

# CHELSEFIELD VILLAGE VOICE

July 2020

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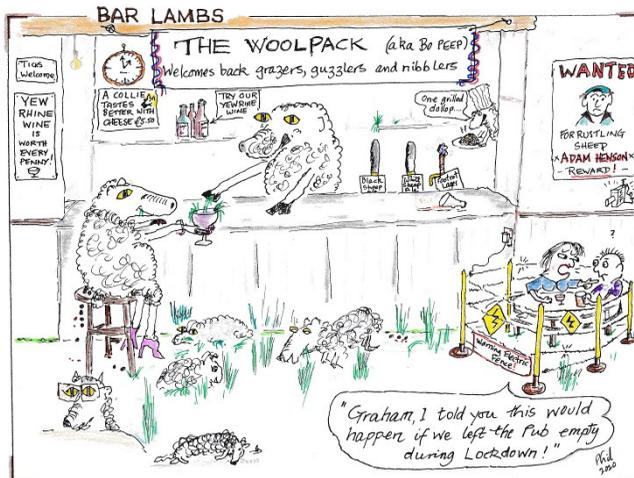


Chelsfield Park Hospital

## Five Bells, Bo-Peep and The Chelsfield all to Re-open on Saturday July 4th!

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

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**In the hope that social distancing is now approaching an end and before normality completely returns, please put pen to paper or fingers to keyboard and share with us your lockdown experiences**

Please send anything you feel suitable for the

August 2020 issue to:  
[chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com](mailto:chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com)

or post to:  
 Chelsfield Village Voice  
 2 Bucks Cross Cottages  
 Chelsfield Village BR6 7RN  
**to arrive on or before  
 Monday 27th July 2020**

## Red Campion

Lots of wildlife news snippets to give you before we get onto this month's subject. Firstly, all through the lock-down the blue tits in a box in my garden have been increasing the volume as they grow and demand food from their parents. Finally, on the 31<sup>st</sup> May they left home and the garden seems a lot quieter now! I did however miss the launch! Also, I have a similar box on my shed in the allotment and I thought it had not been used this year but have just recently realised that a family of wrens are using it. Unfortunately the first sign of activity was when I found a dead nestling below the nest box. Later I saw a fly around the box and that is usually a sign that something has died inside, but no, minutes later I realised the parents are still attending and even saw a chick at the entrance. So, fingers crossed for a successful launch!

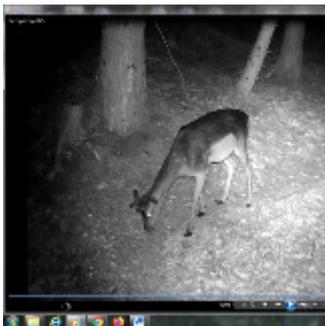
Although not wildlife related, but I thought interesting, on the evening of the summer solstice (21<sup>st</sup> June) just before midnight I was looking north to the east of London and saw what I believe were noctilucent clouds. These are very high altitude clouds that shine with a

faint blue glow. I found a newspaper report from that date from Suffolk reporting the very same clouds and if you'd like a look the link is: <https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/suffolk-noctilucent-clouds-spotted-1-671130>. These are the very highest altitude clouds possible and are typically around 50 miles high and consist of both water vapour and dust at around -120°C. Mid-summer seems like the best time of the year to be able to find them. I have never seen them myself before and have always been on the lookout so I'm pleased to tick that one off the list. Then the following day as I was leaving my cottage to walk down to the allotments I saw a huge swarm of bees heading up Maypole Rd. A swarm the previous day had also been seen in that area. Again, never seen a swarm so close up and personal before.

The last piece of information I'd like to pass on is that my friends living in Monmouthshire Wales have set up a camera on a path on the forestry land behind their house. Two particular photos of interest are a badger and a deer passing during the night. It's great to be able to see what the wildlife is doing in



the middle of the night just yards from where you live!



So, at last. This month's subject is the wildflower Red campion (*Silene dioica*): a common hedgerow plant with a pretty flower. I first noticed it last year. It appears up and down Maypole Rd but there is a particularly large patch near the gate to the horse paddock at the bottom of the road. Although called 'red', I think 'pink' would be a more accurate description for this flower (see later notes). It can be quite a tall wildflower growing up to almost one meter and it flowers as the bluebells are wilting and remains in

flower until October: a very long flowering season. Red Campion thrives in a wide variety of habitats including woodland, roadside verges, hedgerows and rocky ground. It's widespread throughout the UK and thrives best in light shade.

The Latin name *Silene dioica* derives from the drunk and merry Greek god of the woodlands 'Silenus'. He was purported as often being covered in sticky foam (in fact his name was derived from *sialon*, the Greek word for saliva), and likewise the female flowers of red Campion produce a froth that helps catch the pollen from visiting insects. The second part of its name (*dioica*) means 'two houses' and refers to the fact that these plants only have flowers of one sex. Plants of both sexes are therefore required to cross fertilise and produce seed. In some areas it can produce a profuse display, usually after woods have been coppiced. Rather contradictorily, it is reported to also be considered as an ancient woodland indicator, so may give a clue to the age of a wood. Red campion has strong links to myths and mysticism. Folklore tells that the flowers guard fairies honey stores, as well as protecting fairies from being discovered. On the Isle of Man it is known



as "blaa ny ferrishyn" or "fairy flower", and has a local taboo against picking it. In a similar fashion, in Cumbria it is known as 'mother-and-father-die' so children never picked them! These beliefs stem from the plant's close association with fairies who are devilishly defensive about their honey and whereabouts! Red campion has many other local names and its best known name is the 'cuckoo flower' due to it appearing around the same time as the arrival of the cuckoo. In 1597, John Gerard (a botanist) in his herbal history of plants described the flowers as being like buttons which led to several names such as: Soldiers' Buttons or Billy buttons.

which is an introduced plant, and it produces fully fertile hybrids which bear pink flowers. Through backcrossing (breeding again with the red or white varieties), all shades of colour from red through pink to pure white can be found. This suggests that the plants I saw at the bottom of Maypole Rd are hybrids. It has a number of traditional uses. The crushed seeds of red campion can be used to treat snakebites while the root can be used as a soap substitute for washing clothes, and is obtained by simmering in hot water. This releases a substance called saponin which is used commercially in modern detergents.

There is a White Campion (*Silene latifolia* subsp. *alba*)

Steve Fuller  
July 2020

## Mutterings From The Millers

What a welcome relief to have steady rain after a dry May with only 1mm. We had 47mm in June which has benefited the cereals. The rain came too late for the barley because to protect itself, all the energy goes to the main stem and not the tillers (side shoots). The wheat and the oats are at a later stage so coped better.

We passed the Red Tractor inspection and as mentioned last month this was completed by video call. The inspector asked for a few more documents to see other than the ones we had scanned and emailed and then Peter walked around the farm showing him the spray shed, filtration system, temporary grain storage etc on camera. It maybe the way this inspection will be carried out in future, although we have a lot of scanning and emailing to do, it does save time. The inspector did mention that they would possibly just do a random visit to the farm from time to time just to do a spot check, especially to see the storage whilst being

used. Grain safety.

We purchased a new fertiliser spreader in May. This machine, although made by the same people, takes fertiliser spreading to a whole new level. The inbuilt computer can weigh the fertiliser as it is being spread enabling you to apply exactly the correct amount. One of the reasons we have gone over to this, is we are in a nitrogen vulnerable zone. We never used to be but we are now! There are very strict rules about how much nitrogen, potash and phosphate we are allowed to apply and at what times of year. The new spreader enables us to meet all the new criteria that we have to adhere too. Obviously very expensive but we sold the mower as we are no longer growing grass for hay. (Hay making is too stressful at our age).

We took our moisture meter for its annual calibration, obviously at a distance, which passed. As the name says, it measures moisture in the grain giving us an idea if the cereal is ready to

harvest. The grain does not store for long periods above 16% without being dried, so we try and cut around this figure if at all possible. We have to advise Weald Granary, our grain storage facility, of the amounts of cereals we predicate to harvest each year. This has been tricky, firstly we didn't have any winter cereal due to the rain and then the spring cereals because of the dry! The UK normally produces approximately 15 million tonnes of wheat, the predication this year is 9 million tonnes. The first year in a long time that we will be a net importer of grain. Worldwide, Spain is going to produce a much larger barley crop than normal but Russia and the Ukraine are experiencing drought conditions on their spring wheat. All topsy turvy.

Although we had plenty of cowslips on the Chelsfield Green earlier in the year, there has been a lack of orchids. Some yellow rattle and purple clover but everything else quite short. As you can see from the photograph, I did

see sainfoin or holy hay, which I don't recall seeing before.

Another swallow did arrive later making our total 4 but they have had three young so far.

Wonderful to see the fledging swallows weaving around the farm.

A slightly different weather quote this month. A rainbow can indicate the approach of either good or bad weather, depending on the time of day it appears. A sun dog, in nautical language, is a small rainbow near the horizon.

*A dog in the morning  
Sailor, take warning  
A dog in the night  
Is the sailor's delight..  
Rainbow at morn,  
Good weather has gone  
Rainbow after noon,  
Good weather comes soon*



*Steve and Chris Miller Court Lodge Farm*

## When Can We Get Access Across The Rec?

I just wonder when access will be allowed to the Recreation Cross Road from Bucks Cross Road at the entrance adjacent to the allotments. It has been closed off for months, since January, and nothing seems to be happening.

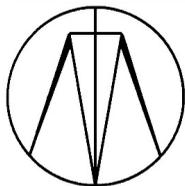
Only authorised people are permitted to enter the fenced area, and as a very old Villager, who goes out to collect papers and other necessities for other villagers, and who is terrified of being hit by speeding traffic, when having to walk on the

narrow pavement, I feel disenfranchised.

I guess coronavirus and Sadiq Khan have everything to do with it. And TfL...?

*Chris Parsons*

## News from St Martin's - Your Parish Church



*St Martin's worships and serves a Loving God,  
reaching out to the community in the name of Jesus Christ*

**We're delighted to say that St Martin's is now open,  
for private prayer only, as follows:**

**Tuesdays 10.00am – 1.00pm**

**Saturdays 10.00am – 1.00pm**

- Please follow the signed instructions on notices.
- Stewards will be there to offer direction.
- There will be a one-way entry and exit system.
- You will need to register your attendance for tracking when you arrive — please bring your own pen to sign in with.
- Please use the hand sanitizer provided.
- Please maintain physical distancing.
- Please take all your belongings home with you.

Prayer requests can be made to Revd John direct if he's there, or may be forwarded to him by email or phone. He or the steward will be able to light a candle for you should you wish it.

It's still too early to share plans for public worship, but as this Village Voice goes to press, detailed guidance from the National church has arrived and more is coming this week from our Diocese. Rest assured that as soon as we can we will open for public worship so keep checking our website for updates. We are expecting further details about baptisms, weddings and funerals in this guidance too.

In the mean time you can watch our Sunday services on our YouTube channel, and Daily Prayer live on our Facebook page with Jon on Tuesday and Val on Thursday at 8.15am. Both of these are also available via our website.

Rev John is saying Holy Communion services on your behalf in the churchyard on Tuesday and Friday at 11.30am, and on Sunday at 10:00am. There is also a Quiet meditation in the churchyard on Thursday evening at 7.00pm.

As we don't know how long this situation will last it's important that we look out for one another. Please let Revd John know of anyone who is ill or in distress, or if you need prayer or spiritual support, or are lonely and just need a short chat please phone 01689 825749

For more information on St Martin's please visit our website and Facebook page, or search for @ChelsfieldStMartins on Twitter and Instagram

[www.stmartinchelsfield.org.uk](http://www.stmartinchelsfield.org.uk)



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## Lost in Chelsfield - Part 2

### **The Incredible Story of One of 'The Few'**

*Resume´ from last months part 1 - Hugh Ellis' Hurricane is thought to have been lost over the sea*

At Chelsfield, local folk were well aware that a Hurricane had plunged from the sky above them on that sun-kissed Sunday afternoon of 1 September during an intense and frightening period of activity that shook the Village. One witness reported seeing the pilot slumped forward over his controls in the cockpit as the aircraft dived to earth, its wings shearing off and debris scattering when the fuselage buried itself with unimaginable force and a thunderous crash in a crater of chalky soil in an orchard at the corner of George Whitehead's field near the Warren Road-Court Road crossroads.

ARP wardens stationed nearby logged the tragedy in just a few sparse words: *"14.10 – Between Warren Road and Court Road opposite Court Lodge Farm – Plane on fire – British plane crashed."*

Over the previous five

minutes they had already recorded another five incidents. Two high explosive bombs fell at Hawstead Road [Lane], killing one cow, wounding another and causing damage to "Woodlands"; two more HE bombs behind Chelsfield House damaged the property and wrecked an old farm building; three HEs between Chelsfield Lane and Skibbs Lane left a dog and calf dead and another calf wounded; two landed between Chelsfield Lane and Court Road; four exploded in an orchard north-west of the Warren Road-Court Road junction.

In the aftermath, Royal Artillery soldiers were posted to guard the site of the plane crash by day but it was three weeks before a civilian salvage squad at AV Nicholls and Co in Brighton received curt instructions from the RAF: *"COLLECTION ORDER: Hurricane L2062. Chelsfield, NNW of Sevenoaks."*

Arthur Nicholls, well used to grim jobs like this, knew what to do. He found the Village constable at Chelsfield and was directed to the only place the policeman knew of on

his patch where a Hurricane had come down – George Whitehead's field. The RA boys told Arthur an RAF team had cleared the fuselage two weeks before and had said they would come back for the engine. Arthur reported that he'd located L2062 "at the junction of the crossroads adjoining Court Road and a road called Highways [The Highway]". A propeller blade was embedded in the bottom of the crater, he wrote, the engine was still in the ground, a few pieces of smashed fuselage remained and his gang would deal with it all on 23 September.

When his crew duly began digging, they came across a flying boot with a foot still inside, and an unopened parachute. Then they exposed the pilot's body – and called the police. Three constables – the Village bobby and two from Orpington – watched as the men dug further, found two shillings and eleven pence ha'penny in coins then took a cigarette case and a small wallet containing a photo of two women from the pilot's pocket. These they handed over to the policemen, who, Arthur



reported next day, also took charge of the pilot's remains while the salvage gang filled in the crater.

Astonishingly, nobody seems to have checked the Hurricane's engine number or identified the dead pilot. The plane was presumed to be L2062, as per the Collection Order. On 5 October the foot was buried at Star Lane cemetery at St Mary Cray in a Commonwealth War Graves Commission grave marked "Unknown Airman". Shortly after the salvage operation, it has been suggested, more body parts were discovered during tidying up – or possibly were found by gypsies scouring the crash site for scrap metal. Certainly, parts of another "Unknown Airman" were interred in a CWGC grave at Star Lane on 12

October. No connection was made between the two finds at the time, however. Unfortunately, police records were destroyed long ago and burial registration details yield no clues.

In fact, Hurricane L2062 was indeed shot down in the area during the Battle of Britain action on 1 September. The pilot was Flying Officer Bryan Noble of 79 Squadron based at Biggin Hill, who baled out wounded and landed in a water-filled pit on the Marley sand and gravel site at Riverhead (where Tesco and the Lakeside Place housing estate now stand). Badly burned, the 24 year-old former pupil of Emanuel School, Battersea, was taken to Sevenoaks Hospital, underwent surgery and survived.

RAF inspectors dispatched to look at Noble's machine, which had crashed near Broughton House at Dunton Green, noted the type of plane and its serial number for recovery purposes but confused matters by identifying the place where it fell as "Chelsfield, NNW of Sevenoaks". Nothing of this error came to light at the time, however, and thus the scene was set for

the subsequent mix-up and bewildering chain of events that occurred five miles away.

Some time in the early 1970s, two enthusiasts from Halstead Aircraft Museum are believed to have done some excavation work at the site of the wreck, though this was never admitted. What, if anything, they found is shrouded in mystery. Despite denials, it has been suggested some items were taken away.

These things rested until October 1992 when Mark Kirby, a member of the former Wealden Aviation Archaeology Group, conducted a dig at the crash site without a Ministry of Defence licence but with the consent of the landowner at Chelsfield and the family of Sgt Hugh Ellis. He was also helped by information provided by Andy Saunders, an aviation researcher and author of several books on WW2 mysteries with an impressive track record. Saunders had looked into Ellis's disappearance and uncovered puzzling discrepancies around the Chelsfield crash.

The Wealden Group, eager to establish the facts about the Hurricane buried in the

orchard, identify the pilot if possible and discover where his body had been removed to, had been granted permission to excavate the site in 1980. But this was withdrawn soon afterwards with no explanation except that the MoD considered there were “over-riding reasons why this site should not be subject to excavation”. The Protection of Military Remains legislation of 1986 made it unlikely the go-ahead would ever be given again.

Regardless, Kirby was determined to unearth some answers. On Saturday 24 October 1992, in a biting wind entirely in keeping with one suggested derivation for the name Chelsfield – “Chilly Fields” – excavation began in the presence of Sgt Hugh Ellis’s relatives, including his cousin Peter Mortimer whose own investigations had convinced him of a link between Hugh and the Chelsfield crash.

Proceeding carefully and respectfully, Kirby was able to retrieve a quantity of bones, part of a Mae West life jacket, a flying glove and an assortment of aircraft parts. Crucially, a section of the engine cowling delivered the vital

clue: stamped in one corner was P2673 – the very number of the machine assigned to Sergeant John Hugh Mortimer Ellis at Croydon in 1940.

Excavation was halted; the police were informed. A coroner’s inquest on 6 July 1993 formally identified the remains and declared that John Hugh Mortimer Ellis had lost his life on active service as a result of enemy action. Mark Kirby was not prosecuted. Sadly, Hugh’s father died in 1947 and his mother in 1951. They – and Hugh’s heartbroken fiancée Peggy Owen – passed away without knowing the truth about his fate.

On 1 October 1993 a funeral service was held for Hugh at the RAF church in Uxbridge. His erstwhile commanding officer Peter Townsend, by then 79 years-old, living in France and unable to attend, asked for flowers to be placed on the grave on his behalf. He spoke of “a marvellous pilot” with skill, courage and unfailing cheerfulness and specified flowers of blue for the sky, yellow for Hugh’s hair, white for the flying overalls he always wore.

After the service, Hugh’s

remains from Chelsfield were taken to Brookwood military cemetery in Surrey and interred in the RAF section in a CWGC grave with full military honours. The inscription reads: “One of the Glorious Few. Finally rested 1. 10. 93 Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori” (It is sweet and fitting to die for one’s country). The two “Unknown Airman” graves at St Mary Gray were left undisturbed.

The coroner ruled that Hugh’s burnt flying glove, the piece of his Mae West lifejacket and a valve from his Hurricane’s engine found in the Chelsfield excavation should go to the Shoreham Aircraft Museum, where they are still on display.

Nearly 15 years later, on Saturday 17 May 2008, Hugh’s memorial stone at Chelsfield Green was dedicated in a moving service conducted in steady rain. It was as if the sky was crying for that golden youth whose life had ended so violently a few yards across the field 68 years before ...

*Patrick Hellicar  
for the Chelsfield and  
Farnborough Local History  
Groups  
May 2020*

## Vandalism at Chelsfield Park Hospital

All the staff from BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital are extremely disappointed with a despicable act of vandalism to their newly renovated car park on

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Three cars (Red Mini Convertible, Sliver Fiesta and Black Fiesta) entered the car park at around 9:30pm and performed reckless hand brake turns damaging the substrate and the drainage matting underneath. The cars then smashed into two wooden bollards. The total damage repairs costs are going to top over 3000.

The police have been informed and we are awaiting their investigation. We are appealing for any information from residents in and around

Chelsfield.

Please contact Rachel Beer  
[Rachel.beer@bmihealthcare.co.uk](mailto:Rachel.beer@bmihealthcare.co.uk)  
with any information



## Aerial View of BMI Chelsfield Park Hospital



## Dame Vera Lynn

Like many in our area, Joy and I felt so sad at the loss of Dame Vera Lynn, we had been discussing her talent, her wonderful personality and all she had done for our troops during WW II.

We were still talking about her when Peter Gandolfi kindly delivered our Village Voice and on the front was a photo of a cake which has prompted me to share a couple of photographs should the editor feel it appropriate.

Readers will spot the similarities in the cakes.

Joy and I had the privilege of meeting her a number of times and have to say she was the most warm friendly person one could ever meet. She never seemed to forget a face and was never without a huge smile for everyone she met.



It was an honour for Joy and I to be invited to an event on her 100th Birthday, held on The White Cliffs of Dover where enormous Bluebird cut-outs had been made to stand atop the cliffs with a Spitfire flypast to mark the occasion. Sadly, Vera was unable to make the event and the winds were so strong it was not





possible to erect the Bluebirds. The Mayor of Dover was present along with a good number of

WWII veterans so the day went ahead. Those present were entertained and as readers will guess

the songs were all those of Dame Vera. The birthday cake was shared, we all drank a toast to her and despite her absence, sang Happy Birthday. Then it was all on to the cliff for a few photographs which I attach.

It was a magnificent day in honour of one of this worlds most memorable persons,  
**Dame Vera Lynn.**

*Jim Ellard MBE*

## Fly Tipping and Abandoned Vehicles

We seem to be getting more than our fair share of fly tippers in these days of lockdown. Here are just a few of the recent cases:

24th May 2020  
Skibbs Lane



29th June 2020  
Skibbs Lane



We must try to identify the perpetrators of these vile anti-social practices.

If you see anything suspicious please try to (discreetly) get the vehicle registration, description or photo so further action may be taken

29th May 2020  
Skibbs Lane



18th April 2020  
Skibbs Lane



24th June 2020  
Bucks Cross Road



11th May 2020  
Hawstead Lane



## Orpington Video and Film Makers



### History of Orpington Project

Orpington Video and Film Makers have added two films from their History of Orpington project to the others from their archive that can be viewed on the OVFM website. One is about Ivy Millichamp, the last civilian to be killed on the British mainland by enemy action in World War Two. (She lived in Kynaston Road and is buried at All Saints Church) The other is based on some paintings of Orpington made by local artist Richard

Rayner in the 1890s. To view them, go to: <https://www.ovfm.org.uk/ovfm-history-of-orpington-project/>

The Classic Newsreels about Orpington and surrounding area that OVFM made available recently have proved very popular so they have now uploaded more material which can be viewed at: <https://www.ovfm.org.uk/ovfm-classic-newsreels/>

OVFM are also asking for help with another project. They say: "Covid 19 and the lockdown will clearly be major events to include in our 2020 Newsreel to include in next year's OVFM Spring Show but because of lockdown our members are unable to be out to do much filming. We would therefore like you to take films on your mobile phone, SLR camera or camcorder and send them to us so we can

include as many as possible in the newsreel. These can be of anything related to Covid 19 and the lockdown e.g. empty high streets, queues outside food shops or chemists, clap for the NHS, family video calls or special activities you've set up in your home or garden.

"To fit with the film format will you please shoot in landscape format, i.e. holding your phones horizontally, if possible. The footage will probably be too much to send via email so please use any of the free file transfer systems such as WeTransfer to send films to [info@ovfm.org.uk](mailto:info@ovfm.org.uk) By sending your films you give permission to use all or part of them in producing OVFM films. We will be happy to acknowledge your contribution at the end of the film if you advise us that you would like this."

## 730 Years of Chelsfield Village Fairs

Unfortunately, due to the outbreak of coronavirus there is no Chelsfield

Village Fair in 2020. This is the first year since the year 2000 that the fair

has not been staged.

Previous to the year 2000

the village did have fairs on a fairly random basis.

In my own life living in Chelsfield I remember various fairs with pub pram races around the village, sky divers, aerobatic displays etc. These were later followed by three successive years of Chelsfield Country Craft Fairs which were staged on Chelsfield Green, the open green space adjacent to Warren Road.

Then we were faced with the upcoming Millennium celebrations and the wish to hold an event that would make this historic date memorable.

We discovered that In 1290 Otto de Grandison (the most prominent of the Savoyard knights in the service of King Edward I of England, to whom he was the closest personal friend. Born 1238, Died 1328) granted Chelsfield a charter:  
*"... There may be one market at my Manor of Chelsfield each week on Monday, and one fair each year, at the same, lasting 3 days. That is on the vigil day and morrow of St. James the Apostle . . ."*

We thought this was a

worthy enough cause to revive the traditional fair on the closest Saturday to 25th July - St James the Apostle day, which was 22nd July.

It was named Chelsfield Village Goose Fair in order to provide the feel of the Medieval charter we were bringing back to life.

It was a wonderful day and evening with a multitude of craft stalls, a live wedding party with the bride, groom and guests promenading from St Martin's to the fair field, very many dance and music groups, some weird and others wonderful, a steam engine, a Lancaster and Spitfire flypast, a competition for local scout/guide groups to construct the most effective Goose throwing catapult. There was also the installation of the Village Stocks, which have since been vandalised and parts removed.

The fair occupied the whole village centre with walkways created between the field, the school and through to the Rectory Gardens.

Following the success of

the Goose Fair it was agreed to make this July Fair a regular event on the Chelsfield calendar, and, through the sterling efforts and a lot of very hard work we have had a superb annual fair every year since.

We owe a HUGE vote of thanks to everyone who has put so much blood sweat and tears over the last 19 years into the staging one of the most celebrated village fairs, and raised very substantial funds to support local and worthwhile charities.

Hopefully, we will soon have eased out of this current debilitating situation, and once again will be returning to normal life. All being well there will be another Chelsfield Village Fair in 2021 to continue to enjoy the fair charter that was granted to Chelsfield by Otto de Grandison in 1290 a.d.

On the following page we have reproduced the pronouncement written and delivered by Chris Parsons to open the Goose Fair in July 2000.

*(You may have to brush up on your Medieval Parsons English language!)*

“ . . . There may be one market at my Manor of Chelsfield each week on Monday, and one fair each year, at the same, lasting 3 days. That is on the vigil day and morrow of St. James the Apostle . . . ”

*Otto de Grandison 1290 a.d.*



**CHELSEFIELD VILLAGE GOOSE FAIR – 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2000**

2 Bucks Cross Cottages Chelsfield Village Orpington Kent BR6 7RN  
Telephone 01689 838819 Fax: 01689 872127 email: info@goosefair.co.uk

### Opening Address by Lord of Chelsfield

Just to set the scene. It is the year 1304 and King Edward 1st is on the throne. St Martin's Church is already about 230 years old and my little tale is based on the writings of Geoffrey Chaucer whose birth is 36 years in the future. William Shakespeare is 260 years away.

Good morrow nobles, ladies, serfs and all,  
This day I'll say to you what I did befall.  
Now wolle I tell to you my tale again,  
Since ere my goose was eek and recent slayn.  
This selye wyf and eek our doughtren two,  
Herden these gooses cry and maken wo.  
And out at dores sterten they anon  
Syend the fox toward the grove goon.  
He bar upon his bak the goose away.  
All cryden out Harrow and Weylaway.  
Ha Ha ! the fox - allafter him they ran  
And eek with staves ran every other man.  
Ran Merle our dogge and Daniel and Rowan  
Ran Avis with distaffe in hir hand  
Ran cow and calf and eek the verray hogges,  
So were they fered for berking of the dogges  
And shouting of the men and women eek  
They ronne so hem thoughte hie hirte breke  
They yellden as do feendes doon in Helle,  
But noyse and poup did not the fox him quelle.  
So ere you wiss my goose was walden slayn  
A cause to me of vileinye and payne--  
Though less indeed than normal daily stryfe  
As freely give by this my comely wyfe.  
So ere I leyden neate and in my boxe,  
I wolle to hir commende these oaken stocks **HARK NOW!**  
O blisful God though art so just and trewe  
I have the man espied my goose who slewe  
A full black berde and tall with evil eye  
For Dan these stocks were built til Court him trye  
So take him now and putte him in the stocks  
And vengeance wreke untill he fall to pox.  
It was HIS fox that bar my goose away,  
To fill his belye eek and waylaway.  
Een now I grille mt teethe sans een a care,  
And open now and welle this Chartered Fair.  
So ere you goon afrom this plese away,  
**Biseke I yow to have a heavenly day.**



St Martin of Tours Chelsfield  
Giving Appeal  
2020

## Giving thanks at St Martin's



There is much to give thanks for at St Martin's. For nearly a thousand years, our Parish Church has been a spiritual home to many generations of villagers. Additionally Well Hill Mission, established in 1890 to meet the spiritual needs of the hop picking community, has been serving that part of the parish for 130 years.

St Martin's is very much at the heart of the community, offering a haven of peace and reflection.

## Our Challenges - Covid-19:

The Covid-19 situation has affected us all and St Martin's hasn't been immune from its consequences. Services were suspended, the Fete and Village Fair were cancelled, and there were no weddings and very few funerals because of the restrictions.

Obviously this led to a significant reduction in our income. We've made every effort to cut our expenditure, both the day to day expenses and larger works, but our income looks likely to be half of what we received last year, and falls significantly short of projected expenditure by some £33,000. The Treasurer, Churchwardens and I are all really concerned at the way our finances are looking, so with the support of the PCC we have launched a Giving Appeal.

We truly appreciate the support we already receive, and I know that there are the needs of family and other worthy causes to consider. Therefore it is with a degree of reluctance and apology that I ask – if you are in a position to do, would you please consider whether you could support us financially, either on a monthly basis or as a one-off donation? Either would really help in these challenging times to sustain the worship and work of the church we love so well.

## Any support you can give will help us to...

- 1- Continue to offer regular worship at St Martin's and Well Hill.
- 1- Serve the local community as a place for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, and those services which bring the community together at Christmas, Easter, Harvest and Remembrance.
- 1- Visit and minister to the sick, the bereaved and others in pastoral need, including those living with dementia.



- 1. Make a bank transfer to the church bank account
- 1. Donate online via GiveALittle using the 'Donate' button on the church website. There is a small admin charge made by the provider but you can still Gift Aid your donation.
- 1. Send us cheque

To set up a standing order or make a one-off donation by bank transfer, please email [donate@stmartinchelsfield.org.uk](mailto:donate@stmartinchelsfield.org.uk) and we'll send you more details. We hope you will understand that, given the proliferation of scammers, we're reluctant to publish our bank details.



### Gift Aid - a gift from HMRC!

If you pay tax, HMRC will add a tax refund of 25% to your Gift. This Tax Refund costs you nothing, providing you pay as much tax as the Church claims back. Please tick the Gift Aid box on your Declaration Form to make this possible. That is all you have to

do!

With every blessing,

Yours in Christ

*Rev John*

Rev John Tranter  
St Martin of Tours, Chelsfield

*If you have any questions, please contact the Churchwardens on [churchwardens@stmartinchelsfield.org.uk](mailto:churchwardens@stmartinchelsfield.org.uk) or 07826 516481 / (01689) 854119*

## "Walkway"



Here we have another photograph from Frazer Watson entitled "Walkway"

If you would like to follow Frazer and view his latest photographs you can access his online blog at:

<https://fw347photography.blogspot.com/>

Do you have any photographs you wish to share with our readers?

## Chelsfield Players Update

The Players have been keeping together still via Zoom.

**Rehearsals** continue on apace in the hope that we can put on the Ray Cooney farce *Funny Money* in November.

**Play readings** are now a regular Tuesday night feature and already it looks like we will come out of this knowing what we want to present for the next 3 years or so! We've also taken it in turns to provide a

**Saturday night quiz** with rounds ranging from anagrams of Tube stations, through spot the connections to a "Have you been paying attention?" observation round. In this last one the hosts had various things going on around them during the night and then all of us were asked what had happened at the end of the evening. Very inventive.

I'll leave you though with one of my favourite rounds which was

Riddles. Here are two for people to try.

- 1) What grows down as it grows up?
- 2) What can you feed but if you give it water, it will die?

*(Answers may be found on the back cover)*

Looking forward to seeing all the village back when we can.

*Jo East - Chairman  
Chelsfield Players*

## The Joy of Singles

***or what goes around makes a sound - at 45 rpm!***

I said I would write a short concluding article about playing 45's during the 60's and 70's. It was such a revolution when the 78 gave way to the 45 with its finer groove, lighter stylus and ease of transporting around.

When I joined the Guild of Young People at St Martins in 1958/9 they were beginning to

approach the New Era leading to the 1960's and a new style of music – Rock 'n Roll/Bill Hayley/ etc. The "Musical Evenings" were shifting from Beethoven and Mozart to Beat & Jazz. Someone had to bring a record player. I decided to have a go at making one, copying the popular Dansette. I bought a cheap Collard Auto changer deck, an oval speaker (Eclipse), but for the amplification I boldly cut in half the metal



chassis of Dad's expired Phillips 12" TV, which retained the valves and

components of the audio section. Dad bought this to watch the Coronation in 1953. The TV had a 'live' chassis so could not be earthed - needed to be treated with respect and smelled of hot Paxolin.. However it worked quite well and helped to heat the Village Hall at the same time! I later fitted a govt. surplus 15 watt pukka unit with heavy transformer. Picture attached of the finished player that was used for many years in the Parish Room by the New Guild long after I left. The other photo of the red Bush player I got from the Church Fete bric-a- brac stall for £5 which needed some attention. Still have it but it is about to go on E Bay. Works OK, bit quiet but



that is probably due to the age of the capacitors so repairable... *or my failing hearing...*! due to listening to Beatles at 100watts stereo!

As I previously said I collected some very obscure 45's with equally obscure B sides (only the Beatles gave us equal A&B). I had instrumentals such as Nutrocker / B Bumble & The Stingers; Hurt me if You Will/ Mark Four (became the Kinks and sounds like them!); Like Long Hair / Paul Revere & the Raiders; Walkin' Down the Line b/Bay Singers (I heard this recently on Newhaven Radio!). Both Jayne and I have kept many of our singles,

which used to go to countless parties. The sleeves used to get lost so some got scratched, but the real problem was warping from being left stacked on the host's window ledge which got the sun next morning when we had gone home without them. I have a really odd single called "Green Street Green" by The New Vaudeville Band which I was convinced it was our GSG down the road! Actually in USA!! Mine got warped but I found another copy in a junk shop later. The real pleasure of singles was that we could make up a random stack for the autochanger to dance or just listen too

*Phil Lane.*



## More Things to See or Do in “Lockdown”

Beckenham U3A shared this very useful information in their recent newsletter and we thought we would share it with you. Lots of things to see and do online, including a chance to see some great Theatre, Opera and Ballet. Thanks to Beckenham U3A for this great list.

Access 500 Museums & Art Galleries	<a href="https://artsandculture.google.com/partner?hi=en-">https://artsandculture.google.com/partner?hi=en-</a>
British Museum Virtual Tours	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/britishmuseum">https://www.youtube.com/user/britishmuseum</a>
Houses of Parliament	<a href="http://www.parliament.uk/visiting/virtualtour/">www.parliament.uk/visiting/virtualtour/</a>
BBC Radio 4: world history podcasts	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00nrt2/episodes/downloads">https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00nrt2/episodes/downloads</a>
Museums Worldwide: online tours	<a href="https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours">https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours</a>
Google Arts and culture	<a href="https://artsandculture.google.com">https://artsandculture.google.com</a>
Globe Theatre (YouTube Premiers)	<a href="http://www.shakespearesglobe.com/watch">www.shakespearesglobe.com/watch</a>
Open Culture: films, courses, etc.	<a href="https://www.openculture.com">https://www.openculture.com</a>
Chatterpack: various things to watch	<a href="http://Chatterpack.net/blogs/blog/list-of-online-resources-for-anyone-who-is-isolated-at-home">Chatterpack.net/blogs/blog/list-of-online-resources-for-anyone-who-is-isolated-at-home</a>
50,000 free ebooks	<a href="https://manybooks.net">https://manybooks.net</a>
Royal Institute: public science lectures	<a href="https://www.ngb.org/christmas-lectures/watch">https://www.ngb.org/christmas-lectures/watch</a>
50 things that made the modern economy	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p04b1g3c/episodes/downloads">https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p04b1g3c/episodes/downloads</a>
Seterra world geography quizzes	<a href="https://online.seterra.com">https://online.seterra.com</a>
Kent Wildlife Association	<a href="https://kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions">https://kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions</a>
Board games	<a href="https://en-boardgamearena.com">https://en-boardgamearena.com</a>
Jigsaws to do online about Museum	<a href="http://www.jigsawplanet.com/AshmoleanMuseum">www.jigsawplanet.com/AshmoleanMuseum</a>
Concerts	<a href="https://www.wkar.org/post/list-live-streaming-concerts#stream">https://www.wkar.org/post/list-live-streaming-concerts#stream</a>
Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra	<a href="http://www.digitalconcerthall.com/en/home">www.digitalconcerthall.com/en/home</a>
London Symphony Orchestra	<a href="https://lso.co.uk">https://lso.co.uk</a> (greybox: Listen online)
Quilting competition	<a href="https://www.thefestivalofquilts.co.uk">https://www.thefestivalofquilts.co.uk</a> (for entry form)

### THEATRE IN LOCKDOWN

**The Guardian:** [www.theguardian.com/stage](http://www.theguardian.com/stage)

**What’s on Stage:** <https://www.whatsonstage.com/london-theatre/news/stage-shows-musicals-opera-free-stream-online>

**The National Theatre, new play each week. Thursday 7pm:** [www.nationaltheatre.org.uk](http://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk)

**BBC iPlayer** - look under **Culture Under Quarantine** for what is available

**Marquee Theatre:** <https://www.marquee.tv> - streaming arts and culture (fees may apply)

**Digital Theatre:** [digitaltheatre.com](http://digitaltheatre.com) - pay per show or by subscription

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**ALL DIARY DATES ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

*Answers to the riddles on page 18: (1) A Goose (2) A Fire.*