



December 2022

Produced by
Chelsfield Village Hall



CAROL SINGING AT THE FIVE BELLS 2022

HE'S BACK AT LAST AFTER AN ENFORCED BREAK!

The Annual and Traditional Chelsfield event is returning again from 7.15 pm

On Monday 12th December. As usual the revelling will be led by **PHIL LANE** with his accordion(s) and **JAYNE** on her Shaker. Timpani All will be offered to those who wish to shake & partake in the *Feast of Stephen*. Carole Sheets will be passed around so everybody can join in trying to Stop the Cavalry. But neighbours be warned: it will not be a **SILENT NIGHT!**

***THERE WILL BE A COLLECTION FOR MND RESEARCH*
TO THE MEMORY OF REV CHRIS LANE, JENNY GROVES AND OTHERS**



FIVE GOLD RINGS OF THE FIVE BELLS!
"SEE THE LANDLORD PULL A FAST ONE/DING DONG ETC"

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

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**Wishing you all a
Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year!**

**Please get anything
for the January 2023
issue to us by
Wednesday 28th
December 2022**

SEND TO:
chelsfieldvillagevoice
@gmail.com

The Horsefly

After the heat of this past summer we now seem to be rapidly filling the reservoirs as rainy day seems to follow rainy day. At least we have not lost all of the warmth yet (written early November) but at this time of year the wasps are becoming grumpy! Normally they are fed sugar by the grubs in their nests which they exchange for insects. But as the summer season passes there are no longer any grubs to feed and the wasps begin to starve to death: which is why they become grumpy and aggressive in the autumn. There are two nests around the cottages where I live and the activity of wasps arriving and leaving has now stopped but some largish wasps can be found and most of these will be queens looking to find a place to hunker down for the winter before setting off in the warm spring sunlight to look for good new nest sites.

After the record breaking hot weather we had this summer we have followed up with a record warm November with both Scotland and Northern Ireland recording their warmest November nights ever. England, not to be outdone recorded the wettest first week of November on record. The meteorologists say that it was all due to favourable winds from the Azores, but probably not climate change related.

This month I want to talk about the humble

horsefly (*Tabanus sudeticus*). Not the usual subject for a cold December afternoon with the prospect of another approaching Christmas. But then it does help to remind us of summer days to come even if an encounter with a horse fly is not always the most pleasant experience.

So, the horsefly family consists of about 4000 species worldwide but in Britain we only have 30 species which fall into two families: those with patterned wings and those without. These flies are often called Clegs



which stems from Old Norse (possibly Viking) but it seems the name is often used for some horsefly species and not others. Other names include: breeze fly (American), whame fly, dun fly, March flies (Australian or UK) and sometimes as gadflies (gad meaning a spike). Different species can vary in size from that of a bluebottle up to that of a bumble bee. The most well known characteristic of this critter is that they have an almighty bite although this is not related to venom that has been injected into the body as one would have with a wasp but via a flesh tearing bite. It is only the female that bites and the point is to collect protein via blood that is of use to the female to help her eggs develop (a behaviour described as 'anautogenous'). The rest of her life she, along with the male live off pollen and nectar. The most common target for these flies are horses, cattle or deer but birds and lizards can also be attacked. These species generally

cannot dislodge the fly and so there has been no evolutionary pressure to feed surreptitiously as mosquitoes do when they anaesthetise the local area to the bite. Humans are also convenient targets for horse flies but we are very aware of the bite and dislodge the fly before it then searches for another host and potentially passes bacteria and disease to other hosts. The flight of some species is very noisy and this can be considered as 'fair warning' but other species, those species specifically known as Clegs are almost silent and the first you will know about it is a searing pain. The only location where I have suffered these bites is in Wales although anywhere in the south of the UK makes you a target during daylight hours. The female uses specialised mouthparts which consist of two pairs of sharp cutting blades to saw into the skin and a sponge like section to soak up the blood meal. They also use an anticoagulant

so these bites will bleed and swelling and infections can follow due to bacteria in the fly's saliva. Some of these bites will lead to lifelong scars such is the size of the bite that can occur. As the name suggests horses are the most frequent victims and in Africa the local horse flies are often deterred by the stripes of zebra's. Even in the UK, horse blankets that employ strips or are chequered seem to successfully deter horsefly attacks.

Interesting factoid! - I found an interesting reference to a member of the horsefly family (*Hybomitra hinei wrighti*) which has been recorded as travelling at the highest speed ever recorded for an insect: at a rather unbelievable 90 mph while chasing a female! Imagine, you could be parked in your local supermarket car park and suddenly find a big splat on your car's window screen.

Steve Fuller
 December 2022

Mutterings from the Millers

The boys have plenty of work. As you can see



from the picture, a spot of welding has to be done to this grab so two new hydraulic rams they fitted, new pins, as per the photo, and now just a general straightening of tines to do. The entrance gate has had to be filled in due to health and safety regulations. Steve and Pete made a metal frame and welded the mesh inside, just in case someone fell through the hole. They are doing a grand job.



The Avian Influenza regulations came earlier this year and by the 7th November all birds had to

be kept in or securely netted. The picture is of the last day they could run free. Fortunately with the "fruit cage" we erected earlier, we only had to repair some holes it had gained over the summer and add a few more pegs to make it secure. The 'girls' had worked out how to get under parts of the cage but totally secure now. I don't think the local robins and sparrows were too impressed as I quite often saw them in the run with the 'girls'. A quote from the Chief Veterinary Officer "We are now facing this year, the largest ever outbreak of bird flu and are seeing rapid escalation in the number of cases on commercial farms and in backyard birds across England. The risk of kept birds being exposed to disease has reached a point where it is now necessary for all birds to be housed until further notice." This with the scrupulous biosecurity remains the best form of defence. The outbreaks recently have been in



Suffolk and Norfolk but there have been outbreaks all over the country.

The wheat prices have come back a little but the cost of fertiliser has stayed in the £800 per ton mark. The oil price affects fertiliser in the same way as it affects diesel and petrol.

Have you seen a greenfinch recently? These birds were quite common and often seen in the garden but they were hit by the finch disease Trichomonis and their numbers declined. I was walking through the churchyard recently and heard a bird that I couldn't recognise, so using my bird identification app on my mobile, recorded it and it

was a greenfinch. Hopefully the app was correct, I will have to listen out again and hopefully see it.

In my last mutterings the weather was about what the ducks would do at Hallowtide, 31st October. It was sunny so they would swim, watch out for ice.

Here are a couple more quotes

St Thomas's day on the 21st December

St Thomas grey, St Thomas grey,

The longest night and the shortest day.

Christmas Day

Sun through the apple trees on Christmas day

Means a fine crop is on the way.

According to tradition and observations, it is

important to have a fine Christmas Day to ensure a good spring and few late frosts. Frosts 'cut' apple blossom and ruin crops, so a sunny Christmas means a frost free May and a good autumn. Take your pick.

Merry Christmas to you all



*Chris Miller
Court Lodge Farm
December 2022*

Phil's Festive Fun



"I think we may have found the cause of your smokey fire, guv!"

Chelsfield Community Café News



We had a lovely afternoon on the 17th November as we were entertained by a great saxophone quartet who enchanted all with many well known tunes. We are so lucky to have such wonderful talent volunteering their services. They are so gifted!! 🎵🎵🎵🎵🎵🎵🎵
 ✓ Many thanks go to Kathryn & friends!! Our next Community Cafe will take place on



Obviously there will be tea, cake and some Christmas additions ie: mince pies, yule log, nuts, chocolates, christmas jumpers/hats & decorations 🎄🎁🍷 All of this is made & donated by volunteers - thank you to all!!

Please come and join in the fun!! Bring your family & friends - all are welcome and all we ask for is a small donation towards the hall, heating, tea/coffee/sugar (all excess goes to local charities). Note, our bakers donate our wonderful cakes & cookies - thank you 🍪🍪

If we don't see you on the 7th or 21st December we wish all a happy, healthy holiday season!

Mags, Pam & all of the Chelsfield Community Cafe volunteers



7th December at 2:30pm in Chelsfield Village Hall. This will be our Christmas event which will include songs by Bromley Carers in Harmony, a raffle and the opportunity to buy filled mugs which are ideal Christmas gifts (made & sold by Sarah Adams Spencer, on behalf of local charity: Safe Haven Animal Rescue).



**TO DONATE TO
US ONLINE SCAN
THE QR CODE**



WANTED

OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS ARE:

**Fruit Juice (long life)
Sponge Pudding
Tinned Salmon
Sweets
Hot Chocolate
Shaving Foam/Gel**

**Donations can be left in Waitrose food bank box
or the green box by the altar in St Martin's Church**

PLEASE DON'T GIVE US FROZEN OR CHILLED ITEMS AS WE DON'T HAVE
THE CORRECT STORAGE FOR THEM AND IT SPOILS BEFORE WE CAN
DISTRIBUTE THEM.

WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF: PASTA, CEREAL, TEA & BISCUITS

**TAKE A PHOTO OF THIS LIST
WITH YOUR PHONE TO
REFER TO WHILE YOU SHOP!**

**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF FOOD SUPPORT
PLEASE CONTACT US ON 0800 9 20 23 24**

Village Hall Defibrillator - Stolen?

We noticed that the defibrillator was missing from its cabinet in the village hall porch on Thursday 24th Nov, it had certainly been there on the Tuesday afternoon. We had previously been told by the London Ambulance Service that stolen units would be replaced by them as these publicly available

defibrillators helped them get their target response times down. Much of the rest of the day was taken up by getting a crime number from the police, as well as letting the Ambulance service know. Then on Friday morning 25th Nov it was found that it had been returned and was back in its cabinet. It was as if it had been

borrowed for a day or two but it had not been used.

Where had it been?

If anyone has any ideas, please let us know. Also if any of you have experience of simple trackers that could be used for knowing it's location, we would be interested. cvhlettings@gmail.com

More Village Daffodil Planting

Following the successful planting of nearly 2000 bulbs by a number of residents earlier in November, we still have another 1000 to fill in gaps and to complete the area alongside our twin

roundabouts.

A further planting session is planned for the weekend of 10/11 December.

Timing depends on expected weather

conditions, and can be decided later.

If interested in joining us, please contact

cvhlettings@gmail.com or phone 01689 831826.

Chelsfield Knit & Natter Club



The second Monday of every month at The Five Bells, 8pm.

get started, everyone is welcome. Feel free to join us just for a chat too!

Next Dates:

12th December 2022
9th January 2023

Whether you are a knitting expert or want to

Knitting, crocheting and other crafts welcome.

We'd love to see you!

CHRISTMAS
at



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**FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER to
SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER 2022**
(Excludes Sundays)

BLOODY MARY SOUP
With Worcestershire Crème Fraiche

WILD BOAR PATE with pear & white wine chutney & toast

KING PRAWNS pan fried in garlic, chilli and parsley butter,
Served on toasted ciabatta

BREADED BRIE
with redcurrant coulis & rocket

ROAST TURKEY with all the trimmings,
seasonal vegetables & roast potatoes

DUCK BREAST on a bed of root vegetable mash, parsnip crisps
and a port jus

HALIBUT served on a bed of crushed new potatoes & spinach,
garnished with sauce vierge and shelled mussels

SPICED BUTTERNUT SQUASH & LENTIL WELLINGTON
Served with paprika potatoes, pomegranate & rocket salad,
with yoghurt and mint dressing

INDIVIDUAL CHRISTMAS PUDDING
brandy custard

LEMON MERINGUE TARTLETTE vanilla bean ice cream

RED VELVET CHEESECAKE raspberries & whipped cream

BAILEYS CRÈME BRULEE shortbread biscuit

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3 COURSES £32.95

2 COURSES £25.95

1 COURSE £18.95

EVERYONE AT THE BO PEEP WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL THEIR CUSTOMERS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!
AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN THE NEW YEAR.

Local History - The Millers' Tale

You can't get more local than Chris Miller's story of Court Lodge Farm. The farm was originally owned by William Waring and let to tenant farmers, the farmhouse being rebuilt in its current location after a disastrous fire in 1847.

George James Miller and his father, also called George, were seeking farmland in Surrey and purchased land which was being cultivated with peppermint and lavender. George senior made such a success of his business that he became known as the peppermint king.

The younger George married and after a few years moved to Court Lodge Farm, renting from Mr Waring. Court Lodge Farm was some 470 acres with the station in the centre of the farm and a private siding. Rent was £530 per annum. Other farmland in the area was added to the farm. George was a farmer here for 44 years and was also successful agricultural engineer at the forefront of mechanisation. He was independent of the railway, using his own motor lorries to take fresh produce to the London markets.

With his two eldest sons away from home during WWI life became difficult. George wrote many letters to his sons abroad taking a carbon copy of each one thus providing a fascinating historical record of that era. Chris read out many enchanting extracts detailing the day to day running of the farm, the purchase of various motor vehicles and the use of a variety of temporary workforces, some better than others. He sent them 10/- and £1 notes, recording the serial numbers in his letters. He lost a lot of his workers to become labourers at the new Ontario Military Hospital as the pay was better. George's wife Emily used to go to Court Lodge (occupied by the Aspreys) twice a week to make bandages.

In February 1916 George wrote about the heaviest snowfall since 1888 with the snow being 3ft deep in Goddington Lane. Some crops were impossible to find under the snow.

The summer of 1917 must have been a good one. George reports that the plum trees need staking due to the heavy crop and

his 4,000 tomato plants are thriving. On August 1st he was kept awake by the sound of firing guns.

Much later, George developed his engineering talent. He devised a seed spacing device for drills but had a greater success around 1931 with his Miller Wheel which made light work of abnormal conditions and narrow row spacings. He then developed another successful idea, the "Universal" cultivator which was adaptable to all tractors to perform many operations with one cultivator attachment. This innovation was a boon to farmers as it reduced their capital expenditure on many different attachments. These engineering developments lead to the formation of the Miller Wheel and Cultivator Co. Ltd. of Station Road, Chelsfield.

For several of his inventions he received distinguished awards – silver medals at the Peterborough Show in 1933 and the Ipswich Royal Show in 1934. On the farm site there was a forge and other farmers brought their equipment for repair.

To raise money for further developments George sold some shares in his company but, as this shareholder eventually became the major shareholder they could dictate how the business was run. Eventually George found that politics and family did not mix and the family bought back the shares in 1971.

George also performed many public duties during and after the war. He died on 11th July 1943 a few days after sustaining a fractured skull in an accident with a military vehicle while he was driving his car on the "new road", Court Road.

Eddie, Steve's grandfather, and Harry took over running the farm. Eddie married Ruby Whitehead and they had a

son, Edwin George, known as Tony. Tony had 2 children, Stephen and Valerie. Steve married Chris in 1977 and the farm is now run by Peter, George's great, great grandson. Their daughter, Heather, is a deputy head of a large secondary school.

The farm has been reduced to 175 acres over the years, four times smaller than in George's time. They stopped growing for markets in 1985 but continued growing for sale in the farm shop for a while until the money was stolen one time too many.

They tried Gloucester Old Spot pigs but Gerald the boar escaped and mated with all 4 sows at the same time resulting in 52 piglets being born in the

space of a week.

About 8 years ago they decided to end ploughing and change to direct drilling which was wonderful for the soil structure and invertebrates but created a weed problem. With production costs rising and only being viable on a much larger farm they decided put the whole farm down to growing grass for hay production. What doesn't change is the never ending task of maintaining the various farm buildings.

This talk was given at the Farnborough Social Club. Chris will be repeating it at Chelsfield Village Local History Group. Look out for it to hear all the fascinating extracts from George's diary and see the lovely photos.

Orpington u3a

The u3a is a self help group that was set up for those that work part time or are retired and still want to learn, laugh and live and share group activities.

It only costs £12 per year membership. Being a member gives you access to information on over eighty interest groups which meet weekly or

monthly. Outings are arranged by members for members.

We also have a General meeting with selected speakers on the third Monday afternoon of the month, at 2 o'clock at The Crofton (Large) Hall by the Orpington Station.

We have a National Office

and u3a's all over the world.

Please visit our website www.u3aorpington.org.uk or phone Linda for an application form on 07732 005819.

I do hope you will join.

*Pauline Dawson
u3a Orpington*



The Benefice of
Chelsfield with Green Street Green
and Pratts Bottom



St Martin's Chelsfield & Well Hill – Services – December 2022

All welcome! Come and join us any time. At the moment things might change at short notice so please watch the church website for updates (see link at bottom of page).

St Martin's

Sun 4 Dec	10.00am	Holy Communion	CWO1 : MG
2 nd of Advent	6.30pm	Choral Evensong	BCP : SAJ
Wed 7 Dec	9.30am	Holy Communion	CWO2 : MG
Sun 11 Dec	10.00am	Family Worship	Reader Gillian Garman
3 rd of Advent	6.30pm	Sung Eucharist	CWO2 : MG
Wed 14 Dec	9.30am	Holy Communion	CWO2 : SAJ
Sun 18 Dec	10.00am	Crib & Tree Service with Communion	CWO1 : SAJ
4 th of Advent	6.30pm	Nine Lessons and Carols	MG
Wed 21 Dec	9.30am	Holy Communion	CWO2 : MG
CHRISTMAS EVE			
Sat 24 Dec	4.00pm	Christingle	
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass	CWO2 : MG
CHRISTMAS DAY			
Sun 25 Dec	10.00am	Christmas Holy Communion	CWO1 : SAJ
		<i>No evening service</i>	
Wed 28 Dec	9.30am	Holy Communion	CWO2 : MG

Well Hill

Sun 11 Dec	10.00am	Holy Communion	CW : SAJ
Thu 15 Dec	7.45pm	Residents' Carol Service	SAJ
Sun 18 Dec	10.00am	Family Carol Service	Reader Ken FAnson
Wed 21 Dec	7.30pm	Christmas Holy Communion	CW : MG

Key: CWO1 – Common Worship Order 1; CWO2 – Common Worship Order 2; BCP – Book of Common Prayer; SAJ : Rev Susan Atkinson-Jones, MG : Rev Michael Gentry

As at 29 Nov 2022

Chelsfield Village Society Annual General Meeting



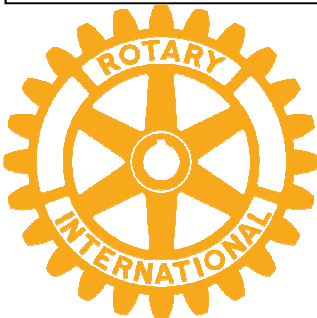
To be held in the Chelsfield Village Hall, Bucks Cross Road, BR6 7RL

On Tuesday 6th December 2022 at 7.30pm

We welcome all CVS members and Chelsfield residents to join us for an interesting evening

It provides an opportunity to meet other residents who share a concerned interest in all matters in and around Chelsfield Village

Rotary Club Christmas Collection



The Rotary Club of Orpington will be holding their 2022 Christmas Collections on Friday 16th December, Saturday 17th December and Monday 19th December from 10.00am to 4.15pm

at Tesco's in Orpington.

With many thanks in advance for your assistance, which is much appreciated.

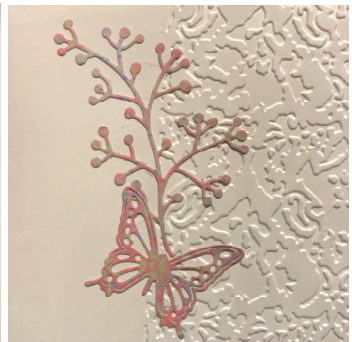
Christine Cookson

Beautiful Handmade Cards for Charity

Following the Produce Show, Anne Anderson gave me a selection of her superb handmade greetings cards which are to go to a good cause / charity. If you or your group would like them (lovely for raffle prizes?) please let me know.

Dan Sloan

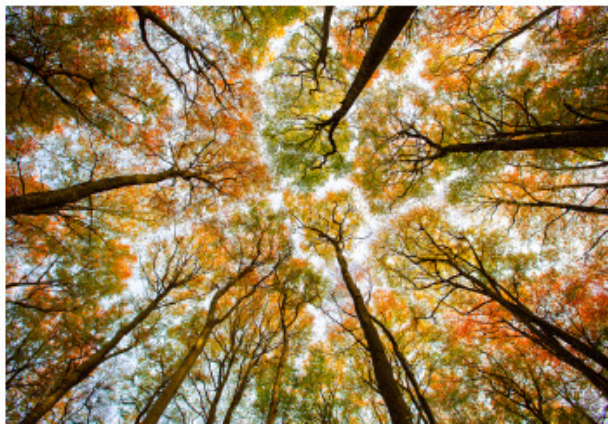
chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com





St Martin's Toddler Group

December 2022



Dear Parents, Grandparents and Carers,

Here are our dates for the autumn term. We meet in The Brass Crosby Room on Tuesdays during school term time, 10.30am - 12noon, £2 per child/baby which includes refreshments and craft resources. We are a very friendly group so do not worry if you are coming on your own and don't know anyone else. There is no need to book a place, just turn up on the day.

We look forward to seeing you,

Toddler Volunteers:

Jenny, Peter, Mary, Val, Vicki, Nicola and Anne.

6th & 13th December

Contact Details:

Toddler Group Leader - Jenny Wood

Email: stmartinstoddlers@gmail.com

Church website: www.stmartinchelsfield.org.uk



Improving lives after a stroke

Have you ever thought of becoming a charity Trustee?

ICARE Day Centre Trust is a small local charity providing rehabilitative care for people who have had a stroke, and support for their family & carers, at our day centre in Green Street Green, Orpington.

We have an opportunity for someone to join the ICARE Board of Trustees. Being a Trustee is an important role; we are here to help ICARE staff and volunteers deliver our rehabilitation services in a friendly environment for our clients, while ensuring that the charity is run properly.

This is a very varied, interesting and worthwhile role supporting our work here at the Centre. There is no specific qualification required, other than a desire to help people who are living with the consequences of a stroke through the work ICARE does at the day centre.

All Trustees bring their own experience and knowledge which helps the Board in its decisions and our current board includes Trustees who bring the perspective of clients, carers and volunteers.

All experience is useful; perhaps you have HR or IT or other skills which would bring valuable experience to the Board. ICARE is also keen to build stronger links with the local community so a locally based Trustee would be good too.

You can find out more about ICARE on our website at www.icarecentre.org.uk. If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a Trustee, or if someone you know would be interested, please talk to Mike Talbot, Chair of Trustees, who is contactable through the Day Centre: admin@icarecentre.org.uk or 01689 862883..

DON'T USE Baby Self-Feeding Pillows!



self-feed without the assistance of a caregiver holding the bottle and controlling the feed.

When used as intended, even whilst under the supervision of a caregiver, it could lead to immediate, serious harm or death from choking or aspiration pneumonia. Businesses selling these products must immediately remove them from the market as they cannot comply with the safety requirements.

OPSS has identified that this category of products will always be dangerous due to their design and intended use and can never be made safe.

Bromley Trading Standards is warning people not to use baby self-feeding pillows following an Urgent Safety Alert by the government's Office for Product Safety & Standards (OPSS):

urging parents and carers to stop using baby self-feeding pillows immediately and dispose of them safely.

Baby self-feeding pillow products are designed to be attached to a bottle so that the baby may be positioned on its back to

The Office for Product Safety and Standards is

Well Hill "Church in the Woods"

Well Hill church used to be in the parish of Shoreham until the parish boundary changes of 1938 brought it into the parish of Chelsfield. Ann Ball in Shoreham dug this out and sent it to me. The repro quality is not great, but it is a fascinating historical account of life on the hill back in 1920.

The "very devoted service of its local Organist" may refer to Mrs. Jeffries, who played regularly (the harmonium!) throughout the 20's, 30's and 40's.

We have a lovely picture of her in the church, sitting at the keyboard with a huge smile! Also of

interest is the fact that the church is referred to as a "notable landmark", being visible from distances far outside the parish - St. Mary Cary, Sydenham and Sevenoaks. Now we think of it as our church in the woods, but all those trees must have grown up within the last 100 years.

August, 1920.

Ss. Peter & Paul, Shoreham.

SERVICES.

Holy
Communion,
first and third
Sundays
in month
8 and 12 a.m.

Second and
fourth Sundays
7 a.m.

Morning Prayer
11 a.m.

Evening Prayer
6 p.m.



MISSION CHURCHES.

OTFORD LANE.

Holy
Communion
8.30 p.m.
second Sunday
in month.

Morning Prayer
11 a.m.

Evening Prayer
6 p.m.

WELL HILL.

Holy
Communion,
last Sunday
in month
8.45 a.m.

Morning Prayer
11 a.m.

Evening Prayer
6.30 p.m.

Vicar: **REV. H. D. MADGE, B.A., LL.M.**

Churchwardens : { **Mr. A. de B. WILMOT.**
 { **Mr. C. T. KENDALL.**

Clerk and Sexton: **Mr. SAMUEL CHEESEMAN.**

August 1920

Church of Ss. Peter and Paul.

We print in this number some news which was unavoidably omitted in July.

Very much sympathy will be felt by all our readers with the family of the late Mr. Solomon Brown, whose death, by collision with a motor-van, took place in the village street. Mr. Brown was an old and respected inhabitant of Shoreham, where he had lived all his life.

The Memorial Cross on the hill has grown out of its original proportions. It is going to be a prominent feature of the landscape for miles around; indeed, many millions will see it from the railway, and the cross will sometimes, no doubt, be among the most vivid of the early impressions of foreign visitors to our country. All the labour bestowed on it has been given freely; so far not a penny has been spent. It may be necessary to set apart some funds for its future upkeep. But as it is to-day it is an entirely free-will offering of the people of Shoreham.

The annual Sale of Work in aid of the funds of the Otford Lane Mission Church will take place in Mapledene Orchard, by kind permission of Mr. C. Blundell, on Thursday, August 5th. The Sale will be opened at 3 p.m. by Mrs. Mildmay. We hope that there will be a good attendance.

The "Pride of Shoreham" Lodge of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows held their annual Church Parade on Sunday, July 18th, the first since the beginning of the war. The Vicar—who is an Oddfellow himself, like Colonel Mildmay, who read the lessons—was glad to welcome them. For one thing the Sevenoaks Cottage Hospital, which wants help, received substantial benefit. Another benefit might be that some younger men might be led to think of the advantage of joining the Lodge themselves.

WELL HILL MISSION CHURCH

To those who have never visited Well Hill, it may be of interest to learn that in this outpost of the Parish the weekly services have been uninterruptedly carried on since the Mission Church was built. This Mission Church ministers to the spiritual needs of the large district extending from Cockerhurst to Chelsfield

in the parish, and indeed also to such portions of adjoining parishes as are too far away from their Parish Churches. Situated on the summit of Well Hill, it can be seen from the highest points all over the parish of Shoreham, from Romney Street to Halstead. And from distances far outside the parish; from St. Mary Cray, Sydenham and Sevenoaks, Well Hill Mission Church serves as a notable landmark.

But the main interest to readers of this Magazine will, foremost, be the services conducted there, its helpers and its congregation.

First as to its services. The aim has always been to provide such services as those who belong to the Church Catholic have a right to expect. A general idea of a Mission Church Service is that it consists of, at best, some sort of emancipated Church Service, with plenty of Mission hymns, and a "bright" address. At Well Hill, with its Altar, Communion Rail, Lectern, Pulpit and Organ, a Service as prescribed by the Book of Common Prayer is rigidly adhered to—the form of Service is followed, the Psalms are chanted, the Service is choral, Anthems are rendered, and so far as is possible there is nothing omitted which those who worship there look for from their "Church." This is attained only by the very devoted service of its local Organist and tiny Choir, and that this service is fully appreciated is borne out by the constant attendance of its congregation, who fully and enthusiastically enter into the prayers and praise.

The "congregation" is drawn from a few scattered cottages and the small hamlet of Well Hill. Their attendance involves in many cases a not inconsiderable walk, but they attend, and it is not too much to say that they look forward from Mondays to the time when again on the following Sunday they can give, and gain some thing, from the promise given to the "two or three gathered together" in His name. As a practical form of their appreciation they provide, to the extent of their ability, for the upkeep of the Mission Church. They do not beg for subscriptions. They found the money for their Altar—for their Organ, and week by week they subscribe sufficient for the weekly expenses. They bought their Psalters and their Music. For their festivals they provide the decorations and testify in a thousand and one ways their devotion to the Church. None of them are "well to do"; their gifts are a sacrifice. The Mission Church is self-supporting and has a balance standing to its credit.

It may be that some of the residents of Shoreham Village, who know Well Hill only as a name, will be interested enough to make a pilgrimage some fine Summer evening to Well Hill. The pilgrimage, although it will entail a long walk mostly uphill, will be amply repaid; the country is lovely, there is a certainty of "rest and refreshment" in the Service, and above all, it will afford a very necessary lay link between the main portion of the Parish and those who worship on its borders.

We should be very glad to hear from anyone who would undertake to take a class in the Sunday School either in the morning or afternoon.

On June 1st members and associates of the Mothers' Union went to tea in the Vicarage garden. Miss Plumtre opened the meeting with prayer and a few introductory remarks, after which Miss Bryer gave a most interesting address on her work in China. The M.U. Zenana Missionary box was opened, and £1 7s. Od. sent to the Secretary.

On Tuesday, June 22nd, the members and associates spent a very happy time at Highfield, where Lady Cohen welcomed them and gave a delightful strawberry tea in her beautiful grounds. An address was given by Lady Cohen on the care and training of children, and her wise words and counsel were much appreciated. An admission service for intending members and associates will shortly take place, and all those wishing to join the M.U. please communicate with Mrs. Steane.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

At an industrial exhibition held in London, Miss W. Booker, a member of Shoreham W.I., gained 3rd prize for skin curing. The prize was a silver medal, presented to Miss Booker on 8th June by Lady Cohen, who was the hostess that evening. Lady Cohen came down to the Institute to talk to the members on the Bill before Parliament affecting the interests of women and children.

A course of 12 lessons in basket making has proved very successful, and many good and useful baskets have been made.

A very attractive programme is being formed for next season.

We hope to gain many new members and carry out our motto, "Do all the good we can."

F.W.

Generous gifts to the Cottage Hospital (amounting to 67lbs.) were received on Pound Day from the following: — Mrs. Ansell, Mrs. Adams, Mr. F. Bell, Dick Bell, Mrs. Chatfield, Mrs. Chapman, Tom Chatfield, Violet Chatfield, Philippa Chapman, Mrs. Dinnis, Lady Dunsany, Mrs. Darcy, Mrs. Drew, Connie Edwards, Winnie Edwards, J. Gregory, Mrs. Head, Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Holman, Miss Joy, Mrs. Kendel, Mrs. Lawrence, Rev. H. D. Madge, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. W. McLening, Miss Pulman, Mrs. Reader, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Steane, Mrs. Street, Miss Walker, E. Walking, Miss F. Wood, Tom Walkey, Horace Walkey.

OTFORD LANE MISSION CHURCH

Gifts of "Pounds," and Collections which amounted to £1 3s. Od., were sent to the Sevenoaks Cottage Hospital. A letter of thanks acknowledging the above has been received. Donations are included in the collection as some preferred giving that way instead of in groceries.

On Wednesday, May 26th, eight members of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers rang on the bells of the Parish Church a peal of Stedman Triples, 5,040 changes, in two hours and forty-six minutes, standing as follows: 1. Emery (Bromley) 1; P. J. Spice (Bromley) 2; T. Groombridge, sen. (Chislehurst), conductor, 3; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore (Canterbury), 4; F. W. Richardson (Deptford) 5; W. Smith (Beckenham), 6; W. J. Jeffries (Deptford), 7; G. Durling (Bromley), 8. This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and was especially arranged for the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, Hon. Secretary of the Association.

BURIAL

July 19: Solomon Brown, aged 71 years.

COLLECTIONS IN CHURCH

	£	s.	d.
June 27: Sick and Poor	2	18	10
July 4: Diocesan Fund	1	7	8
July 11: Church Expenses	1	9	7
July 18: Sevenoaks Cottage Hospital	4	4	6

Dates For Your Diary

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Tuesday
Five Bells
CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT
8.30pm

Every Thursday
The Chelsfield Pub
QUIZ NIGHT
from 7.30pm

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Thurs 1st - Sat 3rd December
Chelsfield Village Hall
Chelsfield Players present
UNDERGROUND
7.30pm

Fri-Sun 2nd-4th December
Coolings Garden Centre
Local Craft Show
10.00am to 4.00pm

Friday 2nd December
Five Bells
LIVE Music The Happy Jacks
From 8.30pm

Saturday 3rd December
The Parish Church Barkhart Rd
Orpington Symphony
Orchestra CONCERT
7.30pm

Tuesday 6th December
Chelsfield Village Hall
Chelsfield Village Society
AGM
From 7.30pm

Wednesday 7th December
Chelsfield Village Hall
Chelsfield Volunteers
AFTERNOON TEA
2.30pm-4.40pm

Wednesday 7th December
Five Bells
Open Mic Night
From 8.00pm

Monday 12th December
Five Bells
KNIT & NATTER NIGHT
from 8.00pm

Monday 12th December
Five Bells
Carol Singing in the 5 Bells
From 7.15pm

Saturday 17th December
Coolings Garden Centre
Farmers Market
10.00am to 3.00pm

Tuesday 20th December
Chelsfield Village Hall
Evening WI
7.30pm-9.30pm

Wednesday 21st December
Chelsfield Village Hall
Chelsfield Volunteers
AFTERNOON TEA
2.30pm-4.40pm

Wednesday 21st December
Five Bells
Open Mic Night
From 8.00pm

Wednesday 4th January
Five Bells
Open Mic Night
From 8.00pm

Monday 9th January
Five Bells
KNIT & NATTER NIGHT
from 8.00pm

Wednesday 18th January
Five Bells
Open Mic Night
From 8.00pm

Recycling Bin Collection December 2022

Monday 5th December
Monday 12th December
Monday 19th December
Wed 28th December
Wed 4th January 2023
Every week

Plastic, Glass and Tins, Food Waste.
Non-recyclable refuse, Paper & Cardboard, Food Waste
Plastic, Glass and Tins, Food Waste.
Non-recyclable refuse, Paper & Cardboard, Food Waste
Plastic, Glass and Tins, Food Waste.

Batteries, Small Electrical Items, Textiles (please only present one small transparent bag each week, and re-present the following week if it is not collected)

Every 2 weeks (Mar-Nov)
every Month (Dec-Feb)

Green Garden Waste is collected fortnightly or monthly only from households that subscribe (£60 per annum) to the Bromley scheme (Telephone: 0300 303 8658 for advice)