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News and Views around

The Chishills

Volume 10
Issue 12
March 2017

SLOE GIN HITS 20 NOT OUT

Great Chishill's Sloe Gin Competition and Awards returned to Crosshill House whence it commenced 20 years ago, raising £250 for the Bells Fund,. Internet searches confirm that it is the oldest in the UK and therefore probably the world. Over 50 people attended the awards ceremony and 2 of the 3 first prizes went to novice entrants, one born and bred in the village. Also on display courtesy of Bob Hatt was a sealed bottle of commercial sloe gin dating from the 1920's, probably the earliest surviving sample of its kind.

James Truett won 1st prize in the 'Nouveau' category, with Silver going to Stella Russell and Bronze to Peter Wiseman. Tony Rushbrook accepted 1st prize in the 'Vintage' Category on behalf of Christine. Silver went to Neil Heywood and Bronze to Hilary Goodall. Neil also scooped 1st prize for 'Ringers Delight', with Stella collecting the silver and bronze awards.



We record with sadness the death of Mike Livings, whose funeral took place in January. A tribute will appear in a future Newsletter.

From our County Councillor

We're in a time of such change, and many national news headlines play themselves out on our doorstep. The crisis of social care for vulnerable adults and children is largely linked to the prevention and support work that County Councils are able to facilitate. But the breathtaking withdrawal of government revenue support grant means that councils are on their knees and often can't do what they know is required.

Sadly, Cambridgeshire is one of a very few local authorities nationally to opt for a general council tax freeze – this means we'll be less able to provide normal services. Getting A505 white lining regularly and properly refreshed is hard when only pennies are left in the pot.

I will greatly miss Andrew Gardiner's wry wisdom and practical compassion – how often did he figure out a way to just 'get it done'.

Drop-in advice surgery 6 March 2:30-3:30, Melbourn Hub.
Susanvanden5@gmail.com
07905325574

DORA DEFEATED BY WINDMILL WIZARDS

Windmill Trust members are heaving a sigh of relief. After securing Listed Building Consent in December, physical work on the mill commenced - and just in the nick of time! David Mckeown explained: "On Wednesday, 22 February, millwrights fitted restraining irons to tie the quarter bars to the crosstree thereby giving



stability to the trestle. Then on Thursday Storm Doris brought the worst winds we've seen around here in many a day. We hate to think what might have happened if the mill had still been without any connection to the base crosstree. But Friday morning came and the old mill still stood proudly welcoming travellers on the B1039 to the village."

Women's Institute

15 March 7.30PM

Annual Meeting

Election of Committee and President

WI Chair Sally Kingman

will be attending

Visitors Welcome - call Angela 837353

BITES & BYTES AT INTERNET CAFE

Tess Gent writes

It was a huge pleasure to welcome another 3 new people to our Internet Cafe in the URC Schoolroom. You'll find plenty of in-



struction, advice and help, along with frothy coffee, tea flapjacks and gingerbread. Anyone can come or just drop in. Very sympathetic teaching to help boost one's confidence.

Further dates: Tuesdays 7 and 21 March, 10am - noon.

Move over, Barkway! Antiques Fair Moves to Great Chishill

The monthly Antiques and Vintage Fair which was held in Barkway has relocated to Great Chishill. It will take place in the Village Hall on the first Sunday of each month throughout 2017. There's a wide range of stalls with something for everyone. There's also a tearoom serving a wide range of delicious homemade delights.

More information? Call Rosie on 07720647696 or visit

www.flapperfortunes.co.uk/barkway-antiques-fair

new day

BIN COLLECTIONS TUESDAYS!

	Black	Blue & Green
March		7
	14	21
	28	April 4

Great Chishill Annual District Church Meeting

will take place on Monday 20 March 2017, at 7.30pm in St Swithun's Church

Please come and support the work of the DCC and District Warden!

All Welcome! Refreshments will be served.

ANDREW GARDINER

Kate, Melissa, Oliver and Alex Gardiner would like to thank everyone for the cards and letters they received on the sad and sudden death of Andrew. They have been overwhelmed by the love and support shown by friends and neighbours both during his short illness and since his untimely death. He will be missed by us all.

They would also like to thank everyone who attended his funeral. He would have been amazed by the number of people in the church.

MORE WHIST ON THE CARDS

Never short of a new fundraising idea, Chishill's ringers organised a Whist Drive at the URC Schoolroom. For those who don't know, a whist drive consists of lots of people playing the card game whist - 4 people in each game. The winners of a game move on to play the next table to make a new 'foursome' and so on, so it was a great opportunity to mix and meet new people. It was very nearly a sell-out and everyone voted for more whist drives in the future - another is planned for 18 March (date to be confirmed). The evening raised £360 for the Bell Fund.



Royston & District Choral Society's Spring Concert

Saturday March 25 at 7.30 pm in St Mary's Church, Standon
Prepare to be moved!

Our Spring Concert features two pieces appropriate to the season of Lent: John Rutter's Requiem and Gerald Finzi's Lo, the Full, Final Sacrifice.

It promises to be a very moving performance. Says Classic FM: *'In a world where so many composers believe music is no longer primarily about melody, Rutter stands out as someone who defiantly bucks that trend. Nowhere is it more evident than in his glorious Requiem.*

Lo, the Full, Final Sacrifice was Finzi's first work to be written after the Second World War. Though of Jewish-Italian background, Finzi identified with English literature and the music of Parry and Vaughan Williams. This anthem is a tribute to the service of Holy Communion. Tickets £12, concessions £9, school students £1, available from: Choir members; on line at <http://bit.ly/RCSMar2017>; Caroline Franks 01920 822723 / caroline.franks@rf152.co.uk; Saffron Walden Tourist Information Office; Pop-up box office Royston Parish Church 7.15-7.45 pm on March 7, 14, 21; or on the door.



The next Open Rehearsal for aspiring new members is **Tuesday 25 April at 7.45**, Royston Parish Church. You won't be asked to sing on your own! Come and surprise yourself! More information on our website or contact Chair Heather Howard 01763 662109