



Pig and Whistle Presentation

Mark and Tina have continued the Tuesday quiz nights; including a charity round, since they have moved to the Pig and Whistle from the Three Elms. The teams raised £1000 and donated it to Cassie Jeffers, who lives in Chignal St James. A presentation was made to Matt Jeffers; Cassie's father, who will use the money to pay for Cassie to have treatment in Slovakia.



Village Hall - Garden Fete and Vintage Rally 2010

This year's fete on June 5th was again blessed with good weather until just before the end. At 5 p.m. the heavens opened, curtailing the announcements for the prize and raffle winners and the vote of thanks to Norman and Beryl Wastenev for again hosting the event in their beautiful garden.

Overall it was a big success, being very well supported and producing in excess of £2,100 for the village hall and other local charities. There was an excellent display of vintage tractors, trucks, engines and classic cars, an art exhibition with works by village and other local artists, and stalls, games and attractions such as cream teas, plants and cakes. The rabbits and alpacas were a big hit again this year. The pictures below are from the fete and more will be published on the web-site.

A big thank you goes to the Army Cadets for marshalling the car parking and to all the volunteers for manning the event, especially the band of workers involved in moving, erecting, dismantling and returning the equipment to the village hall.



A Commentary by Owen Thomas aged 11

The Village Fete was a lovely event, the sun was shining for most of the day. There were lots of interesting things to buy, win and do. My favourite was one where you had to throw beanbags through a hole. I also enjoyed the tom bola stall; I had lots of goes and won some notelets, candles, a bath set, photo frames and a shower curtain. The old vehicles were very interesting to look at. The event hopefully earned lots of money to improve and maintain the village. Thank you to everyone who helped make the event as enjoyable as it was.

As the weather is improving the playing field as a great place to play football or play cricket. I really enjoy going down there on a sunny day. The village also offers a lot of nice walks, on roads and through the countryside.



Women's Institute

Many thanks to everyone who came along to our 'Busy Bee' morning, although not a great many people came along, sales were quite brisk and we will be able to give a substantial donation to The Associated Country Women of the World (the international WI). This association provides great help to poorer families all over the world.

In April Mrs. Moira O'Conner spoke about homeopathy. Moira is training to be a homeopathy practitioner and her talk, although brief was interesting and thought provoking. In May we had 'A history of finger prints' given by Mr. Terry Rockall, Terry was a fingerprint expert at Scotland Yard and since his retirement he has spoken to many organisations and spent much time as a lecturer on cruise ships. His talk was most interesting and amusing. I'm doing a flower arranging demonstration in June and we are having a garden meeting in a lovely garden in Braintree in July. If anyone would like to join us for this event, you would be most welcome but please let me know and I can give details of the venue.



Myra Wilkins 440659

July 1st Garden meeting in Braintree

August 5th 'Colours to look your best' Mrs Lucasta Edwards.

Swptember 7th 'Spinning' Miss Celia Reed

October 7th 'Essex at War from 991 to 1960' Mr. Doug Killick

Visitors always welcome

Chignal 4Art meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at the Village Hall. Hope you will come and visit the Art Exhibition at the Fete. Details from Myra as above.

Village Design Statement

The Village Design Statement was "officially" launched on Thursday 17th June, when villagers were invited to the village hall to receive their copy of the VDS and enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles . David Fincham; the chairman of the VDS committee, chaired the final meeting and all the committee resigned; effective in six weeks, to enable the finalisation of the accounts. Chris Philpot, chairman of the parish council, thanked the committee for their efforts in the production of the document. There are some pictures of the event below and more will be published on the web-site



Wine Club



Robert Bishop of Catchpole and Frogitt, a small independent wine merchant who only trade via the internet, presented to the group in April. The theme for the evening was South African wines and 3 whites (Chenin Blanc, Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay) and 3 reds (Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec) were sampled. There was much discussion during the night with opinion divided on the wines being tasted. This, as always, highlighted how taste in wine (as with many other things) is very unique and very much a personal thing. A very social evening was finished off with lively banter over cheese and biscuits. Catchpole and Frogitt have their base in Tilbury and only import wines that are not available elsewhere within the UK.

Dave and Steve joined forces to present to the group in May. For the whites we compared two Becker Alsace Grand Cru wines and a New Zealand Chardonnay. The reds were all from the Bordeaux region. Dave and Steve had both extensively researched their chosen wines so provided us with an educational and entertaining evening. We were all challenged at the end of the evening to price match the various wines, which returned some surprising results.

Norman and Geoff manned the wine club stall at the village fete, raising a total of £160 for the village hall funds. Many thanks to all our members for donating the wines and to those who came along on the day.

The wine club meets on the second Friday of every month (except August). Our new year begins in September, for more information please contact Dave on 01245 442474.

Yoga

Yoga in the village hall continues every Tuesday during term time 9.15am – 10.45am. Our last class before the summer break will be on July 20th.

Now the summer is apparently with us (at least the weeds certainly are!) many of us arrive complaining of gardening related aches and pains but leave feeling refreshed, relaxed and revitalised. The classes provide gentle exercises to improve and maintain flexibility as well as relaxation towards the end. Each exercise can be performed to a varying degree of difficulty/stretch meaning that the class is suitable for most and that new members can easily slot in amongst existing.

We are a small and friendly group and if you would like to come along or are interested to find out more please do call Sara McKeon on 01245 358941 or Gill Thomas on 01245 442474. You would be very welcome to join us.



Bowls Club

The Club recently played a Friendly Match against Black Notley away. It was an enjoyable evening, though as they have three mats, quite hard work, but followed by an excellent buffet and a raffle. The result was a win, just, by Black Notley. We have a return match at home with them in August.

Our next match is at home against Ford End in June.

Socially, we have the Strawberry Supper to look forward to later in June, together with a Quiz. And sometime in early July we shall try our hand again at Pitch and Putt, which has always proved to be an enjoyable evening

Gardening Club

There have been several activities since the last edition. The first was a visit to Dragons in May, although it was overcast the weather remained dry and the garden was beautifully kept by Margot Grice, we all enjoyed the visit.

As usual, the garden club ran a plant stall at the Village fete in June. Many of the members donated plants or vegetable to sell. Thanks to Grenvilles Nursery; Writtle, for donating some plants for the stall. We sold virtually all the plants, although it is hard to predict what is going to sell from year to year, vegetables were certainly a popular choice this year. It was lovely to see Richard and Alyson ; who now live in Norfolk, again when they paid a visit to fete. They also joined us for our next garden visit on June 16th to Horkesley Hall. We were lucky to have beautiful evening to visit this garden. It is a lovely family garden, chickens roam free and ponies sometimes graze the garden. There are jumps scattered around the woodland garden. What fun to be able to ride round your garden. There are two lakes and wonderful views across the Essex countryside. They have the largest ginko tree outside of Kew as well as Acers and other rare trees. The garden is not normally open to the public, so we are very grateful to Polly Eddis, for allowing us to visit her garden. Our next visit is on **Wednesday 21st July 2010** to Beth Chatto Gardens, Elmstead Market, Near Colchester, meeting there at 2 p.m. The cost is £5.00

Visit to Dragons



Plant Stall

Visit to Horkesley Hall



Editorial by Linda Nelson

Hi, I hope you are enjoying the beautiful sunshine we are having, lets hope it stays like this for the concert on the 4th July. I am really looking forward to it, living next door to Julia and Steve Smart, we have been having a sneak preview as the performers are practicing for the concert.

I delayed the publication of this edition to enable the inclusion of articles about the fete and the VDS launch. These are events that highlight the community spirit that exists in our villages and makes it such a lovely place to live. Thanks to Kate and Steve Middleditch, who provided the photos of the fete and the garden visits and to Ann Salmon who provided the photos on the front cover. The next edition will be out at the beginning of September, so if you want to have an article included which has future events in it then they need to be after the publication date.

You may be aware that I have now become a parish councillor, this made sense as I was already managing the web site, editing the newsletter and the P3 representative for the parish. I am just learning the other parts of the role, but I hope I can help to maintain the special character of our villages and be an effective member of the council.

Finally, I would like to express my sadness at the news of the sudden death of Christine Taylor. Christine was a personal friend and we saw her Sunday evening, when we popped in to see her with Graham's twin sister. Christine showed us round her beautiful country garden and then we had a chat over a cup of tea about gardens, horses and family. It is a memory I shall cherish and I shall miss Christine. My condolences go out to her family.

North Melbourne Library

Essex Treasures – Explore the Reading County

Essex Libraries are running a county-wide stock promotion to highlight books that give readers a flavour of Essex places and people, through Novels, personal accounts, poetry and non-fiction. It also highlights Essex authors. So please come in and take a look.

Children visiting Essex Libraries this summer will be encouraged to take part in a cosmic summer reading challenge and become astronauts with this year's **Space Hop** theme.

The summer reading challenge aims to get children interested in reading by giving them a quest that introduces them to books they may never have considered. In the past it has proven a huge success, with an average of 46,000 children taking part annually.

The adventure lifts off at **North Melbourne Library** with a special **Astronauts Academy** on **Saturday 17th July 10:00 – 12:00!** Children can join the challenge at any time during the summer holidays, they need to read 6 books and all those adventurers who complete the challenge will receive a Space Hop Medal.

For older children and teenagers there is a separate activity called **Space Station**. Participants are encouraged to read a variety of books, find information and complete quizzes to move on to the next challenge. Rewards will be given for every two cards which are completed.

Mandy Simioni – Library Supervisor
North Melbourne Library (Attached to Newland Spring School)
Dickens Place, Cooperfield Road, Chelmsford
Tel: 01245 442292

Mashbury Parish Meeting 24th March 2010

Several queries were raised at the Mashbury Parish Meeting in March which could not be answered immediately, but responses have now been tracked down:

- Protected Lanes - the status of Protected Lanes in this area has now been clarified. Chelmsford Borough Council has been unable to determine the criteria used for the original initiative in the 1980's and has therefore, as part of the Local Development Framework, established a new set of criteria. Under these, several new Protected lanes have been created; some, including Mashbury Road Gt Waltham/Fox Road, have lost their status and some including Bedford's Hill have been retained.
 - Access by large Lorries to the new storage barn on Mashbury Road, Gt Waltham - the Planning Dept at Chelmsford Borough Council has confirmed that as this building is for agricultural use, only appearance and siting can be controlled. There were therefore no conditions relating to space for turning Lorries.
 - Register of Buildings of Local Value - this project by Chelmsford Borough Council has
- resulted in a list of notable buildings for each Parish and these have been put up on the web. Using the Parish name in a search engine should find the Parish you are looking for.
- Rural Commission Report; recommendations being progressed - most of the actions resulting from this report are area specific, but the most significant action which will impact favourably on this area is to improve access to workable high-speed Broadband through the funding of pilot studies.
 - Waste & Recycling collection; future plans - the Recycling and Waste collection team were very pleased to hear that the Mashbury meeting had been complimentary about the efficiency and scope of collections. They tell us that the next "section" of recyclable collection that they are currently planning for is Food Waste. This should further reduce the amount collected in Black Bins for landfill but any plans for decreasing the Black Bin collections to fortnightly are in the much longer term.

Moira Tarrant, Chair, Mashbury Parish Meeting

In Memory of Christine Taylor

It is with great sadness that we report the sudden death of Christine Taylor on Monday 21st June. Christine lived in Mashbury but had previously lived in Chignal Smealey.

Christine was an amazing lady who dedicated her life to her family, friends, horses and pets. She still rode and she will be sorely missed by all her friends at Mashbury stables.

For a large part of her life she also helped lots of young people to find caring homes, working with Social Services and sitting on regular foster panels.

Her friendship, caring, generosity of spirit and support of those less fortunate was incredible. She was a true role model in every sense. Words are not enough to express how genuinely lovely she was or how much she will be missed by all of those who knew and loved her.

Condolences are sent to Christine's son and daughter and her grand children.

Chignal Parish Council

UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CHIGNAL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 10th MAY 2010 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Chris Philpot was appointed as Chairman and Martyn Towns as Vice-Chair.

The Chair explained that there was a vacancy for a Councillor following the resignation of Kate Middleditch and Linda Nelson was co-opted in her place.

The Chair reported that the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk had attended the Mayor's Reception recently and he thanked the staff of the Borough Council for their help and advice.

Thanks were also expressed to the volunteers who took part in the annual litter pick recently.

SUB COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES AND REPORTS

Councillors were re-appointed en bloc to their various sub-committees.

PLAYING FIELDS - it was reported that maintenance work is required to concrete boundary posts which are in need of repair. The posts will be examined and any necessary repair work put in hand.

VILLAGE HALL LIAISON – the Village Fete will be held on 5th June at Woodhall Farm.

NEWSLETTER INCL. WEBSITE – questions were asked on whether private adverts could be included in the Newsletter and it was agreed to accept local adverts.

GRAVEL LIAISON – it was reported that the planning application for the importation of sand and gravel has been withdrawn and the removal of the processing plant is now complete. Lafarge has agreed to some resurfacing work to Pengymill Lane as a goodwill gesture.

A request was made for information on whether ECC has received a planning application for restoration works on the site and whether the generating system will remain.

FOOTPATHS /BRIDLEWAYS – it was reported that work is being done on the footpaths in conjunction with P3. Footpath 2 needs to be reinstated as it is a cross field path. Informal discussions have taken place regarding diversions of some footpaths, proposals have been agreed and diversions are underway and will be adopted in the Summer.

HIGHWAYS – it was explained that the priority for ECC at present is to repair potholes and problems with flooding in the parish are part of ECC's proposed

'traffic scheme' which will be carried out at a later date.

VDS – the VDS is at present with the printers and copies will be available for parishioners shortly.

COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

C. Cllr. Aldridge was unable to attend the meeting. Councillor Chambers reported that a pilot scheme was being carried out in South Woodham Ferrers for the recycling of food waste.

Councillor Chambers was asked to clarify the costs in special expenses for Chignal which include for cutting the grass on the Green and a field in Chignal St. James which is owned by the Borough Council. Councillor Chambers agreed to investigate reasons why these two areas are included in special expenses and will also request a specification of grass cutting on the Green.

Councillor Chambers agreed to check on the definitive map of Parish Boundaries when it was explained that two properties in Chignal have been included in the electoral role for Great Waltham.

PLANNING

Importation of sand and gravel at Landfill Quarry – application withdrawn

Dyers Hall – retrospective application for ménage and floodlights – pending

The Bungalow – demolition and erection of new dwelling – decision pending

Pieces Cottage – appeal against enforcement notice re marquee, gates and posts – decision awaited.

Westleas – rear conservatory – decision awaited.

LATE URGENT BUSINESS

Chelmsford Parish & Town Councils Charter – it was agreed that Chignal would not be adopting the Charter.

Standing Orders – it was agreed that Councillors re-examine the latest edition and agree what is relevant for Chignal.

DATES OF MEETINGS for 2010/11

Meetings will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 12th July, 7.30p.m. Monday 13th

September, 7.30 p.m. Monday 1st November, 7.30 p.m. Monday 10th January, 7.00 p.m. Monday 14th

March followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 8 p.m. and the Annual General Meeting at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 9th May.

Following the Budget Essex County Council is working hard to drive down the cost of its organisation whilst maintaining frontline services. As I have pointed out previously, the County Council has been aware of the need for change for some years and has not been waiting for the Government; it is therefore in a good position to respond to the really challenging announcements made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The ambition is to **save some £300 million by 2013/14**. This will be achieved by better **Procurement**. That is, how we manage contracts and markets using shared procurement both within the Council's directorates but also with Partners such as District and Borough Councils, the NHS and the Police and Fire Authorities. Increased **Productivity** will play its part by doing things better and cutting out wasteful processes. Incorporating **New Ways of Working** will be an essential element of change so that we review how we use the Council's property and ensure we use the new technologies to provide smarter ways to achieve better services. Finally we shall continue to look at **Supporting Services** to generate income from trading with other organisations. Major savings will be a big "ask" and will be difficult; but it is the only way to meet the needs of the people of **Essex** for better services at less cost.

Last month I visited the **Prospects College** at Basildon to see the apprenticeship training

offered by the College in progress. Sponsored by the **County Council** the training concentrates on skills that are needed locally and for which jobs can be found. This covers a wide range of skills such as refrigeration and ventilation, engineering and manufacturing, IT, construction, creative and cultural industries, environmental technologies, energy sector, marine sector, sport and leisure, ports and logistics, business administration and customer service.

Last week the **County Council** offered 30 new apprenticeships in the **Aviation Industry** to provide the specific skills that are required to do the job in this high tech industry; which means both academic know-how and practical experience. These apprenticeships, based at the expanding Southend Airport, will form part of the **County Council's** pledge to create 1,750 apprenticeships over the next two years. I believe that it's vitally important for the **County Council** to recognise and support our young people as well as the industry sectors throughout Essex to enable our economy to thrive.

If you have any problems about **Essex County Council** matters please let me know on 01245 421524 or Cllr.John.Aldridge@essexcc.gov.uk
Cllr. John Aldridge – July 2010

St. Nicholas' Church

Greetings to you all from St. Nicholas Church. Summer has arrived and no doubt many of you are spending many happy hours doing outdoor pursuits. Holidays and days out are something which we all look forward to. We wish you much happiness whether you are holidaying, in your garden or further afield.

We are especially thankful to the new residents of 'The Old Rectory' who with the support of Chelmsford Borough Council Highways Department are going to install a kerb along the grass outside the church. This will greatly enhance the appearance of the verge.

It has been decided as; understandably, no one feels able to help with the church yard, to employ a gardener from Broomfield to undertake the grass cutting for the season (£50 per cut). We feel this is a very generous offer on his part. He is supplying a lawn mower plus other equipment, the job takes within the region of 3-4 hours.

The parish has been awarded a Platinum achievement for successfully paying the 'family purse' in full and on time. In honour of this, Myra, our secretary, Greg, our treasurer and I will be attending a special ceremony to meet the Bishop, later this month. This is a very big achievement for such a small parish. We thank all of you who regularly

financially support us. We are very aware that there are parishioners who do not attend Sunday worship, but nonetheless give money to the church.

Sunday July 4th at 6 p.m. is our concert day, classical music for the entire family. We are very grateful for all those who have volunteered their services. If you have not already purchased a ticket, do come along. We will squeeze you in somehow.

We wish you all a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing many of you in and around the parish.

Tony Towns Church Warden (Tel 440241)



Dates for your Diary

Sunday July 4th at 6 p.m. Concert in St. Nicholas Church

A service every Sunday at 11 a.m.

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