



# The Chishills

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## NEW RECTOR

After a lengthy inter-regnum we now have a new Rector. Reverend Dr James Webster has been appointed Rector of the Parish of the Icknield Way Villages. His licensing service will take place on Thursday 23 May 2024 at 7.30 pm in Holy Trinity Chrishall. Everyone is invited.



He writes, "*In common with many of Jesus' early followers, I have a passion for fishing. I am married to Debs and we have three wonderful daughters, two equally wonderful sons-in-law and three lively grandchildren.*

*Having trained originally as a water engineer, I worked in low-income countries in the water and sanitation sector for 25 years, primarily in rural Uganda and Ethiopia with the family through*

*Tearfund, but also in many emergency contexts with other agencies such as Oxfam and the UN.*

*Having gained a PhD in cultural anthropology related to this work, after a few years lecturing at Cranfield University and running my own consultancy, I was ordained in 2013."*

## THANK YOU GREAT CHISHILL

Vicky Murgatroyd and family would like to thank everyone for the many cards and letters of sympathy following the loss of John. The volume of cards has been staggering and is much appreciated. It was also very moving to see more than 170 people packing St Swithun's for John's funeral. Thanks also to all who helped prepare the church for the service and who catered for us and helped at the reception at the village hall afterwards.



## EXPLORE THE WINDMILL

The windmill will be open to visitors again this summer, usually two Sundays a month from 10 am to 4 pm. May open days are Sunday 12th and Sunday 19th. All visitors will be shown around by a guide and there is no specific charge for a tour. However, we are very grateful for donations which will help to keep the mill in the condition you now see it.



## ELITE CYCLING IN GREAT CHISHILL

The world's very best professional cyclists will return to Essex on Friday 24 and Saturday 25 May in one of the highest profile sporting events hosted by the county in 2024.

The Ford RideLondon Classique is a UCI Women's WorldTour event – the highest level of professional cycling – and sees the best female cyclists in the world race over three days for the right to be crowned champion.



On Friday 24 May, thousands will pack the streets of Saffron Walden to watch the start of the race at 11am. Beginning in Market Square, the riders

will roll out towards Great Chishill, via Elmdon and Heydon, before making their way towards Barley and onwards. arriving at the finish on East Hill in Colchester at around 3pm.

Roads in Great Chishill will be closed from 11.05 to 11.40 that morning.

The Classique, which is a London 2012 Olympics legacy event, will finish in London on Sunday 26 May.

The elite teams taking part include the best female team in the world, team SD Worx-Protime.

More information can be found on [activeessex.org/ridelondon-essex](https://activeessex.org/ridelondon-essex).

## NEWS OF THE GREAT CHISHILL KURLERS

The Friday evening training sessions have clearly been paying dividends. This year the Kurling team are enjoying a 100% record 'on the road'. Alison, as club leader, has been a true hit, organising not only the team



but also the team bus. It may sound a simple task, but all village halls have their own idiosyncrasies, turns to the left, jumps to the right. Despite everything, a great time

is had by all. A tour to Dorset is even being planned!

If you are interested in joining us please do come and join us for a very light hearted practice session along with a glass of wine on any Friday evening at 7.30, in the village hall.

For further details please do contact Alison on [alison.truett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alison.truett@hotmail.co.uk)

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Annual Meeting of the Parish will take place in the Village Hall on Friday 17th May at 7:00 pm. Please come and find out what has been happening in the village during the past year.

The formal Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday 16th May at 7:30 pm. This is a legal requirement to elect the Chair and Vice Chair, sign off the Audit, review the policy document, and complete any 'normal' Parish business.

## CHISHILL BRIDGE CLUB

Chishill Bridge Club is now 1 year old. We started playing in the URC Schoolroom last April and for the first few months we struggled to keep going. However, the combination of teaching for improvers and play on alternate weeks seems to be popular and table numbers have gradually grown. The club is not suitable for absolute



beginners but we do encourage visits from those who have played bridge at home and may now be thinking of trying a club. We play every Friday afternoon starting at 2 pm prompt and finishing at 4.30 pm. At the end of April we moved to the village hall to cater for the higher numbers we now have. However I would like to thank Tess and Angus for all their support in our first year, and in encouraging the club to progress. Their help has been invaluable.

*Will Parsons*

## GREAT CHISHILL CRICKET CLUB

After relegation last season, GCCC have been busy attending Burloes Farm indoor nets on Tuesday evenings since November to tune up for the 2024 season, with the aim to bounce back with a promotion. The first home game is on Saturday 11th May vs our neighbours Barley (whose pitch has the best view in the area - across to Great Chishill), if anyone wants to pop up to watch any games and grab a cup of tea, we always welcome supporters. We will have 8 home games up to 24th August, weather permitting. We also aim to keep the Pheasant busy after Tuesday net sessions and Saturday games.

The junior section started up again on Saturday 20th April with circa 50 local children signed up from Reception to Year 8. We have also entered a side into the local village U11 league and look forward to seeing how the kids get on.

We are always on the lookout for new players, so if any cricketers fancy donning the baggy green and gold please get in touch. Importantly we pride ourselves in providing the best cricket teas in Cambridgeshire, with very few village teams now providing teas.

*Alastair Cockerton*

## WINE CIRCLE

The May wine circle, open to all villagers, will be hosted by Peter and Jean Wiseman at Stackyard Cottage, Hall Lane, on Friday 31st May starting at 8 pm. There is no charge, just bring a bottle and enjoy good company.



## SPRING TEA

The annual spring tea, funded by the parish council, took place in April and was a resounding success. Many thanks to Lindsey Crawley and her merry band of helpers who, once again, put on such a treat for the 70 or so villagers who attended.

## FILM NIGHT AT THE URC CINEMA

**Tuesday May 14th at 7.30 pm**

**The Imitation Game**

**Starring Benedict Cumberbatch, Keira Knightley, Charles Dance and Rory Kinnear**

**This will be the last film night until the Autumn.**

## A PARTY AT ST SWITHUN'S

The grounds of St Swithun's were looking particularly lovely for the Palm Sunday service in March. We had a real party of 15 people who enjoyed the sunshine, sleet and showers to do a thorough spring clean. Besides the obvious mowing and strimming of the south lawn and lower cemetery, they weeded the grave enclosures and rose bed, pruned the shrubs, cleared the gravel drains around the church, carefully removed the ivy from the church walls and the Barley Road boundary wall, pruned shrubs and swept the church path. Thank you to all who have helped. In addition, the disused beds have been brought back to life by a volunteer who has claimed her little patch of heaven to tend for the summer. If you would like to take on looking after a particular job or space, please contact Fred Kuenzi ([kuenzifred@gmail.com](mailto:kuenzifred@gmail.com)). For the other activities we use a "strictly business" WhatsApp group for coordination. You will notice that quite a lot of the churchyard has been left unmown. This is to encourage wildlife and wildflowers into the churchyard. There will be a "nature watch" record book in the church for visitors to record their sightings.

In addition to the buzz going on outside the church, there was quite a lot of buzz inside the porch, where Tony Andrews and James Coney managed to get the ancient oak door to swing freely. Hooray!

With the working party outside, the carpenters at the door, the church cleaners inside and the bell ringing course in the tower, St Swithun's was full of activity on 23rd March. Thank you to those who provided lunch and cake!

*Fred Kuenzi*

## BIN DAYS - MAY

**Tue 7 Blue & Green**  
**Tue 14 Black**  
**Tue 21 Blue & Green**  
**Tue 28 Black**

## St Nicholas, Little Chishill

**Sunday May 5th 9.00 am**  
**BCP Holy Communion service**

## St Swithun's

**Sunday May 26th 10.45 am**  
**Family Worship**

## United Reformed Church

**Sunday May 5th**  
**Evening service at 6 pm**  
**led by Reverend Sue Fender**

**Sunday May 19th**  
**Morning service at 9.30 am**  
**led by Reverend Sue Fender**