



Runwell Roundabout

Spring 2023



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 Parish Council.



<https://www.runwellpc.org>

Parish Council Report

Welcome to the Spring 2023 edition of the Runwell Roundabout, the Parish newsletter. On behalf of Runwell Parish Council I can report that despite the pressures of price increases we are all feeling now, the Parish Council precept demand for every household for financial year 2023/24 will remain unchanged.

The large tree plantation, created with the help of the City Council Parks team, has been dedicated to Queen Elizabeth II, the project is still work in progress. 2022 was a challenging year and some of the trees did not thrive, (unlike the weeds!) these will be replaced. The play area continues to be a popular venue and it is still the intention of the Council to provide public toilets. Sadly I must report that part of the security fence where Footpath 7 crosses into Meadow Lane has been badly damaged and the security blocks (which were in place to stop unauthorised access by motorbikes, quads and horses) have been moved. The project to install the public toilets and replace the fire damaged benches (vandalised earlier in 2022) will be postponed until the park can be re-secured.

The Village Hall (owned and run by the parish council) continues to be a popular venue with regular weekly groups and activities (daytimes and evenings) and is popular for children's parties. Runwell Village Pre-school is also based at the Village Hall - one of the longstanding groups in our community.

Runwell Allotments are run by a committee on behalf of the Parish Council. A new lease has recently been agreed with Chelmsford Diocese securing the site for a further 20 years.

4th May 2023 sees elections in Runwell, both for the Parish Council and for Chelmsford City Council. Following the Community Governance Review, Runwell is now split into 3 Wards. The number of Runwell Parish Councillors (13) remains the same. The Wards are St Luke's Park, East Ward and West Ward. I would like to thank all the current 13 Councillor's (representing all the ward areas) for their commitment to Runwell, their term of office ends on 3rd May 2023 and I wait to welcome the new Council following the election.

Mrs Jo Pharez

Clerk to Runwell Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting on 17th April 2023 at 7pm

Will be held in the Village Hall, Church End Lane SS11 7JE.

The Chairman calls this meeting once a year, it is the opportunity for any issue to be raised by you the residents and to meet your local councillors.

There will be a guest speaker from the Dogs Trust (awaiting confirmation) followed by question time and some light refreshments.

Are you passionate about your local area?

- Do you want to make a difference in your local community?
- Would you like to offer your skills & experience?
- Do you enjoy being part of a team?

Join Runwell Parish Council

IF YOU CARE ABOUT WHERE YOU LIVE AND ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY, WE NEED YOU!

To find out more contact:
Jo Pharez, Parish Clerk
e.runwell.parish.council@gmail.com
t. 01268 735152

The Electoral Commission

REMEMBER TO

- 1- Register to vote
- 2- Check my photo ID
- 3- Vote at a polling station!

No ID? You can apply for free voter ID
Find out more at
electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID
or call 0800 328 0280

Polling Day
Thursday 4th May 2023

Deadline for applications
4th April 2023

LOCAL ELECTIONS 2023

Town, Parish, Village & Community Councils

WHAT IS A TOWN, PARISH OR VILLAGE COUNCIL?

- The First Tier of Local Government
- Your Representation at Local Level
- A Statutory Authority responsible for your Community in partnership with others

For further details contact
Electoral.register@chelmsford.gov.uk
Murphie Manning Democracy and Elections Manager

Runwell Parish Council Elections

Dear Residents

Since May 2019, it has been a privilege to serve Runwell, not only as Chair of the Parish Council but also the Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Ward member. A lot has happened during this time, much of it unprecedented.



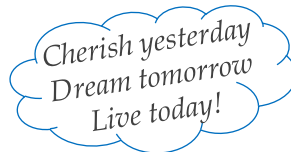
Our village continues to grow exponentially with St Luke's Park (SLP) reaching its final phase. Where problems have arisen, many have asked for help in resolving them. This can mean contacting not only local authorities, but also our MP and even the Secretary of State in one case regarding planning issues with SLP. Planning applications have been varied and not always successful. It can be very frustrating in a semi-rural area, such as ours. Much of our village is protected by the Metropolitan Green Belt, but it's important we continue to protect this from unnecessary development. Where applications are refused by CCC, the explanation has been as clear as possible.

As we approach the period of Purdah ahead of the May 2023 elections, it won't be possible for me to report further until after that - if elected!

In my opinion, the role of a local councillor is an opportunity to make a difference in the community. I hope this has been possible and look forward to continuing to do so in the future.

Kind regards

Cllr Paul Clark



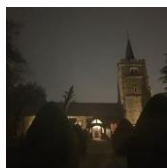
News from St Mary's Church, Runwell

It's a bit late to wish everyone a Happy New Year but the last time I wrote was before Christmas. Although I missed just about all of it after the Blue Christmas service, due to COVID (there was me thinking I was invulnerable to it), we were very happy to be able to welcome the children and families to the two Crib service and to see a rise in the numbers at Midnight Mass. I thought of you all when the bells rung as I was huddled up in the vicarage.

We have been running with a 9.30am service every Sunday for a while now. For those who enjoyed the Crib service, on each third Sunday of the month we have an All-Age service, where the children are invited to be as much part of the service as they can. If you want to keep an eye out for what we are up to you can find us on Facebook and look at our website.

['Wickford & Runwell C of E Churches'](#), ['St Mary's Church, Runwell'](#) and www.wickfordandrunwellparish.org.uk

On 4th March we will be holding another Quiet Day in the church, a day of Christian Mindfulness. We hope that we will see more people through the doors of our beautiful church to take advantage of the quiet, sacred space within.



Our efforts to become an Eco-Church are going well. By the time this reaches you I hope that the bulbs planted in the North Churchyard will be up and looking wonderful, and maybe the area we are leaving for nature will be making progress. We are hopeful that before long we will have earned a Bronze Award. (For more information visit the Arocha website www.arocha.org.uk). We are keen to involve the community with this, so watch out for further news. One plan is to hold a Pet Service at some point, which I think will be a lot of fun - outside of course.

There are lots of things that the parish as a whole is planning as well as our usual offerings. There will be a town Art Festival later in the year, with the theme of 'One Beautiful World', which all our churches will be involved in. There is the coronation to be celebrated of course. Before those will come Holy Week and Easter when we remember Our Lord's Passion, his death and his Resurrection. At dawn (5.30am) on 9th April, Easter Sunday, we will celebrate the risen Son of God as the sun rises and the light streams through our windows. It is the 'best', most moving, service of the year. How lovely if more people could join us, if not then, at the 9.30am service.

With every blessing, *Revd Sue*

IMPORTANT CHANGES

at your recycling centres

From 13 March 2023, bookings will be required to visit an Essex County Council recycling centre in any vehicle.

For full details, visit loveessex.org/bookings

 Essex County Council
Recycling and Waste

King Charles III Coronation



To commemorate the coronation of King Charles the Third we have some official pin badges. If you would like to nominate someone within the community to receive one of these badges please let us know. We have a limited number available so it will be on a first come first served basis. Look forward to hearing from you.



Allotment Update Spring 2023

I have been busy making the plots ready for spring planting.

Onions and potatoes sprouting well and weather permitting I will plant them middle to late March.

Hoping for another good harvest this year!

Enquiries Linda 01268 732033

(Runwell Allotments are located off the Runwell Road opposite The Quart Pot)



Wickford Community Archive Open Day

Saturday 13th May 2023
Christ Church, Wickford

Our topic this year is sport in Wickford and Runwell. We are after unpublished photos of sporting activity from Archery onwards for our exhibition and photos of sporting celebrities who visited Wickford.

If you have any photographs, please scan and post them here

<https://www.facebook.com/Wickford-Community-Archive-632024986925424>

<http://www.wickfordhistory.org.uk/>

Wickford Community Archive is a web-based archive of photographs and memories of Wickford.

Thanks,

Stephen Whiter

The 48th Boxing Day Walk 2022

We met at Runwell Park car park as usual and the attendance book and charity box went round. We set off at 10.35 am and walked up South Hanningfield Way to FP No.2 passing Flemings Farm on our left to the start of FP No.1 to Warren Road. We walked down the road passing the farm cottages on our right to the pond and the start of FP No.7. The path follows Poplars Farm Road, where near the Farm gates FP No.7 carries on.

On the left near the field gate, walking between the hedges to the end of the farm garden, we turned sharp left on FP No.5 to the 'Running Well'. We walked across the field to the bridge on the far side and followed the hedge on our left up the hill to the gap that is the path down to the 'Running Well'. In Basil Corbin's book on St. Mary's Church he says it's possible the 'Well' was called 'St. Mary's' and the Church was named after the 'Well'.

I had my hands full of water and others did the same. I did a chat about the Village pump that was in the field on the north side of the 'Well' up the steep bank on FP No.6 (my friend Fred and I never got any water to come out).

We walked back on FP No.5 to FP No.7 and walked down the old Green Lane, that in 1602 a Robert Durden is said to have used to visit the 'Well' to make sure it was not being mis-used. At the end of Green Lane we followed the hedge on our left to the north end of Meadow Lane still on FP No.7 and on to the north east corner of the park and the end of the walk. We found at the north end of Meadow Lane bushes had blown over which we had to duck under, these will need to be cut back.

A total of £177.64 was put in the donations box for The Brain Tumour Charity - The Sarah Kitchener Perrow Fund. Thanks to all that came along and enjoyed it.

Walk Leader - David De'ath



Men's Shed

Gentlemen of Runwell

- Are you fed up with sitting at home watching television?
- Tired of doing the same thing day after day?
- Want to develop or show-off woodworking skills?
- Enjoy a tea/coffee and a chat?
- Would like the opportunity to mix with other men with similar interests?

Then perhaps the Runwell Men's Shed may be just the place for you!

We are a very small group with the support of Runwell Parish Council and the Essex Shed Network that have converted the old Cricket Pavilion into a compact woodworking workshop. In doing so we have provided somewhere that you could use to make/repair wooden items for your personal use or for the benefit of the community and enable the shed to become self-sufficient.

Just the sort of place you need to get out of the house and make friends.

We meet at the Cricket Pavilion in Runwell park off Church End Lane, currently on a Wednesday between 10am and 2pm (but this could be expanded depending on demand).

Looking forward to seeing you.

Terry Horsley (shed lead)

News from St Luke's Park Primary School

We are halfway through our first year and it seems like no time at all since we opened our doors to our first pupils back in September 2022. We have 2 classes this year, Little Owls, our reception class, and Squirrels, with Year 1 and Year 2 pupils. There was also a great deal of interest from prospective new parents at our recent open mornings for next year's reception class. Our pupil numbers are growing steadily, month by month.

We have a fantastic Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) who have already organised some wonderful events for children and families.

Our clubs have also started, with a gymnastics club, a multi-skills club and more on the way.

Next month is our official opening and the children are busy planning a special assembly for parents, friends of the school, colleagues from Essex County Council and from our very own Eveleigh LINK Academy Trust and a team from Morgan Sindall, the contractor who built the school.

What a joy and a privilege it has been for us to lead the school through its first few months, getting to know so many new parents and appointing some really wonderful teachers and support staff to help get the school underway.

Like all schools of course, our finest assets are our children. We are richly blessed with pupils who are eager to learn, enjoy working hard in their lessons and who really enjoy coming to school.

We all feel very proud to serve the families in and around St Luke's Park.

Dr Nick Rudman (Executive Headteacher) and Ms Jen Kendall-Hobbs (Head of School)

Runwell Village Hall Bowls Club

If you would like to join a friendly short mat bowls club why not come and give it a try

We play Monday's 1pm till 4pm and Thursday's 7pm till 10pm

Just pop in and have a chat and a go!

Runwell Village Hall, Church End Lane, SS11 7JE

For more info phone [Ron 07853 911643](tel:07853911643)

It's all about BOWLS

New members required



Runwell Hospital Bowls Club

We are holding a TRY BOWLS OPEN DAY on Sunday 21st May from 10am-4pm

It's **FREE** and we supply the bowls and coaching.

All you need are flat soled trainers

Bowls is a sport that can be played by all and is good exercise

For further information please ring [Graham](tel:01268571249) on 01268 571249/07954 821046 or just turn up

We are situated just before the Sports & Social Club off St Luke's Way, Runwell SS11 7QA

There is plenty of parking

Runwell Art Club

Runwell Art Club has changed venue recently which has enabled us to welcome new members and everyone with an artistic interest are welcome.

We are a friendly group of men and women who meet at Downham Village Hall on a Friday from 10am to 1pm. We have a chat, laugh, share troubles and of course paint, in a friendly relaxed atmosphere.

The members all use different mediums and are very creative and willing to try their hand at any style and help members, who are new, develop in any medium they choose. We also have workshops occasionally run by professional artists who pass on their skills.

Come and give us a try, you would be made very welcome. Call [Carole](tel:01268560005) on 01268 560005 for further information.

Family Fun Day

Saturday 1st July, 11am - 3pm
Runwell Village Hall, Church End Lane

Selling stalls
BBQ and refreshments
Bouncy castle
Little Legs Play Bus
Face painter
Prize Draw
Plus much more fun and games

Charity Number: 1144996

Runwell Village Hall

Church End Lane, Runwell, Wickford SS11 7JE

For information, bookings and availability
Telephone 01268 735152 / 07740 786044
ask for Jo or email

runwell.pariah.council@gmail.com

Website <https://www.runwellpc.org>

New kitchen
Large main hall
Seated Function 80-250 people
Conference max 250
Great for parties (small or large)
Separate committee room
Large car park



Runwell Parish Council

Comprises of 13 members representing the East and West Wards of Runwell.

email runwell.pariah.council@gmail.com

Chair	Paul Clark			
Vice Chair	Mike Rogers			
Councillors	Dawn Hutson	Jim Sloane	Geoff Redway	Josiah Mpawose
	Chris Evans	Angie Ellis	Ken Tarplett	Gerry Gould
	Linda Payne	Bill Lansdale	Steve Davis	

Chelmsford City Council Representatives for Rettendon & Runwell

Paul Clark email paul.clark@chelmsford.gov.uk

Lance Millane email lance.millane@chelmsford.gov.uk

Essex County Council Representative for Stock

Ian Grundy email cllr.ian.grundy@essex.gov.uk

Member of Parliament for Maldon

Rt. Hon John Whittingdale OBE MP john.whittingdale.mp@parliament.uk

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA. Tel: 020 7219 3557 or

Maldon Conservative Offices 19 High Street, Maldon CM3 5PE. Tel: 01621 855663

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Articles for the editor; if you have any articles for publication please send them to runwell.pariah.council@gmail.com by 30 June 2023 or to Jo Pharez at the Village Hall, Church End Lane, Runwell SS11 7JE

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