

## NEW COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR

The New Community Gospel Choir is still looking for more recruits. We need singers and musicians who are willing to give it a go. We will be meeting again on **Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> May at 8 pm** in **St Andrew's Church, Sandon**. Further details are available from Revd Clive Ashley (01245) 243863.

## QUIET DAY AT OTHONA - SATURDAY, 9<sup>th</sup> JUNE

St Andrew's Church, Boreham is offering a Quiet Day at St Peter's Chapel and the Othona Community at Bradwell. I understand that there are still a few places left so if you are interested please contact Christine Horton on 466534.

## CHELMER CROUCH GROUP PRAYER DIARY

- May 13<sup>th</sup>** For the Parish of Woodham Ferrers and Bicknacre during their time of interregnum and for those who bear extra responsibilities.
- May 27<sup>th</sup>** For the clergy of our parishes that the Holy Spirit will empower them in the increasing demands of their ministry.
- Jun 10<sup>th</sup>** For all in our parishes who visit the sick, the elderly and the housebound that they may truly be agents of God's love.
- Jun 24<sup>th</sup>** For the Parish of Danbury as it begins a period of interregnum and for those who have extra responsibilities at this time.
- Jul 8<sup>th</sup>** For all who will be planning and leading holiday clubs and other activities for children and young people in our parishes.
- Jul 22<sup>nd</sup>** 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 9<sup>th</sup> Start of Christian Studies Group (New Testament) at Sandon, 7.30 pm.
- May 12<sup>th</sup> Little Baddow Open Gardens, 11 am to 5 pm.
- May 13<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>  
Christian Aid Week.
- May 17<sup>th</sup> Ascension Day. Group Eucharist at St Mary's, Little Baddow, 7.30 pm.
- May 20<sup>th</sup> Sandon Open Gardens, 11 am to 5 pm.
- May 21<sup>st</sup> New Community Gospel Choir, St Andrew's Sandon, 8 pm.
- May 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting for One Life One Passion 2014 at South Woodham Ferrers, 8 pm.
- May 26<sup>th</sup> Inter-village Sponsored Walk.
- May 27<sup>th</sup> Pentecost.
- Jun 4<sup>th</sup> Sandon Church Fete.
- Jun 9<sup>th</sup> Quiet Day at Othona (Arranged by St Andrew's, Boreham).
- Jun 20<sup>th</sup> Start of Christian Studies Group (Transforming Conflict) at Sandon, 7.30 pm.
- July 7<sup>th</sup> Bradwell Pilgrimage.

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



Issue Forty-four, May 2012

# 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.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Revd Carol Ball has completed her curacy at St John's, Danbury and we now congratulate her on her appointment as Priest in Charge of the Parish of Holy Trinity, South Woodham Ferrers. She will be licensed there on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> May. We give thanks for her ministry in Danbury and pray that the Holy Spirit will guide, inspire and strengthen her in her new post.

## RETIREMENT

Canon Graham Blyth has announced his retirement as from the end of May. He will be taking his last service as Rector of St John's, Danbury at Evensong on 20<sup>th</sup> May. Our very grateful thanks go to Canon Graham who has guided us, as Chairman of the Chelmer Crouch Group, for the past 12 years. We pray that his health will improve and that he and his wife Elisabeth will have a well earned and enjoyable retirement.

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - 13<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> MAY

Christian Aid works to bring an end to poverty around the world. Currently it is working through 507 local organisations in 47 countries, providing urgent, practical and effective assistance, giving communities the tools and the skills to find their own solutions to poverty.

Last year, Christian Aid Week raised the fantastic sum of £12.5 million. This money is being used to support some of the poorest communities around the world. Please be generous in your giving this year.

**'Let's give the tools to help people in poverty out of poverty.'**

A prayer for Christian Aid Week:-

People working together, children going to school, women speaking out, tools for transformation, communities thriving not just surviving, and no more hunger - these are the fruits that will last. Jesus who calls us friends, may we love one another and remain in your love. Amen.

## **LITTLE BADDOW OPEN GARDENS**

St Mary's Church is organising this event **on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> May from 11 am to 5 pm**. Some 20 or so gardens throughout the village will be open with several of them serving teas and cakes. Morris Men will be dancing at The Generals Arms. There will be a display of vintage and classic cars at Riffhams and KEGS Corps of Drums will be playing there too. 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, where we are about to start on a major roof refurbishment.

## **CHRISTIAN STUDIES GROUPS AT SANDON**

Revd Clive Ashley is setting up Christian Studies Groups which are intended for 'the man/woman in the street'. They are not for anyone who knows it all! They will meet on Wednesday evenings in St Andrew's Room, Sandon from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm.

### **An introduction to the New Testament:-**

May 9 <sup>th</sup> The Gospels	May 16 <sup>th</sup> The Acts of the Apostles
May 23 <sup>rd</sup> The Letters	May 30 <sup>th</sup> Revelation

### **An introduction to Transforming Conflict:-**

June 20 <sup>th</sup> Introducing Conflict Transformation
June 27 <sup>th</sup> Conflict in the Bible
July 4 <sup>th</sup> Group dynamics and decision making
July 11 <sup>th</sup> Conflict Culture

Further details can be had from Clive on (01245) 243863.

## **ASCENSION DAY - THURSDAY, 17<sup>th</sup> MAY**

The Chelmer Crouch Group will be holding a joint Holy Communion Service at St Mary's, Little Baddow at 7.30 pm. Everyone is welcome. For car parking follow the signs through the farmyard opposite the church.

## **INTER-VILLAGE SPONSORED WALK – SATURDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MAY**

This will start from St Mary's, Little Baddow at 10.15 am and will progress to St Andrew's, Sandon, calling at 'The Crown' before returning to Little Baddow. The money raised will be used to support the two Churches and The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital (Stanmore). For more information and sponsor forms please contact David Farrar (471484) or Malcolm Breeze (225089).

## **SANDON OPEN GARDENS – SUNDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MAY – 11am to 5 pm**

There will be at least 16 gardens open, each uniquely different with some providing cream teas, cakes, sandwiches, craft stalls, plant and produce stalls. Free taxi buses will operate around the Village all day. Other attractions include a classic/vintage car display, barbeque and at 3 pm on the Village Green there will be a performance by the Royal British Legion Youth Band from Brentwood (UK Supreme Champions) introduced by the Mayor of Chelmsford. Admission to all gardens is £5 per adult (children under 16 Free) Tickets are available in advance from Meacock & Jones Estate Agents, Danbury (222856) or Chris & Coral Mann (472504) or on the day at any open garden. Proceeds are in aid of Farleigh Hospice.

## **BRADWELL PILGRIMAGE - SATURDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> JULY**

Come and join with others from the Chelmer Crouch Group for a day of friendship and fun. Further details should be in the next edition of The Month.

## **FLOWERS TO CELEBRATE THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE**

Come to St Mary's, Little Baddow on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June from 10 am or Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June from 1 pm to view the Flower Festival commemorating the Jubilee.

Come to St Andrew's, Sandon between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June to enjoy the floral arrangements depicting and celebrating the life of the Queen. The church will be open from 12 noon to 4.30 pm on the Sunday and from 11 am to 5 pm on Monday and Tuesday.

You could work both in on the same day!

## **SANDON CHURCH FETE - MONDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> JUNE**

There will be hot dogs and beef burgers, cream teas, stalls and sideshows. A Messy Church tent will be available for the children and there will be tower visits. You could also see the Flower Festival!

## **SWF PASSION IN 2014?**

How was your Easter? Did you go away? Did you go to an Easter service?

What are you planning to do in Easter 2014? This may seem a long way away, but then if you are Passionate about it, it's not.

Remember the Passion Play in 2009?

We are holding an open meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Holy Trinity Church, South Woodham Ferrers at 8 pm. We need to know whether you are great at admin, publicity, finance or fundraising. You can take part as an actor or steward in **One Life One Passion 2014**. Please don't leave it until the last moment; come along and show your support, offer your suggestions, so that we can repeat the Passion Play in South Woodham Ferrers in 2014. If you think 2009 was good, help us to make 2014 better! For further information call 01245 325234.