



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

May 2009

WILD WEST FAIR 6th June

RECTORY GARDEN,
SKIBBS LANE

12 NOON – 5PM

Come and enjoy the fun of the fair with Swing-boats and Stalls available for anyone who would like to take part. Refreshments will be available in the Parish Room and Village Hall. There is a Totem Pole competition for the Children and "Young at Heart" and a workshop for children to make Indian headdresses and totem poles in the Crosby room on Sunday 31st May after the Family Service at 9.45 at St Martin's Church, - followed by a buffet lunch. All welcome! A model train will be working in the garden and also one in the village hall. Stalls include, Cakes, Cards, Toys, Books Plants, Bric a Brac and many more. Chelsfield Village School will be dancing round the Maypole

**COWBOYS AND
GIRLS,
RED INDIANS
AND ANY
OTHER
CHARACTERS
ESPECIALLY
WELCOME!
PRIZES FOR
THE MOST
ORIGINAL!**

**RAFFLE TICKETS AND
LEAFLETS are available
from the Church, Brian
Kemp, Anne Mead or
other Church members.**

**This is our annual fund
raising event with money
divided equally between
Church and Christian Aid.**

**COME AND MEET YOUR
FRIENDS AND MAKE
THIS AN ENJOYABLE
DAY OUT**

Details from Brian Kemp
01689 872888 or Anne
Mead 01689 826349

In This Issue:

Wild West Fair	1
Orienteering Report	2
Waitrose Charities	2
Produce Show	
Schedule	3
Vulcan Concert	7
Join CVS	7
Springwatch	8
Summer Visitors	9
Recipes for Produce Show	11
Useful Number	11
Dates for your Diary	12

CONTRIBUTIONS PLEASE !

If have an event, a story, an amusing experience, anything, tell us, this newsletter is your voice to speak to the village.

Contributions should be emailed to:

villagevoice@chelsfield.org

or posted to:
Chelsfield Village Voice
2 Bucks Cross Cottages
Chelsfield Village
Kent
BR6 7RN

Report on the Orienteering Day

"There was a record turnout of 140 competitors at the Kent Orienteering League event at Lullingstone on Saturday 18th April. The winner of the 5.5 km long course was 35 year old athlete Pieter De Koning of SAXONS orienteering club in 46 minutes. He was closely followed by local orienteer Andy Pitcher from Kemsing.

The middle course proved particularly popular with all ages,

from 10 year old Emily Ford to 80 year old Don Bevan. An inspiration to everyone who wants to get active and enjoy the countryside.

There were lots of families and newcomers on the short course, enjoying the easy path navigation, fantastic spring sunshine and great views.

If you want to try orienteering there is

now a permanent practise course at Lullingstone Park (maps from the visitors centre). It's more fun to try the sport at an organised event where we can give you some help. The next local events are on 10th May (Igtham), 14th June (Knole Park) and 27th June (Shorne Country Park).

Email :

newcomers@dfok.co.uk

for further details. "

WAITROSE CHARITIES

For those who don't know , the Housemartins meet in Chelsfield Village Hall every Monday . They were formed 15 years ago to give local people unable to leave their homes without help and transport

an opportunity to meet friends and have an enjoyable afternoon. One day a month they go out for lunch and during the summer they visit local beauty spots and gardens.

Details from Anne
01689 826349

Throughout May
**CHELSFIELD
HOUSEMARTINS** are
one of the Waitrose
chosen charities so
**PLEASE
REMEMBER TO PUT
YOUR GREEN
TOKEN IN THE
HOUSEMARTINS
BOX**

Chelsfield, Well Hill and District
PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 19th September 2009



SCHEDULE AND RULES

Set up from 9.30am

Viewing from 2.00pm In Chelsfield Village Hall

Additional schedules and enquiries

Catherine Gandolfi 01689 831826

Chris Courtney 01959 535022

Flower arrangements

1. An autumnal arrangement not to exceed 14" (36cm).
2. To be judged by the public. An arrangement for the opening of a new public house. State the pub's name. Natural material must predominate. Accessories allowed.
3. A miniature arrangement in a thimble not to exceed 2" (5cm) in any direction.
4. Men only: An arrangement in a wine glass.

Flowers

5. A single chrysanthemum.
6. A floating pansy head.
7. In a single vase the three stages of a rose bloom – the bud, the perfect bloom and a blown bloom.
8. 3 Dahlias.
9. The largest sunflower head.
10. A vase of garden flowers

Vegetables

11. A clean sheet. A collection of 5 different single vegetables on a plain sheet of A4 paper.
12. Gardener's choice. Enough vegetables for a meal for two comprising potatoes and two other vegetables.
13. 5 Potatoes – one cultivar.
14. 3 Onions- tied & trimmed.
15. 5 Cherry Tomatoes.
16. 5 medium to large tomatoes.
17. A Cauliflower.
18. 3 Leeks – untrimmed.
19. 3 Carrots - untrimmed.
20. The heaviest pumpkin.
21. A pair of lettuces.
22. A bucket of home produced compost.

Fruit

23. 3 Dessert Apples- polished.
24. 3 Cooking Apples- unpolished.
25. 3 Pears.
26. 5 Plums.
27. The heaviest apple.
28. A dish of wild fruits and nuts.

Wine

29. A bottle of dry white table wine.
30. A bottle of sweet white table wine.
31. A bottle of dry red table wine.
32. A bottle of sweet red table wine.
33. A bottle of any non fruit wine.
34. A bottle of home made beer.

Country Fare

35. A brioche loaf made with around 1lb/450g flour, any shape.
36. Crunchy top lemon cake to given recipe (see page 11).
37. 3 Eccles cakes. Bought pastry may be used.
38. A theme cake depicting a harvest theme. Decoration only to be judged.
39. A tea bread in a 2lb loaf tin.
40. A jar of home made mincemeat.
41. A jar of home made pickle.
42. A bottle of flower cordial.
43. Dish of 5 homemade chocolate truffles.
44. Men only: 3 Rock cakes.

Photographs - All to be un-mounted max size 8½ " x 6" (22cm/15cm)

45. A farm animal.
46. An emotion.
47. Clouds.
48. Reflections.

Handicrafts

49. A Knitted or Crocheted item
50. An item or tapestry or embroidery (specify if using kit.)
51. An item machine or hand sewn
52. A portrait of a person – any medium.
53. A soft toy.
54. Any craft or hobby (specify if using a kit).
55. A collage – maximum size 16" (40cm) square.

Children up to 5 years

56. Draw a butterfly.

Children 5-7

57. A decorated paper hat.
58. A bookmark.
59. A drawing of a flower.

Children 8-11

60. An edible necklace.
61. A miniature garden in a biscuit tin.
62. 3 Smartie biscuits to given recipe (see page 11).

Teenagers

63. A model scarecrow not to exceed 12" (30cm) high.
64. A flower arrangement in a jam jar.
65. Any craft or hobby.

Matchbox (Adults class)

66. Standard size, filled with listed items starting with V for Village Show.



The Cups & Trophies

The KNOX-CUNNINGHAM Cup - Awarded to the household with the highest number of points gained in adult sections.

THE WELL HILL CUP –Awarded to the household with the highest number of points in all classes

KEN PICKERING CUP- First awarded in 1996. This is awarded to the “best in show”

TOM CASTLETON ROSE BOWL – This is awarded to the garden judged to most enhance Chelsfield Village.

ALLOTMENTS CUP- First awarded in 1996. To be awarded to the individual with the highest number of points in the vegetable class.

CHILDRENS' CUP- This is awarded to the child with the highest number of points in the Children's' classes.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II GOLDEN JUBILEE PLATE - This is awarded to the individual with the highest number of points not awarded the Knox-Cunningham or Well Hill Cup.

WINE CLUB CUP - First awarded in 1996. This is awarded to the individual with the highest number of points in the Wine Class

COUNTRY FARE CUP – This is awarded to the individual with the highest number of points in the Country Fare class.

TRISS & JOHN COTTENDEN TROPHY – First awarded in 2007. This is awarded to the individual with the highest number of points in the Flower classes.

PROGRAMME

Staging: 9.30-11.00 a.m. Entries will not be accepted after 11.00 a.m.. Judging 11.30. Viewing 2.00p.m. Prize Giving 3.00 p.m.

RULES

1. Open to residents of Chelsfield, Well Hill and District.
2. 20p per entry. Children's classes free.
3. Competitors may submit more than one entry in each class, but can only win one prize per class. Children may submit entries in adult classes 20p per class.
4. Fruit, vegetables and flowers (except in classes 1-4 must be home-grown. Handicrafts, cookery and wine must be homemade. No item may have been exhibited at this show in previous years.
5. Winning entries will be awarded points as follows:
 - 1st prize: 3 points (red card) & prize (will vary according to class)
 - 2nd prize: 2 points (blue card) & prize (will vary according to class)
 - 3rd prize: 1 point (green card) & prize (will vary according to class)

Class 11 and 36 will merit double points for each prize. Handicraft classes and children's classes will be judged on individual merit.

6. Children and teenager classes will be judged in four age groups - up to 5; 5-7;8-11;12-18.

The Knox Cunningham Cup will be awarded to the household with the highest number of points gained in all adult classes. The Well Hill Cup will be awarded to the household with the highest number of points in all classes. No household may win both cups. Each entry must be accompanied by a 2" square of white paper. On the back should be:

- a) Your name
- b) The class number of your entry

You will be given a competitor's number when you arrive, which must be written on the front of the card. Entries for the children's classes should show the child's age on the front of the card.

CONCERT for the VULCAN



Saturday 30th May Chelsfield Village Hall

A fundraising concert by local rock band DUPE, raising funds for the Vulcan Restoration Trust (avrovulcan.com) who preserve Avro Vulcan

B.2 XL426 at Southend Airport. Saturday 30th May 2009, Chelsfield Village Hall, Chelsfield Village, Kent, BR6 7RN: Doors open at 7:30pm - Band on stage at 8pm - all finished by 10pm

.£7 for adults - kids free - bring your own drink or pop over to the Five Bells and get takeaways! Buy tickets on-line at tickets.duperock.com, or reserve them by emailing dave@duperock.com

Why Join Chelsfield Village Society?

Chelsfield Village Society acts as the voice of Chelsfield Village. We receive and disseminate local information. We are consulted on various local, council, borough and Greater London

matters. As a member you can elect the committee, serve on the committee and take part in decision making about the future of your village. It only costs £3 a year to be

a member of Chelsfield Village Society, or £30 for life membership. If you would like to join please contact Catherine Gandolfi, 3 Orlestone Gardens, Chelsfield Village. BR6 6HB

“SPRINGWATCH” in CHELSFIELD

After many years of watching ‘Springwatch’ I thought I’d have a go at setting up my own cameras in a couple of bird boxes. I bought two different systems: one radio operated, the other powered by a cable via a cat flap. Only one box, for blue tits, has been successful. The other, the better quality cable operated system, is a robin box and unfortunately that box has not been used.

During the winter a couple of prospective residents visited a few times a week. By early April the first signs of bedding appeared and on the 6th the female roosted in the box. Now I’m guessing but I suspect she does this to check how secure the box is overnight (no point building an entire nest only to find one has a psychopathic weasel for a neighbour)! At this point both birds were continuing to build the nest although it did appear that one was bringing bedding in while the other was removing it. I guess ‘men having no idea about style and colour schemes’ is a multi-species thing!

The first egg (light cream coloured with small speckles) appeared on the 17th April and by the 29th the last of nine eggs was laid. Up until this point the female had been roosting on the eggs but from the 29th she was incubating them for 24hrs a day bar approximately 5 minutes every hour when she disappeared to feed herself. The male occasionally showed up with some tit-bits (literally) although on occasion he presented the food and then ate it himself (I think he’s new to this breeding lark).

The first chick hatched on the evening of the 5th May and had the nest to itself for the first night. The mother tried feeding it but it did not seem very interested. Thinking about this, it makes sense if the chick does not have much of an immediate appetite since a bird such as mine (born in the evening) would probably starve by morning if ravenous. The following day the other eight eggs hatched and the mother recycled the egg shells by breaking

them up and eating them.

At this stage the chicks were not making any noise and seemed to have very little idea when the parents were either in or out of the nest (the male had now taken more interest). The parent’s movements would arouse them but they were not always sure if they had just entered or left the nest. The early stages of feeding were fairly relaxed with the mother spending extended periods of sitting on the chicks to keep them warm but as they grew older the duration of sitting reduced while the feeding increased.

The organisation within the nest is quite amazing to watch. Typically a parent will arrive, the chicks open their gapes as wide as possible trying to attract attention and then the parent does a very strange thing. The mother/father offers food to one mouth and then withdraws it, offers it to another and sometimes a few more before letting a chick have the morsel. Quite why she does this I don’t know, but I wonder

if she can somehow tell which chicks have recently been feed and which haven't. This would help to stop the strongest chicks growing increasingly stronger at the expense of the weakest: not a good evolutionary plan!

Another intriguing point of nest organisation is the ablutions! A parent will often bring in food,

feed a chick and then that chick will climb all over its siblings and push its rear end into the air. At this point a white faecal sack (I have another, more colloquial name for it in my household) appears and the parent takes it away for disposal. What great planning!

At this point in time (12th May), the chick are put-

ting on weight very quickly; are developing tufts of feathers on their heads and seem to be developing a dark streak along their backs. A couple of weeks from now and they should be ready to leave the nest. The parents work will not be over but life will be a little more 'normal': if you're a tit that is!

Steve Fuller

CHELSEFIELD VILLAGE SUMMER VISITORS

In May Chelsfield awaits the arrival of its summer migrants. In fact the village has a number of the very few house martin colonies in Bromley.

House Martins breed under the eaves of houses and other buildings, and many people treasure these summer visitors, waiting anxiously for their arrival, and marvelling as they dive into their nests, made of mud and lined with feathers. For some people, House Martins are a nuisance. In an attempt to avoid having to cope with a bit of mess, some people knock act illegally and down House Martin nests - even in the breeding



season, when there are youngsters inside. House Martins spend our winters hunting for insects over the forests of

equatorial Africa. They fly north in the spring, crossing North Africa, Spain and France and arriving

here in the UK during April and May.

Having travelled thousands of miles from equatorial Africa, having faced some really horrible spring weather in southern Europe and being shot at, with many not surviving the journey, it seems just a little unfair that a pair of House Martins will find that last year's nest has been knocked down by house-proud homeowners. If birds can re-use a nest from a previous year then they save themselves up to ten days of work, and that is if they can find suitable materials.

House Martins feed mainly on flies and aphids, and their aerobatics whilst flying are worth watching.

The female usually lays four or five eggs, with an average incubation of 16 days and chicks stay in nest for about 22 days. Pairs will often have two broods during the summer if time and food supply allows.

The Chelsfield visitors usually start in early May with a few arriving and

checking out the next sites, but usually flying on later elsewhere, with the main population following on in around a week.

Most House Martins breed under the eaves of houses and other buildings. They often breed in groups and nests are sometimes joined together in terraces. Mud is collected from the edges of puddles and streams. Birds rarely travel more than 150 metres to collect mud. If they can re-use a nest from a previous year then they save themselves up to ten days of work.

You may be lucky and have house martins nesting on your house already. If not, you can try to attract them by making your own artificial house martin nest.

House martins need three things to breed successfully; a good place to build a nest, the right materials to build it with, and plenty of food for their hungry chicks.

House martins only eat insects they catch on the wing, so you cannot attract them by putting food

out for them in the same way as you would attract other birds. But, because their nests are made almost solely from mud, a nice muddy pool or puddle may attract them to build near you, especially during a dry spell.

Another way to encourage them is to put up house martin nest boxes (nest cups). You can buy these ready made through RSPB shops and many bird food suppliers and garden centres, or you can make your own. Nest cups don't guarantee that martins will nest, at least in the first year, but since house martins nest in colonies, the presence of a nest may encourage other birds to build their own alongside.

House martins are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, which makes it an offence to kill, injure or take an adult bird, or to take, damage or destroy the eggs, young or nest of a house martin whilst it is being built or in use. The Act allows for fines of up to £5,000 for every bird, egg or nest destroyed, or even custodial sentences.

Peter Gandolfi

Recipes for Produce Show

(see page 5)

Crunchy Top Lemon Cake

4oz/100g soft margarine
6oz/175g caster sugar
6oz/175g self-raising flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
2 eggs
4 tablespoons milk
finely grated rind of 1 lemon

For the crunchy topping:

Juice of 1 lemon
4oz/100g sugar

Pre-heat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas4. Lightly grease and base line a 7"/18cm deep round cake tin with greaseproof paper. Measure all the ingredients for the cake into a large bowl and beat well for about 2 minutes until smooth and well blended. Turn the mixture into the prepared tin and level the surface. Bake in the pre-heated oven for about 35-40 minutes or until the cake is cooked.

Whilst the cake is baking, make the crunchy topping. Mix the lemon juice and sugar together until blended. When the cake comes out of the oven, spread the topping over the top whilst the cake is still hot.

Smartie Biscuits

4oz/100g margarine
4oz/100g light muscovado sugar
1 tablespoon golden syrup
6oz/150g self-raising flour
3oz/85g smarties (3 standard tubes)

Pre-heat the oven to 150C/350F/Gas 4. Beat margarine and sugar in a bowl until light and creamy. Beat in syrup, work in half the flour. Stir in the smarties with the remaining flour and work the dough together with your fingers. Divide into 14 balls, place them well apart on a baking tray. Do not flatten them. Bake for 12 minutes until golden at the edges. Cool on a wire rack.

USEFUL NUMBERS

Bromley Council Details

Main switchboard Telephone:

020 8464 3333

E-mail: csc@bromley.gov.uk

Opening hours Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm

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

Reporting Problems to the Council

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

Mobile Library

The mobile library stops outside Chelsfield Village School on Tuesdays between 11:15 and 11:45. Books can be reserved from here, or over the Internet via the Bromley library website for later picking up from the mobile library.

Councillors

Julian Grainger

01689 889392

julian.grainger@bromley.gov.uk

Samaris Huntington-Thresher

020 8464 3333

Samaris.Huntington-Thresher@bromley.gov.uk

Thresher@bromley.gov.uk

Bob Evans

01689 853002

bob.evans@bromley.gov.uk



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 19th May
Five Bells

Charity Quiz @ 9.00pm

Saturday 23rd May

Waitrose Green St Green
Safer Neighbourhoods
Chelsfield & Pratts Bot-
tom Team Street Briefing
4.00pm - 5.00pm

Fri 22nd-Mon 25th
May Bank Holiday

Five Bells

Mini Beer Festival

Sun 24th-Mon 25th

May Bank Holiday

Five Bells

Carvery Lunch 12.00pm -
4.00pm

Tuesday 26th May
Five Bells

Charity Quiz @ 9.00pm

Saturday 30th May
Chelsfield Village Hall

Charity Vulcan Restora-
tion Concert with local

Rock Band DUPE, Tick-
ets £7.00 (See page 7)

Tues 2nd, 9th, 16th,
23rd & 30th June

Five Bells

Charity Quiz @ 9.00pm

Saturday 6th June
Rectory Garden

St Martins WILD WEST
FETE, our annual family
fete 12.00pm - 5.00pm
(see front cover for more
information)

Wed 10th June Main
**Reception Orpington Hos-
pital**

Safer Neighbourhoods
Chelsfield & Pratts Bot-
tom Team Surgery
11.00am - 2.00pm

Sun 14th June

Chelsfield Village

Safer Neighbourhoods
Chelsfield & Pratts Bot-
tom Team Street Briefing
11.00am - 12.00 mid-day

Friday 26th June
Five Bells

Live Music Willie Austin
& Family from 9.00pm

Saturday 27th June
Five Bells

Dog Show - Bring your
own pooches. Proceeds
going to Foal Farm

Saturday 11th July
Cricket Field

Chelsfield Village Fair

Saturday 19th Sept
Chelsfield Village Hall

Produce Show (see
Show Schedule in this
issue - it's time to plan
and plant your entries -
don't delay!)

Sat/Sun 17/18th Oct
Chelsfield Village Hall

Philip Lane's Chelsfield
Photo Show

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

Please send your diary
dates to:
villagevoice@chelsfield.org
or post to:
Chelsfield Village Voice
2 Bucks Cross Cottages
Chelsfield Village
Kent BR6 7RN

Keep in touch
VISIT CHELSFIELD
ONLINE
go to
www.chelsfieldevents.co.uk