

Chelmer – Crouch Group News

STROLL AND TEAS - Sunday 27th July from 3 pm

Come and join us for a leisurely guided walk to enjoy the beautiful footpaths and woodlands surrounding Riffhams, followed by Afternoon Tea in Riffhams listed Garden. (Non-walkers are invited to visit the garden and take tea which will be served from 3 pm.)

The walk will start at 3 pm from the car park (opposite Riffhams entrance gate) at the junction of Riffhams Lane and Graces Lane.

The cost is £5 per adult (walkers and non-walkers), children under 16 free, and includes Free Parking, a visit to the Garden and Teas. Please pay at the gate.

Proceeds are in aid of St John the Baptist Church, Danbury.

CHELMER CROUCH GROUP PRAYER DIARY

May 11th - For all in our parishes who visit the sick, the elderly and the housebound.
May they truly be agents of God's love.

May 25th - For those who are arranging special events for the celebration of the Centenary of the Diocese of Chelmsford.

June 8th - For the clergy and Readers of our parishes that the Holy Spirit will empower them in the increasing demands of their ministries.

June 22nd - For the mission in each of our parishes, that God's love and Jesus' saving power may be made known more widely in our communities.

July 13th - For all who will be planning and leading holiday clubs and other activities for children and other young people in our parishes.

July 27th - For all families with children who will be on school holidays. May they be able to spend times together and discover more of God's wonderful world.

FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

May 10th - Little Baddow Open Gardens, 11 am to 5 pm.

May 10th - The Gift of Music, St John the Baptist, Danbury at 7.30 pm

May 11th - 17th - Christian Aid Week.

May 18th - Sandon Open Gardens, 11 am to 5 pm.

May 29th - Ascension Day - Group Service at South Woodham Ferrers, 8 pm.

June 7th - Quiet Day at Othona, Bradwell-on-Sea.

June 8th - Pentecost.

June 15th - Trinity Sunday.

June 21st - Tower and Teas at St John the Baptist, Danbury, 2 pm to 5 pm.

June 25th - July 14th - Kenyans visiting the Diocese.

June 27th - 29th - Little Baddow Heartbeat Festival.

July 6th - Pet Service at St Andrew's, Boreham, 10.30 am.

July 27th - Stroll and Teas, Riffhams, Danbury at 3 pm.



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.

NEW ARRIVALS

It is a joy to be able to announce that the Chelmer Crouch Group will be welcoming two newly ordained ministers to work in our teams from the end of June. Sue Howlett will be serving part-time in Boreham and Jane Richards will be serving part-time in South Woodham Ferrers, Woodham Ferrers and Bicknacre. They are currently completing their training on the non-residential St Mellitus training scheme and will be ordained by the Bishop of Chelmsford on 28th June. Please pray for them as they begin the next stage of their ministry. I am sure they will both become familiar to the Christians of the Chelmer Crouch Group in due course!

Revd Lee Batson (Chairman)

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE - 29th MAY at 8 pm

It has been our practice for many years to mark the Feast of Christ's Ascension as a group, and we are grateful to **South Woodham Ferrers** for agreeing to host this year's celebration. This year's service will take a Taize theme, with all of the music coming from the Ecumenical community in France that attracts thousands of visitors each year. The music is akin to a chant and will be familiar to many people, as we hope to give a particularly meditative focus to our worship on this occasion.

Please do make every effort to attend.

Revd Lee Batson

BRADWELL PILGRIMAGE - SATURDAY, 12th July

Join in with the CCG for this special day. Meet at St Thomas' Church, Bradwell-on-Sea at 10.30 am and walk to St Peter's Chapel. Bring lunch!

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

LITTLE BADDOW OPEN GARDENS - 10th MAY, 11 am - 5 pm

We are celebrating the 25th birthday of Little Baddow Open Gardens. Visit lovely gardens, see Vintage and Classic Cars, watch Morris Dancing and a Corps of Drums. A new feature this year is 'Meet the Experts' who will be giving talks on such topics as Landscaping your Garden, Caring for your Lawn, the History of the Listed Garden at Riffhams, Growing Vegetables, and Setting Out the Borders. Visit our historic Churches and the History Centre. Enjoy Home Made Lunches and Teas.

Entrance to all the gardens is £6 for adults, under 16 free. Proceeds are in aid of St Mary's Church, Little Baddow.

Free courtesy buses will operate all day between car parks and gardens.

THE GIFT OF MUSIC - SATURDAY, 10th MAY, 7.30 pm

This is an evening of music taking place in the Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Danbury. The varied programme of music for a small choir and flute ensemble is presented by the Lingwood Consort and Flautista. Admission is £10 to include a glass of wine during the interval.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - 11th to 17th MAY

Violence fuels poverty and poverty fuels violence. By 2015 it is estimated that 32% of the world's poor will be affected by conflict. Please help us to tackle this problem - give generously. Thank you.

QUIET DAY AT BRADWELL ON SEA - SATURDAY, 7th JUNE

There are still places on this year's Quiet Day, during which we will hear reflections from lay Christians from our congregations who will be talking about the way in which their faith has supported and challenged them as they go about their daily work. It is being held at the Othona Centre as before, and offers the chance for walking along the beach and meditation in the serenity of the area around St Peter's Chapel. The cost is £15 for the day including a cooked lunch, coffee, tea etc. Lifts can be arranged. Further information from Christine Horton (01245 466534).

TOWER & TEAS - St John the Baptist, Danbury

On Saturday, 21st June, between 2 pm and 5 pm you have an opportunity to climb to the top of the Church Tower to see the wonderful views of Essex (Weather permitting!!). Cream Teas will be available and there will be stalls for plants and produce. A Model Railway will be on display. There will also be a Fun Church and Churchyard Quiz.

KENYANS ARE COMING TO CCG

As part of the Diocesan Centenary Celebrations, a group of 20 Kenyans from our link Dioceses will be visiting Chelmsford from 25th June to 14th July and will be spending time in a number of different parishes across Essex and East London. At the time of going to print, Boreham will definitely be welcoming one of our visitors to preach on Sunday, 13th July. Sandon will also be hosting Rt Revd Rob Martin, the Anglican Bishop of Marsabit in Northern Kenya, on Sunday, 22nd June and I am sure they would be pleased to welcome other friends from CCG who might wish to hear about Rob's work amongst the pastoralist communities.

LITTLE BADDOW HEARTBEAT FESTIVAL WEEKEND 27th to 29th JUNE

As part of the Centenary Celebrations of the Chelmsford Diocese, the Little Baddow Churches are organising a weekend with lots of activities for all. This is not a fundraising event – most activities will be free – but is, we hope, a way of building upon the great community spirit in Little Baddow by providing a thought provoking and fun weekend and by sharing our celebrations with the whole village.

- Friday 8 pm - Question time for men led by 'Pints of View' group.
- Saturday 10 am - Treasure Hunts around the Churchyard and village.
Art and Drama Workshops.
- Saturday 12 noon - Bacon Butties from the BBQ.
- 1 pm - Decorated Hearts Parade.
- From 2 pm - Flower arranging demonstration and workshop.
 - Creative writing workshop.
 - History of St Mary's on a Church Tour.
 - Messy Sports for all ages.
- Saturday evening - Heartbeat Party – Bring own picnic. An evening of music and comedy for all.
- Sunday 11 am - Celebration Service followed by a BBQ Lunch.

PET SERVICE AT ST ANDREW'S, BOREHAM- 6th July, 10.30am

Boreham seems to be blessed with a particularly high percentage of dog owners. Following on from the success of last year's service, we are inviting people to bring their pets with them to church on Sunday, 6th July to join a service of thanksgiving for all the joy God brings to us through animals we choose to have in our midst. Pets (and owners) from other parts of the Chelmer Crouch Group are also welcome to attend.