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MUSIC NIGHT SELLS OUT, RAISES £1500

"Oh, what a night!" as the Four Seasons might have said. The Music Night on July 16th was certainly a night to remember. The Village Hall was packed - we had a 100 seat sell out; four acts gave us first class entertainment and the organisers served a ploughman's of mammoth proportions. We will be talking of this event for months.

It started with an idea from Jim Brearley. He had recently made contact once more with a band member he last played with in 1966 and it struck him that they ought to play a gig to celebrate 50 years since last playing and their 70th birthdays. So '1966 Reunited' was born and the Great Chishill 'Arena' was chosen for their debut. Terrific idea, Jim, and brilliantly carried off. We hope that our applause showed how much we appreciated it.

'Out of the Blue' were a duo from Liverpool

with excellent voices who treated us to 60s and 70s hits that all of the audience seemed to know. Then Simon Brearley (fresh from guesting on kazoo in '1966 Reunited') and his friend stirred us all with a wide range of



brooke's solo spot got huge applause. How the ladies arranged to feed us as well as they did was amazing - and they finished off with homemade chocolate brownies! The beer and wine flowed; the raffle was very successful; so overall £1495 was made for the St Swithun's Appeal and the Great Chishill Windmill Trust. The last word must go to Jim. He sent a message to all involved saying 'must do again'. Yes please!



songs including singalongs from Prince and Proclaimers. So by the time The Elderly Brothers took the stage, everyone was singing and dancing. Surely that was Mick Jagger himself strutting across the dance floor at one point! Andy and Hazel Cole-



Update on St Swithun's Repairs

For many decades the church tower has suffered from serious damp problems: the mediaeval plaster is crumbling and the stone of the tower arch is decaying. We want to save this village icon for future generations, so our aim is to find the cause of the damp, prevent further penetration and repair the damage. Our target was to raise £50,000 towards the cost of repairs and thanks to an enthusiastic team and the support of the community we are on track to meet our goal! Current total is £48,000.

The tower was affected by the fire which started on 22 February 1789 in the vestry house of the Congregational Church in Barley Road and swept through the village. In the 1880s it crumbled badly and in 1892 the architect Alfred Powell came to see the collapsed tower. He recounted in a letter home, "The tower was all built of flints and had an iron band all round it which the vicar and churchwardens agreed in thinking very unsightly and so removed it!! with such consequences". The tower was rebuilt in 1896-7 at a cost of £865, but without the small spire. It is going to cost a lot more than that to repair it now!

Why is it all taking so long? Well, it is a slow process; we applied for a Heritage Lottery Fund grant in November 2015 and heard in March 2016 that we had been successful. We have been awarded £29,700 for initial investigative work - this is the "development phase" - with the offer of £249,100 towards the project (out of a possible maximum of £250,000). The total project costs are estimated at £352,000, which as well as repairing the tower will include installing water, a toilet and servery so enabling this wonderful building to be used for community events. The difference (cont'd P2)



HAVING A LAUGH!

For St Swithun's Restoration Fund

Popular Norfolk duo Pat Nearney and Danny Platton have been touring East Anglia for 8 years and are now bringing their unique blend of comedy, music, mime, singalong and 'Norfolk Squit' (!) to

Great Chishill on Sunday 28th August 1.30 - 5.30 pm in the Marquee on the Meadow at May Street Farm, SG8 8SN

With pulled pork, salads and dessert for lunch served around 2.30 (vegetarian option available) and licensed bar, this promises to be a leisurely, fun alternative to bank holiday weekend traffic! **Tickets £12.50 (Children 12 years and under £6) from Jenny Leitch**
Tel 07850 862199 or email Ro Gadian 1drakeral@gmail.com

Women's Institute

16 August 7.30pm

Horry Parsons: 'More Stories from the Tower'

Back by popular request

Visitors welcome -

call Angela 837353

BIN COLLECTIONS

Black Blue & Green

August 5 12
 19 26

Sept 3* (Saturday)

*3 Sep not confirmed - please check!

(cont'd) between the grant and the total project cost will be met by our own fundraising, VAT recovery and by applying for other grants.

Once we had the award we needed permission from the diocese (a "faculty") to carry out the initial work, and that has taken another two or three months.

Meanwhile we have employed a firm of structural engineers, engaged experts, received quotes for investigative work and had a couple of visits from "batmen" to make sure the bats aren't disturbed by the work. In August a firm will start to investigate the structural defects and causes of damp in the tower by taking samples, recording the materials and construction of the different phases of the tower and identifying moisture reservoirs. Then they will make recommendations for remedial work.

We will use this to prepare tenders for the actual repair work, which will need another faculty, and then submit a more detailed application with full costing to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the "delivery phase".

Rosemary Drake

SUNDAY WAS CHISHILL'S FUN DAY

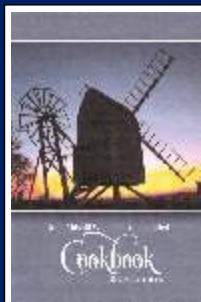
The sun shone and young and old turned out in force to enjoy the delights on offer at The Fun Day. Everyone, whether 9 months, 9 years or 90 years old, found something to amuse them.

There was our own Dog Show in the Main Arena, followed later by children learning Zumba. The inflatable castle, playhouse and jousting stools were popular ways for the youngsters to let off steam. After this they could relax on a ride behind a Massey Ferguson or a beautiful miniature traction engine. The coconut shy and ball rolling games were in constant demand and we were treated to fun and games (and a bit of a soaking) when the stocks were in use. Our new outdoor gym equipment proved a hit as well.

In addition to regular attractions like tombola, raffle, guess the weight of the cake, number of sweets, where the treasure was hidden, tug-of-war, etc., snail racing was a novelty that caught everyone's eye. Who'd have thought snails had that turn of speed? Novelty bird feeders were on sale and the Windmill Trust sold 40 recipe books giving a welcome boost to their funds. Burgers, beer, tea, cakes, ice cream and sweets kept us all going so that we could enjoy Chishill's favourite pastime - chatting whilst standing in our lovely playing field watching children having fun. It was a grand day! As we went to press, the event had made over £1,000 and rising. The money will benefit the Playground, Chishill Chimps, and the Youth Club.



Water is damaging plaster and stone in the tower arch



Recipe Book for the Windmill now available from Hazel 01763 838254 or hrhandmaj@btinternet.com

A collection of 52 recipes from villagers & friends
£7.50 – proceeds to the Windmill Restoration Fund

Cash or cheque 'Great Chishill Windmill Trust Limited'

Post & Packing possible (UK) £1.35 per book

For further details & preview visit the windmill website:
www.greatchishillwindmill.com