

Administrative Information

St. Andrew's Church is situated by The Green, Sandon. It is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford within the Church of England. Our correspondence address is:-
The Rectory, 25 The Lintons, Sandon, Chelmsford CM2 7UA

PCC Members who have served from 1st January 2011 until the date of this report are:

Incumbent: The R^{evd} Clive Ashley

Wardens: Mrs Christine Mennie
Mr Michael Puffett

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Mrs Judy Cecil *Elected in 2008 for 3 years and in 2011 for a further 3 years*

Mr David Farrar *till May 2011*

There is one Vacancy

Elected members:

Mr Brian Amey *elected in 2009 for 3 years*

Mrs Elizabeth Bobeldijk *elected in 2011 for 1 year*

Mr Nicholas Bobeldijk *elected in 2010 for 3 years*

Mrs Joan Bridger *elected in 2011 for 1 year*

Mr Richard Cecil *elected in 2010 for 3 years*

Mr David Farrar *Secretary all year, elected in 2011 for 3 years*

Mr James Gilder *elected to PCC in April 2008 for 3 years, elected a Diocesan Synod member from 1st August 2009 for 3 years resigned from all posts in September 2011*

Mrs Alison Read *till May 2011, elected in 2008 for 3 years*

Mr Dennis Terry *elected in 2009 for 3 years*

Mrs Janet Terry *elected in 2011 for 1 year*

Mr Ian Underwood *Treasurer, elected in 2010 for 3 years*

Mr Jack Whinney *elected in 2009 for 3 years*

Standing Committee: Incumbent or Chairman, Churchwardens, Treasurer and Secretary

Bank: Lloyds TSB, Chelmsford Branch

Auditor: Kenneth Carr

Structure Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council of the church of St Andrew, Sandon is a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules and the Annual Meeting, in 2011, has voted that members are ineligible to serve on the PCC for a year after a 3 year period of service. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

St Andrew's PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with an incumbent, when appointed, promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building and churchyard at The Green, Sandon. During the year, we continued with the following vision

"In the light of God's call, and our situation here, our vision is:-

1. "To glorify and worship God and to further his kingdom on earth.
2. "To declare and show the love of Christ for all people to the people of Sandon.
3. "To teach, encourage and help people to be disciples of Christ.
4. "To proclaim Christ's Gospel to the people of Sandon and the wider world.
5. "To encourage commitment and personal growth in Christian discipleship and spirituality.
6. "To channel God's love through service and care for all."

Achievements and Performance

Church Attendance

The electoral roll as revised at February 28th 2011 shows that there are 73 on the electoral roll, 39 residents within the parish and 34 non-residents. Our thanks go once again to Pat Eden for maintaining the electoral roll.

To work together with St. Mary's Little Baddow, the services at Sandon have consisted of a said Holy Communion at 8.00am on the fourth Sunday of the month, a Jubilate Eucharist on the first Sunday, and Parish Eucharist on the third Sunday at 10.00am. On the second Sunday there is an Evening Eucharist at 6.30pm. Therefore every Sunday has a form of Communion. Every Wednesday at 9.15am there is a said Communion and when there is a fifth Sunday in the month a Parish Eucharist is held jointly with Little Baddow.

In addition to the major Holy Days there have been the Harvest Thanksgiving, Remembrance Sunday, St Andrew's Patronal Festival, the Carol Service, and a Crib and Christingle service and on Rogation Sunday a service was held in a barn.

The average weekly attendance, counted during October 2011 was 25 adults and 1 child. The extra services were well attended.

Review of the Year

It has been quite a difficult year for both parishes, but working closely together with Rev. Clive Ashley we are now in a more positive and settled position. We appreciate especially the help given to us by retired Clergy and Lay Readers.

We had 8 weddings, 4 Baptisms and 7 Funerals.

The PCC met 6 times and the subjects discussed included youth and children's ministry, Messy Church, overseas giving, stewardship, fund raising, church path, events, the parish magazine and the church website.

The work of SALT continues under the leadership of Jean Elliott and although we have not seen much increase in membership we have kept a steady number. **The Tiny Tots** group lead by Alison Read had diminished slowly but due to a change of time the numbers attending has risen dramatically. A fun day was held with 22 children attending.

Thank you to everyone who gives up their time to help with the work with children.

The Tea and Chat mornings which are open to everyone continue to maintain a good number. We have had two successful and pleasurable outings this year for lunch at the White Hart at Margaretting Tye.

The bell ringers continue to ring every Sunday and for weddings and special occasions. It is especially pleasing to have bell ringers from other churches and the ringers from Sandon and Little Baddow ringing in both churches. Tuesday evening is practice night and new members are always welcome.

The Choir maintains a very high standard and although we lost James Gilder, the choir has continued to work hard especially with anthems and the carol service. Thanks as always to Ron Wood for his total commitment as our organist, not only for Sunday services but for weddings and funerals. **The Gospel Choir** has been a great success in joining the two parishes together for a very relaxed evening under the leadership of Clive and the piano playing of Lara.

The Flower Team lead by Barbara Underwood has as ever been outstanding and to a very high standard, especially at Easter, Christmas and Harvest and the occasional wedding. Thank you to everyone in the Team.

We have been very busy with **events** throughout the year. Our first was our Valentine Quiz, which is always very popular. A new venture was the Jumble Sale in March which did well and was thoroughly enjoyed. May brought us another new venture, a Curry Evening held at the Crown, this was a sell out and meant that a large sum of money was sent to our Pakistan appeal.

We had our usual inter-village walk starting at Little Baddow. There was a good turnout and a large number enjoyed lunch at the Crown at the half-way stage before the hardy people in the group walked back to Little Baddow. We had beautiful weather for the annual village fete at the end of June.

The talents of both parishes were displayed at the Summer Concert held in July. The Harvest supper was well attended with good food and entertainment. The annual ride and stride was supported by the usual hardy bunch although the weather was not too good, and was helped by the marshals at the church to welcome everyone.

The Autumn Fayre was organised by a new team and was a resounding success. This meant we added to our church funds whilst keeping the lovely atmosphere of love and friendship. We finished our event year with our St. Andrew's day wine and cheese which enables us to thank all the people who have helped us at St. Andrews through the year.

Thank you once again to Michael Puffett for organising the Christian Aid collection with the help of those committed people who go from door to door. Thank you all very much.

The Lent course had five different leaders including two from other denominations following the USPG, with an average of 17 attendees. A successful Alpha course was held at the rectory for seven people from both churches. Our Easter week commenced with a Passion Play which took the form of poems written by Christine Wass and a film depicting the Easter story.

It has not been an easy year for us at Sandon, but with prayer and commitment we have come through. Our love and friendship for each other and faith in God has brought us to a more settled time. Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard and we now look forward to the future.

Financial Report

The detailed Financial Statement shows that our payments £50,951 exceeded our receipts £48,155 by £2,796, but this is before the final grant for SALT of £4,000 due in 2011 yet not paid until 2012. However, two-thirds of this £2,666 is to help fund the expenditure on SALT in 2012. We were also due Gift Aid at the year-end, but the amount was pretty similar to that due to us at the end of 2010, which is in 2011 receipts. So we are really looking at a shortfall of some £1,500.

Planned Giving and Donations, and Gift Aid were down by £4,046, with Fund Raising up by £3,476 thanks in part to the very successful charitable Curry Evening in the Crown, which raised £2,133. Building Maintenance was £1,600 less, whilst Church Running Expenses were £1,375 more and expenditure on Mission and Relief Agencies was down £1,300 to £3,928, with £2,133 of this being met by the Curry Evening. Clergy Expenses and the Cost of Services were down a bit and we did not have to pay fees to the diocese for visiting clergy, which together saved £2,400.

The other factor affecting comparison between the two years is, that in 2010 we benefited from £4,600 of Legacies, whilst in 2011 the benefit was £1,400. We are very fortunate if we receive legacies, but cannot rely on legacies to balance the books. We have therefore decided that we need to mount a "Giving in Grace" campaign to boost our income and that we need to maximise our fund raising, so that we can meet our expenses and still play our part in helping those in real need both in this country and abroad.

Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2011.
 General Fund (all unrestricted) Receipts and Payments Account

RECEIPTS	2011		2010	
	£	£	£	£
Regular Giving				
Planned giving	17367		18556	
Collections and other giving	3757		5054	
Income tax recovered	7164	28288	6982	30592
Other voluntary receipts				
Donations	3307		5049	
Legacies	1410	4717	4600	9649
Receipts from activities for generating funds				
Parish Magazines	723		765	
Fund raising	5927		2942	
Project 452	2133	8783	1642	5349
Receipts from Church activities				
Parochial fees	5061		4242	
St Andrews Room Donations	274		441	
Shared Clergy Exp.50% Little Baddow	1001		1117	
SALT	-	6336	3800	9600
Receipts from investments				
CCLA shares	31	31	30	30
		<u>48155</u>		<u>55,220</u>
PAYMENTS	£		£	
Mission and relief agencies	3298		4618	
Diocesan Parish Share	30600		30388	
Church running expenses	5011		3766	
Clergy expenses	2129		2492	
Cost of services	415		1019	
Building maintenance	773		2385	
Magazine printing	863		719	
Printing and stationery	864		802	
SALT	5546		5464	
Churchyard	1322		1692	
Fees	130		1424	
		<u>50951</u>		<u>54,769</u>
Excess of Payments over receipts		2,796		
<i>Excess of Receipts over payments 2010</i>				451

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2011.

<u>Monetary Assets</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
	£	£
Bank current account	9232	12043
Bank Deposit account	5859	5855
Petty Cash	44	33
	15135	2796
		17931

Gift Aid claim for £4934 to 31st December 2011 submitted

Mission Opportunities Fund Grant SALT £4,000 outstanding.

All funds and monetary assets are on an unrestricted basis.

Other Assets

Mrs C. P. Pearson bequest:-

45.59 Charities Investment Fund shares

	£	£
	501.30	459.80

Two Lawnmowers (Non-monetary)

No payments were made to Parochial Church Council Members falling within the Charities Act for Goods or services during the period.

This Financial Statement has been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulation 2006 using the Receipts and Payment Basis and approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on their behalf by:

Revd C Ashley
PCC Chairman

I A Underwood
PCC Treasurer

15/03/2012

Treasurer's Notes

Attached is a copy of the 2011 Accounts in their new format which I hope will be much easier to interpret and will give a much clearer picture of our finances.

The Financial Statement shows our Receipts in 2011 totalled £48,155 but our Payments totalled £50,951 a shortfall of £2,796.

Regular giving by Bank Giro Credit, Envelope Scheme has fallen by £1,189 from £18,556 to £17,367 and our Collections by £1,297 to £3,757 from £5,054.

We are awaiting payment of our Gift Aid claim up to 31st December 2011 total £4,934 and the grant from the Mission Opportunity Fund of £4,000 both of which will appear in the 2012 Accounts.

Income Tax recovered is up slightly by £182 and we received three legacies during the year totalling £1,410, (£4,600 last year). Fund raising was one area where we were successful raising £5,927; Quiz £576 (£461); Jumble sale £460; Concert £500; Fete £1,137 (£523); BBQ £343; Harvest £395 (£168); Fayre £1463 (£690); Easter Play £132; Cycle Ride £342 (£346); Sponsored Walk £578 (£355). There were other events in 2010 which raised £399. The Curry Evening for Project 452 raised a further £2,133.

Donations include a grant from Sandon Parish Council of £1,000 and donations from Danbury Scouts £500, Sandon School £50, Flowers £250, Tiny Tots £68 and SALT £350.

More weddings and regrettably more funerals boosted our finances by £810 from £4,242 to £5,061. These figures are net. Donations for the use of the St Andrew's Room have reduced as we have lost two regular users.

Our Payments totalled £50,951 a reduction of £4,401 due mainly to a reduction in building maintenance of £1,612, the Cost of Services where the 2010 figure included the Home Communion Set at £690 and the 2010 Fees item of £1,424 (which referred to wedding fees due to the Diocese after the interregnum).

Church running expenses have increased by £662. In 2011 we paid Insurance £1,756 (*£1,704*); Electricity £1,412 for nine months (*£1,723*) and Water £87 (*£68*) totalling £3,236. Balance of £1,775 includes Fund Raising £637, Piano Acquisition £235, Flowers/accessories £291 (*£145*), Bell ringers £190. Refreshments £124, Banners £111, *Misc (£58)*. The Diocesan Parish Share £30,600 increased slightly (*£30,388*); clergy expenses reduced from (*£2,492*) to £2,129 and SALT increased slightly (by £82) to £5,546.

We supported five mission/relief agencies last year, totalling £3,298 (*£4,618 in £2010*), donating £2,628 to USPG Project 452, Asthma UK £150, UNICEF East Africa £100, Friends of Essex Churches (Part) £125, Royal British Legion £155 and The Children's Society £141.

Looking ahead, we must address the whole issue of giving; we cannot rely on legacies, fees and other 'windfall contributions' to balance the books and more importantly help us spread Christ's teachings here in Sandon and its environs. To this end in the coming months we are to launch a Giving in Grace Campaign here in Sandon and further information and details will be available in the next few weeks.

Please pray for our activities and initiatives at St Andrew's and ask for God's guidance as we all review what and how regularly we give to the Church to forward God's work here.

Ian Underwood
23.3.12

Fabric Report

The church has again remained structurally sound with most of the work that has been required being of a routine nature.

Another electrical cable fault developed in the lighting of the chancel. This required a repair by Danbury Electrical. They advised that owing to the age of the system faults of this nature will occur but that no pre-emptive action is needed. We are aware that the next full electrical check is due in December 2014. The external lights have needed routine attention. We regard these lights as important and all five are now fully functional.

We have been advised by our insurers that external metal must be protected by the SMARTWATER system. We do not have a large amount of such metal but this has been done and warning notices posted

The top dressing of the church path has been completed and, after a few experiments, we believe that we now have the optimum depth. The adjustments to storage in the St Andrew's Room have now been completed as advised by the church architect. We are grateful for the assistance of members of the congregation and the parish with these matters.

The annual woodworm check revealed no active infestation. There is however a good deal of old damage and we must continue to be vigilant. A risk assessment pro-forma has again been completed and we believe that problems have been satisfactorily addressed. The fire appliances have been checked and serviced and a copy of the current certificate is displayed in the St Andrew's Room.

Trees in the churchyard have suffered wind damage on several occasions. We have taken advice and are assured that there is no pre-emptive action that we need take. One tree has died and a second is in a poor state. We are in the process of obtaining a Faculty for their removal. We have fitted a chain to the entrance of the car park so that it may be closed on occasion.

The inventory has been kept up to date. The main changes have been the acquisition of a baby-grand piano and a wheelchair.

Other non-urgent matters are in mind and will be considered for action in the future. We are only too aware that some items deteriorate slowly - such as the internal decoration of the church - and will prove costly in due course. We are also looking actively at the possibility of a sound system for the building which will help not only for wedding and funeral services but also our routine worship.

Our thanks once again go to the volunteers who do so much to clean and maintain the building, to open and close the church, care for the linens and vestments and do numerous other tasks so that we all may continue to enjoy our beautiful mediaeval church.

Churchwardens

SALT Report

SALT has taken place from 3.45 pm ~ 5.30 pm each Tuesday in term time, throughout the year. It is a pleasure to see the arrival of up to fourteen enthusiastic children and about the same number of equally enthusiastic adults, week by week, come wind, rain, snow or sunshine! Inevitably families and individuals sometimes have to miss the occasional week but there is a very high level of commitment, and relationships of high quality have been formed by children and adults alike. Earlier this term we welcomed our first new family for quite a while and they have already become regulars, which is great.

Our themes this year have included 'Popcorn People' (People from the Gospels who met Jesus and changed), The Lord's Prayer, The Story of David, 'Little stories to make you think' (Parables), Christmas Characters, Old Testament Heroes, and Easter People. It has been wonderful to see everyone engaging both with the creative activities on offer each week and with the Bible passages themselves, especially during the 'Altogether Times'. There are often insightful comments or questions which have us all thinking more deeply ~ sometimes for the rest of the week. There are also numerous special conversations which take place during the activities and God is certainly at work.

A highlight for us was the 'Posada' (travelling crib) which Clive came and launched during the 'Altogether Time' at the beginning of Advent. Some of the people who had knitted the beautiful crib figures came and joined us, and we shared baked potatoes together before the crib figures travelled on for their first overnight stay with a family.

The SALT team is faithful but now very small as various people have had to 'retire' during the past year due to illness or injury. Very many thanks to those who have served on the SALT team and to those who still do. You are much appreciated.

Jean Elliott

SALT Attendance and Themes

Date	Title	Children	Adults
Spring Term 2011			
11 Jan 11	Welcoming Wisemen	9	11
18 Jan 11	Jacuzzi Joe	10	11
25 Jan 11	Thankful Theo	6	14
1 Feb 11	Blind Bartie	6	11
8 Feb 11	Desperate Dinah	9	12
15 Feb 11	Rich Reuben	10	12
Half Term			
1 Mar 11	Zany Zac	8	12
8 Mar 11	Turnaround Tuesday	7	11
15 Mar 11	Joyful Jemimah	12	13
22 Mar 11	Surprised Simon	9	14
29 Mar 11	Marvelling Mary	11	13
Summer Term 2011			
3 May 11	Our Father in Heaven	9	15
10 May 11	Your Kingdom come	5	14
17 May 11	Bread for today	9	13
24 May 11	Forgive us our sins	8	11
Half Term			
7 Jun 11	David the shepherd boy	8	13
14 Jun 11	David and the Giant	8	10
21 Jun 11	David and his friend	13	11
28 Jun 11	David and King Saul	4	10
5 Jul 11	David makes a mistake	5	11
12 Jul 11	David praises God	12	16
Autumn Term 2011			
13 Sep 11	Building site	9	13
20 Sep 11	The fig tree	8	9
27 Sep 11	A tiny seed	6	10
4 Oct 11	Roots and shoots	7	10
11 Oct 11	Knock, knock!	10	12
18 Oct 11	Ready or not?	8	9
Half Term			
1 Nov 11	Zechariah	9	11
8 Nov 11	Mary	9	9
15 Nov 11	Elizabeth	9	10
22 Nov 11	Joseph	9	10
29 Nov 11	The Innkeeper	12	16
6 Dec 11	The Shepherds	10	10
Spring Term 2012			
10 Jan 12	Noah and the great flood	11	12
17 Jan 12	Gideon and the little army	10	12
24 Jan 12	Jonah and the enormous fish	13	11
31 Jan 12	3 men and a fiery furnace	9	11
7 Feb 12	Daniel and the fierce lions	14	13
Half Term			
21 Feb 12	John the Baptist's story	10	13
28 Feb 12	Martha's story	7	11
6 Mar 12	Peter's story	13	13
13 Mar 12	The Centurion's story	10	12
20 Mar 12	Mary Magdalene's story	13	11

Tiny tots Report for PCC 16 January 2012

Summary: Tiny Tots is currently seeing a flourish in numbers, averaging about 6-8 families each week, which includes 6-10 children. The families attending vary each week, although we have several who attend every week without fail. We have up to 12 families on the books altogether. Our all time high in recent months has been 15 children, so we're being kept busy! This has been hugely welcome after several years of having a really small group and often questioning whether it was the right thing to continue or not!

What we do; The age of the children range from new born babies through to pre-school and we endeavour to make the environment suitable for them all;

- safe and comfortable enough for mums with babies,
- space enough for the lively toddlers to have a stretch along with easy toys that they can role play with
- arts and craft activities/puzzles for the older children who need something more stimulating.
- Song time 20 minutes before the end for all ages
- and, of course, the homemade play dough that everyone loves.

Time: Changing the time to 1 – 2.30pm has been the key to our increased numbers, as several of the mums are now able to come along before picking up their older children up from school. One lady from Hall Lane brings 2 or 3 friends along with her from out of the area which is lovely to see.

Heating; We have been liaising with Ian and Michael to arrange for the heating to come on at the right time so the church is warmed up by the time the families arrive at 1pm. This has allowed us to move out into the Lady Chapel & be more comfortable rather than squash ourselves into the St. Andrew's room which, whilst more cosy and intimate, we have out grown of (for the time being at least).

Church: We have always been slightly disappointed that the families don't tend to come along to the church at other times; however we always promote our events and tell them all our church news. Seeing the friendships develop amongst the families, watching the children at home in our church & seeing the strong relationship between our visitors and our helpers from Church, makes us feel confident that the Holy Spirit is definitely hard at work with us.

Helpers: As many will be aware we have a small team of helpers including myself, Gill Haddington and Christine Wass who come every week, along with Janet who comes most weeks or when she can. We also have Sheree Haye from the Lintons on emergency backup which has been a great help and without this team we simply couldn't host such a big event weekly. Ideally we need additional helpers for emergency backup as when one member of 'staff' is off it leaves us on skeleton staff!

I feel it's important to mention the hidden help we have too, those who keep the St Andrew's room/toilet/kitchen, neat and tidy so the children and parents have a clean environment to come to, those who fill the cupboards with tea, coffee and sugar for us to share, those we share the cupboards with, who are terribly patient as the Thomas Tank Engine decides to go off at a random times just to alarm those around & for everyone else in the church community who support us in ways we are simply unaware of, it is all greatly appreciated.

I feel I could go on for another 3 pages so I'll leave it there for now.....

Alison Read

Deanery Synod Report

Synod met 4 times and there was an open meeting when PCC members discussed the formation of 'pastoral communities'.

Communion was shared at St Paul's, Great Baddow and Choral evensong at St John's, Danbury.

Topics discussed through the year included:

- The Olympics - Canon Duncan Green spoke about ways in which churches can engage with the Olympics - games pastors, volunteers, providing accommodation for athletes' families.
- Bishop Stephen's visit to the Deanery - service at St Luke's Moulsham for parish representatives.
- Pastoral Communities - parishes forming groups for future collaboration when there will be fewer stipendiary ministers:
 - Chelmer Crouch Group;
 - Miami Group - Moulsham St John's, St Luke's, Widford maybe, Galleywood;
 - Reservoir Group - Downham, South Hanningfield, West Hanningfield, Stock and Ramsden Bellhouse;
 - Great Baddow Team.
- Martin Wood spoke about the reducing numbers of stipendiary clergy, funding them and new forms of ministry

Bishop Stephen's Big Conversation, the meeting re Transforming Presence in January with aims:

- Inhabiting the world distinctively,
- Evangelising effectively,
- Serving with accountability and
- Asking what sort of ministry do we need to achieve these.

The November meeting included a Bible Quiz

Parish share apportionment and payment. Five parishes in the deanery did not pay fully in 2011 and the Deanery managed only about 90% of its total.

Judy Cecil
24-Mar-12