



The Chishills

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CHALK NOT CLUNCH

Clunch is 'wet' chalk, compressed at the base of porous chalk and underlying impermeable marl clay along the spring-line - the reason why Chishill was inhabited in the early days. This wet chalk was easily carved and used for the intricate gothic window-frames of the Cambridge Colleges. Once dry, its compression set it solid. Both Cherry Hinton and Orwell had lucrative seams of clunch. Unfortunately, the Great Chishill chalk pit had failed to produce clunch, possibly due to the lack of a

geologist in the village (there are now three).

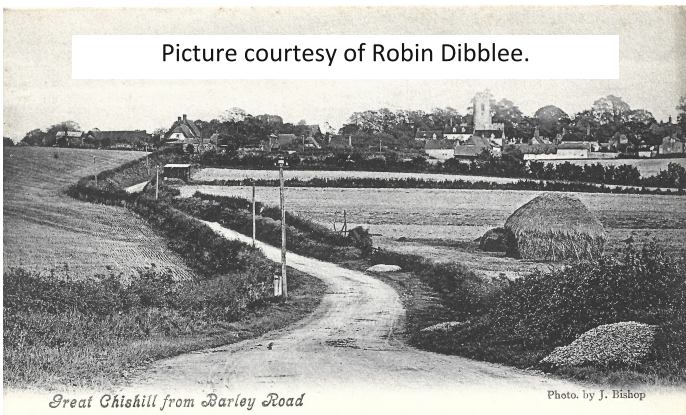
Chalk from the pit was used for surfacing roads (see 1903 picture), dazzling in summer and slippery in winter. Pothole repairs, unlike today, fell to users. Old maps show a lime-kiln in the pit to the north, providing mortar for the flint walls.

Domestic scrap removed from the pit indicates the level of poverty in the village - worn-out saucepans and kettles, and repeatedly mended washbasins. Small jars of meat-paste were a rare treat and sauce-bottles needed to liven up a monotonous diet of mutton stew.

A trip to Royston by cart would have taken half a day, time ill-afforded from a 6-day working week. Today it takes 10 minutes.

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Picture courtesy of Robin Dibblee.



Great Chishill from Barley Road

Photo. by J. Bishop

VILLAGE ADVENT CALENDAR

Last year's 'Round the Village Advent Calendar' was so succesful that Tess has agreed to organise it again this year.

Tess would love to hear from anyone who would be willing to offer to decorate an easily viewed window or a doorstep or gate post for her to organise this. Obviously she needs at least 20 volunteers. Christmas can be a bit lonely for many. We all enjoy seeing others walking around the village and it would give us something to look forward to and provide some Christmas cheer.

If you are interested and would like to learn more, please contact Tess on tessgent@gmail.com or call on 07721 398642.

GT CHISHILL YOUTH CLUB IS BACK!!

GT Chishill Village Hall 6.30 - 8.00pm
For all local young people aged 10 - 16
Tuck shop, games, Crafts and lots more!
£2 admission (Tues 14th Sept FREE!)

No need to pre-book; new members just come along + sign up on the night

Club dates for Autumn Term:

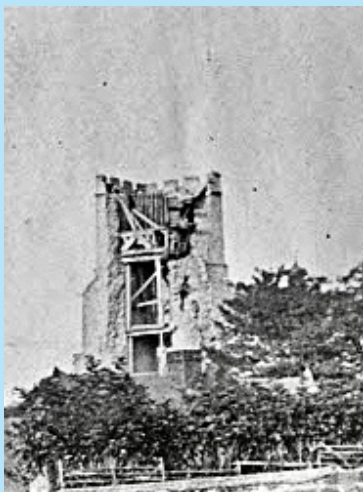
Sept Tues 14th, 28th
Oct Tues 12th (closed for half term)
Nov Tues 9th, 23rd
Dec Tues 14th *Christmas Holidays*

Youth Workers: Dan Horne 07958 342821
Steph Hicks 07514 664076
Other queries: Emily Brown 07900 243491

St Swithun's Collapse

While we are thinking about Great Chishill history, many of you know about the Reverend Griffenhoofe, who was the Victorian vicar who presided over the collapse of the church tower in 1892. He didn't like the unsightly iron bands around the tower and he persuaded the church wardens to allow the bands to be removed, thus causing the collapse which the bands had been installed to prevent!

I have come across this photograph, taken at the time, which shows the collapsed tower. There is a short history of the church (available in the church) written by our very own expert historian, Celina Fox, as part of the recent tower restoration project.



BIN DAYS - OCTOBER

Blue/Green	Black
	5
12	19
26	

Great Chishill Cricket Club Results – September

August 28th - Home versus Little Shelford

Great Chishill won by 3 wickets
A Gent 78*. T Knowles 4-25

September 4th – Home versus Linton

Match Tied at 331!
A Gent 110*. A Gent 4-47



2021 Season Summary.

4th of 10 in CCA Junior League 1 South.
Games 18. Won 7. Tied 1. Lost 5. Rained Off 3. Cancelled 2.
46 players used. 14 live in the village and 7 more have lived in the village.

We must make a special mention of Angus Gent: He played 11 innings, 5 of which were not outs. He totalled 724 runs with a highest score of 139 not out. Of the 6 innings where he was out, he averaged 120.67, including two 50s and four centuries.

Please don't forget the Cricket Club dinner dance on Saturday 27th November.

Four more village debutants:



Nick Fowler
Hall Lane



Gustaf Louw
Colts Croft



Steve Adcock
Heydon Road



Tom Pine
Barley Road

URC SERVICES

Harvest Festival Service

Sunday October 3rd
Evening Service 6 pm
Led by Reverend 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 book place so we are aware of numbers and space needed. Book now to avoid disappointment!

tessgent@gmail.com or 07721 398642.

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.

Sunday October 17th

Morning Service 9.30 am
led by Reverend Sue Fender.

Christmas Wreaths



Advance notice!

Tess will be doing Christmas Wreaths again this year, in aid of the Brainstrust, a brain tumour charity.

Please order in good time if you would like one.

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GREAT CHISHILL BELL RINGERS' SLOE GIN COMPETITION 2022

It's time to get picking sloes from our local hedgerows and brewing sloe gin for this annual competition, held every year since 1998. It was founded to help raise funds for the restoration of St Swithun's bells so they could be rung for the Millennium after 20 years of

silence.

In 2022, after 20 years of regular ringing for practices, church services, weddings, funerals, the royal births, the Queen Mother's centenary and more, repairs are needed on the frame, hopefully in time for the Queen's Platinum

Jubilee in June.

The Sloe Gin Competition embraces Nouveau and Vintage categories, as well as Ringers' Delight - Liqueurs made from any other soft fruit.

Judging is in February so get picking now!