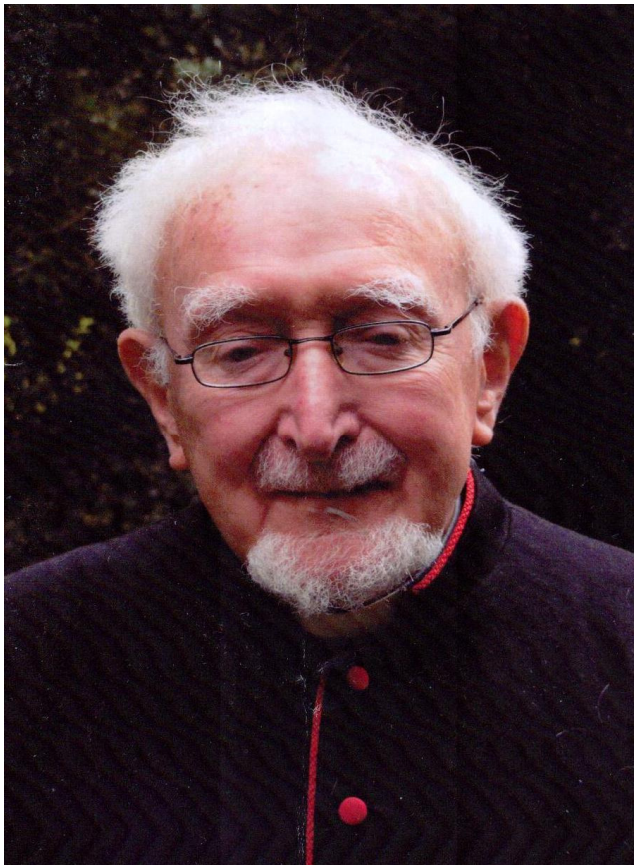




**The Newsletter and  
“What’s On” Guide for  
Residents & Friends  
of Chelsfield Village**

January 2011



After serving Chelsfield very well for 37 years, our Rector, Canon Leslie Virgo is taking a well earned retirement.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank him on behalf of all of his parishioner’s and friends for everything he has done for Chelsfield.

**Farewell and Thank You Leslie!**

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**Contributions  
Please !**

Amusing stories,  
anecdotes, old photos,  
forthcoming events?

**Let Us Know**

Contributions for our  
February issue should  
be emailed to:

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

or posted to:

Chelsfield Village Voice  
2 Bucks Cross Cottages  
Chelsfield Village  
BR67RN

Visit

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

## Tributes To Canon Leslie Virgo

The annual Produce Show will not be the same without Leslie. The prize giving was always arranged around the day's weddings. He announced the winners and presented the prizes in his own inimitable style and always managed to submit several entries, despite being extraordinarily busy on the day. Who can forget his appearance in the BBC's "The Great British Summer". He was commiserating with an entrant who

told him that her two cherry cake attempts had ended in failure. Leslie glanced down at her and told her that there was nothing wrong with her cherries.

There are rumours that he found the job of selecting a "best in show" so iniquitous that he could not face doing it for another year and this precipitated his retirement.

Leslie made many appearances as Father

Christmas at Chelsfield Village playgroup. These always ended with a memorable cotton wool snowball fight.

The users of the Internet Café would like to thank Leslie for allowing us to trail our Internet connection through his garden.

We've always found Leslie to be a very accommodating and friendly neighbour and will be sorry when he leaves.

*Jenny Leach*

Although we are non-church goers we have always found Leslie to be very friendly and welcoming to our family. We shall

all remember him with much affection for his outstanding commitment to the whole local community. He is a truly unique

individual and will be sorely missed.

*The Gandolfi family*

### **Canon Leslie Virgo, Rector to St. Martins of Tours, Chelsfield 1974 - 2011**

January 9th 2011 celebrated the end of 37 years at Chelsfield with a final farewell buffet for our Rector, Leslie Virgo

As a non-church goer I

have no knowledge of Leslie in his "work" life, which gives me an open hand to pay tribute to a very great man from a humanists point of view.

To my mind a great man, or woman, is one who, loves, respects, encourages, supports, sympathises and con-

soles, in the right proportions, all that is right among his/her fellow living creatures. Leslie surely fits this bill as perfectly as any could.

He was great support as a good friend, rather than a rector, when my father died, and I know has been for countless

others over the years. Equally in birth and marriage, those I know who have had Leslie conduct their ceremony have sung nothing but praise for his, thoughtfulness, sensitivity, and of course, humour!

He has always been 100% behind all that is right when presented with local issues, whether they be concerning our Village School, our Village Society, our Village Hall, the former Youth Club, any Social Events or Local Groups and organisations, Local Authority or personal matters. His carefully

thought through suggestions, support and diplomatic manner made him a huge asset to any important decision making.

Leslie is a most wonderful man and has been the most valuable asset Chelsfield Village and surrounding areas has possessed for the last 37 years. His unrivalled kindness, his understanding, his support and enthusiasm for anything local, and / or relating to the community has been beyond compare.

Any child of the village school from those now

in their thirties to those youngest four and barely five years old now in the school will never forget his classic catchphrase, "watch my fingers", and the magical way it would silence a hall full of Primary school children within seconds.

Leslie, thank you, it is with great sadness that we see you leave us, but with great happiness that we know you may now relax and enjoy a very well earned retirement.

*Dan Sloan  
Editor*

*Chelsfield Village Voice*

## **Internet Scam**

Please be aware of a massive fraudulent email campaign using what seems to be stolen email addresses. The user is asked to click on a link to download a PDF-related software package or update. Most appear to concern Adobe and have a subject beginning with: "News Releases : Up-

grade New Adobe Acrobat Reader 2011" These emails link back to one of a number of malicious websites seeking the user to install software that ultimately tries to steal personal details and credit card numbers. It is the nature of these types of attacks that the websites concerned

change frequently so you will need to be vigilant, so please do NOT click on any link in an email unless you are confident of its validity. Normal software updates are not usually delivered by email, and this is a classic approach adopted by fraudsters.



A relaxing concert featuring well-loved poems  
blended with popular classic / light music

Thames Gateway Quartet  
& Guests

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 3pm  
The Brass Crosby room @ St. Martin of Tours (Church Road)  
Tickets £6 ~ Refreshments served  
Box Office 01689 896405 (24/7)

Supporting "Chelsfield Village Hall Restoration"



## Chelsfield Riding School

Many residents of Chelsfield Village and the local area will be familiar with the Riding School. Established for over 50 years we have been part of village life, introducing many children and parents to horse-riding. Some of those riders went on to work with horses as a career.

Horseriding is great as a keep-fit exercise and also great for making new friends. We usually have a very full event schedule throughout the year. Dressage, showjumping and various related activities such as lectures, novelty classes and examinations are normally to be found in

the diary.

Visitors to the Centre are always welcome. Come and meet the horses and ponies who teach people how to ride.

*Duet is kind and gentle*

*Lumina is capable but mischievous*

*Heidi is very popular with both children and adults*

*Amy is good for first lessons also loves jumping*

*Teddy is a firm favourite for beginners*

*Misty is cheeky*

*Sam is the oldest but a steady ride*

*Nigel is a clown but gives confidence*

*Robbie is a challenge for more experienced riders*

*Ruxley is a sensitive soul*

Staffed with fully qualified instructors, we aim to make the horseriding experience fun, serious or competitive, tailored to requirements.

Come and see for yourselves and experience Chelsfield Time!

CHELSEFIELD  
EQUESTRIAN CENTRE,  
CHURCH ROAD,  
CHELSEFIELD, BR6 7SN

TELEPHONE  
01689 855603

[www.chelsfieldequestriancentre.co.uk](http://www.chelsfieldequestriancentre.co.uk)

## Local Problems

A burnt out van by the substation in Warren Road was reported to the Safer Neighbourhood Team on 11<sup>th</sup> December.

The allotments suffered a break in to all the sheds during the first week of the snowy weather. The thieves took any sellable

tools and left lots of footprints.

Prowlers have been reported in the centre of the village in gardens and in one case they were spotted making off with a freezer from the back yard. This saved

the owner having to make a trip to the tip.

Please be aware of strangers around the village, and if you do have any concerns contact either your neighbourhood watch representative, or the Orpington Police Station.



## Neighbourhood Watch

The new Village Neighbourhood Watch/ Safer Neighbourhood Team co-ordinator is

John Leach of 5 Orlestone Gardens. He is establishing appropriate contacts. The

following information has been received from the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

## Bromley Borough Met Police Commander

### Extracts from January 2011 Newsletter

In the past year we have responded to over 106,220 calls from the public, with over 9,750 being emergencies. We arrested over 8,500 people and have investigated over 22,230 crimes. Tragically we dealt with 3 fatal collisions on our roads. Who says we are not busy?

For the first time we finished the year with more officers than when we started. This has been a luxury, enabling us to have a larger pro-active team to target prolific offenders and to provide a greater presence in our Town Centres at night. Unfortunately, those numbers will decline as the freeze on recruitment starts to bite. But don't worry; we've done well over the past 5 years and I see no reason for that to change.

It may not be important to everyone, but achieving all our corporate targets is how the MPS measures me. In that respect, Bromley is a success again.

We finished the last year with huge crime reductions and some excellent detection rates. The downward trend in crime and disorder has continued. Again we are showing some of the biggest crime reductions in London. We have successfully prosecuted some really prolific burglars, thieves and violent people. It is rewarding to see some of them receive custodial sentences. We know that when certain prolific thieves are incarcerated, crime does go down. It also gives respite to victims and the community. It gives us time to concentrate on those who have been released and start re-offending; the

revolving door of the justice system.

Last year I urged people to lock their front doors when they go out or go to bed, and not to leave their car keys by the front door. Sadly, so many people ignored, and continue to ignore this simple advice. We have arrested several teams of burglars who are prolific with this type of crime. They tell us how easy it is for them. They see a nice car on the drive, they find an unlocked UPVC front door, and the car keys conveniently left for them. Please don't make it so easy. We could reduce burglary so significantly if people heeded this advice. Please try harder in 2011.

Safer Neighbourhoods (SNH) is currently being reviewed across the MPS. The current SNH structure of Bromley reflects the complexities of

the borough and the difficulties of policing a large geography that ranges from dense urban areas to remote rural communities. This is the model of policing that has attracted overwhelming political, partner and community support. It has been the vehicle for delivering consistent and sustainable crime and disorder reduction in Bromley over the past 5 years. The size of some of Bromley's wards is significant (Darwin Ward is three times the size of Kensington and Chelsea borough for example) and the current SNTs are an integral part of the local community and provide a policing presence, response, and reassurance across vast areas.

The MPA has invested in 14 Safer Neighbourhood bases; purpose built to MPA and MPS specification that are bespoke to the wards that they serve. Additionally, the Town Centre Team has a base located within the Glades Shopping Centre provided by Capital Shopping Centres. Bromley is the only borough in the MPS with its total estate fit for purpose. The bases have

leases that range from 2015 to 2026. The bases enable the teams to have a local policing presence in remote parts of the borough providing community reassurance and tackling local issues of crime and disorder. I believe that to remove bases from the more remote parts of the borough would be disastrous, returning to where we were before we introduced SNH's; communities feeling isolated, unsafe and ignored.

As your Borough Commander, I welcome the opportunity to build on the success of Safer Neighbourhoods in Bromley and to review and re-shape how we deliver this style of policing.

It is important to me that the model we design meets the needs of the people we serve. We have achieved significant success in Bromley with the current model even though it has been a 'one size fits all' structure. Now that we have the freedom to change this, I believe we can be even better. My intention is to retain the same bases ensuring our teams are located close to their communi-

ties. The review will include extensive consultation and engagement. The role of the community, partner agencies and key stakeholders in this process is crucial.

If you have a view about SNH's, please send your comments to Julian Hurst at:  
julian.hurst@met.police.uk

May I also invite you to take part in the MPS wide survey at:

<http://www.keysurvey.co.uk/survey/339166/19e4/>

or by navigating through the MPS website at  
[www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk).

Finally, as I complete my fourth year as your Borough Commander I feel proud to command such fine officers and staff who work tirelessly to keep Bromley safe. It is still a great place to live, work and visit. Let's keep it that way.

I wish you all a prosperous, healthy and safe 2011.

**Charles Griggs**  
Borough Commander

## Security Solution

Through the SNT, a security marking solution is available to residents to help householders protect their property from theft or burglary whilst ensuring peace of mind that their valuable and sentimental items stand the best chance of being returned if ever lost or stolen.

To support local community crime reduction initiatives where the objective is proactive crime reduction and community enhancement the Crimestoppers Property Protector™ Community Support Program can be tailored to meet local needs.

The programme acts as a powerful deterrent to criminals and has been specially developed for deployment in locations where there are community objectives and partnerships specifically aimed at reducing crime.

Surveys among the residents of HM Prisons show Crimestoppers as the third most potent deterrent to criminal behaviour – *praise indeed from those who should know!*

The Community Support Programme, which includes the Crimestoppers Property Protector™ is available to community groups such as Neighbourhood Watch and Residents Associations. It is distributed in association with crime reduction leaflets as part of a local community program to support residents and those most at risk of becoming a victim of crime.

A range of deterrent stickers and street signage specifically designed to meet local requirements can be provided as a support mechanism to the Community Support Programme.

A number of options are

available to community groups to receive additional discounts and contributions towards local initiatives.

Crimestoppers Property Protector™ is a clear liquid solution, each bottle containing a combination of microparticles which provide a unique code number. Simply by dabbing a small amount of Crimestoppers Property Protector™ onto valuable items you give them their own coded fingerprint – registered exclusively to the rightful owner via the IMMOBILISE property registration database. Each 5ml bottle contains enough solutions for 200 applications. It comes with stickers and a UV key fob torch and is available from the dedicated product site

[crimestopperspropertyprotector.com](http://crimestopperspropertyprotector.com)

or via links at [crimestoppers-uk.org](http://crimestoppers-uk.org).

## Village Christmas Party / Social

This was held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, with around 25 Chelsfield residents braving the snow and icy car

park to attend. It was good to see more new faces and a good time was had by all, and a raffle held in support of

the Village Voice newsletter raised enough for around 2 editions.



## SNT Useful Contact Numbers

<p><b>Chelsfield &amp; Pratts Bottom SNT:</b> 07920 233 857</p> <p>London Borough of Bromley contact numbers:</p>	<p>Bromley Council switch-board 020 8464 3333</p> <p>Abandoned Vehicles/ Dog Fouling 020 8313 4557</p>	<p>Graffiti Removal 020 8313 4557</p> <p>Neighbours Noise Nuisance 020 8313 4830</p>
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## Temporary Traffic Order

### Warren Road, Chelsfield

In order that a Thames Water connection can be made, it will be necessary to close Warren Road to through traffic between it's junctions with

Chelsfield Lane and Court Road.

Displaced traffic will be diverted via:- Court Road, Church Road, Chelsfield Lane and Avalon Road. Access to properties will be maintained as far as is

practicable from either side of the closure as appropriate.

Work is due to commence on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011 and is expected to take five days to complete.

## Forthcoming Works A21 Hewitts Roundabout

### 10<sup>th</sup> Jan-18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2011

Street lighting works mainly involving ducting and cabling.

(Majority of works will be night time but works off the carriageway will take place during day time).

### 14<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> March 2011

(nights only) – Carriageway resurfacing works to be followed by antiskid about 4 weeks later.

#### 1) Ducting works on Hewitts Road

A road closure will be required at Hewitts entry /

exit from Hewitts Road and traffic will be diverted via Church Road, Bucks Cross Road, Maypole Road and vice versa.

#### 2) Ducting works on the A224 Court Road northbound exit from the roundabout

A road closure will be required on the northbound exit from the roundabout to enable some ducting works to be carried out

Traffic intending to exit the roundabout joining the A224 Court Road towards

Orpington will be diverted via A21 Sevenoaks Road, A223 High Street, A223 Sevenoaks Road and A232 Spur Road.

#### 3) Ducting works on Wheatsheaf Hill

A road closure will be required at the entry / exit into Hewitts Road and traffic will be diverted via A224 Orpington By-Pass, Old London and vice versa.

#### 4) Ducting works on A224 Orpington By-Pass exit from the roundabout

A road closure will be required on the southbound exit from the roundabout to enable some ducting

works to be carried out. Traffic intending to exit the roundabout joining the A224 Orpington By-Pass

towards Sevenoaks will be diverted via A21 Sevenoaks Road, Old London Road and vice versa

## Elsa Sjovorr - In Sad Memory

It is with very great sadness we report the death of Elsa Sjovorr, who passed away last week.

Elsa was one of the kindest and most friendly people you would have been ever likely to meet. She served many productive years on the

Chelsfield Village Society committee as a very concerned and active member, and was also a trustee of Chelsfield Village Hall.

Elsa always played an active role in almost every village event, right up to and including the most

recent 2010 village fair. She will be missed greatly by all those who knew her both in and outside the village.

We send our sincerest condolences to her husband, Knutt, and daughters, Christian, and Vibeke,

## Message From the Five Bells

Hello everyone

Ade and I would just like to say we hope you had a great Christmas and we wish you all the best for the coming year.

In January we have our Annual Charity Shield Quiz on Tuesday 11th starting at 9.00pm. This is a chance to get your team name on the shield - it is valiantly fought for by quizzers.

On Friday 21st we have 'live' music with DUPE. A very popular rock band, this is a cancelled Christmas show and Dave and the boys intend it to be

rather special. This evening starts at 8.30pm. Pub closes at mid-night.

Saturday 22nd is the celebration of one of Scotland's finest sons, Robbie Burns. We have a great Burns Night Supper - the menu will be available in a couple of days and will be on our web site, you will need to book your table for this event.

Friday 28th brings more 'live' music with Bandanna. This young group sings songs from the 60s to date, well worth a visit. Music starts at 9.00pm. Pub closes at

Mid-night.

Lastly, our special offer for January is for every meal there is a FREE pudding - so why not take advantage of this. When booking your table please quote code J001.

Thank you for using The Five Bells, you are appreciated and we wish you a very prosperous New Year and look forward to seeing you again.

*Kay  
Landlady  
The Five Bells  
www.thefivebells-  
chelsfieldvillage.co.uk*

## Beware - Postal Scam

Can you circulate this around - it has been confirmed by Royal Mail. The Trading Standards Office are making people aware of the following scam:

A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906

6611911 (a Premium rate number).

DO NOT call this number, as this is a mail scam originating from Belize.

If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £15 for the phone call.

If you do receive a card with these details, then

please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 020 7239 6655 or

<http://www.icstis.org.uk>

or local trading standards.

For more information, see the Crime Stoppers website:

<http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org/crime-prevention/helping-prevent-crime/scams/postal-delivery-scam>

## USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

### Bromley Council

Main switchboard:  
020 8464 3333

E-mail:  
[csc@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:csc@bromley.gov.uk)

Opening hours Monday to  
Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm

Address: Civic Centre,  
Stockwell Close, Brom-  
ley, BR1 3UH

### Reporting Problems to the Council

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

### Mobile Library

The mobile library stops

outside Chelsfield Village  
School on Tuesdays be-  
tween 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](mailto:julian.grainger@bromley.gov.uk)  
Samaris Huntington-Thresher  
020 8464 3333  
[samaris.huntington-thresher@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:samaris.huntington-thresher@bromley.gov.uk)  
Russell Jackson  
[russell.jackson@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:russell.jackson@bromley.gov.uk)

### Chelsfield Village Society

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

### Chelsfield Village Voice

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

### Chelsfield Primary School

01689 825827

BT Line Faults 0800 800151

Electrical Power Failure (EDF)  
08007838866

Thames Water Emergencies  
0845 9200800

Transco Gas Emergency Ser-  
vice 0800 111999

Orpington Police Station  
1000-1800 Monday-Saturday  
0300 1231212

Samaritans 01689 833000

NHS Direct 0845 4647

Safer Neighbourhood Team  
020 8721 2605



## 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**

Brass Crosby Room

#### St Martin's Toddler Group

10.30am-12.00 midday  
Contact Sarah Ford:  
01689 853415

**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

**EVERY THURSDAY**

St Martin of Tours Church

#### Viva Acappella

Ladies Barbershop Chorus  
Practice  
Contact Helen 07984  
961696

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**Thursday 9th December**  
(2nd Thursday Each Month)

#### Crafts For All

Brass Crosby Room  
Come and Try Your Hand at  
a Range of Crafts  
11.00am

**Wednesday 5th January**  
Parish Room-Skibbs Lane

#### Internet Cafe

2.30-4.30pm

**Sunday 16th January**

#### Concert & Poetry

Brass Crosby Room  
3.00pm Tickets £6.00  
Box Office 01689 896405

**Wednesday 19th January**  
Parish Room-Skibbs Lane

#### Internet Cafe

2.30-4.30pm

**Thursday 20th January**  
(3rd Thursday each month)

Brass Crosby Room  
**Local History Group**  
10.15 - Midday

**Friday 21st January**

Five Bells

#### Live Music from DUPE

Christmas Party Speical

**Saturday 22nd January**

Five Bells

#### Burns Night Supper

Kilts & Sporrans Welcome!

**Friday 28th January**

Five Bells

#### Live Music from Bandanna

Starting 9.00pm

**Thursday 3rd February**

Five Bells

#### Live Jazz Music Just Friends

Starting 8.30pm

**Saturday 12th - Monday 14th February**

Five Bells

#### Valentines Weekend

4 course champagne dinner  
on Monday 14th

**Friday 25th February**

Five Bells

#### Live Music from MUTLEY

Starting 9.00pm