

No. 165
May 2014



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHIGNALS WITH MASHBURY

Chignal News



Village Clean-up

A big thank you to everyone that took part (Photo above).
The lanes did look tidier for a time, but the litter louts and fly tippers are out and about making the place look untidy again, which is a great shame that some people treat the countryside like a litter bin!

NEW VOLUNTEERS urgently NEEDED



ecdP, with the support of our volunteers, encourage disabled people to become less isolated and become more involved in their local communities.

Many disabled people, with volunteer support, have grown in confidence and made new friends. Harry was socially isolated. With the support of a volunteer gradually his confidence returned and he accessed adult education, training courses and voluntary work which has led on to paid work. Harry is now much happier and confident in all areas of his life.

We greatly appreciate all the time and skills our trained volunteers give to the scheme. We would not be able to operate without our team of dedicated and committed volunteers.

If you would like to find out more about **ecdP**, or our initial training course for new volunteers on June 12th, contact Cheryl, Laura or Cindy on 01245 392 310 or email insight@ecdP.org.uk

All travel expenses paid and lunch is provided on the training course.

Coffee Morning

It's been just over a year since Sarah Scott and her small group of volunteers started the monthly Coffee Mornings and we're delighted to see so many regulars and some new faces enjoy a chat over a cuppa and cake.

The Coffee Mornings now also provide opportunities to buy greetings cards and local crafts and to pick up information from a range of organisations, such as Chelmsford City Council Customer Services, the Rural Agent, Essex Police and Essex Fire and Rescue.

Our local Police Community Support Officer (PC SO) Gina Bennett met some of you at the May Coffee Morning and announced that she would be present each month so that you can raise any concerns with her face to face at the village hall or send her an email between Coffee Mornings ginabennett@essex.pnn.police.uk

If there are any issues that you would like to discuss with the Parish Council, please come to have a chat with your Councillors as we attend the Coffee Mornings on a regular basis. Our City Councillor Nicolette Chambers has also used this gathering to speak with some of you.

The next Coffee Morning is on Wednesday 4th June.



Gardening Club Visits

Following our spring programme of gardening talks held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm the village hall, we have three summer garden visits planned so far with some more in the pipeline.

Wednesday 14th May, 7pm: “Wickets”, Langley Upper Green, Essex, CB11 4RY

Cost: £6.50 per person including refreshments, tea/coffee and cake or wine and canapés.

Description: Peaceful country garden ‘Far from the Madding Crowd’. Wide, informal mixed borders include camassia, shrub roses and alliums. Two landscaped meadows and shepherd’s hut with fine pastoral views. Large lily pond sheltered by silver birch. Curvilinear design links themed planting areas. Espalier apples enclose parterre with sweet peas, delphiniums, lavender. Secluded gravel garden.

Wednesday 18th June, 7pm: “The Old Rectory”, Church Road, Boreham, Essex, CM3 3EP

Cost: £10.00 per person including wine and smoked salmon on brown bread

Description: 2½-acre garden surrounding C15 house (not open). Ponds, stream, with bridges and primulas, small wild flower meadow and wood with interesting trees and shrubs, herbaceous borders with emphasis on complementary colours. Vegetable garden. In June see the tall bearded iris. Lovely views over Chelmer/Blackwater canal

Wednesday 16th July, 7pm.” Furzelea”, Bicknacre Road, Danbury, Essex, CM3 4JR

Cost: £6.00 per person including refreshments, tea/coffee cake or wine and nibbles.

Description: A Victorian country house surrounded by a garden designed, created and maintained by the owners to provide maximum all year round interest. Spring planting includes tulips and alliums, Summer brings roses, peonies, and poppies and in autumn annuals, perennials, dahlias and grasses mix with topiary and shrubs to give colour, scent and form. Opposite Danbury Common (NT).

If you would like to come along to any of these garden visits, please phone Lynn Ballard on 01245 440880 or email lynn_ballard@btinternet.com

New Railcard

A new Railcard was launched last month which will allow passengers to be able to purchase a new Railcard online and at rail stations.

The Two Together Railcard is being launched by Britain’s train companies and it is the first new national Railcard in 30 years.

Pairs of adults travelling together by train can use the card to save a third off the cost of their journey. The card is designed to fill a gap in the existing family of Railcards which give many passengers discounts on their journeys. Last year over 116 million journeys were made nationally by Railcard holders who on average saved £148.00 over the course of the year.

The card will cost £30 a year for two named people travelling together and savings will be available for travel throughout Britain in both Standard and First Class. More information on how you can buy a Two Together Railcard, or the benefits you could receive can be found at www.railcard.co.uk.

Community News

"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 440528 (Barbara), 01245 442474 (Gill), 01245 440241 (Helen), 01245 440880 (Lynn),
01245 445245 (Sandra), 01245 443497 (Sarah)

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.

If you do not need support but would like to join us with this venture, please telephone us as soon as possible. Barbara & Helen would like to thank the people who have already offered their services for the "Friends of the Chignals with Mashbury" venture.

Note: Please keep this notice handy as it might be useful one day

Dates for your Diary

Annual Village Hall Fete and Vintage Rally at the Village Hall and playing field

on Saturday 7th June 2014 from 1 pm to 5 pm

A fun day out for all the family with **FREE ADMISSION!**

Items for stalls are welcome

Stalls-Games-Plants-Books-Cream Teas-Tombola-Cakes-Art Exhibition Tractors-Farm Machinery-
Motorbikes-Engines-Cars

All proceeds to village hall improvements and other local charities.

Chignal Wine Discovery Group

The month of February's wine tasting, coincided with Valentines night, Friday 14th. Although the stormy night had forced quite a few members to call off at the last moment, those who attended had a enjoyable evening. Joanna Goodman from The Wine Society, a closed "members only" society, had come along to present some of their more interesting wines by a method she described as " Call My Bluff"! All the wines she presented were covered over, we then had to guess which of the details she had given us descriptions of, were actually the wines we were drinking. This proved be a perplexing though interesting slant on the evening.

The wines we later found out were as follows:

Stadt Krems Grüner Veltliner 'Rieden', Niederösterreich 2012 Grüner makes an excellent food wine, adaptable to a very wide variety of dishes. [The Wine Society ref AA1361 £11.95 bottle]

Greywacke Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2013 This is a new Marlborough label by Kevin Judd, Born in England but grew up in Australia. The wine is a mineral and peachy sauvignon blanc which stands out for its purity, class and extremely long flavour. [The Wine Society £15.50 bottle]

Catena Alta Historic Rows Chardonnay 2011 A barrel-fermented chardonnay. The style, marked by its minerality and precision, which has been enhanced by careful barrel-maturation. Decant 20 minutes before serving to develop the flavours. Drink now to 2017. [The Wine Society ref AR2921 £17 bottle]

Côtes-du-Rhône Villages Génération, Domaine Jaume 2011 A Grenache-dominated red, tastes full and ripe with well-rounded tannins. Perfect for drinking now, but will last well until 2016. This vineyard is farmed without the use of chemical fertilisers, insecticides or weedkillers. [The Wine Society ref RH34991 £7.95 bottle]

Syrah, Tandem, Alain Graillot 2010 While cycling on holiday in Morocco, Alain Graillot, top grower in Crozes Hermitage, met the owners of the Thalvin estate, who have made wine for decades from vines grown on the rolling hills of Romani. Drink from now to 2018. [The Wine Society ref MO41 £11.50 bottle]

Contino Reserva, Rioja 2007 Founded in 1973, Contino was the first wine in Rioja to be made from a single vineyard, surrounding the bodega at Laserna, near Logroño. The 2007 vintage of Contino Reserva Rioja is outstanding. Decant before serving. Drink now to 2020. [The Wine Society ref SP6331 £20 bottle]

March's wine tasting was presented to us by Brett Jones, who calls himself The Wine Maestro.

Brett gave us an interested insight into the largely unknown wines from Uruguay. Although none of the wines we tried were particularly inspiring, we all found the detail Brett gave us, quite informative. This little known wine producing area in South Uruguay actually dates back to 19th century Basque and Italian settlers.

Marsanne, De Lucca from El Colorado. 2010 @ £7.95 Comes from a small winery set in one of the most ancient viticulture regions of Uruguay. Made with very ripe grapes. It is very yellow in colour and has various fruity undertones.

Bodegonas Del Sur /fume Blanc, Juanico from Canelones. 2011 @£10.90 This wine also has a good yellow colour along with fruity aromas and is full bodied. Uruguay has similarities with wines from the Loire and Bordeaux having similar rainfall sunlight, humidity and even temperature.

Chardonnay, Premium Varietal, Marichal also from Canelones 2011 @ £8.95 The Chardonnay grape is believed to have originated in the Burgundy wine region of eastern France. The Chardonnay grape itself is very neutral, with many of the flavours commonly associated with the grape being derived from such influences as the terroir and oak.

Atlantico Sur Garzon vineyard. Marselan from Malsonado. Garzon. 2013 @ £8.70 This red wine is like a cross between cabernet sauvignon and Grenache and some may say needs an acquired taste.

Tannat Libero, De Lucca from El Colorado. 2010 @ £9.65 Tannat is one of the best known grapes in most good red wines. The grape probably originated in the Basque country and is said to have medicinal properties.

Catarsis. Vinedo De Los Vientos. 2008 @ £10.90 Fully ripe Cabernet Sauvignon aged 18 months in French oak barrels, blended with Tannat before bottling and was the most matured wine of the evening.

This month's review was written by Terri Waller

Chignals Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHIGNAL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 10 MARCH 2014 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present:

Cllr. Miss Lynn Ballard (Chair)	Cllr. Ms Linda Nelson (Vice-Chair)
Cllr. Mr. Malcolm Feltwell	Cllr. Mr. Steve Middleditch
Cllr. Mr. Andy Jenkins	Cllr. Mr. Martyn Towns
	Cllr. Mr. Chris Philpot

In Attendance:

Cllr Mr. John Aldridge Essex County Council
Cllr Mrs Nicolette Chambers Chelmsford City Council
Mrs. Janet Mills (Parish Clerk) and 20 Parishioners

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr Chambers declared an interest in Item 10b. The planning application had been submitted by a family friend. Cllr Chambers left the meeting before the application was discussed.

3.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- a) Once again issues were raised relating to the nursery at Pieces Cottage. Parishioners again called into question whether the Gardening Express was a horticultural business or a packing and distribution business. Cllr Chambers advised that a full assessment to determine the nature of the business on the site had been carried out by an Agricultural Officer. What types of development permissions were required would be determined once the nature of the business had been established. The outcome of the assessment was awaited. Cllr Aldridge reiterated that Highways matters were of the most concern, and suggested that future development of the site should only be supported if the highway issues are resolved. The Chairman re-assured the meeting that the Parish Council was doing everything possible within its statutory powers to resolve the issues.
- b) The Post Office letter box in the wall at Stevens Farm was broken, and the time of collection notices were missing. Concerns were raised that letters were not being collected and that the box would be taken away. It was established that letters were still being collected at the usual time. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to the Post Office to ensure there was no intention for the box to be taken away.
- c) Concern was raised at the amount of surface water still remaining on the road, near to the Three Elms Public House. Hedgerows encroaching on that section of the road were also of concern. This was noted. The meeting was advised that local land owners had undertaken much work recently to clear ditches and cut hedges to assist with flooding problems.
- d) A 'sink' hole measuring about three feet across had appeared opposite Britton's Hall Farm Barn. Cllr Aldridge agreed to follow up the matter with the Highways Department.

4.0 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING 10 JANUARY 2014

After correcting two minor typing errors, the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

5.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Clerk advised that initial contact had been made with the CCC regarding the proposal to site a dog bin on the bridleway but no progress had been made. The Clerk agreed to follow up the matter.

6.0 COUNTY AND CITY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Chambers advised the meeting as follows:

a) **Oaklands Park Museum**

With regard to Oaklands Museum, plans to upgrade/modernise the fabric of the building and install a cafe would be officially announced shortly. The City Council was seeking partnership funding including a lottery grant to undertake the project.

b) **WW1 Commemorative Days**

Both Oaklands Park and Hylands House would be hosting World War One Commemorative events. Details of the events were awaited.

Chignal Parish Council continued

c) **New Parish Society**

A new Society had been established. The 100 Parish Society was offering to provide a Web site based service advertising Parish events. The service would cost the Parish Council £10 per month. Cllr Chambers agreed to forward further details to the Clerk.

d) **Council Tax Rise**

There was to be a small raise in Council Tax of six pence per week.

Councillor John Aldridge advised the meeting as follows:

a) **Tour De France**

Plans for the event were now in full swing. Due to the timing of road closures, issues regarding whether schools should be closed had been raised.

b) **Council Tax**

Due to better tax collection which had led to additional funds having been gathered though the year, Essex County Council would not be raising the cost of Council Tax. It was proposed that £4.8M of the funds raised would be used as hypothecated funding for Highways initiatives, Flooding issues, Apprenticeships programmes, and Schemes for Vulnerable people.

Cllr Aldridge agreed to take back the suggestion whether any funds saved on not having to grit the roads this winter, could be used for repairs of pot holes.

7.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a) The meeting was advised that roads would be closed between 8.0am and 5pm on Monday 7th July to allow the Tour De France race to pass through the local area. The meeting was also advised that barriers will also be placed across road junctions on to the Chignal Road. Residents and local businesses should make alternative arrangements and be prepared for delay in travelling. The Church would be hosting an event including a hog roast during the afternoon of the 7th to celebrate the day.
- b) With regard to the Bus Strategy Consultation, the Council had received 3,000 responses so far. There was to be another consultation event on Tuesday 10 June at the Essex Record Office. Those interested in attending should advise the Clerk. Arrangements would be made accordingly.
- Cllr Chambers and Cllr Aldridge left the Meeting.**

8.0 REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

Representatives gave the follow reports:

a) **Playing Fields**

Work on the gateway entrance would commence now that the weather had improved.

b) **Village Hall**

No report at this time.

c) **Newsletter Including Website**

No report at this time.

d) **Gravel Liaison**

The hydrologist report was awaited. The next meeting was scheduled for 7 May 2014.

e) **Village Watch**

Item deferred to the Annual Parish Meeting, which would follow this meeting.

f) **Highways**

A survey of flooding problems had been undertaken and action taken by Members where possible. Members considered the City Councils Parish Cleansing Scheme. Suggestions regarding what work should be undertaken and proposed dates would be forwarded to the Clerk for submission to the City Council.

g) **Footpaths/Bridleways**

A number of places were still blocked by fallen debris from the autumn storm. Places included the top end of Blind Lane and Beadles up to Fox Rd. Work was needed to clear these blockages.

Chignal Parish Council continued

c) Telephone Box Chignal St. James

Members had received a paper suggesting that a working group be set up to take the work forward to turn the telephone box into an information station. The Paper set out the working group's proposed membership and terms of reference. Cllr. Martyn Towns proposed that a working group be set up. Cllr. Chris Philpot seconded the motion so long as a Councillor was included in the group membership. This was agreed. The motion was carried.

d) Tree Warden

Cllr. Ballard would be attending a City Council course shortly.

9.0 JUBILEE ORCHARD COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Orchard Committee meeting held 4 February were noted. The Chairman advised that the next meeting of the Committee was to be on 18 March. Further to this a meeting which was to be open to the public was being planned for 12 May.

10.0 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Decisions noted

Brittons Hall Farm application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the use of former barn/stables as a single private dwelling house. **Application Permitted.**

b) New Planning Applications for consideration

- a) Bridleway Cottage application proposed cart lodge. The meeting was advised that Members had considered the application. Comments raising concerns about the size and prominence of position in front of the house had been submitted to meet the deadlines prior to this meeting.
- b) Land Between Marshalls and 4 Ash Rise proposed two storey house and detached garage, lay out and amenity areas, stop up existing access and form new vehicular access to Woodhall Road. The Chignal Parish Council raised no objection to the application at this stage but reserve the right to form a judgement on the full application, so as to ensure the development is in line with the village design statement and especially on the materials to be used.

11.0 FINANCE

The Clerk reported as follows:

a) Balance in Accounts on 11 November 2013

Community Account - £3,492.75

Business Account - £3,236.20

b) Cheques issued since the last meeting:

No Cheques had been issued since the last meeting. The Clerk asked that any outstanding invoices should be submitted to the Council by 20 March in order to meet the year end accounting requirements.

c) Orchard Committee Delegated Budget

The Clerk confirmed that the Delegated Budget had an opening balance of £799.68.

13.0 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

The Clerk circulated 3 publications for information.

14.0 LATE URGENT BUSINESS

None

15.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 12th May 2014 in the Village Hall. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.

Mashbury Parish Meeting

Report on Mashbury Parish Meeting on 2nd April 2014

Residents who attended the Mashbury Parish Meeting were very pleased to welcome PC Peter Carter; Essex Police, Lynn Ballard; Chair of Chignal Parish Council and Cllr John Aldridge; Essex County Council.

PC Carter spoke about police work to reduce crime in rural areas and answered questions about how residents could support this work and protect their own property. His visit was felt to be both helpful and informative. Other strategies have been proposed by Essex Police including a Crime prevention workshop at a local coffee meeting and a home security self-assessment sheet and residents will be kept informed about these.

Lynn Ballard kindly attended to brief Mashbury residents about the current situation at the Nursery at Pieces Cottage. She emphasised that Chignal Parish Council are aware of and share local people's concerns regarding the condition of the highway, problems with large delivery lorries, parking on roadside verges and the tidiness of the site. No further action can be taken until the decision of the independent assessor about the classification of the commercial enterprise. Lynn was thanked for her helpfulness in answering questions.

Cllr Aldridge gave a brief update on Essex CC activity affecting the parish, and then kindly and fully answered questions regarding road conditions generally and specifically related to the Tour de France route.

As usual, the meeting organised volunteers to collect litter to give the village its annual clean-up. Our thanks to all those who took equipment to do this valuable task.

Moira Tarrant
Chair, Mashbury Parish Meeting
m.tarrant@virgin.net

From the County Council

Essex Train Service Improvement Pledge Welcomed

Abellio Greater Anglia has pledged to deliver service improvements as part of an extension to its contract with the Department for Transport. These include the major refurbishment of intercity trains used on the Great Eastern Main Line and improvements to seats, lighting and toilet facilities. An additional 1600 standard seats are also being provided on weekday intercity services on the Great Eastern Main Line. Whilst these are small they welcome improvements to train services in Essex and the County Council will continue to work with the Parliamentary Rail Taskforce to make the case for reduced journey times, greater capacity on both the Great Eastern and West Anglia Main Lines to meet predicted growth in Essex.

Primary School Preference Figures Announced

Despite increased pressure on primary school places I am pleased that Essex County Council has offered 93.55% of parents their first or second choice of primary school. This high percentage highlights the County Council's work to create additional places and respond to the challenge of population increases. The County Council have commissioned almost 600 more reception places for September 2014 and are committed to delivering another 300 primary places by September 2015. It is my hope that this commitment to primary places will ensure that most parents continue to secure places at their preferred schools.

Bills Slashed with Essex Energy Switch

The first Essex Energy Switch has secured total savings on gas and electricity bills of over £250,000 for Essex residents. Some 1,202 residents accepted offers to switch energy providers with the collective savings scheme, with average savings per household of £209. The Essex Energy Switch works by bringing together residents who want to switch providers and pay less for their gas and electricity bills. The scheme is run by Essex County Council, in partnership with District, Borough and City Councils, and delivered by iChoosr, an independent provider which specialises in collective energy switching. The scheme that has proved such a success will be re-run a second phase this summer and you may wish to take the opportunity to register and save money by changing your energy suppliers.

The winning suppliers in the February auction were Ovo Energy for all online billing contracts, British Gas for dual fuel paper billing contracts, Green Star Energy for Electricity Only paper billing contracts and Scottish Power for prepayment contracts.

For further details on the schemes home savings visit www.essex.gov.uk/energyswitch.

If you have any problems concerning **County Council** matters please let me know on **01245 421524** or email cllr.john.aldridge@essex.gov.uk

John Aldridge CC – May 2014

St. Nicholas Continued

In June Revd. Rose Braisby and 3 others will be ordained priest at Great Waltham. It will be a great celebration. Tickets will be needed so if you would like to come you will need to be entered into the draw. Please give your names to Tony Towns or me. We are hoping that everyone who wants to come can join us for this historic occasion.

The dates of services are as follows:

Sunday 4 May	9.30am Ford End, 11am Great Waltham
Sunday 11 May	11am Morning Prayer
Sunday 18 May	9.30am Ford End, 11am Great Waltham
Sunday 25 May	10am Rogation service
Sunday 1 June	9.30am Ford End, 11am Great Waltham
Sunday 8 June	11 am Morning Prayer
Sunday 15 June	9.30am Ford End, 11am Great Waltham
Sunday 22 June	10am Rose's ordination Great Waltham
Sunday 29 June	10am Rose's first communion service, Great Waltham

May this spring be a time when your worries are small and your sense of the moment great. May we know the gift of knowing that we live in the land of our family.

Revd. Caroline Brown
01245 364081
Cjbrown42@hotmail.co.uk

Simple Lent Lunch 10th April in the Village Hall.

Many parishioners, and friends from our neighbouring villages, Great Waltham and Ford End, enjoyed friendship over lunch. Our meal was followed by a pictorial talk from Doctor Gemma Conn. Gemma lives in Great Waltham, she is surgeon at Broomfield Hospital and has worked in Zambia. She gave us an interesting talk, explaining how their culture and traditions reflect very much on the outcome of their treatment. Gemma told us that Broomfield is one of the finest hospitals she has worked in, she listed quite a few, so I think we have good reason to be grateful. Donations amounting to £250 were given, this money will be divided equally between the 'Bishops Lent Appeal', this year a secondary school for deaf children in Kenya, and the hospital in Zambia where Gemma worked. They both rely heavily on voluntary contributions. Unlike us, they have no state funded health care provision. Gemma plans to buy much needed surgical equipment, we can rest knowing that the money will be used directly for the benefit of those it was given.

A very big thank you to all who generously gave and those who helped, especially Steve Middleditch, Cherry Scott and Barbara Miller.

Helen Towns.

St. Nicholas' Church

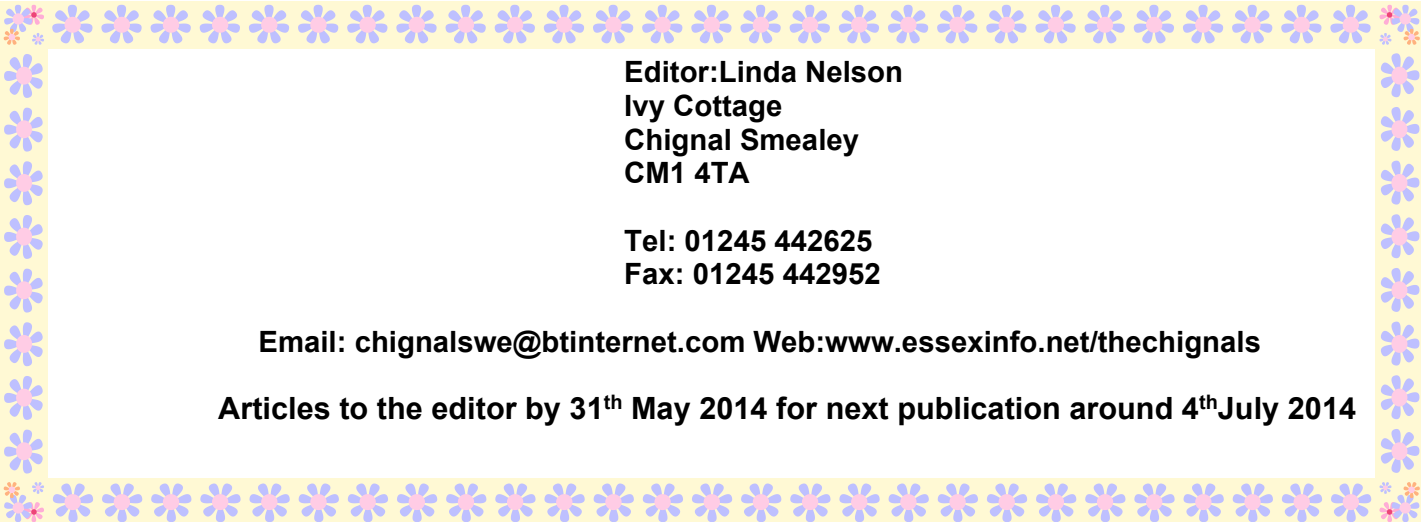
In the visitors book at St Nicholas there is a family with the surname Chignals who live in Brazil but wrote in the book 'the land of our family'. I have been amazed at the numbers of local people who have been in this place either from birth or for a long time. There is a rootedness about this place and the people and even those of us who have come a bit more recently are aware of it and attracted to it. There is a faithfulness and a steadfastness which is so valuable in our current culture.

The AGM was well attended and it was acknowledged that for many the church is a central public building in the community, whatever people's beliefs and that the church runs on volunteers and people across the community were thanked for their support of the church. Our beautiful old church speaks to people of peace and something people can't always put into words.

On a more practical note, this is a time of change and Myra Wilkins after many years of good service as secretary to the PCC has hung up her pen, as has Greg Pollack as treasurer. Tony and Helen Towns whose faithful perseverance have kept the church going and the rumour of God alive in this place have given notice that it is time for them to pass the baton on. Tony, who has been church warden for 16 years would like to step down but is graciously willing to stand for one more year. Helen who supports him so fully and does so many things to support the church has agreed for this year to be PCC secretary and welcomer, but again she is giving us all notice. We have a year's grace in which to find out who is willing to step up and take the baton so the journey continues. We are grateful to Nigel Bevitt-Smith who has agreed to be treasurer and electoral roll officer and for Cherry Scott who will be on the PCC.

Myra Wilkins presented the PCC with a beautiful book written by her husband Tony about our three small villages in mid Essex. The parish council was also presented with a copy. For those with an interest in local history this is a real gem which has been thoroughly and lovingly researched and includes illustrations. Do ask Tony Towns or Lynn Ballard if you would like to see it.

On a sadder note, the funeral of Andrew Jiggins in February at Chelmsford Crematorium was packed. Andrew was a man of the countryside who loved his family and was very close to them, was popular and a loyal friend who would do anything for anyone. Margaret his wife is well supported by her family and friends, many of whom are local. The funeral at St Nicholas of Baby Tilly Clarke in March was very moving and again the support of family and friends for Sarah and James, Charlie and twin Maddie at this difficult time makes all the difference. We will remember them in our prayers.



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