



Village

October 2021

Web



Church Mice are **BACK !!**

Wednesday 13 October and Wednesday 27 October
10.30 – 11.30 Chrishall Village Hall

A parent and toddler group with a Christian focus
Songs, Bible stories, craft and conversation
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The Strethall Dickens is back!

The Friends of Strethall Church invite you to an evening of timeless drama as Roger Harcourt reads from

Oliver Twist **by Charles Dickens.**

7.00pm Saturday Oct. 2nd 2021
Strethall Church CB11 4XJ.

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Cover picture by Mark Jennings



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October Services

Sunday 3

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

Sunday 10

- 9.00am Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church **Elmdon** CB11 4LT
- 10.45am Family Worship at St Swithuns **Great Chishill** SG8 8SS

Sunday 17

- 9.00am Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church **Little Chishill**
SG8 8PA
- 10.45am Family Café Church with Harvest Theme, at Holy Trinity
Chrishall SG8 8QU

Sunday 24

- 9.00 am Harvest Service with Holy Communion at Holy Trinity
Heydon SG8 8PW
- 10.45am Family Worship with Holy Communion at St Swithuns
Great Chishill SG8 8SS

Sunday 31

- 9.00 am Holy Communion at St Marys **Strethall** CB11 4XJ
- 10.45am Family Worship at St Nicholas Church, **Elmdon** CB11 4LT

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

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<i>Unwind & Restore</i>	19.30-20.00
Friday	
<i>Vinyasa Nourishing Flow</i>	09.30-10.30
Saturday	
<i>Uplifting Flow</i>	09.00-10.00
<i>Beginners/ Gentle Flow</i>	10.30-11.30



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Parish News from Anand, our Rector

Dear All

It's great to see life slowly getting back to normal though the Covid threat is still very prevalent as people are still dying of Covid every day and the infection rate is still high. We are conscious of this in our church services, especially with the communion services where intinction (dipping of the wafer in the wine) is followed.



Our prayer group is continuing to pray for people every day and if you have any prayer requests, please pass them on to me or to Andrea Quigley in the office. We will keep the information confidential..

We are still struggling with the finances in our parish with a huge deficit towards paying the parish share, and we are hoping and praying our fund-raising events continue to take place in our villages to help raise parish funds. Please do make use of the online giving facilities through our parish website.

Yours in Christ

Anand Sodadasi

From The Registers

Wedding

Sophie Emilie Home and Nicholas Robert Palmer
4 September St Nicholas Elmdon

Baptism

Oliver Louie Ives
5 September St Swithuns Great Chishill

A Reflection from Anand Hard Teaching

The USA's withdrawal from Afghanistan ended 20 years of war. From the Western point of view, some claim that it is a betrayal towards the Afghan people, but for some, particularly those who lost their dear ones in the 20 years of war, people are giving a sigh of relief saying, "*at last war is ended*". From the Taliban's point of view, it's not only the victory but for them, it is Allah who defeated the Western powers. Statistics say the Taliban had only 80,000 soldiers with limited armament, whereas the Afghan govt. had 300,000 thousand well-trained armed soldiers with sophisticated weapons supplied by the US and other countries. Still, the Taliban won the war without much bloodshed. It is said, 60% of the Afghan people are sympathetic towards the Taliban because of their religious beliefs and their fight for Allah.

The point I am trying to make is this, that our perception depends upon what we believe and understand. The Bible is full of symbolism. To teach the truth of the gospel Jesus used parables to teach the agrarian communities. Hence, Jesus used farm language, stories of fields, birds, animals, crops, trees, food, and also using their religious symbols and cultural aspects of his day.

Jesus also used the imagery of flesh and blood. He said to the Jews, "*Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him* (John 6:56). This sounded terrible and cannibalistic to the Jews. Drinking blood was forbidden in their Law (Leviticus 17:10-11). But Jesus was not talking about literal blood, of course. People were put off with such hard teachings. Some of the disciples who had been following Jesus for months left him because they could not understand what he was saying. Jesus' symbolic teaching became offensive to them.

Jesus turned to his 12 disciples and asked, "*do you want to go away as well*"? Peter replied, "*Lord, to whom would we go, you have the words of eternal life.*" They followed Jesus and listened to his teachings every day and whenever they did not understand his teachings, they asked him and He clarified them. So, knowing Jesus as our personal Saviour through

faith and experience, this helps us to understand His Word. Jesus said, “*It is the Spirit who gives life. The words I’ve spoken are spirit and life*” (John 6:63).

What things put off people believing in Jesus today? When they hear mixed messages one say one thing and others say something else. We are sometimes bothered by those passages in Scriptures which we cannot understand and tend to walk away from the church. We want a God different from the one we find in Jesus.

Flesh and blood? Yes. But demanding? No.

Resurrected? Yes. But crucified? No.

Salvation? Yes. Repentance? No.

Love? Yes. Commitment? No.

Unfortunately, we cannot have one without the other. The rose comes with thorns. The pains come with birth. Night comes with day. The best of times can only be lived because there are bad times.

Unlike the ancient world, we are blessed with literacy. We can read and understand what is written for our understanding, but in the ancient world ordinary people were not literate, books were not available. Only a few could read, write and understand. People had to go to the synagogues to hear the religious lessons.

But today we have every opportunity to read and understand. We are more accountable to God to perceive his revelation preserved in the scriptures. It is God who can help us understand his Word. So instead of listening to someone’s opinions or interpretations, we can read and find out for ourselves the truth of the gospel. May I encourage you to read His Word and understand his teaching which gives us all moral and spiritual guidance for life.

Yours in Christ **Anand Sodadasi**

From The Registers

Funeral

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24 September St Nicholas Elmdon

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Church cleaning - the conservation approach

This is the next instalment about cleaning in churches. These short articles are aimed at the cleaning of or around historic materials. The aim is to minimise damage and maximise the life of our church interiors.

Wood



Medieval wood with historic pest damage, some loss and cracking. Cleaning and waxing is a challenge in items like this.

Key things to look out for:

- Paint and varnishes
- Medieval wood
- Loose or vulnerable parts
- Pest activity



Brass. This is evidence of large-scale insect-pest damage.

Wood is abundant in churches. It can be structural like floorboards and rafters, functional like doors and pews or more decorative like chancel screens and monuments. Wood is a diverse and complex, natural material which reacts to its environment. It expands in the damp and contracts in the dry, which can cause cracking. Pieces of wood are often intricately carved and can consist of complex joints and some wooden items have a surface finish like wax, varnish or paint.

Damage and deterioration

Water - Wood absorbs moisture so high humidity and spillages can cause wood to split and crack as it wets and dries. Try not to use excess water when cleaning and avoid pooling which can cause water marks. If the church is particularly damp think about more ventilation. If you are hosting an event like a flower festival, which increases humidity levels in the church, try to ventilate more than usual and avoid misting.

Pests - Insect pests eat certain types of wood and can cause huge amounts of damage and structural loss. Regular dusting, vacuuming and monitoring can help to keep this at bay. But pay attention to fresh wood coloured powder, called frass. If there are regular, fresh deposits this means that the pest infestation is active, so do not ignore it. Call in the experts or treat the effected area. If you have an area with lots of holes in it and are unsure whether or not there is pest activity, there is another helpful way to test whether it is active. Put a layer of masking tape over the area with holes in. If the pests are active, they will burrow through the tape. If not, then it is likely that this is old damage, and the insects are no longer present. Wax can be used in a similar way.

Bats - If left on the surface, bat urine will bleach wood or cause white blooms in waxed wood. In light coloured wooden items this is not a problem as the stains are less visible but in dark wood, it looks obvious. Try to wipe pews regularly, especially if fresh urine and droppings are visible. Often wax can be buffed up to remove the some of the visible staining or try re-waxing. If there are lots stains, a coloured wax might help alleviate some of the marks. This might not get rid of them altogether, but will make them less obvious (see below for waxing).



These small white spots on the wood are stains from bat urine. This may be improved slightly with a stained wax.

How to care for it

- 1) **Dust.** Remove all loose surface dust. Use brushes with soft bristles. If very dusty, use a vacuum cleaner with a brush attachment or brush directly into a vacuum cleaner
- 2) **Wipe down.** General dirt, bird droppings, paint smears, drink spillages, sticky residue from bat urine and anything else needs to be removed to prevent further deterioration and long-term staining. Use microfibre cloths, and slightly warm water. For extra stubborn stains or dirt, mild detergent may be needed. Store bought products like E-Cover and Surcare are best as they have fewer additives. Make sure the cloth is only damp and not dripping wet.
- 3) **Wax.** If the wood has been waxed before, it can be waxed again. Always wait until the wood is dry before waxing. You do not want to trap moisture, that might lead to damp and rot. Thin layers work best and these can be built up if necessary.

Waxing does not need to be done as regularly as you might think. In fact, areas that are not used often may only need waxing every five years, whereas things that are used more frequently might need to be waxed yearly. Keep an eye on your wood and apply wax when it looks 'dry'. Sometimes buffing with chamois leather can improve the shine of the wax, give a clean look and reduce the need for waxing again. I recommend Harrell's wax which is a natural beeswax and comes in several colours (produced by UK company W.S. Jenkins & Co.).

If you want to tackle areas that have been stained or bleached, a coloured wax can be used. Trial coloured wax in a localised, discreet area to make sure that it looks right. Introducing new products, including wax, to very historic wood can have surprising effects. But if you feel that wax is needed, a thin coating can be trialled and monitored to see if it absorbs well and improves the condition. Try to avoid waxing areas of intricate carving. These can gather built-up layers of wax in crevices, end up being sticky and trap dust.

Never wax over medieval paintwork. Try not to use store bought commercial polishes (like pledge). These contain silicone and while that may be appropriate for more modern wood and leaves a lovely shiny finish, they create a moisture tight surface layer, which will cause issues

in the future for historic wood.

Summary

Work cautiously with wood and pay attention to its needs and the environment. Regular dusting and dry wiping is the easiest way to stave off excess work and damage in the future. Wax is needed less frequently than you might think. If you notice something wrong, keep an eye on the problem, take photographs and document changes, especially pest damage. Call in an expert if needed.

Next time we will look at metalwork...

Rachel Arnold

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**19 October - final date for submission of
articles for the November edition**

URC News

URC services

October 3

Harvest Festival Service

Evening Service 6pm

Led by Revd Sue Fender.

October 17

Morning Service 9.30am

Led by Revd Sue Fender

Village Harvest Festival Supper

This will follow straight after the service at 6.45 pm in the Schoolroom. There is no obligation to attend the service.

We will be offering a Pot Luck Supper with a Vegetarian option.

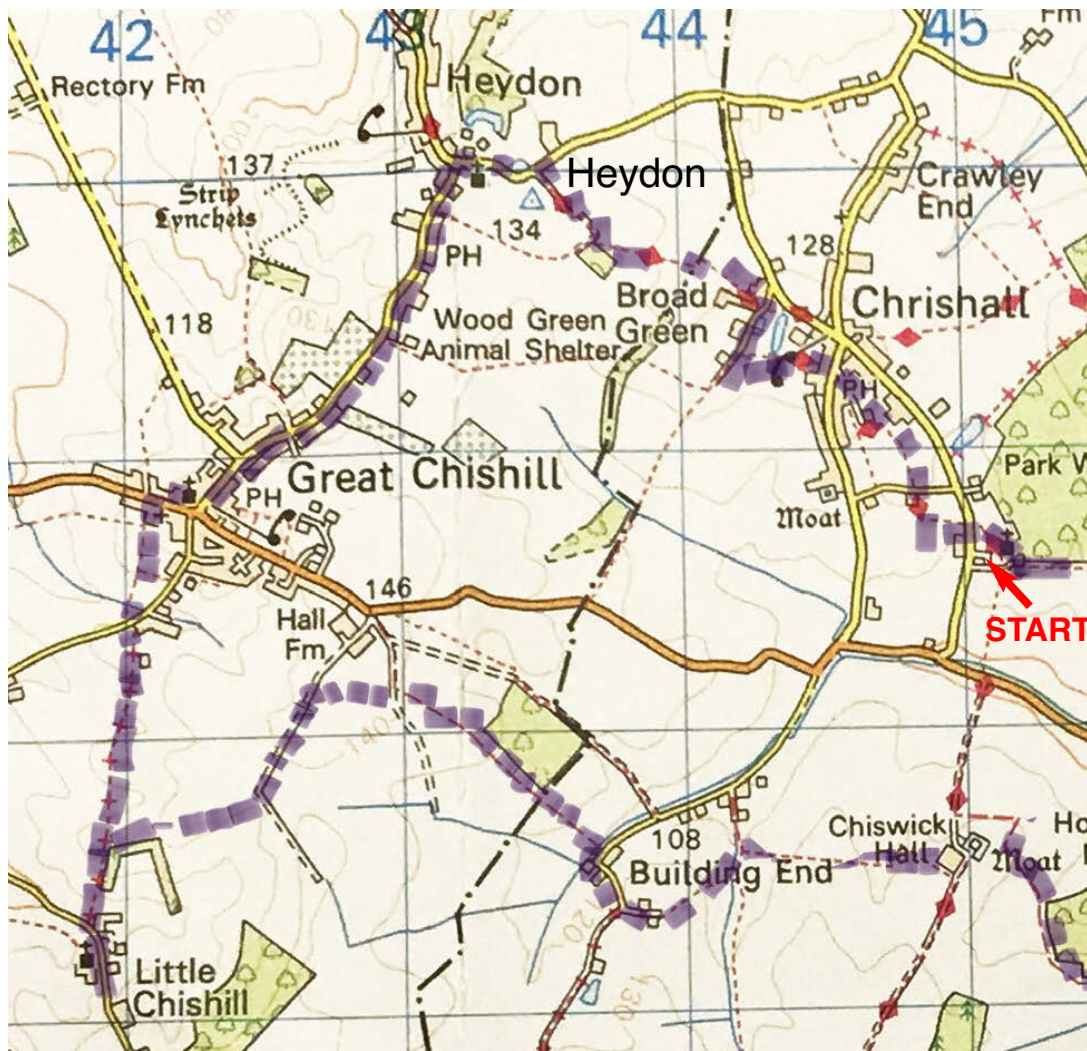
Due to the popularity of the supper in past years and with Covid precautions, please do book place so we are mindful of numbers and space. Book now to avoid disappointment!

tessgent @gmail.com or 07721398642.

We will be making a collection of dry goods and toiletries for Jimmy's Night Shelter. We will also be auctioning all displayed produce at the supper in aid of Jimmy's.

All donations are encouraged and warmly received.

Many thanks to all our contributors. The Village Web continues to seek a wide range of articles for publication. Please continue to submit your articles.

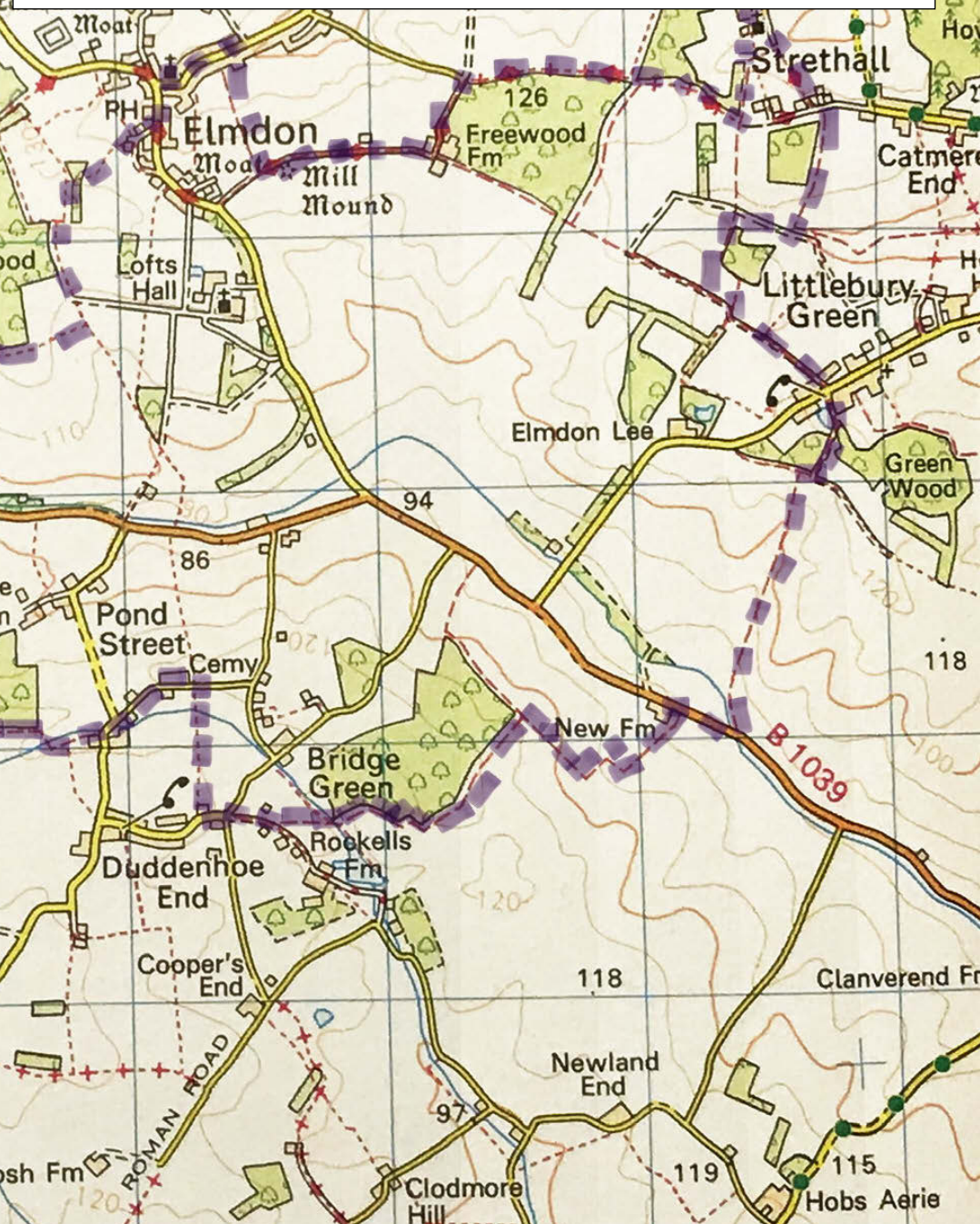


Approximate timings

<i>Arrive</i>	<i>Depart</i>		12.50		<i>own picnic lunch</i>
8:30+	9:00	Chrishall		13.20	Hamlet
09.40	09.50	Heydon	15.00	15.10	Strethall
10.10		<i>coffee</i>	16.00	16.10	Elmdon
	10.30	Gt Chishill	16.40		<i>tea</i>
11.00	11.10	Lt Chishill		17.00	Chrishall

Annual Parish Walk - Saturday 2 October

All Welcome - Walk theme: Being kind to the environment



The end of discordant ringing - Part 2

Last month, in part 1 of this article I outlined a little about the reason why the bells of Great Chishill, which are rung regularly, are not a great auditory experience.

Four of our bells were cast in the 17th century without the technology that we have today. One result of this is that the point from which the clapper hangs inside the bell is not quite in the middle of the bell. Many people do not realise that the bell does not ring as the ringer pulls the rope but a few milliseconds later as the clapper catches up with bell as it swings through a full 360 degrees. So, if the clapper is not in the centre, swinging one way the bell will ring early and the other way late. Unfortunately all the bells have this problem, but to a greater or lesser degree, and they are not all the same way round ie. one may ring early when the ringer pulls the sally (that's the coloured woolly bit on the end of the rope) and another ring late. When the ringers start to ring, the smallest, highest pitch bell rings first, followed by the other four (Rounds). After a few rounds of this the ringers have usually mastered how the bell that they are ringing is behaving and have compensated for 'odd struckness' and the Rounds sound fairly even – however, as soon as the order in which the bells are rung is changed, the ringers have to compensate all over again.

So our bells usually sound uneven when rung. Some people have described them as 'lumpy' others as 'discordant' but most of all they are hard to listen to.

We are very fortunate to have a local couple who promised to pay for a new bell, a 6th bell. Why do we want another bell? Once the bells have been renovated and are easier to ring, it opens up the possibility of ringing a lot more rounds and



simple ‘changes’ of the order in which the bells are rung. With 5 bells there are 120 different orders in which they can be rung, and there are few basic ‘methods’ – sequences of changes of order of ringing every round – you may have heard the ringers trying to do this on practice nights, but with 6 bells the number of different orders rises to 720, and this makes the whole sound of the bells more balanced, and vastly increases the number of methods that can be rung. This will not only increase the number of bands from outside of Great Chishill who want to come and ring our bells, but it will, hopefully, attract more people from the village and around, especially young people, to come along and learn this very British, ancient skill, which is part of our heritage and tradition going back hundreds of years. In addition, with a bigger and better band of ringers we will be able to expand service ringing to include the other churches in the benefice that have bells, Chrishall (6 bells), Elmdon (6) and Heydon (5). This renovation and augmentation to 6 bells should ensure that the bells of St Swithuns will ring out over the area for at least another 100 years.

As I have said, all this is going to cost a LOT of money, and we cannot be certain that we will get enough money from grants so we need to do some serious fundraising as the work is due to start in February 2022.

There are lots of ways in which you can help! Firstly, we have a JustGiving page (www.justgiving.com/fundraising/greatchishillbells) on which you can give directly and claim Gift Aid which will increase your donation by 25%. You can volunteer to help with manpower or board and lodging for the bell hangers when the bells are taken down and put back up.

There is also an opportunity to have your name or those of a loved one remembered on the bells by donating to a brass plaque which will be fixed to the headstock (the part that the bell is suspended from). There are only 20 of these available. Of course, the plaques will only be seen by people going up into the bellchamber to see the bells once the bells have been rehung, but they will be there for at least the next 100 years. There will also be a board in the church showing the names of everyone who has donated or contributed to the project. Those of you who are into social media can help too by circulating information about the project – which I can supply – to all your contacts and asking them to send it on to their contacts etc. Even if each one only gave £1 we could soon reach our target.

Phil Maynard

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The Hundred Parishes Society



Recently, climate change has brought examples of extreme weather all over the world. Part of the solution to global warming is to use natural energy. Our ancestors harnessed the power of water by means of water mills, thought to have been invented by the Greeks. The Domesday Book of 1086 AD recorded no less than 5,624 watermills in England alone. Most were used to grind wheat.

They continued as a prime source of energy until the Industrial Revolution.

The Hundred Parishes has a wealth of these mills, many retained through their conversion into private homes. Several may be seen on Hundred Parishes walks whose descriptions can be freely downloaded from www.hundredparishes.org

On the River Cam, Hinxton once had three water mills. One remains, a 17th-century mill built on the site of an older one mentioned in Domesday as worth 8 shillings. It ceased to operate commercially in 1955 but now works again on days when it is open to the public – the final opening in 2021 is on October 3rd from 2:30pm to



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5pm. It can be seen at any time from the outside – and is on our walk number 14.

Linton's watermill on the River Granta dates from the early 18th century and there has been a mill on the site since the 13th century. It stopped working in 1972 and has now been converted into apartments. Walk 109 passes it.



Littlebury - Kings Mill

Weatherboarded 18th-century Kings Mill in Littlebury was originally powered by the River Cam and then steam until it stopped working in 1924. Walk number 165, only 1.4 miles, passes Kings Mill during a short exploration of historic Littlebury.

What remains of Great Bardfield watermill can be seen on walks 103 and 104, while the remains of Tilty watermill are on walk 120.

Ken McDonald, Secretary



Great Bardfield Watermill



Tilty Watermill



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Chrishall School Notes



We have had a fantastic start to the Autumn term! It is wonderful to see the school together again as one big family in whole school assemblies and it has been great to welcome parents back into school for the first time in almost two years.

We have introduced some new rules this year which we call the Super Seven Rules. They tie in really well with our school's Christian values and have meant that we are all really clear about how to carry out the values of compassion, care, citizenship, courage and creativity in school and outside in the community. These values can also be seen in our new Conquering Chrishall tasks that we are endeavouring to do. The children have been set lots of challenges to take our values out of school and use them in our local communities.

Another wonderful initiative we have started this term is the Young Leader's award. The Archbishop of York has set up the scheme to encourage children of all ages to:

- Explore the concept of leadership
- Investigate the stories and impact of great leaders in society
- Consider the importance of serving others

- Examine how to bring transformation to communities
- Take action to ‘be the change you want to see’

We know our children will excel in this scheme, as they already show such consideration of others and an eagerness to be positive forces in the world. We will be looking for ways to help our communities become even better places to live than they are today, so watch this space for more news on our class enterprises.



From the Heydon DCC

Thank you to those who supported us on the Open Day at the church and Heydon Place on 28th August. The sum raised is over £850 to date, which will be put towards our church extension project.

We thank all the helpers, as well as others that took part to make the afternoon a success. Also all those who made so many cakes, none of which were left to sell at the end as they were so good and all were eaten!

Our next event in Heydon will be an evening listening to a recording of Russian Vespers by Rachmaninov on Friday 8th October in the church by candlelight. There will also be drinks offered to assist our enjoyment. We hope to see you there.

Mel Chandler

October Dates *for regular events*

- 4** **Open Door Catch-up Café** Chrishall Village Hall
10.30- noon. Come along for tea/coffee/cake
- 6** **Heydon Hedgehogs** – 10.00am, parent and toddler coffee
morning Holy Trinity Church, Heydon.
See Facebook page for more info
- 13 & 27** **Church Mice** Chrishall Village Hall – 10.30am
Contact Church Office 837272
- 26** **Men's Group** The Red Cow, Chrishall – 8pm
- Tuesdays** **Gt Chishill Youth Club** Great Chishill Village Hall
6.30-8.00pm in term time Contact Emily 07900 243491
- Thursdays** **Chishill Chimps** Great Chishill Village Hall – 10-11.45am
Contact Jen 07791785131
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Chrishall Cricket

On Sunday 12 September over a hundred people from Chrishall and the surrounding villages joined us for the 8th Annual Red Cow Cricket Match, on Jigneys Meadow in Chrishall.

Organised by Chrishall Cricket Club and sponsored by The Red Cow and The Chesterford Group (Fish'n Chick'n), this family day out featured an all-day BBQ, face-painting, raffle, cakes and drinks, plus a 'special rules' cricket match, involving 30 players or all ages.

Highlights included William Hodges, 11, getting his dad out (again!) with a terrific bowl and 7 year-old Ted Jenkin scoring the winning runs. Funds were raised to support the development of Chrishall Cricket Club, which is now recruiting players for 2022. If you're interested, contact Luke Brynley-Jones on 07939 016179.

Parish Contacts - *Telephone codes are 01763 unless stated*

Rector: Reverend Dr Anand Sodadasi (*free day – Monday*)

The Rectory, 1 Hall Lane, Great Chishill, Royston, Herts SG8 8SG

Tel: 838703 Email: anandsodadasi@hotmail.co.uk

Church Office:

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

Lay Minister: Mrs Shailaja Sodadasi Email: shailajanand@hotmail.co.uk

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 – John Holford 838286

Gt Chishill – Angela Patrick Sutcliffe 837353

Hamlet – Sarah Westerhuis
07739550061

Heydon – Alex Duffus 836903

Strethall – Anne Tozer 838890

Lt Chishill – Elaine Knobel-Forbes
838781

Children's and Youth Work: Contact office - 837272 or Anand 838703

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

Donations: Barclays Bank – Sort: 20-73-26 Account: 40898023
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Tower Bell Ringing: For all towers please contact the church office 837272

Chrishall Primary School: Head Teacher Tracey Bratley Tel: 838592

Village Web Magazine Team:

Editor: Tim Handyside 838158- iwp.webeditor@gmail.com

Advertising : Angela Bucksey 838605 - clerk.heydonpc@gmail.com

Parish Office 837272 - iwp.parishoffice@gmail.com

Marcus West 838294

Mel Chandler 838289



The Parish of the
Icknield Way Villages

Published by the Parish of The Icknield Way Villages
on behalf of the eight churches in our community

Saffron Walden Choral Society 

BRAHMS Ein Deutsches Requiem

7.30pm Saturday
13 November 2021



**Saffron
Hall**

Saffron Walden Choral Society
Felix Kemp *Baritone*
Miriam Allan *Soprano*
Richard Carr and
Simon Howat *Piano duo*
Craig Apps *Timpani*
Janet Wheeler *Conductor*

Ticket Prices £18 - £25 (under 25s half price)
Tickets available from: www.saffronhall.com

 SWChoral  @saffronchoral www.saffronhall.com Saffron Walden Choral Society, Reg Charity No. 1148718

Vespers by Candlelight

Do come, just to sit and listen to a recording of

Rachmaninov Vespers

On our new sound system

Friday 8 October

Heydon Church

Drinks 6.30pm for 7.00pm

No need to book but if you are reasonably certain in advance that you will come, helpful if you would let Mel Chandler know (01763 838 269, mel.chandler@gmail.com)



Distributed free by volunteers to all the homes in the Parish of the Icknield Way Villages - Chrishall, Elmton with Wenden Lofts, Duddenhoe End, Great Chishill, Little Chishill, Heydon and Strethall.