



# Runwell Roundabout

## Summer 2026

RUNWELL ROUNABOUT 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.



[runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### Parish Council Report

Dear residents

Welcome to the Summer edition of Runwell Roundabout 2026.

Thank you to our Parish Councillors for their dedication, turning up every month for our parish meetings, the work behind the scenes and bringing projects to fruition. Residents of Runwell are welcome to attend these meetings – held on the first Monday of the month 7pm – 9pm (except bank holidays).

Earlier in June we held a Community Meeting, attending was Chelmsford City Council's Public Protection Manager and two Essex Police officers, our ward councillors and our representative for Essex County Council. We had a good turn out from residents who raised many questions regarding issues in the village.

One of the Village assets being the Village Hall is having a new look to the inside with a new colour scheme. Pictures will be posted on our media pages in due course.

Other exciting news our second village asset Runwell Park. Work has started on the new MUGA court (multi use games arena). We are hoping this will see new sports come to the park. Information on its use will be available very soon.

As always, the Village Hall is very popular with many activities taking place every week. Pre School, Rainbows, Brownies, dance groups, exercise groups, martial arts, indoor bowls, games club and lots more. Information on all these activities is available at the hall.

With the summer holidays just around the corner, we have our annual event in the park for the children. Play in the Park (free event) this year is on the 10th of August, see the advert here to book your little ones a slot. Last year we saw record attendance, it was a lovely day filled with fun and laughter.

I continue to visit the allotments regularly seeing the beautiful array of produce growing. Congratulations to all the plot holders, your work and dedication doesn't go unnoticed and hopefully you'll be rewarded with an award again this year.

I finish with, when moving through the Village be mindful of others, watch your speed on our narrow roads. Check on a neighbour you may not have seen in a while and lastly, we as the parish council are here to help the best we can so please don't hesitate to contact us.

Stay safe,

Kind regards

*Cllr Angie Ellis (madam Chairman)*

## News from St Mary's Church, Runwell

It was 2008 when I first visited St Mary's in Runwell, while on a placement during my training for licensed lay ministry. I felt at home almost immediately, and St Mary's became a place of sanctuary during my years of challenge and discernment before I was ordained as deacon on 27th June 2015. So it was with some prior knowledge, and a great deal of joy, that I came for my first day as curate to Fr Jo (who many of you will remember fondly) on 28th June. This year that date marks eleven years since my arrival and the day of my retirement. By the time you read this, I will have moved on to the wilds of Abberton. It has been a joy and a privilege to be curate, then Associate Priest and finally, since November 2020, Team Vicar in this parish and especially at St Mary's where I have made my home. I shall certainly miss waking up, looking out of the window, and seeing the church just over the road, a testament to the people who over the centuries have made Runwell their home and worshipped in that place.

During the last few months I have experienced quite a few 'lasts', from the final Service of Light on Easter Sunday morning – 5.30am to greet the sun rising as we celebrate Jesus Christ, Son of God, rising from the dead – to the last report given at the Annual Parish Council Meeting. For the latter I was able to rejig the 'Year in the Life of St Mary's, 2025' that I had provided for the Time Capsule. A baptism kept me from seeing the actual burial of the capsule, but I did get cake and a coffee. What a lot of work went into that occasion and all the items that went into it, and we could hardly leave the church out, a place of history itself!

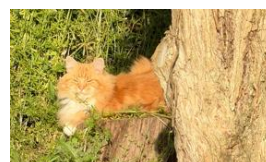
We recently had a further Open Day at the church, where the very interesting display boards produced by a previous church warden were put out again. St Mary's is part of the Three R's History Trail, together with the churches around Rawreth and Rettendon, and there will be further opportunities to explore all three lovely buildings.

At the end of May our Area Bishop of Bradwell, the Rt Revd Adam Atkinson, held a prayer walk around the Basildon Deanery, praying at all the churches. The aim was to start with a walk to the Running Well, but the participants were unable to access this, which meant there was more time for the Bishop to pray all round the church, inside and out, during which he gave thanks for the church and asked for protection for both building and people.

The people are the church, though for many the building is that visible sign of continuity in the village, with all its history and a fair amount of myth and legend to go with it. Many clergy have ministered in that place, but we are just passing through. Credit goes to those who have kept it going through the centuries. You know who you are!

So, Simon and I, and the two vicarage cats will be saying our goodbyes soon. We will miss Runwell, the church and the people, but maybe not the traffic!

Blessings, *from Revd Sue.*



## Watch out for a New MUGA Court being installed at Runwell Park



### VACANCY FOR A RUNWELL PARISH COUNCILLOR

- Do you want to help make the parish of Runwell a better place to live?
- Do you want to serve your Community?
- Do you have time or expertise which could benefit your Community?
- Do you want to make a difference to all those around you?
- Are you concerned about your local area?
- Do you want to represent the views of local people?

If you would like to make a difference, and be involved in shaping the future of your local Community, why not step forward and apply to become a Runwell Parish Councillor?

Runwell Parish Council is looking for a new Parish Councillor – to request an application form or to get more details, please contact the clerk,

[clerk@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk)

In writing: Runwell Village Hall  
Church End Lane,  
Runwell, Wickford  
SS11 7JE



## Runwell Village Pre-School provides ...

*A happy environment for your child to develop socially as well as educationally*

*An opportunity of fun and friendship with children and other adults*

*Qualified, dedicated and caring staff*

*We take children from 2.5 years to 5 years*

Opening times:

Monday to Friday 09.00 – 12.00pm

Tuesday and Thursday 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Lunch Club available

Tuesday and Thursday 12.00 – 1.00pm

**We have spaces available from September 2026**

Government funding accepted

Excellent premises, play equipment and much, much more ...

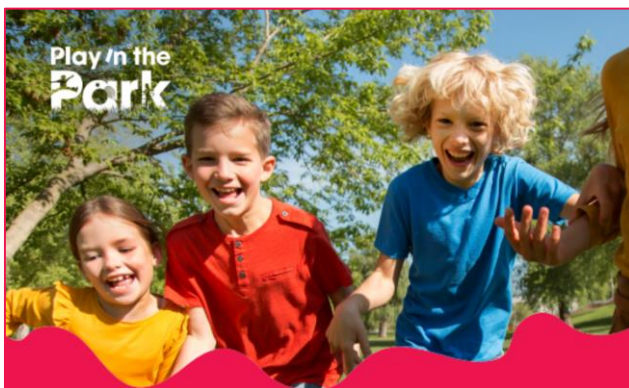
For an informal chat or to arrange a time for you to meet us and bring your child to play, please contact

Lynn or Hayley on 01268 768748 / 07909834546

or visit [www.runwellpreschool.co.uk](http://www.runwellpreschool.co.uk)

Runwell Village Parish Hall, Church End Lane,  
Runwell, Essex SS11 7JE

Registered Charity No. 1144996



Play 'n the Park

## Join us for lots of fun, games & activities

**Runwell Park**

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August**  
10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm

Extra - Inflatable Assault Course, Horse / Hopper Races, Ferris Wheel, Face Painting, Giant Bubbles and Craft Station

E [csaw@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:csaw@chelmsford.gov.uk)  
T 01245 606569  
F /playchelmsford  
[chelmsford.gov.uk/play](http://chelmsford.gov.uk/play)



## SUMMER FUN IN THE PARK

at The Wickford Memorial Park

|           |                                         |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------|
| 22 JULY   | Children's Entertainer and Facepainting |
| 29 JULY   | Inflatables and Facepainting            |
| 5 AUGUST  | Punch & Judy and Facepainting           |
| 12 AUGUST | Inflatables and Facepainting            |
| 19 AUGUST | Kids Outdoor Cinema                     |
| 26 AUGUST | Children's Entertainer and Facepainting |

**FREE** Wednesdays 2-4pm

[www.wickfordtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.wickfordtowncouncil.gov.uk)



## NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

We meet every Wednesday  
in Runwell Parish Hall  
Church End Lane from 1:30 - 3:30



We are a sociable group who enjoy getting together to chat and play cards, darts and other games every Wednesday afternoon over a cup of tea and biscuits.

No joining fee for our club, just £1.50 subscription each week.

Contact Sue - 07746 795296

## New Online Village Hall booking system

The Village Hall Bookings can now be made in few easy steps via link below  
<https://venuehire.scribeaccounts.com/Runwell-Parish-Council-1>

If you have difficulties of using the new way, or would like to enquire block bookings please contact us on [hall.bookings@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:hall.bookings@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## Allotment update

Back to early morning watering again after the extreme heat. Onions planted in October now dug up and drying out lovely. Spring planted ones are doing well as is the garlic. Had lots of courgettes too in the last week.

Sweetcorn, sweet potatoes, chillies, peppers, aubergines, leeks and potatoes all doing fine.

At the moment there are a couple of vacant plots.

Enquiries [Linda 01268 732033](tel:01268732033)



## Runwell Village Hall

Available for hire, Church End Lane, Runwell, Wickford SS11 7JE



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



For information, bookings and availability  
Contact Jurgita Norinkeviciute  
01268 735152 mobile 07895 234650 / or  
email [hall.bookings@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:hall.bookings@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Website [runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Alternatively book online at  
<https://venuehire.scribeaccounts.com/Runwell-Parish-Council-1>



## Runwell Parish Council

Comprises of 13 members representing 3 Wards of Runwell – East, West & St. Luke's.  
Email [clerk@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk)

|             |              |             |               |                                |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Chair       | Angie Ellis  |             |               |                                |
| Councillors | Peter Davies | Gerry Gould | Geoff Redway  | Rachel Voller<br>(2 vacancies) |
|             | Steve Davis  | Dawn Hutson | Ken Tarplett  |                                |
|             | Chris Evans  | Linda Payne | Keith Tyrrell |                                |

## Chelmsford City Council Representatives for Rettendon & Runwell

Paul Clark email [paul.clark@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:paul.clark@chelmsford.gov.uk) Steve Davis email [steve.davis@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:steve.davis@chelmsford.gov.uk)

## Essex County Council Representative for Danbury and The Hanningfields

Paul Clark email [cllr.paul.clark@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.paul.clark@essex.gov.uk)

## Member of Parliament for Maldon

Rt. Hon John Whittingdale OBE MP [john.whittingdale.mp@parliament.uk](mailto: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 email [newsletter@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:newsletter@runwellparishcouncil.gov.uk) by 30 September 2026 or to Jurgita Norinkeviciute at the Village Hall, Church End Lane, Runwell SS11 7JE  
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