

ONE LIFE ONE PASSION

A two thousand year old story with a modern twist is set in South Woodham Ferrers' town centre. This modern day Passion Play was last performed in 2009 and will be re-staged at Easter 2014. Bishop John Wraw is Patron of the event.

We would like all of the Churches in the Chelmer Crouch Group to be involved in this event; through prayer and taking part. We all have gifts and talents and we need you – to sing in a choir, to act, to be a steward, to take charge of props and much more. We have a role for everyone. Look at the website

www.onelifeonepassion.co.uk or contact 01245 325234 for more information.

Come to Holy Trinity Church, South Woodham Ferrers on Sunday, 20th October at 2 pm to hear what we plan to do and how you can be involved in this outreach.

Julie Hardy.

FRIENDS OF ESSEX CHURCHES 'RIDE AND STRIDE', 14th SEPT.

Please support this event by cycling, walking, stewarding or sponsoring.

IN MEMORIUM

We are very sorry to report the passing of Graeme Cooper (a stalwart of St John's, Danbury), John Edmundson and Peter Ellis (both devoted youth workers in Danbury and Sandon respectively). We give thanks for their unstinting service and witness to our Lord. We extend our sympathy to their families.

CHELMER CROUCH GROUP PRAYER DIARY

Aug 11th - For the clergy and Readers of our parishes that the Holy Spirit will inspire and enable them in their ministry.

Aug 25th - For the teachers and other staff in our schools as they prepare for a new school year.

Sept 8th - For all in our parishes involved in working with young people. May the Holy Spirit guide and support them in their various activities.

Sept 22nd - For all the parishes of the Chelmer Crouch Group that they may support each other in their witness to our Lord.

Oct 6th - For the missionary work and links supported by the parishes in the Group. May we be generous in our giving and caring in our prayers.

Oct 20th - For all in our parishes who visit the sick, the elderly and the housebound that they may truly be agents of God's love.

FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

Sept 1st - BBQ at St Andrew's, Sandon, 12.30 pm.

Sept 12th - School of Prayer at Holy Trinity, South Woodham Ferrers, 8 pm.

Sept 14th - Friends of Essex Churches Sponsored Ride and Stride.

Sept 29th - Harvest Thanksgiving and Harvest Lunch at St Andrew's, Sandon.

Oct 8th - School of Prayer at St Andrew's, Sandon, 8 pm.

Oct 20th - Passion Play Planning at Holy Trinity, South Woodham Ferrers, 2 pm.

Oct 29th - Quiz Night at Sandon, 7.30 pm.

Nov 7th - School of Prayer at St Mary's Little Baddow, 8 pm

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



Issue Forty-nine, August 2013

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.

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to Revd Terry Brown who was installed as Priest in Charge of St Andrew's, Sandon on 12th July.

QUIET DAY AT OTHONA, BRADWELL, ON 8th JUNE

We had a really good day with the weather being kind and 17 of us joining together with Bishop John. We were in the new wing of the Othona building and it certainly showed the power of solar heating, as it was really warm. Some people were able to sit out in the sun in the afternoon.

Our theme was "A Day at the Circus." It was all about the person behind the mask and time to explore our inner selves a little more. It was so good to have time for ourselves and to jump off the busy roundabout of life for a few hours. We had a Eucharist in the lovely little St. Peter's Chapel and time to walk, sit, read and just do as we wished, alongside some led sessions by Bishop John. We had coffee, tea and lunch with a Quaker group who were there for the weekend and it was great to have fellowship together over meals. Terry Brown the new SSP for Sandon joined us, so it was good to meet him too. Look out for next year as due to the success of these days I think they will become a regular event for CCG. It would also be an idea to make this a special event for CCG to celebrate the centenary of the diocese and show the strength of praying and worshipping together.

Christine Horton.

BRADWELL PILGRIMAGE 2013

Saturday, 6th July was the day of the Bradwell Pilgrimage. The weather was perfect - sunshine, a slight breeze and a clear blue sky. We congregated at St Thomas' Parish Church in Bradwell for a short service, where the Chelmer Crouch Banner was accompanied by several members

of the Group. We then walked to the Chapel of St. Peter- on – the – Wall, built in 654 by St. Cedd. There was a short time to eat our picnic lunches before a service was held on the field by the Chapel. This was led by Rt. Revd. Thomas McMahon, Bishop of Brentwood, and Rt. Revd. John Wraw, Bishop of Bradwell. Lee Batson, Vicar of St. Andrew's Church in Boreham, who chairs the Pilgrimage Committee, delivered a reading from Matthew 28.

Bishop Thomas, who was to have retired three years ago, started his talk by telling us someone had put a letter through his letterbox, addressed to 'The late Bishop of Brentwood – but glad you're still with us.' He spoke of the transient nature of our lives, comparing the nearby Bradwell Power Station going out of commission after 40 years, and the Chapel which is 1400 years old and still in constant use. He reminded us that there is a God-shaped space in all of us, which only God can fill. A pilgrimage is a journey, and our lives are a journey with and to God.

After the service there was time to visit the chapel, the wonderful craft stalls in a large marquee, the nearby Othona Community, and the shell-covered beach. We were invited to bring a shell back to be blessed before bringing it home with us as a reminder of a special day. A time of Final Worship took place before we left, finishing with the hymn 'I, the Lord of sea and sky', which was so appropriate in that place.

Each of us, no doubt, had our own thoughts and reflections on the day, but the sense of being with so many hundreds of people, taking part in the same journey, was truly inspiring.

Anne O'Riordan.

CHELMER CROUCH GROUP SCHOOL OF PRAYER

The regular meetings on different types of prayer will resume in September. Each evening starts at 8 pm and will consist of three key elements:- an introductory talk, an opportunity to experience prayer and praying, an opportunity to meet, discuss, share thoughts over a cup of tea/coffee. There is no course or session fee, however a contribution towards refreshments would be appreciated.

The remaining sessions are:-

Thursday, 12th September .. **Holy Trinity, South Woodham Ferrers**

Praying the Eucharist - Revd Carol Ball

Tuesday, 8th October **St Andrew's, Boreham**

Ignatian Prayer - Revd Christine Mc Cafferty

Thursday, 7th November ... **St Mary's, Little Baddow**

t.b.a.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LIZ BARNES

Liz was ordained Deacon by Bishop Stephen Cottrell in Chelmsford Cathedral on Sunday, 30th June. In all 14 candidates were ordained at the morning service and a further 13 in a service in the afternoon. It is very encouraging that so many ordinands are coming forward.

The celebrations did not stop at the Cathedral. Back in Little Baddow Liz's relations and friends gathered at the Memorial Hall for an extremely jolly party.

Liz is now serving as Curate at Tolleshunt Knights with Tiptree St Lukes and All Saints Great Braxted.

May God strengthen her and bless her richly in her ministry.

EVENTS AT SANDON

On **Sunday, 1st September** St Andrew's is holding a **Church BBQ** in the Churchyard following the morning service. Members of the Chelmer Crouch Group are invited as well as people from the village. It will take place from 12.30 pm onwards. You might like to bring chairs to sit on.

The **Harvest Lunch** will take place after the morning Thanksgiving Service on **Sunday, 29th September**. Please book a place to assist with catering.

A **Church Quiz** is being held on **Saturday, 26th October** at 7.30 pm.

CHELMER CROUCH GROUP MORNING PRAYER

The clergy meet every Thursday at 8.30 am for a service of Morning Prayer that takes about 20 / 25 minutes. All are welcome to join us. The venues rotate around the parishes of the group and for August and September are:-

1 st August - St Andrew's, Boreham.	29 th August – St Andrew's, Boreham.
8 th August – St John's, Danbury	5 th Sept – St Mary's, Lt Baddow.
15 th August – St Andrew's, Sandon.	12 th Sept – St Andrew's, Boreham.
22 nd August – Holy Trinity, SWF (Meeting Room).	19 th Sept – St John's, Danbury.

Revd Carol Ball.

OVERSEAS LINKS

A group of 18 young Kenyans is visiting Boreham this Summer. Boreham, Sandon, South Woodham Ferrers and Woodham Ferrers/Bicknacre all have existing links with Kenya. South Woodham Ferrers has links with India and Danbury with Uganda. Little Baddow has a very strong relationship (shared with the URC) with the Umpium Camp on the borders of Burma and Thailand in which the parish is committed to providing the annual salaries of the teachers in the camp school.