



February 2017

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SAMARITANS BROMLEY AND ORPINGTON

Information and Selection Day
Saturday, 25th February, 2017
starting at 10 a.m.

To find out more about our
information day and to receive an
application pack,
please contact us:

Email:

samaritansrecruitbromley@gmail.com

Phone: Recruitment Line
07802 633757

Our Recruitment Team will
respond to you promptly

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

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TALK TO CHELSEFIELD - Tell us about your Events

We need your news, reports,
stories, photos, diary events,
cartoons, etc. to continue to
make the Village Voice
interesting and useful

Please send anything you feel
suitable for the March 2017
issue to:

chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com

or post to:

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

by Friday 24th February 2017

The Hedgehog

It may be just me but I don't think hedgehogs (*Erinaceus europaeus*) are very common around these parts. You rarely even see their remains squashed by cars and that's usually a good sign of their numbers, even if not for the hedgehogs themselves!

My last recollection of a hedgehog around the village must be about twenty years ago when I saw a mother being followed down the footpath of a neighbour's garden by three very small carbon copies of herself. The lead youngster had its attention attracted by some trinket and all three of the young became involved. The mother strode on until eventually she realised her parade was no longer with her and had to turn to recollect both their attention and her parade. But that was a long time ago and since then I have tried to attract hedgehogs with nesting/hibernation boxes on a number of occasions without any success at all. At one time I placed a box on my allotment in the hope that

a resident hog would help to keep the slug numbers on my plot down allowing me to avoid using any chemical methods. That did not work. Another time I placed one in a friend's garden in Shoreham, again without any luck. So, numbers seem to be very low although last year's bumper crop of slugs must surely have helped their prospects.

The hedgehog is one of those nocturnal animals that we are all familiar with but, as mentioned, few of us are likely to have seen in recent years. The name is an obvious one from which to derive its origin as it spends a lot of time in and about hedges. The name was first used around the fifteenth century and has other names such as hedge-pig and urchin which is also the name of newly born hedgehogs while the collective noun is an 'array' of hedgehogs.

Over the decades there has been a slow decline in the numbers of hedgehogs in Britain. This has been put down

to modern farming techniques and gardeners' use of slug pellets although many of these profess to be harmless to animals.

The other obvious danger is the common motor car and in the past I can remember many instances of seeing the flat remains of these animals on country roads. This is something I rarely see now although this may be due to them evolving away from the defence mechanism of rolling up into a defensive ball and simply running!

Young hedgehogs lose their spines which are replaced with new (adult) ones and this process is called 'quilling' although confusingly hedgehogs have spines not quills. Quills are hollow, barbed and can be released at will and porcupines have these. Hedgehogs have spines (about 5000 of them) which are solid and cannot be released at will.

Natural predators are badgers and foxes and the scarcity of hedgehogs may be due to the large

number of both of these animals in the local area (Badgers Mount didn't get its name by luck)!

They are also vulnerable to adders although in this case it is the hedgehog looking to kill and eat the snake. Interestingly, like opossums and moles, hedgehogs have some natural immunity against snake venom.

of death, usually occurring during hibernation. With warming winters one would think that the hedgehog's fortunes would improve but a hedgehog that wakes too early uses valuable calories and may well die if the weather cools again or their usual food sources are not available.

guard against during this period are male hedgehogs, which will sometimes prey upon the young.

Over the years there have been many news stories about hedgehogs becoming a nuisance on the Hebridean islands. The problem stems from the 1970s when a small number of hedgehogs were introduced to control the slugs in the postman's greenhouse. They soon escaped and began to breed using the eggs of nesting birds as a food source. Initially hedgehogs were culled but around 2007 a better plan of relocating the hedgehogs to the Scottish mainland was implemented and this programme continues to this day such are the difficulties of catching every last hog!

Courtesy of 'The Wildlife Trust'



European hedgehogs may live to ten years of age, although the average life expectancy in the wild is three years. In the winter they build a rudimentary den to hibernate although it is so basic that there does not appear to be a proper name for it, so maybe we should just call it a hibernacula! Starvation is the most common cause

When spring does arrive the young are suckled by their mother until they are able to hunt for themselves. They are born in litters ranging from one to eleven. After about four weeks, the mother will take the young out on their first foraging trip and after ten days, the family will separate. Among the predators females must

Many people may have heard of St Tiggywinkle hospital based in Buckinghamshire which became the world's first bespoke hedgehog unit in 1985 and was named after Beatrix Potter's Mrs Tiggy-Winkle character. It rescues all sorts of injured wildlife but its best

known for its work with hedgehogs after a drought in 1984 when the hospital was asked to give advice to the nation via the news media. By sheer coincidence, my Gt-Gt-Gt Grandmother (Sarah Nash – Nee Fountain) was born in 1806 in the same village (Haddenham near Aylesbury, Bucks) as St Tiggywinkle's hospital before moving to London as a child.

One last piece of advice: don't leave bread and milk out for hedgehogs as they are lactose intolerant. If you believe hedgehogs are in your garden and you want to attract them then leave a little cat or dog food. Also, be warned: hedgehogs are well known for carrying fleas

and there may be up to 500 fleas on one hedgehog but the specific hedgehog flea rarely bites humans.

One last thing!

An additional point of interest this month is the photo below of an ice spike (for want of a better name). During the cold spell in mid-January I noticed that my rainfall monitor had completely frozen and was sporting a spike from its centre.

There were no overhanging trees or similar means by which the ice could accumulate via a process of dripping water but one means has occurred to me. I believe that the thin plastic container's shape is an important factor. The water may have frozen

quickly from the thin container sides as the heat may have rapidly radiated to the cold ground leaving the centre still liquid. As the ice expanded on freezing it would move towards the centre pushing slushy, rapidly freezing water up as it went. I imagine the process was quite quick.

*Steve Fuller
February 2017*



Mutterings From The Millers

Yet again the weather has been cold but bright during January, better than last year when we had a fair amount of rain. The ground has been hard so enabling the boys to do a little hedge cutting. Mainly they have been delivering hay and straw and carrying on

with the refurb of the old office. As it has been so cold, it has been great to be under cover and get on with the skirting etc. A carpet has now been laid so nearly ready for use.

The date for keeping chickens under cover and

wild bird proof has been extended to 28th February. Not sure how long I will be able to keep my girls in the greenhouse, depends on the weather, so will have to make alternative plans. The yolks have returned to a darker yellow fortunately but they are

still trying to escape as soon as I open the door.

The pea straw buyer failed to keep his order so as we needed to get it moved and our local co-operative has found a new buyer. Did you know that deer love the stuff? There is a deer farm at Seal Chart and the boys took a few bales there to see if the farmer and deer were happy with it. Fortunately they were, so they have been carting the bales by truck and trailer. Bit of a long way with tractor and long trailer but proved very easy with the truck.

There isn't a lot more to say this month, so I thought I would just write a few lines about the

family.

We found a diary belonging to Steve's Great Grandma, Emily and she noted that she moved here on the 10th April 1899. The two eldest children had been born at Wood Street, Wallington and the next five children either here at the farm or at Harecroft, the house in Warren Road, which is now called Harefield. George and Emily moved about a bit as we have recorded that they also lived at Pine Ridge, which was a house at the beginning of Knoll Rise on the left. They lived at Harecroft at the time George died and Emily went to live with her daughter in Worlds End

Lane until her death on 15th November 1957. George died as a result of injuries sustained in a collision between an army lorry and his car at the junction of Court Road and Church Road on the 11th July 1943

This month's weather folklore is about Candlemas Day, 2nd February.

*If Candlemas Day is bright and clear,
There'll be two winters in that year;
But if Candlemas Day is mild or brings rain,
Winter is gone and will not come again.*

Let's hope for the latter.

Chris Miller

A Red Kite Sighting

I'm responding to Steve Fuller's call for information in his excellent January article about the red kite.

I am by no means an expert birder, but my wife Val & I have been actively bird watching all our lives, and I'm particularly interested in raptors. On holiday back in 1994 we made a point

of finding the red kites at what was then one of their last strongholds in the far west of Wales. With the success of the reintroduction programme I used – before I retired – to frequently count them on the M40 as I shuttled to meetings in the Midlands. So I'm confident that I can safely identify red kites on the wing... which made it all

the more exciting in May or June 2013 when I had an extended viewing of one between Chelsfield and Well Hill. We had a brief sighting of one over the top of Well Hill in 2011 so we knew they were about, but on this occasion I was driving from Chelsfield Village towards Well Hill, and noticed that the hay was being cut in the field



that slopes up quite steeply on the left of Rock Hill. A raptor was quartering across the mown area so I pulled in to the side of the road and for about 10 minutes

I had a superb grandstand view of a red kite moving up and down the field, sometimes near the tractor and other times far across by the fence. The flight pattern,

the size, the colouring and above all the long forked tail were all unmistakable. Once it swooped flamboyantly down into the grass, but I felt it came back up too quickly for it to have caught prey. Eventually I had to move on; it would be nice to know if the tractor driver saw what was happening around him, and if he knew what a rarity the experience was. I hope Steve is able to accept this sighting, and I look forward to seeing if others have similar reports.

David Rea

Chelsfield's WW1 Casualties

JOHN MUSSELL

L/9245 Corporal John (Jack) Mussell of the 2nd Battalion Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment died on 4th January 1917, aged 25, while a prisoner of war in Mesopotamia (now Iraq). He was in the same battalion as George Dolley, who died the previous October, also as a prisoner of war. Jack was the son of Henry and Martha Mussell of 1 Brewery Cottages, Green Street Green, and in

1911 he is already in the army and is serving in India.

Jack Mussell is commemorated on the 'Angora Memorial' at the Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery. Although he is probably buried here, many of the casualties were not individually identified, so he is remembered on the memorial.

In 1901 Jack is living with his mother and father in Green Street Green,

aged 11. His father Henry is listed as a Gas Engine Driver, and his mother Martha is a washerwoman. They lived next door to The Elms which I guess could have been a pub or tap house, as the head of the household is a brewer. Jack was the cousin of Ernest Mussell, also on our memorial, as his father Henry was Ernest's father Richard's younger brother.

*Philippa Rooke
pjrooke@hotmail.com*

Would You Like an Allotment?

Are you interested in growing your own fruit and vegetables and at the same time meeting and socialising with like-minded people? Then renting an allotment plot on the Chelsfield Allotment site could be the answer for you.

The allotments are known to have existed from 1895 (and may go back further) when they were owned by the St Martin of Tours, the Parish Church of Chelsfield. In 1889, Mr Edward Norman, a partner in Martins Bank, purchased the Rectory and its surrounding land from Chelsfield Parish.

Subsequently the Rectory was renamed Chelsfield House. (Chelsfield House eventually became Chelsfield Park Hospital.)

The site is now owned by the London Borough of Bromley and is let to, and managed by, the Chelsfield Allotment Association. Chelsfield Allotment Association is made up of all the site plot holders, who annually elect a Committee to manage the site affairs on their behalf.

The Association has always seen itself as very

much part of the Chelsfield Community and particularly welcomes residents of Chelsfield and the surrounding area as plot holders.

Normally we have a long waiting list for plots but at the moment we have a few vacancies. If you are interested in taking on a plot please contact the Site Manager, Graham Rose, at

Graham.Rose3tc@btinternet.com

with your name, address and a contact telephone number.

Chelsfield Village Artisan Flower Workshops

Love flowers?

Would you like to try something different? Come along to one of our workshops and get flower creative. We feel passionate about sharing the joy of flowers with others and how much pleasure we've got from seeing our clients take home their own creations.

Our varied workshops are tailored to suit classic, contemporary and rustic arrangements so that we have something to offer all

tastes. You may be interested in creating a hand tied bouquet or perhaps you would like to do something different with those supermarket flowers that you end up just plonking in a vase.

Artisan Floral Workshops offer expert tuition and friendly guidance, come along with your family or friends, a perfect way to spend a few hours.

**Friday 24th March,
Rustic Container for
Mother's Day, Chelsfield
Village Hall**

**Tuesday 13th June –
British Grown Hand Tied
Flowers,
Chelsfield Village Hall
Thursday 30th
November – Wreath
Making, Chelsfield Village
Hall**

(For other dates and venues please see our Facebook page) Our workshops run from 7.30pm to 9.30pm and are priced at £35 per person including all materials, tuition and refreshments.

A bit about us:

Linda Barton ICSF Cert Ed –

has over 30 years' experience in the florist industry, running her own successful shop as well as a career in teaching. Pam Coleman has many years' experience in event management experience, from royal engagements, weddings to large corporate events. We both feel passionate about sharing the joy of flowers with others and how much pleasure

we've got from seeing our clients take home their own creations.

To book a place or for more details please contact:
Pam 07753 838116 or Linda 07788 932242

Email: artisanfloral17@gmail.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/artisanfloral/>
Twitter: [artisanfloral17](https://twitter.com/artisanfloral17)



Fast Broadband Update from Steve Barnes

Things have been very quiet regarding progress over the last few months. This is because Openreach (part of BT) have the project in their workstack, but it is very difficult to get any progress information from them. After writing to the CEO of Openreach,

I do now have a contact, who has promised to keep me more up to date, and let's hope that 2017 eventually enables this part of Bromley to partake in 21st Century communications ! The latest I have is that

survey work is going on and should complete by end January (the trouble is that I had been told previously that this survey work was taking place last October !!). Once the surveys are complete, Openreach should be in a position to more accurately give me some dates for things like running fibre under the roads, installing street cabinets, connecting up etc. They are still working to a readiness date of June/July this year, but I'm pressing them for a quicker implementation.

I have another progress call with them on 10th Feb.

Elsewhere, I'm also working with a small company ("Pine Media") who plan to bring fast broadband to Cudham (Openreach have declined to serve that area).

Unlike the Openreach solution (fast broadband delivered over your existing telephone line), Pine Media plan to transmit broadband over the airwaves from a mast in Knockholt.

Welcome to The World Cosima

We are overjoyed to welcome our beautiful granddaughter into the world. Cosima Catherine Campbell-Sloan was born

on January 19th to Kat and James in Perth, Western Australia. They are all doing very well.
Dan and Avis Sloan



War Diaries

I was wading through my dad and mum's diaries from 33-59. The most interesting one so far is 1940 which records in detail war experiences.

Extracts

*October 20th 1940
.....Connie and Kay (dad's sister and his fiancée) walked over to Oxenden Wood Road and saw 30ft crater about 15' deep. House on brink was pushed bodily back but still stood up whole, no other house was damage!! (I think this may have been the new house where Steve and Jackie McCann live)*

*October 21st 1940
Very quiet night. Slept well, a few bombs fell near in first part of raid (dad was living in Glentrammon Road at the time).*

There are numerous and fascinating accounts of living in Orpington during 1940 which mention Chelsfield and Green Street Green which I shall gradually extract for Village Voice.

Dad wrote in great detail and although at first he cannot recall every event, after chatting for a while it all comes back. There is quite a lot about the

vagaries of time spent in air raid shelters, Andersons (named after Sir John Anderson, cabinet minister during the War) or "dug-outs" as they were known. Not least of which was my grandfather Leaney (mum's dad) who smoked his "evil" pipe down there and often argued fiercely with his family! There was also an indoor table version called the "Morrison" after Herbert Morrison.(Home Secretary for coalition).

Standby for the next instalment,

Phil Lane

Valentines Day Fraud

With Valentine's Day approaching it's worth taking a minute to remember that "romance fraud" is a modern menace for those looking for love.

While the shops may be filled with hearts and chocolates, online dating fraud in the UK cost victims a heart-breaking £27 million in 2015 according to Neighbourhood Watch partners Action Fraud

and Get Safe Online. Thousands of online dating related crimes were reported to Action Fraud last year with the average loss standing at £10,000. However, the actual number of crimes is thought to be considerably higher, with victims not reporting many cases owing to embarrassment.

City of London Police's Commander Chris Greany, the Police

National Coordinator for Economic Crime said: "Romance fraudsters are using every method available to exploit people looking for love - including dating websites, social media and direct emails. These heartless criminals will specifically target those who they deem to be vulnerable and most likely to fall for their scams. Our intelligence tells us that people aged 50-59 are the most likely to become

a victim of dating fraud and therefore need to be especially careful when going online in search of a partner.

"Key advice to follow which will help you stay safe includes never sending funds to someone you have never met. If you're in two minds always consult with a trusted friend or family member who will be able to view the situation objectively and provide another opinion on the situation.

He added: "It is also very important that if you think you are being targeted or have been a victim of dating fraud to report to Action Fraud. Sharing this information will help us identify and track down these heartless criminals who have absolutely no regard for people's emotional or financial well being". Almost two thirds (62%) of all victims are aged between 40-69 accounting for £16 million of the total losses. People aged between 50-59 are the most likely victims accounting for a quarter of all frauds and losing just over £6 million. Almost two thirds (64%)

of all romance scams originated on dating sites, followed by social media (25%) and 10% via email. Only 2% of reported dating frauds originated via contact made on dating apps.

Tell-tale signs your online date may be a fraudster:

They want to communicate with you through instant messaging and texts, rather than through the dating website or chat room where you met.

They ask you lots of questions about yourself, but don't tell you much about themselves.

They don't answer basic questions about where they live and work.

Their profile picture is too perfect - for example they look like an actor or Miss World titleholder.

They start asking you to send them money using a number of different scenarios such as:

Claiming to be military personnel based overseas requiring funds for flights home or early discharge from the forces

Citing medical related issues they need money for such as a sudden need for surgery, either for the fraudster or the fraudster's family member They've arranged to visit you but need money to pay travel costs

Get Safe Online recommends the following tips to make sure you're safe dating online:

Trust your instincts - if you think something feels wrong, it probably is.

Choose a site that will protect your anonymity until you choose to reveal personal information and that will enforce its policies against inappropriate use

Do not post personal information, such as phone numbers, on dating sites.

Never send money or give credit card or online account details to anyone you don't know and trust.

Wait until you feel comfortable with an individual before telling them things like your phone number, place of work or address.

Be extremely wary about removing clothes or doing other things in front of your webcam that could be used against you - even if you think you know the other party.

Use a dating site that offers the ability to email prospective dates using a service that conceals both parties' true email addresses.
Set up a separate email

account that does not use your real name.

Pick a user name that does not include any personal information. For example, "joe_glasgow" or "jane_liverpool" would be bad choices.

Finally, meet for the first few times in a safe place with plenty of people around, and tell a family member or friend where

you are.

To report a fraud and receive a police crime reference number, call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or use their online fraud reporting tool. For further advice on how to stay safe online go

www.GetSafeOnline.org

Safer Neighbourhood

Watch

Village Voice Archives

Do you ever look for a previous article that you have seen in the newsletter but have problems finding it?

The Village Voice is now in its 9th year of

publication, and now all past copies are archived on the Internet at:

www.greenstreetgreen.co.uk/villagevoice

All these articles are now

fully searchable by google, and so any article is easy to find.

This does mean that we do get occasional queries for information from all over the world.

Women's World Day of Prayer - Friday 3rd March

The Women's World Day of Prayer is an annual event, when Christian women of any denomination come together in Prayer for that day.

This year the women of the Philippines have prepared the service entitled

Each year the churches of Orpington take it in turn to host the service and this year it is the turn of St Martin of Tours, Chelsfield.

The service will start at 10.30 am on Friday the 3rd March and anyone, male or female is very welcome to attend.



"Am I Being Unfair to You?"

Gillian Vernon

Chelsfield Riding School Dates

Tuesday 14th Feb

Pony Day (must be able to walk and trot)

4-8 lead rein

Save Our Riding Schools

We here at Chelsfield Equestrian Centre have an increase of 66% and are fighting this with a Facebook petition and would ask as many people as possible to sign tis and write to their local MP who for this borough is Jo Johnson. It would be a shame to lose this local amenity which has been here for over 30 years.

Wednesday 15th Feb

"NEW" Magical Unicorn Mini Pony Morning, ages 4-8 lead rein

The British Horse Society are launching a campaign to raise awareness about the disproportionate increase in business rates which is affecting all riding schools and livery yards across the country. This may mean the closure of some riding schools.

Wednesday 15th Feb

Tack Cleaning afternoon

Thursday 16th Feb

"NEW" Magical Unicorn Mini Pony Morning, ages

Jan

Stay Safe

So how about we all make a resolution to keep safe by doing a few simple things to start the year off.

Change your login passwords and update your security on your laptop or PC.

Put a light on a timer to come on when you go out

at night.

Check your carbon monoxide alarms and fire alarms are in full working order.

Double check your locks and make sure that your doors and windows are locked at night before you go to bed.

Chain garden equipment

together with a good padlock.

They are some of the simplest - but most important - things you can do this year to stay safe.

*John Leach
Safer Neighbourhood
Watch*

Dial 55 - This Number Could Save Your Life

If you can't talk when on the phone to the emergency services,

Dial 55

It's a situation we all hope we'll never find ourselves in. You're in danger and desperately need help,

but speaking would put you (or the other people you're with) further at risk.

What do you do?

Ringing the emergency services and staying silent would result in your

call being cut off, but for these situations there is a "silent solution":

Dial 999

When you are asked which service you require cough, or make any noise.

Then tap in
55
to your keyboard.
The operator will then
connect you to the police
so they are alerted to
your call.

This is a service that was
introduced 15 years ago,
but hardly anyone knew it
even existed until the
police decided to re-

publicise it this week
following the death of
Kerry Power.

Kerry rang 999 in 2013,
just before her ex-
boyfriend strangled her to
death and as she didn't
say anything, her call was
ignored by the police.

Had she known about 55,
she might have lived.

How many more
domestic violence victims
could have been saved
by this simple number?

*Tell everyone you know -
especially women - about
the 55 "silent solution".*

You might be saving a life
John Leach
Safer Neighbourhood
Watch

Name These Cathedrals

**Here's a puzzle for you
to ponder over,
courtesy of
Pam Francis.**

1. To inter a saint
2. He marched them up
and down
3. Floating offal
4. The Queen's box
5. Do not be sent there
6. A shade of green

7. Links with a Victorian
PM
8. A well known English
cheese (but only
one!)
9. Get up in a meadow
10. A breed of cattle
11. A little bird's
monument
12. Person - part of the
body - hesitation
13. A Saxon isle

14. 1st of March
15. A murky stream
16. A good place to fast?
17. A cowboy's weapon
18. Where townswomen
cross the water
19. A famous rabbit's
home
20. What a sauce!

**Answers in the March
issue of the CVV.**

Local History Group

This month we enjoyed an
informative presentation
entitled '250 Years of
Transport Evolution in
Kent'. Nick Reynolds
enhanced his talk with
many appropriate
contemporary and modern
illustrations and
photographs with particular
association with
Farnborough. The talk was
in two parts, the first being

the Turnpike Age from
1663 to 1888.

Since Tudor times and
prior to the advent of
turnpikes the local parishes
had been responsible for
the maintenance of roads.
Most travel was local and
roads were in a poor state
as limited resources were
devoted to their upkeep.
Longer journeys were

made driving livestock to
market. Farnborough was
on the turnpike route to
Hastings. The turnpike
gates guarded the roads
and had spikes on the top
to discourage those trying
to use the route without
paying the toll. Turnpike
trusts operated the network
and the revenue was re-
invested to improve the
road surfaces. The first

Turnpike Act was in 1663. From 1695 to 1730 the principal roads out of London were established and by 1830 there were a thousand turnpikes, with 30,000 miles of road and 8,000 toll gates.

The Hastings turnpike ran from New Cross Gate to Bromley, Sevenoaks, via Farnborough and on through Tonbridge. The Olde Whyte Lyon (1626) at Locks Bottom was on the route as was The New Inn (1760) in Farnborough (now the change of Horses). The route ran through Shire Lane, Old Hill, Cudham Lane and Rushmore Hill to Knockholt, past Halstead and along Starhill Road to join what is now the A224 and on past Dunton Green and via Riverhead to Sevenoaks. This route later developed to become the A21. The London to Hastings turnpike underwent several route changes from 1823 to the 1840s, but continued to go through Farnborough. In 1823 the Market Square Bromley was realigned and in 1833 Church Road, Farnborough was lowered near St Giles' Church. You can still see the higher path at the original level. In 1834 a new road was constructed from Pratts Bottom to Dunton Green, going past what is now

Knockholt Station and via Badgers Mount and Polhill to avoid the descent past Halstead which was very muddy and had sharp bends. In 1835 a branch road was provided to give access to Chevening House and in the 1840s the final change of route was at Farnborough Hill.

By 1840 the trusts had debts of £7million and corruption and insolvency increased. The new railway development from 1840 to 1870 was the last straw and brought about a sudden fall in revenue. After the Highway Act of 1873 the dis-turnpiked roads became main roads and any assets were dismantled and sold off. In 1888 the Local Government Act made local councils responsible for the entire network, of which only 20% were the old turnpikes. There are legacies to be seen – road side features such as milestones and toll houses, pub and restaurant names and place and road names. The name turnpike is still in use in the United States of America for their expressways.

After refreshments Nick went on to tell us about the Railway Age, which began in 1830 and is still with us. Steam engines were originally developed for

industrial use but Richard Trevithick set up a circular demonstration track in 1808. In 1835 the Stockton and Darlington Railway was constructed. We were shown a wonderful illustration of the steam engine pulling coaches led by a man on a white horse carrying a red flag. In 1829 the first commercial railway connecting Liverpool and Manchester was built. The engines were unreliable and not powerful enough. A competition to improve engine design was won by George Stephenson with a revolutionary new boiler design. The engine's speed was 30mph. Stephenson won a contract to build several railways and designed the Rocket for commercial use. In 1837 the London to Greenwich railway was built. We were shown an illustration of an engine pulling a large number of coaches on a viaduct constructed above market gardens with St Paul's and the Tower of London in the background. Nick showed us a 1840s Southern England Railway map. Routes ran to Gosport, Brighton and Dover via Reigate. There were many unsuccessful proposals for routes passing near or even through Farnborough including, in 1853, the Sydenham, Farnborough and Otford Railway. In the

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



1850s the East Kent Railway, developing a route to Rochester and Canterbury and the London, Chatham and Dover Railway were set up. In 1856 to 1862 the Mid Kent Railway connected Bromley to St Mary Cray. Nick showed us a contemporary painting alongside a modern photograph of the St Mary Cray viaduct showing that the viaduct had been increased in width, as evidenced by two different sorts of bricks. In 1862 to 1869 a new direct line from Lewisham to Tonbridge was constructed. 1873 to 1898 was the world

wide Long Depression. Most of London's terminals had been built by then, except for Marylebone. At the end of the depression the Light Railway Act aimed to simplify the construction of the network, limiting the weight of engines and trains enabling cheaper construction of bridges. Level crossings were no longer permanently manned. During this post depression era more unsuccessful proposals were put forward including: in 1894 the Hayes and Farnborough Railway terminating at Locks Bottom and, in 1898, the Orpington and

Tatsfield Light Railway to enable the development of Biggin Hill.

In 1899, after much inter railway feuding there was some consolidation of the railway companies followed by nationalisation in 1923 and the formation of Southern Railway.

More information and images can be found at www.farnborough-kent-parish.org.uk. Click on VILLAGE

The next Local history group meeting will be on Thursday 23rd February 2017

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Bromley Council

Main switchboard:

020 8464 3333

E-mail: fixmystreet.com

Opening hours Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm

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

Reporting Problems to the Council

Can be reported via the CVS website, or if urgent by phone out of hours
Emergency Duty Team
020 8464 4848.

Neighbourhood Watch

John Leach 07711304965.

NHS Non-Emergency 111

Chelsfield Primary School
01689 825827

BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital

Main Reception

01689 877855

Physiotherapy

01689 885920

Outpatients

01689 885905

Councillors

Keith Onslow

keith.onslow@bromley.gov.uk

Samaris Huntington-Thresher

020 8464 3333

samaris.huntington-thresher@bromley.gov.uk

Lydia Buttinger

lydia.buttinger@bromley.gov.uk

Chelsfield Village Voice

chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com

EDF Electrical Power Failure
Call 105 or 0800 316 3105

BT Line Faults 0800 800151

Thames Water Emergencies
0800 714614

National Grid (Gas)

Emergency (leaks) 0800 111999

Bromley Police Station & Police non emergency 101

Samaritans

Freephone 116123

Safer Neighbourhood

Team 020 8721 2605

chelsfield.prattsbottom.snt@met.police.uk

Chelsfield Village Hall

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

Chelsfield Players

info@chelsfieldplayers.org
www.chelsfieldplayers.org

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 01689 853215

EVERY MONDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall and
Brass Crosby Room
Chelsfield Housemartins
Monday Afternoons, for local
people who are unable to go out
without help.

EVERY MONDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall
Pilates Class
6.30pm-7.30pm
Contact Francesca on
07791073445
iopilatesuk@gmail.com

EVERY MONDAY

Christ Church Hall
(Charterhouse Rd)
Beginners Pilates Class
6.55pm
Contact Sally 07786 035640
orpingtonpilates@gmail.com

EVERY TUESDAY

Brass Crosby Room
St Martin's Toddler Group
10.30am-12.00 midday
Contact Sarah Ford:
01689 853415
stmartinstoddlers@gmail.com

EVERY TUESDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall
Pilates Class
09.00am - 10.00am
10.00am - 11.00am and
Contact Francesca on
07791073445
iopilatesuk@gmail.com

EVERY TUESDAY

The Chelsfield (Windsor Dr)
Quiz Night
From 7.30pm
Contact 01689 600656

EVERY TUESDAY

Five Bells
Charity Quiz Night
from 9.00pm

EVERY WED THURS & FRI

**Pilates Classes & Pre & Post
Natal Pilates Classes**
Chelsfield Methodist Church
Hall, Windsor Drive
Wed 6.50-7.50pm & 8.00-9.00pm
Thursday 8.20-9.20pm
Friday 9.35-10.35am
& 10.45-11.45am
Post Natal Pilates 12-1.00pm
(Babies Welcome)
Contact Bethany Lucas on
07415 638546
bethanylucaspilates@gmail.com
Further classes at:
www.bethanylucaspilates.co.uk

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Christ Church Hall
(Charterhouse Rd)
Pilates Class
09:00am-10:15am
Private classes by appointment.
Contact Sally 07786 035640
orpingtonpilates@gmail.com

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Hatha Yoga Classes
10.30am-12.00am
Contact Pam Keeper on
01732 458930

EVERY THURSDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall
Art Class
10.15am - 12.15 midday
Contact Leo 07583777065
leo77ok@hotmail.com

EVERY THURSDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall
Class Street Dance
4.30pm-6.00pm
Boys & Girls All Ages
Info: Clare 07960 865518
www.class-streetdance.co.uk

EVERY THURSDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall
Pilates Class
9.00am - 10.00am
6.30pm-7.30pm
Contact Francesca on
07791073445
iopilatesuk@gmail.com

EVERY FRIDAY

Chelsfield Village Hall
Pilates Class
3.00pm-4.00pm
Contact Francesca on

07791073445
iopilatesuk@gmail.com

EVERY SUNDAY

The Chelsfield, Windsor Drive
Live Singer
5.00pm-8.00pm
Contact 01689600656

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday 1st February

Five Bells
Open Mic Night
So all you budding musicians out
there, come along and have a go!
Starts at 8.30pm

Thursday 2nd February (1st Thursday each Month)

Five Bells
Live Jazz with Just Friends
Dave and the guys play an
amazing mix of songs. Music
from 8.30pm

Wednesday 8th February (2nd Wednesday of Month)

Chelsfield Village Hall
Afternoon W.I.
Newcomers Welcome
Contact Gwen on 01689 834879
or Sue on 01689 827407

Wednesday 15th February

Five Bells
Open Mic Night
So all you budding musicians out
there, come along and have a go!
Starts at 8.30pm

Tuesday 21st February (3rd Tuesday of Month)

Chelsfield Village Hall
Evening W.I.
Newcomers Welcome
From 7.45pm
Contact Madeline 01689891533

Thursday 23rd February (Last Thursday Each Month)

Brass Crosby Room
Local History Group
With a talk by Pamela Zollicoffer
entitled "The Secret Door"
Starts 10.30am

Saturday 25th February

Samaritans Recruitment
samaritansrecruitbromley@gmail.com
or phone our Recruitment
Line on 07802 633757
Starts 10.00am