



Jubilee Celebrations



On Saturday 19th May children from the parish gathered to plant a Union Jack of red, white and blue petunias on Chignal St James Village Green in readiness for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations in June.

Garden Fete & Vintage Rally 2012

This year's Diamond Jubilee fete raised over £2,600 for village hall funds. The weather was kind to us and the event was very well attended. The union flag appeared on acres of bunting and on almost everything else from vintage cars and farm machinery to aprons and cakes. The Inter Village Games Torch made a special appearance at the fete during its journey through the participating villages.

The village hall committee is very fortunate to have Norman and Beryl Wasteneys's beautiful house and garden in Chignal Smealey as the backdrop for the fete for which we are extremely grateful. Many thanks to all those of you whose hard work and generosity helped to make the event such a success in this very special year, and to staff at Fourways Coaches for stepping in at the eleventh hour to marshal the car parking



Jubilee Celebrations & the Torch Relay



Kyla & Kate Middleditch



Above Des Bass handing the Torch to David Fincham at Chignal Chapel. Below Fisher and Linda with David and Sue Fincham on the cart, prior to the torch handover at the Pig & Whistle

Above Fisher on a mission to deliver the torch, Sue & David Fincham plus Linda Nelson on the cart. Below Villagers and friends at the Art Exhibition open evening on Monday 4th June



Editorial by Linda Nelson

Hi, I hope you enjoy this edition, especially all the pictures; they can be seen in colour on the parish web site (<http://www.essexinfo.net/thechignals/chignal-news/>), which are a snapshot of many of the village activities. This is a very busy year for most people, but it is also one where we can enjoy celebrating. I think the parish celebrations for the Diamond Jubilee were really enjoyable and it was great to see so many people taking part in them.

In recognition of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the parish council decided to give paperweights to children of the parish, so they would have a memento to remember the Diamond Jubilee. Julia Smart and I delivered the paperweights over the Jubilee weekend, although; as it was half term, it took a little longer to deliver them all. It was very encouraging to see so many families with young children live in the parish.

Although some of you may not be fond of sport, I am sure everyone will be caught up in the Olympic spirit. I think it is amazing that the parish has five Olympic volunteers doing a variety of roles. Hopefully, there will be some interesting accounts of their experiences in future editions.



Gardening Club

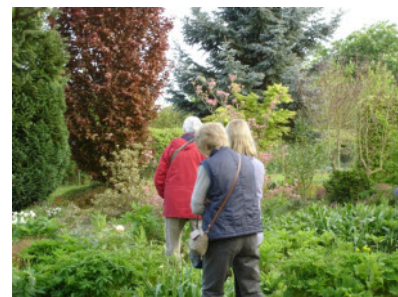
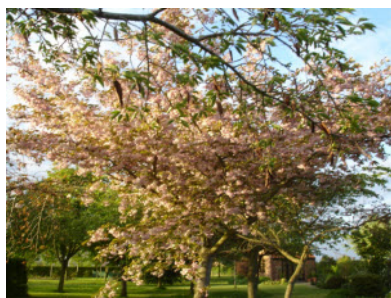
There have been several activities since the last edition. The first was a visit to Byndes Cottage near Halstead in May. Despite the recent downpours we were very lucky to have a dry evening to visit this garden. More than 20 members came along and it was nice to see some new faces.

As usual, the garden club ran a plant stall at the Village fete in June, we raised over £600 towards the Village Hall funds. Many thanks to Janet Campen for growing so many of the plants and vegetables, and also other garden club members and local nurseries that provided items, including trees for sale. Richard and Alyson; former members, who now live in Norfolk, popped in to catch up with “garden club gossip” when they paid a visit to fete this year, it was lovely to see them again.

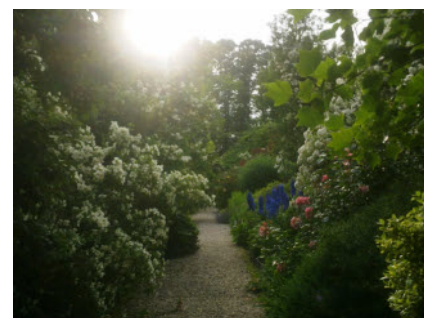
The June visit was to Brookfield Cottage, Mill Green, near Ingatestone. The garden was set out in a series of rooms, with different colour themes in each room. I especially enjoyed the white room and the shady “room” right at the bottom of the garden.

There was a special Open Evening at Beeleigh Abbey, near Maldon, which was the venue for a second club visit in June. Beleigh Abbey is spectacular and we were so lucky to have pleasant weather to enjoy this garden. The roses were spectacular and the scent of roses and mock orange combined to create a heady scent. There was a Tulip tree in flower, which caused some interest as many of us had never seen one in flower before. Our next event is the club supper on 11th July at Janet Campen’s then a visit to Woodlards Ash, Hatfield Broad Oak on Wednesday 18th July at 7p.m.

Visit to Byndes Cottage



Visits to Brookfield Cottage & Beeleigh Abbey



North Melbourne Library

Children visiting Essex Libraries this summer will be encouraged to take part in our summer reading challenge **Story Lab**. The **Story Lab** is a hi-tech HQ in the centre of a dynamic city. It attracts stories from all over the world and sends them spinning throughout the city- and beyond!

Children need to read a total of six books over the summer holidays to complete the challenge and receive a medal. Children of any age can take part in **Story Lab**. They can join any time from Saturday 21st July and have until Saturday 8th September to finish and collect their medals.

Children aged 10 and over can take part in a separate challenge – **Metropolis**. Sponsored by map producers Codair, participants will be given a map featuring some of London's most iconic landmarks. They need to research six of the landmarks to complete the challenge as well as reading and thinking about books and films. They will receive a DVD voucher and a sports watch on completion.

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

Bowls Club

We held our A.G.M. in March with good attendance. Geoff has decided to step down from the Committee and the Captaincy, and was thanked for all his hard work over the years. Kathleen has taken over the position of Captain, and we also welcome Sandra as a new member of the Committee. The match for the Bill Hawkes Trophy, between the winner of the Ladies' Singles and the winner of the Men's Singles, was won by John Manning and was presented with the Trophy by Helen Hawkes. The Playing Fee for an evening has been increased to One Pound and Fifty Pence, which I think still is good value for an evenings play and a cup of tea.

The Mike Bell Trophy Day will be on June 9th in the Village Hall, with a meal in the evening when the Trophy will be presented to the winners.

We won our match away at R.H.P. and our away match on 21st May at Black Notley.

Ancestry

Regular readers may remember a request from an Australian; John Loveday, for information about his ancestors. John & his wife Emily visited the village last year and popped in to say hello. I recently received the following letter from Gordon Mackett., who has been researching his ancestors.

Last week on Monday the 5th June, I had the pleasure of visiting your lovely Church of St Nicholas in Chignal Smealey. The reason for my visit was as follows. For some time now I have been carrying out some research on my ancestors and in particular on my mothers side of the family. Her maiden name was Loveday and after a great deal of searching on the Ancestry website, I found that a Edward Loveday who was my great-great-great-great-great-great grandfather was married in your Church on the 1st November 1658. He was aged 28 at the time and married a lady called Sarah Smith. From the plaque in the Church, I was able to see that the vicar that married them was a John Manning.

Another interesting fact that came to light during me research was, that Edward Lovedays father (my 8th generation g/father) and whose name was Hugh Loveday was employed as a Gardener in Chignal Smealey. In Chignal Smealy the records that I have, also show that Hugh Loveday was tried in the Chelmsford session rolls, for and I quote - for striking and breaking the head of John Parker of Great Beddow. This episode took place in 1637.

I still had John's e-mail so I put Gordon and John in touch with each other; isn't the Internet a wonderful tool? It is also pleasant to know that descendants of previous villagers are visiting our community.

Letters to the Editor

Jubilee Concert, Nightingale Ensemble. St Nicholas Church Chignal Smealey. Sunday 3rd June 2012

I had been inside St Nicholas Church a couple of times but this evening it reflected an extra sparkle, having been spruced up for the Jubilee celebrations. The flower arrangements were spectacular; topical, in red, white and blue, but expertly and tastefully arranged to complement the scale of the church. I was expecting to be cold; but the ceiling heaters gave a warm welcome as did the people of Chignal to outsiders like me.

I had been told that the Nightingale Ensemble was good and to expect a mixed programme, but the quality of the two vocalists, Jessica and Anna was beyond all my expectations. Unfortunately, without a programme I never learned their surnames, but Anna's own arrangements were captivating, delivered in a practiced contralto that would not sound out of place with a good jazz ban. First came Gershwin's 'a Foggy day in London Town' then Cole Porter's 'Every time we say goodbye'; movingly dedicated to service men and women everywhere. Jessica's soprano, was still a little vulnerable but showed flashes of brilliance and maturity that it won't take her long to perfect. She led us confidently in Rule Britannia with an engaging youthful ebullience and enthusiasm. As the evening progressed from the serious – Pie Jesu from Fauré's Requiem, beautifully executed by Jessica, through West End show songs and theme tunes from Brideshead Revisited and The House of Elliot to name two, the audience was skillfully engaged until we all stood to raise the roof to 'Jerusalem' then with the aid of a selection of whistles, cuckoos and duck sounds handed round by Anna and Jessica, we all contributed to a version of a 'Sailor's Hornpipe' worthy of the Last Night of the Proms! All this ably backed by the four instrumentalists of the Ensemble; 3 string players and an excellent flautist whose names escaped me. The musicians took a short rest while Myra Wilkins, stalwart of the Church and WI entertained us with her own funny Jubilee poem, cleverly delivered, that gave comment on the rise and demise of our Queen's predecessors and their 'unsettled times'.

What a performance! It was a pity that by the time we came out of the church the rain had really set in and it would have been cold for March, never mind June! So no-one was inclined to linger over the strawberries and cream served under shelter of a Gazebo. Notwithstanding that I think the evening could be called an unqualified successful Jubilee celebration.

A letter from Christine Barrett , the mother of Suzy Barrett who lives with Mark Simmonds at Chignal St James; Suzy and Mark planning to marry next year St Nicholas Church.



Myra Wilkins



The Nightingale Ensemble

Chignal Parish Council

UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CHIGNAL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 14th MAY 2012.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Chris Philpot was elected as Chairman and Linda Nelson as Vice-Chair.

REGISTER OF DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

ELECTION OF SUB-COMMITTEES

Councillors were appointed as follows:

Playing Fields – Gordon Lee and Martyn Towns, Village Hall Liaison – Martyn Towns, Newsletter and website – Linda Nelson and Malcolm Feltwell, Gravel Liaison – Malcolm Feltwell, Village Watch – Chris Philpot, Highways – Julia Smart and Malcolm Feltwell, Footpaths and Bridleways – Linda Nelson, Telephone Box – Malcolm Feltwell and Tree Warden – Lynn Ballard

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A Parishioner complained about the condition of the hardcore at the entrance to the track to the reservoir and the problem will be examined and the surface improved if possible.

Complaints were made on the state of the roads in the Parish and it was agreed to notify the Highways Department of the concerns raised. Concerns were expressed that the ditch between the Old Rectory and Brittons Hall Farm is overflowing and the problems will be investigated.

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

VILLAGE HALL LIAISON – improvements to the kitchen area are now complete.

NEWSLETTER INCL. WEBSITE – the next closing date for items is 20th May 2012.

GRAVEL LIAISON- Lafarge has received permission to continue tipping on 4th June 2012.

HIGHWAYS – problems with potholes and ditches will be reported to the Highways Department.

FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS – Footpath 26 at Brickbarns is being dealt with by the owner and Footpath 30 is under investigation by Essex County Council.

TELEPHONE BOX CHIGNAL ST. JAMES – the shelves will be fixed shortly.

TREE WARDEN – the oak tree planted recently has survived and some work has been carried out to other trees on the Green.

COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

It was reported that from 8th May C.Cllr. John Aldridge will be the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care. He explained that flooding on roads will be attended to as soon as possible and further money is available for the infilling of potholes.

Cllr. Nicolette Chambers reported that HASBRO are printing the new Chelmsford edition of Monopoly to celebrate the award of City Status and will be produced in time for Christmas.

From 24th May Cllr. Chambers will be responsible for parks and heritage.

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE – the paperweights for the children will be delivered personally

PROGRESS ON INTER VILLAGE GAMES – teams will take part in numerous sports with a quiz being held on 23rd June. A torch relay will take place on the day of the fete and the grand final will be held at Roxwell Village Hall on 7th July

PURCHASE OF VILLAGE GREEN – it was proposed and agreed unanimously that no further negotiations take place on the purchase of the Green.

PROGRESS ON VILLAGE ORCHARD – the favoured site is on Howletts Corner and the Borough Council is willing to lease the field for a peppercorn rent.

FINANCIAL REGULATIONS. STANDING ORDERS AND PLANNING APPLICATIONS
The Financial Regulations were approved and adopted. Standing Orders will incorporate some minor amendments before adoption at the next meeting. Changes to responses to Planning Applications were agreed and will be categorised into major and minor applications with public participation in major applications.

CORRESPONDENCE – an invitation was received from the congregation of St. Nicholas Church for Councillors and families to attend a Thanksgiving Service for the Diamond Jubilee at 11 a.m. on Sunday 10th June.

DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2012/13

Meetings will be held in the Village Hall as follows:

7.30 p.m. on Monday 9th July 2012, 7.30 p.m. on Monday 10th September 2012, 7.30 p.m. on Monday 12th November 2012, 7.30 p.m. on Monday 14th January 2013, 7 p.m. on Monday 11th March 2013 followed by Annual Parish Meeting at 8 p.m., Annual General Meeting at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 13th May 2013.

St. Nicholas' Church

Greetings from St Nicholas Church May 17th 2012.

At time of writing it still does not feel like spring, we are all hoping it will warm up for the jubilee celebrations. Our Easter service was well attended, and as always the church looked beautiful, Julia Smart played the keyboard (our organ will be back with us next week). A very big thank you to all who helped and supported us. We are very pleased to be able to report to you that we have again being able to pay our family purse to the diocese in full. Thank you for your financial generosity. To mark this achievement Myra, Helen and myself will be attending a special service at the cathedral later in June. Some of you may remember Alan Shipcott, he was church warden for many years. He has recently died, our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Joy and family. We are looking forward to a wedding later in the year.

Please remember that the church is there for you to visit and use.





Please do ask if you feel we may be of any assistance to you.

Best wishes Tony Towns
(telephone number 01245440241)



Left a photo of parishioners having fun tidying up the Churchyard in preparation for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

If you have any photos or articles for the newsletter please send them to the editor. The details are below.

		
	<p>Editor: Linda Nelson Ivy Cottage Chignal Smealey CM1 4TA</p> <p>Tel: 01245 442625 Fax: 01245 442952</p> <p>Email: chignalswe@btinternet.com Web: www.essexinfo.net/thechignals</p> <p>Articles to the editor by 31st July 2012 for next publication on 1st September 2012</p>	