



THE VILLAGES REMEMBER



Remembrance Day 2015: Many villagers from the Chishills and all the Icknield Way parishes gathered to remember their dead of two world wars. Revd Andy Colebrooke led prayers, the names of those honoured were read aloud and a wreath was laid by PC Chairman Andrew Gardiner before the Last Post and two minutes silence. A service in St Swithun's followed. Special thanks to the driver of a passing Wickes delivery lorry who cut his motor and waited respectfully until the ceremony was over.

MAST SURVEY GO-AHEAD

Chishill residents agreed on 17 November to allow a telecoms company to conduct a technical survey with a view to siting a mobile phone mast on the Playing Fields. The firm, Shared Access Ltd, has selected a possible site on Parish Council owned land at the west side of the site, near the car park and south of the access road. The proposal envisages that the site would be leased for a period of 25 years, for a one-off payment to the village of about £35,000. Cllr Andrew Gardiner explained to the 40-strong audience that a vote for the survey committed the village to nothing, but without it the company would not go any further. The vote in favour of the survey followed discussions as to the planning and legal aspects of the idea. Cllr Gardiner told residents that a survey would take a couple of months and if positive, a planning application would be necessary. The PC would decide when to consult the village again, probably when the results of the survey were known. If the village were to vote against the plan, the project would be scrapped. It was also possible that the survey would reveal the site was technically unsuitable, or that the company could not find telecom customers to use the mast.

From Our County Councillor

I'm sorry to add a downcast note about council finances as the year comes to an end. While there are many unknowns before budgets are set in February, the general picture is concerning and it seems important to look ahead and anticipate, particularly so that people who are most vulnerable might be supported in other ways, where possible.

Central government is expected to completely phase out its grant to local authorities: this traditional cornerstone of local authority budgets has been decreasing every year and the expectation is that in a few years' time it will disappear in the name of 'devolution'. However at the same time government puts a cap on what councils are permitted to raise via council tax. Meanwhile, demographic factors place an unprecedented demand for health and social services: for example, it is estimated that in ten years, the number of Cambridgeshire residents suffering from dementia will be double what it is

today - a hugely complex and costly issue for everyone. The Council will be vastly short of what it needs and is therefore looking to reduce whatever services it is not legally required to provide.

Two immediate concerns are that subsidies for the 31 bus and post-16 education transport subsidies are not statutory. I have been working with community transport operators to explore ways of protecting transport for vulnerable people, though I am painfully aware that this is not a substitute for regular commuter journeys. Various ideas have been suggested.

Not all news is bad and it is good that the Superfast Broadband roll-out has now taken place. Do please let me know if you have concerns about any issue. Jose Hales and I hold our next surgery on 4 January, 2:30-3:30, Melbourn Hub, or we are happy to meet you any other time. Susan van de Ven, County Councillor
Susanvandeven5@gmail.com, **New**
Phone number: 07905 325574

Goodbye Erskines: Robin Dibblee

writes: I had a last cup of tea with Janet and Graham before they left, following their pantechicon to Oxfordshire - a speedy exit due to quick contract exchanges. A loss to the village, as Janet was a 'doer', picking up difficult jobs that later flourished, like helping start the Youth Club and founder editor of this newsletter. Graham's supposed dour Scots parsimony deceived few, as he was often there for thankless village tasks (trench digging) when nobody else was. They will both be missed.

Senior Citizens

Festive Tea

Great Chishill
Village Hall

Tuesday 8 December
at 3.30pm

(No charge!)

Please contact Janet 838301 if you would like to attend.



ST SWITHUN'S Christmas Eve at 3pm CRIB SERVICE

A lovely service for children

Thank you to everyone who attended the Poppy lunch on Saturday 7 November and helped raise £508 for the Royal British Legion and the children's Christmas party. Cottage pie and apple crumble were on the menu to warm those who braved the wind and rain to join us for lunch, raffle and an auction for a beautiful "Poppy" cake made by Celia Woods. Thank you for your generosity and to all those who helped to put on the lunch. The children are sure to enjoy their Christmas party. *Kind regards, Islay.*



CHRISTMAS WITH RCS

With the help of Laura Barraclough (BBC Chorister of the Year 2013) and choristers from Heath Mount School, Royston Choral Society's Christmas Concert on 19 December at 7.30 is dedicated to the memory of the great Sir David Willcocks, famous for his arrangements of Christmas carols, many of which were written for the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College Cambridge.

This concert by candlelight in Royston's parish church features traditional carols for choir and audience, accompanied by organ and brass under the baton of Royston's new maestro, Andrew O'Brien. With mulled wine and mince pies as well, immerse your senses in anticipation of Holy Night!

CRAFTS IN THE BARN

CHRISTMAS FAYRE
AT LYNCHETS FARM, NEW ROAD,
GREAT CHISHILL

Saturday 5 December 10am - 4pm

Local Crafts, Christmas Trees & Wreaths,
Christmas Cakes,

Hot Dogs & Christmas Baking

Proceeds to: Great Chishill Windmill Trust and
St Swithun's Restoration Appeal

Kindly supported by Tom and Ellie Mead

Contact: Lindsay Crawley, Tel: 838897



'At the Crossroads'
Returning by popular demand

TICKETS £18
a five glass of mulled wine

The King's Men
The Choral Scholars of King's College, Cambridge

At
St. Swithun's Church, Great Chishill
Sunday 6th December, 2015 at 7pm

Tickets available from
Tess Gent ~ 01763 838941
tessgent@gmail.com
Parish Office ~ 01763 837272
office@icknielldwayparish.com

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

Women's Institute

The WI meeting on 15 December will be the Christmas Party. The meeting on 19 January will be very special. Mark Linney will talk about 'Help for Heroes' this will be an open meeting when ALL, both men and women, will be very welcome.

Welcome to.....

Martin and Jill Hague, arrivals in Hope Cottages with their Springer Pip. They moved from Suffolk to be nearer their family - daughter Jenny lives in Hall Lane. Jill's a retired nurse, and Martin commutes to London. They love walks and sailing, and have discovered the Wine Circle, the Pheasant, and other local delights. They say they've found their neighbours welcoming, and already feel at very much at home!

Christmas Cracker

What does the Queen call
her Christmas broadcast?
The One Show!

£5,000 raised for Teenage Cancer Trust!

The Ingles wish to say an enormous thank you to everyone who contributed. Pam says "It makes us very happy to know that we are really making a difference to the journey of other youngsters ploughing their way through this incredibly tough furrow"



BIN COLLECTIONS

Black Blue & Green

Dec	4 (blue only)
11	18 (blue & green)
23 (Wed)	
Jan	4 (Mon, blue only)

Sorry last month's collections were the wrong way round!
Please note there are no collections after 23 Dec (a Wednesday) until 4 Jan (a Monday).

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Just £6.00 for a packet of 12 cards
from:

Judy Saunders 12, Hall Lane.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS

A choice of 6 different wreaths to order from

Tess at tessgent@gmail.com

01763 838941 / 07721398642

In aid of St Swithun's Church Appeal

