

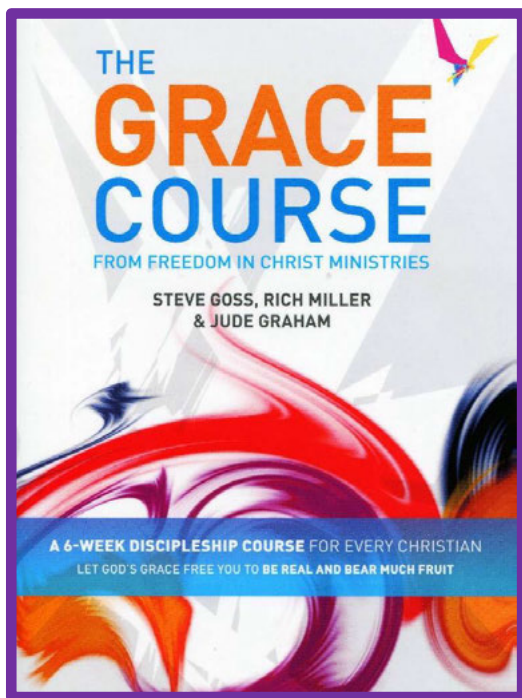
A photograph of a forest floor in early spring. The ground is covered with brown, fallen leaves. Numerous white snowdrops and bright yellow winter aconites are in bloom, scattered across the leaf litter. In the background, several tree trunks are visible, and a thin layer of snow is on the ground further back. The text 'Village' is overlaid in the top left corner in a large, white, serif font with a brown outline. Below it, 'February 2024' is written in a smaller, italicized, brown serif font. At the bottom left, the word 'Web' is written in a large, white, serif font with a brown outline.

Village

February 2024

Web

LENT COURSE 2024



The 2024 Lent Course will take place at
Chrishall Village Hall for six weeks
beginning Wednesday 14 February
7.15pm – 9pm

ALL WELCOME

See inside Village Web for further details.

**18 February 2024 - final date for submission
of articles for the March edition**

Front cover picture by Mark Jennings



The Parish of the
Icknield Way Villages

Seeks to be
Christ-centred • Faithful to scripture • Prayerful
Loving • Welcoming • Accepting all • Sharing fellowship

February Services

Sunday 4

- 9.00am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas Church **Little Chishill** SG8 8PA
10.45am Family Café Church at **Chrishall Village Hall Chrishall** SG8 8QL
5.45pm **URC** Evening Service led by Revd Sue Fender

Saturday 10

- 4.30pm Saturday Gathering 'Love Actually' Holy Trinity **Chrishall** SG8 8QL

Sunday 11

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

Sunday 18

- 9.00am Holy Communion at at Hamlet Church **Duddenhoe End** CB11 4XN
9.30am **URC** Morning Service led by Revd Sue Fender
10.45am Common Worship with Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church
Chrishall SG8 8QU

Sunday 25

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

Note: Services subject to change.

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

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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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Reasons to be Cheerful

Part 1

An article in the Financial Times in December echoed some recent research about the benefits of faith and church.

For centuries humans have sought ritual, music, a feeling of community and a sense of seeking something bigger than ourselves. Apparently in both the US and here in the UK evidence suggests those who attend a weekly service are more likely to say they are very satisfied with their lives than those who earn three figure salaries!

This effect may be due to the network of friends creating a sense of security and belonging. However, this sense is not replicated in the same way in other spheres or in joining other organisations offering the opportunity to have a sense of purpose and chance to meet people. It seems there may be an unavoidable point about spirituality. People in church will have different levels of commitment and belief, most find they have a sense of connection to something heart warming in a church community.

Church may offer the opportunity to become more aware of our own short comings but also offers something wellness bloggers and style gurus cannot: hope.

Whatever we tick off our 'bucket list', before we depart this mortal coil, will not fill the void we can sometimes feel. Church offers the chance to put our phones down, reflect on the week gone by, get our thoughts in order, think about people beyond ourselves and sing with gusto (very good for our endorphins)!

On **Saturday 10 February** we are having a second Saturday Gathering, at Chrishall church from 4.30 with food, ending at 6pm. Our wonderful guest speaker is Olivia Coles, speaking on the theme Love Actually (rather apposite at this time of year!). For heart shaped chocolates, tea for your young ones and a great bar (!) come and lend your presence to the proceedings.
Church is much more fun when you are there.....

URC News

We were absolutely delighted that the Chapel was full for our Christmas Day Service and even more thrilled by the number of children that joined us as well as with many news faces. Sue led a very uplifting, festive service which captivated the children. The sermon was based around a Pass the Parcel for the children, each layer of paper representing Jesus at some stage of his life. Needless to say the prize was a tin of Celebrations, which enabled us all to share a communion of chocolate!

Christmas Festivities

The selling of Christmas Trees and wreaths at the Christmas Fayre followed by The Advent Windows and The Christmas Tree Festival enabled us to give over £500 to the Playground Fund. In the region of £60,000 is required to refurbish the playground so it's not too late to contribute by going onto the Great Chishill Playground Project 'Gofundme' page. Every little bit really helps.

Services

Before the Evening Service on 4 February there will be a tea/ supper for children at 5pm. Please contact tessgent@gmail.com if you'd like to join us.

There will be coffee and tea after the service on 18th February.

Scottish Dancing

This continues to take place on Monday evenings 7.30-9 ish. It is the greatest of fun, excellent for one's 'step count' and a wee dram of your choice into the bargain. We are always delighted to see new faces and other than a sense of humour, no other requirements necessary, but a smile on your face is guaranteed!

Film Night

Tuesday 13th Feb 7.30pm

Please look on Gt Chishill Website for the film showing.

Answered Call

In the December/January Web Hubert shared his plans to donate his trusty 4x4 to the Ukrainian services. “A huge thank you for all the donations!” The Mitsubishi was completely full as I left with my colleague Freddie for Zurich in mid-December, and then onwards with Simon Dring and Tom Pine. Our journey took us past Munich, Linz, Vienna, Brno, Katowice before our rendezvous outside Krakow. 1400miles in all from Great Chishill.

We met the contact of 4x4foundation.com who would take the vehicle on to the border, before onward deployment to the 308th Battalion, where it is being used for drone operations.

The humanitarian aid was sorted into ‘family’ and ‘frontline’ and distributed accordingly and for which we have been greatly thanked. Thank you all again.

Hubert de Froberville

Parish Charity

Please help by nominating a charity to be our Parish Charity for 2024. Fund raising, for a charity alongside our own parish, is one of the activities of our church. We are conscious that the parish is in constant need of funds; however, we seek to serve others as loving members of Christ’s family.

Since 2015 we have supported Macmillan, Open Doors, The Salvation Army (Saffron Walden Branch), Romsey Mill (towards the wonderful work they do with young people in Cambridgeshire), Chrishall Primary School and, our current charity, Pets As Therapy. This is not an exclusive arrangement. Other charities have also been supported over the years.

We have a robust process to determine future charity partners. All parishioners are invited to be involved in the process of nominating a charity.

There are a few criteria listed on the Proposal Form to help the nomination and selection process.

Any suggestions should be made by the end of February using the

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Proposal Form available from the Church Office, (late nomination may be considered). The final selection will be announced at the APCM in April and commence from then. Email the church office on iwp.parishoffice@gmail.com to receive a digital copy of the Proposal Form.

Lent Course 2024

The parish has chosen to follow The Grace Course, as the basis for the Lent Course this year.

The course is written by Steve Goss for Freedom In Christ Ministries, based in Reading. There are six sessions, beginning on Wednesday 14th February and continuing weekly, at Chrishall Village Hall, beginning at 7.15pm and ending at 9.00pm.

Below is an extract from a review of the course...

“The Grace Course is a straight forward, effective way for churches to help Christians understand God's grace and be motivated by God's love alone, so that they go on to bear 'much fruit'”.

The course book costs £10, but please come along, even if you'd rather not spend that. There will be the opportunity for watching a DVD, and, of course, the usual refreshments and discussions!

Jon Wayper

Parish warden

Annual District Church Meetings

During March each of 7 districts (Chrishall, Elmdon, Great Chishill, Hamlet, Heydon, Little Chishill and Strethall) will be holding their Annual Meetings. Exact dates of these will be published on church notice boards in early February.

Do please look out for these meetings and support your local district church and district wardens. If anyone would like to take on a role please do contact the church office.

Duxford Saturday Workshop

A very special Year



Duxford Saturday Workshop (DSW) was formally established in 1974 by Jill Steinberg, with the aim of promoting the performing arts to children and adults in the local community. This was something that was not easy to find then, and was not affordable to all. It is still the case that opportunities to learn and perform together in a friendly, encouraging environment are hard to come by. Workshop continues to offer this to all ages in an affordable way.

There are currently around 300 members, with all sessions/classes being run by volunteers (all tutors have a current DBS check). The Workshop also owns over 200 instruments which are available for hire.

The groups include a beginners' orchestra, an advanced orchestra and jazz bands, as well as a choir, ensembles for strings, recorders, guitars, ukuleles and wind instruments.

There are also two creative drama and music groups for children, a smaller group for KS1 children, and a larger music theatre group for children in KS2 & 3 from the age of 7.

Many members join Workshop to pick-up an instrument, whether as a beginner or with some previous experience, staying on to join an ensemble, group or orchestra. Indeed this is part of the underlying ethos of DSW – learning, friendship, support, encouragement, performance and enjoyment. Some members joined with their children and are still attending. I include myself here. Beginning as a novice guitarist with my son Sam many years ago, I am still there every Saturday morning during term time! It is now such a part of my life that I have withdrawal symptoms if I miss a session, and I now lead our Folk Guitar group. Being a part of DSW has given me the ability and confidence to sing and play with others, something that I would never have considered before I joined.

So 2024 is a special year for Workshop as we celebrate our 50th birthday! It is an important milestone for us as we contemplate what it is that has been provided to so many people over the years, and the

service that continues to be offered and welcomed. We look forward to the next 50 years.....

DSW takes place at Duxford Primary School each term time Saturday during the year from 09:30 to 12:30 over 3 sessions (you don't have to attend all 3 sessions). There is a café and on site free parking.

If you are interested in finding out more the please visit the website and make contact <https://duxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk/>

Bill Jones

Hedge Planting at Strethall

There have been gaps in the hedge surrounding the churchyard at St Mary's for some time, so the decision was taken to infill these, either with yew or mixed hedging depending on the type already in place. The Woodland Trust kindly supplied the whips for the mixed hedge areas under their 'Free Trees for Communities' scheme. We are very grateful to have received a 'Wild Harvest' pack, which will hopefully provide some lovely blossom, fruits and hence food for wildlife in years to come! The DCC purchased yew plants to infill the gaps within the existing yew hedges.

On a chilly, beautifully sunny January morning, several members of the DCC plus other villagers enjoyed planting the whips and larger plants; we then put mesh around the smaller plants to prevent them being eaten by deer & rabbits! Fingers crossed for some good growing this year!



Sloe Gin

This year's Great Chishill Sloe Gin Competition Tasting and Results Party will be held on **Saturday 25th February at 7.30pm in the URC schoolroom.**

Everyone is warmly invited to join in our historic Sloe Gin Competition. No previous experience required.

This year there are four categories:

Nouveau Sloe Gin - made with sloes picked Autumn 2023

Vintage Sloe Gin - any year you are proud of

Ringers' Delight - your best homemade fruit-based tipple

Zero Alcohol Ringers' Delight – a non-alcohol version of Ringers' Delight

*There is an additional award for the **best presented** entry.*

Competition entries to: Jill Kuenzi, 19 Heydon Road, 07496906289 or Phil Maynard, Rectory Cottage 12 Heydon Road 01763838311 by Tuesday 20th February. Please check bottles are labelled with your name and the category.

Ticket Prices:

- £8 - combined ticket for one entry and admission to the party
- £3 - for each extra entry, up to two entries per category
- £8 - for admission to the party

Further details and an entry form are available on the Great Chishill village website - greatchishill.org.uk

This year a light ploughman's supper is included in the ticket price (cheese, pate or hummus). There will be a pay bar. You will have the opportunity to taste the entries and see if you agree with the judges! All proceeds will go to the Bell Fund. Payment can be made via the



Bells of Great Chishill Just Giving page at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/greatchishillbells. Please make a note saying what the payment is for, and please tick the gift aid box. Payment for party entry can also be made at the door. Entry forms will be available from Phil or Jill, and at The Pheasant and online on the village website: www.greatchishill.org.uk

What's going on ... at Chrishall Village Hall



The former chapel and the church office at Chrishall village hall have both been affected by damp over a number of years and the owner of the village hall, Chrishall Parish Council, is employing builders to undertake damp proofing work.

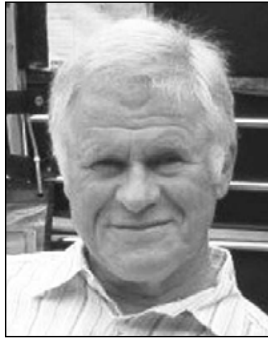
The second and hopefully final phase of the work requires the closure of the chapel and the church office for four weeks from Monday January 8th. Andrea Quigley will be running the Church Office remotely for the duration. She will be pleased to address any queries on iwp.parishoffice@gmail.com and 837272 (please leave a message) as normal.

The building is over 160 years old and this work is much needed to ensure that it will survive in a good state for the benefit of future generations.'

Richard Keeling

Michael Frenay

29 September 1944 to 1 December 2023



Mike and his twin sister, Liz, were born in Woking and spent most of their childhood living in Reading, Virginia Water and Weybridge. From the age of 13 he went to Ottershaw School.

His great passion at school was history and it was this he wanted to read at Warwick University, but due to his father's illness and a head for numbers, he accepted a job at Barclays D.C.O., the overseas branch of Barclays.

He met Helen in Bermuda and they married in 1982 and had two children – Philip and Clare. They have lived in Elmdon since 1986. Mike played bridge, tennis and golf and supported Tottenham Hotspur!

Mike suffered ill health for several years and sadly died of chronic kidney disease and M.N.D.

Helen, Philip and Clare would like to thank their friends and neighbours for all their kindness and support following Mike's death at home on the 1st December.

Stop Press

The Parish of the Icknield Way Villages is extremely pleased to announce the appointment of a new Parish Rector.

Revd James Webster, with his wife Debs, hopes to join us in early May. More news will follow soon.

Jon Wayper Parish Warden

Espresso Divas

Gluttons – a rather aptly named café popular with those who love a good slice of cake with their coffee or a full breakfast/substantial (proper as my husband says) lunch...

The café is upstairs above shops in Saffron Walden at 13A King Street; not the easiest location for some but very worthwhile the effort. Its staircase and walls are covered in recognisable street and park scenes painted by local artists; many of which are for sale. There is a small, casual seating area as you arrive, followed by a more conventional layout of tables and chairs one step up.

The menu includes cooked breakfasts and lunches, sweet and savoury scones (a particular favourite of mine), and the most ‘gluttonous’ of cakes! The menu changes frequently and seems to have at least two ‘specials’ of the day alongside sure-fire classics; egg in every format, sausage, bacon, mushrooms and homemade bread/toast. Afternoon visitors have around eight types of homemade cake, (as well as the scones) to choose from. If you can’t make up your mind the waiting staff can always try guiding you to a choice!

Open from 8.00am until 4.00pm Monday to Saturday, the place is busy and ‘buzzy’; especially at lunch times. If you decide to wait for a table you can always view and discuss the art work. Market days (Tuesday and Saturday) are worth booking but out of the 12 – 1.30 timeframe you can usually get a table.



From The Parish Registers

Funeral

Albert ‘John’ Bates

Friday 5 January

Service at St Swithun’s Great Chishill,
burial St Nicholas Little Chishill.



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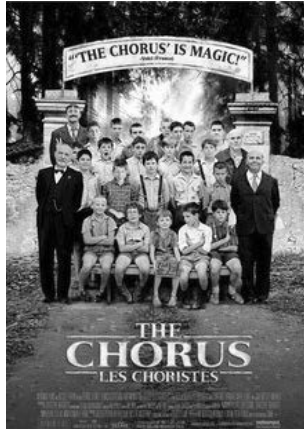
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Heydon Films



The second of three films for winter;
Friday 23 February, 7.30 for 8.00p.m.

Mission Hut, 14 Chishill Road

call/e-mail Rollo Barnes, 838309, rb@rollobarnes.com.

£5 (inc refreshments) – all to church funds.

The Chorus (2004; 96 min): a successful conductor returns to his childhood home in France where he recalls his school and inspirational music teacher. French nomination for a Foreign Language Oscar; though not a winner there, the soundtrack did win other awards. French with English sub-titles.

Christmas Past

‘Our cup runneth over’ in December 2023. The Icknield Way Parish was flush with marvellous, spine tingling carol services led by fabulous choirs, joyful tractor drawn, pub crawling caroling and revelry, memorable, heart warming crib and Christingle services, candle lit midnight service and joyful services on Christmas morn. We are fortunate so many shared their gifts to create such special events to celebrate Christmas. Every building looked wonderful, so much thought and preparation was given. We are so fortunate to live in this part of the world!

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Coffee Morning
Wednesday 14 February
10am - 12pm



St Swithun's Great Chishill

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All welcome.

In aid of the St Swithun's Church

Heydon Hedgehogs



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Chrishall School

Wise words



“Your voice can change the world!” This quote from Barack Obama is so powerful and something that we try to instil in the children at Chrishall School. We will be learning about the wise words of King Solomon this term through our Collective Worship times. We will meditate on the choices we make and how we can always make wise, thoughtful choices that help us to move through life in a fair and considered way, so that we can improve our own lives and contribute to making positive impacts on those around us.

Being able to speak confidently and clearly is such a powerful tool.

When we were talking about where we might need a strong voice in life, Imogen said that Doctors and Nurses need to be able to use their voices to calm people down and make them brave before an operation. Aurelia noted also that Prime Ministers and Presidents need to be thoughtful in their speeches as they made decisions that affect other people’s lives. In order to help the children at school on their way to these jobs and others, where a powerful voice is important, we give lots of opportunities for speaking and listening skills to be developed.

A special opportunity this term will be to perform in our new Words Alive day. We have changed our regular Tales and Scales competition to have more of a focus on spoken word. The children will be able to perform prose, poetry or a dramatic scene. We hope that this type of occasion will show our children how wonderful words can be and also how powerful!

Fiona Dyer

Teacher

Parish Contacts – *Telephone codes are 01763 unless stated*

Rector: Vacant (Parish currently in interregnum)

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: Vacant

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

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

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The Parish of the
Icknield Way Villages

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on behalf of the churches in our community

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THANK YOU!

To all those who were involved in creating a memorable Christmas 2023
for the Icknield Way Parish.

Thank you to the choirs for the wonderful carol concerts and carolling.

The **Parish Choir** under Rupert Jordan,
Chishill Voices under Jamie W Hall,
and the **Community Choir** under Kerry McDunnough

Thank you to the musicians of **Royston Town Band**, the **Carolling Band**
led by Caitriona Quigley, **IWP Worship Band** led by Jon Wayper,
the **Alternative Worship Band** led by Eamonn Quigley and Bill Jones,
the organists Liz Wayper, Judy Saunders and Rupert Jordan.

Thank you to our wonderful visiting clergy
Revd Prof Alasdair Coles, Revd Canon Chris Bishop
and Revd Stephen Baxter.

Thank you to Robert Smith for providing the transport for the 'Tractor
Carolling'.

And a huge Thank You to the many of you who attended and enjoyed any
of the events.



loveactually

**Saturday 10th Feb
4.30 – 6.00pm
Chrishall Church**

**Loving one
another and
God's love divine**

**With a
heart-warming
talk from
Olivia Coles**

**Starting with
lots of lovely
food and drinks**

**Accompanied by
our worship band**



The Parish of the
Icknield Way Villages

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