

No. 188
July
2017



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHIGNALS WITH MASHBURY

Chignal News

NEW VILLAGE HALL OFFICIAL OPENING

The official opening of the new Chignals & Mashbury Village Hall took place on Thursday 25th May.

The event was organised by the village hall committee and was attended by Chignals Parish Councillors and invited guests from all of the organisations that had been involved in the project.

Guests were able to view a rolling slide show of the build from demolition to completion, as well as display boards showcasing village organisations that use the hall.

Martyn Towns, chairman of the village hall committee, opened the formal proceedings by introducing speakers Mike Pendock from Tarmac and Councillor John Aldridge, Chair of Essex County Council. The new build was funded with a grant of £360,500 from Tarmac's Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) scheme.

Sarah Walton from Derbyshire Environment Trust which manages the Fund was invited to cut a specially made celebration cake. After a ribbon cutting ceremony and photographs, guests enjoyed a buffet lunch and afterwards had an opportunity to visit the orchard which had also been funded by the LCF.



Mike Pendock of Tarmac, Sarah Walton of Derbyshire Environment Trust and Martyn Towns, Village Hall Committee Chairman.



L-R, Lynn Ballard, Chair, Chignals Parish Council; Dave Benfield, Tarmac; Cllr John Aldridge, Chairman, Essex County Council; Mike Pendock, Tarmac; Sarah Walton, Derbyshire Environment Trust; Cllr Nicolette Chambers, Chelmsford City Council; Martyn Towns, Chair, Chignals & Mashbury Village Hall Management Committee; with, village hall committee members and trustees past and present, parish councillors and guests from all of the organisations and partners involved in the design and build.

Women's Institute

In May we held our annual "Tindal Group" meeting with members from Broomfield, Galleywood and Great Baddow joining us.

Our Speaker, Ruth Dugdall, told us how she went from being a Probation Officer to an author with all her stories being based on real life crimes.

She proved to be an eloquent and interesting speaker, we all enjoyed her talk immensely.

We have a varied programme this year with something for everyone.

We meet on the first Thursday of the month at 2pm for a 2-30 start, visitors are always welcome.

Wendy Steele.

Bowls Club

The club continue to enjoy playing in the new hall and are coming to terms with the excellent floor.

Two friendly matches against Tipps Cross have been played, one at home and one away. Despite being short of players on both occasions, due to holidays, the club won both matches.

On Saturday 10th June the club played an internal competition for the Mike Bell Trophy. Some very close games were played and the final went to an extra end as at the end of 9 ends it was a draw. Eventually, Marian and Peter Butcher emerged as winners with Sharon and John Manning the runners up. The trophy was presented by Margaret Bell after an excellent meal had been enjoyed at the The Duck, Newney Green in the evening.

During the summer months an internal 2 wood pairs competition is being played for the Forget-me-not Trophy.

Several members enjoyed a walk around woods in Stock recently, followed by lunch at The Bakers Arms – more food!!

Some club members kindly gave their time to run some of the games at the Village Fete and took the opportunity to tell people about Carpet Bowls.

We really would love you to join us on Tuesdays and Thursdays 7.30pm to 10.00pm at the Village Hall.

If you would prefer to have more details just give Gordon a ring on 01245 231406.

Mashbury Maidens

Mashbury Riders swapped four legs for two wheels to raise money for women's cancer charities.

Well we did it! We rode the night and all four of us, Carolyn, Jan, Linda & Louise, started together at 10.30 pm and crossed the finish line together, the next morning at about 6.40 am. The route took us from Windsor Race Course to the Mall in London and back again. We crossed the Thames numerous times and the London sites at night were very beautiful. The Eye was lit up in pink in honour of all the lady cyclists and we were given special permission to cycle through Admiralty Arch.

The atmosphere was amazing and we were cheered on by passers by. On the route back we had to cycle up Richmond Hill, this was very steep and seemed to go on for ever, especially when my gears kept slipping. We eventually made it to the top and the view across the Thames was amazing, as we saw it, as the sun was coming up. We had one puncture on Carolyn's bike, but this was soon fixed by the lovely Brian, who was one of the support cyclist on the course to help riders. Our backup team of John and Andy - were luckily not needed to repair our bikes, but gave us great support, as we met up with them at various point around the course and it was fabulous to see John, Trish and Carl at around 4 in the morning on Westminster Bridge, a real morale boost!

The ride was very well organised and we were well looked after. I was surprised how well we all coped and that I did not have any aches afterwards. Before I did this, I would never have thought that I could do it! Carolyn and I are going to do it again next year! If any of you are thinking of taking on a challenge, all I can say is have a go, you will probably surprise yourself!

The Just Giving page is still open if you want to donate and would appreciate any donations for these three very worthwhile women's charities.

Thank you Linda

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/CarolynJaneEdwards>



Village Hall Summer Fete

We enjoyed wonderful weather and good attendance at the fete this year, our first since 2015 owing to the ongoing rebuilding works.

In the region of £1800 was raised for village hall funds. New ideas introduced this year included a barbecue serving burgers and bacon or sausage rolls, and on the field there was an open competition to 'create your own village hall'. All the children who entered won prizes for their hard work and ingenuity, while the grown ups produced a winning painting but a much better tasting runner up entry made from Battenburg cake.

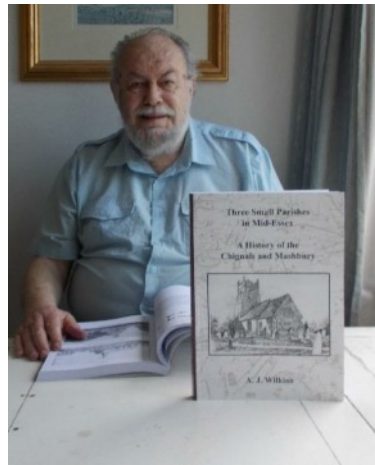
The fun dog show was a huge hit with the crowd. Taking place in the arena, entries for the best dressed pooch included a Lakeland Cross as a pirate - (well done Oscar), Daisy the dachshund in a hot dog outfit, and a canine duo dressed as a burglar and a police officer entered by the Finchams. The police won the day but all entrants received a doggy treat and a rosette. The competition concluded with a prize for the dog with the waggiest tail. Thanks to Team Coates for organising.

Our thanks to all those people who came before, during and after the event to help put up and break down, clear up, wash up and put away, organise events, bake cakes, run stalls, give items for prizes or to sell, and for supporting the event by spending generously on the day. The hall is entirely self funding and relies on fund raising activities and income from hire charges to pay for maintenance and running costs.

Thank you and see you again at next year's fete on the first Saturday in June.



Three Small Parishes in Mid-Essex, A History of the Chignalls and Mashbury - a book by A.J. Wilkins



A few years ago Myra Wilkins surprised her husband, on his 75th birthday, by presenting him with ten books of his works (one to keep and nine to give away) professionally bound and printed. As word got around there was much local interest and 90 more were printed.

Tony was our local historian, he spent many years researching – gathering information from many different sources – and compiling so they could be accessed by all. Much of the content of this book would have been lost to archives had it not been for Tony's hard work and dedication.

Recently, the editor of the magazine for the Essex Family History Society bought one of Tony's books. She liked it and is writing a review for the magazine. Already some members wish to purchase the book so an additional 30 have been printed. The price is the same as before, £15; this covers the cost of printing and makes a small profit which will be given to St Nicholas Church.

Sadly, Tony passed away in September 2016. His book gives a comprehensive and fascinating insight into life through the generations. It was first printed in 2014.

If anyone would like a copy please contact Gill Thomas (thisisgill@hotmail.com or 01245 442474).

Chignal Parish Council Meeting 9th May 2017

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
Vice Chair : Linda Nelson

Annual General Meeting of the Chignal Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at the Chignal and Mashbury Village Hall on Monday 8th May 2017

1) Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Resolution: Cllr Ballard was elected to Chairman and signed the declaration of office.

Resolution: Cllr Nelson was elected to Vice-Chairman and signed the declaration of office

2) Apologies for absence

CCC Chambers sent her apologies

ECC Aldridge sent his apologies

3) Register of declarations of interest

There were no declarations.

Chair Cllr Ballard

Cllrs Anstey, Feltwell, Middleditch, Nelson, Towns
Clerk

4) To approve the minutes of the 13th March 2017

Resolution: Approved with no amendments. The Minutes were signed.

5) (a) Report on the Chignal Community Event held on the 22nd April

There was representation from Mashbury, Little Hollows and the Chignals.

The Parish Council wish to record their thanks to the organisers for both the information presented and the refreshments.

There was a recommendation to create a community group that is separate to the Parish Council.

(b). Application to the Local Highways Panel for a sign at Brideway 33.

Discussion on No Through Road . Paperwork to be submitted .

Resolution: To be carried forward to next agenda

(c.) Openreach phone service update.

On the basis of the current website information the superfast broadband should happen by the end of June 2017.

Query on mobile 4G reception being available in the future. Possible option to create our own broadband.

Another option on Fibre Wi-Fi but requires line of sight- but this suits commercial organisations and not

individuals. Price plans should be sought so that the Parish has all options.

Resolution: Invite Open Reach and BT to the July Meeting.

6) Public Question Time

Concerns raised about Broadband and Infrastructure issues associated with the proposed development in the

Chelmsford Local Plan Preferred Options.

Suggestion that Broadband should improve as services are

provided for the new development North of Copperfield Road.

7) Chairmans report

Issue raised concerning damage by rabbits. The new Clerk Will Adshead-Grant was welcomed to the Parish

Council and his contract was signed.

8) County and City Councillor reports

Apologies received from both Councillors.

Cllr Chambers will be running a surgery on the 20th May 11-12 at the Chignal and Mashbury Village Hall.

9) Review and approve the Parish Council Standing Orders and to adopt Financial Instructions

Resolution: The financial Instructions were adopted

Resolution: The Standing orders were moved to the next agenda.

10) To Review and approve the Terms of Reference and Membership of the Parish Council Committees.

a) Orchard Committee. *Members: Cllrs Ballard, Feltwell, Middleditch.*

Resolution: Approved

b) Employment Committee. *Members: Cllr Ballard, Nelson, Towns.*

Resolution: Approved

Chignal Parish Council continued

c) Budget Committee. *Members: Cllrs Anstey, Ballard, Feltwell, Middleditch, Nelson, Towns.*
Resolution: Approved. Cllr Feltwell stood down from the Budget Committee.

d) Planning Committee. *Members: Cllrs Anstey, Ballard, Towns.*
Resolution: Approved

11) To Review and Approve: Parish Representatives

Representatives' Reports: to note

A) Playing Field –see item 12

B) Village Hall Liaison (Cllr Towns) –Good feedback on facility. Fete in June to raise funds.

C) Newsletter Including Website (Cllr Nelson)- Volunteer required to carry the website forward.

D) Gravel Liaison (Cllr Feltwell) –meeting to be arranged with Tarmac concerning site restoration.

E) Community Safety (Cllr Middleditch) – Concerns about the downgrade of Broomfield for Cardiac cases.

F) Highways (Cllr Feltwell) –some potholes which can be reported directly to highways.

G) Footpaths/Bridleways (Cllr Feltwell)- Review of bridleway surface required at the restored landfill site

H) Telephone Box - Chignal St. James (Cllr Feltwell) –Nothing new to report

I) Tree Warden (Cllr Ballard) – Tree Walk arranged through part of the Parish.

12) To Approve a policy for using the playing field.

Visibility of hirers Public liability should be a requirement. Hirer can be non-Parish with the approval of two Parish Councillors. After Discussion and review of recompense it was agree to move the item to July.

Resolution: Move to the July Agenda

13) To Consider and Approve:

i. The Parish Council' Response to the Chelmsford Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation.

Resolution: The E-mail response was approved

Funding up to a sum of £750.00 for Planning and Transport Consultants with Broomfield, Little Waltham and Writtle Parish Councils to advise on the above .

Resolution The funding was approved

14) Budget Committee – to Receive and Note the minutes to the last meeting held 13th March 2017 and to receive a report of the meeting held 8th May 2017 from the Committee Chairman, including an update on actions from the Parish Plan.

Report received. Several areas highlighted for spend but agreed all spend through the grant policy and Format.

Resolution: The minutes of the 13th March were adopted

Resolution: All spend requests to go through the parish council grants policy

15) Applications for use of Community Infrastructure Levy Funds - to receive recommendations from the Budget Committee for Approval.

The Village hall has received their new tables and are waiting on the new chairs. There were no applications received.

16) Jubilee Orchard Sub-Committee - to Receive and Note the minutes of the last meeting held 21st April 2017 and receive a report from the Committee Chairman of the Annual Orchard Committee meeting held on 8 th May 2017 .
Report received.

Resolution: The parish council would like to thank all those concerned for their hard work.

Resolution: Minutes were adopted

Chignal Parish Council continued

17) Planning Committee

a. Decisions to Note : Application Number

17/00250/CUPAQ. Determination as to whether the prior approval of the local planning authority is required for the proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house (Class C3) and for associated operational development, Barn South of Hillcroft, Chignal Road, Chignal Smealey. **Pending Consideration.**

Essex County Council Highways

Comment Date: Wed 12 Apr 2017

Your Ref: 17/00250/CUPAQ

Our Ref: CO/EGD /SD/CHL/00250/17

Date:- 3rd April 2017

Recommendation

From a highway and transportation perspective the impact of the proposal is acceptable to the Highway Authority subject to the following comments and conditions:

1. It is noted that the applicant has installed a gate and a fence at the access. The gate will need to be removed and repositioned as described in No 2. below. The tapering fence has been installed on highway land and shall be removed and re-positioned behind the highway boundary as described in No 3. below.

2. Any gates provided at the vehicular access shall be inward opening only and shall be set back a minimum of 6 metres from the back edge of the carriageway.

Reason: To enable vehicles using the access to stand clear of the carriageway whilst gates are being opened and closed and to allow parking off street and clear from obstructing the adjacent carriageway in the interest of highway safety in accordance with policy DM1.

3. Any proposed boundary treatment to the eastern site boundary shall be sited clear of the highway boundary.

Reason: To provide adequate inter-visibility between the pedestrian and users of access and the existing public highway for the safety and convenience of the users of the highway and access having regard safety in accordance with policy DM1.

4. No new or altered means of vehicular access is proposed, however the existing full visibility has become obstructed by overgrowth of the existing hedge/foliage to the front of the site Barn South of Hillcroft. It is therefore recommended that prior to occupation of the proposed dwelling

that the clear to ground visibility splay is re-established along the nearside edge of the carriageway to the south east site, back to the highway boundary and retained free of any obstruction at all times.

Note - This will require the existing hedge/foliage to be faced back but may require removal and replanting of the hedge behind the visibility splay and highway boundary.

Reason: To provide adequate inter-visibility between vehicles using the access and those in the existing public highway in the interest of highway safety in accordance with policy DM1.

5. The provision of two on-site vehicle parking spaces and an associated turning area Each parking space shall have dimensions in accordance with current parking standards. The vehicle parking area and associated turning area shall be retained in the agreed form at all times.

Reason: To ensure adequate space for parking off the highway is provided in the interest of highway safety in accordance with Policy DM8 and to ensure that vehicles can enter and leave the highway in a forward gear in the interest of highway safety in accordance with policy DM1.

6. The Cycle parking shall be provided in accordance with the EPOA Parking Standards. The approved facility shall be secure, convenient, covered and provided prior to occupation and retained at all times.

Reason: To ensure appropriate cycle parking is provided in the interest of highway safety and amenity in accordance with Policy DM8.

7. Prior to commencement of the development, the areas within the curtilage of the site for the purpose of loading /unloading / reception and storage of building materials shall be identified clear of the highway.

Reason: To ensure that appropriate loading / unloading facilities are available to ensure that the highway is not obstructed during the construction period in the interest of highway safety in accordance with policy DM1.

The above conditions are to ensure that the proposal conforms to the relevant policies contained within the County Highway Authority's Development Management Policies, adopted as County Council Supplementary Guidance in February 2011.

Chignal Parish Council continued

Notes:

All works affecting the highway to be carried out by prior arrangement with, and to the requirements and satisfaction of, the Highway Authority and application for the necessary works should be addressed for the attention of the Development Management Team at SMO2, Essex Highways, Springfield Highways Depot, Colchester Road, Chelmsford CM2 5PU or

emailed to

development.management@essexhighways.org
pp Director for Operations: Environment and Economy

Enquiries to Caroline Tracey

Telephone: 03330 130119

Email: caroline.tracey@essex.gov.uk

b. New Applications for Consideration: None

18) Finance: to Note and Approve

a. **To Approve** Year End Balances in accounts on 31 st March 2017.

Community Account £24,280

Reserve Account £ 3,240

b. **To Note** Cheques issued since the last meeting.

None

c. **Cheques issued at the meeting**

1000693 Village Hall Hire £90.00

100692 Cllr Feltwell (expenses) £115.06

100691 C.D.F. £82.65

Resolution: The Parish Council would like to express their thanks for the internal auditor .

19) To Confirm and Sign the Annual Governance Statement which forms section12 of the Annual Return for Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other smaller authorities in England for the year ended 31st March 2017.

Resolution: The Governance statement was confirmed and signed.

20) To Adopt the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2017 – Pre Audit and to Sign the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2017.

Resolution: The accounts were adopted and the annual return was signed.

21) Items for the next agenda

● **Request for guidance on safeguarding from Chelmsford City Council to cover the Parish News (Parental Consent)**

● **Piles of mud outside Pieces Cottage, Chignal St. James, Chelmsford CM1 4UA**

● **Traffic count data at Pig and Whistle**

● **Ivy Cottage footpath –sign is down**

● **Approval for Cllr Middleditch to attend the Police Conference on June 7 at a cost of £25**
Date of next Parish Council Meeting: Monday 10th July 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting will be preceded by a Budget Committee Meeting to be held at 6.30pm.

The Public and members of the press are welcome to attend both meetings.

Meeting Closed 21:25

Will Adshead-Grant

Clerk to the Council

Wine Discovery

In May we welcomed back Colin Legg. Colin is passionate about wines, we always enjoy an enlightening educational and fascinating evening when he visits – we always taste some splendid wines and this evening was no exception. He transported us to Mas Gabriel, a wine domain of 14 acres in Caux in the Languedoc.

We started with a sparkling wine to cleanse the palette then moved onto 4 wines from Mas Gabriel before finishing with a dessert wine. We were entertained throughout by Colin's tales from the region and were in awe of his wine knowledge.

The wines tasted were:

- Sparkling: Desir Blanc 'La Croix Gratiot' Pays D'Herault IGP 2015
- White: Clos des Papillons 2015: AOC Coteaux du Languedoc
- White: Champ des Bleuets 2015 : AOC Coteaux du Languedoc
- Red: Les Trois Terrasses 2014: AOC Coteaux du Languedoc
- Red: Clos des Lievres 2014: AOC Coteaux du Languedoc
- Dessert: Domaine Rotier, 'Renaissance' Vendange Tardives 2012, Gallac, South West France

Thank you Colin for a thoroughly enjoyable evening We were also treated to a beautiful sunset for those sat on the right side of the table!

Roland presented a Wine and Cheese pairing evening in June. Very informative and we all agreed getting the combination correct is key. The right cheese can really enhance the wine, but getting it wrong results in the opposite. Young cheeses such as Camembert, Brie and Goat's Cheese partner best with wines that are juicy, fruity, fresh and spirited – sparkling wines, crisp whites like Sauvignon Blanc, dry roses and light to medium reds with good acidity and summer fruits such as Pinot Noir. aged cheeses such as mature cheddar, gruyere and gouda match well with tannic, full bodied and complex wines like Malbec, Cabernet Sauvignon and Zinfandel.

Blue cheeses vary in texture, saltiness and pungency and fortified wines like Tawney Port or sweet dessert wines like Sauternes beautifully balance the more pungent and saltiest cheeses such as Stilton and Roquefort. An interesting and informative evening – it is actually far better to serve just one or two great cheeses with a well-matched wine than a big cheese selection with a single wine.

The wines and cheeses tasted together were:

Phillipe Michel Crement du Jura (France 2014) paired with Camembert and Goats cheese

- Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc (New Zealand 2015) paired with Goat's cheese
- Palataia Pinot Noir (Germany 2015) paired with the nutty, medium firm Gruyere
- Cabernet Sauvignon (Australia 2014) paired well Gouda and Mature Cheddar
- Warre's Otima 10 year old Tawney Port paired well with Silton which is a classic combination but also worked well with other mature robust or nutty cheeses such as mature cheddar, aged Gouda and nutty Gruyere.
- The final, dessert, wine Sauternes (France 2010) paired beautifully with Roquefort.

An enjoyable, informative evening which sparked much conversation and once the right combinations were tasted together no one wanted to try any others.

The detailed notes provided will be kept and referred to many times in future – thank you Roland for a very enjoyable wine tasting evening.



North Melbourne Library

Open Tuesday, Friday and Saturday 9:00- 5:00pm.

Visit www.essex.gov.uk/libraries for any information or phone 03330 132682



North Melbourne Library has a wide range of books to loan, DVD's, spoken word, reference titles, photocopier and FAX service.



Connect to the internet on our 5 Public Network computers with use of a scanner and printing facilities or use our Wi-Fi enabling you to connect with your own laptop, tablet or smart phone.



Hickory
dickory dock,
the mouse
ran up the
clock



Rhyme Time

Friday Morning 11:00 -11:30

For our younger customers we deliver a Rhyme Time for age 5 and under and their carers. Come along and join in with popular rhymes, songs and stories.



Community Tea

Come and join our group for a friendly and sociable chat over a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit.

Usually held on the 1st Saturday of the Month

Saturday 5th August – 2.00pm

Saturday 2nd September – 2.00pm



Adult Craft Club

Come and join in with our friendly group for an afternoon of creative craft making. Have some time to yourself to work on your projects in a social environment. Bring any crafts you have from home such as knitting, card making, origami, sewing etc

Tuesday 25th July – 10.30 – 11.30am

Tuesday 29th August – 10.30 – 11.30am



Individual Tablet Taster Session

Have you got a new iPad or tablet and are not sure how to use it effectively. We are holding individual morning and afternoon sessions where you can ask our staff any questions you made have.

Saturdays – bookable AM or PM sessions

Saturday 10.00 - 11.00am (fortnightly)

Saturday 14.00 - 15.00pm (fortnightly)

Please call to book a slot and bring your own tablet along to the session

Summer Reading Challenge

THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT

ANIMAL AGENTS

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2017

Read the books,
catch the crook!

JOIN FREE
AT YOUR
LOCAL
LIBRARY!

animal-agents.org.uk

Illustrations: © Tony Ross, 2017

**From Saturday 15th July
to Saturday 2nd September 2017**

Community Matters

CHARITY FUNDRAISER IN THE VILLAGE HALL

WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT



Catch up over a cuppa, enjoy some great treats -
The money we raise at our coffee morning will help
make sure no one has to face cancer alone.
For further detail contact steve.middleditch@btinternet.com

Tree Walk

Alan Hinchliffe organised a sponsored charity fundraising Pub walk in aid of the MacMillan Charity. Jill and Pete at the Three Elms kindly donated all the profits from the afternoon barbecue to the sponsorship and funds raised on the walk.



May Day Celebrations in the Orchard



Gardening Club

Many thanks to everyone who donated plants to sell on the Gardening Club stall at the Chignals & Mashbury Village Hall Fête on 3rd June and also to those of you who bought plants from us: I hope they're now thriving in your gardens.

Following two very enjoyable garden visits, to Woodhatch Farm in Tawney Common and to Kelvedon Hall on the outskirts of Kelvedon, (photo below) there's still time to join us on our last summer garden visit of the season. You don't have to be a member to enjoy this trip and we can usually arrange a lift, so why not take the plunge!

Wednesday 19th July, 7pm: Paternoster House Barnhall Road, Tolleshunt Knights, Maldon CM9 8HA

A peaceful 5 acre garden rescued from a derelict state 15 years ago. It has an enclosed flower garden, 2 meadows, orchards of apples, pears, stone fruit, mulberry trees and peaches. Ornamental kitchen garden with raised beds and extensive lawns with large shrubberies. Some rare and unusual shrubs (large collection of viburnums) and plants, young and mature trees. 3 beautiful ponds. Some vintage tractors and machinery. Chickens, mandarin ducks, guinea fowl, golden pheasants and semi-permanent mallards. **Cost: £8.00**, including tea/coffee and cake.

Our gardening themed talks programme will start again in September, with meetings and events held in the Village Hall usually on the evening of the third Wednesday of the month through to April. Further details will be included in the September edition of "Chignal News".

To book the garden visit, please email: gardening.chignalsmashbury@gmail.com or phone Lynn Ballard on 01245 440880.



Pew Sheet

Summer Services

16th July

9.30am	Ford End	
9.30am	Great Leighs	Communion
11.00am	Little Waltham	Service of the Word
11.00am	Great Waltham	Communion
11.00am	Chignals	Communion

23rd July

9.30am	Ford End	Communion
9.30am	Great Leighs	Communion
11.00am	Little Waltham	Holy Communion
11.00am	Great Waltham	Communion
5.00pm	Great Waltham	Evening Space

30th July

10.30am	Great Waltham	Joint Service
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6th August

10.30am	Little Leighs	Morning space & Communion
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13th Aug

10.30am	Little Waltham	Traditional Communion
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20th Aug

10.30	Chignals	Communion with Dr Ruth—inspiring speaker from Tanzania
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27th Aug

10.30	Ford End	Café church with brief Communion
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Priest in Charge: Revd Caroline Brown
vicar@littleandgreat.org.uk Phone: 01245 364081
Parish Administrator: Alison Bates
admin@littleandgreat.org.uk Phone: 07957 228467
Church Websites:

www.churchesattheleighsandlittlewaltham.co.nr

<http://www.greatwalthamchurch.org.uk>



St. Nicholas' Church

As I write this last week I am aware of how many awful fires we have had recently: the Grenfell Tower tragedy, Portugal forest fires, an oil tanker in Pakistan killing 150 and most recently a coach crash full of pensioners. As I watched with shock as the news broke about the Grenfell Tower fire I thought what if my step daughter and her new son lived up there? How would I feel? And the thought was appalling. And what about those living in similar blocks with similar cladding, built in similar ways. How are those people sleeping at night? So many people affected.

When I left university and had my first proper job in Hackney I lived in a 21 floor council tower block on the 9th floor, with families living right at the top. There were two stairwells and huge hoses that could be used in the event of a fire. It is hard to believe that in Grenfell Tower there was only one staircase, no sprinkler systems and they didn't spend money on the fire escape because there wasn't enough money. It was pathetic when you saw the fire brigades fire hoses – they looked puny. It was clear they did not have what they needed to tackle a fire on this scale.

What is heartening in the midst of this is ordinary people responding and giving what they can in terms of food, water, clothing and toiletries, giving up time and holidays to help. As well of course of the courage of firefighters and the police. In this there is hope as people show what is possible.

It takes something like this tragedy to open our eyes to what is happening in our world and notice the huge inequalities. What is becoming clear as the news unfolds is the inequalities in treatment between those with money and those with little. I have heard people say I don't want to live in a society where this happens, where some people are so undervalued.

And for some reading this it may seem futile that I and others am down on my knees praying at this time, praying for those who have lost so much, for those who still hope against hope that their loved ones are going to be Ok and turn up, for something good to come out of this awful tragedy, praying that this will mean that enough money is found to house people safely and well. Praying that this will help us all pull together. And our churches are open so do come in and pray or sit and think.



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Articles to the editor by 21st August 2017 for next publication 6th September 2017