

No. 138

October 2009



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHIGNALS WITH MASHBURY

Chignal News

Village Hall Car Park Official Opening



Wednesday 30th September saw the official opening of the new Car Park. The ribbon was cut by John Aldridge our Essex Councillor with Nicolette Chambers, members of the Parish Council, Village Hall Committee and Sue Sheppard from the Rural Community Council of Essex attending. This last major stage of the Hall redevelopment was made possible by the grants we received from The Big Lottery "Awards for All " and the Essex Council "Community Initiative Fund". We now have a Car Park giving easy access to all and with special bays for disabled parking.

MacMillan Coffee Morning



Jackie Turner and Julie Mawer organised another very successful MacMillan coffee morning at the village hall on Friday 25th September. Thanks are sent to all those who supported this very worthwhile cause, which raised a total of £543.94p.

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St Nicholas

Services on
Sundays at
11 a.m.
All Welcome



In June we had a really wonderful afternoon in the beautiful garden created by Janet and Tony Campen, there was so much to see there and the weather was perfect. We were joined by friends from Broomfield WI and by Ginny Freeston, from Orchard Springs WI, who gave a very good report on the AGM held the day before at the Albert Hall. In July we were due to have a speaker on the Queen's garden parties at Buckingham Palace but unfortunately at last minute she was ill, she was quickly replaced by two of our members. Myra Wilkins recounted her visit to a Buckingham Palace garden party which she and Tony had enjoyed quite a few years ago and Anita Howard recalled her many visits to Wimbledon and described how it had changed over the years. This was followed by a splendid tea suitable for any special event. In August Edie and Clare Stubbings brought a very well organised and amusing musical quiz which got the feet tapping and the brains ticking. Edie had worked in the record industry for 40 years and he and Clare had enjoyed running major dance events. Congratulations to one of our new members Angela Flynn who had great success with all her cookery entries in the WI Essex Federation Summer Show at Towerlands, Braintree. One first, three seconds and a third, Angela really must have impressed the WI judges who are very tough! In September our speaker was badly held up in a traffic jam but with a bit of rearrangement and quite a few phone calls she finally arrived and gave her

talk very suitably entitled 'The Show must go on!' In October we are looking forward to a talk on the Colourful Azores given by Dudley Chignall, with a name like that we just had to invite him to our WI. MANY THANKS to all who attended our quiz night. We had excellent support from local clubs and Broomfield WI. It turned out to be a very jolly evening due to the unusual questions set by WI member Glenys Watkins and her husband Alan. The WI team 'The Lions!' won, very closely followed by the team from Chignal Chapel. Janet Campen and Gill Cater organised a light supper. The proceeds will be divided between the Village Hall and the WI Charities.

October 1st Colourful Azores by Mr. Dudley Chignall

November 5th AGM

December 3rd A Saga Cruise (Well, actually just a talk about it!)

Visitors always welcome. Come and join us in 2010
Myra Wilkins 440 659

Chignal4Art meets on every 4th Thursday 12 noon to 4pm (come and go whenever you like during that time). It is always a friendly afternoon with a lot of chat but artwork does get done! You don't have to be a WI member to come along. Beginners always welcome and helped.

Myra Wilkins 440 659

Bowls Club

Since the last newsletter the Club has had an outing to Hylands House. We had a tour of the rooms with a Guide who was both interesting and amusing, followed by tea and cake in the dining room. All agreed that this was a good afternoon out. Our next social occasion is the Club Supper in October. During September we had two matches, one at home against Black Notley, and one away against Ford End. Both resulting in a win for Chignal. Our next match is at home against Leaden Roding. In October we begin our Club's internal matches, playing for the Ladies' and Gents' Singles Trophies, and also the pairs matches for the Ted Ball Trophy. A busy and interesting winter season.

Ann Coates.

North Melbourne Library

We would like to thank all the children who joined up for the Summer Reading Challenge this year and we hope you all enjoyed being Quest Seekers. Over 46000 children took part across the whole county with 431 joining at North Melbourne Library. On Saturday 7th November 11:00-11:30 we will be starting a **family story time** so come and join us for half an hour of stories and rhymes.

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

Chignals Cricket Club

Another season over, where did the summer go?

The Chignal teams had a fairly successful season and although being in a position at one stage where they could both get promoted, the 1st team finally finished 4th in division 1 of the Mid Essex league and the 2nd team also finished 4th in division 9.

Trophy winners this year are:-

The Fox Batting Cup (most runs scored)
Matthew Cant

The William Bird Bowling trophy (best bowling average) - Fazal Rahman

The Ron Scott trophy (most wickets taken)
Tom Bird

The Jack Matthews Saturday Fielding Cup
Tom Bird

The Ted Matthews Sunday Fielding Cup
Ross Cant

The Duck Cup (most ducks in the season)
James Marriage.

If you are interested in seeing all stats, results and news about the cricket club, please visit our website: chignal.play-cricket.com

We are holding our annual Race Night on Saturday 14th November in the Chignal Village Hall,

if anyone would like to come along you are very welcome, £5 on the door food will be provided but you will need to bring your own drinks.

Doors open at 7.30pm. This is a very enjoyable night and helps us raise money to continue playing cricket at one of the most picturesque and tranquil grounds in the area.

Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 11th November this is also in the village hall at 8pm.



Wine Club

After the long summer break (the group does not meet in August) September heralded the sixth anniversary of the Chignal Saint James Wine Discovery Group! Unfortunately that also meant that the evening began with the formalities of an AGM. Thank you to all of the elected officers who were re-elected this year and unselfishly give their time each month to ensure that the group continues to flourish. For the first time ever it was agreed to raise the fees. The annual membership has been raised to £15 per year but the wine tasting fee has remain fixed at £7.50 (or £10 if premium wines are being tasted) per evening attended. Everyone agreed that this was still excellent value for money – an evening out with six or more wines, introduced by a speaker and followed by cheese and biscuits. The formalities over, the wine began to flow. The evening was presented by Chris Hodge of Facefield Marketing and covered Chilean wines. Rather than representing a wine merchant, Chris is employed to promote Chilean wines - good for us because he isn't tied to any one merchant. Chris had not presented to the group before but

we soon realised we were in for a treat – he had even brought a wine along for us to “cleanse our palette” while he introduced himself and the wines to be tasted that evening. Chile is a very long and thin country with extremes of climate at either end, it is in the southern hemisphere with the wine growing region between 30 and 40 degrees latitude. Chris had an excellent knowledge of the climatic conditions that affected the vines and explained how the proximity of the Pacific Ocean helped to temper the climate or how a valley allowed rolling mists to provide moisture and cool vines that otherwise would not bear fruit. The wines were of course superb, but the excellent presentation really did allow you to understand the great efforts that wine makers go to when producing wine for our consumption. An excellent evening and I hope Chris returns again in the future

If anyone would like to know more about the group then please call Dave (442474) for more information.

Gardening Club

The winter series of talks started in September with a very interesting talk entitled "What's in a name" given by John Walker. John's talks are always very informative and this one was no exception. The Autumn Club supper was a great success with approximately 24 members enjoying a super meal at the Three Elms. Thanks to Mark & Tina.

Unfortunately, Wol Staines; who was to have been our speaker in November, has had to cancel due to ill-health. We wish Wol a speedy recovery. We have yet to find a replacement speaker, but we are still planning to find someone so we can meet as normal on the third Wednesday in the month at the Chignal Village Hall. (18th November).

Richard and Alyson Dinnen, who have been stalwarts of the gardening club for many years, have recently moved to near Diss in Norfolk. We wish them well in their new home and thank them for all their hard work as committee members. We hope they will make visits back to the Gardening Club so we can hear how their new house is taking shape - especially of course the garden.

New members are always welcome to our talks just come along or contact John Denniss on 01245 440289 if you want any information about the club.

Editorial by Linda Nelson

It is hard to believe that another year has passed since I celebrated my birthday last year. I love this time of year, not least because it is my birthday but because of the Autumn colours, as the trees give us a glorious display before shutting down for winter. The light has been amazing recently and enhances the beauty of our countryside. It is also a good time for taking advantage of nature's bounty everyone's fruit trees seem to be absolutely laden this year. I think in Essex we have had the best of the weather - as I have travelled around England for my job - I have heard many people bemoaning the weather, but I could not agree with them - we have had a good summer - the hay seemed to be in amazingly early - we were picking blackberries at the end of August and Graham has made some rather delicious bramble jelly. Everyone's holly trees seem full of berries too, I am not sure if that is because we had a hard winter last year of whether it is a sign that we will have a hard winter this year. I am sure there is someone out there that will know the answer to that conundrum. I will publish the best answer in the next edition.

As many of you no doubt know, Graham and I have horses - we spend much of our time riding round the beautiful countryside around our villages. I really enjoy seeing how people's gardens change throughout the seasons and I always think Essex is a much unappreciated county. We also get to meet and chat to people as we ride along which always adds to the enjoyment. Although, I was not riding at the time, one lady I met at Mashbury was researching a family tree, I tried to help, but as I am not from this area I did not think much more of it, until recently the same lady - Mrs Rayner called at our cottage asking for information. Graham and I ended up inviting the Rayners to have a cup of tea with us, whilst we chatted about how best to trace one's family tree and Mrs. Rayner composed a request for information for this newsletter. I do hope someone out there will be able to help. Please let me know as it makes for an interesting follow-up, As you know, I am always keen to try to include some different material in the newsletter. Linda

Diary Dates

Village Hall

Friday November 20th
Whist Drive 7.30 pm

Saturday December 5th
Mince Pies & Coffee
Morning 10,00 am

WARD SURGERY

MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

6.15 pm - 7.15 pm

Chignal Village Hall

Nicolette Chambers will be available to people wishing to discuss matters relating to Chignal village or Chelmsford Borough Council -everyone is welcome.
Tel: 01245 456719

Ancestral Searches

I am making enquires on my husband's family names of:-

Bearman, Havell, Hillyard and Coleman

If anyone might have any information in researching our family tree, I would be grateful if you would contact me. I am also interested in finding out if the name Bearman has any relevance to Bearmans Lane or cottages, Chignal Smealey

Telephone Carolyn Rayner 01245 237342

Volunteers Urgently Needed

In order to maintain our church and churchyard to the high standard of the past, we urgently need cleaners and gardeners. For offers of help and more information please phone Tony or Helen Towns on 44024.

There are no set rules, you do whatever you feel able to do, at the time of your choosing.

Polishing morning at St. Nicholas on Wednesday 25th, see news report for more details.

Anyone for Yoga?

Would you be interested in attending a Yoga class in the village hall? It would start in January and last 6 weeks, most likely on a Tuesday mornings. Each session would be 1.5 hours long and cost approx £4.50. Please call Gill Thomas on 442474 if you would be interested. Many Thanks.

Chignal Parish Council Meeting

UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF THE MEETING OF CHIGNAL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2009 IN THE VILLAGE HALL PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- a) A parishioner requested information on the proposal for a travellers' site between Writtle and Boyton Cross and it was explained that the Borough Council is no longer considering this option and is looking at sites in South Hanningfield and GreatBaddow.
- b) Questions were asked on the notice which has appeared on footpath 25 at Stevens Farm and investigations will be made on the legality of the notice.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that a meeting to discuss the possibility of a travellers site in Boyton Cross was held by Councillors on 17th July and the minutes of the meeting were agreed and signed. The Chairman explained that a timetable for the circulation of the Newsletter has been agreed for the next 18 months.

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLAYING FIELDS - the grass has been cut regularly and the benches varnished. A request has been received from the Caravan Club for use of the field and the request was agreed.

VILLAGE HALL LIAISON – The resurfacing work to the car park is complete and a disabled space is to be marked out. A formal opening of the car park will take place on 30th September 2009.

NEWSLETTER INCL. WEBSITE – the latest edition has been circulated to parishioners and dates for future editions have been agreed.

GRAVEL LIAISON – the liaison meeting was held on 24th July when it was agreed that remedial work to Pengymill Lane will be completed before Christmas. The problems with ragwort have been resolved.

FOOTPATHS /BRIDLEWAYS – Councillors have carried out the first walk of the footpaths and a report will be forwarded to the Parish Paths Partnership requesting remedial work be carried out where necessary. A further walk will be organised for later in the year.

HIGHWAYS – it was explained that surface dressing will be carried out by the Highways Department later in the year, Councillors have agreed the three schemes to be submitted for consideration for inclusion in the Parish Highways Scheme.

VDS – it was reported that a meeting was held with the Parish Council to look at the draft before it was submitted to the Borough Council. The VDS Committee has now been given the go ahead by the Borough Council and it will be submitted to Cabinet on 28th September 2009, for adoption.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Chambers explained that an extensive planning consultation exercise will commence towards the end of October for eight weeks to seek the views of local communities. There will be a series of exhibitions and views will be sought on the North Chelmsford Area Action Plan. The Borough Council has been awarded Community Credited Accreditation which will give specialised officers powers to confiscate cigarettes and alcohol from young people under 18 and issue penalty notices etc.

PLANNING

Gravel extraction and formation of a reservoir opposite the Village Hall – the application was refused.

Brittons Hall Farm – landfill site – the Environmental Officer has submitted his report and the application is expected to be included on the agenda for Committee on 23rd October 2009.

Blue Cottage – alterations to side extension – the application has been approved.

Woodfall Chignal Smealey – first floor extension – the application has been approved.

Westleas Chignal St. James – extensions – a decision is awaited from the Borough Council.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) A letter has been received from British Telecom regarding the future of the telephone box at Chignal St. James. Of the two options available, it was agreed that the Parish Council purchase the box and will take responsibility for the maintenance of the box.
- b) A coffee morning is to be held for Macmillan nurses in the Village Hall on Friday 25th September between 9 – 12 noon.
- c) A quiz evening has been arranged for Friday 25th September in the Village Hall in aid of Village Hall funds and W.I. charities. Entry fee is £4.00 and a light supper will be served.
- d) A parishioner has complained about the state of the verges in the Parish and the danger of overhanging hedges near Howletts Corner, which will be investigated.
- e) A parishioner has requested clarification on why residents were contacted by letter on a proposed travellers site but had not been similarly informed about the planning application for the extraction of gravel and formation of a reservoir opposite the Village Hall. The parishioner will be contacted to explain why the actions taken differed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 9th November 2009.

Three Elms Charity Fund Raising

Picture below; taken by Ann Salmon on 6/10/09, of a donation made to Kids Inspire a local charity that are "Building relationships through therapy, opportunity, love and care." Kids Inspire is a charitable organisation, founded by Sue Jochim in 2007, which works with the most vulnerable young people and children in Chelmsford.



Picture below of Mark and Tina from the Three Elms presenting a cheque to Nick Garner a representative from The Js Charity for £1000.



St. Nicholas' Church

Greetings to you all from ST. Nicholas Church, the harvest is gathered in, the fields are brown and barren, waiting to be prepared to bring forth green shoots, the promise of new life, providing grain to feed mankind, lovingly fed with water sent from God our creator. If we put our trust in God, He will fill us with fresh energy, re-create us to what He wants us to be and despite our many failures and shortcomings; for those of us who are Christians, we have the certainty of knowing that our old sinful bodies will be resurrected and one day when our earthly life ends, we will be part of God's heavenly harvest banquet.

We are very aware that there are several families in the parish feeling sad, having recently buried a loved one. God's son Jesus Christ understands how we feel. He knew himself what it was like to grieve and mourn. We have the comfort of knowing that He promises us eternal life, something much better than this earthly life to which to look forward. Our prayers are with the families concerned

On a much happier note, we at St. Nicholas have welcomed three young children through baptism into the church.

The friends of Essex Churches Cycle ride was a great success. For the first time in many years we were able to provide a hostess to welcome cyclists throughout the entire day, a very big thank you to those who volunteered to be on duty. The cyclists really

do appreciate a friendly face. We had in the region of 40 cyclists.

A special acknowledge of thanks to Tony and Myra Wilkins for arranging the Church open day. Records and other items of interest were on display It was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed. Thank you to all of you who came.

The woodwork in the church is beginning to look in need of nourishment. A polishing morning is planned for Wednesday 25th November at 10.30 am, practical volunteers are needed so if you can spare some time please come along, dusters and wax will be provided.

We continue to hold our Sunday service at 11 am, to which you are all warmly welcomed Tony Towns – Church Warden Tel: 440241

From the Church Register

Baptisms

George Patrick Ruffles from Chelmsford on 19th July

Lucy Florence Mary and Zoe Isabel Constance Nuttall both of Chignal St. James on 2nd August

Burials

Violet Campen, formally of Chignal St. James, more recently of Admirals Reach Nursing Home

Kevin John Stanley Hudson of Shop Cottage, Mashbury on 28th August.



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHIGNALS & MASHBURY

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Items for next Newsletter to editor by 20th November 2009

**Editor:Linda Nelson
Ivy Cottage
Chignal Smealey
CM1 4TA**

**Tel: 01245 442625
Fax: 01245 442952**

Email: chignalswe@btinternet.com