

Sandon Parish Magazine

January
2014
40p



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January Church Services

St. Andrews Sandon

Sunday 5th Epiphany

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

Tuesday 7th

09:15 am Holy Communion

Wednesday 8th

09:30 am Celtic Morning Prayer

Thursday 9th

08:30 am CCG Morning Prayer,
St. Mary's, Woodham Ferrers

Sunday 12th Epiphany 1

08:00 am Holy Communion (1662)

10:00 am Family Service

Tuesday 14th

09:15 am Holy Communion

Thursday 16th

08:30 am CCG Morning Prayer,
St. Andrew's, Sandon

Sunday 19th Epiphany 2

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

Tuesday 21st

09:15 am Holy Communion

Wednesday 22nd

09:30 am Celtic Morning Prayer

Thursday 23rd

08:30 am CCG Morning Prayer,
St. Andrew's, Boreham

Sunday 26th Epiphany 3

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

Tuesday 28th

09:15 am Holy Communion

Our Page Answers:
It got stuck in the church doors.
Lettuce pray.
St Giles at Edinburgh, St
Mungo at Glasgow, St Chad at
Lichfield, St Etheldreda at Ely,
St Cuthbert at Durham, St
Swithin at Winchester



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Sandon Parish Contacts

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Bob Shepherd 223709

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Sandon Parish Councillors

Ron Bullus Chair 473633

Cedric Calmeyer

Darren Chaplin 478325

Martin Cross Vice-Chair 478275

Dee Hyatt 478203

David Pearson 471589

Ron Robbin-Coker 476808

Sue Dobson Clerk 227734

Sandon Village Hall

Julie Fisher Chair 475976

Vacancy (see P26) Secretary c/o 475976

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Janet Bernardes Beavers 476830

Jean Blake Cubs 603155

Neville Paul Scouts 474891

Women's Institute

Dorothy Gray 223609

Sandon Sports Club

Graham Lucas 283730

Terry's Letter

Dear friends

This time of year is a time of looking back and looking forward to what next year will bring. For some I know this year has been a tough one and they will be glad to see it behind them and a chance for a new start with a New Year, for others this year has been good and they may wonder what next year will hold.

Apart from the joy of this new place to live and work, and the joy of a new grandchild on

the way I will look back on the year 2013, as one when I went to Israel/Palestine. The last time I went there, the wall between Bethlehem and Jerusalem wasn't there. You can see the graffiti if you Google it,

some very clever, especially the Banksy one. But it wasn't so clever for our Christian Palestinian guide who was unable to cross to Jerusalem with us. You could tell which the Palestinian houses were because they had the water tanks of the roof because they only get water two or three days a week. Palestinians can see settlers settling on to what they consider their land, and they have been in this land for 2,000 years. History is a living thing not just something from the past. The

Banksy graffiti



decision to create a new state of Israel in 1948 had consequences for the people already living in the land. But what impressed me was meeting Palestinian Christians who consider that their job is to love their enemies, love those who have taken their land and continue to limit economic possibilities. Elias Chacour, now Archbishop of Galilee set up a school so that Christian, Jewish and Muslim children can study together, can learn what they have in common. His calm loving

presence was palpable, his sense of the need for justice and the hope he had for the future, despite how hard and difficult things look, how far away a solution seems, was truly

inspiring. I found his book Blood Brothers simple yet riveting. If you are looking for a read from your Christmas tokens, look no further. Some of the tour left me deeply unimpressed, especially when it seemed rather like the Life of Brian with people arguing about where Jesus died, and especially at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where different Christians all argue about things. There is a ladder up at a window, which used to be used for climbing out because someone else had the key and locked the

door. Now no one can agree whose job it is to remove the ladder, so it stays there, a sad symbol to the fact that people so often don't get on and can't agree with one another.

So as we turn from this year to next, to 2014 and wonder what that will hold for us.... I wonder if you like me always have a surge of hope and belief that something new is possible. The Diocese of Chelmsford will be 100 years old and we want to celebrate that with you, more of which in later editions. And of course this year we will also be marking the start of the First World War, as well as the Tour de France coming through Great Waltham where I live. So on behalf of the church community I would like to wish you a blessed new year, to carry good memories forward and to have new hope and possibilities for the future.

Terry



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Programme for Sandon Parish Quiet Day

22nd February 2014 at Pleshey

“Journeying with God”

How about giving yourself some time off to be quiet. There is an opportunity to do just that as we have booked Pleshey Retreat House on Saturday 22nd February when we have invited Sandy Southee to lead us in a quiet time. This is the programme.

- 10:00 am Arrive, coffee and welcome.
- 10:15 am Opening worship and reflection:
“Where have I come from? Where am I now?”
Space for walking, sitting, reflecting.
- 12:00 Noon worship and reflection: “Waiting for God’s moving.”
- 12:30 pm Lunch break with conversation.
- 1:00 pm Afternoon worship and reflection:
“Resting in God’s love.”
Space for walking, sitting, reflecting – or sleeping!
- 3:15 pm Informal Holy Communion.
“The journey continues with Him.”
- 3:50 pm Tea and cake and depart.

If you would like to come please get in touch with Terry as soon as possible. Places are limited so it has to be first come first served. Email Terry on tgabrown@hotmail.com or phone 01245 698988

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Debbie and Olivia welcome you

50 Shades of Rural

This a Bradwell Area conference for small parishes in a rural setting.

The event is on Saturday 25th January 2014 at William de Ferrers School, South Woodham Ferrers from 9:30 am till 4:00 pm. The main speaker will be Jill Hopkinson, the National Rural Officer of the Church of England. The event will cost £10 per parish for up to four delegates (or £5 per delegate). Tea and coffee will be provided but delegates are asked to please bring their own lunch.

Workshops

There is a choice of workshops in two sessions after lunch.

First session workshops (1.30pm to 2.30pm)

1. Rural evangelism, Bishop John Wraw (Bishop of Bradwell)
2. Meaningful engagement with schools, Tim Elbourne (Diocesan Director of Education)
3. Worship in small congregations, Julie Nelson (Diocesan rural adviser)
4. Engaging with our communities, Richard Jordan (Bradwell faith in action adviser)
5. Rural Messy Church, Steve Kersys (Diocesan children’s work adviser)

Second session workshops (2.40pm to 3.40pm)

- A. Rural evangelism, Bishop John Wraw (Bishop of Bradwell)
- B. Rural Fresh Expressions, Charlie Kosla (Diocesan mission and evangelism adviser)
- C. Working with young people, Alice Smith (Bradwell youth adviser)
- D. Pastoral care in a small church, Beverly Vincent and Sue Piper (Pastoral Assistants Training co-ordinators)
- E. Imaginative use of church buildings, Martin Wood (Bradwell mission and ministry adviser)

It would be good to have people go to this. If you are interested please get in touch with Terry.

God can Laugh too

To the optimist, the glass is half-full. To the pessimist, the glass is half-empty. To the engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.

Normal people believe that if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Engineers believe that if it ain't broke, it doesn't have enough features yet.

A priest, a doctor, and an engineer were waiting one morning for a particularly slow group of golfers. The engineer fumed, "What's with those guys? We must have been waiting for fifteen minutes!" The doctor chimed in, "I don't know, but I've never seen such inept golf!" The priest said, "Here comes the greens-keeper. Let's have a word

with him." He said, "Hello George, What's wrong with that group ahead of us? They're rather slow, aren't they?" The greens-keeper replied, "Oh, yes. That's a group of blind firemen. They lost their sight saving our clubhouse from a fire last year, so we always let them play for free anytime!" The group fell silent for a moment. The priest said, "That's so sad. I think I will say a special prayer for them tonight." The doctor said, "Good idea. I'm going to contact my ophthalmologist colleague and see if there's anything she can do for them." The engineer said, "Why can't they play at night?"

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, "My Mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "And she turned into a telephone pole!"

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Donald C. Parker

The funeral of Don took place at St Andrew's on October 23rd. Many of us have fond memories of him. This is an edited version of the tribute that was read on this sad occasion.

The date was an apt day to celebrate Don's life as it was the anniversary of the Battle of El Alamein. Don was born on 4th November 1916 in Witham where his parents, Fred & Eva, had a grocery shop. He attended the local Church school and won a scholarship to Braintree County High School. After completing his education he obtained a temporary post at Witham railway station, but could not secure a permanent position because his eyesight was not up to the railway's high standard. He left after a year and began work as a junior in the Highways Department of Essex County Council. Don's colleagues advised him to work at County Hall where the prospects were better and after a few months Don joined their Legal Department.

In April 1939 Don joined the Territorial Army as it was, in the Essex Yeomanry. On 1st September 1939 he was called up and spent 5 years with the Regiment in the Middle East, taking part in all the battles including the siege of Tobruk and the battle of El Alamein. Don fired his last shot in anger on his birthday 1942. In December 1944 he was repatriated to England and was posted as an instructor to a Field Training Regiment, where he remained until demobilization in February 1946. Don returned to his former work at County Hall and here he met Beryl. With changes in legislation he

obtained a post in the re-organised Health Department, retiring as Senior Administrator in the Essex Health Authority in 1976. In June 1950 Don and Beryl married and lived in Great Baddow. Their only child, a son named Philip, died in infancy and is buried in the churchyard close to the spot where Don is laid to rest. Don became involved in the community life of Sandon, which was Beryl's home village. For 20 years he was a member of the PCC of St Andrew's Church including 5 years as Churchwarden. He was also on the management committee of the Village Hall, including being its chairman for a while, and took an active role in many of the activities. He also drove for the Over 60s for several years. Don was a founder member of the Chelmsford branch of the Essex Yeomanry Association and was involved with the annual reunion lunches. He was a member of the Wildlife Trust and with Beryl enjoyed country walks and bird watching. When younger, he enjoyed many sports including tennis and swimming. Towards the end of 2010 the health of both Beryl and Don was failing and they both moved from the bungalow they loved so much to Willowmead Care Home. Beryl remains there but Don died peacefully having been looked after with care and compassion until the end. Don was a person who cared very much for his fellow man, appreciated his many comrades from the North African campaign and was a very devoted husband to Beryl whom he once described as his 'Oasis in the Desert'. He deserves to Rest in Peace.

Michael Puffett

REMEMBER THE BIRDS

When jack first hangs his icicles upon the leafless trees'
And out of mischief causes all the water-pipes to freeze'
When old Dame Carey plucks her chicks up in the clouds, and lo!
The feathers flying down are changed to particles of snow;
When everybody's nose and ears are of a scarlet hue,
When everybody's toes are cold and finger-tips are blue,
When everybody gathers round the ever-welcome fire,
And nobody for out-of-doors displays the least desire;
When fields and hedges in the sun are glittering with rime-
In fact, to put it shorty, in the depths of winter-time-
When inside all is snug and warm, but outside all is cold,
And starving birds with hunger have become extremely bold,
Do not forget to scatter crumbs each day before your door,
For all the little birds who come, your pity to implore.

Unknown author, From a book called Chatterbox dated 1913.

Submitted by Julie Fisher

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New Parish Councillors

We are pleased to announce that two very good candidates were co-opted on to the Sandon Parish Council on the 11th November. This brings our team up to full strength.

Darren Chaplin is a man of medium stature with energy and a good sense of humour. He is aged 43, happily married with two children and wants to get more involved with village affairs. He has lived in Sandon for some 10 years and both he and his family are very happy living in this rural area. He has an accountancy and financial services background – and is currently employed as a Senior Wealth Adviser. His work involves a great deal of commuting between London, Chelmsford and Cambridge. His challenging work life, coupled with travel, is demanding on his time and, with a young family, his spare time is limited.

However, he believes he can cope with Parish work and has the support of both his family and fellow councillors. He converses and interacts with people very well and, with his financial background and experience, will be a valuable asset to the Parish Council. We are all looking forward to working with him.

Cedric Calmeyer is a tall man. He is 70 years old, very fit and

lives with his wife in Sandon – and has done so for some 20 years. He originates from South Africa where most of his family still lives. With the political unrest and dangers in South Africa in the early 1990s, he and his wife (and a son) decided to stay in England following an extended visit to one of their relatives here in England. He brought with him his knowledge and experience of the building and construction industry - which has provided him with a good livelihood ever since. Today, he only takes on small projects like house extensions, building repair work, decorating and the like. Hence, he has spare time - and he would like to use some of it in serving the local community. His business background and experience of the building trade will make him a valuable member of the team and we are all looking forward to working with him.

Ron Bullus Parish Council Chair

Near so very near to You
Nearer I could not be,
For in the Person of Your Son
I'm just as near as He!

Dear, so very dear to You,
I could not dearer be;
The love wherewith You loved
Your Son,
Such is Your love for me!

*Adapted from A Mind at Perfect
Peace by Catesby Pagent*

Caption Competition



Here is this month's picture taken at the Christmas Fayre. Look carefully at the picture and see what comes to mind. Send your caption(s) by email to Richard Cecil (caption@cecil.family.clara.net) or by post (Chestnut Cottage, Butts Green, CM2 7RN).

Captions must be submitted before 10th of January.

If you have a good quality picture that you think would be good for this competition then please pass it on to Richard. Here are a couple that I nearly used!



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Caption Competition

The December entries. I can't rank them; they're too good! Thank you all.

John Gruby, 'Man in the middle, i.e. George Turner, says heatedly, "I told you to put him over there, closer to the Memorial Garden!!! This Plot is reserved for ME !"'



I have apologised for not publishing John's caption last month.

Julie Fisher, 'George singing, "Aga-doo-doo-doo, push pineapple, shake the tree; Aga-doo-doo-doo, push the pineapple, grind coffee; to the left to the right; jump up and down and to the knees; come and dance every night; sing with a hula melody." Judy, "You enjoyed the dance then, George." George, "Aga-doo-doo-doo." Michael, "Please not again, I don't think I can take much more!"'

Narelle Arnold, 'Now Judy, Great that you have done that. If you could just rake up those leaves, dig a new trench, run up to the bell tower and then bring us a cup of tea, we will then be ready to get on with the morning's jobs.'

Pat Eden, 'Will you tiptoe through the tombstones with me?'



St Andrew's, Sandon

www.sandon-church.info

Contributions should be sent to magazine@sandon-church.info or Richard Cecil, Chestnut Cottage, CM2 7RN.

Please ensure they are sent by the 10th of the month preceding publication.

Cover Page The picture of the Churchyard is taken from Google Earth © 2013 Google Earth, Infoterra Ltd & Bluesky. Can you suggest a time of day or season of the year?

From the Registers

We welcomed into God's church in baptism:

24th November

Florence May Moore

1st December

Catherine Goody

15th December

Jessie Rose Mead

We commended into God's care at their funerals:

19th November Harry Summer

28th November Diane Loverage

3rd December Michael Ardley

Carol Singing at Chelmsford Nursing Home



Twelve of the St. Andrew's, Sandon congregation went down to the Chelmsford Nursing Home on the 9th of December to sing Christmas Carols.

As well as this there was a short Communion Service given by the Reverend Terry Brown before we proceeded down to the Common Room where everyone joined in the singing of the most popular carols.

The Singers were thanked by the staff who joined in and enjoyed the enthusiasm of the visitors!

*David Farrar,
Driver and Occasional Singer!*



St. Andrews Church Lighting of the Christmas tree

On the 7th of December 2013 5:00pm St. Andrews church had a lighting of the Christmas tree



service. At St. Andrews church people from the village walked to the church in Sandon excitedly. When everyone was there someone flicked a switch and the Christmas lights on the tree lit up in amazement. A lady then came round and kindly gave us all a carol sheet. We sang Ding Dong Merrily On High and two other cheerful songs. Then we got asked nicely by the priest, Terry, to say a little prayer in front of the wonderful shiny Christmas tree. People then took a couple of pictures in front of the Christmas tree. Next as it was bitterly cold outside, everyone went inside and kept

warm inside the lovely brick church. Two ladies then went into the back room and kindly made everyone a hot chocolate; it was very hot so we had to be careful with it. Someone then put some mince pies on the table and everyone had a mince pie. Next everyone started chatting and it got quite noisy, eventually everyone started to leave the church building.

All in all everyone had a great time.

Jayman Thakkar Aged 9



Following Carols around the tree with St Andrew's Youth Fellowship

Sandon Entertainment and Theatre Society

(SETS) Drama Group are coming to Sandon in January. They have a number of events planned for 2014. Please visit their website (www.setsdrama.org) for details. They would also like some storage in the village if possible. If you think you can help then please call Debbi on 07548 134105.

Sandon WI

The **November** W.I. meeting had a halloween and firework theme, with several members dressing appropriately. There were some very scary witches. We met earlier than usual to have a soup and sausage lunch which was delicious, thanks to Sue and other members of the committee.

Our speaker was Richard Thomas who brought the story of the gunpowder plot to life, we felt we were there and got to know about the 13 conspirators well. If only history had been as well presented at school.

After delicious cakes and tea the members were told of several invitations to other WI's Christmas events as well as the Group Carol Service which Sandon is hosting. Many members volunteered to make mince pies for after the service on 19th December at 2pm in St Andrew's Church.

Members who went on the trip to Bury St. Edmunds had a wonderful day with wonderful weather.

With the village hall beautifully decorated, Sandon's **December** meeting was a real Christmas celebration. Some members had decorated the Christmas tree outside the church last week and a thank you was received from the vicar. Our speaker was Elaine Barker who played her guitar and sang Christmas songs and we all joined in heartily. She also read some amusing poems about Albert Ramsbotham which we all had

heard in our younger days and which we all enjoyed. All together a lovely afternoon to end our 95th Anniversary year.

Members were reminded of the Details of the 100th anniversary of the WI movement in 2015 were given out including a baton relay throughout the country from North to South. It will come to Essex from Suffolk and we are to pass it on to Kent. The patchwork workshop will be on 27th February at the Village Hall, 10am – 1pm County are organising a walk around Burnham-on-Crouch on 26th February. The treasurer reminded everyone that the subs of £34.70 are due in the New Year.

Sadly there were no flowers for the competition this month but the Rose Bowl was won by Marlene Bishop who gained the most points over the year, with blooms from her marvellous garden. Our Vice President Celia Kerlake won the lavender bag competition and awarded herself the poinsettia she had bought.

Our trading stall raised £105 for the Air Ambulance Service with many useful gifts for sale, including the lavender bags made by members. The January meeting will be on 9th January when the speaker will be an adviser from Boots no. 7 and members will be asked to tell of their beauty disasters in a round robin at the meeting. Come and tell us yours - visitors are always welcome, 2pm Sandon Village Hall, 2nd Thursday of each month.

Dorothy Gray Sandon WI

Coming of Age: the Life and Times of Chelmsford Cathedral

1914-2014 by Tony Tuckwell.

In 1906 the Church decided that Essex merited its own diocese after six vagrant decades spent variously under the wings of the more fashionable London, Rochester and St. Albans. The population explosion in 'London-over-the-Border', the dockland area of Thames-side Essex, had made the decision inevitable. But there was no obvious cathedral seat. The Church invited applications and let Essex parishes decide. St. Mary's, Chelmsford, fancied its chances but its wealthy worshippers, led by Frederic Chancellor, had only recently lost a bitter battle against their rector to retain private pews. The Chancellor led a bruising fight against six Essex rivals to win the cathedral seat for Chelmsford in 1908. It was destined to be a rough ride. It took six further years of parliamentary wrangling to get the legislation on the statute book. A very dismissive Home Office rejected Chelmsford's claim for city status. And then the diocese's first 40 years were plagued by war and economic austerity so that plans for a new cathedral building were shelved in favour of church building in 'London-over-the-Border'. In this new parish cathedral local worshippers liked their status but wanted to keep the Diocese at

arm's length. In any case no one knew what a cathedral was for. Eventually, visionary leadership gave Chelmsford Cathedral an identity as servant and not just ornament of the Diocese.

There are fascinating stories to be told: the ferocious campaign against women missionaries in 1916; how the Sunday School trip survived the General Strike; the combative Bishop Henry Wilson, 'The Bolshie Bishop', taking on the government and the dictators; what to do when an air raid interrupts a service; the late but glorious blossoming of cathedral music; and the long battle to adapt this smallest of cathedrals to make it fit for purpose.

The Dean of Chelmsford Cathedral, the Very Reverend Judd writes, "Tony has a journalist's eye for a good story and a roguish character. If someone were to say to me; 'To be honest I'm not interested in a book about a cathedral' I could honestly reply; 'you will find this riveting, because it is also a story about our time and our recent history; it is a story about politics and social attitudes; it is a story about the politicians and public figures who profoundly influenced these decades.'"

The book (Paperback £15, Hardback £25) can be obtained from The Cathedral Bookshop or Tony Tuckwell (tony@tuckwell.ecjipse.co.uk or on 01245 256423).

From the Cathedral and passed on by Mr Ron Woods

The First Men's Breakfast Meeting

The first of the St Andrews Men's breakfast was held on Saturday the 30th November at the Sandon Crown. A good turnout was in place to hear Rev. James Ridge, the Chaplain from Chelmsford Prison, tell us about his role.

We arrived at 8:30 to be greeted with the smell of a full English breakfast coming from the kitchen. With good food and company James talked to us about the role of being a Prison Chaplain in these diverse times and we also learnt about the history of the prison and James told us a number of amusing and interesting stories about its history.

We were wrapped up by 10:00 am, fed, watered and wiser, a big thank you to Terry for organising the meal and James for joining us.

Neil & Matthew Read

The inaugural meeting of the Men's Breakfast Meeting was held in the Crown dining room on the 30th of November.

Even though the meeting started

at the ridiculous time of 8:30 am, twenty of us managed to get there to enjoy a very acceptable full English Breakfast at the Crown! The providers were in fact applauded for their excellence!

After this Rev Terry Brown introduced our Guest Speaker Rev James Ridge, Chaplain of Chelmsford Prison who spoke about many of the features of prison life and how he interrelates with all that goes on in Her Majesty's Gaol.



There is a wide range of faiths to be covered and this is done by up to 50 people if one counts part time helpers and volunteers etc. There are up to 560 prisoners

looked after by about the same number of 'support staff' that includes prison officers, caterers, managers, and doctors, cleaners etc.

These numbers, on reflection, are not high considering the need for 24 hours a day surveillance and support!

Each prisoner in the U.K costs the tax payer about £40,000 per year to support and keep in gaol! He reckoned that even with all of the specialised assistance that

already exists $\frac{2}{3}$ ^{ds} of the prison population would be 'back inside' within 2 years of being released! This was probably because there is a not enough support 'out there' when prisoners leave prison and go out into The World. e.g. housing, jobs, solid family support etc.

It is also a fact that our total prison population is still increasing whatever certain newspapers might say about magistrates handing down soft sentences.

Another observation made was that 80-90% of all crime is connected in some way to the drugs industry!

Naturally the meeting had many questions which were fully answered. However by the end of the session we had still not

resolved how to significantly reduce the problems of the high rate of re-offending and the increasing prison population.

On a lighter note the prisoner's football team apparently was still winning all of their games which reminded me that about 50 years



ago I played for the local EEV (now E2V) team and we also lost! Nothing changes!

Thanks go to our Guest Speaker, The Crown and Debbie and Terry for organising the

event. The second meeting of the Men's Breakfast Group will be in late February or early March 2014 so please keep your eyes skinned for Future Notices. This will be another thought provoking event! All men are welcome!

David Farrar

Pauline Pryor
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'PARISH PEOPLE'

Full name: ... Michael Harris

Known as: ... Mike

When did you arrive in

Sandon? ... 1959, when I started dating a village girl I met at school.

What was the reason you

came? ... The Crown and the previous answer.

Did you have any ambitions as a child? ... To be an Architect or a chef.

Do they remotely resemble

anything you do now? ... Yes, having spent 42 years in architectural practice with a Local Authority, dealing with schools, libraries, colleges, Police stations, fire stations and health clinics.

What one life lesson do you feel you have learned? ... The patience to listen to other people's points of view.

How did you become a

Christian? ... Growing up with my grandmother who taught me what was right and wrong and my own observations of life around me.

What do you like about Sandon

Church? ... St. Andrew's has a very welcoming atmosphere that I felt the first time I entered all those years ago.

Do you believe in miracles? ...

No, I believe you make your own miracles by the effort you put into the work or help you give to society in general.

What gives you hope for the

future? ... The indomitable

Sandon Parish Magazine

spirit of ordinary people to carry on regardless even in the face of extreme adversity. It is still there but you have to dig a little deeper these days.

Outgoing or shy? ...

Somewhere in between, it depends on the company I am in.

Coffee or tea? ... Both, I do not have a particular preference.

What life experiences have been most special for you? ...

Standing in the middle of the Ring of Callanish on Isle of Lewis very early one summer's morning and feeling something totally inexplicable. Something spoke to me very clearly and directly that led me to think I have Scottish roots.

A film or book that has moved you? ... 2001, A Space Odyssey and The Ten Commandments.

What is your favourite part of the Bible? ... I tend to favour the New Testament and the Book of Psalms. However I just enjoy reading the whole book.

Words that especially inspire you? ... The poetry of A E

Housman and Rudyard Kipling.

What quality do you most value in another person? ... Honesty and Truthfulness.

What kind of behaviour do you find most difficult to tolerate? ...

Selfishness and greed, which seems to be a growing trend among many people today.

Night or morning person? ... I am definitely an early bird.

Which season do you prefer? ...

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Spring with its promise of the burgeoning life to come.

A moment when you felt the presence of God? ... I am not sure that I have ever had that feeling yet, but there is still time.

Favourite hymn? ... All things bright and beautiful, from my time a kid in Sunday school in St Mary's, Great Baddow.

Do you believe religion and politics should be kept separate? ... In large part, yes. However the Lords Spiritual need to be able to ameliorate the worst excesses of the government in place.

Do you have friends from other faiths? ... I may have. I do not enquire as to their beliefs. This is personal to them.

Something you are looking forward to? ... My singing voice improving enough to make a decent contribution to the choir.

If you could donate a large sum to a charity which would you choose? ... I would probably donate it to UNICEF or Save the Children.

If you could save one thing that you own from a fire, what would it be? ... Without question, it would be my Grandmother's Bible.

What advice would you give to an 18 year old? ... Persevere with what you want to do. It is your life and no-one else's.

What moment of your life would you most like to relive? ... There are too many to

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differentiate.

What age would you most like to be? ... 20 to 30 because it was a time of interesting project work in architecture and I was playing badminton with my partner and enjoying it very much.

Any special interests ... I am fascinated by many things including Architectural History, Natural History, wildlife, sailing, walking the hills and dales of Britain. I enjoy music of many kinds, archery, cookery, gardening and, when I am sitting down, reading or painting.

James Bryan

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SANDON VILLAGE HALL



Dances

With your support we will run these dances in
2014
to help raise funds for Sandon Village Hall

January 18 th	Dave Whitmore	Solo
April 19 th	Country Law	4 piece
June 21 st	O'Hare & Chambers	Duo
September 20 th	Andy Bell	Duo
November 15 th	Dave Drain Band	4 piece

Make sure you get your tickets early
Bring your own Drink and Nibbles
Tea, Coffee and Cake available
7:30 pm until 11:30 pm
Contact Ray on 01245 472386 for tickets

Jack and the Beanstalk

By Richard Hills

18th - 22nd FEB 2014

7:30pm, Fri & Sat Matinee 2:30pm

Sandon Village Hall

Tickets £6, £4 con.

Box Office

www.saysandon.webs.com

01245 604732 / 01245 222682

This is an amateur show produced in arrangement with Jasper Publishing LTD

Plot to Pot

"Plans are nothing, planning is everything." Dwight D Eisenhower
It's time to plan the new year ahead in the garden. There is plenty to do without the need to lift a fork, or a spade for that matter!

Our vegetable plot is divided into four raised beds. We try to follow the prescribed rotation of crops to prevent the build up of pests and diseases. One bed is dedicated to the onion family including leeks, garlic and shallots. Onions are a great crop for cleaning up the soil. They use up excess nutrients and manure. This soil can then be used for root crops the following year. Carrots and parsnips will 'fork' if the soil is too rich. Other useful root vegetables are turnips, celeriac, radishes and beetroot. The third raised bed is planted with legumes including runner beans, French beans, peas and mange tout. These crops put nitrogen into the soil through nodules on their roots which revitalise the soil after two seasons of depletion. Finally, the brassica family need plenty of nitrogen for healthy green leaves and grow most successfully in the bed enriched by the legumes. This having said we always struggle to grow greens in out garden!

Once the planting scheme is planned, the next step is to get the seeds organised. It is a good idea to catalogue your seed stock. An Excel spreadsheet makes cataloguing and

stock rotation easy. Simply head the columns by vegetable type, variety, year of purchase, year to use by and supplier. It is then really easy to sort alphabetically and by date of use. Print off a copy to keep handy when shopping to avoid repeat purchases. The seeds can then be stored alphabetically in a tin to make them quick to find. They are best kept in a cool, dark, dry place until needed. Many seeds keep for more than one season if they are rewrapped in the foil packet. However, some seeds such as parsnip are best bought fresh every year. Check the condition of your pots and trays so there is time to replace and replenish before the busy season begins.
Happy New Year!

Lesley Worboys

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Harry Bowden



Beryl Puffett's Decoration

Mincemeat and apricot plait

A quick and tasty way to use up any leftover mincemeat.

225g shop bought puff pastry

17g mincemeat

439g can apricots (drained)

Beaten egg for glazing

Pre heat the oven to 220 or gas 7

Roll out pastry to an oblong

22cm x 33cm (approx.)

Place on a baking tray.

Roughly mark the pastry into three sections lengthwise and spread the mincemeat down the centre section.

Arrange the apricots on top of the mincemeat and make diagonal cuts 2cm apart along the uncovered pastry at each side, to within 1cm of the filling. Brush pastry strips with egg and plait over apricots.

Brush outside of pastry with egg glaze and cook in hot oven for about 20 minutes, until golden. Serve with cream or ice cream. Enjoy!

Liz Bobeldijk

Patronal Festival

We celebrated our Patronal Festival on the eve of St Andrew's day (i.e. 29th November) with a joint traditional Festival Choral Evensong with the choir and congregation of The Church of the Ascension Chelmsford led by our vicar Terry Brown.

The service Introit was 'O come all ye servants of the Lord' by Christopher Tye and the first congregational hymn 'Jesus calls us o'er the tumult'. Following the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis the choirs really showed their versatility with 'There's a Wideness in God's mercy' by Maurice Bevan.

The second congregational hymn was 'In Our Day of Thanksgiving' followed by the interesting and thought provoking sermon preached by Revd Canon Carla Hampton, Area Dean of Chelmsford North. The final Hymn was a resounding 'The day thou gavest Lord' is ended' and to finish Ron Woods played the organ voluntary 'Nun Danket' by Karg Elert

The standard of the music and singing was very high and the choristers are to be congratulated. To complete the evening we celebrated with wine and cheese in the St. Andrew's Room. Our thanks are due to the choir of Ascension Chelmsford and their Director of Music Edward Montgomery, the choir of St Andrew's and our organist Ron Woods for providing such a wonderful musical experience.

Ian Underwood

Christmas Fayre

What a wonderful occasion the Christmas Fayre was this year, full of atmosphere and good cheer. I want to thank everyone who helped on the day either with setting out tables or running a stall. I thought the hall looked very festive; particularly Santa's grotto which I thought looked lovely. Despite the dreadful weather plenty of people came along to enjoy the Fayre and to buy Christmas presents and try some of the wonderful cakes on offer, as well as sampling refreshments from the kitchen (which was kept very busy). Well done ladies. All in all a very successful day in which we raised a little over £1300 after expenses.



Liz Bobeldijk

Sandon Village Hall Committee of Management

After becoming chair of Sandon Village Hall Committee of Management, I then found out that it wasn't just a case of just chairing the meetings. With a passion to work hard to bring the hall up to a good standard, I felt that things needed to be changed, with an inner drive which I hope would make all members of our community

proud of its hall. With much help I believe we are making progress.

With Evelyn Ellis as vice chair we are learning everyday and overcoming some of the pitfall of what we set out to accomplish.

But the one thing we need most of all is a secretary to joint the team.

This will allow Evelyn and me to concentrate on the day to day running. A disabled toilet is what the hall needs and we are

working hard with your help of donations to make this happen. Your support is always welcome and we are always interested in your views.

We are looking for a new **SECRETARY!**

Do you enjoy getting involved with the local community? Can you take minutes of meetings (once a month on a Monday evening?), deal with correspondence to support the committee?

Can you liaise with City and Parish Councillors? Could you spare a few hours a week?

We would like to meet you!

If you might be interested please speak to the Evelyn, Vice-Chair, 222682, or me, 475976.

Julie Fisher Chair



St WULFSTAN 19th January

St Wulfstan was Bishop of Worcester from 1062-95. He lived during the Norman Conquest of England and was the only Saxon bishop to remain under William the Conqueror.

Wulfstan was a caring and hard-working monk. He rebuilt the cathedral at Worcester, cared for the poor, and struggled to ease the harsh conditions imposed by the Normans on the Saxons. Unlike some priests, he baptised children of the poor without charge. It is said that he never turned away people asking for help.

Wulfstan fought the slave trade in Bristol (slave trading didn't just start with slaves from Africa but had been going on for centuries with slaves from England being sold to Ireland and North Africa). Wulfstan died whilst washing the feet of 12 poor men during a service in the cathedral. He died as he had lived, serving God and caring for others.

CATHEDRAL SAINTS

Some cathedrals are associated with or dedicated to particular saints. Can you link the saint

St Giles	Lichfield
St Mungo	Ely
St Chad	Durham
St Etheldreda	Edinburgh
St Cuthbert	Winchester
St Swithin	Glasgow

with the cathedral?



Did you hear about the man who took his car in for a service?

What's green, curly & religious?



Answers on page 2

C.K.K.J Boiler Services

Charley Farrugia
Tel: 01245 362422
Mobile: 07772 142573

Saint Andrew's Parish Church Contacts

Priest-in-Charge	Revd. Terry Brown* tgabrown@hotmail.com	698988
Church Wardens	Michael Puffett* Janet Terry*	222066 472997
PCC Secretary	Richard Cecil*	224747
PCC Treasurer	Ian Underwood*	225756
Child Protection	Alison Read	474858
Vulnerable Adults	Christine Farrar	471484
Electoral Roll	David Farrar*	471484
Organist	Ron Woods	268304
Flower Arranging Team Co-ordinator	Barbara Underwood*	225756
Bell Ringing	Nick Tovey	472692
Tiny Tots	Alison Read	474858
Magazine Editor	Richard Cecil*	224747
Parochial Church Council Members	as * above and Nick and Liz Bobeldijk, Judy Cecil, Christine Mennie, Dennis Terry.	

Regular Activities

Sundays	10:00 am	A Worship Service
Tuesdays	9:15 am	Holy Communion
	10:00 am	Tea/Coffee and Chat
Term time only	6:30 pm	St Andrew's Youth Fellowship
	7:45 pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Wednesdays	1:00 pm	Tiny Tots (term time only)
Fridays	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
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