had represented Downe



faith through long, lean years it heralded the possibility of recovering all the ground lost by the party since the last Liberal government in

as a councillor on Orpington Urban District Council for a year and he had been confident of capturing the seat at Westminster, although

Orpington had returned a Tory MP since time immemorial. For weeks in the run-up to the by-election the constituency had been awash with green banners and posters, the party's colour before the present orange. Labour, it seemed, was not going to get much of a look in and a kind of revolution was in the air. But Lubbock's trouncing of the Tory whiz-kid candidate who had been parachuted in by Conservative Central Office to fight this apparently safest of safe seats, exceeded the party's wildest dreams. The result was a sensational humiliation for the Tories – felt even more keenly, perhaps, because Prime Minister Harold Macmillan's constituency was neighbouring Bromley. Six months earlier, the sitting Conservative member for Orpington, Donald Sumner, had been made a County Court judge, an appointment widely thought to have been bestowed to create a by-election that would open the way for Peter Goldman, the

bright young protégé of Iain McLeod, who was Leader of the House of Commons, and chairman of the Conservative Party. But from the start Goldman had managed to alienate the good folk of Orpington. He had made it clear he would not be living in the constituency and implied that he was doing the voters a favour by agreeing to become their MP. His "outsider" status was confirmed and magnified by the way he conducted his campaign. Eric Lubbock, now Lord Avebury, recalls that during the bitterly cold January and February leading up to the election, Goldman "travelled round Orpington in a well-heated caravan, in which he gave audiences to those who could be tempted out of their homes by the Tory canvassers". The inspired slogan "Orpington Man" had been coined to promote Lubbock: if Goldman was an outsider, Lubbock was, well, Orpington's own man. But it was also a gift for the

Press and political analysts. Orpington Man characterised a new suburban breed to whom Conservatism seemed tired, out-of-touch and unappealing and who could propel the Liberals to the promised land of government. He was depicted as a young executive type with a young family, burdened with a mortgage and the ever-rising cost of commuting to work on a crumbling rail network plagued by late trains. Interest rates were on the up, rail fares had been increased again and the government had just introduced a public sector pay freeze – something that did further damage Goldman's poll chances as he was closely associated with the Exchequer. The road to Eric Lubbock's victory began shortly after Donald Sumner announced he was quitting as Orpington's MP. The Liberal candidate at that stage was Jack Galloway, who had run a very close third to Labour in the 1959 general election.



As the local party executive gathered at the home of their chairman Christine Parker to plan their campaign, Galloway revealed he had a problem that could upset the apple-cart. He had married his girlfriend (who also happened to be his secretary) in the summer of 1961 after his divorce but he had not understood the terms “decree nisi” and “decree absolute” (the interim and final stages in a divorce) and had remarried before his first marriage had been properly dissolved. The judge had merely issued a reprimand, but the first wife was now threatening to attend every public meeting during the election campaign and loudly denounce Galloway as a bigamist. The prospect of a vindictive woman heckling Galloway right up to polling day was too much and the executive reluctantly agreed that he should be asked to stand down. With the parliamentary seat vacant, the government was free to move

the writ for a by-election at any time. The Liberals knew they had to act fast and select a new candidate. Mrs Parker moved decisively to battle stations. While the others waited in her sitting room, she telephoned the Liberals’ Chief Whip, Donald Wade, explained the problem and asked him to suggest a well-known figure to fight the election. Wade told her an outsider would have no time to become established with the voters and advised her to pick someone local.

As she recounted the conversation to her colleagues, Mrs Parker’s eye lighted on Lubbock and she pointed at him. “Why don’t you do it, Eric?” she demanded. Despite Lubbock’s worries that his employer might not like the idea of him taking time off, he was persuaded to speak to his boss next morning and got unexpected approval for three weeks off – but without pay. In the event, the polling date would not be set until months later, but the energetic 45-year-old

Mrs Parker wasted no time. She called in supporters from Orpington and its bordering constituencies to canvass every home in the area and mustered an army of teenaged helpers to distribute leaflets and put up posters. Liberal Party HQ in London was so impressed that it mobilised reinforcements to ensure success. This included sending the campaigning mastermind Pratap Chitnis (now Baron Chitnis of Ryedale) to take on the role of election agent and drafting in the publicity consultant Dominic Le Foe. The campaign, run from the old Palace Cinema building at Carlton Parade, swelled, grabbed national attention and gripped the public imagination.

*This article first appeared in Bromleag the magazine of the Bromley Borough Local History Society.*

*Reproduced by permission of Christine Hellicar*

## St Martin's Toddler Group

This month we will be celebrating 'new life'. On the craft table we will be making pictures of baby animals using recycled materials. There will be lots of glue and sticking taking place too. Towards the end of the month we will be planting Sunflower seeds. We also have playdough each week, which the

children enjoy playing with.

May dates:-

**Tuesday 1st May**  
**Tuesday 8th May**  
**Tuesday 15th May**  
**Tuesday 22nd May**  
**Tuesday 29th May**

Please recommend the

Group to anyone who looks after children under school age. We look forward to welcoming them.

We meet in the Brass Crosby Room, 10.30am-12 noon, every Tuesday during term time.

Enquiries:  
 Sarah: 01689 853415

## Local History Group

Paul Rason kept us guessing for some time as to the local connection with this month's talk – Channel Dash. It is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of one of the Allies' heroic failures, something we tend not to here much about as it is the victors who tell the tale. At this stage of the war we were losing. Our fleet of 15 battleships was old but the Germans had a fleet of more modern, faster (27 knots) pocket battleships. Three of these were stationed in Brest harbour: Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Prinz Eugen. Brest was subjected to many air raids. Although these 2920 sorties failed

to do much damage Hitler ordered the return of these ships to Germany via the Channel rather than via the northern route. Unfortunately our response was not well coordinated. Several branches of the forces were involved. The Royal Air Force – both Bomber and Fighter Commands, the Fleet Air Arm, The Royal Navy and the Coastal Artillery. The British commanding officer was Vice-Admiral Bertram Ramsay of the Royal Navy. His six destroyers in the Thames Estuary were not on standby. Instead of being on station, they were

practising gunnery in the North Sea. They steamed south to intercept the German fleet, but arrived in time to fire only one salvo of torpedoes, all of which missed and his destroyer escorts were poorly armed. In charge of the naval response was Captain Harwood whose address was Tubbenden Lane. Ramsay guessed that the battleships would start their run after dark but they left Brest at 11.15 am so that by dawn they were already past Cherbourg and we were caught unawares. Bomber Command, on 4 hours notice, had been stood down. The Germans

started jamming our radar from 9.00am but the operators were not familiar with the new technology and it wasn't until 10.30 that the escaping flotilla was spotted on the radar. Planes were sent up but saw nothing due to low cloud but the ships were still visible by radar. Planes were sent up again and spotted ships, including battleships but could only report on landing at Kenley as they were maintaining radio silence. One of the reporting pilots was Group Captain Victor Beamish, whose name can be seen on the RAF memorial to commemorate the RAF pilots who lost their lives during the Battle of Britain. This can be found on the Grassmead Estate, Mungo Park Way, Orpington, Kent, where the roads are named after WWII pilots. Valuable time was lost reporting the sighting up the chain of command and on to the Royal Navy and Bomber Command. Uncoordinated attacks by motor boats and six Fleet Air Arm Fairey Swordfish torpedo biplanes failed to inflict any damage and only five crew survived out of eighteen. The only VC for Fighter Command

was awarded posthumously to Lieutenant Commander Esmonde. The Spitfires were trying to protect the Swordfish but were too fast. The Swordfish crew communicated by Morse code but the Spitfires had radios. Bomber Command were sent up to cause distractions but only 39 of the 242 bombers which

than our ships. At noon, the Army's Coastal Artillery went into action. 33 rounds were fired at the German ships, which were moving out of range, but all missed. The German operation was well managed, with the refueling and transfer of support planes organised all along the French coast.



took part found and attacked the ships and no hits were scored. Altogether, 675 RAF aircraft (398 fighters, 242 bombers and 35 Coastal Command) took off to search for and attack the German ships. The German flotilla consisted of 3 pocket battleships, 6 destroyers, 25-30 E-boats, minesweepers and armed trawlers. All were capable of speeds faster

By the following day the German ships had completed their escape with no losses. The inquest held afterwards concluded that we did what we could but needed to get our act together. The one good outcome was that we no longer needed to have a presence in these waters and could concentrate our forces in northern waters defending the convoys.

## Churchyard News Etc.

Terry is improving the Glebe Field (adjacent the rectory) which we could only do once the grazier had left. The considerable encroachment by scrub and dead hawthorns etc and all the tatty shelter, plus a load of rubbish that the last occupant had dumped into the hedges, is being burnt or removed. Finally the grass will be dressed and the field made ready for the fete and the Fair, after which we may

consider letting it again for grazing to a trustworthy horse owner. The Tryhorn Field next to the church which we are hoping to convert to burial ground, is awaiting a successful outcome to Change of Use planning permission. The scrubby sycamores are being cleared anyway to increase the grass area. We have great hopes that this field will become a very pleasant place to visit and have loved ones

interred, and that during the many decades before it is even half full, we hope it may become a wild flower meadow or source of hay.

The observant amongst you will notice that some trees in the churchyard have been judiciously pruned. This is both for their health and to lighten the walkways. It is now much easier to see your cars from many places.

*Philip Lane*

## Get on Site

Neighbourhood Watch is delighted to announce a brand new website which will provide a wealth of ideas, help and advice on staying safe in your local

neighbourhood. London's volunteer representative Alfred Kennedy said: "Check out the site as it builds into a one-stop-shop resource for

Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators and householders throughout the borough." Visit [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk)

## From "Safer Bromley News"

Welcome to our new Police Borough Commander, Steph Roberts "It's with great pleasure that I take up the post of Borough Commander for Bromley. Undoubtedly this is a high performing borough with a high pub-

lic satisfaction rate and this clearly hasn't happened by accident - it is down to the professionalism, hard work and commitment of the people working here. Although this is a temporary post for me there will be no

complacency, and we need to continue to improve performance and keep those standards high. I have a vested interest in keeping the borough safe as a local resident and I feel strongly about local issues."

## From Bromley Council's Update

### Queen to visit borough for Jubilee celebrations

Excitement is building as the borough looks forward to a very special visit by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. The borough has been selected to host a momentous event to commemorate the Queen's 60 years on the throne. The visit will take place on Tuesday 15 May 2012 as part of a regional tour with more details to be revealed closer to the time.

### Young People Enjoy DofE

The excitement builds as award winners and their families await this year's popular Duke of Edinburgh's Awards Presentation evening at Bromley Civic Centre on 26 March.

Last year was the most successful year ever in the borough's history of

the award, with 228 bronze, 69 silver and 10 gold awards.

The aim of the DofE is to provide an enjoyable, challenging and rewarding programme of activities for young people aged 14-24. It is well established, having been running since 1956.

There are three levels of achievement:

Bronze Award for 14 and over.

Silver Award for 15 and over.

Gold Award for 16 and over.

The awards include everything from volunteering to expeditions, skills and physical recreation to residential projects. The DofE is delivered through the Bromley Youth Support Programme by schools, clubs and open award centres. For further information about the scheme contact

Richard Southworth, D of E Team Leader:

Email:

[Richard.Southworth@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.Southworth@bromley.gov.uk)

or Tel: 01689 827601.

<http://www.dofe.org/>

### Chislehurst Road Bridge update

The first stage of demolition on Chislehurst Road Bridge is underway. The temporary support deck has been installed to protect the railway from falling debris, and as a result work is now continuing during rail operating hours. The existing bridge will be demolished one half at a time, with each of the beams being broken up and lifted out, away from the bridge. The bridge is scheduled to re-open this autumn. Check out the latest on our webcam:

<http://tinyurl.com/6sowgvb>

and on:

[www.twitter.com/chislehurstdb](http://www.twitter.com/chislehurstdb)



## Problem with the Spire of St Martin's Church



### "PIECES THEY ATE! PIECES THEY ATE!"

The new interloper in the birdworld of Britain, the parakeet, is costing people a fortune. Farmers and gardeners suffer fruit damage and blossom loss. Church spires, especially in Southern Britain, which are clad with cedar shingles, are having holes pecked through as the birds try to nest. The shingles of St Martins are over a

cladding of planking which they have also penetrated. The resulting holes allow water in, look unsightly and the nests built within, a fire and health hazard. The only way to repair this is very costly, requiring steeplejacks and scaffolding unless access allows for a cherry picker vehicle to be parked nearby. The former runs to thousands.

The solutions are hard to apply. Netting looks awful and can attract lightning and rubbish. Bird scarers and paints have a very short term deterrent. There are now very realistic plastic shingles available but churches are usually listed buildings and English Heritage is a very powerful body with strict specification (they insisted on lead roofing for the Brass Crosby Room,

We would like to thank

**CHELSEFIELD PARK HOSPITAL** for their sponsorship printing the Chelsfield Village Voice

**BMI**

which was all stolen within months causing £10,000 damage due to water damage after a thunderstorm later the same night).

This bird might be very pretty and quite a novelty, but their screeching can be very irritating. Does anyone have any ideas apart from shooting which is both very difficult and unpopular in a churchyard!

*Philip Lane*



No matter what your job is, you can always try to make the most of it ....

*Philip Lane*

## USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

### **Bromley Council**

Main switchboard:

020 8464 3333

E-mail:

[csc@bromley.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:julian.grainger@bromley.gov.uk)

Samaris Huntington-Thresher

020 8464 3333

[samaris.huntington-thresher@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:samaris.huntington-thresher@bromley.gov.uk)

Russell Jackson

[russell.jackson@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:russell.jackson@bromley.gov.uk)

### **Chelsfield Village Society**

[cvscontact@gmail.com](mailto:cvscontact@gmail.com)

### **Chelsfield Village Voice**

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

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### **WEEKLY EVENTS**

#### **EVERY MONDAY**

Chelsfield Methodist Hall  
Windsor Drive

#### **Iyengar Yoga Classes**

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

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#### **EVERY MONDAY**

Five Bells

#### **All You Can Eat**

#### **Curry Night**

from 9.00pm

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#### **EVERY TUESDAY (back on Tuesday 17th April)**

Brass Crosby Room

#### **St Martin's Toddler Group**

10.30am-12.00 midday  
Contact Sarah Ford:  
01689 853415

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#### **EVERY TUESDAY**

Outside the Village School

#### **Mobile Library**

11.15am-11.45am

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#### **EVERY TUESDAY**

Five Bells

#### **Charity Quiz Night**

from 9.00pm

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#### **EVERY WEDNESDAY**

#### **Hatha Yoga**

#### **Classes**

10.30am-12.00am

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Contact Pam Keeper on  
01732 458930

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#### **EVERY THURSDAY**

St Martin of Tours Church

#### **Viva Acappella**

Ladies Barbershop Chorus  
Practice

Contact Helen  
07984 961696

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### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **Wednesday 4th April**

(1st & 3rd Wednesdays)

Parish Room-Skibbs Lane

#### **Internet Cafe & Local**

#### **History Transcription**

2.30-4.30pm

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#### **Wednesday 18th April**

(1st & 3rd Wednesdays)

Parish Room-Skibbs Lane

#### **Internet Cafe & Local**

#### **History Transcription**

2.30-4.30pm

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#### **Thursday 19th April**

(3rd Thursday each month)

Brass Crosby Room

#### **Local History Group**

10.15am-12.00

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#### **Wednesday 2nd May**

(1st & 3rd Wednesdays)

Parish Room-Skibbs Lane

#### **Internet Cafe & Local**

#### **History Transcription**

2.30-4.30pm

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#### **Sunday 29th April**

Orpington Bowling Club  
Goddington Park

#### **Open Day**

10.00am-7.00pm all ages  
welcome

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#### **Saturday 5th May**

Orpington Bowling Club  
Goddington Park

#### **Open Day**

10.00am-7.00pm all ages  
welcome

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#### **Wednesday 2nd May**

(1st Wednesday each Month)

Orpington Village Hall

#### **Country Market**

For more information call  
07771 502739

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#### **Saturday 26th May**

The Rectory Gardens

#### **Church Fete**

from 12.30pm

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#### **Sunday 3rd June**

The Rectory Gardens

#### **THE BIG LUNCH**

for the Queens Jubilee

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#### **Saturday 14th July**

Chelsfield Cricket Ground

#### **Village Fair**

from Mid-day