



## SIMON AND OLLIE: IT'S GOODBYE

**S**imon & Ollie Oughton are leaving The Pheasant after eighteen years at the helm.

The village's best known couple (and arguably best loved) are heading for a well earned retirement at their house in Elmdon after handing over to a new husband and wife team in a month's time. Simon told *The Chishills*: "When we arrived in 1999 the pub was completely run down, having slumped from the highs of Denis and Marchella Ryan who sold to a managed pub company in 1993. It took only six years and a succession of poor managers to ruin the business.

With Ollie's usual gusto, within two weeks we were up and open and serving food - and never looked back. Approximately 50,000 fish and chips and 60,000 fillet steaks later I'm now hanging up my skillet and Ollie is looking forward to a very well deserved retirement."

A new young couple are taking over on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mark & Debbie Wicken are moving to Great Chishill from Potters Bar and their two young children will be attending Barley school. They plan to extend the building, make their own improvements, and re-open for food again at the weekends.

Said Simon: "We are very sad to be leaving Great Chishill and would like to thank everyone for the support we have continually received and lifelong friends we have made. We would also like to remember the many friends who are no longer with us.

Finally, we would like to wish Mark & Debbie the best of luck in their new venture. They are full of ideas and energy and will breathe new life into the pub we all love."



### Mike Livings 1943 – 2017

Rosemary would like to thank the many friends who loved and supported her and the family during the past 15 months of Mike's illness with cancer. Mike died in the Whittington Hospital on 1 February, surrounded by his four wonderful daughters and family. Mike had lived in Great Chishill for almost 40 years, designing his own home on Heydon Road, and raising the children with Rosemary his wife. Mike was a keen gardener, a member of many village societies over the years, a talented architect and a keen volunteer with the National Trust, with whom he liked to walk and explore the surrounding countryside. Mike is now buried in the Chapel garden next to the church he had supported and loved for the past 40 years. The very full chapel of over 250 people, the hearty singing and eulogies from family members and friends were a tremendous testament to a very much loved family member and friend of so many people.

May he now rest in peace.  
Rosemary 2017

### OIL THIEVES STRIKE AGAIN

A resident in Hall Lane returned from a weekend away in February to discover that heating oil had been abstracted from the bulk tank in the garden. Perhaps luckily, the tank was due for a top-up, so the thieves only got away with a few tens of gallons; but it's a reminder that many of our village properties are vulnerable to this sneaky crime, and anything you can do to conceal or protect the tank and its contents might be a wise investment. There's some useful advice here: [www.cambs.police.uk/crimeprevention/advice](http://www.cambs.police.uk/crimeprevention/advice) and click on 'Fuel Theft'.

### St Swithun's

Palm Sunday Service

9 April at 10.40 am

### United Reformed Church

Easter Sunday Service

16 April at 10.00 am

### WHIST DRIVE Saturday 13

May, United Reformed Church, 7.30pm (sharp!). Entry £5.00. Nibbles supplied, drinks by donation. All proceeds to the St Swithun's Bell Fund. Call Phil Maynard 838311 or Jean Wiseman on 295002

**Women's Institute**  
 18 April 7.30pm  
 Dr Victoria Avery  
 The Fitzwilliam Museum  
 Visitors Welcome - call Angela 837353

**Next film night at URC**  
**Tuesday 11 April**  
**'Quartet'**  
*Maggie Smith*  
*Pauline Collins*  
*Tom Courtenay (etc...)*

**MOBILE LIBRARY CHANGES**  
 Starting in April, Chishill's mobile library day changes to the first Wednesday of every month, from 2:10pm till 2:40pm at the Church.

**Great Chishill Cricket Club**

With spring in the air you can almost smell the linseed as the village cricketers wake from their hibernation and prepare for the new season. Spring nets have already started at Burloes Farm - 8.00 pm on a Tuesday each week until 2 May. Having won promotion two seasons in succession, we are looking forward to representing the village in the Cambridgeshire Senior Leagues, Division 3. Our first game of the season is a 'friendly' against local rivals Barley, on Saturday 30 April. Our first league match is at home on 6 May against Cherry Hinton I, starting at 1.00 pm. We are a friendly club, welcoming new members, whether playing, watching, scoring, enjoying cricket tea or reminiscing about past glories. For more details please contact Angus Gent ([angusgent@gmail.com](mailto:angusgent@gmail.com)). We look forward to welcoming you to The Meadow. To follow us online please visit [www.gchishill.play-cricket.com](http://www.gchishill.play-cricket.com).

**A Good Old Fashioned Bring & Sell Auction**

**Returning By Popular Demand!**

**Sunday 30th April, 2017**  
 Great Chishill Village Hall  
 SG8 8SH  
 Auctioneer David Palmer  
 (As seen on 'Flog it' & 'Bargain Hunt')

**TIMES**  
 09.00 - 12.00 ~ Open to bring items to be sold at the auction.  
 12.00 - 1.00 ~ Viewing for buyers.  
 1.00 ~ Auction starts.  
 £2 fee per lot bought or sold at the auction.  
 Plus 10% commission for all items bought and sold.  
 Donations to the auction are most welcome.  
 BBQ, cakes and refreshments.

*Is there treasure in YOUR shed?  
 One man's rubbish is another man's treasure.*

A GREAT afternoon out and feel the buzz of the auction.  
 Contact ~ Angus 01763 838941 or [angusgent@gmail.com](mailto:angusgent@gmail.com)

This is a fund raising event held in aid of the church restoration fund.

...it's our turn now to save our village icon for future generations.

**CEILIDH**  
 DANCING TO THE 7 PIECE  
 CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY CEILIDH BAND  
**FRIDAY APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup>**  
**19.00 - 23.00**  
**GREAT CHISHILL VILLAGE HALL**  
**TICKETS £12.50**  
**(SUPPER INCLUDED)**  
**LICENCED CASH BAR**  
**RAFFLE**  
**LOTS OF FUN AND FROLICKS...**  
 TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM RO GADIAN  
[1drakeral@gmail.com](mailto:1drakeral@gmail.com)  
 01763 837075

This is a fund raising event held in aid of St Swithun's church restoration fund.

LOTTERY FUNDED

**NOW WE ARE 10!** This is Volume 11, Issue 1 of *The Chishills*. Yes, we're 10\* years old! Janet Erskine, our founding Editor, reflects. The Newsletter was born out of the Parish Plan. It was decided that there was a need for 'increased awareness of village activities via a newsletter'. I volunteered, and the Parish Council agreed to pay for the printing. Persuading people to e-mail me with information was not a problem, and we found an excellent printer in Ivor Dartnall's firm. Next came the distributors who got the news out there, as I soon found that the solo walk around both villages, battling with letter box flaps, took quite a while. I enjoyed my 7 1/2 years as editor. I liked writing and learning how to use the 'user-friendly' software, while being told what was going on even if I didn't remember for very long. Where we live now there's a 14 page monthly magazine because it's a much bigger community. But but it's not a patch on *The Chishills*.  
*\*Wander down Memory Lane with the **The Chishills**. Every back number can be found on the village web site [www.greatchishill.org.uk](http://www.greatchishill.org.uk).*

**TENNIS COACH OFFERS HELP**  
 Liz Wade moved into the Great Chishill from Buntingford last year and hopes to meet more local tennis players. She's an LTA Coach and now works mostly with individual clients, adults and juniors. Liz runs a local Ladies Doubles Postal Tennis Tournament every year. It has 2 divisions, one for daytime players and one for evening/weekend players. It is also graded by ability and locality so caters for casual players as well as experienced match players. Anyone interested can get an entry form at [tacticstennis@hotmail.com](mailto:tacticstennis@hotmail.com) or telephone 07930 576021.  
 Also coming: Tots Tennis summer courses at Barley Tennis Club, for 3-5 year olds; something new for the club and an age group Liz loves working with. If anyone is interested in having any lessons, Liz has Barley Tennis Club as a venue and is available weekdays and weekends.

**BIN COLLECTIONS**

	Black	Blue & Green
April	4	
	11	20 (Thu)
	26(Wed)	3 May