



Things Turn Up In The Most Unlikely Places!

Here is a copy of an original oil painting I bought from a gallery in Woburn (it wasn't cheap!) of the pub and post office circa 1885 or earlier.

They didn't know where it was and it was wrongly titled.

Philip Lane.

This issue is dedicated to the memory of Carol Margetts who sadly died over the New Year period.

Throughout 2009 Carol regularly contributed some of the most interesting and amusing articles (we still have many months more to publish) to residents through both the Village Voice and the Parish Magazine. Even to those who did not know her personally will miss her through her colourful memories of Chelsfield.

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CONTRIBUTIONS PLEASE !

Contributions for our March issue, should be emailed to:

villagevoice@chelsfield.org

or posted to:

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

To read the Village Voice online visit:

<http://www.chelsfieldevents.co.uk/cvs/index.htm>

Visit
www.chelsfieldevents.co.uk

About Carol

Many of you may be aware of the sudden death of Carol Margetts who was discovered to have died at home on January 13th during the recent freeze. Carol was a local that many of us were acquainted with but few if any knew well. The following are some memories of Carol from some of her friends and neighbours.

Carol lived alone, lived her own life in her own

way very happily. She is a born and bred village girl. Living in what is known as the German's House; she has cherished her garden, loved all creatures, loved her Mother and cared for her grave in St Martin's.

Carol's lovely smile, her stature and her energy have always made me think of a 'sparrow' – a 'chirpy' little bird; or perhaps, even more, as a 'wren' the smallest, most

retiring, and most lovely of our British birds. In her own way Carol is an extremely significant part of the village.

She made her own arrangements for her funeral which was at 1.00 pm on 2 February 2010 at St Martin's. Then we had an opportunity to meet her family, say how sorry we were, and let her go, with love, to the mother she loved.

Leslie Virgo

We first met Carol before we moved into the village, all being involved in the Bromley Talking Newspaper for the Blind, where she was a distributor visiting many of the listeners, and helping them with their problems. She remained a distributor from 1985 until 1999

when she retired to look after her aging mother. During this time she also helped as a volunteer with Kent Association of the Blind and with the Orpington Blind Club. She was a respected local historian, passionately interested in the village and wrote several

letters to the editor of the Village Voice. Carol was a member of Chelsfield Village Society and was also one of the group who distributed the Church magazine. We will all miss her.

Peter and Catherine Gandolfi

As you know Carol lived a very solitary life particularly after her mother and father died. The house the family lived in, 'Gladsholme', was originally occupied by Bert Parkes who was Carol and Doug Parkes' grandfather. I can remember Bert but cannot remem-

ber when he died, I should think it was around the mid '60s. I presume Carol's family moved into the centre of the village soon after.

Carol's dad Ted was keen on cricket and supported the Chelsfield village team and was a

Vice-President. His love of cricket clearly rubbed off on Carol because she also was very keen and I believe she played for the Orpington Ladies Cricket Team in Goddington Lane. Carol became a Vice-President of Chelsfield Cricket Club and she also used to do

the scoring at matches in her younger days.

One of my tasks as a member of the Club is to arrange the printing of the yearly fixture cards and it is always a sad time when it comes to deleting the names of those Vice-presidents who have passed away in the last year. Particularly distressing this season to have to remove Carol's name after so many supportive years. I don't know where Carol worked when she left school but I can recall she gave up work at quite an early age to look after both her parents as they became infirm. Her father died first which left Carol looking after her mother Vera as her physical health deteriorated.

Carol and her mother were very friendly with my mother who was highly supportive of the local charity for the blind. As a result, I believe that Carol also became involved and did such sterling tasks as reading books onto tapes for use by the poorly-sighted and she also read to the members of the 'blind

club' as it was known. Carol loved gardening and would be out there all hours. Carol produced most of her vegetables and a lot of fruit. Often is the time I would take the dogs out first thing to be met with the scent of smoke in the air from one of Carol's early morning bonfires. She would have risen way before me!

I imagine that it was a result of all the time spent outside that gave Carol a deep love of the countryside and wildlife and she wrote much prose expressing her feelings for nature. As most villagers know, Carol also wrote many really interesting articles about the lives and times in and around the village. These articles, allied with the work by Geoffrey Copus, add great substance to the history of the village. Carol was also a member of the local history group, which meets at the Church and she was at the last meeting of 2009 in November, where I am told, she seemed hale and hearty. Carol never ventured out much but most people knew her from the trips

down to the shops in Court Road. She walked at a brisk pace but always had time for a good natter if paths crossed. Similarly on her frequent trips to the post box, one could catch up on her news and she was always very conversant with what was going on locally and she was not afraid to put her views forward.

As I said at the start Carol was a solitary person but I am not sure that she was lonely, she just lived a private life. It seems awful that her absence was not noticed earlier but I think this was partly understandable in view of her lifestyle and I am not sure she would have welcomed regular interruption - but could I be wrong? It grieves me not truly knowing the answer.

Carol was a sweet, friendly, special person who lived a quiet and reserved life. She was a character of Chelsfield and will not be forgotten by those in the area who knew her.

David Lambert

I met Carol about thirty years ago when I came to live in Chelsfield Village. She was then a fresh faced young woman who spoke to anyone who was passing by as she busied herself in the garden of Gladsholme. She was usually with her Father his name was Ted and later on when I knew her better she said he taught her everything she needed to know about gardening. She loved her garden.

When Ted died I spent some time with Carol and her Mother Vera. I asked them into my home at various times and whenever I walked across the road to them I was invited in. The house then was like a time long past with the old fashioned sink and kitchen cabinet, their sitting room usually had a big fire glowing the room was very clean and comfortable and felt cosy. I enjoyed being with them in their home. Carol would

encourage her Mother to tell me of things that had happened in the village years ago and she spoke of people who had long since died also school friends were a topic she reminisced about. Vera would relate tales about the Five Bells public house and how she had worked there years ago. The stories told were enjoyable to hear and I must say that we laughed a lot. Carol always surprised me at the way she seemed to enjoy her Mother's tales even though she must have heard them many, many times. I think they had a really good relationship. The two of them enjoyed sport on the TV and knew all about football snooker horse racing etc. you name it they enjoyed it.

Things changed when Vera died. Carol would not come to me for coffee or a chat she always said she was too busy and I tried so many times to get her to come to

the W.I. meetings or anything that I thought might interest her around the village but the answer was always no thank you. I stopped trying last year because I felt I was becoming a nuisance to her. She really seemed as if she wanted to be alone and I respected her wishes.

I suppose to sum Carol up she was always nice to me. She loved her parents very much and devoted her life to taking care of her Mother. After Vera died I think she gave up on life.

I will miss her and miss hearing her rather loud high pitched voice whenever she spoke to passers by. I think now looking back that Carol although she liked her own company, once you got her talking it was a job to stop her. She was a very intelligent woman and I am truly sorry she is no longer a character of the village.

Bridget O'Donnell

ENCOUNTER

*He lands abruptly on a branch, his eye alert
Reviewing all who rashly traverse his domain,
His spindly legs and frail physique belie a
Hostile, stabbing beak in stout defence of his terrain;
His large foes regard with fear this warrior bird
Patrolling garden as a right that few deny,
His bright apparel prompting many a pleasing word
In praise of Robin's visit once again.*

Carol Margetts' entry in the Chelsfield Village Produce Show for which she was awarded First Prize in the Class

More Memories of The Post Office

Firstly, how sad it was to hear of Carol's untimely death. I am sure there was much more to hear from her about old Chelsfield, and the history of the post has been so interesting to read. I can add only a few snippets. Back in the 50's we lived down Chelsfield Lane and mum used Neal's Stores for her weekly shop, Mr Potter delivering a box of groceries each week, usually with one item at least missing or stale! She would pop into the Post Office for stamps and bits and I was sometimes with her. When it was Mrs Humpherson in charge I recall her friendliness and just occasionally Mr Humpherson would come down and talk about his photography. Both Chris and I were photographed up in the

top room studio. I still have one or two prints.



A young Philip Lane, photographed by Mr Humpherson!

I can still smell the woody liquorice sticks that were sold "for health reasons" I was told. For this read "regular"? When Mr Humpherson died many of his glass

plates and photo stuff were given to William Easy and sadly got lost or destroyed as it meant little to us at the time. Great shame, now I could have reprinted those plates, I only have about 8 of his negatives but several photos of Chelsfield. Fortunately he did record the village at different times but I suspect there were many more photographs taken and now lost or scattered around the globe.

I was also back in Chelsfield in 1980 to record Pauline's last day at the end of December. Pat Whitehead, ever shy, is only just visible through the window.

Oh that we could have back that little shop with it's Post Office again!

Philip Lane

Planning Application

There has been an application to build a new 4 bedroomed house in half of the paddock opposite the

pond in Warren Road between Little Lillys and Orchard Cottage. The plans may be viewed via the

council's web site planning pages.

Application reference 10/00055/FULL1.

News From Your Safer Neighbourhood Team

Caught in the act

Pratts Bottom village has previously been victim to anti-social behaviour by people riding trials and quad bikes. On Saturday 9th January, two males were caught by the SNT riding Quad bikes on the Green in Pratts Bottom. The bikes were very noisy and were churning up the snow. They are being officially warned by means of a section 59, this will allow us to confiscate /destroy the bikes.

Please give us a call if you see or hear any bikes on the ward that are being ridden in an anti-social manner on 0208 721 2605.

Remember those less able

During the onset of this snowy weather the residents of an elderly sheltered accommodation on the ward were particularly happy to see two of our PCSO's. They were even happier when the PCSO's took it upon themselves to dig out the paths so they could get around without falling. Another PCSO recently visited an elderly lady

who had been unable to leave the house for four days and had run out of items like milk and tea. Please let's try to look after the elderly on the ward, who simply can't get out when it is slippery underfoot.

Don't make it easy

Many of our residents leave car keys / house keys or handbags in the hallway, in full view of the letterbox. These can be reached by various means allowing the thieves easy access to your home or car. Always put them in a safe place out of view and out of reach.

Christmas gifts

It is now January, which will for many of you will mean there are lots of new items in your home. Mobile phones, televisions, Nintendo DS', Wii and cameras to name but a few. Please remember to contact us and we will be happy to attend and property mark items for you at your convenience. We can also give you some crime prevention advice too. Let's make sure 2010 is a

good year for everyone on the ward and not give thieves a helping hand.

Dog register

As part of a new initiative on our ward, we are currently running a Dog register. This will enable us, when we come across any lost dogs in the area to locate possible owners. We have had calls to dogs on the street and so far, we have been able to locate the owners on each occasion. It also helps to notify owners about lost dogs they may come across. If you own or walk a dog please feel free to contact us. It is like your own neighbourhood watch for dogs.

If you would like more information call us on 02028 721 2605

SNT POLICE OFFICE,
49 High street, Green
Street Green, Orpington,
BR6 6GB

chelsheld.prattsbottom.snt
@met.police.uk

Would you like to become a puppy walker for the Metropolitan Police?

Puppy walking is an essential element in the development of future

police dogs. Volunteer puppy walkers take a puppy into their homes for between 6 - 8 months and attend the Dog School for regular puppy assessment day's. The Metropolitan Police provides all the food and pays for all veterinary bills. Puppy walkers give their puppy a firm foundation for its later training.

Is there a responsible adult at home for most of the day? (Part time workers are considered).

Could you commit six-eight months of your time and enthusiasm to rear a puppy along the Metropolitan Police guidelines?

Do you have a securely fenced garden?

If you can answer "yes" to these questions and would like further information then please contact:

Marina Calthorpe
The Metropolitan Police
Dog Training Establishment
Layhams Road
Keston
Kent
BR2 6AR

Telephone number: 0208 649 1661

Or Email
Mana.Calthorpe
@met.police.uk

Or mail to:

Marina.Healey
@met.police.uk

Snippets from your local crime reporter

Burglars apprehended by police on Mon 25th Jan along Chelsfield Lane near Goddington Park, following a report to police by a householder.

There have been reports of burglaries in the Hillside area in Pratts Bottom together with gangs of youths vaulting over fences and breaking into sheds in Chelsfield Park.

Reports of turf wars between rival groups of travellers in the Swanley area.

Salt Bin

A salt bin has been installed on Warren Road. It should be noted that it is for the purpose

of clearing ice and snow from public pathways and not residents own driveways, We have

been informed that if caught using the salt for domestic purposes legal action will be taken.

Another Email Scam Warning

Police say that the gang usually is comprised of four members, one adult and three younger ones.

While the three younger ones, all appearing sweet and innocent, divert their

'mark' (or intended target) with a show of friendliness, the fourth -- the eldest -- sneaks in from behind the person's back to expertly rifle through his or her pockets and purses or bags for any

valuables being carried

The CCTV picture over the page shows the gang caught in action . . .



See "Scam Warning" on Page 7

Freedom Passes

You will need to renew your pass before the end of March 2010. All current Freedom Passes will cease to work on 31 March. This process began on the 4th January. If you have missed your scheduled date for renewal, it can still be replaced between the 8th and 13th March. The application form is available at Post Offices, but they have been running

out due to demand. You can download a form and find lots of useful information online at www.freedompass.org. It is a new form - which is the same as is used for new applications.

The pass is normally renewed every two years to help prevent fraud but the new pass is different in a number of ways:

Your new style pass will be valid for five years.

For additional security, your new pass will include a photograph of you on the card itself rather than on a separate photo-card, so you will need to produce a passport-style photograph of yourself before you apply.

Your new card will usually take 10 working days to arrive and will be sent to you in the post. If you don't receive your pass within 10 working days, be assured that it is on its way. You can use your current pass until 31 March.

If you are older or have a disability, you may be able to get help with transport. This could in-

clude freedom passes for use on public transport or assistance with personal transport.

Please note that the Orpington Depot of Dial – a ride has closed and all bookings are now being made from the London office.

London Dial a Ride, Progress House, 5 Mandela Way, London SE1 5SS.

Telephone: 0845 999 1999

English National Bus Scheme

1 April 2008 saw the start of a new bus scheme which will give all older and most disabled freedom pass holders free travel on local bus services in England at certain times.

Local History Group

Paul Rason chose a very different topic this week. Not local history but the history of the British flag.

How would you describe yourself when abroad? British or English? There seemed to be an age group division to the response. The vast majority would also describe themselves as coming from Kent – certainly not London. We adjust our identity depending on who we are talking to. We all fell into the trap when he asked who the last king of England was. It was of course James I of England (or VI of the Scots) who, in 1603, designated himself James I of England first as he regarded England as more important than Scotland,

having a much greater population and being wealthier.

The familiar flag of Saint George with its red cross was combined with the flag of Saint Andrew with its white cross on a blue background. As heraldry rules dictated that no 2 colours could be adjoining, white edges were added to the red cross. Paul cleverly demonstrated this with transparent overlays. This flag was known as the Union flag, or Royal Flag or standard. This flag would be displayed at the bows of British sailing ships on a pole called the jack – hence the jack flag or Union jack. Jack is thought to have been derived from the diminutive form of

James. Until the conquest of Ireland in 1603 (encouraged by the first and only English pope, Adrian IV) it was subdivided into many kingdoms. The king's representative was known as the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Charles I and Charles II were also termed Kings of England. On her accession to the throne, Queen Anne was the last English monarch. From 1707 both parliaments were sitting at Westminster and the monarchs were Kings/Queens of Great Britain. On the Act of Union in 1801 George III became the first king of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. A further element, invented for the occasion, was added to the Union flag (again clev-

erly demonstrated by Paul), the red diagonal cross of Saint Patrick.

The flag as we know it today was now complete. No Welsh component has ever been added as Wales was never a kingdom, only a principality.

The most important area of a flag is its top left hand quarter. That is why the Irish cross is displaced so that the white background of the English flag shows in the corner. Again, clever use of overlays showed that the Irish cross was in fact not a simple cross at all but the arms are staggered so that the white sections are not the same width. Paul then showed us many examples of flags and images of flags, many of which were not depicting the flag correctly. I think most of us knew that the flag is correctly displayed when the top left hand corner has the thick white strip on top, ensuring that the white area is in the corner.

To make the design work the relative dimensions of the flag have to obey certain rules. The height has to be half the width, or the ratio has to be 3 to 5 or 2 to 3.

The flags of Australia and New Zealand still incorporate the Union Flag in the

top left hand quarter. Interestingly, the state of Hawaii also does so in its own flag, as the flag flown by the navy was much admired by the King of Hawaii.

The American flag is a focal point for allegiance throughout the United States and regarded with much respect. When a flag gets worn out you are not permitted to cut it up for rags or throw it in the "trash". Special bins are provided for the disposal of unwanted flags which are ceremonially burned. Flags are prominently flown in many countries. However, in Britain the Union Flag is rarely seen. Local places where it is flown are the Crofton side of Orpington Station, Chapels the Undertakers near the great railway arch and the fire station. The flags of the other countries making up the United Kingdom are far more likely to fly their own flags than are the English due to the "hijacking" of the Saint George's flag by far right wing groups. This was agreed to be a shame.

After refreshments, Paul introduced the topic of coins and money. All British coins are minted at the Royal Mint in Llantrisant

in Wales. Money is printed by the bank of England, the Scottish banks, the Bank of Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands banks and several British Overseas Territories.

Every time there is a change of monarch the face depicted on the obverse of the new coins faces in the opposite direction from that before. In the case of Edward VIII, he pronounced that although his father George V faced to the left, he wanted to do the same as it was his best side! Being king, he got his own way. However, although the dies were prepared for the coins they were never minted. Postage stamps were produced and used. On his abdication, his brother became George VI and also faced to the left, maintaining the order as it should have been. Elizabeth II faces to the right, as we can all see.

Paul then went on to tell us something that no-one else knew. The new series of British coins have a very different design on the reverse. At first, most of us probably regarded these unfamiliar coins with suspicion, checking that they really were British. The new £1 coin has a shield design on the

reverse. As you can see from the picture below, arranging the smaller value coins in a specific order re-creates this shield design as each coin has a small portion of the design on the reverse. Looking at the new series of coins you will also notice that the number of the value of each coin i.e. 50, 20, 10 etc is not shown, but the words are i.e. Fifty, twenty.

al 50p coins with different commemorative designs including the Girl Guides, the anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade and the Victoria Cross and £1 coins which had themes such as bridges or national emblems. £1 coin design themes are changed every 5 years.

Have a look through your change and see how many different designs you can find.



Paul handed round sever-

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Bromley Council

Main switchboard:

020 8464 3333

E-mail:

csc@bromley.gov.uk

Opening hours Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm

Address: Civic Centre,
Stockwell Close, Brom-
ley, 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.

Books can be reserved from here, or over the Internet via the Bromley library website for later picking up from the mobile library.

Councillors

Julian Grainger

01689 889392

julian.grainger@bromley.gov.uk

Samaris Huntington-Thresher

020 8464 3333

[Samaris.Huntington-](mailto:Samaris.Huntington-Thresher@bromley.gov.uk)

Thresher@bromley.gov.uk

Bob Evans 01689 853002

robert.evans@bromley.gov.uk

Chelsfield Village Society

cvscontact@googlemail.com

Chelsfield Village Voice

villagevoice@chelsfield.org

Chelsfield Primary School

01689 825827

BT Line Faults	0800 800151
Electrical Power Failure (EDF)	08007838866
Thames Water Emergencies	0845 9200800
Transco Gas Emergency Service	0800 111999
Orpington Police Station 1000-1800 Monday-Saturday	0300 1231212
Samaritans	01689 833000
NHS Direct	0845 4647
Safer Neighbourhood Team	020 8721 2605

Orienteering in March

Orienteering is again returning to Lullingstone Park this spring but this time with a format that will get the taste buds going. This year Lullingstone Park Golf Course have generously allowed us to use their facilities and will be selling their famous bacon and egg baps. It will also allow a different start to last year's event, downhill rather than straight up the steepest slope of the park.

Orienteering is an outdoor adventure sport. The aim is to navigate between control points marked on a map to complete the course in the quickest time. It does not matter how young, old or fit you are, as you can run, walk or jog the course and progress at your own pace. The local orienteering club, Dartford Orienteering Club (www.dfok.co.uk) is organizing the event on Saturday 27th March between 10.45 and 12 noon.

Basic instruction and equipment are provided, no map reading experience is necessary. The



DFOK junior at Hall Place

beginners' course is 2km and will take you between 30 minutes and an hour. We suggest you email us at newcomers@dfok.co.uk before the event so we can help get you started. Alternatively just ask one of the officials on the day.

Our events are very popular with all ages from 3 to 80. We hope to see plenty from Chelsfield there, including the local golfers who might want to swap hunting for golfing flags for hunting for orienteering flags.



Sean (organiser) and his son Ben at Hall Place

Blowing My Own Trumpet

At the risk of blowing my own trumpet, I am proud to announce my first music CD. I have recorded 17 tracks of my compositions for piano and keyboard, one features our

own Lullingstone String Quartet, another my friend's Dutch Street Organ. Delighted to sell copies for a promotional price of £7. As photographic assignments di-

minish I am trying to supplement my income, before eventually retiring, with music and talks.

Phil Lane 01689 858634

Stem Florists

Following on from our local business article last month we now have a photograph of Emma Giles, the proprietor of Stem Florists.



Memorial Flight Rescue Petition

Dear All - Following the interest shown at the Federation Meeting last week, that the Battle of

Britain Memorial Flight could become a casualty of the upcoming round of defence cuts, Peter Os-

borne has asked me to circulate the link for a petition on the No10 website.

"We the undersigned Petition the Prime Minister to Ensure that the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight is not axed in any defence cuts. It has been suggested that the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight (BBMF) - which celebrates the sacrifice of those who flew during the 2nd World War - will be cut in the next round of defence cuts. This will be a travesty if it was to go ahead.

The BBMF is said to cost a mere £3m a year, less than 0.1% of the defence budget.

It is a great delight for all who see their displays, and, if closed, the memory of 'The Few' will be lost."

News From LBB Residents Federation

Defence cuts in the offing are expected to affect the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight. Most of us will have appreciated the planes at the Summer Fair. Those of you with access to the Internet can sign the Downing Street petition: against these proposed cuts. This is available on <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/BBMFCuts/>

Also subsidies supporting the BFPO organisation for British troops fighting abroad are under threat.

The Bromley Area Action Plan is available to view on Bromley Council's web site www.bromley.gov.uk.

Two notable objections are from the residents of 13 properties in Ethelbert Close which are scheduled to be demolished to make way for a new shopping complex and Empire Cinemas who object to the plan to build a new council owned cinema.

A toucan crossing is to be provided on the A21 at Green Street Green. This will have a beneficial

side effect for drivers wanting to join the roundabout from Green Street Green High Street.

Bromley Council is talking to managers of the new Orpington Tesco regarding the traffic problems. The cause is apparently cars stopping in the entrance to the car park.

Bromley Council is offering a "Complete Driving Course". This is a 5 week awareness course which acts as a refresher. They are currently offering a 2 for 1 deal.

For a limited period the Council's Road Safety Unit are offering BUY-ONE-GET-ONE FREE on any listed Complete Driving Course.

Course sessions and times for the rest of 2010:

Course starting on Monday 22 February 7pm to 9pm for five consecutive Monday evenings. Observed drive date Sunday 21 March 9am to 1pm

Course starting on Wednesday 2 June 7pm to 9pm for five consecutive Wednesday evenings. Observed drive

date Sunday 27 June 9am to 1pm

Course starting on Thursday 2 September 7pm to 9pm for five consecutive Thursday evenings. Observed drive date Sunday 26 September 9am to 1pm

Course starting on Saturday 23 October 10am to 12:30, 30 October, 6 November and 20 November. Observed drive date Sunday 14 November 9am to 1pm

Please note that any free places in the BUY ONE-GET-ONE-FREE offer can only be booked by postal application. Please contact us for an application form or for further information

Contact

Telephone:

020 8313 4546

Fax: 020 8313 1948

e-mail:

[road.safety@bromley.](mailto:road.safety@bromley.gov.uk)

[gov.uk](http://www.bromley.gov.uk)

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

The chairman of Bromley Road safety Panel would like to see 20mph zones in all non through routes.

Even if this were to come into effect this would not help the village as Warren Road, Church Road and Bucks Cross Road are used as a through route. We will to continue to press our individual case as the users of the school, children's playground and village hall need safer roads.

Bromley Council is often disappointed at the response they get from public announcements published in the News Shopper. This is not the only area not to get this free newspaper. Important information need to be passed on through residents associations. It was mentioned that Tesco and Sainsbury's have copies of the News Shopper.

The three operating theatres at Orpington Hospital are now closed. From

South London Healthcare's December newsletter: The decision has been made to relocate elective surgery from Orpington treatment Centre. After the New Year patients who would previously have been seen at OTC will be referred to PRU where the same team and service will be located in what was the private patients' unit. No other services at Orpington Hospital are affected. Orpington Hospital is not closing and will continue to provide outpatient services, including a large physiotherapy department with hydrotherapy pool. PCT-run services will also remain. In the longer term, Bromley PCT is looking at the potential for the Orpington Hospital site to become the 'hub' (centre) for a new polysystem.

We would like to bring

your attention to two personal safety schemes. ICE stands for in case of emergency. If you have a mobile phone, add emergency contact numbers to the contact list on the phone. Call them ICE1, ICE2 etc. Emergency services will look for mobile phones and ICE numbers. If you are taken ill at home paramedics will look in your fridge for any medication. The "message in a bottle" idea is to have a container in the fridge clearly marked with a green cross. In it you should list any medication you are taking, and details of your doctor and any emergency contacts. Also mark your fridge door with a green cross. Some of the delegates at the meeting actually had these containers which had been distributed by the local Lions group.

'The Spire' St. Martins Church News'

There is a said service of Holy Communion at 8 am, a Family Service at 9.45 am, and a Sung Evensong Service at 6.30 pm, every Sunday.

At 11 am on the 1st and 3rd Sundays – Sung Communion – on the 2nd and 4th

Mattins.

The Church is open each-day, come in; rest and be still, in a moment of 'holiness'.

Leslie Virgo, the Rector, is there to be seen by anyone about anything, as well as

Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals. Call at the Rectory in Skibbs Lane or phone 01689-825749

The Brass Crosby Room invites your use and your response to the many activities held there.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

WEEKLY EVENTS

EVERY MONDAY

Chelsfield Methodist Hall
Windsor Drive

Iyengar Yoga Classes

9.30am-11.00am

Suitable for Beginners

Contact Denise on

01689 853215

EVERY TUESDAY

Parish Room Skibbs Lane

Mums & Tots Group

10.00am-12.00 midday

Details 01959 535110

EVERY TUESDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall

Art Workshop

“Art for the Fun of it”

4.00pm-5.00pm

5 years and upwards

£8.00 per child

Details 01959 532761

geraldinefranklin @bt.com

EVERY TUESDAY

Five Bells

Charity Quiz Night

from 9.00pm

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Hatha Yoga Classes

10.30am-12.00am

Contact Pam Keeper on

01732 458930

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Rugby for Girls

Any Age

Evening training from

September to May

Contact Kevin

0208 289 8566

SPECIAL EVENTS

Thursday 18th February

Brass Crosby Room

Local History Group

10.15am-30pm

Saturday 20th February

Five Bells

Fun Race Night

Charity race night, come
and join the fun!

Wednesday 24th February

Parish Room

Internet Café

2.30pm to 4.

Saturday 27th February

Five Bells

Tapas Night

Book early on

01689 821044

Thursday 4th March

Five Bells

Live Music

Just Friends Swing Sextet

from 8.30pm

Sunday 14th March

Five Bells

Mother Day

Special meal

Booking Essential

01689 821044

Tuesday 16th March

Chelsfield Village Hall

Chelsfield (evening)

Womens Institute

from 8.00pm Contact

01689 821592

Wednesday 17th March

Five Bells

St Patricks Day

Typical Irish Meal

From 6.30pm-9.00pm

Friday 19th March

Five Bells

Live Music

Simon Perry's Sounds of

the 60's & 70's

from 9.00pm

Wed 24th—Sat 27th March

Chelsfield Village Hall

“Hello, Is There

Any Body There?”

by Ian Hornby

a Production by

The Chelsfield Players

Saturday 27th March

Lullingstone Park

Orienteering

Any age group, just turn up

between 10.45am and

Noon

Wed 26th—Sat 29th March

Chelsfield Village Hall

“A Wedding Story”

by Bryony Lavery

The Chelsfield Players

Saturday 12th June

Rectory Gardens

St Martins Church

Fete

Saturday 10th July

Cricknet / Recreation Ground

Chelsfield Village

Fair

Sunday 18th July

Chelsfield Village Hall

The BIG LUNCH

details to follow