



Village

July/August 2024

Web

Church Ale and Barbecue in Strethall churchyard

On July 12th from 6.00 pm
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Sunday 28 July 2.30 - 4.30

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charity:
HEADWAY



**18 August 2024 - final date for submission of
articles for the September edition**



The Parish of the
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Loving • Welcoming • Accepting all • Sharing fellowship

July Services

Sunday 7

- 9.00am Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church **Little Chishill** SG8 8PA
10.45am Family Café Church at **Chrishall Village Hall Chrishall** SG8 8QL
6.00pm **URC** Service led by Revd Sue Fender

Sunday 14

- 9.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity **Heydon** SG8 8PW
10.45am Family Holy Communion St Nicholas **Elmdon** CB11 4LT

Sunday 21

- 9.00am Holy Communion at Hamlet Church, **Duddenhoe End** CB11 4XN
10.45am Family Worship at Holy Trinity **Chrishall** SG8 8QU

Sunday 28

- 9.00am Morning Prayer at St Marys Church **Strethall** CB11 4XJ
10.45am Family Worship at St Swithuns **Great Chishill** SG8 8SS

August Services

Sunday 7

- 10.00am Family Communion at St Nicholas Church **Little Chishill** SG8 8PA

Sunday 14

- 10.00am Family Communion at Holy Trinity **Heydon** SG8 8PW

Sunday 21

- 10.00am Family Communion at St Nicholas **Elmdon** CB11 4LT

Sunday 28

- 10.00am Family Communion at St Marys Church **Strethall** CB11 4XJ

Note: Services subject to change.

Service details, diary events and more at www.icknieldwayparish.blogspot.co.uk

Save The Date

October 12: Parish Walk visiting the 7 churches of our parish.

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Mon: Chrishall *9.30am & 10.35am

Wed: Duxford Community Centre *9.30am & 10.35am

Wed: Barley *5.45pm, 6.45pm & 8pm

Thurs: Thriplow 9.10 HIPP & ZOOM Pilates 8pm

Sat: ZOOM HIPP 8.00 am

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Welcome

‘Welcome’ was the most common top tip that I was given for rural ministry when I canvassed a few clergy colleagues recently.

My wife, Debs, and I have certainly felt extremely warmly welcomed since we arrived a few weeks ago. It’s been a great pleasure meeting so many residents of the parish through various social events and of course services.

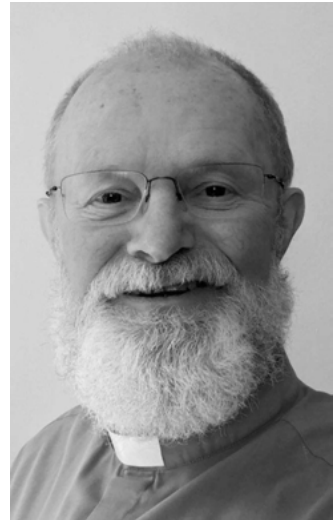
Beyond your welcome to us, I would like to offer a very open welcome to you, regardless of where you feel you are spiritually.

One of the more interesting things I did whilst at theological college a dozen years ago was to ask members of the public - in shopping centres in Nottingham - whether they had had a spiritual experience. Only two people refused to speak to me: one was a Chinese tourist who had no idea what I was talking about; the other was the local president of the Humanist Society.

The other 50 or so were very open to talk, whether or not they’d had a spiritual experience. My small survey replicates national findings that the vast majority of people in the UK are very open to spiritual matters or possibilities.

I would genuinely love to hear your experiences and views, and the only way to do that is to meet you! So if you see me about, do please grab me, or contact me and I’d be very happy to welcome you for a coffee or something stronger (we are currently renting in Barley but hope to move into the ‘new’ Rectory in Great Chishill at the back end of the summer).

Debs and I very much look forward to getting to know you,
With love and best wishes,



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.



Watoto 2024

Watoto say that your life is never the same after you experience God's love through the beautiful stories of hope and the powerful time of worship with their Children's Choir.

This is indeed true - the Parish came to life in glorious colour when they visited Chrishall school and church on Weds 8th May as part of their 'Better Days' tour.

We pray that you were inspired and reminded of the beauty of your own story and the difference you can make in the world. Like the children in the choir may we all know the joy and comfort in a personal relationship with Our Father. You can still make an impact on a life today by sponsoring a Watoto Child by visiting www.watoto.com or visiting Uganda to experience firsthand the work of Watoto on the ground.

Thank you to Chrishall School and local friends for making the choir feel so comfortable and welcome here.



Treasure Island Tracks

Inspired by the famous BBC R4 programme, we invite castaways to select their choice of favourite tracks. they are also allowed to bring a luxury item and book, alongside The Bible and the works of William Shakespeare...

Treasured Tracks

- 1 **Crocodile Rock:** *Elton John* This song is such fun! It's the first record I got and I still love its energy.
- 2 **Starman:** *David Bowie* What a genius! So creative! It was difficult to choose a single one by him, so many great songs, but I've been singing along to this one since I was 9!
- 3 **The Hallelujah Chorus** When we got married we walked out of church together to this.
- 4 **I wish I knew how it feels to be free:** *Nina Simone* Classic. I love that Nina Simone had a legendary voice and used her fame to stand up for civil rights. What a woman!
- 5 **Cry Me A River:** *Ella Fitzgerald* Her voice is awesome and this song is so full of emotion it takes my breath right away. I don't agree with the sentiment any more though. In my experience, forgiveness is the best way forward. Refusing to forgive someone is like you, yourself, drinking poison and hoping it'll kill the person who hurt you, not you.
- 6 **Gimme Shelter:** *The Rolling Stones* my favourite ever band. Merry Clayton , the female vocalist on this track, is amazing! What a voice! So many of the Stones' lyrics are bleak but I that's not a bad thing. When we're feeling disillusioned and distressed, a spot of lamenting is appropriate. I often pour out my heart to God.

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- 7 **O Jesus I have promised:** Number 331 in the hymn book! I like the new version that's played on the trumpet. When my parents first became Christians, they started taking us all to the village church and we used to sing it then. The lyrics are banging.
- 8 **So Will I:** The lyrics of this worship song blow me away. It expresses what's in my heart. There's nothing else I can say you'll just have to find it on YouTube. Alternatively, drive past our house and you'll probably hear me singing it at the top of my voice!
- Luxury Item:** Can I take my husband? I can live without everything else, but not him. If he's not allowed I'll have a nice cup of tea. I love a cuppa. However, it's my husband who brings me my first cup of tea of the day, so he'll have to come! Without that cup of tea, I'm barely human, let alone a Christian!
- A book:** Oh dear! There are so many great books that I've enjoyed. I love everything Christy Lefteri has written. She writes so poetically. She writes great stories about stuff that really matters. When we went to the Maldives to celebrate being married for a third of a century, I stood in an airport bookshop looking for something to enjoy on the plane. I picked up *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* and I was hooked before the end of the first paragraph, by the time I'd got to the bottom of the first page I was in tears. I don't usually read books more than once but that one was exceptional.

To uncover this castaway guest, please see page 15.

Reverend Candles

29 year old curate, Revd Will Lyon Tupman, based at Sawston and Babraham, collects used candles for a Swindon charity to be melted down, if necessary, and shipped as newly created candles to Ukraine, where they are spread through a network of charitable organisations. Church buildings and private homes now have a perfect way to 'recycle' their used candles. 40% of Ukraine's power supply has been damaged since the invasion by Russia, so the new candles are vitally useful for people. To support this venture we shall have a parish collection box, located in Heydon church. Don't delay, spring clean church vestries and cupboards in your kitchens and dining room.

You are invited to a Garden Lunch

And Musical Entertainment

on Sunday 7th. July. 1pm

At 14 Chishill Road Heydon SG8 8PW

Entrance free but there will be a collection

Girls cluster education in Afghanistan

(Fruit drinks provided, but please bring your own bottle if wished)

It is helpful to know numbers coming if possible, but not essential.

Virginia Barnes 01763 838309 07939 529891 virginia.vbarnes@gmail.com



Save the date!

Chrishall WI are holding a Quiz Night on Saturday 12 October 2024 at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm in Chrishall Village Hall and look forward to welcoming teams to take part. Tickets will be £12 per person with refreshments of jacket potatoes and fillings with salad included. Bring your own drink. There will be a raffle.

For tickets please contact:

Chrishall - Jane 01763 838018/Clare 01763 838691
Elmdon - Mandy 01763 837215/Pat 01763 838566



Are You Ready...

...for the end of analogue landlines?

Essex County Council's Digital Essex team wants to make residents in the parish aware that changes are coming to analogue landlines.

By 2027, traditional phone lines will be replaced by a digital landline service. This means that calls will be made over a broadband line.

For most residents, this change will be straightforward – you'll also get to keep your phone number. Your telephone provider will contact you before anything changes. It is important to respond and discuss what you need to do to ensure your service won't be affected.

The switch to digital landline services could affect some residents. If any of the following apply to you, or someone you know, make sure you contact your telephone provider:

- You don't have broadband
- You rely solely on a landline
- You use a personal alarm or healthcare device
- You live in an area with poor mobile signal
- You have additional needs
- If you're confused, worried, unsure, or have any questions, call your telephone provider.

Visit us at an event near you! Digital Essex will be attending events across Essex this Spring and Summer, where we'll be sharing the latest information about changes to phone lines. This is subject to change so please see the full list of events at www.superfastessex.org/landline-switch-events

If you'd like to read more about the switch to digital landlines, visit Essex County Council's website: www.essex.gov.uk/landline-switch

Imagine and Hope

Dr Peter Gough first introduced VW readers to the remarkable Revd Lucy Winkett, in his November '23 article, *'Understanding Life'*: '... on every pew along the edge of the church, were homeless people sleeping before another cold night on the streets. The building suddenly developed a beating heart, and I could feel God's presence. Good old Rev Lucy Winkett. Christianity quietly in action. A church full of life stories. Priceless in understanding God.'



Robert Myers was commissioned to write a Web article when I worked with him on a project in central Cambridge. The esteemed garden designer and now 7 time Gold medallist at RHS Chelsea Flower Show, entitled his article for our April '24 issue : 'A Greener Tomorrow'. Meanwhile, Peter's esteem for Lucy Winkett led to further research into the ministry of this interesting woman, as described in the December/January 24 Web.

Rather remarkably, in one of those amazing coincidences we occasionally encounter in life, Robert has actually been working with Lucy, to develop a garden for the RHS Chelsea Flower show!

The Gold Medal winning show garden will form the basis of a restored , accessible outdoor space at Lucy's church, designed by Sir Christopher Wren. St James' Piccadilly. The space is intended to offer people the opportunity for tranquility and inspiration.

The restoration forms part of the Wren project. this is a space where endeavours, environmental, social, creative and spiritual, entwine offering a holistic imaginative version of what it is to be human in a modern city. The Caravan Drop in and Counselling service in the garden is free, seven days a week, welcoming people from all walks of life. On the back wall of the St James's RHS Chelsea garden is a quotation from a former Rector William Temple:

'The church is the only institution in society that exists for the benefit of those who don't belong to it. A fitting motto to remember.'

'Look Up!'

Saturday Gathering 22 June

This is the story of the prodigal son.
It could be called the story of
the running father,
who waited for the boy,
who had rejected him, to return.
Finally
when he saw his son,
from a long way off
the father
ran to him
and hugged him
and kissed him

Luke 15 11-32



The Saturday Gathering Crowd were intrigued to hear James' account of his commitment to walk through life discovering and acknowledging his need for Christ, as his saviour and friend.

The church was busy, full of life, laughter, brilliant music, loads of food, and excellent readers.

As always the simplicity of these events belies the effort behind the scenes; how fortunate are we to be supported by the love and commitment of such special people - you know who you are!

Our next Saturday Gathering will be on **October 5th** 4.30-6pm. Please put the date in your diary, church is better when you are there...

From The Registers

Marriages

Jamie W Hall and Lisa Mackenzie
25 May 2024 at St Swithun's, Great Chishill

Anthony Reeves and Clare Frenay
8 June 2024 at St Nicholas, Elmdon

Do you value your voice?

Have you noticed we have a natural urge to sing to infants rather than, say, play them the violin or (God forbid) the accordion? Unlike other musical instruments, the human voice is totally intimate: it's at the heart of being human, and builds social bonds. Why are some apparently-confident people so nervous of singing in public? Why do some feel scarred for life after being



cruelly told they "can't sing"? It's because, whether we use it to scream, soothe, express joy or grief, our voice is entirely personal: unlike that violin, it's not a mere extension of ourself, but an actual part of our body. By singing in groups, therefore, we can build confidence over this vulnerable aspect of our identity, while naturally creating bonds with each other. In a choir, individuals (just like Liverpool's melodious football fans) simultaneously experience strength in unity, validation of the self and amplification of purpose. And when a choir works "in harmony", we sing not just one tune but several parts, which express our differences and yet complement & enhance each other within a unified whole. At that pinnacle, our music-making begins to reflect the very balance of nature around us, the universe in whose context we exist – the "music of the spheres", to use a phrase coined by Pythagoras (who developed the tuning system on which our western music is based).

In our parish choir, therefore, we're attempting to convey perfection. Well okay, we have a go at it, anyway... It doesn't matter that we don't have the greatest voices in the world, or that we're "only human" – on the contrary, that's exactly what gives it meaning! In religious terms, singing in church symbolises our intimate openness with God; meanwhile, the musical achievement itself reflects the harmonies of God's creation. As we contribute our personal voice, we bond with others, feel the elation of being bigger than ourselves, and offer our result to something even greater than us. Our choir brings something special to the parish by performing 2 or 3 Choral Evensongs each year, plus 2 or 3 carol services in December. Choral

Evensong (an art which is dwindling in many churches) is a particularly special experience: a semi-concert led by the choir, in which very little is expected of the congregation. The result is that you're whisked into a meditational space: a perfect separation from daily chores.

I highly recommend that you come along to our next Evensong. Or, if you think you might fancy joining the parish choir itself, we welcome all enquiries – you just need a basic ability to read music notation, and the time to join a few rehearsals in the lead-up to each performance. Frankly, it's inspiring simply to spend time inside the walls of these fabulous old buildings in our parish – each with their own distinct atmosphere – and to become a living part of their long history.

"Since singing is so good a thing, I wish all men would learn to sing."

William Byrd, composer (1542 - 1623)

Rupert Jordan



Acquired brain injury is an unimaginable situation.

Headway Cambridge & Peterborough www.headwaycp.org.uk is the parish's charity for the coming year 2024-25. Headway provides support and rehabilitation to people with an acquired brain injury.

They have an ambitious plan to improve the facility in Cambridge for their clients.

You can support the parish's charity appeal.

Now we have some wonderful summer weather, organise an event in your garden and invite neighbours and friends to raise funds.

Making donations to the parish charity. A websearch for **icknielwayparish.blogspot.com** to donate.

Every little helps.





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RNLI Celebration



In celebration of its 200th anniversary, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) was honoured with a prestigious royal garden party at Buckingham Palace. This special event, hosted by Princess Anne and the RNLI President, the Duke of Kent, paid tribute to the RNLI's remarkable history and the heroic efforts of its volunteers who have saved countless lives at sea since its inception in 1824. The Buckingham Palace garden party gathered an esteemed assembly of guests, including RNLI volunteers, supporters, and dignitaries. The serene palace gardens provided a fitting backdrop for the celebration, reflecting the grandeur and significance of the occasion. The event also featured a display of historical lifeboat artifacts and contemporary rescue equipment, highlighting the evolution of the RNLI's life-saving operations over two centuries. To avoid distracting the King (who had hoped to attend), an inshore lifeboat was moved so that he would not be distracted from receiving the Prime Minister, who that day announced the upcoming election.

The garden party was more than a celebration of the past; it was a recognition of the ongoing commitment and bravery of RNLI volunteers. It also emphasized the importance of legacies and donations in supporting the institution's mission. The garden party was attended by Robert Aggas (brother of our parish administrator) who is the Fleet Operations Manager for the RNLI. He was able to show the Duke of Kent the Atlantic 85 lifeboat (an inshore lifeboat) and also met with the Princess Royal and her husband Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence.

*This month's **Treasured Tracks** were selected by our castaway Mrs Deborah Webster who has: 1) husband (the Rector); 2) sons-in-law; 3) daughters and 3 grandchildren; 4) professional pleasure, teaching in a primary school.*

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A Well Trodden Path

Why does local history interest me? Because these were the people who lived in our houses before us, walked the same lanes as us and stared across the same fields. Nowadays with the amazing resource online it is relatively straightforward to put together a family tree – maybe just an afternoon’s work although I would recommend a



lot of double checking. But even then you may just end up with a list of names and dates. Where the magic really occurs is when you can bring those names to life and get to know something of the person themselves.

On the Chrishall website we have a list of the vicars of Chrishall Church going right back to 1100 and gradually some of those names are coming back to life. John Clerk, for example, listed as vicar in 1401. He was involved in an inquisition about his Ward John Helion, when John needed to prove his age to inherit. From the inquisition report we hear little homely details such as on Sunday 14th February 1379, John Clerk had dinner with John Morice and William Serle where they talked about building a new barn and John Clerk mentioned the baptism of John Helion.

In 1640 Thomas King apparently fell out with some of the parishioners when they refused to come to the communion rail but would only kneel where they sat, presumably making Thomas walk round the church to them!

In 1839 Godfrey Everth wrote poetry whilst ministering to the Chrishall faithful and in 1881 Edmund Leachman was inducted into his new parish in “the usual manner” which involved locking him in the church until he rang the bells!

More tales of the Chrishall vicars are available on our website: <https://chrishallessex.co.uk/vicars-of-chrishall-and-development-of-the-church/> and the Archive will be open again on Saturday 20th July or Sunday 18th August 2-4.30pm. Do pop in if you are passing. We would love to see you.

Rosemarie Gant Chrishall Village Archive

Parish Contacts - *Telephone codes are 01763 unless stated*

Rector: Revd Dr James Webster, Lower Farm House, High Street, Barley, Royston, SG8 8HR email: iwp.pariahrector@gmail.com Mobile 07840 329279

Church Office:

Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri 9am to 1pm - Church Office, Crawley End, Chrishall, Royston, Herts SG8 8QL Tel: 837272 Email: iwp.pariahoffice@gmail.com

Parish Church Warden & Authorised Local Preacher: Jon Wayper
Tel: 01799 732045 Email: jwayper@hotmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Fiona Dyer Tel: 07854 602373
Email: iwp.safeguarding@gmail.com

District Wardens:

Chrishall – David Wilkinson 837303

Elmdon – Ned Tozer 838890

Gt Chishill – Angela Patrick Sutcliffe 837353

Hamlet – Sarah Westerhuis

Heydon – Mel Chandler 838289

07739550061

Strethall – Liz Stott 01799 521217

Lt Chishill – Elaine Knobel-Forbes
838781

Children's and Youth Work: Contact office - 837272

Treasurer: Laurence Brett Tel: 838167 Email: laurencebrett@icloud.com

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Chrishall Primary School: Head Teacher Tracey Bratley Tel: 838592

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THANK YOU!

It's all change at Heydon and Great Chishill WI. After more than 10 years as President Angela Patrick Sutcliffe stepped down for a well-earned rest. At the same time 2 other long serving Committee Members, Gillian Phillpot and Linda

Herridge also decided it was time to just be members. There was a bit of uncertainty if the group could continue while members were encouraged to help on the



Committee. It was therefore great that at our Annual Meeting in March a new President was found and therefore we could move forward. At our April meeting we thanked all 3 retiring Committee Members for their hard work and hope they now enjoy just coming along to meet friends. It was also nice to welcome a new member. We meet at Gt. Chishill Village Hall at 7.30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, if you fancy joining come along and see if you like it, we always welcome new faces.



Saturday 13th July 2 - 5pm

St Swithun's Church, Great Chishill

Everyone welcome!

Tea, Cakes & Refreshments

Games Stalls

Contact Angela 07712444303 or Emily 07900243491