



Runwell Roundabout

Spring 2024



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>



Runwell

PARISH COUNCIL

<https://www.runwellpc.org>

Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 15th April 2024 at 7.30pm

Runwell Village Hall, Church End Lane, SS11 7JE

All residents welcome



Meet your Councillors

*Meet Essex Police
Chief Inspector Ballard and
Inspector Girdlestone*

Let us know your questions!

Please email to
runwell.parish.council@gmail.com
by Friday 5th April 2024

There will be a presentation at the start of the meeting by Brockfield House followed by reports from local groups to be followed by refreshments and a chance to mingle and chat with the Councillors and other representatives

Meeting convened by Paul Clark, Chairman of RPC

Parish Council Report

Welcome to the Spring 2024 edition of the Runwell Roundabout. During the Winter months the Parish Council has been busy with improvements to the Village Hall and car park. In the Park, wet weather has meant limited opportunities to do much, but I am pleased to say the fly tipping that previously blighted the park has so far not been a problem.



Some residents have mentioned the streetlights around St Mary's Church, on the Runwell Road, have not been working for some time. Our initial enquiries have revealed the lights are the responsibility of the developer at St. Luke's Park. We are trying to resolve this as the junction is very busy and badly lit. The council have also asked for an explanation as to why the X10 bus route around St. Luke's Park is not treated by Highways or the developer during icy conditions. It is a requirement to treat the bus route and should not be left to residents to put themselves at risk. They already pay enough for these services!!

After two successive years of freezing the Parish Council precept, it has been necessary for an increase. During this period, our reserves have been used to offset rising Hall costs and the cost of clearing fly tipping and new fence in the park. Most of us will have received the Council Tax demand for 2024/25, the Parish Council precept for a Band D equivalent property will rise to from £1.15 to £1.35 per week.

The Annual Parish meeting will be held at the Village Hall on Monday 15th April 2024 starting at 7.30pm. This is the opportunity for any resident to attend and hear reports from groups and societies that meet in and around the village. I am delighted to advise our guest speaker will be the Director of Brockfield House Forensic Unit, Kemble Way, who has agreed to give a presentation on what happens within the unit. During the 15 years it has been open very few of us are aware of what goes on beyond those gates.

Also in attendance, will be the Essex Police District Commander for Chelmsford and Maldon, along with other officers and the Head of Public Protection at Chelmsford City Council. This is an opportunity for any residents to ask about policing within our village, along with any concerns that you feel need addressing. Please join us, I hope you will find this most interesting.

Kind regards

Cllr Paul Clark, Chair

The 49th Boxing Day Walk 2023

We met in Runwell Park car park as usual. In total 47 of us went across to Footpath 7 to the footbridge at the Quart Pot, Runwell Road, and turned left along to Footpath 10 just before Lynfords Drive. We went through the gate and up the hill passing Heathfield on our left, then across the field to the Old Runwell Hospital site and across the footbridge following the path between the hedges and fence of the old Runwell Hospital site to the far end at Warren Road. We turned left and walked along to the pond at Footpath 7 and continued down to Footpath 5 at Poplars Farm, to visit the 'Running Well' on our left.

To get access we walked across the field and down to the bridge where we turned left and up to the 'Running Well'. We stopped for about 15 minutes so people could go down to get a drink from the Well if they wanted to and I talked about the 'history' of the Parish. We then turned back along Footpath 5 to Footpath 7 and crossed over on to Footpath 4 towards Moorgarden Wood, Brock Hill, and walked down the hill to Footpath 2. We turned left over the footbridge and with the hedge on our left walked to the north end of South Hanningfield Way. We followed South Hanningfield Way down to Church End Lane and back to the car park at Runwell Park and the end of the walk.

A total of £204 was donated to the Brain Tumour Charity via The Sarah Kitchener Perrow Fund. Thanks to all that donated and I hope that you all enjoyed the walk.

The walk next year is No. 50.

See you there!

David De'Ath

Thought: If you see someone looking sad, give them a smile you may just make their day!

Allotment update



Rain, rain and more rain.

Very wet at the allotments at the moment.

Hopefully, we will have some drier weather soon!

After a very good harvest last year, I am eager to start planting again.

Enquiries to [Linda 01268 732033](tel:01268732033)

News from St Mary's Church, Runwell



It was great to see so many people at our Midnight Mass service at Christmas last year, we were almost back to pre-pandemic numbers. Likewise the Crib Services were well attended and our Blue Christmas, held on Longest Night this time and when we clothe the cradle with the names of loved ones we have lost, has become increasingly popular. I managed not to be ill too, which was a bonus.

Hardly any time passes before we have to begin thinking about Easter, as Lent starts on Ash Wednesday which falls on Valentine's Day this year. The first service on Easter Sunday takes place at dawn, and coincides this year with the clocks going forward. It does seem that our most special festivals involve either late nights or very early mornings, although they are the most moving ones too.

For those of you who have never been inside St Mary's and would like to get a view of its history and beauty, we are keeping the church open on the first Saturday of each month, between 10am-12pm, so people can just pop in for a visit. Our Wednesday morning Coffee and Chat in the Hall, also 10am-12pm, is growing in regulars too. There is always room for more and we are a friendly bunch.

We will be holding another Murder Mystery in May in the Hall too (picture is of the Rector from last year – he was the culprit). If you like a good laugh and a bit of a puzzle, as well as good food, then this could be just the event for you. Contact us if you would like to know more, or if you can act....



In June we will be taking part in 'Love your Burial Ground Week & Churches Count on Nature' when we hope to get people to come and enjoy time spent in our churchyards, having a look around and helping us to take stock of what wildlife we can see there. Wickford Wildlife are helping us with nature surveys throughout the year, but this is a special week for a national look at the picture. We will have another Pet Service on 9th June as part of the planned events so look out for that and other opportunities to join in. There is a wealth of history as well as an abundance of wildlife to be found in burial grounds because of their unique management.

Do come along, we'd love to see you. (And if you have a scythe.....)

Blessing from [Revd Sue \(Team Vicar\)](#)

Find us on Facebook 'St Mary's Church Runwell' and www.wickfordandrunwellparish.org.uk



Family Fun Day

Saturday 22nd June, 11am - 3pm

Runwell Village Hall, Church End Lane



Selling stalls

BBQ and refreshments

Bouncy castle

Outdoor Fun

Face painter

Prize Draw

Plus much more fun and games



Charity Number: 1144996

Wickford Town Council
Runwell Parish Council
Shotgate Parish Council



D Day 80 Celebrations

at

Wickford Memorial Park
Thursday 6 June

Parade at 8.30pm
Beacon Lighting at 9.15pm



Oscars Food



The Koffee Van

Runwell Village Hall



Available for hire, Church End Lane, Runwell, Wickford SS11 7JE
Contact *Jo Pharez* 01268 735152 or email runwell.parish.council@gmail.com



Well fitted Kitchen
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Separate Committee Room
Large Car Park
Seated functions 80-150 persons
Conferences max 250 persons
Great for children's parties and all social events big and small



For information, bookings and availability
telephone 01268 735152 ask for Jo
website www.runwellpc.org

Runwell Parish Council

Comprises of 13 members representing 3 Wards of Runwell – East, West & St. Luke's.
email runwell.parish.council@gmail.com

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

Chelmsford City Council Representatives for Rettendon & Runwell

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

Steve Davis email steve.davis@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

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Articles for the editor; if you have any articles for publication please send them to runwell.parish.council@gmail.com
by 30 June 2024 or to Jo Pharez at the Village Hall, Church End Lane, Runwell SS11 7JE

Printed by Activ8 Creative, 11 Runwell Road, Wickford SS11 7PS