News & Views around



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OUR WINDMILL & CHARITABLE TRUST



As previously reported here (October 2011), the present owner of Chishill mill,

the County Council, has no funds for the mill's upkeep and wants to sell it. Because the Parish Council cannot finance the mill, a fund-raising charitable trust has been set up to take over the mill. Local authorities now have to give preference to interested local institutions. About 40 Chishill residents attended an informative meeting at the village hall on 24th January. There they learned that David Pierce of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings has already carried out a free detailed specification costing the 3 phases of restoring the mill to eventually become a working mill again. (The photo shows it working in 1936.) This can be funded by English Heritage and the National Lottery. Simon Hudson of SPAB and Jim Brearley were there to answer questions on the cost of maintenance (about £2,000 p.a.), insurance (a few hundred pounds a year) and the inevitable change or lack of trustees (normally to be absorbed by a similar trust). It was wisely pointed out that it is vital that some younger members of our community



come forward with their enthusiasm and ideas for fundraising. More information can be found on the web at www.greatchishillwindmill.com or Jim Brearley can be contacted.

ROYSTON ARTS SOCIETY Winter Art Exhibition 2012 TAVERN GALLERY 8 High Street, Meldreth SG8 6JU Open Wednesday to Sunday from 5th-26th **Preview Saturday 4th** February 11 am to 4 pm Wine & Canapés Original artwork for sale

CHALKY WALK (Byway 16)

Work should soon be starting on this, at times, impossible to walk byway.

SPEED WATCH

Repeat offenders will receive a visit at their home from the police. So catching those who speed through our village is now more worthwhile. More and younger volunteers needed. Call Geoff on 383668.

GARDENERS

St Swithun's

Church is

CALLING ALL KEEN



If anyone would like to open their garden or help in any way on the day please contact Janet Crouch 838301/Eileen Murrell 838909 for further details.



GREAT CHISHILL BELL RINGERS invite you to participate in their SLOE GIN **COMPETITION & PARTY** 2012 **Results Party Saturday** 18th February 8.00pm

at Hall Farm by kind invitation of Peter and Jean Wiseman.

Three Classes -

Nouveau - made with Autumn 2011 sloes

Vintage - any year you are proud of!

Ringers' Delight - your best homemade fruit-based tipple Entry per class is £3.50 (includes party admission) Noncompetitors welcome to the Party at £4.00/head. Please bring a bottle and a plate of finger food (co-ordinating with Jean)

Entries to Hall Farm, or to Jenny at 6 Colt's Croft by Tuesday 14th February All proceeds to St Swithun's **Church Bells Refurbishment** Fund (Stage 2)

Details: Jenny 01763 837073 Email:jenny_leitch@btinternet. com or Jean Wiseman 838263 Entry forms available on the village website -

www.greatchishill.org.uk or by request from Jenny.



New and returning ringers always welcome – practice nights Wednesday 8.00pm. Please contact Jean for more information. As well as ringing for church services and New Year, in 2012 we will be **ringing for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee** and the Olympics. Join us and be part of a great English tradition!

DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

The Bells Fund raisers are going to hold a **Barn Dance on Saturday 2nd June** to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee.

Monday 4th June Fête on the Plaistow

DID YOU KNOW?

Most broadband routers have a telephone socket in the body of the unit. This is an entirely distinct line with its own number to make calls at broadband rates which can be cheaper.

Telephone handsets can be bought at supermarkets very cheaply or Stella at Citadel Computing (01763 838 401 village business) can also supply them. You just plug them in and they work. Bob Hatt

The Annual Wellbeing of Women Wellbeing Of Women on Monday 5th March 2012 The Crowne Plaza Hotel, Downing Street, Cambridge, CB2 3DT THE 2012 STRETHALL LECTURES: a programme of remarkable speakers. Friday 3rd February James Davis: 'Negotiating the market place: the hopes & fears of medieval English peasants' Friday 10th February Frances Spalding: 'Sacred or Superstitious? John Piper and the making of sacred spaces' Friday 17th February Shawn Kholucy: 'C. R. Ashbee' Friday 24th February Claire Nicholson 'Virginia Woolf in Cambridgeshire' Email enquiries to: strethall.church@btinternet .com or erica.debnam@icknieldwayp arish.com or phone 01799 521290 or 01763 837272. Tickets also available from the Saffron Walden TIC.

HEYDON & CHISHILL W.I. MEETING Tuesday 21st February Village Hall, 19.30 Hotel Chocolat – Angus Therwell

FROM OUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

BUS CONSULTATION: RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS The County Council has announced the results of its bus consultation, and its intention to follow through on the withdrawal of all bus subsidies, totalling £2.7 million over the next three

years. Simultaneously, the council says it will invest £1.5 million in new transport arrangements through a project called Cambridgeshire Future Transport.

The bus consultation confirms that the people most affected by the cuts will be the disabled, the elderly, and those getting to work. 37% have no other means of travel. Subsidies will be withdrawn in six monthly phases, starting in September 201. Some currently subsidized buses may be retained in a pared down form, if commercially viable. The Chishills' 31 bus service featured prominently in the consultation; the 128 service through Shepreth, Meldreth and Melbourn to Royston is also affected. More news as soon as we have it

Cambridgeshire Future Transport seeks to establish localized mini transport franchises in areas where subsidized buses are withdrawn - so profitable transport where commercial operators have not found a market. Over the course of a year of

experimentation, a handful of pilots have failed to get off the ground. One is now being trialled in the Duxford area - please see

www.cambridgeshirelocal.co.uk to get an idea of how it works. It is welcome news that the principle of support for public transport has been reinstated; we are concerned that the new approach may not meet people's needs and feel that more consideration should be given to supporting established community transport providers in our villages. Susan van de Ven

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