

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE WELL HILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

July 2009

CHELSEFIELD VILLAGE FAIR

The Annual village fair will take place on Saturday 11th July. Fun for all the family. Lots to do and plenty of stalls to browse. There will even be flying displays by a Spitfire and a Vampire jet.

LAVENDER FESTIVAL

The lavender is once again turning its vibrant purple here in the Kentish countryside! You can see the characteristic colour from now until the beginning of August and fresh cut bunches are available daily in the Hop shop, Castle Farm. Entry into the lavender fields is only permitted as part of a pre-booked group tour.

Apart from the festival weekends when there are tours happening all day, there are three extra 'Open Tours' on weekday afternoons at 2pm this year, Monday 29th June, Tuesday 14th July; Tuesday 21st.

The Lavender Festival weekends are the first two weekends in July:

LAVENDER FOOD FESTIVAL'

Saturday 4th - Sunday 5th July - Food tastings, tours, beefburgers, plants, WI teas

'INDULGENCE WEEKEND'

Saturday 11th - Sunday 12th July - Lavender massages in the field, tours, food tastings, beefburgers, teas, plants, crafts, etc

For more details call 01959 523219.

PRODUCE SHOW

This year's Chelsfield, Well Hill and District produce Show will be on Saturday 19th September in Chelsfield Village Hall. It is fun to compete with friendly rivalry.

The schedule of sections is included with this Newsletter and the recipes you will need are on page 4.

NEW ARRIVALS

Congratulations to the following families on the arrival of their new additions:

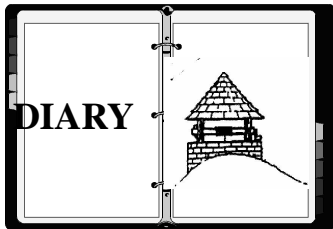


Nick & Jo Coulson - daughter, Alexis
Jenny & David Revis - daughter, Eleanor
Jessie & Shane Reid - son, Jonah
Chris & Carol Courtney - grandson, Malachy



WHRA Committee

- Chairperson & Correspondence -
Nick Coulson (01959 532885)
- Vice-chairman & Minutes Secretary
Jean Crossfield (01959 534288)
- Treasurer -
Mike Peek (01959 533339)
- Planning & Newsletter
Phil Hobson (01959 534090)
- PACT Representative
Tony Barton (01959 534723)
Chris Courtney (01959 535022)
Mrs June Dean (01959 534445)
Terry Sparkes (01689 823749)
Gill Eldridge



CHURCH SERVICES

Saturday 4th - Sunday 5th July - Lavender Festival - The Hop Shop, Castle Farm

Wednesday 8th July - Bird Walk - Sevenoaks Wildfowl Reserve 6:30 pm

Saturday 11th July - Chelsfield Village Fair - Village cricket field.

Saturday 11th - Sunday - 12th July - Indulgence Weekend - The Hop Shop, Castle Farm

Sunday 12th July - The Thames Gateway Quarter at the Mission Church 3pm tickets £6

Thursday 23rd - Sat 25th July - Lady Windermere's Fan by the Chelsfield Players at Chelsfield Village Hall 8pm. Tickets £6

Wednesday 9th September - PACT meeting (Partners and Community together) - Mission church 7pm

Saturday 19th September - Produce Show - Chelsfield Village Hall

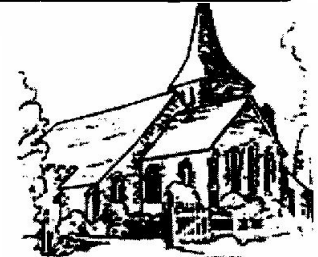
Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th October - Philip Lane's Chelsfield Photo Show - Chelsfield Village Hall.

Tuesday Nights at the Five Bells - Quiz night

FREIGHTER

The Parish council has stepped in to provide the Saturday freighter. Residents throughout the parish make good use of the service and asked the council to keep it going. The dates are the third Saturday in January, April, July and October. The first one will be Saturday 18th July from 11:15 to 12:00 in the Kent Hounds Car park.

Website - visit the website
<http://www.whra.org.uk>



ST MARTINS. **CHELSEFIELD.**

8.00am Holy Communion
9.45am Family Eucharist (not 5th Sunday)
11.00am Sung Eucharist (1,3rd,5th Sundays)
11.00am Matins (2nd & 4th Sundays)
6.30pm Evensong
Rector of Chelsfield and Advisor in Pastoral Care & Counselling for the Diocese of Rochester is:
Canon Leslie Virgo
The Rectory
Skibbs Lane
Chelsfield
BR6 7RH
Tel: 01689 825749

WELL HILL **MISSION** **CHURCH**



09.45am Morning Prayers (1st Sunday)
09.45am Holy Communion (3rd Sunday)
Pastoral Assistant: Gillian Vernon 01689 874876

No services during August

Information about Marriages, Baptisms, Funerals, and bookings for the Brass Crosby Room on the Church Website:
www.stmartinchelsfield.co.uk. The Rector is always available for personal conversation and is a qualified Psychotherapist.

If you have not been to St. Martin's recently you should visit if for no other reason than to see the remarkable facelift they have had and to visit their extension - the Brass Crosby Room. St Martin's belongs to the Village - it belongs to you.

Letter From Nick Coulson, Chairman of the WHRA

Birds and the Bees visit Well Hill

This will be my third Summer on the Hill. From my position up here looking out over the Downs, the views are wonderful, but it has to be said the Winter can be cruel. The rain on some mornings seems to meet me horizontally as I struggle to keep the door from trapping me behind it as I release the catch. At times I lay in bed listening to the wind and have to give myself confidence that the roof survived the 1987 hurricane as far as I can tell. But every season has its pluses, despite all of the trouble the snow caused, especially for us up here on the Hill. Surely the splendour of the scene would have inspired Samuel Palmer, (the famous landscape artist of the early 1800s who immortalised our local landscape). As Winter creeps into Spring and Summer it's hard to imagine the trees in a state of undress and the memories of trying to separate snow from gravel to reach the so distant gate to the Lane seem like a dream. But now the Hill is beautiful, and kind. The animals are out and about. The Fox and her cubs, the Blackbird busies herself teaching her chicks to fly and the Rabbits have given us another generation to ensure anything I plant will never get bigger than about 3 inches.

This Summer is a special one on Well Hill as this year, if you listen carefully you can hear the sound of crying babies. Trust me, the M25 cannot compete on its noisiest days. Yes there has been a population explosion, well maybe that's a bit of an exaggeration. I understand 4 - 5 babies have been born or are due. I was told by my wife and that mine of local information, Jean Crossfield, who was born to whom and when or due. But I'm a man and men don't retain that kind of information easily. However I didn't forget my own - Alexis was born on the 29th of May. This new influx of the young is good news as we could do with a paper boy up here and it would be nice if someone appeared at the gate every now and then exclaiming "can I wash your car mister, its only 2 quid". Or am I being naïve? Has that all gone out with the dial telephone and the top loading washing machine in the short, well shortish, time since I did that for pocket money. Tip here though, don't complain about the quality of the work, not unless you want your tyres let down or a potato stuck in the exhaust pipe a few days later.

Also as we approach this years produce show, its nice to know that we are keeping up with Chelsfield who I am sure are exercising a breeding program so as to increase the odds on walking away with the childrens' section. My own eldest has not been let out of her bedroom since the produce show schedule was published and won't be until her Butterfly painting is of sufficient standing. She is being fed on my practice Rock cakes until she reaches this goal, so if she doesn't make it, I'll select the best one and submit it on her behalf. It's one of my favourite events since I moved to the Hill. It is unique and really brings the two villages together and I look forward to it tremendously. So much so that next year I intend to have go at some fruit and veg myself. I was supposed to have a go this year but I kind of fell behind on account of taking longer to decorate the nursery and other rooms than it did for my wife to create a whole new human being. Also we have the string quartet on Saturday the 12th of July which I must confess I didn't make last year but I intend to support it this year. (apparently there are cream teas!). So enjoy the summer and please do come to the local events and meet the neighbours. You never know, in a few years time you may get your grass cut for less than the minimum wage - I doubt it mind you these days but you never know! And may I congratulate all those new parents and sympathise with all those new dads who are getting poked in the ribs at 4. a.m. to be told "it's your turn"...

PRODUCE SHOW RECIPES

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, f
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.

A concert for Well Hill

Featuring well-loved classics and light music gems performed by the Thames Gateway Quartet.

Raising funds for the Mission church. Sunday 12th July at 3pm. At the Mission church (in garden if the weather is fine). Tickets are priced at £6.00, box office 01689 874876 / 823749 www.villageconcerts.info

Bird walk at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve

Sevenoaks District Council is holding a bird walk, on Wednesday 8 July at 6.30pm, at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve. lasting around two hours. No previous knowledge of birds is necessary. Places are strictly limited, and anyone who would like to attend should call Simon Davies on 01732 227374 to book a place, or e-mail sus.dev@sevenoaks.gov.uk