

RETIREMENT

Revd Mary Cottee is retiring at the beginning of July. We give thanks for her ministry as Priest in Charge of Woodham Ferrers and Bicknacre for many years and particularly for her work with young people. We wish her God's blessing in her retirement.

CHELMER CROUCH GROUP PRAYER DIARY

- May 8th** - For Prince William and his bride Catherine. May God support them in their new life together and in their royal duties.
- May 22nd** - For those involved in work with children and youth. May they be guided, inspired and strengthened by the Holy Spirit
- June 5th** - For the Governors of our local schools. We ask God to give them a clear vision of what is most appropriate for the children's education.
- June 19th** - For the Clergy of our parishes that the Holy Spirit will empower them in the increasing demands of their ministry.
- July 10th** - For all in our parishes who visit the sick, the elderly and the housebound that they may truly be agents of God's love.
- July 24th** - For families with children who will be starting their school holidays. May they be able to spend happy times together and discover more of God's world..

FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

- May 8th - Refresh - An Informal Service at Boreham at 6.30 pm.
- May 14th - Little Baddow Open Gardens, 11 am – 5 pm.
- May 15th – 21st - Christian Aid Week
- May 17th - Tuesday Trip – Woodbridge.
- May 22nd - Open Gardens in Sandon.
- May 28th - Charity Spring Concert at Holy Trinity, South Woodham Ferrers, 7.30 pm.
- May 29th - Rogation Sunday.
- June 2nd - Group Ascension Day Service at St John the Baptist, Danbury at 8 pm.
- June 4th - Little Baddow – Sandon Inter-village Walk, 10.15 am.
- June 8th - Quiet Day at Pleshey, 10 am – 4 pm. (Revd Clive Ashley (01245 243863).
- June 12th - Pentecost.
- June 21st - Tuesday Trip to Smithfield and The London Museum.
- June 25th - St John the Baptist, Danbury Summer Fayre, 11 am – 2030 pm.
- June 26th - Bygones Fete at Edwin's Hall, Woodham Ferrers, starting at 11.30 am.
- June 26th - Sandon Village Fete.
- July 2nd - Bradwell Pilgrimage.
- July 16th - Music for a Summer's Evening at St Andrew's, Sandon.
- July 26th - Tuesday Trip to Hall Place, Bexley.
- July 26th-31st - Pilgrimage to Sweden.
- Sept 4th - Chelmer Crouch Group BBQ at St Andrew's, Sandon, 12.30 pm.

*Please send items for inclusion in CCGN to Brian Gilders
2 Green Meadows, Danbury, CM3 4LD. (01245 224524)*



Issue Forty, May 2011

Chelmer – Crouch Group News

For the Churches of St Andrew, Bicknacre; St Andrew, Boreham; St John the Baptist, Danbury; All Saints, East Hanningfield; St Mary the Virgin, Little Baddow; St Andrew, Sandon; Holy Trinity, South Woodham Ferrers and St Mary, Woodham Ferrers.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - 15th- 21st MAY

John Lane, Christian Aid Week organiser, writes 'To my mind, Christian Aid Week is the biggest single form of witness that happens over the course of seven days ...'

Last year, Christian Aid Week collectors raised an average of £46 each - this could pay for two sheep for a coffee farmer in Nicaragua. The sheep help clear the weeds that grow around the coffee plants, and the farmer can also sell them to raise extra income.

Christian Aid Facts:

1. Christian Aid is a Christian organisation that insists the world can and must be swiftly changed to one where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.
2. We take a three-pronged approach to ending poverty: funding long-term development work, responding to emergencies and challenging the unjust systems that make and keep people poor.
3. We are the official development agency of 41 church denominations in Britain and Ireland.
4. We help people of all faiths and none.
5. We believe in giving people the power to find their own solutions to poverty.
6. We work through local organisations in 45 countries.
7. We focus our money and energy where they will have the greatest effect - for example, by challenging people in power to tackle issues that have a big impact on poor communities, such as climate change, corporate tax dodging and international trade rules.

8. We never give money to governments. We work with local organisations on the ground.
9. We spend our money wisely. For each £1 given in 2009/10, 83p was used for direct charitable expenditure. The rest went on fundraising, which is essential to keep our programmes running, and 'governance' - helping us to keep Christian Aid operational and to manage the charity efficiently. We spend 16p in every £1 to raise the next £1.
10. You can find out more at www.christianaid.org.uk or by calling 020 7523 2225.

Now it's up to you! Help people in poverty out of poverty.

Please support Christian Aid by your prayers and by your giving.

APRIL FUN DAY AT ST. ANDREW'S, SANDON

On April 14th 26 children came through the doors of St. Andrew's to take part in an afternoon of fun and games. After an ice breaker game with a large parachute in the churchyard Clive gave an introductory talk with music on the guitar and bongo drums for the theme of the day 'Friendship and Love'. The children enjoyed a variety of crafts including a collage of the globe with paper chain people, face painting, making and decorating photo frames (photos taken on the day to take home), puppet theatre, making prayer boxes, paper chain people, puzzles, games, a graveyard survey and quiz and we all enjoyed looking at the beautiful classic car on show. The afternoon ended with teddy abseiling from the tower (always popular) and we all enjoyed a delicious tea along with parents and grandparents.

A big thanks you to all the helpers (you know who you are) and I know that everyone including the helpers all had a very enjoyable time. Liz Bobeldijk

LITTLE BADDOW OPEN GARDENS

Yes, it's that time of year again! St Mary's Church is organising this event on **Saturday, 14th May from 11.00 am to 5.00 pm**. About 20 gardens throughout the village will be open with 6 of them serving teas and cakes. Morris Men will be dancing at The General's Arms, the Core of Drums will be playing at Bassetts and there will be a display of vintage and classic cars at Riffhams. Meals will be served at the Memorial Hall and there will be a sale of plants outside. Car parks will be signposted and minibuses will provide free transport around the village. Programmes (including a map) costing £6 give adult access to all of the gardens and can be obtained from any of the participating gardens; accompanied children under 16 are free. All proceeds are in aid of St Mary's Church.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, DANBURY SUMMER FAYRE

This will be held on Saturday, 25th June from 11.00 am to 2.30 pm,

BRADWELL PILGRIMAGE - Saturday, 2nd July

Join in a fun packed family day with special guests, loads of great activities, worship, music and space to enjoy. Meet at St Thomas' Church, Bradwell at 11 am for a short opening service followed by the walk to St Peter's Chapel. Bring a picnic with you!

GROUP ASCENSION DAY SERVICE - Thursday, 2nd June

This year's Group Service will be held at St John the Baptist, Danbury beginning at 8.00 pm. Members from all of our parishes are welcome to attend.

CHARITY SPRING CONCERT AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS – Saturday, 28th May

This concert is being presented by South Woodham Ferrers Male Voice Choir. Doors open at 7.00 pm for a start at 7.30 pm. Tickets cost £7 (£6 for concessions) and can be obtained from Joan (07789 713545), Mary (323596), Brian (475660) or Anna (222635). Refreshments are included. Proceeds will be supporting Bar 'N' Bus and Helping Hands Essex.

LITTLE BADDOW AND SANDON INTER-PARISH WALK

This will be on Saturday, 4th June starting at 10.15 am from St Mary's, Little Baddow to The Crown in Sandon and then back to Little Baddow along the river. For further details contact Malcolm Breeze (225089) or David Farrar (471484).

TUESDAY TRIPPERS

17th May - Woodbridge.
21st June - Smithfield and The Museum of London. **26th July** - Hall Place, Bexley. The party now meets by 9.00 am on South Woodham Ferrers Railway Station platform and makes use of a group ticket. Anyone is welcome to join in. For further details contact Revd Paul Haworth on (01245) 322134.

REFRESH - AN INFORMAL SERVICE AT BOREHAM

This will take place on Sunday, 8th May at 6.30 pm. It will begin with refreshments and there will be time for worship, listening and reflection in a creative way.

EVENTS AT SANDON

Sunday, 22nd May – Open Gardens in Sandon. The Church and Churchyard will be open to the public as well. All proceeds will be given to Farleigh Hospice.
Sunday, 29th May - Rogation Sunday. The Joint Parish Eucharist between Little Baddow and Sandon will be held at Speakman's Farm at 10.00 am.
Sunday, 26th June - Sandon Village Fete.
Saturday, 16th July - Music for a Summer's Evening in the church and Churchyard. Proceeds to Church Funds.

