# CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL HAILED "A STUNNING SUCCESS"

Great Chishill's two-day Christmas Tree Festival was a huge success. St Swithun's can never have looked lovelier as every possible size and shape of tree lit up every corner of the church. 25 local groups joined in enthusiastically to create unique decorations symbolizing each activity; the school children d sang, hand-bell,

enormous quantities of mulled wine and countless mince pies were dispensed, hand-bell ring-



Photo: Paul Crawford

ers chimed, and as a finale the Robin Singers, a choral group of startling talent assembled by Beth McKenzie, provided us with a professional standard recital. The event, organized by Tess and Angus Gent and Jill Kuenzie, raised over £1000.

Tess, Jill and Angus told the Newsletter: "We want to thank, all the clubs and groups for exhibiting

their trees, and everyone who came to support us and help us over the weekend. It really was a wonderful weekend of music, fun and friendship. The District Church Council said "A big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make the Christmas Tree Festival such a stunning success. It was wonderful to see so many village organisations taking part, and the creativity and ingenuity shown in decorating the trees was outstanding!"



### SECURITY SUB-COMMITTEE FORMED

An outcome of the Parish Council's security questionnaire has been the formation of a voluntary Security Sub-Committee. Its remit will be to help villagers feel more secure in their homes and lessen the actual risk of break-ins. A web page will be created shortly. Members are Robin Dibblee (Chair, tel 838276), Peter Homent, Greg Dodd, Neil Heywood (tel 838506), John Wahlich, Gillian Philpott, and John Ridge. As a first step. Robin is to meet with the Police Commissioner, Jason Ablewhite, on 18 January to discuss under-reporting of local crime and other matters. If there's something you'd like him to ask on your behalf, call Robin or any subcommittee member, as soon as you can.

# IT'S SLOE GIN TIME AGAIN! Great Chishill

Bell Ringers invite you to take part in the annual Sloe Gin Competition, raising funds for refurbishment of the bells – stage 2. The bells of St Swithun's were silent for 25 years until the village elected to have them repaired to a 'ringable state' (stage 1) to mark the Millennium. By mid 1999 a whole new band of bell ringers were in training to ring in New Year 2000. That was nearly 20 years ago and the bells have been in constant use since then.

The Sloe Gin event peaks on Saturday 25 February, when the Results and Tasting Party – open to all whether contestant or not, will be held. Entries should be in by February 20. For downloadable Entry Form and full details of the competition and Results Party see our village website greatchishill.org.uk or contact Jenny Leitch 01763 837073 or email jenny leitch@btinternet.com

## PENSIONERS TUCK IN AT SENIORS' SOCIAL

Pensioners? Seniors? Grandma / Grandpa? Whatever you call them, the annual Seniors' Tea in the Village Hall attracted a big turn-out. Home made cakes and sandwiches with your friends? What's not to like? Thanks to the Parish Council for funding this much loved event, and to organiser Lindsey Crawley and her team (pictured right) for all that baking! It was scrummy!









# Your Youth Club really needs you!

Due to the growing numbers, Great Chishill Youth Club urgently needs extra volunteers to support our youth workers. If you could spare just 2 hours a month on a Tuesday 6.30-8.30pm, please do get in touch. Many thanks!
Emily Brown Tel: 836256 Email:

# A BURNS NIGHT CELEBRATION In support of St Nicholas Church, Little Chishill

HAGGIS †† WHISKY ††RECITATIONS

# Dancing to Jump the Vortex Great Chishill Village Hall Friday 26 January 2018 7.00pm to 11.00 pm

Tickets £25.00 (cheques to 'DCC of Little Chishill') by Sunday 7 January to:

E. Knobel - Forbes, 17 May Street, Great Chishill, Royston SG8 8SN Tel 838781 NUMBERS LIMITED

# Sing for Pleasure - and improve your health too!

Singing in choirs has really taken off recently with countless articles about the benefits to both physical and mental health. At Royston Choral Society there's no audition. -ust come to a friendly 'Open Rehearsal'. Join in with us Tuesday January 16 7.45 Royston Parish Church and see how you get on. For more information see our website <a href="https://www.roystonchoralsoc.org.uk">www.roystonchoralsoc.org.uk</a>

### **Bowlers Decorate**



Did you like the decorations in the Village Hall this Christmas? They came courtesy of the Bowls Club, who cut short their matches to hang swags of holly and ivy. Here, Marlene Bates adds a finishing touch.

URC SERVICES: 7 and 21 January at 9.30 am

URC FILM NIGHT: CHANGE OF FILM! Now showing on Tuesday 9 Jan " A United Kingdom" Doors open 7pm - arrive early for a seat on the sofas!

# Women's Institute Evenina All!

ex WPC Daphne Borham 16 January in the Village Hall at 7.30 Visitors welcome- call Angela 837353

### SCOTTISH DANCING

Restarts Monday 15 Jan. Everyone welcome. Very relaxed and a good giggle.

### SILVER SURFERS

Tuesday 16 and 23 10-12 am.

# BIN COLLECTIONS

 Black
 Blue & Green

 Jan
 4
 10 (B&G)

 16
 23 (Blue only)

 30
 6 Feb (B&G)