

## Kings Men Kick off St Swithun's Church Appeal

250 people packed St Swithun's on 7<sup>th</sup> December to hear music performed by the King's Men - the close harmony group formed by Choral Scholars of King's College Chapel, who are now world famous recording artists. The event marked the start of an ambitious fund raising initiative to raise £50,000 for essential works to preserve St Swithun's for future generations.



Photo: Gordon Brown

The project has been named '*At the Crossroads... Protecting a Village Icon for Future Generations*'. Over its 700 years the building has suffered a number of calamities, and many people have worked to protect the great building and its beautiful treasures.

"It is now this generation's turn to do their bit," said Angus Gent, Chairman of the appeal committee. "To bring the high profile King's Men to Great Chishill gives the launch of this important appeal great kudos. This event has showcased our beautiful Church and highlighted the need to raise funds to preserve it for future generations - not just as a place of worship but also as a focal point in the centre of our community. I hope that we all feel that we can do our bit to help".

For more information on the proposed restoration or to make a donation to the fabric fund, please contact our Parish Manager Erica Debnam on 01763 837272 or [office@icknielldwayparish.com](mailto:office@icknielldwayparish.com)



Interval wine & mince pies

Save the Children are holding a Burns Night supper on Saturday 31 January 2015 at 7.30pm in Barley Town House. Tickets £17.50 including welcome drink, three course home cooked meal, music, reeling, haggis and more! Tickets available from Liz Livingstone Tel : [01763 838172](tel:01763838172) or e-mail : [luciecoleridge@gmail.com](mailto:luciecoleridge@gmail.com)

## SANTA IN SHOCK VILLAGE HALL APPEARANCE

An afternoon of high entertainment and hilarity was once again enjoyed on the 13<sup>th</sup> December at the Children's Christmas Party.



Children of Great Chishill and Heydon were entertained by the fabulous Stripey Wipey before receiving a very special visitor... thank you, Father Christmas for flying in and visiting us at such a busy time of year!

**Wishing all the Great Chishill Youth Club members a great Christmas. See you in the new year when we re-start on Tuesday 6th January. From Fred, Dan and Emily.**

Great and Little Chishill Parish Council wishes you a very happy New Year and a healthy 2015

How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizza?  
When it's deep pan, crisp and even!

**'A big thank you to the Parish Council** for providing the funds for the Senior Citizens Tea Party which was held in the Village Hall on 11 December. Over 50 attended and all seemed to enjoy the event. Eileen, Janet, Liz and Sue would like to express their thanks for the beautiful flowers that were given to them by an unknown person(s)'.



**POPPY LUNCH THANKS** Thanks to everyone to come along and supported the annual Poppy Lunch on 8th November and all those who generously donated to the cake stall and raffle. A warm and friendly afternoon was enjoyed by all, raising a wonderful £350. Proceeds were shared between the Poppy Appeal and Great Chishill Children's Christmas Party.

### BIN COLLECTIONS

	Black	Blue & Green
JAN	9	16 (B&G)
	23	30 (Blue)

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE MEETING

Tuesday 20 January at 7.30 pm  
'Yoga in a Chair' with Angela Patrick

### VILLAGE HALL NEWS!

The village hall committee has been busy in recent months with plans for major renovations early in the new year. Villagers can look forward to a newly decorated hall with a brand new wooden floor, acoustic panelling and additional lighting options for evening functions. Regular users of the hall with already be aware of the dates when there will be some disruption, but we hope everyone will look forward to the new decor and would like to encourage everyone to consider the hall when booking your events and parties from the spring!

*Stuart Farrow, Village Hall Mgt Committee Chairman*

### From our County Councillor

**Bridgefoot Farm fire:** I've received excellent regular communication from the County Council on behalf of the public sector services involved in monitoring the fire. As I'm sure you know, the fire was allowed to burn out on account of the aquifer that lies beneath the site and the risk of water contamination. Given the anger I know is so prevalent about the history of breaches on the site and the support I've gauged for closing it down, I was surprised to learn that the Council has not received many complaints from members of the public - **so if you want to make your views known please do so - it makes a difference:**

mark.miller@cambridgeshire.gov.uk. Going forward, how to effect a change? The role of the Environment Agency and the handling of its permit offers the strongest means of controlling activity on site, as compared with the County Council's planning enforcement process which threaten no more than a fine of approximately £2K. We await news from the EA; again, **adding your voice by writing to the County Council would do no harm.**

**Winter Gritting:** Because budget cuts are so severe we've been looking at next year's cuts way ahead of time. Winter gritting is one of the many areas of concern. After an enormous amount of work, it looks like we should be able to avert the need to reduce the gritting area coverage in 2015-16 - but this is only a one-year reprieve. Big savings are already being made in 'route optimization' - better forecasting and spreading techniques, etc. So that is the low-hanging fruit gone.

**Buses and community transport:** I'm sorry to say that the withdrawal of the 43 bus was not communicated to me by Herts County Council - and unfortunately neither Herts nor Cambs seem to be coordinating with each other about their respective subsidized transport, although I've certainly asked Cambs to do so. I'm hopeful that a more proactive approach will be brought to bear, following a successful motion to the council about how we tackle the matter. Community transport, including its specialized wheelchair accessible services, need particular care so that vulnerable people are not left isolated.