

Italian VDS Visit



A group of Italians visited the Chignals on a study tour to gain information on how to produce a Village Design Statement. An email from Michelle Gardiner from the Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) was sent to the Chignals VDS committee asking for volunteers to speak to the group.

This was responded to by Kate Middleditch Sandra Bailey Spencer Bridge and Ann Salmon.

Sarah Sapsford from the RCCE accompanied the Italians, who come from six little towns in the inland Abruzzo mountains (central Italy east of Rome) which have been affected by the 2009 earthquake.

They would like to use the VDS approach to involve the local community in re-designing the re-construction plans and share guidelines for rural development.

Following lunch in the Pig and Whistle a question and answer session took place and it is hoped that this will prove helpful for their purposes.

Writtle, White Colne, Wickham Bishops and Great Bardfield also helped them in the study organised by Michelle Gardiner and Sarah Sapsford of the RCCE.

Fete Book Stall 2011

Parishioners may be interested to know that the know that the unsold books have been passed onto the following charity book shops: Hylands House, Oxfam, National Heart Foundation and the St. John's Ambulance. Depending on the demand, condition etc, the books will be sold, distributed abroad, or sent for recycling. Hylands House Book Shop 2010 took over £20,000. It is worth the effort of re-cycling.

Pig and Whistle Presentation



Latest donation from the Pig and Whistle to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Siobhan Murphy accepted the donation which will go towards research to prevent - treat and cure type 1 diabetes.

Siobhan has had the disease for 20 years and hopes one day to be free of her insulin pump when and if a cure can be found.



In June I went to the National WI AGM in Liverpool. In the chairman's opening address she told us that since the start of 2010, 21,000 new members have joined and many new WIs have been formed. She is invited to attend meetings at our Parliament and at the European Parliament, MPs seek WI support for many projects. After all this high flying she still puts the chairs out for her WI meeting! The two resolutions were discussed, the first one to ask the government to stop the closure of libraries was carried with a 97% vote. The second about 'Mega Farms' became very confused and everyone decided we didn't have enough of the right information about it, so no vote was taken. The discussion became very lively to say the least, this was the democratic WI at work. We had three excellent speakers, Erwen James who had served a 20 year sentence for murder and now works for the prison service helping prisoners not to re offend. This was followed by an equally inspiring talk by Dr. Rita Gardener, Head of the Royal Geographical Society and finally Sir Steve Redgrave told of his work with the Fairtrade organisation. We had a lovely garden meeting at the home of member Dot. Merriday. It was a really warm day and Dot's garden and house were delightful. As usual the committee provided an excellent tea. It was great to see WI members at the Fete working hard everywhere, Helen flew the flag for the WI at the fete, she had organised a raffle for Jam, as we thought that would amuse everyone, the raffle proceeds were donated to the Fete fund. In July Mr. David Vroobell told of his life as a jeweller and gave much interesting information about precious stones especially diamonds. He then valued some jewellery brought by members, some now feel surprisingly richer than they thought! Eleven of us recently went to see the lavender fields in Norfolk with Lodge Coaches, a very good trip. Every meeting is interesting, come and join us.

September 1st 'New Zealand' Mr. Dudley Chignall

October 6th 'A day in the life of a burglar!' Mr. Simon Dinsdale

Details Myra Wilkins 440 659

Chignall 4 Art.

The Art group is going really well with numbers increasing and a good quality of work being produced. We recently looked at perspective in landscape. We have a variety of styles and use a variety of media. One lady specialises in costume drawing which has given us a different interest, well done Katherine.

Details Myra as above.

Bowls Club

In May, we held the Mike Bell Trophy Competition in the Village Hall. This is a day long event held once a year on a Saturday. This year it was won by Roy Smith and Bill Knight with Sheila Evans and Kathleen Huggett being Runners-up. In the evening we had a Supper in the Hall with catering by Mike Shmail which was excellent. During the evening the Trophy was presented.

Our Strawberry Supper was held in July which was very well attended. The evening began with a Quiz organised by Gordon Hillyear which was much enjoyed and followed by a supper of Cheese and Biscuits and Strawberries and Cream. A raffle was held, resulting in £68 for our Charity of the Year which is Mcmillan Nurses.

This year we have played six Friendly Matches, winning all. Our next match is on August 18th playing Broomfield away.

Ann Coates

Dates for Your Diary

Village Hall - Coffee Morning Saturday 24th September 10 a.m. -12 noon

To wish our Postie Allan well in his retirement and to thank him for numerous years of great service a coffee morning has been arranged at the village hall on September 24th. There is no charge for the coffee morning but if you would like to sign the comments book and map which will be presented on the day a small donation would be appreciated to help cover costs (50p - £1). The map and book will be in the village hall for clubs etc to sign during September - alternatively please call me for more information. All welcome.

Gill Thomas. Tel 442474



Macmillan Coffee Morning



You are invited to attend a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support on Friday 30th September at the Village Hall from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. There will be the usual cake stall, white elephant stall and a raffle. Everybody is very welcome - its the 100th anniversary for Macmillan this year.

Please support this event, which raises money to help cancer sufferers.

Christmas Carol Service

Will be held at Chignal Chapel on Sunday 18th December at 3pm followed by tea/coffee and mince pies.

A collection will be made for Fairhavens Hospice and St Lawrence Hospice.

Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations 2nd - 5th June 2012

A long weekend of events around the village is being planned starting with the Village Fete on the Saturday, followed by a flower festival and concert in St. Nicholas Church on the Sunday and an Art Exhibition (with wine and cheese) on the Monday and Tuesday. We are also thinking of some sporting activities, as it is also year of the London Olympics.

If you are interested in being involved or have any other suggestions please contact one of the following:

Helen Towns 440241
Myra Wilkins 440659
Julia Smart 440666
Linda Nelson 442625

Gardening Club

We had another good turn-out for the last of our summer garden visits on 20th July. 19 of us braved the rain to explore Heather and Harry Brickwood's spectacular garden at "Orchard Cottage", Rayleigh. The breathtaking herbaceous beds, both at the front and back of the house were a riot of colour, dominated at this time of year by the powerful scent of 2500 lilies and David Austin roses. Other plants such as agapanthus, rudbeckias, heleniums and dahlias give colour well into October. The hanging baskets and containers around the house were stunning too.

We learnt from Harry that the secret to this successful flower filled garden is putting the right plant in the right place; feeding the soil annually with a thick layer of compost; watering and fertilising throughout the growing season; regular dead heading, (Harry spends 2 hours a day just on this task in the summer); pest control, (chemical warfare seemed to be the only way to combat the lily beetles); but most of all, we concluded that it's due largely to Harry and Heather's dedication, flair and jolly hard work. Harry is also secretary of the Essex Hardy Plants Society and won a Gold Medal at the Chelsea Flower Show in May for the Society's stand which he designed in the Grand Marquee.

We came well prepared for the drizzle and had a good look around the garden before the heavens really opened and we were ushered inside for very welcome tea and a range of delicious home made cakes.

We are delighted that Harry has agreed to talk to the gardening club at our meeting on 15th February 2012 on the subject of the 'Gardeners Year'. The talks programme from September 2011 – March 2012 has been posted on the Chignals website and printed copies have been put on all of the village notice boards. Our first talk of the winter season on 21st September, (all talks start at 7.30pm in Chignal St James Village Hall) will be on "Outdoor Vegetables through all Four Seasons" by an experienced organic gardener, Mrs Maiké Windhorst. On 19th October, Mrs Suzanne Gaywood MBE, a designer of nine gold medal winning exhibits at the Chelsea Flower Show will be speaking to us about "The Tropical Flora and Gardens of Grenada". New members are always very welcome: you don't have to be knowledgeable about gardening to enjoy the talks, just turn up at the village hall on the evening.

Another note for your diaries: the Great Waltham Horticultural Society is holding its annual show on Saturday 17th September. Entries are invited for a number of vegetable and flower categories. If you would be interested in exhibiting any of your prize plants in this year's show, please contact Maggie Mills (01245 360115).

For more information about the Chignal and Mashbury Gardening Club, please contact John Dennis (Chairman) on 01245 440289 or Lynn Ballard (Secretary) 01245 440880.



From the County Council

Part-Night Street Lighting

I am sure many of you already know the part-night street lighting pilot that took place in Maldon and Uttlesford found that there were no significant changes in crime or road accident statistics as a result of the changes. The **County Council** will now initiate the roll out of modernising all **ECC** owned street lights so that they may be centrally controlled. The key benefits will be:

- A saving of £14 million over the next 13 years
- A reduction of 8,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions per year
- More efficient maintenance and increased equipment life span
- More responsive to local conditions and events (e.g. New Year's Eve festivities)

The modernisation of our street lighting will require the replacement of 130,000 photocells and ancillary equipment under a Central Management Service (CMS); this will enable the remote control of street lights in **Essex**. It will require an initial investment totaling £6.52 million over 3 years to deliver the £14 million savings.

Whilst Maldon and Uttlesford will be the first to have the new CMS starting in August this year, let me assure you that there will be full consultation with the Emergency Services, County, District, Borough and Parish Councils to verify the suitability of those areas that are proposed to move to part-night lighting. As you would expect, there will be a number of exceptions which would cover a variety of circumstances such as accident black spots; areas where the police can demonstrate the high incidence of crime; remote footpaths and alleys linking residential areas and places such as town centres where there would be large concentrations of people late at night.

Editorial by Linda Nelson

I hope you all have had a chance for a holiday - Graham and I have just come back from a very warm and sunny Spain - we saw some very beautiful places in Andulucia, this region has an amazing history and the Alhambra in Granada is stunning - definitely one of the things to do before you die. I am now looking forward to crewing for the Southend (Argyll) to Southend-on-Sea cycle challenge. If you would like to donate you can do so on-line at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/CycleSouthend2Southend>. We hope we can raise as much as possible for the Willow Foundation and Havens Hospice, where my mum died in 2005.

Where the configuration of street lighting columns is considered excessive, consideration will be given to removing 1 in 2 lights with the remaining lights left on full night operation.

If you require any further information please contact Trevor Rhodes the CMS Project Manager on Tel 01277 841640 or email

trevor.rhodes@essex.gov.uk

Recycling

In 2009 the **County Council** pledged to increase recycling of waste to over 50% by March 2012. It is pleasing to note that the **County Council**, working closely with District and Borough Councils, continues to expand kerbside recycling and composting services, making it even easier for householders to recycle and compost their waste. In fact residents are now recycling and composting over 50% of their waste, up almost 4% in just a year!

The record 2010/11 recycling performance of 50.05% marks the first time that **Essex** is recycling and composting more waste than it landfills so well done and thank you for your contribution to this achievement.

This work, however, does not end here as last year the **County Council** paid over £16 million in landfill tax for our non-recycled waste; money that could be much better spent on front-line services. It is essential, therefore, that we all continue to do everything we can to improve our recycling services and reduce the amount of waste we send to landfill to protect our environment for future generations.

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

Chignal Parish Council

UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF THE MEETING OF CHIGNAL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 11th JULY 2011 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A parishioner recorded thanks to a local land owner for the work undertaken on the verges throughout the Parish which are now in a very good condition

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that the Village Fete has been very successful making a profit of £2,450 towards Village Hall funds.

An in-house training evening has been held for new councillors.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman have attended an Information Evening held by the Borough Council to explain the planning process.

A Police Information Evening was held on 8th June for the Neighbourhood Action Panel.

COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Neither Councillor was able to attend the meeting but Councillor Chambers sent a written report explaining that she is now part of the Cabinet for corporate services.

Councillor Chambers reported that a contractor has been appointed to carry out repairs to the multi-storey car park with a completion date of 16th October 2011.

Chelmsford has applied to be considered for 'City' status and the Olympic Torch will arrive in Chelmsford on 6th July 2012.

EMERGENCY PLANNING UPDATE – Gerry Richardson, the Emergency Planning Officer for the Borough Council attended the meeting and gave an update on the latest information should an emergency arise. The two rest centres in Chignal, are at the Chapel and the Village Hall. Gerry can be contacted on 01245 606921 or e-mail gerryrichardson@chelmsford.gov.uk

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

VILLAGE HALL LIAISON – the next meeting will be held on 25th July 2011.

NEWSLETTER INCL. WEBSITE – the website has been updated.

GRAVEL LIAISON – there has been no meeting since 4th May and there has been no further information on the Roxwell site. It was reported that ragwort around the bund needs to be

removed and Lafarge will be contacted with a request for its removal.

HIGHWAYS – ECC has again been reminded of the broken chevron near Ivy Cottage, Chignal Smealey, and it is hoped a repair will be carried out shortly. The broken arm to the signpost at Beadles Corner has been reported.

FOOTPATHS /BRIDLEWAYS – copies of the definitive map have been received from ECC and will be displayed in the notice boards. A further walk was arranged for 10 a.m. on 31st August starting at the Green and all parishioners are invited to attend.

TELEPHONE BOX CHIGNAL ST. JAMES – a lock has now been fitted and it is hoped to use the box as a centre for book exchanges.

PLANNING

The Saddlery – installation of photovoltaic system – approved

The Grain House – installation of photovoltaic system – approved

Hard Oak – conversion of barn to living accommodation – approved

Dyers Hall Farm – construction of surfaced farm track – pending

Beaumont Otes – construction of agriculture grain store - pending

NOTICE BOARDS – it was confirmed that all four new notice boards have been erected and it was agreed that any notices advertising Parish events can be displayed in the boards.

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

It was suggested that the Parish hold celebrations to mark the occasion with various events being held throughout the Parish which would include a concert in the Church and an art exhibition in the Village Hall. It was agreed that consideration be given to providing a suitable gift for all children in the Parish to mark the occasion and the Clerk will check with ECC on the number of children who live in the Chignals, to get an idea of the costs involved.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 12th September 2011.

St. Nicholas' Church



Greeting to you all from St. Nicholas Church. Tony Towns (Tel no: 440241).

We hope you have all enjoyed the

summer. The fields are now beginning to look bare, the harvest has been gathered in. We are looking forward to our harvest celebrations. The Rev, Jane Anderson will be taking our service on Sunday October 2nd at 3 p.m.. Jane is known to many of you, having baptised; in the past few years, several Chignal babies. We very much hope that you will come along with your children and celebrate with us God's creation and give thanks for the bountiful provision he provides for us, fortunate to be living in the Western World.

There are many areas of famine and drought and we will be sending lentils; via 'Harvest for the Hungry', to Eastern Europe. Your gifts will be appreciated, more details can be found on: www.harvestforthehungry.co.uk

Julia Smart will be playing the organ. Our service will be followed by tea in the Village Hall, to you which you are all invited.

A very successful polishing morning was held in July. Our special thanks to all of you who supported us, there was a good crowd. Lesley provided us with some music and we all enthusiastically polished the morning away to the beat of the music. Very thought provoking comments were made including a feeling of

great privilege to be polishing such sacred and special pieces of furniture.

The Friends of Essex Sponsored Ride and Stride is to be held on September 10th. Cyclists are always pleased to be greeted by a friendly face. If you are available to be a host/hostess please phone Helenon 440241. Sponsor forms are available at the back of the church.



We have celebrated the happy occasion of the baptism of Quincy Singizi Broom. We wish him and his family much blessing and happiness for the future.

Thanks to a very small group of committed regular worshipers, we continue to hold a weekly Sunday service at 11 a.m. We are encouraged by the great support we receive from so many of you at special events, however, despite small numbers we consider it is important to continue to hold a Sunday service. We fear that without regular use our church would fall into a state of neglect, resulting in Chignals with Mashbury, not having their own parish church, which provides a sacred venue for celebration and prayer. We need your support and prayers, especially on Sunday mornings, if we are to continue to maintain a village church for the people of the parish.

We hope many of you will join us for our Harvest Festival and celebration tea. Please feel free to come to both or either. You are very welcome at our services.

With best wishes

Tony Towns (440241)

		
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