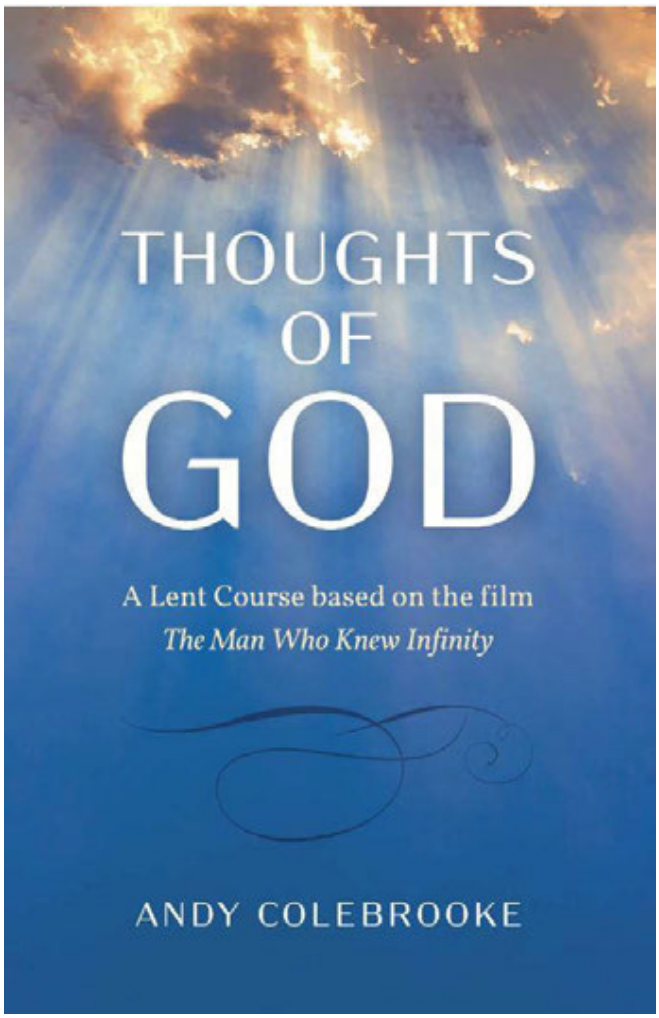


Village Web

March 2023



This year's **Lent Course** is based on the book *Thoughts of God* by Rev'd Andy Colebrooke. It is on Wednesday evenings at Duddenhoe End Village Hall starting at 7pm.

The course is based on the film ***The Man Who Knew Infinity*** which will be shown at the first meeting.

Please do join us for our Lent study, copies of the book will be available from the Church Office and on the evening.

Front Cover – 'Crocus' by Fred Kuenzi

The Parish of the
Icknield Way Villages

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

March Services

Sunday 5

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas Church **Little Chishill** SG8 8PA
10.45am Family Worship at **Chrishall Village Hall** SG8 8QL

Friday 10

6.30pm Ukraine Evening Vigil at St Nicholas **Elmdon** CB11 4LT

Sunday 12

10.45am Family Worship at St Swithuns **Great Chishill** SG8 8SS
6.00pm Choral Evensong St Nicholas **Elmdon** CB11 4LT

Sunday 19

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

Sunday 26

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

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

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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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Parish of the Icknield Way Villages - Warden's Letter

As I write, our Parish Profile is being viewed online, on a variety of websites. I am pleased to tell that at least two people have asked for application forms for the post of rector! If a good field of candidates emerges, we hope to interview before the end of this month.

Revd Andy Colebrooke reminded us, in his visit to our parish last Sunday, of the words of the Lord Jesus Christ himself in his Sermon on the Mount: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear". Andy pointed out that what we in our beautiful part of the world might consider 'the worries of our life' are probably very different from the worries affecting thousands still suffering the effects of the violent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. Let us encourage one another to pray earnestly that God might relieve their suffering, and to seek ways to love our neighbour abroad with generous giving.

Wonderful advances continue to be made in medicine and science generally, which bear witness to the ingenuity and imagination of men and women. But we are unable to control earthquakes…the violence and power contained in nature. Paul in his letter to the Romans in chapter 8 writes 'the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time'. Perhaps this gives a sense that nature itself is not at ease. Indeed, the bible teaches that nature itself is affected by the original rebellion against God of the first humans.

The context in which Jesus said the words in the second paragraph above was in his revealing the true nature of Father God, his love for his creation and his power to work constantly within it, never tiring. Indeed, he gave us in the verses just before, the words of the 'Our Father' prayer we call 'The Lord's Prayer'. His very next words, following the 'don't worry' comments, are 'Seek first the kingdom of

God and his righteousness', and he will take care of what we need, when we obey that command to seek him. Indeed, when we do take the step of 'seeking the kingdom of God', we come to realise that our life on earth is transitory; it leads into eternity spent with Jesus himself. Revelation 21 tells us 'there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away'. That is the source of confidence for the future, which is available to all of us. God knows our sufferings, and will walk through them with us, until the day when they are no more.

I find this poem by Joyce Kilmer entitled '*Trees*' a great comfort, especially the last line.

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in Summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,

But only God can make a tree.

God bless you all.

Jon Wayper

URC News

URC Services for March
Sunday March 5th
Evening Service 6 pm
Led by Revd Sue Fender.

Sunday March 19th
Morning Service 9.30 am
Led by Revd Sue Fender.

Film Night
Tuesday 7th March (due to Parent Evening at school).
'*Letters to Juliet*'. A romantic comedy- drama starring Amanda Seyfried, Vanessa Redgrave and Christopher Egan.

Date for your Diary!

Friday May 5th
5.30pm onwards.

A CELEBRATORY EVENING (*NOT a fundraising event*)

CORONATION COCKTAILS (and chicken!)
A kickstart to a very memorable weekend.
Come and enjoy a few cocktails at Still The Manse and in the URC garden * Live Music * Simple but good food * Ice cream van.
Coronation Cake and Crown Competition (adults and children)
Design a poster or picture of this W/E to decorate the village telephone box.
Everyone and anyone is most welcome to join us.
If you could let me know nearer the time if you are coming I will ensure we won't run out of anything!

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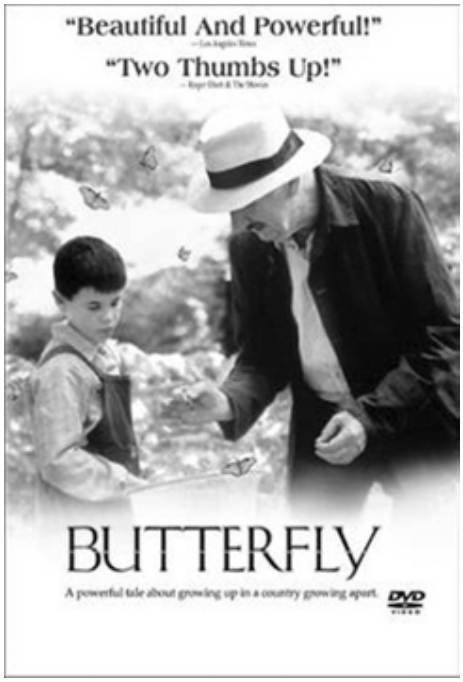
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Heydon Films



Friday 24 March – *The Butterfly's Tongue* (1999): bitter sweet story of an 8 year old boy beginning school in Galicia under an inspirational teacher. The time is 1936 as the divisions leading to the Spanish civil war, are surfacing. A prize winner in Spain. Spanish with English sub-titles, 1hr 33min

Entry: £5.00 for wine and cake – all proceeds to Heydon Church funds. Location: Mission Hut, 14 Chishill Road, Heydon. Time 7.30pm for 8.00pm

To book: call or email Rollo Barnes – 01763 838 309; rb@rollobarnes.com

Coffee Morning

Wednesday 1 March



10am - 12pm

St Swithun's Great Chishill

Come and enjoy some tea, coffee, cake and chat at St Swithun's Great Chishill, taking full advantage of our wonderful new facilities. Children's corner available.

All welcome.

Photographic Competition

The winner this month is Fred Kuenzi with his lovely photograph of a crocus (on the front cover).



Spring Crocus by Mark Jennings a marmalade hoverfly basking in the sunshine

Crocuses bloom in late February or March and are a wonderful sign of spring. In addition to providing enjoyment, some crocuses affect human lives in other ways. One species produces the exotic and expensive spice known as saffron. Another plant referred to as a crocus produces colchicine, a potentially poisonous chemical that has medicinal uses, including the treatment of gout.

Crocuses belong to the genus *Crocus*, which is part of the iris family (the *Iridaceae*). They are native to Europe, Asia, and North Africa but grow in many other parts of the world as well. They have beautiful and often colourful flowers. The flowers bloom in the winter, spring, or autumn, depending on the species. Some outdoor flowers appear even while there is snow on the ground. The plants have long and narrow leaves which generally have a white line running down their middle.



Autumn crocus (the poisonous one)

The spice known as saffron is produced from an autumn-flowering plant with the scientific name *Crocus sativus*. The common name of this plant is saffron crocus. The species is unknown in the wild. It's thought to have been developed by selective

breeding of other crocuses that do exist in the wild. It's believed to have originated in Greece, or possibly in Southwest Asia. Saffron has been harvested and used since ancient times.

The autumn crocus is another plant with lovely flowers. Despite its name it doesn't belong to the genus *Crocus*, even though its flowers look superficially similar to those of true crocuses and its common name is similar. The scientific name of the autumn crocus is *Colchicum autumnale*. True crocuses belong to the iris family, but the autumn crocus belongs to the lily family.



Saffron Crocus

Desperate Needs in the World

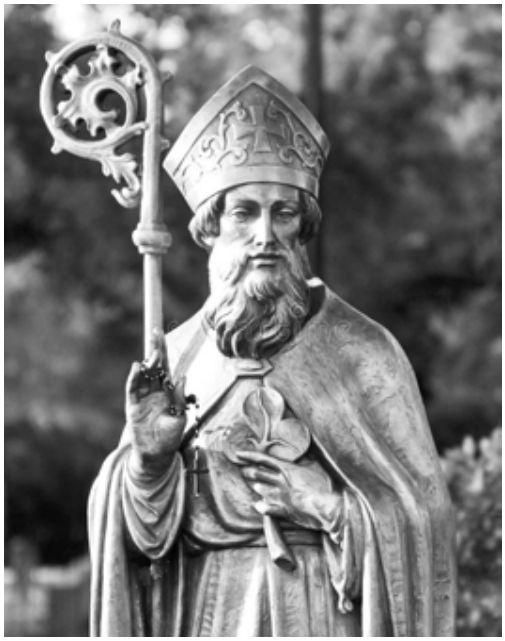
Correction: Last moth we detailed how you can help with food donations to“food.gives”, an arm of the well known Barnabas Aid fund. We stated that the DHL collection point was in the post office in Duxford – this is incorrect. The DHL Parcel UK ServicePoint is in the Costcutter, 41A St Peter's St, Duxford, Cambridge CB22 4RP

Remember that they are only asking for 5 things: rice, wholemeal (not self raising) flour, lentils, chickpeas, and salt all packed in bags (no tins).

Get involved by going to www.food.gives or by calling 01793 744557 and requesting a “starter pack” where everything you need (boxes/labels/ instructions etc) will be supplied including how to return the boxes, Friends and families can help fill the boxes and/or request their own.

Food.gives are also responsible for delivering essential food in the form of e’Pap for severely malnourished children (e’Pap is a pre-cooked porridge that is a blend of maize, soya, vitamins and minerals, which are in a highly absorbable form). A donation of just £9 would provide a sack of this life saving food. Donations can be made on the www.food.gives website or by calling 01793 744557

My name is Patrick …



"My name is Patrick, I am a sinner, a simple country person and the least of all believers" *Confessio*

Once symbolised in blue, St Patrick is now firmly associated with the bright green shamrock; reputedly deploying the Irish national plant to explain the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) to Irish Folk.

Patrick was, by legend, born in Britain in 5th century AD, where his father was a deacon. By the 7th century he was already a legendary figure in Ireland, this fame only increased following publication of an influential 12th century hagiography. His notable works *Confession* and *Letter to Coroticus* may still be read today.

Captured and subsequently enslaved in Ireland. Having 'turned with all his heart to the Lord my God', Patrick managed to escape back to his place of birth, where he was called in a dream to return to the Irish People.

Beset by doubts of his suitability for this mission, he delayed. However, once landed on Irish soil, this humble man was given consummate skills. Journeying far and wide, baptising and confirming multitudes as people of God 'with uniting zeal'! Inspired to proclaim the good news of the gospel, Patrick established many churches and worked miracles, even reputedly raising from the dead.

D A Binchy, Irish linguistic scholar, describes St Patrick as a religious diarist whose 'moral and spiritual greatness shines through every stumbling sentence of his *rustic* latin'.

The transformation of his special day, into the huge event we enjoy today, has its roots in 18th century America. Elaborate parades and extensive adoption of the colour green on 17 March has extended to clothing, foodstuffs, beer… I was amazed to witness first hand the huge river in

Chicago dyed green!

We shall celebrate this revered patron saint with glee, lots of green and abandon on 18 March at Gt Chishill Village Hall (his actual feast day is the day before!). *see ad on the back page*.

Alison Wilkinson

Spot the Link

Quick challenge: to identify what one particular factor do the following high achievers have in common.

They are all focussed, have overcome obstacles, creative, dilligent, determined, single minded etc ….. *but they all share one common factor*

David Tennant (Actor)

Martin Luther King (Civil Rights Activist)

Christopher Wren (Architect)

Matthew Pinsent (Olympic Rower)

Lord Beaverbrook Max Aitken (Buisness, Politics)

Virginia Wade (Wimbledon Champion)



Theresa May (Politician)

Hugh Dennis (Actor)

The Bronte Sisters (Writers)

Angela Merkel (Politician)

Jane Austen (Writer)

Denzel Washington (Actor)



Lord Baden Powel (Scout Leader)

Woodrow Wilson (US President)

Nat King Cole (Singer)

Vincent Van Gough (Painter)

John Logie Baird (Inventor)

Cecil Rhodes (Businessman, Politician)



Please find the answer on page 19



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The Hundred Parishes Society

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) recently published analysis of the 2021 Census. Nationally, this showed that the population of England grew by 6% in the last 10 years and 14% over the last 20 years. Locally, the increase has been much faster. The population of The Hundred Parishes in 2021 was around 156,000, up 12% since 2011 and 24% since 2001. If roads seem busier, these extra 30,000 people are a major factor.

Half of the increase is accounted for by 6 parishes close to Stansted Airport. Elsenham, Flitch Green, Great Dunmow, Little Canfield, Stansted Mountfitchet and Takeley have each expanded by more than 50% in the last 20 years. Another big growth was seen in Buntingford: from 4,300 in 2001 to 7,900 in 2021.

The Census is the modern equivalent of the Domesday Book produced in 1086 AD when the national population was less than 2 million, compared to 60 million today.

Today, 8% of the Hundred Parishes population was born outside the UK (compared to 17% in the whole of England and Wales); 10% of homes are flats (v 22%); 36% of houses have 4 or more bedrooms (v 21%); 27% of homes are rented (v 37%); 40% of adults work at home (v 31%); 55% are in professional or managerial jobs (v 46%); 56% of households have 2 or more vehicles (v 35%). We have a different age mix to the UK average, with a shortfall of around 5,000 people in their 20s and 30s offset by around 5,000 extra people aged over 40.

While the previous paragraph highlights contrasts, some statistics are closely aligned with the national picture: 99% of households have central heating; 5% of households have a second home; 51% of the population is female and 49% male.

Each parish introduction on www.hundredparishes.org.uk has been updated to include the 2021 population. For more information, please go to https://www.ons.gov.uk/census **Ken McDonald, Secretary**

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Care together (https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/care-together-a-proposed-2.9m-catalyst-for-a-fairer-and-more-caring-cambridgeshire) is a programme led by Cambridgeshire County Council in collaboration with our partners and local communities. The aim is to help more older people to remain living independently and happily in their own home for longer. It will change the way care and support for older people in the community is commissioned and delivered. To ensure that it is helpful for you, we would like your participation in answering an online questionnaire. (https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/36MHL6/)



If you do not have access to the internet, please call 01954 286 002 or 07771 545 674 Monday – Friday between 9am – 2pm to request a paper copy or if you prefer to answer the questions over the telephone instead of on paper or online. Please leave a contact number if asked to do so. Outside of these hours paper copies can be requested via the email care.together@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

In some communities there will be central collection and return points for printed questionnaires, so please check with your local library or Parish Council office for this option.

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Seasonal Recipe

As we begin to notice the first signs of spring, all sorts of shoots are appearing.- Nettles are one of the easiest plants to identify and are delicious to eat.
Urtica Dioica (Otherwise known as The Common Nettle) are a surprisingly versatile ingredient and are reputed to be a Super Food that is rich in Iron, Vitamins A and D and is packed with Minerals.
You can use gloves and scissors to pick your nettles to prevent you from being stung. The Nettle tips are best to use for flavour.
Nettles can be used to make Tea, Soup or as a cooked vegetable such as Spinach which is also very nutritious. Nettles can be par boiled, cooled and frozen .

Nettle Soup Recipe - For 4 people.
Bunch of Nettles
100g Butter
2 onions or shallots
5 stalks of celery chopped
2 Potatoes chopped
1 pint of Vegetable Stock
Parsley or Chives for garnish
200 mls Cream
Salt
Pepper



1. Blanch the Nettles in boiling water to remove the sting. Discard any large stems.
2. Saute the chopped onions and celery in butter until softened.
3. Chop the blanched Nettles and add to the pan.
5. Peel Potatoes and add to the pan.
6. Prepare the Vegetable stock(using 1 or 2 stock cubes depending on how strong you prefer) add to the pan and simmer for 10 minutes.
7. Puree the soup with a blender.
8. Add cream and seasoning to taste.
Serve with a sprig of Parsley or Chives and an extra swirl of cream.
Enjoy!

Rural Cost of Living

Whilst Uttlesford is a beautiful place to live, our location can present a challenge. The cost of living in a rural area is higher because we have to travel further to shops and services – this is particularly hard for anyone trying to find work, access education or navigate the benefits system. A quarter of the houses in Uttlesford are 'off-grid' and many are old and poorly insulated, which means that fuel poverty is more prevalent. We also have to contend with patchy connectivity, no job centre and poor public transport links.

A survey commissioned by the Rural Services Network (RSN) last year shows rural areas are also suffering more acutely from the rise in the cost of living compared to urban areas. So, to understand more about rural household budgets, they have launched a Rural Cost of Living Household Survey. If you can spare a few minutes, your input will help the RSN to engage more effectively with Government Departments, MPs and other policy makers. You can access the survey here until 31st March 2023: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Rural_Households_Cost-of-Living

As a local charity, we work hard to help everyone in the community overcome, or at least mitigate, these challenges. You can read more about how we make a difference in our Insight Report 2022, available on our website https://www.uttlesfordca.org.uk/about-us/

If you are worried about rising costs and struggling financially, our friendly advisers are here to help. We offer free advice and support and can help you to access warm homes advice, help with fuel debts and energy efficiency measuresBenefits applications and entitlements

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- Support for carers
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Our advice is available to everyone and is always free, confidential and impartial.

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- Call us on 01799 618840
- Email help@uttlesfordca.org.uk
- Or visit our one-touch video access points in Great Dunmow and Stansted libraries and at the Old School House, Takeley
- To access over 150 local health, wellbeing and community groups go to www.uttlesfordfrontline.org.uk

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Hamlet Church - update

Thank you so much to those residents of Duddenhoe End and Wenden Lofts who took the time to complete the feedback questionnaire on the Hamlet Church at the end of last year. Those that responded were generally very positive of how they valued the church's place in our village and there was a focus of it being an inclusive place of peace, quiet and contemplation for all. However, we need a strong strong level of support to go ahead with a fundraising effort for the repair work and we had hoped to receive more responses. We are therefore at an important juncture for our church's future and a decision needs to be made around if and what direction to go in. This will be discussed at the Annual District Church meeting for the Hamlet on Wednesday 29 March; residents are warmly invited - do come and give your views.

The Hamlet Church Committee

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

Answer: They are all children of the clergy.

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
Gt Chishill – Angela Patrick Sutcliffe 837353
Heydon – Alex Duffus 836903
Strethall – Liz Stott 01799 521217
Elmdon – Ned Tozer 838890
Hamlet – Sarah Westerhuis 07739550061
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

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: iwp.webeditor@gmail.com
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The Parish of the Icknield Way Villages

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

Support your local

District Church Councils

March sees the Annual Meetings throughout our parish in all our local Districts. If you are on the Parochial Church Electoral Roll then you can vote at our meetings. If you are not on the Parochial Church Electoral Roll and would like to be added please do get in contact with your District Churchwarden listed on the opposite page.

Annual District Church Meetings

Chrishall

Tuesday 21 March 8pm at Holy Trinity Chrishall

Elmdon

Monday 6 March 7pm at Elmdon Village Hall

Great Chishill

Thursday 9 March 7pm at St Swithuns Great Chishill

Hamlet

Friday 31 March 7.45 at Hamlet Church, Duddenhoe End

Heydon

Tuesday 14 March 7pm at Holy Trinity Heydon

Little Chishill

Thursday 9 March 7pm at Little Chishill Manor

Strethall

Sunday 26 March 10.30am at St Marys Strethall

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (whole parish)

Tuesday 25 April 7pm at Holy Trinity Chrishall

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

DANCE & DRINKS EVENING

LIVE MUSIC from

'THE ELDERLY BROTHERS'

BAR – NIBBLES

Saturday 18th March

8pm – midnight

Gt Chishill Village Hall

Tickets: £10 in advance ~ £12 on the door
Tel: 837272 Email:
iwp.parishoffice@gmail.com
All proceeds to St Swithun's Church Fund

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.