



March 2024

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**The Chelsfield Players**  
presents

# **steaming**

**by Nell Dunn**

**Six women meet regularly in a public Turkish bath  
to relax and share their stories**

**Thu 14 March 8pm**

**Fri 15 March**

**Sat 16 March**

**Tickets £10**

**[www.ticketsource.co.uk/  
chelsfieldplayers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/chelsfieldplayers)**

**Phone: 07549 012140**

**Chelsfield Village Hall**

**Bucks Cross Road BR6 7RL**



An amateur production in association with Concord Theatricals

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Residents & Friends of Chelsfield Village**

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**Please send articles for the  
April 2024 issue of  
Chelsfield Village Voice to:  
[chelsfieldvillagevoice  
@gmail.com](mailto:chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com)  
by Fri 29th March 2024**

## The Jackdaw

Last month my piece (reproduced here) somehow got lost on the information superhighway and didn't make it to the editors desk. Maybe it became cyber roadkill. But here it is now.

As I write this in mid-January, last night's overnight low temperature reached about -7°C according to my garden thermometer. It always amazes me that such delicate animals as small garden birds can survive such bone chilling temperatures! Some of these birds (wrens for instance) weigh little more than a twenty pence coin meaning they can lose their body heat very quickly if it were not for their coat of feathers. We can feed them but as the sun goes down they need to find somewhere to roost, tuck their heads under their wings and just sit out up to 16 hours of nightfall. No respite for them. A week of sub-zero temperatures means somehow staying warm for a week on a diet of difficult to find insects and stale bread donated by garden owners! Due to

the cold they need to eat more on a winter's day than they do at any other time of year and this is just when food is at its most difficult to find. I remember the winter of 62/63 which is reputed to have been the coldest for 200 years. Once the snow melted our garden was littered with dead birds that had either died of starvation or exposure.

On the subject of roosting, I remember when I had a camera in a bird box mounted on my shed. One very cold winter evening a blue tit decided to take shelter within and was just settling down when another blue tit entered and tried to share. The first fought it off as if its

life depended on it. Not the cleverest move as two would have been warmer than one!

This month I'm going to be writing about the Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula* – *Western or Eurasian Jackdaw*). This bird is the smallest of the corvids and are somewhat dove like in body shape. Although similar to crows and rooks in having black plumage it is different in having a grey hood around the back of the head and small creamy serpent-like eyes which are distinctly unlike other corvids. Older jackdaws have been known to develop grey plumage across their entire bodies. Like other corvids these



birds are gregarious and have a range of calls but the most distinctive is an almost dog-like 'Jack' yap. The jackdaw has a number of regional names including: Jackie – midlands, Caddow/Caddy – East Anglia and Chaw – Cornwall. There is some historic confusion with the jackdaw's name. In the 14<sup>th</sup> century it appears to have been called by various corruptions of the name 'chough' which nowadays refers to the 'red billed chough'. Yet Shakespeare used the name in both *King Lear* and *Midsummer nights dream* and it is unclear which species he intended. And talking of species, there is some argument that this bird should be a member of the corvid subgroup *Coloeus*. Only two species sit in this group: the Western jackdaw (the one we know here in Britain) and the Daurian, which lives in China and Japan. Although different in plumage they are similar in shape, call and behaviour but cannot interbreed.

Historically the jackdaw has been included in

statutes (Henry VIII's anti-vermin 1532 statute) designed to reduce the amount of grain lost to corvids including jackdaws. Parishes of more than 10 families would be fined if they did not maintain baited nets. Yet jackdaws take relatively little grain and have historically not been such highly prized targets as rooks, crows and magpies. Indeed, not so long ago jackdaws would on occasion be used as pets, as were also magpies. This in part is due to their intelligence and the ability, unlike most animals, to be able to identify different humans. They have, like blue tits, been known to remove milk bottle tops on doorsteps which on occasion has led to cases of gastroenteritis amongst humans.

Jackdaws have a healthy, thriving population of around 600,000 in Britain and Ireland and seem to thrive in the modern environment from rubbish tips to motorway service stations. They are also less fearful of danger while other corvids hesitate. Despite the numbers and their

inclination towards the modern world jackdaws do not seem to be that common in London although there are nineteenth century records of these birds inhabiting famous landmarks. When nesting, these birds make heavy work of the structural side of things and will relentlessly continue piling twigs trying to form a foundation. There is one record from Oxenton church in Gloucestershire where a likely nesting location opened up into a larger volume. It must have been created over many years but the eventual 'nest' was 8 feet high and not much narrower at the base! Once the foundation has been established the jackdaw likes to furnish the nest with softer material like feathers, fur and wool. They will often take these materials from live animals and the victims seem more than happy to indulge the jackdaw as these birds do a service of ridding them of parasites.

Steve Fuller  
Feb 2024

## Message from The Millers

Hello everyone, just to say that I haven't forgot to write in the CVV but we have moved just along the road and have run out of time and energy but promise to catch up next month.

We have lived at three different addresses in 6 weeks and still living out of a suitcase but we are very lucky to have a new home.



Looked at the weather and it might be in like a lamb - so watch out for out like a lion.

*Chris Miller*

## Chelsfield Community Cafe

Next month's Chelsfield Community Cafe will take place on 6th & 20th March 2024.

As Easter is so early, we have decided to have our Easter event on 3rd April after Easter!! We hope to have a quiz, an Easter egg raffle and a craft event. Please join us! We look forward to seeing you all.

*Pam, Caroline, Mags  
and all Volunteers*



## Knit & Natter Evening

This month we are meeting on Monday 11th March at 8pm.

Whether you are a

knitting expert or want to get started, crocheting and other crafts welcome, or just a chat, we'd love to see you.

If you like to join us please call Sophie on 07983 656022 to find out where we are meeting this month.





## MOTHER'S DAY

### Sunday 10th MARCH 2024

Roasted red pepper & tomato soup  
*topped with a pesto drizzle*

King Prawn Cocktail,  
*Dressed with Marie Rose Sauce and served with granary bread*

Chicken, red onion and tarragon terrine  
*With piccalilli and melba toast*

Fried breadcrumb Brie  
*served with redcurrant coulis and a rocket garnish*

\*\*\*

Roast Sirloin of Beef,  
*Served with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, a medley of vegetables,  
rich red wine gravy and horseradish sauce*

Roast Turkey Crown  
*Served with sausagemeat stuffing, roast potatoes, a medley of vegetables,  
rich red wine gravy and cranberry sauce*

Beetroot and Butternut Squash Wellington  
*Served with tenderstem broccoli, a mushroom jus and toasted almonds*

Poached fillet of Smoked Haddock  
*On a bed of crushed new potatoes and wilted spinach, a creamy chive sauce and  
Topped with crispy bacon*

\*\*\*

Warm Chocolate Brownie, *with honeycomb ice cream and a Belgian chocolate sauce*

Strawberry & Cream Cheesecake, *served with whipped cream and white chocolate shavings*

Sticky Toffee Pudding topped with fudge pieces *and custard*

Selection of Cheeses – Brie, Cheddar and Stilton  
*Served with a selection of crackers, grapes, celery and chutney*



## Mothers Day at the Five Bells



## Receive Chelsfield Village Voice by Email

To receive your copy of Chelsfield Village Voice by email each month, as soon as it's published, simply email your request to:

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

and you will be added to

the monthly email distribution list.

If you opt to receive Chelsfield Village Voice by email you will only receive two emails from us each month (unless any urgent issues should arise at any time), the

first to remind you of the upcoming deadline for articles to be included in the next addition, and the second, around the 1st of each month, will be the monthly issue. Our mailing list is not shared with any other persons, group or organisation.

## Easter at The BoPeep

EASTER  
SUNDAY

AT



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EASTER SUNDAY  
31<sup>st</sup> March 2024



Chicken liver and wild mushroom Pate,  
with a spiced apple chutney and melba toast

Warm fillet of Smoked Mackerel,  
on a bed of horseradish and chive potato salad

Courgette and Mint Soup,  
Topped with crumbled feta cheese and served with ciabatta

Stilton, Walnut & Pear Salad,  
with a strawberry & Balsamic Vinaigrette

\*

Roast Leg of Lamb  
Served with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, a medley of vegetables,  
rich red wine gravy and mint sauce

Roast Turkey Crown  
Served with sausage meat stuffing, roast potatoes, a medley of vegetables,  
rich red wine gravy and cranberry sauce

Poached Salmon Fillet,  
On a bed of crushed new potatoes and a whole grain mustard & Dill Sauce and fine green beans

Brie and Beetroot Tart,  
With a tomato, red onion and rocket salad and roasted baby potatoes

\*

New York style Vanilla Cheesecake,  
with fresh raspberries and whipped cream

Treacle Sponge Pudding,  
With a butterscotch sauce and custard

Belgian Waffle,  
Drizzled with a rich chocolate sauce and Madagascan vanilla bean ice cream

Selection of Cheeses – Brie, Cheddar and Stilton  
Served with a selection of crackers, grapes, celery and chutney

1 course £18.95    2 Courses £26.95  
3 Courses £34.95



## Five Bells Bingo Nights

# BELLS BINGO

**Wednesday 6th March and  
Wednesday 20th March**

Eyes down 7.30pm

£10 per book - 6 games

**CASH PRIZES!**

Book your table now on

01689 821 044

Food served until 7pm

## Follow-up To Rob Burns Article in February

As a follow up to Rob Burns article on defibrillators in the February issue, we hope this may offer more useful information:

“There is a website called “defibfinder” where you enter your postcode - this will pull up a map and gives a list of defibrillators nearby.” However, this information is for guidance only, in the case of an emergency call 999

<https://www.defibfinder.uk>

Anne Green





## **Chelsfield Village Society AGM - Precis Report**

### **Meeting held on Thursday 2nd November 2023**

The Chairman Peter Lamond welcomed all and our MP Gareth Bacon, Mayor Mike Botting, Councillor Angela Page and Superintendent Luke Baldock.

Peter quickly covered the achievements of the society during 2023 including the planting of 300 daffodil bulbs by the new roundabout, a village cleanup, fundraising at the village fair and a coronation party in the village.

Local problems discussed at society meetings included: Power cuts, Bus and traffic flow problems. Previous minutes were approved, and there were no matters arising.

Gareth Bacon said that it was the first time he had been able to join us as our meetings tend to clash with Parliament business. He was happy to take questions about local concerns. He stayed on after the meeting to talk about local concerns.

The lead for Neighbourhood Policing Luke Baldock told the audience that Bromley was to get a new Inspector, 4 sergeants and a further 28 PCSOs. There was a need for late night police car patrols. Green Street Green Police Station was to be reopened.

He was questioned about the chats and updates from PCSOs in the past that had been useful, and the response of the police late at night. He said that 59 warnings had been issued to late night racers in the area. CCTV was being used to monitor in the future.

The use of Nitrous Oxide was a big problem, recent legislation should help. Residents should use 999 for emergencies, and 101 for burglaries to contact the Police.

Terry Lloyd covered some of the recent planning issues, including traffic problems along Warren Rd. Local Residents would be canvassed for opinions,

and the council contacted for possible solutions.

The treasurer Peter Gandolfi reported our expenses have included - a donation to the Village Newsletter, the planting of 3000 spring bulbs, a Coronation party and a wreath for the Ellis Memorial. Ending up with a balance of £2100. Our auditor Chris was thanked, who agreed to continue in this role.

The committee was re-elected who thanked our Councillors Mike Botting and Angela Page for their outstanding help and service over the past year.

The evening was rounded off with drinks and nibbles and a chance for a chat.

**If any local residents would like to renew/join their membership of the Chelsfield Village Society -**

**(households £5 per year) please contact Peter Gandolfi 01689 831826 or cvhlettings@gmail.com**



World Shotokan Karate Federation

# **Axis Shotokan Karate Club**

## **KARATE CLASSES**

**Every Monday (19.00 - 20.30)**

**Beginners welcome**  
**(8 Years old and above)**

**1st lesson is FREE!**

### **Times:**

Beginners class: 19.00 - 19.45

Advanced class: 19.45 - 20.30

### **Venue:**

Chelsfield Village Hall  
Bucks Cross Road, Chelsfield village  
Orpington, Kent BR6 7RL

### **Contact:**

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



**Orpington Video & Film Makers**

presents their

# Spring Film Show

a selection of their most entertaining hand-crafted films

**22 March 2024 at 7.30**

**NEW VENUE**

**Chelsfield Village Hall**  
**Bucks Cross Road BR6 7RL**

**Tickets:**

**£6.00 online [www.ticketsource.co.uk/OVFM](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/OVFM)**

**£7.50 pay cash on the door**

**No booking fee**

**phone 01689 859 639**

**[www.ovfm.org.uk](http://www.ovfm.org.uk)**





# RANSOM

**BRINGING THE STADIUM ROCK EXPERIENCE  
BACK TO THE BOOZER!**

**FIVE BELLS - CHELSFIELD BR6 7RE**

**FRIDAY MARCH 1ST 8:30PM**

**\*\*\*FREE ENTRY\*\*\***

Photos by [www.artagphotography.com](http://www.artagphotography.com)

## Waldo Road Recycling Centre 4 Day Closure

Essential maintenance at the Waldo Road reuse and recycling centre means that the facility will be closed on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Residents are being asked to postpone their trips to Waldo Road until next week, Monday 4 March, when the site will re-open again following the completion of work, including a repair to a collapsed drain on an approach road within the site. The four day closure is needed to allow time for concrete around the repairs to properly cure. The reuse and recycling centre in

Churchfields Road in Beckenham remains open as normal, which is expected to be busier than normal whilst the Waldo Road site is closed.

Councillor Will Rowlands, Executive Councillor for Environment said, "Recycling and waste collections across the borough are being prioritised, with waste collection vehicles using Waldo Road to access the waste transfer station, where all the borough's waste is initially taken to. The drain collapse has occurred on a road used by the waste collection vehicles, with these

vehicles having to use Waldo Road whilst repairs are made, with the reuse and recycling centre closed during this period."

Following the successful outcome of the repair work, the Waldo Road reuse and recycling centre is anticipated to re-open again on Monday 4 March as normal. Visitors are advised to plan their journey, using the webcams to gauge how busy the site is, especially given it is expected the site will be busier than usual when it re-opens.

Visit [www.bromley.gov.uk/wastenews](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/wastenews) to view the web cameras.





# Easter Egg Appeal 2024

Help spread some  
Easter joy.

We are collecting Easter Eggs for  
local children in our local  
community food banks and  
hospices this Easter.

If you wish to donate an  
Easter Egg, please deliver it to  
any Welham Jones branch by  
**Friday 22nd March**  
and we will ensure it is with a  
child in need in time for Easter.

Many thanks and 'Hoppy Easter'

From all the children and  
staff at Welham Jones.

## St Martin's Calendar of Services



The Benefice of  
Chelsfield with Green Street Green  
and Pratts Bottom



### St Martin's Chelsfield & Well Hill – Services – March 2024

All welcome! Come and join us any time. Please check the church website for any updates

#### St Martin's

Sun 3 Mar <i>3<sup>rd</sup> of Lent</i>	10.00am 6.30pm	Holy Communion CWO1 : SAJ Officiant, MH Preacher Choral Evensong BCP : SAJ
Wed 6 Mar	9.30am 7.00pm	Said Holy Communion CWO2 : MG Taizé Service
Sun 10 Mar <i>4<sup>th</sup> of Lent</i>	10.00am 6.30pm	<b>Mothering Sunday</b> Family Worship : MG Sung Eucharist CWO2 : MG
Wed 13 Mar	9.30am	Said Holy Communion CWO2 : SAJ
Sun 17 Mar <i>5<sup>th</sup> of Lent</i>	10.00am 6.30pm	Holy Communion CWO1 : MG Officiant KH preacher Choral Evensong BCP : KIA
Wed 20 Mar	9.30am	Said Holy Communion CWO2 : SAJ

#### **HOLY WEEK**

##### **PALM SUNDAY - Sunday 24 March**

10.00am - Morning Worship : KIA  
6.30pm - Choral Evensong BCP : PS

Wed 27 March - 9.30am - Holy Communion CWO2 : MG

Thu 28 March – **Maundy Thursday** – see Benefice service below

Fri 29 March – 2.00pm - **Good Friday** Liturgy MG

Sat 30 March – **Easter Vigil** – see Benefice service below

##### **EASTER DAY – Sunday 31 March**

10.00am - Parish Holy Communion CWO1 : MG  
6.30pm - Sung Eucharist CWO2 : MG

#### Well Hill

Sun 10 March 10.00am Morning Worship KIA

Sun 24 March 10.00am Palm Sunday Holy Communion SAJ

#### Benefice Services

**Maundy Thursday 28 March** 8.00pm Holy Communion at **St Mary's**

**Easter Saturday 30 March** 8.00pm Easter Vigil at **St Martin's**

Key: CWO1 – Common Worship Order 1; CWO2 – Common Worship Order 2; BCP – Book of Common Prayer; SAJ : Rev Susan Atkinson-Jones, MG : Rev Michael Gentry, KH : Reader Karen Harcombe, MH : Rev Martin Hayward, KIA : Reader Ken l'Anson PS : Reader Phillip Southby

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



The logo for Music at All Saints, featuring a stylized church icon.

Music at All Saints  
One Equal Music, World Without End

## All Saints' Festival Choir

Nicholas Wibberley *conductor*

Francesca Massey *organ*

Janette Cattell *soprano*

Richard Decker *countertenor*

Aeron Preston *tenor*

Paul Bonter *bass*

A large, dark, textured background image featuring a close-up of a thorny branch, likely representing the crucifixion.

# Stainer's CRUCIFIXION

# Dvořák's MASS IN D

**Saturday 16th March 2024**

All Saints' Church, Bark Hart Road, BR6 0QD

**Concert at 7:30pm**

**Tickets:** £12 in advance, or £15 on the door

The logo for All Saints Live, featuring a stylized musical note.

**ALLSAINTS LIVE**  
Live Music, Timeless Beauty



Scan for tickets





The Orpington Choral

The Orpington Choral and  
Orpington Symphony Orchestra  
*present*

Brahms  
A German Requiem  
Gesang der Parzen

Schubert  
Unfinished Symphony No 8

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 7:30pm

The Parish Church  
of All Saints  
Bark Hart Road  
Orpington BR6 0QD

Conductor: Dominic Wells

Orchestra leader: Sarah Douch  
Soprano: Ellie Parsons  
Baritone: Peter Norris

Tickets: £15 adults (£5 children) at the door  
cash and cards accepted or in advance on  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/orpingtonsymphonyorchestra](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/orpingtonsymphonyorchestra)

[www.orpingtonsymphonyorchestra.co.uk](http://www.orpingtonsymphonyorchestra.co.uk)  
Registered Charity no. 1063477  
[www.orpingtonchorale.org.uk](http://www.orpingtonchorale.org.uk)  
Registered Charity no. 1078442



## **Chelsfield Village Society One Way System Vote**

Chelsfield Village Society held their first meeting of 2024 on the 6th February, and this issue was discussed at length.

Forty Five houses in Chelsfield Village had received voting forms from CVS to see how residents felt about a one way system from the junction of Chelsfield Lane/Warren Road up to the roundabout at Court Road.

Previously residents from that end of Warren Road had met with Chelsfield Councillors, Mike Botting and Angela Page, and Angus Culverwell, Assistant Director of Traffic and Parking for the London Borough of Bromley. This part of Warren Road is very narrow in places and it is not wide enough for two cars to pass easily, this causes damage to property, emergency services and the R7 bus on occasion cannot get through to the village and it is very dangerous for pedestrians. As a result of that meeting a one way system was discussed and it was decided that the residents of the village should be asked for their opinions and ideas before Bromley took any action, and that process would be managed by Chelsfield Village Society.

This issue was discussed at the CVS AGM in November with the distribution of forms to follow. Subsequently 45 houses in the village were delivered voting forms, which included a space for their ideas and opinions to be added, along with their vote.

The vote was as follows:

Agreement 12  
Disagreement 8  
Spoiled Forms 2  
No response 23

Whether in agreement or not, it was very interesting feedback, and it was evident that many residents are unhappy and problems exist throughout the village with heavy traffic and parking issues.

These are some of the comments made:

- Consider Warren Road through to Church Road all being one way
- Cars parked just past the bus stop, cause the bus to pull out onto the wrong side of the road to navigate into Church Road
- Generally huge concerns we may lose the bus service, due to the bus being held up constantly
- Large Lorries constantly using Warren & Church Road
- Church Road always congested and jammed with parked cars
- Damage to hedges, footpath and pub car park due to traffic
- Speeding throughout the village not just Warren Road
- Residents of Church Road and parents of school children already having parked cars damaged
- Church Road already does not cope with traffic, the bus regularly gets stuck sometimes cutting the bus out of the route.
- Damage to walls, driveways and drains by cars

Our Councillors are now handing this information to Angus Culverwell at LBB requesting an official survey of traffic throughput in Chelsfield Village.

Of course all this takes time and CVS will keep you informed as to progress

RNLI Orpington, Petts Wood & the Crays Fundraising Group

PRESENT THE

# **RISC**

*Retro*

*Street*

*Collective*

## **Music from the Small Screen**

**A programme of TV and Radio themes**

**Saturday 16th March 2024 at 7pm**

**Green Street Green Baptist Church, Orpington.**

**Tickets £10 from Chris 07791753993 or on the door**



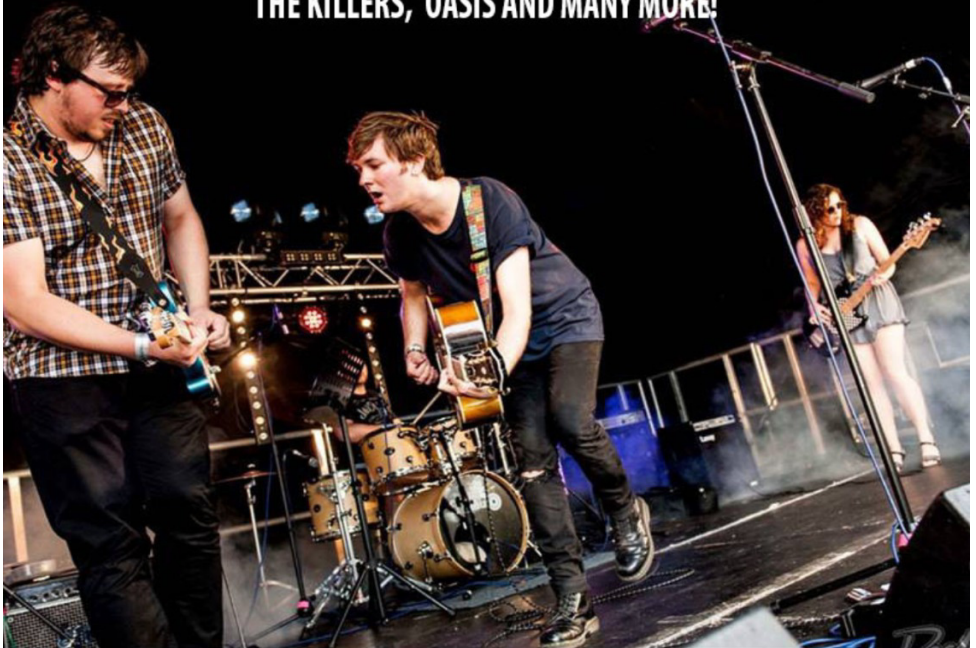
**Proceeds in aid of the RNLI**

# THE DIRTY PERKS

Appearing live at:

**THE FIVE BELLS  
29TH MARCH 20:30**

THE BEATLES, THE MONKEES, STONES, THE JAM, BOWIE  
THE BEACH BOYS, SPRINGSTEEN, BRUNO MARS, PRINCE,  
NIRVANA, ABBA, FLEETWOOD MAC, JAMES, BRYAN ADAMS,  
QUEEN, CHUCK BERRY, AMY WINEHOUSE, GUNS N ROSES,  
THE KILLERS, OASIS AND MANY MORE!





## **Rob's Ramblings - Honours - It's only my opinion but..**

The recent ITV drama about the Post Office scandal gave some fascinating, and depressing, insights into the way the Post Office was run, what victims had to endure and how difficult it was for them to begin to get some form of justice. It also revealed the power of TV dramas to bring scandals to our attention resulting in members of the "public" pressing for action. I wonder why the BBC's Panorama documentary on the same subject, aired in 2015, did not provoke the same response. Maybe the previous programme had concentrated on too many stark facts (but it was a documentary) and too little on the personal tragedies (but it wasn't a drama), although several victims did feature in that programme. Do you think actors in dramas, in which events may be changed, even if only slightly for presentational purposes, have more influence on us than the bald truth of unadulterated facts?

Who knows why a story can fail to capture our outrage in one moment but in another motivate us into such strong action that we demand changes in the law and in society? Most of us know what would cause us to act for ourselves or our families but what is it that prompts us to feel compelled to take

action to help people we have never met or don't know? The alleged behaviour of the Post Office's former Chief Executive implicated in the scandal, Paula Vennells and some of her co-workers, suggest that, in her case anyway due to her being an ordained priest, stopping negative things happening to people when she could have helped them has nothing to do with the oft referred to usual suspects - God and religion. I'm sure most of us think we know of scandals that have affected individuals, and even groups of people, but that have never been examined by a wider "public" due to not capturing the imaginations of TV or the press or of people not directly involved.

Once driven to action the potential power of people, that's us by the way, was revealed in the on-line petition demanding action to withdraw the honour awarded to Mrs Vennells in 2019. Reportedly, the petition collected over 1 million signatures which was a number far too big to be ignored by politicians and others who try, and often succeed, in guiding our society, whether we like it or not. This demand for action contrasts with the long-standing quiet from most of those politicians who had been given hints of the

scandal in the past, including at least one former Prime Minister. It also contrasts with current members of the Cabinet Office Honours Committee whose predecessors had originally vetted Mrs Vennells' nomination and then approved the CBE she was awarded.

Maybe the previous members of the Committee hadn't noticed, or had chosen not to notice, that at the same time they were giving her a positive vetting her time at the Post Office was coming to an end and she was feeling compelled to resign. Surely Committee members couldn't have been that out of touch or have had such poor systems of intelligence gathering that the brewing scandal was missed? But then again, Mrs Vennells was immediately appointed to the Board of an NHS Trust and offered other Board appointments in the private sector so maybe there's an endemic failure to adequately look beyond personal friendships.

Everyone makes mistakes, and we grow by learning from our own and other people's, and the most important lesson from mistakes is what is done when a mistake is discovered. Once it was realised by current Honours Committee members that



there had been a mistake, albeit by previous members, the silence they generated was deafening. Did they hope no one would realise that such an inditement of the honours system by not announcing a review of that particular award, will damage the value of future awards for as long as that silence is remembered? I think Mr Bates did a far more honourable thing by declining the offer of an award because Mrs Vennells was allowed to retain hers without, initially, the appropriate questions being asked. However, I'd like to think it wasn't just the number of signatures on the petition, but, maybe, a dawning awareness of what she had actually done and the extent of her mistake, that resulted in Mrs Vennells returning her CBE. (I know inferences to be drawn from the delay in her returning the award and in the wording of her apology do not necessarily endorse this view but try to think positive about her as a human being!)

Did Honours Committee

members not understand that, for the rest of us, inactivity such as theirs actually devalues the honours that people have already received? In the past, when there have been similar breaches of expected and of, by implication from having received an award, behaviour portrayed as model behaviour, has led to some honours being returned. Don't get me wrong, I'm not knocking the honours system because I think, in a different form, the arrangement has a place. However, the current system for nominating, influencing and vetting honours appears to be heavily tainted and more so now with this recent revelation. (At this point I should declare a vested interest and that my father once featured in the Queen's Birthday Honours list, rightly, I think.

However, compare the behaviour of Mrs Vennells with that of Jeffery Archer, a convicted criminal who served a prison sentence, who still sits in the House of Lords. There were, and are, no newspaper or TV hints

Mr Archer thought for about surrendering his honour. An honour that appears, to me in my ignorance of detail, to have been given partly because his pals thought well of him and he had influence. Retaining his honour may not be regarded as too important to some people but we should remember that members of the House of Lords help to set and change laws that apply to us all. I wonder what other Lords and Ladies think about that. Perhaps, the "public" have not been motivated to collective action, or perhaps our individually expressed views count for little, other than in exceptional situations highlighted by TV or the press?

Do you think we should all be more active in speaking out about what we think is bad (and good, because that's just as important)? Maybe we should turn the "public" into a kind of "action re-public" and try to remove things that damage our communities and the wider society those communities form?

*Rob Burns*

## **Five Bells Upcoming Live Music Dates**

**1st March** - Ransom  
**29th March** - Dirty Perks  
**26th April** - Gold  
**17th May** - Luke Edney  
**28th June** - Devanna  
**26th July** - Gold

All performing from 8:30pm

## SAXON CENTRE

Lych Gate Road, Orpington, BR6 0TJ



**We offer high quality day care for older adults in a warm and safe environment, and respite for their carers and family members**

Our lively programme of activities includes singing, music & movement, arts & crafts, group discussions, quizzes, bingo & board games, and a daily raffle

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Qualified staff provide assistance with personal care and medication when required

**For further information please contact our Care Managers**

email: [ageconcernorpington@live.co.uk](mailto:ageconcernorpington@live.co.uk)

website: [saxondaycentre.org.uk](http://saxondaycentre.org.uk)

tel: 01689 830055

**Service Provider: Age Concern Orpington & District**

Registered Charity No: 1148958

## Chelsfield Casualties of World War II

6097682 Corporal Frederick Thomas Parrott was a member of the 6th Battalion of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. He died on 26 March 1944, eighty years ago this month, aged 30 and is buried at the Cassino War Cemetery in Italy, and remembered on the war memorial in our church porch.

According to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission records he was the son of George and Elizabeth Beatrice Parrott, and the husband of Elizabeth Parrott of Halstead.

In trying to find out more information about him, I found the birth of a 'Frederick T Parrott' was

registered in 1913 in the Sevenoaks district, with the mother's maiden name Hills, and a 'Frederick T Parrott' married Elizabeth Jones in 1937 in the Bromley district. On the September 1939 National Register there is a Fred T and Elizabeth Parrott living in Johnsons Avenue, Sevenoaks. As

Johnson's Road is actually in Badgers Mount, and this Fred's birth date is given as 20th August 1913, it looks quite likely that this is 'our' Frederick and his wife. At this point he is a road labourer working for Kent County Council.

The Army Enlistment Register shows that Frederick Parrott signed up to the Royal West Surrey Regiment on 20th June 1940 but transferred to the Royal West Kents on 2nd October. His battalion, the 6th Battalion of the Royal West Kent regiment, were involved in the Italian campaign for most of its

duration. They took part in the Moro River Campaign, the Battle of Monte Cassino, the fighting around the Gothic Line and the final offensive in April 1945.

Parrott was killed during the Battle of Monte Cassino and the Army Casualty Lists for 10 April to 4 May 1944 show that he was one of 12 men in his battalion to die on the same day. On the Wikipedia page for the Regiment, there is a photograph of men from that battalion manning a 3-inch mortar on Monastery Hill, Monte Cassino, Italy, on the day Frederick died.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen%27s\\_Own\\_Royal\\_West\\_Kent\\_Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen%27s_Own_Royal_West_Kent_Regiment)

In 1911 Frederick Parrott's parents George and Elizabeth were living at 'The Retreat', Well Hill, and George was working as a farm labourer. In 1939 they are still living in the area but have moved to 'Poplars'. The epitaph on Frederick's official Commonwealth War Grave headstone in Italy reads 'Who gave his life for peace on earth and good will to all men', perhaps a fitting tribute to be reminded of at this Eastertide.

*Philippa Rooke*

## Halstead & District Horticultural Society Events for 2024

Visitors are most welcome to talks for a small £2 charge. Our membership year has just begun for 2024 so if you are interested in meeting local people with a shared love of horticulture, please email our Chairman Lisa at: [lisao123@btinternet.com](mailto:lisao123@btinternet.com) 07759 591312.

**April 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Spring Show 7.45pm  
Great seed potato challenge and seed swap  
Halstead Village Hall

**April 25<sup>th</sup> Talk 8pm**  
at Halstead Village Hall  
*"The Jungle Garden"*

**May 4<sup>th</sup> 9am-12**  
Plant Sale  
Halstead Village Hall  
(with Community Café)

**June 13<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm**  
Quiz  
Halstead Village Hall

**June 20<sup>th</sup> 7.45**  
Summer Show  
Halstead Village Hall

**July 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Outing to Godinton Gdns

Ashford by coach

**September 7<sup>th</sup>**  
Autumn Show Halstead  
Village Hall 2pm

**September 26<sup>th</sup> 8pm**  
Talk - Halstead Village  
Hall *"Flowering Shrubs  
for September and  
October"*

**October 24<sup>th</sup> 8pm** Talk -  
Halstead Village Hall  
*"Houseplants"*

**November 20<sup>th</sup> 8pm**  
AGM & Social Halstead  
Village Hall



## Performances

We perform three concerts a year of classical choral music in Orpington. Our concerts are usually in the Spring, Summer & Autumn.

2024 Concert dates:

**Saturday 16th March**

**Saturday 20th July**

**Saturday 23rd November**

## Rehearsals

We rehearse on Tuesday evenings for around 12 weeks in the run up to each of our concerts.

Rehearsals are at All Saints' Church in the centre of Orpington and start at 8pm

Our full members pay a subscription of £55 per term to help cover the costs of running the choir

Find us at [www.asfc.london](http://www.asfc.london) or contact us via the church office on **01689 832 031**

# DO YOU LOVE SINGING?

**EXPERIENCE THE PURE JOY OF MUSIC-MAKING WITH ALL SAINTS' FESTIVAL CHOIR!**

**ALL SAINTS' FESTIVAL CHOIR**  
*is welcoming new singers in all voice parts*

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With a celebrated thirty-year history, our choir invites you to join without auditions or experience – just a love for singing.

Our diverse group meets together and crafts beautiful harmonies under our skilled conductor. Immerse yourself in the world of some of the greatest composers including Mozart, Bach, Vivaldi, Schubert and Dvorak.

Try a couple of rehearsals without commitment and see if you like us!



**Unleash your inner musician – join All Saints' Festival Choir!**





## National Trust: Orpington & Chislehurst Centre

The Centre has monthly evening lectures held at the Methodist Church, Sevenoaks Road, Orpington, BR6 9JH starting at 8.00pm and afternoon lectures held most months at the Methodist Church, Prince Imperial Road, Chislehurst, BR7 5LX starting at 2.00pm

There is also a regular

programme of local walks, day trips, holidays and a variety of social events.

To find out more about the Centre and how to join please send an email to [ntocc100@gmail.com](mailto:ntocc100@gmail.com) Membership is open to both members and non-members of the National Trust.

### LECTURES FOR MARCH 2024

Thursday 14 March at 2.00pm The Natural History of the Baja & Southern California

Thursday 21 March at 8.00pm The Politeness of Princes – the reality of medieval etiquette and table manners

## Orpington Repair Cafe



## ORPINGTON REPAIR CAFE

Saturday 16th March  
10am-1pm

Bring broken electricals,  
clothing & joinery.  
We'll try & repair it.

St Mary's Church Hall  
BR6 6AG

## Kent Heights Flower Club

We are a small independent flower club and our membership year 2024 has just begun.

We meet the first Thursday night of the month March to July and September through to November with a lunch in December.

Everyone is most welcome to join at £25 per year which includes entry and refreshments. Visitors are charged a nominal fee of £5.

We meet at Halstead Village Hall, Knockholt Road, TN14 7EX from 7.00pm for tea or coffee with the demonstration starting at 7.30pm.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024** when we welcome back the lovely *Ellouise Hasler-Stott* Gold medallist and RHS Young Chelsea Florist of the year 2018

She has a wonderful and refreshing talent and the evening, which includes a raffle of the displays created by Ellouise will not disappoint.

For further information please contact  
Sally Kemsley 01959 534406



## View of Pratts Bottom Valley



I have just found this print in my huge box of originals that has not been copied before. It is taken from the grassy slopes to the south of Worlds End Lane back gardens I suspect. Looking at Pratts Bottom.

*Phil Lane*



## Stop and Search Survey & Consultation



METROPOLITAN  
POLICE

14<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Ade Adelekan MVO  
Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
New Scotland Yard  
Victoria Embankment  
London  
SW1A 2JL

Email: [HQMailbox-Charter@met.police.uk](mailto:HQMailbox-Charter@met.police.uk)  
[www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk)

To Whom It May Concern,

### Stop and Search Charter – Survey

Further to our letter in January, I am writing with both an update on the Stop and Search Charter and a request for you to complete and publicise our survey amongst the community.

Our New Met for London plan committed to developing a **Stop and Search Charter** setting out how, and when stop and search should be used and provide greater transparency on the tactic. The Charter is being developed in partnership with Londoners as part of our work to rebuild trust and confidence.

Over the last six months we have carried out significant community engagement, asking Londoners for their views on how stop and search should be; carried out, audited, scrutinised and governed and how we should work with communities going forward to ensure their views are heard. We have focused consultation on those groups most likely to be affected by stop and search, including young people and those from a minority background, through a combination of locally run events on each borough and thematic events at New Scotland Yard and online. Key themes from the events have included:

- Focusing on the quality of the encounter
- Improved supervision
- Improved training
- Improved complaints handling
- Better use of technology
- Enhanced independent governance and scrutiny
- Community involvement in where, when and why S+S is being used
- Better public understanding of S+S

In addition we have completed two quantitative surveys

- A YouGov survey, focusing on a representative sample of London
- A survey carried out by Zen-City, which surveys a wide range of people who have highlighted an interest in stop and search.

I am seeking your support to both complete and publicise the next and final stage of our research programme, which is open to everybody who lives and works in London. This will test the themes already identified by those interested in stop and search with the wider public.

Findings from the survey and consultation will be used to co-create the Stop and Search Charter, putting community voices front and centre. The Charter will be pivotal to improving trust, transparency and accountability with London communities and we plan to launch this with a communications and engagement programme in Spring.

The survey will be live between 13<sup>th</sup> February and 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024, a link for you to share on your communication channels is here,  
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/MetPoliceStopandSearchCharter/>.

Thank you in advance for your time and co-operation.

Kind Regards,

**Ade Adelekan**  
Deputy Assistant Commissioner



Our thanks to **versapak** who are currently funding the printing costs of Chelsfield Village Voice

## Dates For Your Diary

### WEEKLY EVENTS

**Every Monday**  
Chelsfield Village Hall  
**Karate Classes**  
7pm - 8.30pm

**Every Tuesday**  
Brass Crosby Room  
**St Martin's Toddler Group**  
10.30am - 12 noon

**Every Tuesday**  
Five Bells  
**CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT**  
8.30pm

**Every Thursday**  
The Chelsfield Pub  
**QUIZ NIGHT**  
from 7.30pm

### INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

**Friday 1st March**  
Five Bells  
**RANSOM Live Band**  
from 8.30pm (see page 12)

**Saturday 2nd March**  
St Martin's Church  
**Churchyard Working Party**  
from 9-11am

**Wednesday 6th March**  
Chelsfield Village Hall  
**Chelsfield Volunteers**  
**AFTERNOON TEA**  
2.30pm-4.30pm (page 4)

**Wednesday 6th March**  
Five Bells  
**Bingo Night**  
from 7.30pm

**Thursday 7th March**  
Halstead Village Hall  
**Kent Heights Flower Club**  
from 7.00pm (See Page 26)

**Monday 11th March**  
Call Sophie 07983 656022 for this months venue  
**Knit and Natter**  
8pm (see page 4)

**Wednesday 13th March**  
Five Bells  
**Open Mike Night**  
from 8.30pm

**Thurs 14th - Sat 16th March**  
Chelsfield Village Hall  
**STEAMING**  
**The Chelsfield Players**  
8.00pm (See Front Cover)

**Thursday 14th March**  
Methodist Church Prince Imperial Rd. Chislehurst  
**National Trust Lecture**  
**History of Baja & Southern California**  
from 2.00pm (Page 25)

**Fri-Sun 15th-17th March**  
Coolings Garden Centre  
**Spring Craft Fair**  
from 10am - 4pm

**Saturday 16th March**  
St Marys Hall BR6 4AG  
**Orpington Repair Cafe**  
from 10am-1pm (page 25)

**Saturday 16th March**  
Green St Green Baptist Church  
**Music From the Small Screen**  
from 7pm (See Page 18)

**Saturday 16th March**  
All Saints' Church, Bark Hart Rd  
**All Saints' Festival Choir**  
from 7.30pm (See Page 15)

**Tuesday 19th March**  
Chelsfield Village Hall  
**Evening WI**  
7.30pm-9.30pm

**Wednesday 20th March**  
Chelsfield Village Hall  
**Chelsfield Volunteers**  
**AFTERNOON TEA**  
2.30pm-4.30pm (page 4)

**Wednesday 20th March**  
Chelsfield Village Hall  
**CRAFELD CLUB**  
from 7.30pm

**Wednesday 20th March**  
Five Bells  
**Bingo Night**  
from 7.30pm

**Thursday 21st March**  
Methodist Church Sevenoaks Road Orpington  
**National Trust Lecture**  
**The Politeness of Prices**  
from 8.00pm (Page 25)

**Wednesday 22nd March**  
Chelsfield Village Hall  
**Spring Film Show**  
from 7.30pm

**Saturday 23rd March**  
Coolings Garden Centre  
**Knockholt Farmers' Market**  
from 10am - 3pm

**Saturday 23th March**  
All Saints' Church, Bark Hart Rd  
**Orpington Symphony Orchestra**  
from 7.30pm (See Page 16)

**Friday 29th March**  
Five Bells  
**DIRTY PERKS Live Band**  
from 8.30pm

## Recycling Bin Collection March 2024

Monday 4th March  
Monday 11th March  
Monday 18th March  
Monday 25th March  
Tuesday 2nd April

Every week

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

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

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

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