



AUTUMN/WINTER EDITION 2016

RUNWELL ROUNDABOUT is sponsored by Runwell Parish Council: Keeping you informed about issues affecting Runwell Residents. Every effort is made to ensure the information in this newsletter is correct. The Parish Council cannot accept any liability for errors or omissions. Views and opinions expressed in this edition are not necessarily those of the Runwell Parish Council.

RUNWELL NEEDS YOU



PARISH COUNCILLORS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED

There are currently 5 vacancies for Parish Councillors. This is most unusual, but they are all long serving Councillors, having to stand down for various reasons. Ill health, moving away, work commitments, and to make way for younger members of our community. Parish Councillors have a long tradition of promoting wellbeing and a sense of pride in the local community. If you feel this could be you then step forward, do you need any special skills other than common sense, NO, then why not put your name forward. The council usually meet on the first Monday of the month, and occasionally extra committee meetings if you want to get involved with the Village Hall or Park. A parish council is the closest level of local government to the community. It is a local authority in its own right that makes decisions on behalf of the residents in its "Parish" and has Chelmsford City and Essex County Council authority hierarchy that sit above it. Councillors are elected or co-opted but are unpaid for their time. Being a Parish Councillor is a rewarding experience and often described by those who get involved as a way of giving something back to their community. If you are interested or to find out more contact the Parish Council Clerk Mrs Jo Pharez 01268 735152 or email jo@runwellpc.wanadoo.co.uk or write a letter of interest to Runwell Parish Council c/o 124 Church End Lane, Runwell, Wickford, Essex SS11 7DP

BOXING DAY WALK Monday 26th December 2016 10.30am



waterproof boots if wet.

At the time of writing there are just 40 days until this year's Boxing Day Walk, this will be the 42nd Boxing Day Walk. As usual we will be meeting in the Car Park, Runwell Park off of Church End Lane, Runwell. We will start at 10.30am please wear suitable footwear,

The walk is about 4-5 miles from start to finish and takes about 2-3 hours, and we always go to the 'Running Well.' At the start there is a collection for the 'Brain Tumour Charity,' via the 'The Sarah Kitchener Perrow Fund,' plus the attendance book is passed round for everyone to sign. If you haven't been on the Boxing Day walk why not join us this time. Everyone welcome. Last year £176.80 was raised for this very special charity. A very big thank you to you

all.....Walk Leader **David De'ath.**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR EVERYONE - for residents who don't use social media or read the local press, there has been a sharp rise in the number of burglaries recently in Wickford. Between 1/9/2016 and 20/10/16 there were 81 burglaries - 48 full and 33 attempted. The break-ins are mainly targeting car keys (Millennium Burglaries), with vehicles stolen and many found abandoned in Basildon. Essex Police have advised these are mainly caused by youths 12 to 16 years old from the Basildon area. In most cases the break-ins are a result of residents not double locking UPVC type doors, and taking place between 01.00 and 05.00. Significant arrests have been made recently, and there has been extra police activity in our area - covert and ANPR vehicles. Please make sure your doors and windows are secure - double lock those UPVC doors - and don't leave car keys on view or easily accessible.

ALLOTMENT UPDATE - After the mixed weather earlier in the year it has been a very good harvest. Sweetcorn was excellent with several cobs on each plant. The fruit, apples, pears and plums along with the blueberries have been great. Plots all dug over now, broad beans planted along with the garlic and onions. It has all been worth the hard work, and it keeps you fit!!! Enquiries Linda 01268 732033.

RUNWELL VILLAGE HALL - After the vital repair work to the Runwell Village Hall carried out in the Summer of 2015, hall users would have noticed we now have a very smart looking floor that after a year of use seems to be keeping its looks. We have now had new curtains put up, once again thank you to the helpers. It is hoped that in 2017 that the kitchen will be replaced. To hire contact Mrs Jo Pharez 01268 735152
jo@runwellpc.wanadoo.co.uk

ST.MARY'S CHURCH - At St.Mary's we are starting a new enterprise. ☕ Cuppa & Chat

Twice a month we will be holding a **Cuppa & Chat** morning in the Church Hall. We aren't out to make money so there will be no set charge, although donations to help cover our costs are always appreciated. What we want is to provide a place for people to sit, relax and have a chat with friends, get to know new friends, and welcome new people to the area. All ages are welcome, as long as children are accompanied by an adult. You can come at any time between 10am and 12pm, and stay for a little while or the whole time. Why not try it out and bring your friends too. We'd love to see you at St. Mary's Church Hall, Second and Fourth

Wednesday in the Month 10.0am - 12pm. *looking forward to meeting you...!!*

A CORRECTION TO THE INFORMATION ABOUT WANTZ CORNER - In the Summer Edition of the Roundabout Bob had told us about transporting a 3 piece suite from the Runwell Village Hall to Waverley Crescent, I should have said the suite had been presented to his Grandfather (also a Bob Croot) for Long Service from The Transport and General Workers Union, Farming Department where he had been a rep. (Sorry Bob, hope I have got it right this time). While on the subject, the first bus stop in Church End Lane has Wantz Corner written on it.

RUNWELL INDOOR SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

We looking for new members, so if you have just retired or moved into the area, or want to try a new sport why not join us Monday Afternoons 12.30pm-3.30pm & Thursday Evening 7.30pm - 10.30pm, in the Runwell Village Hall, Bowls available and tuition given. Everyone welcome, we have in house competitions and friendly matches with other Clubs. We also hold Social Events

during year. Contact: Ron Shoesmith 07853 911643

GAMES CLUB - Meet on a Wednesday afternoon from 1.30pm come along and join us for a game of cards, darts and other board games even a chat. We provide a tea/coffee and biscuits. If you are interested please ring 07773 148732

RUNWELL HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Despite a cold wet, miserable and late start to the growing season, followed by 3 months of relentless sun and no rain, the garden has been rather good - except for the ground being like concrete (my excuse for not digging) Everything managed to survive fairly well and we had a really spectacular Autumn Show with bumper entries in Fruit, Flower, Domestic and Handicraft categories. Well done everyone who made the effort to enter and of course congratulations to those who won awards. Having said that it is the taking part that counts and we were pleased to see entries from some of our new members. We also want to congratulate committee member Ann Prince who has raised over £1,000 for our nominated charity, Essex Air Ambulance, through sales of home-made jam, plants and jigsaws at our monthly meetings. We are in the process of putting together our itinerary and Show Schedule for 2017 and are going to try some new ideas. We are hoping to have more social activities to attract members who aren't so interested in listening to speakers every month, we have outline plans for a

“Welcome in the New Year Evening”, a light-hearted quiz (not horticulture based) a guided tour and talk about Runwell Allotments with refreshments afterwards and perhaps a 'Grow, Make and Try' taster evening similar to the successful Inter-Society Taster Evening enjoyed by many of our members in October. If there is anything new you would like to do let us know, our contact details are on:

www.essexinfo.net/runwell-parish-council

We are always looking for new members so if you have just moved into the area and want to get to know a few people or are interested in growing, baking or making 'stuff' come and join us for an evening to see what we are about. We meet on the second Monday of the month at 8pm in the Village Hall in Church End Lane and look forward to seeing you there. Next meeting 14th November 'Planting an alpine container' speaker Mike Wiseman. 12th December 'Christmas Social'. 2017 16th January 'Winter Garden' speaker Margot Bishop. 13th February 'The Broomway, East side of Foulness' speaker Brian Dawson. 13th March AGM.

ACTION FOR FAMILY CARERS - Brickhouse Farm, Poulton Close, Maldon. Action for Family Carers are a charity that have been supporting unpaid carers in Mid Essex for the last 25 years. They can provide help getting respite to allow relief from a caring role. Support applying for and filling out Welfare Benefits forms to help with financial difficulties. Liaison with hospitals, community services and Social services to obtain the right care. They provide a Young Carers Service for children who provide support to their families. There are currently 180,000 carers in Essex, and Action for Family Carers biggest challenge is getting information out to people who need it most because there is help to be had. For more information come along to a Carers Meeting in Wickford Community Centre, Market Road, Wickford on the 4th Monday in the Month from 10.00am-12 noon. This is a free and confidential Service. You can telephone our helpful staff 01621 851640 Mobile: 07896 107189 Website: www.affc.org.uk

OUT OF THE MOUTHS.....

A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandads' word processor. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?" he asked. "I don't know," she replied. "I can't read.

My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Nan, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and I said "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.

A little girl in her 2nd year at school said to her grandmother:

"Grandma, guess what? We learned how to make babies today" The Grandmother was a bit surprised, "That's interesting" she said, "how do you make babies?" "It's simple" replied the girl. "You just change 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'." - Taken from Civil Service Magazine.

CHELMSFORD CITY COUNCIL MOBILE CUSTOMER INFORMATION SERVICE

In the Village Hall in conjunction with the Games Club between 1.30pm and 3.00pm on Wednesday 16th November and 21st December. Consequent visits to Runwell in 2017 will be on the third Wednesday of each month. Pick up spare re-cycling bags or ask questions about services from Chelmsford City Council. The service is free and offers help and advice to residents.

FLOWER ARRANGING - If you are interested in the art of arranging flowers etc. why not come along to the Floral Art Club we meet on the fourth Monday in the month in St. Catherine's Church Hall, Southend Rd. Wickford at 8pm. We have demonstrations, competitions and teach, so if you are new to the area fed up with watching tv and fancy to do something else, come along, the hall is opposite the Church. Contact: Carol Baker 01268 440460

CAUSING CHAOS - A policeman brought four boys before a judge. "They were causing an awful lot of commotion at the zoo your Honour" he said "Boys," said the judge sternly, "I never like to hear reports of juvenile delinquency. Now I want each of you to tell me your name and what you were doing wrong." "My name is George," said the first boy, and I threw peanuts into the elephant pen." "My name is Pete," said the second boy, "and I threw peanuts into the elephant pen." "My name is Mike," said the third boy, "and I threw peanuts into the elephant pen." "My name is Peanuts," said the fourth boy.

Forthcoming Events

Runwell Village Pre School

Christmas Shopping Day Saturday 19th November 2016 11am – 2pm

At Runwell Village Hall, Church End Lane

St. Mary's Church

Christmas Bazaar Saturday 26th November 2016 Doors open 1.30pm – 4pm

At Runwell Village Hall. Come along for an afternoon of fun, meet Father Christmas and visit our Christmas workshop. Entertainment from local schools.

Community Carol Service

New Event - Sunday 18th December 2016 Doors open 2.30pm (Singing from 3pm) at Runwell Village Hall, Church End Lane SS11 7JE

Please join us to sing your favourite Christmas Carols and get in the festive spirit

St. Mary's Church Christmas Services go to:

<http://wickfordandrunepparish.org.uk/st-marys-church>

Local News

Runwell Flood Alleviation Scheme:

Essex County Council have almost completed the Flood Alleviation Scheme started earlier this year to prevent homes in Church End Lane from Flooding, as many of you know who voted earlier this year – this is or *has* been a real problem. A new drain was tunneled under gardens and a section of Runwell Park to link the troublesome ditch in Meadow Lane with a widened ditch in Runwell Park, excess water will now travel through a new weir system and be diverted from the properties in Church End Lane. Some engineering is still to be completed in Meadow Lane to form a barrier but all other works are complete and the weir is operational. Thanks to ECC for this £430k investment.

As it will shortly be the season to be jolly!! Will end with a few jokes probably out of last year's Christmas Crackers:

- What did the guy say when he walked into a bar? Ouch!

- Why did the golfer bring an extra pair of pants when he went golfing?
In case he got a “hole in one”.

(I will stop, they get worse so just enough room to wish you and yours)

THE SEASONS GREETINGS FROM ALL OF US TO ALL OF YOU AND A HEALTHY 2017

Runwell Roundabout printed by Images, Runwell Road, Runwell, Wickford.