

No. 204
December
2020



Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year



This year has been the strangest year any of us can remember. Nothing is normal, weddings have been cancelled, loved ones have sadly been lost to Covid 19 and teaching has been a very different experience. Many occasions for celebration have had to be cancelled. The well-loved crib service and carol service, the remembrance service and personal celebrations with family and friends, have all had to be put on hold until safer times. We are resilient and we will eventually get back to normal, but we also have tried to do what we can to create a community spirit, clapping for key workers and marking out respect in little ways. To this end, residents of Mashbury and some Mashbury liveries gathered together (socially distanced of course) in Mashbury Churchyard to remember those who lost their lives in the service of their country. Carolyn had made a poppy for each of us with the name of a local parishioner who had lost their lives. These were placed on one of the war graves in Mashbury churchyard. (Photos and an article by Steve Middleditch, inside)

Carpet Bowls Club

Carpet Bowls like everything had to come to a halt in March. Members have been keeping in touch by phone and e-mail and checking everyone is ok.

During the more relaxed Covid guidance period we were able to hold a number of socially distanced lunchtime picnics. These took place at the end of August and beginning of September and were held on the Village Hall patio. Everyone bought their own food, drink and chairs. We were blessed with glorious weather and between 12 to 14 members attended. It was great to see people face to face again and catch up with each other. Unfortunately, new guidance put a stop to our picnics.

With more new guidance in October we were then able to play bowls in the Village Hall. Strict rules were in place and there were only 8 people playing at any one time with 4 to a mat. In total 12 members took advantage of this opportunity. It was great to be able to do this and without exception everyone's bowling skills were still up to scratch! After 4 enjoyable sessions more guidance was issued, and our bowling was halted once again.

Sadly, we are unfortunately losing a number of our members due to them moving away from the area. Malcolm and Jackie Feltwell have moved to Derbyshire to be nearer to their family. Malcolm was a relative new member to the club but a huge asset. We will miss him and wish them both well in their new life. Other members are also planning moves to different areas and we will miss them, and our good wishes go with them.

When we are able to play again as a club, we will definitely be looking for new members and hope lots of you will come and give bowls a try.

Meanwhile, we wish all the readers Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year in whatever way we will be able to celebrate within the restrictions and challenges that we may face. Take care and stay safe.

“FRIENDS OF THE CHIGNALS WITH MASHBURY”

Do you have an occasion when you need a helping hand?

If so, we can offer for example:

Assistance with Light Shopping

Help With Attending Appointments (Doctor, Dentist, Vets etc.)

Prescription Collection / Library Book Returns etc.

Help With Seeking Advice or Filling In Forms etc.

Companionship / Someone to Talk to

Light Domestic Duties etc., etc.

We realise that you may already have a kindly relative, friend or neighbour helping you in some way at the moment. However, on the odd occasion, there may be times that they are unable to be there for you. If so, please contact us between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. on one of the following telephone numbers:

01245 440241 - (Helen), 01245 443497 - (Sarah),

07798922219 - (Julia), 07856512245 - (Maggie), 01245 440880 - Lynn),

01245 440339 - (Joan), 01245 440528 - (Barbara)

We will call you back as soon as possible to discuss your individual needs.

Please leave your name and telephone number if we do not answer your call immediately.

Chignal Parish Council

C/O 45 Cherry Garden Road, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 1DH
Tel: 01245 360811 Email: Chignalpc@gmail.com

Clerk: Will Adshead-Grant

Chair: Lynn Ballard

Website: e-voice.org.uk/Chignal-Parish

Vice Chair: Linda Nelson

Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of the Chignal Parish Council on Monday 9th November 2020 at 7.30pm

2020/202 Chairman's Welcome

Resignation of Councillor Feltwell as he has moved out of the Parish. Autumn litter pick was organised by the Community group. A welcome to the Parish pack is being created by the Community Group.

Chairperson Ballard

Councillors Lewis, Nelson, Towns and Elwick.

2020/203 Apologies for Absence

2020/204 Register of Declarations of Interests and any requests for dispensation

Cllr Towns (Cil Money) part of the VH committee 2020/212

2020/205 Public Open Session for any matters that need to be drawn to the Parish Council's attention. The item does not need to be on the current agenda. 9 members of the public.

- I. Phone Box at Chignal Smealey – is in a poor state of repair. Its currently operated by BT. The phone box is listed – contact BT to understand their intentions. Telephone inside is to be reported as not working.
- II. Gardening Express back entrance – cars parked on the edge of the road – Owner to be contacted.
- III. Site of the former 3 Elms public house is a poor reflection of the village. No response from owners.
- IV. State of the roads – potholes – edge of the road is unmarked – verge is hidden when the potholes are flooded.
- V. The verges are being destroyed by the traffic
- VI. Community Group – Welcome pack – includes some postcards – Copy of VDS, Parish Plan, Map of the Parish (named houses), Welcome Booklet, Broomfield Walks, new Chignal walks booklet and the Millennium Parish map. Potential to reach the Persimmon houses but may need some grant support.
- VII. Registering the Cricket Ground as a community asset – formal process to be progressed.
- VIII. 2020/211 Status of the Goalpost and contractors to be used? – Chelmsford City Council can put in the goalpost sockets at a cost. Community support needed to erect and to move the goal posts.
- IX. 2020/211. Playing Field car park security bollard – who will hold keys?
- X. Muga survey – Increase in the precept – Annual inspection by RoSPA and weekly insurance requirements
- XI. Village Hall shed – CIL grant?

2020/206 Planning Decisions

20/01340/FUL	3 Ash Rise Chignal Road Chignal Smealy Chelmsford Essex CM1 4SY	Application Permitted
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2020/207 Planning Applications

1. Update on the Persimmon Homes development, Roads Works, Landscaping and Housing completions.

Chignal Parish Council November Minutes

The Chignal Road/Hollow Lane junction works are planned to be completed Saturday 14th November 2020. Delays were caused by highways making changes to the drainage and poor weather. Tarmac is currently being laid.

40 mph on Chignal Road requested from the Hollow Lane junction up to Broomwood Manor. The 40 mph signs are in hand and location to be confirmed.

Landscaping of the whole of the area starts on Thursday 12th November. More than 50 trees and long stretch of hedges.

Houses continue to be built and ready for occupation prior to Christmas

The original Hollow Lane is under discussion on its future as either a closed road or re-opened for traffic.

Construction traffic and vehicle diversions have damaged the roads and verges in the Parish

2. Warren Farm Masterplan – Report to Chelmsford City Council’s Policy Board 15th October 2020.

The Bus Link via Avon road and in to the Chignal estate. This has been removed. The Link will only be open to walkers and cyclists.

The Masterplan is expected to be approved by Chelmsford City Council in December. A full Planning application is expected in early 2021

3. Review Writtle Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council’s comments were circulated and approved.

4. Review and approve the comments on the Future for Planning White Paper.

The Parish Council’s comments were circulated and approved

2020/208 County and City Councillors’ Reports

- i. Essex County Councillor Report

Warren Farm - Policy Board meeting on the 15th October. The Bus Link decision was disappointing. The Traffic surveys used were several years old.

Hollow Lane – Closure – Cllr Bentley to make a recommendation. Meeting 30th November.

Works on Chignal Road/Hollow Lane junction will be completed on Friday 13th November. Installation of 40mph speed limit signs will take a little longer than the 13th November 2020 but will be in place in a few weeks.

Deterioration of the roads and verges around Chignal Parish due to the road diversions of Chignal Road. Highways will carry out a full inspection of the affected roads and verges. The developers will be asked to make good the roads and verges.

Planning white paper has had a high level of engagement

Covid -19 Essex County Council will issue a weekly update on a Thursday. Essex is low on the spectrum of cases. The Lockdown effect will likely be in two to three weeks’ time.

Potential Vaccine has been highlighted today.

- ii. Chelmsford City Councillor Report

No report

2020/209 Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting of the Council on 14th September 2020

Resolution The minutes were confirmed

2020/210 Finance:

Account Balances: 31-10-2020:

Cheque Account	£ 7,294.23
Saving Account	£ 56,116.71

Income	Precept	£3800 (Inc. in cheque account)
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Chignal Parish Council Nov Minutes continued

Total £63,410.94

To approve Cheques to be signed and issued:

Cheque nr	Item	Cheque Value	Budget Classification
100927	Cllr Ballard - Orchard	£25.49	Orchard
100928	Taylor engineering	£252.00	Playing field Maintenance
100929	MG Howard 2019-2020	£150.00	Audit
100930	HMRC -Oct	£26.00	Salary
100931	W.Adshead-Grant - Oct	£103.91	Salary
100932	HMRC - Nov	£25.80	Salary
100933	Essex pension fund - Oct	£127.67	Salary
100934	Essex pension fund - Nov	£127.67	Salary
100935	W.Adshead-Grant - Nov	£148.17	Salary + Expenses

Total Payments £986.71

Resolution: The Cheques were approved.

Account Breakdown from Cash Book:

Precept	£ 6008.20 (cheques to be cashed)
Orchard Account	£ 696.17 (cheques to be cashed)
Cil Account	£ 42,368.21
Parish reserve	£ 14,338.36

Total £63,410.94

2020/211

Representatives' Reports: to discuss and debate any items

A) Playing Field

- Discuss and approve the purchase and installation of a drop-down bollard for the playing field Car Park.
 - o Drop down bollard with padlock at the bottom. Supply and fit available. £85 per unit plus £175 to install
 - o 1m high unit preferred. £160. Bollard to be left in the open status as a deterrent.
 - o Additional quote to be sought from Transscape

Resolution: Approved to spend up to £400 on one security bollard.

- Approve the purchase of public notices to improve the security of the car park and gazebo

Resolution: A spend of up to £300 for a sign approved.

- Consider and discuss the public consultation on the future equipment for the playing field including a MUGA and a possible recreation committee.
 - o 10 responses received from around 150 households.
 - o A Install and promote a Muga

3

Chignal Parish Council Nov Minutes continued

- B Provide no new sports facilities until a demand is identified
- C Provide just a basketball net and a hard surface

Resolution: *Due to the low level of feedback the expense of a MUGA could not be justified.*

- The Gazebo in the playing field is now complete

B) Village Hall Liaison

- The Hall is not in use currently due to Covid 19 restrictions on indoor spaces.

C) Newsletter and Website

- Discuss and approve a paid resource to update the Parish Website on E-Voice
- Review and update the current content of the website working with the local clubs.
 - Volunteer or small bursary to review the website and fix the broken links. Work with community clubs to improve their pages.

Resolution: *Item to be advertised in the Chignal News.*

D) Community Safety

- Consider the preparation of an emergency plan for the Parish
 - Guidance available from Chelmsford City Council website.

Resolution: *Cllr Ballard to discuss with the community group*

- Update on the Security Cameras for the Parish.
 - ANPR minimum two cameras – Entering the Parish and exiting the Parish at each location. Approximate cost £5,000 to £7,500 per set.

E) Highways (include Hedges)

- Note the damage to Verges and potentially roads by recent road diversions (see 2020/208).
- No through road signs for Gray's Lane and Chignal Hall Lane – approve LHP bid.

Resolution: *No through road sign at Gray's Lane and Chignal Road*

Resolution: *No through road sign for Chignal Hall Lane.*

F) Footpaths/Bridleways

- Local Landowner has grassed some verges near bridleways.
- Noted an increased volume of mountain bikes using bridleway and footpath.

G) Tree Warden

- Orchard – Hedge cut in early 2021

2020/212

CIL Applications:

1. Village Hall replacement Storage Building – estimated at £16,500 (Inc. VAT)
New Building – timber framed with a corrugated roof. Designed to last 15 years or more. Style should match the village hall.

Area available for the Parish Council. Concrete base. Powered up.

Resolution: *At the next meeting, an application with three quotes to be presented.*

2020/213

Discuss Parish Footpaths and Bridleways – a new guide to walking routes.
34-page Booklet – approximately £3-£4 per copy

Resolution: *Approved up to £100 to print some hardcopies.*

Resolution: *Add a walk an edition to the Parish News*

Resolution: *Add a PDF to the website*

2020/214

Review of the Parish Plan actions 2019/20

Chignal Parish Council Nov Minutes continued

Resolution: *The Parish Action plan update was noted*

2020/215

Review the Clerk's Contract and update as appropriate

Resolution: *The Clerks contract was reviewed and approved without any update.*

2020/216

Review and agree the Annual Risk Assessments

Next review in Financial year 2021-2022

Resolution: *The annual risk assessments were reviewed and approved*

2020/217

Review and agree the Asset Register

The assets were updated with replacement values.

Resolution: *The asset list was reviewed and approved*

2020/218

Review and approve the Standing Orders

Next review in Financial year 2021-2022

Resolution: *The standing orders were reviewed and approved.*

2020/219

Review and approve the Financial Regulations

Next review in Financial year 2021-2022

Resolution: *The financial regulations were reviewed and approved.*

2020/220

Approve Advertisement of Vacancies on the Parish Council (2). Democratic Services Manager has been informed

If no election requested, advertise vacancies in Chignal News and parish emails with interviews in first week of January.

2020/221

Approve the Budget for 2021/2022

£7600 the same as 2020/2021.

Resolution: *The Budget for 2021-2022 was Approved*

2020/222

Place a precept demand on Chelmsford City Council for 2021/2022

£7600. Precept of £26.25 per annum based on a band D. Effect on a band D property estimated to be £0 increase and continue at £26.25 but this may reduce based on the tax base of the amount of dwellings within the Parish.

Resolution: *The Precept of £7600 was approved with an estimated £0 increase on a Band D property.*

2020/223

Review and approve Bi-Monthly Bank Reconciliation

Resolution: *The figure was Approved with a variance of £0*

2020/224

Items for next Agenda

- Cil Application on the Village Hall Storage Building

Next Monthly Meeting Monday January 11th 2021 at 7.30pm – It may be Online

March 8th 2021, May 10th 2021 (AGM), July 12th 2021 , 13th September 2021 , 8th November 2021.

Community Meeting to be confirmed.

Annual Parish meeting March 8th.

Meeting Closed 22.09 W. Adshead-Grant Clerk to the Council

Chignal Parish Council Sunday 29th November 2020

Vacancy for TWO Parish Councillors

There are two Vacancies on the Parish Council. The Returning officer at Chelmsford City Council has indicated that a by-election has not been called and that the Parish Council can fill the vacancy by co-option

If you are interested in serving as a Parish Councillor, please write to the Parish Clerk confirming that you are qualified to be a Councillor (see Appendix A) by the 6th January 2021. Co-Option is by interview.

The Parish Council Meets in Jan, March, May, July, September and November each year on the Second Monday.

Any queries can be supported by e-mail to chignalpc@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL CO-OPTION PROCEDURE

Introduction

Co-option is the process by which the Parish Council selects a new Councillor(s) and it is completed as the first item within a regular Parish Council meeting.

Procedure

1. Interested candidates write to the Clerk confirming that they are qualified to be a Councillor (ref. Appendix A) and to give a brief explanation of why they would like to be a Parish Councillor. Copies of the information received from candidates will be circulated to all Councillors prior to the next meeting
2. At the meeting candidates will be invited to say something about themselves and what they would like to achieve as a Parish Councillor and answer questions.
3. In a closed session of the Parish Council meeting, without the public present, Councillors will discuss and consider the candidates. The public are invited back into the meeting before voting takes place.
4. Councillors will have one vote per vacancy. In the event of a tie between two candidates for one vacancy the Chairman will exercise his casting vote.
5. If there is only one candidate for one vacancy they are not automatically co-opted – a yes/no vote will take place.
6. The successful candidate/s will be declared co-opted to the Parish Council and, after signing the declaration of acceptance of office paperwork, will be asked to join the meeting.
7. The successful candidate is a Councillor in their own right and is no different to any other member; co-option is a legitimate form of election as part of the election process.

Appendix A

A person is qualified to be elected and to be a Councillor if:

- They are a British, Commonwealth, Irish or European Union citizen and on the relevant day (that is, the day of nomination or election) they are 18 or over. **AND**
- The person must meet at least **one** of the following criteria
 - On the relevant day and thereafter they continue to be on the electoral register for the parish,
 - During the whole of the twelve months before that day they have owned or tenanted land or premises in the parish,
 - During the whole of the twelve months before that day their principal or only place of work has been in the parish.
 - During the whole of the twelve months before that day they have resided in the parish or within three miles of it.

Except for the first qualification, these qualifications then continue for the full term of office, until the next ordinary elections. Certain people are disqualified from standing, and these include paid officers (including the Clerks) of the council, bankrupts and those subject to recent sentences of imprisonment.

Community Safety: consultation on the installation of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras in Chignal.

As mentioned in the February edition of “Chignal News”, Community Safety and in particular, reducing criminal activity such as flytipping, anti-social behaviour, hare coursing and thefts, in the parish was to have been the main topic for discussion at the Chignal Community Meeting planned in April 2020.

Although we were not able to hold this public debate in the village hall due to COVID restrictions, discussions have continued at each of our two monthly on-line Parish Council meetings on the possibility of installing ANPR cameras and associated warning signs in the parish to protect our community from flytipping and other criminal incidents. Locations for siting the cameras at the parish road entrances and exits, management of the information collected and installation and running costs have been researched.

By way of background, ANPR cameras are increasingly common and are widely used by the Police and Private and Public Car Parks. They normally record continuously but identify and process within the camera, saving a still image displaying the number plate. In daytime the vehicle is clearly visible but at night, apart from the clear number plate, only an outline of the vehicle can be seen. All footage is stamped with the time and date. The recorded footage is automatically overwritten after a pre-defined time and would not normally be accessed and viewed unless either an incident occurs or a vehicle on a watch list is identified.

Although the capital costs of purchasing and installing the cameras to protect Chignal, (estimated at between £20,000 - £28,000), could be funded using the Community Infrastructure Levy monies paid to the Parish Council by developer contributions, we have also been investigating other sources of external finance.

Chignal Parish Council ANPR Proposal Continued

The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex's Community Safety Development Fund offers grants of up to £20,000 for community projects that help to prevent and tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in Essex. Applications to the fund have to demonstrate that they will make a positive impact on at least one of the Police and Crime Plan or Fire and Rescue Plan priorities, such as: more local, visible and accessible policing; cracking down on anti-social behaviour; and, disrupting and preventing organised crime.

As the deadline for submitting applications to this fund is 10th February 2021, a decision on whether to apply for a grant towards the cost of installing APNR cameras in Chignal would need to be approved at the next on-line Parish Council meeting on 11th January, starting at 7.30pm. As usual there will be an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and make comments on this and on any other local matters during the Public Open Session at the start of the meeting.

However, given that we are still not in a position to hold a Community Meeting about Community Safety in the village hall, we should like to know your views as a Chignal resident about the proposal to have ANPR cameras at the entrances and exits to our villages as a means of deterring and tracking criminal activity in co-operation with Essex Police.

Would you please send your comments to the Clerk, Will Adshead-Grant: chignalpc@gmail.com or speak with any Chignal Parish Councillor.

For more information about the APNR cameras, please contact Parish Councillor Jon Lewis: chignalnestbox@aol.co.uk

Volunteers needed to support local COVID-19 vaccination programme

Your local NHS is getting ready to deliver a COVID-19 vaccination programme and they need your help.

They are looking for volunteer stewards across Essex and Suffolk to be at the forefront of the local fight against the virus – you could be part of it!

As a volunteer steward, you will help the vaccination process run smoothly and safely.

Local vaccination stations will be open from 8am-8pm seven days a week. Volunteers are asked to commit to individual sessions of four hours plus 15 minutes handover time.

This is an exciting opportunity to play your part in protecting the community and saving lives.

If you are interested in volunteering please email epunft.businesssupport.volunteering@nhs.net

For more information visit <https://eput.nhs.uk/vaccine-recruitment>

Remembrance Day 2020



Chignals and Mashbury Remembrance day 2020

Like many small villages throughout Britain the Chignals and Mashbury have their own sad stories of husbands and sons lost in the two world wars. During world war one nineteen young men who either lived in or had close relations resident in the Chignals & Mashbury lost their lives fighting for their country.

In WW1 several small areas of the villages had their own cluster of loved ones lost:

The Three Elms and its nearby cottages suffered 4 deaths, Arthur and Edward May and James Perry all gave their address as the Three Elms and the landlord lost his son in law Donald MacBain.

Brick Barn Farm lost two brothers William and Sidney Collins.

Chignal Hall Farm lost William Harry Mann the son in law of a local farmer Austin Mathews and Austin's 'protege' Leon François Asnong. Leon died in a London hospital from wounds received on the western front in 1918. Some of our young men had emigrated before the war looking to improve their lives and fortunes as the local farm jobs were replaced by the use of machinery to work the land.

Alfred Fewell whose family lived in Greys farm cottages had emigrated to Australia and returned to fight as part of the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force.

Charles Frederick Turnbridge whose family lived in Cheesins had emigrated to Canada and returned to fight as part of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. The Expeditionary Force was made up mainly of Canadians of British descent with 67,000 of its men killed by the end of the war.

Sadly, we don't know much about many of our young victims as they were poor farm labourers and little or no records were kept about their domestic lives. Census and church records have identified where some lived and birth dates.

Most of the British Ministry of War records of WW1 were destroyed during the early days of the London Blitz bombings in world war two and little survived. Often, we only have the young men's names, service number, regiments, ranks, where they died and where they are buried.

For officers such as Harry Mann the Son in Law of Austin Mathews at Chignal Hall Farm we have more information available. William was the deputy chief Architect of Essex County Council and his name appears on the St Nicholas

Remembrance Day 2020 Continued

memorial plaque and on a plaque in the reception area of county hall. Before the war Harry was in the Territorial Army and at the outbreak of hostilities he joined the Essex Regiment and was wounded at the battle front in May 1915 and sent home for convalescence.

Upon returning to duty Harry served in the Royal Artillery was killed in action aged 34 by a bullet passing through his body in March 1918. Harry was mentioned in army despatches for his services during his time as an artillery officer. Harry left behind a wife and young daughter.

More detailed accounts of the two young lads who had emigrated to different parts of the British empire and returned have survived in the Australian and Canadian national archives.

Alfred Fewell whose family lived in Grays Farm lodge cottages had volunteered to join the Australian Imperial Force and returned to fight for his home country. He managed to visit his mother whilst stationed in Britain before embarking to the western front in France. His is a particularly sad story. Alfred had seen in the new year just before going over the top into no man's land on a reconnaissance mission to capture prisoners to interrogate for intelligence information. He died minutes into the New year of Jan 1st, 1917 when German machine gunners were alerted to his platoon's movements in the middle of no man's land and opened fire.

Alfred's battlefield will asked for all his possessions to be left to his mother. Copies of his records that show she received his identity disks, wallet, testament, pouch, photos and letters. The Canadian archives include a postcard sent by Alfred's mother to the Canadian army thanking them for the parcel of Alfred's belongings which she had received.

Charles Frederick Turnbridge whose parents lived in Chessins had worked as a car repairer. He left Quebec on 1 October 1914 on board the S.S. Franconia, disembarking in England on 14 October 1914. His medical records show he was 5ft 10 inches and had a scar on his neck. He joined up in Canada in October 1914 and had died six months later in action on the 25th of April 1915. He was reported fallen and buried in the fighting in the battleground east of Ypres.

Today we feel safe in our parish but between 1914 and 18 when there was a westerly wind resident could often hear the thunder of the guns from the trenches on the trenches on western front in France and Belgium. Zeppelins often flew over our fields on route to bombing missions on London and other local towns. Later on in the War Royal Flying Corps fighter planes could be seen chasing Zeppelins and German Bombers though the sky.

Little can we imagine the thoughts going through residents' minds worried about loved ones at the front or the fear of attack from the air.

Remembrance Day 2020 Continued

During world war two we have no record of any young men losing their lives fighting for their country though some households suffered family tragedy and damage caused to their properties.

In May 1943 the daughter of the landlord of the Three Elms public house was killed when a pair of land mines destined for the Marconi factory destroyed her house as well as many others in Victoria Crescent in Chelmsford.

Many villagers would also have known workers killed in the devastating bombing of Hoffman's' ball bearing factory and in other raids on Marconi and Christies factory sites in Chelmsford, Broomfield and the surrounding local villages.

Although situated in the country the villages were not immune to warfare.

In June 1944 a V1 rocket fell in a barley field 500 yards north west of Grays Farm and In December 1944 the Chelmsford districts 200th V1 rocket attack fell 200 yards south of Chignal Hall farm. Thankfully there were no casualties though the second rocket caused serious damage to one house and 16 other properties suffered superficial damage including Chignal school and St James church on the green suffering broken windows caused by the blast.

On another occasion one local young lad, who is not so young now first visit to the Chignals required him to leap from his bicycle into a ditch as a low flying plane zoomed overhead.

In September 1944 Mashbury had unexpected visitors when a British glider crash landed in a field whilst on its way as part of the 'Market Garden' airborne invasion to secure bridges on the Rhine in Germany. Thankfully all the crew survived without injury.

World war two also resulted in some newer residents to the parish. Two young evacuees from London, Lilian a young 12-year-old girl and her 4 year old stepbrother James came to Chelmsford in 1939 and never returned to London. In the 60's James Woodcock lived in Adare for 19 years and in the 80's Lilian's son moved into Warwicks (a house named after the Warwickshire Regiment in which the original owner served) both houses are close to the Three Elms Pub.

We continue researching for more details of those lost so that we may know more about their lives so that they may be remembered and not forgotten on Remembrance Day each year

Chignal St James

Remembrance Day 2020 Continued

William John Collins	Cambridgeshire Regiment (1st Battalion)
Charles Sidney Collins	Essex Regiment (9th Battalion)
Arthur May	Essex Regiment Territorial Force
Edward May	London Regiment (2nd Battalion)
James Charles Perry	Royal Horse Artillery Driver Royal Field
P Sewell	Royal Field Artillery
Harry William Mann	Royal Field Artillery (178th Brigade)
François Léon Asnong	Carabiniers Armée Belge
John Gandy	Essex Regiment (2nd Battalion)
Alfred Perrin	Royal Garrison Artillery (20th Siege Battery)

Chignal Smealey

Charles William Boreham	?
Alfred Fewell	Australian 10th Brigade
Charles Turnbridge	Canadian Infantry (8th Battalion)

Mashbury

William Brown	Royal Field Artillery
Leslie P Buck	Essex Regiment
M. Clayton	?
Bertie Groves	Lincolnshire Regiment
Clifford Mead	Essex Regiment
Stanley Monk	South Wales Borderers

The Chignals and Mashbury Jubilee Community Orchard



The orchard with the grass cut and all shipshape for the winter.

Its been a quiet time in the orchard this year with all our planned social events cancelled due to the Covid outbreak. Our plans and work produced had been in an advanced state for the VE day anniversary, Harvest Festival and Orchard Fruit Celebration events, hopefully we will be able to repurpose the preparations for social events next year.

As the orchard didn't know there has been a lock down the trees continued to grow, fruit blossomed, grass got higher, the wildflowers were in full bloom and the hedges grew taller and wildlife visited.

A small team has continued to undertake socially distanced maintenance throughout the restrictions to keep the orchard in as nice a condition as possible. Moria has picked the fruit, pruned the trees and kindly finished coating the shed with preservative. Andy, Malcolm, Jon, Lynn and Steve cut the grass, completed the autumn hay and wildflower meadow area cut and several orchard friends came along to help collect the hay up for composting. All under the watchful eye of Lynn to ensure we maintained safe distanced working practices.

This year the fruit crop was distributed to the parish via the orchard table and St Nicholas church outdoor harvest festival with surplus fruit given to local charities.

Visiting the orchard is being made easier with the construction of the car park opposite on the playing field and will be fully open once the bollards have been completed. Notice boards are being developed informing visitors of the trees, wild flowers and wildlife that visit the orchard.

The next planned maintenance is in February when we will trim back the hedges and dispose of the cuttings. We will post the date for this as soon as we are able and hope to see anyone who would like to help.

The orchard committee have continued to hold meetings via Zoom to ensure everything has continued to be maintained and the orchard can continue to prosper.

We received two resignations at the last committee meeting, Malcolm Feltwell our Chairman and Barbara Miller. We would like to thank Malcolm for steering the orchard through its set

up and the first five years of development as well as his enthusiastic practical contribution to all things physical, mechanical and the constructing of the new shed. We wish him well in his new home in Derbyshire. We will miss Barbara's friendly face, her enthusiasm for preparing events and the knowledge she has brought to the development of the orchard. We wish her well and hope she is able to rejoin the committee at some point in the future.

Lynn Ballard has agreed to take on the role of Orchard Chairman and Jon Lewis has joined the committee, and we still have vacancies for additional committee members. If you are interested in joining and would like to develop your knowledge of fruit trees or help steer the future of the orchard we would love to hear from you. We normally hold committee meetings about four times a year. Please contact Lynn at lynn_ballard@btinternet.com.

Steve Middleditch



With freezer space being at a premium this year Steve has been busy sugar free canning fruit to enjoy throughout the winter.



Fruit from the Community Orchard this Summer

Many of our trees are now big enough to produce at least some fruit. A few remain disappointingly slow but some, although Heritage varieties, have proved to be both reliable and very tasty.

Our best performer is undoubtedly Apple Braintree Seedling. It is a late season dessert apple with intense, sweet, aromatic flesh. This Summer's crop had little insect or bird damage so was well worth storing until its best eating time which is December to January. George Cave is also reliably prolific. Being an early apple it has a strong sweet taste which is more interesting than most Summer apples but it must be eaten straight away when we pick it in late July. Montfort and Pearl both produced a small crop this year but very late frosts in April & May were reported across Essex as being damaging to apple crops in a lot of orchards.

Among the Pears Improved Fertility produced less fruit this year than last but is still a tasty pear. Johnny Mount with its curious little egg-sized fruit also cropped and is well worth experimenting with. The previous Autumn a resident tried braising these in wine and said they were very good.

The three Quince trees continue to amaze us with the size of crop. Smaller than last year there

were, nevertheless, plenty to share around the wider community. And like all Plum trees ours have taken their time but this summer Monarch had a small crop. A lot were bird-pecked which is always a problem but being a dual-use fruit they could be cooked when the flavour was excellent.

A consistent feature of keen gardeners, it is said, is that they are always optimists – next year will be better. So whatever happens in wider society keep a watch on the Community Orchard where we are certain we will be able to offer you more great-tasting fruit.

Moira Tarrant



The abundant crop of quince was perfect for making Steve's Quince Jelly, Mem brillo and quince vodka.

Gardening Club Christmas Message

I write this in the hope that you have all managed to keep safe and well in what has been a difficult and restrictive year for us all. We are luckier than many to have had our gardens to keep us busy and sane. My garden has never been so tidy!

It is obvious, now, that club meetings will not be reconvening for the foreseeable future. And whilst it is difficult to plan for the future at the moment, we can still look forward to when we can all meet up again.

In the meantime I send Season's Greetings to you all and wish you a Happy New Year.

Best Wishes

Jean Watson, Chairman





A message from St Nicholas Church Chignal Smealey

Christmas Eve 5pm Outdoor Christmas
family friendly Service.

Sadly due to COVID cases rising and the Tier 4
regulations which came into force at the weekend
it is felt sensible and necessary to cancel the
Outdoor Christmas family friendly Worship.

We know this is going to be a difficult time,
especially for those of you living on your own.

Please do phone us should you like to do so.

In the event of no reply please leave a message and we will get back to you.

Tony (Acting Chairman of the PCC of St Nicholas Church)
and Helen Towns.

Tel no: 01245 440241




Christmas Message - Revd Jackie Thorton

This Christmas is not as any of us hoped to spend it. We had hoped that we would be able to see some loved ones after a long and difficult year. We had plans that have been cancelled, it is deeply disappointing.

We recognise that pain but take heart 

Christmas is not cancelled; in fact, this might be the closest to the real Christmas that we may experience.


That first Christmas was filled with an array of human emotion.

Mary, a young and vulnerable woman, heavily pregnant and uncomfortable travelling on the back of a donkey. 

Joseph, afraid, open to public ridicule, taking this child to be his own. 

Together making a long journey to register in their hometown because of political unrest. 

No room, no labour ward, no bed...just a lowly stable which was probably more like a cave. 

A real birth, a real baby, vulnerable and needy. This is Jesus. Born in imperfect surroundings, not to rule over us but to come alongside us, experiencing humanity with all of its highs and lows, joys and sorrows. 

This Christmas is not perfect, but it can still be full of love.

Love for one another, love for our neighbour, love for the vulnerable and the needy. 

This Christmas take time to reflect on love, love that came down to meet a fragile world, knowing our pain, walking beside us.

Immanuel, God is with us.

With every blessing to you this Christmas. Be held by perfect love.



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