

# Local Services



Cheswick Green Residents Association Newsletter

2j

## Cheswick Green Village Fete

WMfmm mm ^ep~re\_niDeT

2.00 till 5.00

Horse and Cart Rides Around the Village

Music from the AD Concert Band

Morris Dancing

Children's Rides

Pig Roast and BBQ

Tug 'O' War

Car Boot Sale

Punch and Judy

Garden Produce and Crafts -

Allotment Association Show

### BUILDING SERVICES

M ,1 Hewitt 01564 703116

### STATE REGISTERED CHIROPODIST

Jonathan Leese 0121 733 1292

### CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT TAXATION SERVICES

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Stuart Brampton BSc. ACA. ATII 01564 703929

### SEWING

(Dressmaking and Curtains)

Brenda Cooke (01564)703347  
mobile: 07702 815035

### PLUMBING AND HEATING

Installation, Servicing & Repairs

Corgi Registered

Stephen Smith 01564 702004

### PLUMBING AND HEATING

MrAWarr 01564 702603

### Copy Date:

The Autumn/Winter 2003 issue of the Cheswick Green News is expected to be published in November. If you have any item that you think might be suitable for publication, please offer it for inclusion to Cath Duffill 01564 703264 by end of October.

### DATA PROTECTION ACT:

Residents are advised that The Association holds all residents' names and addresses on a computer database. This is for the sole purpose to permit the Officers to ascertain, at any point in time - but particularly at the AGM - the current paid up membership. If any resident has an objection to his/her name being held on this database, then it will be deleted upon application to the Chairman on 01564 702653.

Have you Seen?

[www.solihull-online.com/cheswickgreen](http://www.solihull-online.com/cheswickgreen)

IN THIS ISSUE: GRAFFITI AGAIN: LADY PARACHUTIST: PARTY IN THE PARK: PLEASURE GROUND: ANAGRAMS: GRAFFITI?: LOTTERY MONEY: CHURCH NEWS: BLACKPOOL AGAIN AND MORE!!!

# Lottery Fundin

As a direct result of the item in the spring edition of this magazine three people came forward to offer their time and expertise to look into obtaining funding for improvements to the village. This is an excellent response and my thanks go to them for their help and advice, which is ongoing.

At a meeting held on 5th June it was decided to direct our fund raising efforts towards improving facilities for children and young people living in Cheswick Green. A questionnaire has been produced and the views of local youngsters are being gathered, as well as advice from Solihull council's team of youth workers.



Anyone wishing to become involved or offer suggestions should contact me on 01564 702653 or email [ianCasolihull-online.com](mailto:ianCasolihull-online.com)

## iBtaci^ool Trip

The trip to Blackpool last year was a resounding success and we know from the many comments and enquiries received by committee members that this year's trip has been eagerly awaited.

It will be on Saturday 11th October and the tickets are £12.50 each. The trip this year will include a ride through the lights. We have already nearly filled a coach with early reservations, so a good response from you now will mean that two coaches of Cheswick Green residents will descend on Blackpool. I hope they are well prepared for us!

Contact Barbara Sill on 01564 702653 to obtain your tickets for this great day out.



Til Q3 yy

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Green Party in  
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where  
blockage  
June 14th 2003  
(14.70 out)  
#98

**COS'r &**

Following the success of last year's Golden Jubilee party, Cheswick Green Residents Association decided to hold another Party in the Park. This year the turnout was even bigger and the weather couldn't have been better, it was a glorious warm summer evening. A great time was had by all with music dancing, pig roast, barbecue and games and rides for the children. It is now hoped to make this a regular annual event in the future.

## Thanks

go out to all who helped in the afternoon, on the night and the morning after!





In 1906 when Cheswick Green Pleasure Ground opened there was an exciting attraction for the visitors. Madam Nellie Neill was an unusual young women who was prepared to brave death to entertain the crowds who flocked to see her dare-devil parachute leap from a hot air balloon. She was by no means the only woman to do so. There had been other women less fortunate who either died or were seriously injured. We might compare this activity with that of the modern day Bungee Jump without the safety precautions. The following newspaper article from the Birmingham Owl 6th July 1906 is an interview with Madam Nellie Neill.

## A Chat With A lady Parachutist

An interesting interview with Madam Nellie Neill, who I suppose has made more ascents into the clouds than any other lady Parachutist, enables me to give the following particulars. She is prepossessing, young and intrepid. Asked as to how she obtained her initial experience the prompt reply was -

"By descending unattended some 6000 feet from a balloon".

I asked her if the risk was reduced if the balloon were a passenger one.

She said -

"No, I feel much more capable of undergoing my leap into space when entirely unattended".

I then suggested that the balloon might be a captive one. From this she again dissented and pointed out that there is a limit to which the height of a captive balloon can ascend.

"Sometimes I feel that it is necessary to wait until my aneroid barometer records from 4,000 feet to 8,000 feet from Mother Earth: in fact in case of the gear being entangled, the greater the distance, the greater the probability of it becoming righted" she added.

"Hot air is my medium and answers quite as well as indifferent gas".

I questioned her as to the reason for the fatal descent recently made by Miss Cove in Yorkshire. She replied -

"The poor girl probably completely lost her nerve, and unfortunately had no previous experience, it being her first ascent".

Madam Neill became almost irate when I suggested that dangerous performances might be stopped by legislation. She said that she loved her profession and had found that the excitement stimulated rather than depressed her. She deplored the molly-coddling, grandmotherly interference, which was becoming the order of the day, adding- "Where will our Waterloo and Crimea heroes of the future come from if we stamp out the element of danger from all of our sports and pastimes?"

I became so interested with her relation of adventures and escapes in our brief half hour, that I made up my mind to witness Madam Neill's next performance wherever it might take place, and I was pleased to find that I might do so at the nominal charge of sixpence at 5.00 on Saturday afternoon the 14th July instant, at the Mount Cottage Farm near Shirley, which she considers an ideal spot for an ascent both from her own and the spectator's point of view.

She has, among her other accomplishments, made herself an expert swimmer, so that in case of the parachute alighting in the water she is quite at home: in fact, last year the parachute was carried out to sea, and she was able in a strong tide, not only to keep herself afloat, but also to protect her valuable parachute for nearly an hour until a boat arrived.

Madam Neill was born in Canada, and has been engaged directly in her profession for upwards of six years, during which time she has made over 100 ascents. She went on to say:

"Sometimes it is 300 feet before the parachute opens. I love the sensation and feel more at home, taking my bird's eye view of the earth than I do on the ground. The world from above looks delightful. The people look like marbles moving about in the slowest way. Even the Houses of Parliament impress me with their littleness when viewed from above. Donkeys braying, cocks crowing and motors hooting are all sounds that can be very plainly heard in my rambles among the clouds".

From Mount Cottage Farm, from which the ascent will be made, and its grounds, a good view will be obtainable of the ascent and the preparations, and as a tableland forms the base of the performance, the descent will be easily visible also, a better spot could hardly be imagined. Conveyances to the Mount Farm will run from High Street at 9.00 am, 2.20, 2.40, 3.10 and 3.40 pm., and the grounds can also easily be reached by an easy walk from Solihull Station on the G.W.R. There will be plenty of special conveyances for the return journey.

Madam Nellie was certainly an unusual young woman, well ahead of her time. No doubt many came to see this extraordinary performance, but she was also an attractive woman and her appearance in breeches would have excited many a male in 1906. Nothing more is known of Nellie. How long did she continue in her daring descents? Did she finally meet her end parachuting out of the sky, or did she retire to a quiet life?

*Veil Tanks*



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## In Memory

The start of the summer has brought much sadness to the village with the deaths of three well-known residents in a very short space of time.

Gwen Fincham had lived in Cheswick Green for many years and had been a leading figure in the W.I. for over twenty of them. Gwen was a great lady and helped the Residents Association enormously with magazine deliveries and subscriptions. She was our Bingo caller at the fete and those who sat down to drink a cuppa would have been served by our cheerful Gwen.

Jo Parker was also a long time resident. She was much involved in the village and for three years was the treasurer of the Village Hall Management Committee.

Brian Garrard will be known to many as the chap who walked his black Labrador and always had time to stop and talk. I will especially miss my regular chats with Brian, who was a smashing man with a heart of gold.

Our thoughts are with the families and friends of those who will be sadly missed.

*Ian Sill*

# TUBS AND PLANTERS AROUND THE VILLAGE

These are looked after by **I"CSICl.dl.tS** \*\*\*^\*\*\*P\*\*\*k e

Cheswick Green look attractive throughout the year. This small addition to

the village is achieved by no small amount of **Of**

The people involved are happy to continue because they

## It Pays to Advertise

This Local Magazine is the ideal  
way to reach your Local  
customers

Full page	£25.00 per ad	4 for £90.00 per year
Half page	£12.00 per ad	4 for £45.00 per year
Quarter page	£6.00 per ad	4 for £22.00 per year

### Local Services

Paid up members of CGRA	£2.00 x 4	£8.00 per year
Non members CGRA	£3.00x4	£12.00 per year

# CHESWICK GREEN

## A LOVELY EDEN ' 1

When the Mount Pleasure Ground at Cheswick Green opened in 1906 there was plenty of entertainment all through the week in the form of concerts and light entertainment. Some of this was not unlike the music hall type of entertainment to be found in Birmingham. On Sundays sacred concerts were considered to be more acceptable for the Sabbath. By that time Earlswood was enjoying a tourist industry and almost everyone cashed in on the boom, especially those who had the space for a tea garden or tearoom. The following poem appeared on a post card and advertised the pleasures to be found there.

### Mount Cottage Farm

*The Mount Cottage Farm beyond Shirley lies,  
With orchards and fields which delight the eyes.  
This lovely Eden ope's its verdant arms,  
And makes a new Vauxhall with all its charms.*

*All ranks and ages seek its cooling shades,  
From learned bishops down to dairymaids,  
Tired of the town the boys and girls do stray,  
And seek Prince Rupert's much frequented way.*

*But o' delicious are the meals prepared,  
Repasts which Mayors and Aldermen have shared.  
These country outs our sons of toil do cheer,  
Who scarcely see a tree from year to year.*

It is difficult to believe that Cheswick Green was once described as a lovely Eden, but it must have been a welcome retreat for those who lived and worked in industrial Birmingham.

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# VANDALISM ON CHESWICK GREEN

The recently held Open Door meeting attended by the Superintendent of Police in Solihull, Parish Council and the Residents Association gave many residents the opportunity to express their concerns about acts of criminal vandalism in our village.

It was reassuring to note that the police are to follow up on information provided by residents. It was not reassuring to learn that we encounter as much vandalism here as do other parts of Solihull.

Much of the graffiti here has been attacked by Council, Centra and BT with 80% success. Meanwhile the lights around the Village Hall have all been damaged and windows broken. Trees on the village green have been broken and cable cabinets subjected to graffiti.

**Incidents should be reported immediately to the Police on:**

**0845-113-5000**

Please do act to support those of us who want Cheswick Green to be a lovely place to live in again.

*P. Tonks.*

## CHESWICK GREEN VILLAGE HALL

**AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**

There is a choice of Two Halls with the use of Kitchen, Tables and Chairs included in the Hire Charges Suitable for Dancing, Keep Fit, Parties, Meetings etc.

**Contact the Booking clerk on 01564 703293**

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# There's more to anagrams than you ^ think... ^

## YOUR COMMUNITY YOUR FRIENDS YOUR NEIGHBOURS

### Cheswick Green Methodist Church

It has been a real pleasure recently to be associated with two special events at our church here.

The first was our Easter Day Service where we remembered through gifts of flowers those who were known to us as members of our church (since 1975) and neighbours, who were no longer with us. The school hall (which is our church building) was a blaze of colour and the Communion Service was very helpful especially as at Easter Day we think of the "new life" of Christ's resurrection.

The other service was the Spring May Day Service, with the hall again a mass of flowers celebrating Spring and the Communion Service taken from the Iona community in Scotland.

We are now working on our "Boxes of Hope" project for women and children in Iraq.

It is surprising how many anagrams can be appropriate. For example the famous nurse of the Crimean War, Florence Nightingale, can become transposed to Flit on Cheering Angel, and Victorian prime minister William Ewart Gladstone can appropriately be changed to Wild Agitator - means well. Another great Victorian prime minister Disraeli can be changed simply to I lead, sir. Still keeping to former prime ministers, who would have thought that Margaret Thatcher could become That Great Charmer.

Then there is William Shakespeare, which can appropriately be I'll make a wise phrase or we all make his praise.

Turning to the Second World War, you can well imagine Bernard Montgomery repeating his anagram Not on my border - German. Our great war leader, Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill could easily have spoken his anagram - And we'll cope and crush Hitler in scorn. Certainly no one will disagree with Adolph Hitler - hated for ill.

Moving away from personalities who can doubt that A telephone girl is repeating hello and The Morse Code is Here come dots. Aptly, The countryside is without doubt No city dust here and in the field of mathematics A decimal point is easily seen as I'm a dot in place. There is no doubt that Eleven plus two equals Twelve plus one.

Many people wondered what the new millennium would bring but luckily the Year Two Thousand didn't turn out to be A year to shut down.

### Do you have any ideas on a suitable anagram to fit your own name?

# PEOPLE WHO WORK ON YOUR BEHALF

## CHESWICK GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

Ian Sill (Chairman)	36 Snowhill Drive	01564 702653
Cath Duffill (Vice Chairman)	2 Snowhill Drive	01564 703264
Val Tonks (Secretary)	4 Cheswick Way	01564 703911
Barbara Lintern (Treasurer)	254 Creynolds Lane	0121 745 6715
Committee Members:		
Brian Brown	42 Spinney Drive	01564 703161
Natalie Sweetman		
Dot Lambert		
John Wood	7 Willow Drive	01564 702085
Margaret Daniels	8 The Pines	01564 703298
Neil Bromley	1 Coppice Walk	01564 200015
Pete Davis	27 Glenwood Drive	01564 703991
Debbie Fuller	24 Snowhill Drive	01564 702834
Barbara Sill	36 Snowhill Drive	01564 702653

(The CGRA Committee usually meets at 8.00pm in the Village Hall on the first Wednesday of each month when observers are always welcome.

## HOCKLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chris Noble (Chairman)	16 Willow Drive, Cheswick Green	01564 702075
Len Cresswell	11 Foxland Close, Cheswick Green	01564 703244
Peter Seddon	36 Lowbrook Lane, Tidbury Green	01564 822684
Sandie Bates	74 Aylesbury Rd, Hockley Heath	01564 782922
Brian Brown	42 Spinney Drive, Cheswick Green	01564 703161
Peter Bulcock	Bowyer Farm, Lady Lane, Earlswood	01564 703020
Peter Kennard	145 Fulford Hall Road, Tidbury Green	01564 826143
Margaret Pettinger	46 Coppice Walk, Cheswick Green	01564 702108
John Wood	7 Willow Drive, Cheswick Green	01564 702085
Michael Hodgkiss	73 Aylesbury Road, Hockley Heath	01564 784256
Peter Rayson	10 Lindhurst Drive, Hockley Heath	01564 784361
Clerk to the council		
Mrs D.Weir	1 Hereford House, Old Warwick Rd, Lapworth	01564 783789

## PACKWOOD WARD COUNCILLORS, SMBC

Andy Mackiewicz	4 Manor Road, Dorridge	01564 230294
Ken Meeson	9 Glendon Way, Dorridge	01564 777772

The Patch Manager for Cheswick Green is:

Michelle Taylor Tel: 0121 704 6783 email: [mtaylor@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:mtaylor@solihull.gov.uk)

## MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Caroline Spelman, M.P. House of Commons, Westminster, London. SW1A 0AA  
Information about Mrs Spelman's surgeries can be obtained by ringing 0121 711 2955

## LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

### RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

CGRA Chairman	Ian Sill	01564 702653
Cheswick Green News Editor	Cath Duffill	01564 703264
Village Hall Manager	John Wood	01564 702085
Village Hall Booking Clerk	Ruth Stanton	01564 703293

### THE CHURCHES

Family Church, Minister	Rev. Roy Boffey	0121 745 1785
Family Church, Secretary	Jenny Cockcroft	01564 703091
St.Patrick's Church, Clergy	Rev, Michael Caddy	0121 744 3123

### FOR THE VERY YOUNG

Childminders Co-ordinator	Loo Shergold	01564 703554
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### UNIFORMED YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

Beavers, Cubs	Malcolm Mellows	01564 784681
Scouts and Venture Scouts	Malcolm Mellows	01564 784681
Rainbows, Brownies, Girl Guides	Doreen Birch	0121 744 7048
St. John's Ambulance cadets	Div. Supt. Cleveley	0121 708 0514

### FOR THE GROWN UPS

Allotment Association	David Millichamp	01564 702524
Save the Children	Jenny Cockcroft	01564 703091
Wine Club	Chris Kenyon	01564 703138
Women's Institute	Penny Heathcote	0121 744 1577

### CHESWICK GREEN SCHOOL

Headmaster	Malcolm Birch	01564 703336
Chairman of Governors	Stan Proudfoot	01564 702907
School Association (Chair)	Kate O'Sullivan	01564 703415

This full list will appear once a year in the edition of the magazine following the Residents Association AGM. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that the list is comprehensive and up to date, omissions and mistakes may unfortunately occur. Please contact the editor, Cath Duffill, 01564 703264 and a correction will be printed in the next magazine.

A list of the Residents Association committee members will be published in every edition.