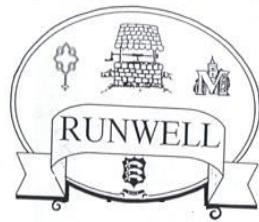


# RUNWELL



# ROUNDAABOUT

## SUMMER EDITION 2015

RUNWELL ROUNDAABOUT 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.

**WELCOME** to this Summer Edition of the Runwell Roundabout, although at the time of writing it is more like Winter than Summer. We hope that you will find something of interest in this edition.

### **RENOUNCEMENT**

*It has been drawn to the attention of the Parish Council that an Anonymous flyer entitled 'The Truth' has been circulated to some Runwell Residents. The contents, are claims and counter claims concerning issues within the parishes of Runwell and Rettendon over the past few years.*

*The Chairman, Vice Chairman and all the members of Runwell Parish Council want it to be known that this document was not produced by or written by or on behalf of Runwell Parish Council.....Bill Lansdale (Chairman)*

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2015** in the Runwell Village Hall at 8.00pm was well attended. Those present Mr Bill Lansdale (Chairman), 11 members of Runwell Parish Council, Councillors Ray Ride and Lance Millane, Representatives of Village Groups and approx. 50 members of the public.

**Annual Chairmans Report:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded the audience that the meeting provided an opportunity for Runwell residents to raise any matters affecting their community. The Chairman then gave his report: - He said that 2015 was the 90<sup>th</sup> year that Runwell Parish Council had served and represented the village and the displays around the hall covered some of this history. He referred to the past enlargement of the village and the coming development of the hospital site. He said that it was clear to any observer that the present system of Council based planning without reference to neighbouring communities was not working to anybody's benefit. This was particularly true in South Essex. He called for a system which gave greater emphasis to consideration being given to the local infrastructure prior to planning permission being granted for yet more housing. He then referred to the problem of properties suffering flooding from the watercourse in Church End Lane. The City Council and County Council were aware of the problem and were currently designing a scheme to deal with the flooding. Another problem had arisen during the year concerning the electrical wiring of the ceiling lights in the Village Hall. The matter had been rectified during the recent half term closure and new lighting and wall lights had been installed.

The Chairman then read the **Finance Report:** The Current Account balance as of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2015 £5117.58 and Business Tracker £66341.30. The amount expected to be carried forward to the next financial year commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 will be in the region of £70k. The Village Hall continues to be self-financing and fees received cover the running costs. Improvements to the overhead lighting and recent re-wiring have been funded from budgeted reserves. The Allotments are self-financing and current rent is £18. Runwell Park being an amenity can never be run for profit or a break even situation as you cannot quantify the value of open space. Part of the cost of running the park is mitigated by letting the football pitches in the winter and also the hard play area. These rentals will be down this financial year due to the bad weather this winter and the pitches being unplayable.

The Parish Council has the right to levy a local rate from Runwell and this year we precepted for £63070 (the effect on a Band C property being £43.68 per year), this together with other funds and income means we have a budget for 2015/16 of approximately £101,000.

**90<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PRESENTATION** - Mrs Stella Varney gave a presentation of the history of Runwell Parish Council which had come into being in 1925 with only five members. She referred to the displays around the hall and urged the audience to study them during the interval. She also produced a set of detailed notes for individuals to take away and read at their leisure. Finally she congratulated Roy Dockerill on his long service with the Runwell Parish Council.

**CHELMSFORD CITY COUNCIL** - Councillor Ray Ride passed on congratulations and best wishes from the City Council to Runwell Parish Council on its 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

*There then followed an interval during which tea, coffee, sandwiches and cakes were served.*

**REPORTS FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS -**

1. Essex Police,
2. Allotment Association,
3. Runwell Sports and Social Club,
4. Runwell Scouts and Cubs,
5. Runwell Brownies, Guides and Rainbows,
6. Runwell Horticultural Association,
7. St.Mary's Church,
8. Runwell Indoor Bowls Club,
9. Runwell County Primary School,
10. Runwell Games Club,
11. Runwell Village Pre-School,
12. Public Footpath Representative,
13. Welcome Club.

**NO REPORTS** from Runwell Dance Club and Runwell Patchers.

Questions and comments followed. A vote of thanks was then given to the team that had put on the displays etc. and for providing the refreshments.

Finally the Chairman made a presentation to Corina Bristow and thanked her on behalf of the Village for all her hard work as Public Transport Representative for Runwell over many years.

## **COMMUNITY HEARTBEAT**

Runwell Parish Council is considering having one or more defibrillators for use by people living in or visiting Runwell.

A defibrillator can make a crucial difference in the first two or three minutes before an ambulance crew or community first responder reaches a patient who isn't breathing and whose heart has stopped.

Stella Varney, on behalf of Runwell Parish Council is reviewing the best type of defibrillator/s for Runwell including locations, costs, training etc. In the meantime, if anyone has any useful thoughts, ideas etc. please let Stella know on 01268 765282.

Please let us know your preferred location/s  
Would you like to be involved in training & set up?



**ALLOTMENT UPDATE** - Hello, been very busy on the plot lately, but now everything is looking good.

At the moment, I have aubergines, beetroot, beans (French, dwarf and runners), blueberries, courgettes, carrots, cucumber (yellow & green) chillies, garlic, leeks, marrow, onions, parsnips, potatoes, spinach, squash, swede, raspberries, strawberries and sweet corn. I also have melon and watermelon. This is much better than going down the vegetable aisle at Sainsburys!!!!!! Enquiries Linda 01268 732033.

**RUNWELL HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION** - Meet second Monday in month at 8.00pm in the Runwell Village Hall, Church End Lane, Runwell. A successful AGM was held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March followed by Cheese & Wine, the membership is £5. The trading hut at the rear of the Village Hall is Open on Sundays only 10.00am - 12 noon from February to July & September closed August, and October to January. Due to the closure of the Village Hall for maintenance work there will not be a meeting in August but the July meeting will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> in Christchurch, Wickford, there is a car park. The subject for this meeting is "Miss Wilmot's Garden" presented by Olive and Thelma. The Autumn Show will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September. For the September meeting Wickford Horticultural are joining us to present an evening with celebrity guest speaker Ken Crowther from BBC Radio Essex. The subject of his talk "Springtime in the Garden and my Early Years", at the end of the talk there will be time for questions. There will be an admission of £1 for members and £4 for non-members. So put this one in your diaries 14<sup>th</sup> September, in the Runwell Village Hall.

**RUNWELL VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE - Church End Lane, Runwell, SS11 7JE.**

Why not hold your celebrations in the Village Hall, ideal for Wedding Receptions, All types of Dances, Quiz Nights, Presentation Evenings, Charity Functions, Bazaars/Fetes, Children's parties, or anything else that might take your fancy. Sorry to say we do not hire for teenage parties. We have a large Main Hall with Stage, tables and chairs, fully equipped kitchen (crockery/cutlery not included). We also have a Committee Room that can be hired separately. For more information and bookings please Contact: Mrs. Jo Pharez Clerk to the Council 01268 735152 email jo@runwellpc.wanadoo.co.uk

***CLOSURE OF RUNWELL VILLAGE HALL FOR VITAL REPAIR WORK - the Village Hall will be closed from Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July and reopen again on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September the day of the Horticultural Show.***

**ESSEX COMMUNITY MESSAGING**

Essex Community Messaging (ECM) is a service which you can use to keep informed about the kind of crime and policing issues which affect you.

Sign up for free to receive accurate and up-to-date information, crime prevention advice and notifications from Essex Police officers, Essex Watch liaison officers and other key partners, such as Neighbourhood Watch. Choose to receive this information via email, text or voice message. Select what information you would like to receive - based on where you live, work, go to school or socialise, or on issues in which you may have a particular interest, such as scams, internet crime or rural crime.

Play an active role in helping to keep crime down in your community whilst keeping up to date with what's going on around you!

Go on the web and enter Essex Community Messaging and sign up.

**TIME FOR A TALL STORY** - A seven-year-old boy was at the centre of a courtroom drama yesterday when he challenged a court ruling over whom should have custody of him. The boy has a history of being beaten by his parents and the judge initially awarded custody to his aunt, in keeping with child custody law and regulations requiring that family unity be maintained to the degree possible. The boy surprised the court when he proclaimed that his aunt beat him more than his parents and he adamantly refused to live with her. When the judge suggested that he live with his grandparents, the boy cried out that they also beat him. After considering the remainder of the immediate family and learning that domestic violence was apparently a way of life among them, the judge took the unprecedented step of allowing the boy to propose who should have custody of him. After two recesses to check legal references and confer with the child welfare officials, the judge granted temporary custody to the England Football team, whom the boy firmly believes are not capable of beating anyone.

**MEMORIAL PARK BOWLS CLUB** - We are a small friendly club, who meet in the Memorial Park Runwell Road. Until a few years ago we were known as the Royal British Legion Bowls Club. Although the new season is already in full swing, new members will be most welcome. Why not call us on one of the following numbers for more information. 01268 781226 mob.07802 814249 or 07772 262937

**COUNTRY LIFE** - Did you know in days gone by Churches collected a Tithe from local farmers? The custom of giving and paying Tithes is very old, it was paid to the local vicar usually money but it could be in kind, a couple of chickens etc. At one time there were a lot of farms in Runwell, it was after all a farming community. There were six farms on the Runwell Hall estate, Southlands Farm, Lynfords Farm, Church End Farm, Poplars and Giffords, Mill Hill Farm, Pondlands and Bretts. In 1824 a Joseph Williams who was renting Church End Farm had to pay the vicar £69-7s-6d. What would that be now in today's money, I dread to think? No wonder Country vicars had such large houses & gardens...Bob Croot.

**ACTION FOR FAMILY CARERS** - Information and Support for Family Carers.

A Carer is someone who without payment provides help and support to a husband, wife, partner, child, relative, friend or neighbour who could not manage without their help. This could be due to age, physical or mental illness, addiction or disability. We are a charitable organisation and can offer all sorts of help, Free and Confidential Service. Come and see us in The Plaza Bar, Wickford High Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in the month between 10.00am - 12 noon or please call us on 01621 8511640.

**PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2015** Runwell had a non-contested election with 12 members elected for a period of office of 4 years. 2 long serving Councillors stood down, and have been replaced. We have 7 members in the West Ward and 5 members in the East Ward. One vacancy in the East Ward has now been filled by co-option so we have our full quota of councillors.

*New councillor – Yvonne Waterhouse:*

I would like to introduce myself, my name is Yvonne Waterhouse and I am one of your new Parish Councillors. As a Parish Councillor I intend to serve the parish to the best of my ability. I moved to Runwell nearly 2 years ago, I am married with three grown up children, two who live in Wickford and two gorgeous grandchildren. Although retired I have an in depth knowledge of health care having worked in the NHS for over 35 years and held a number of Senior roles. I love Runwell, it is such a lovely village and the people are very friendly even very early on a morning when we are out walking our two dogs.

**DANGER OF FIRE** - This article appeared in the April/May 2015 Lion Magazine..... During the early hours of Saturday January 14, I was sitting watching TV when I heard a very loud bang followed by crackling noises. On investigating, in the kitchen I was greeted by a terrible sight. Our dishwasher had exploded and burst into very large flames, reaching the ceiling, and there was thick black toxic smoke everywhere. My husband was asleep upstairs, I woke my husband and dialed 999. The Chief Fire Officer said we were extremely lucky, because if I had also been asleep we would have been killed by the smoke. He also asked us to tell all our friends and relations not to leave electrical equipment on, either overnight or when out of the house. This applies especially to dishwashers, washing machines and telephone chargers, as there have been so many fires caused by these appliances.....

**TIME FOR A CHUCKLE** - These have been taken from "The Pensioner" .....

I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colours, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what colour it was. She would tell me and was always correct. It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying, "Grandma, I think you should try and figure out some of these, yourself!"

A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to go and paddle in the river and catch sticklebacks, go over the fields and pick blackberries, there wasn't very much traffic on the roads so we rode our bikes for miles, I had a swing made from a tire it hung from a tree in the front garden. The little girl was wide-eyed taking this all in. At last she said "I really wish I'd known you sooner!"

**GET IN SHAPE WITH KATE** Runwell Village Hall on Mondays 10.00-11.30am for exercise and advice on diet. Contact Kate West 01277 651185 Email: [kate1west@talktalk.net](mailto:kate1west@talktalk.net) or Mobile: 07932 691419.

Runwell Roundabout printed by Images, Runwell Road, Runwell, Wickford 01268 761900. Articles for the next Edition by 30/10/15 to the Runwell Village Hall or email to

[jo@runwellpc.wandadoo.co.uk](mailto:jo@runwellpc.wandadoo.co.uk)