

Sandon Parish Annual Reports



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ST.ANDREW'S CHURCH, SANDON



Minutes of 2014 Vestry Meeting

held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday the 6th April 2014 after morning worship

- 1 **Opening prayers** were said by Revd Terry Brown.
- 2 **Apologies** were given for Mrs Audrey Bryan, Mr Peter Elwell, Mrs Gill Haddington and Mrs Alison Read. There were 30 other church and parish members present.
- 3 **Election of Tellers.** Mr Dennis Terry and Mrs Beryl Puffett were appointed by the meeting to act as tellers.
- 4 **Appointment of Clerk.** Richard Cecil agreed to clerk the Annual meetings.
- 5 **Approval of the minutes of the year 2013 Annual Vestry Meeting.** These were agreed without further comment.
- 6 **Matters Arising.** There were none.
- 7 **Election of two Churchwardens**
Revd Terry Brown had received 3 nominations and the meeting voted on ballot papers. Revd Terry Brown reported that the tellers had counted 23 votes for Mrs Janet Terry, 22 for Mr David Farrar and 9 for Mr Richard Cecil and that accordingly Mrs Janet Terry and Mr David Farrar were elected as Churchwardens.
- 8 **Date of Next Meeting** – 19th April 2015 circa 11:30 am

The meeting then closed.

Minutes of 2014 Annual Parochial Meeting

held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday the 6th April 2014 after morning worship

- 1 **Notice Convening the Meeting** Revd Terry Brown noted that the meeting had been convened.
- 2 **Apologies for absence.** The apologies for the vestry meeting were applied to this meeting. 29 church members were present.
- 3 **Election of Tellers**
- 4 **Approval of the minutes of the year 2013 Annual Parochial Church Meeting.** These were agreed without further comment.
- 5 **Matters Arising.** There were none.
- 6 **Reports.** The meeting had had these reports in written form both prior to the meeting for many and at the meeting for all present. The meeting adopted all the reports below within the following comments.
 - 6.1 **Electoral Roll Report.** Mr David Farrar reported that since last year there were 6 new members and Mr Peter Ellis who had died so that the current church membership is 56, 29 being resident in the parish and 26 not resident
In response to a question from Mrs Beryl Puffett it was clarified that the membership figures last year was 51 in total i.e. as P3 of the document that had been circulated. David was thanked for his work in this context.
 - 6.2 **Annual Report** was noted and Janet Terry thanked for this.
 - 6.3 **Presentation of the Accounts to 31st December 2013.** Ian Underwood reviewed the comments in the financial report. Ian was thanked for his work as Treasurer.
 - 6.4 **Report on the Church's Fabric.** Michael Puffett's report was noted and he was thanked for this.
 - 6.5 **Deanery Synod Report.** Dennis Terry and Judy Cecil were thanked for their reports.
 - 6.6 **Chelmer Crouch Group Report.** Christine Mennie was thanked for her report.



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- 7 **Election of Deanery Synod Representatives.** Mr Dennis Terry and Mrs Judy Cecil were elected.
- 8 **Election of PCC Members.** 2 church members who had been nominated were ineligible since they had not been members for a full 6 months. Another withdrew. The outcome was that Mr Nick Bobeldijk, Mrs Valerie Grimwood, Mr Guy Speakman and Mr Ian Underwood were elected to the PCC all for 3 years bar Valerie for 2 years, the latter being decided by straw poll.
- 9 **Appointment of Child Protection Officer and Vulnerable Adult Officer.** Terry reported that Mrs Alison Read had expressed her willingness to continue as Child Protection Officer Mrs Christine Farrar expressed hers to continue as Vulnerable Adult Officer. The meeting endorsed such appointments expressing gratitude for their work.
- 10 **Appointment of Independent Examiner.** Ian Underwood reported that Mr Kenneth Carr was willing to continue in this role and the meeting agreed and thanked him for his work in this respect.
- 11 **Appointment of Sidesmen and Sideswomen.** Eileen Bartrup, Joan Bridger, Colin Bryan, Judy Cecil, Christine Farrar, Gill Hodge, Christine Mennie were elected.
- 12 **Motion:** That Elected PCC members be eligible despite immediate prior service on the PCC Judy Cecil in proposing this spoke of the anomalies that this caused. Michael Puffett also spoke in favour and Guy Speakman seconded the motion. Dennis Terry spoke about it too. The meeting voted in favour of it, nem con, 24 in favour and 5 abstentions.
- 13 **Reports from other Organisations.** The meeting had had these reports in written form both prior to the meeting for many and at the meeting for all present. The meeting noted all the reports below within the following comments.
- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 13.1 Beavers | Judy Cecil thanked | some flowers to |
| 13.2 Bell Ringers Nick Tovey pointed out that the new ropes had been purchased in 2012 rather than 2013. | all involved. | arrange in gratitude. |
| 13.3 Bible Reading Notes | 13.5 Coffee and Chat | 13.8 Magazine Dennis Terry thanked the current editor. |
| 13.4 Choir Chris Davies spoke of the need for a choir master. | 13.6 Cubs | 13.9 St Andrew's Youth Fellowship Evelyn Ellis fleshed out her report. |
| | 13.7 Flower Arrangers Terry reported that Barbara Underwood is stepping down from her contribution in this direction. She was thanked and given | 13.10 Scouts |
| | | 13.11 Tiny Tots |
- 14 **Priest in Charge Report**
Terry began by saying that it has been a pleasure working in the parish of Sandon. **He thanked** Michael and Janet for their support as he began his ministry and for that of all those who contributed in a whole variety of ways including the sides persons, those who lead intercessions, Nick Tovey and the Bellringers, the choir and Ron Woods, the Eucharistic ministers including the 4 new ones, Christine Mennie and the other cleaners and those who have helped in the churchyard. He continued that he will miss Michael as church warden and added thanks to Mike Harris for the renewed notice board, Christine Mennie and the fund raising committee, those who prepare and act the rotas, those who make the Mothering Sunday posies, Dennis Terry for the pew sheet, Dennis and Richard for the website, Richard and formerly Nick Bobeldijk for the magazine, Richard as secretary, Alison Read for Tiny Tots, Nick as sacristan. The thanks then included the Family Service planning team, the Mission planning team, David Farrar as Electoral Roll Officer, Dennis for his role visiting and organising the visiting of the Chelmsford Nursing Home, Evelyn Ellis for her role leading the St Andrew's Youth Fellowship, the 3 Scout leaders, the Brownies leaders, Sandon Parish



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Council for their grant and for the Christmas Tree, the PCC, Barbara Underwood and Ian Underwood as treasurer. He gave special thanks to Michael supported by Beryl for his 6 year's service on the PCC the latter 4 years as Churchwarden coping most committedly with a whole variety of issues including faculties, the Police. He also thanked Janet saying that her contribution was more back stage but with catering and ensuring that tasks were done.

Terry then challenged the church in the following vein. The finances are not in a good place with the last few years having an expenditure greater than income and significant costs on the horizon. The challenge of developing a Friends of St Andrew's is beginning to be met. He thought the church needs to look to serve *all* in Sandon. There are developments in worship style with perhaps more non-Eucharistic services and Taizé style music. There is work to be done developing the contact with Baptism families with newly married couples and with some form of nurture group. He shared his aspiration for deeper friendships with others and an imperative to value difference and different ideas in love. He saw a need to develop the way people are welcomed.

He concluded by saying his first 9 months have been a good introduction.

- 15 **Other Appropriate Business** Michael Puffett articulated the thoughts of the meeting in expressing thanks to Terry for his contributions since his licensing to the parish in July 2013 as well as the support that Caroline Brown gave him.
- 16 **Date of Next Meeting** – 19th April 2015 circa 11:30 am
- 17 **Closing Prayers** were said circa 12:30 pm.

Minutes of PCC Meeting 6th April 2014

Parochial Church Meeting (held immediately following the Annual Church Meeting)

- 1 **Present** Nick Bobeldijk, Terry Brown (chair), Judy Cecil, David Farrar, Valerie Grimwood, Christine Mennie, Janet and Dennis Terry, Michael Puffett, Guy Speakman and Ian Underwood.
- 2 **Appointment of Vice Chairman** David Farrar was proposed by Christine and seconded by Janet and appointed.
- 3 **Appointment of Treasurer** Nick was proposed with Ian as Assistant Treasurer by Judy and seconded by Guy. This was agreed unanimously.
- 4 **Appointment of Secretary** Christine was proposed by Janet and seconded by David and appointed.
- 5 **Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer** Liz Bobeldijk was proposed by David and seconded by Nick and appointed.
- 6 **Notice Board Faculty** Michael informed us that the Faculty re the notice board had been granted. It was proposed by Christine and seconded by Nick that we proceed with the new notice board. This was agreed unanimously.
- 7 **Date of Next Meeting** Monday 9th June at 7.30pm in SAR.



ST.ANDREW'S CHURCH, SANDON



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:-
c/o The Vicarage, 1 Glebe Meadow, Great Waltham, Chelmsford CM3 1EX

PCC Members who have served from 1st January 2014 until the date of this report are:

<i>Priest:</i>	R ^{evd} Terry Brown
<i>Wardens:</i>	Mr David Farrar <i>from 15th May 2014</i> Mr Michael Puffett <i>till 15th May 2014</i> Mrs Janet Terry
<i>Deanery Synod</i>	
<i>Representatives:</i>	Mrs Judy Cecil <i>Elected in 2011 and 2014 for 3 years now till May 2017</i> Mr Dennis Terry <i>from 1st April 2012 till end of the triennium, May 2014</i> <i>and then in 2014 till May 2017</i>
<i>Co-opted:</i>	Mr Richard Cecil <i>a co-opted member of Deanery Synod, Secretary, Chelmer Crouch Group Rep till May 2014</i>
<i>Elected members:</i>	Mrs Elizabeth Bobeldijk <i>elected in 2011 for 3 years till May 2014</i> Mr Nicholas Bobeldijk <i>elected in 2014 for 3 years</i> Mr David Farrar <i>elected in 2011 for 3 years ie till May 2014</i> Mrs Valerie Grimwood <i>elected in 2014 for 3 years</i> Mrs Christine Mennie <i>elected in 2012 for 3 years, Chelmer Crouch Group Rep.</i> Mrs Barbara Underwood <i>elected in 2013 for 1 year ie till May 2014</i> Mr Ian Underwood <i>elected in 2014 for 3 years</i>
<i>Co-opted members:</i>	Mr Nicholas Bobeldijk <i>co-opted by the PCC on 13th May 2013</i> Mr Ian Underwood <i>Treasurer, co-opted by the PCC on 14th April 2013</i>

There remain vacancies on the PCC with 9 elected members allowed with 3 elected each year for 3 years.

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

Bank: Lloyds TSB, Chelmsford Branch

Examiner: 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. The Annual Meeting voted to retain that arrangement in 2013 but reversed that decision in 2014. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.



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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."

Annual Church Wardens Report for 2014

Preview

The Electoral Roll at April 2014 showed 49 on the Roll (27 residents and 22 non-residents). This now stands at 57 (29 residents and 28 non-residents). Our thanks go to Liz Bobeldijk our new electoral roll officer. The Sunday service time change to 10:00 am has worked well with Parish Eucharist on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Sunday and the 08:00 am said Communion and 10:00 am Family Service on the second Sunday. A said Communion is also held every Tuesday morning at 09:30 am and Celtic Prayer on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Further, a said, lay led, Communion is held on the second Monday of the month at the Chelmsford Nursing Home as part of our outreach and pastoral activities.

During the past 12 months our congregation has shown a steady increase in numbers and we always try to warmly welcome all newcomers. Our Annual Count taken in October indicated an average of 30 attendees to a typical Sunday Service.

Review of the Year

2014 was the Centenary of the Chelmsford Diocese and we were asked by Bishop Steven to hold some Missionary Events as part of the celebrations. This proved challenging but resulted in a very busy and enjoyable year and lots of good ideas for the future.

Our Easter Services started on Palm Sunday, with our Uniformed Organizations lining the church path waving palm branches and the congregation being preceded by a donkey into Church! Stations of the Cross and Meditations were held daily leading up to Easter Sunday. On Easter Sunday the Church was beautifully decorated with spring flowers and open to visitors on both Sunday afternoon and Monday. Visitors enjoyed the flower arrangements and a cup of tea and cake and again we must thank all our helpers and flower arrangers.

We enjoyed a coach trip to Cambridge in June, to explore Queen's College, Cambridge University, our patron. There was also time for shopping and then Evensong at Queen's College before returning home. Our Missionary Events began in August with a successful 'Tea on the Green' followed by Songs of Praise with the Salvation Army band which attracted about 170 people mainly from Sandon Parish.

A day later on August 4th the Church was opened for lighting of votive candles and the viewing of artefacts from the First World War kindly provided by Pat Eden. Then later in the evening a special service was held to remember all those who had died in the conflict, finishing with all lights being extinguished at 11 pm the precise moment that War had been declared.

In September we held Open Days to launch the 'Friends of Sandon Church', to raise funds for the Church's general fabric but particularly the roof which needs to be repaired soon. This was followed by an excellent concert by the 'Southend Girls and Boys Choir'. We now keenly look forward to their return visit this year. In October a children's party was held which was well attended and enjoyed by parents as well as children. They learned to spin plates as well as joining in dancing and games. Once again our thanks go to the organisers and those who provided food.

Our Fundraising events have proved very successful, and our thanks go to Joan Bridger for organising the Jumble Sale. The village walk was again well organized by David, with about 30 walkers being joined by friends for lunch at the Cricketers, Danbury before the walk back to Sandon.



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The Church Fete was again held in the 'Old Rectory' paddock, courtesy of John Willsmer, and was hugely successful. Our thanks go to John, Yvonne and Christine Mennie and her team of helpers for organising the day. It was well attended and proved a great social and financial success. The day was topped off by the 'Sandon Community Choir' as well as a Dog Show!

We were also very lucky with the weather for the Annual Churchyard BBQ which was well attended. Again we must express our thanks to all who helped with the catering and the tidying up afterwards.

Our Harvest Festival enjoyed another lovely day and the Church was beautifully decorated by our flower arrangers. Harvest lunch was enjoyed in the church after the service.

A very successful Christmas Fayre was held in November and thanks are given to Liz Bobeldijk and her team for organising the day. It was very busy and it was great to see so many people enjoying the occasion.

At the St Andrew's Day service we were once again joined by the choir of the Church of the Ascension. This well sung service was followed by our traditional Cheese and Wine Party as a thank you to those who had helped St Andrew's in so many ways during the year.

As usual December was a very busy month leading up to Christmas, beginning with the lighting of the Parish Christmas tree, carol singing, and hot chocolate and mince pies in the St Andrew's Room. This was followed by a very rewarding evening run by Lesley Worboys when we learned the art of Christmas wreath manufacture. Beer and Carols' in the Crown was popular with about 60 people singing boisterously to Terry's conducting. The Christingle Service was well attended and enjoyed by all. The Sandon School Choir came to join our choir for the service of Nine Lessons and Carols. In addition a group from Church visited the Chelmsford Nursing Home to sing carols after a communion service.

We have continued to support Bishop Rob Martin and the diocese of Marsabit in Northern Kenya by quarterly monetary donations and in regular prayer. We especially support Joshua and James as they minister in Kargi, contributing towards a motorbike for Joshua in the summer.

Our Outreach activity this year included 'Men's Breakfasts' held in the Crown on Saturday mornings three times a year. This has now led to the setting up of 'Ladies Breakfast Mornings'! This coming year we hope to have plenty of local help with our first attempt at 'The Best Kept Churchyard' Competition this April.

Our thanks go to Ron Woods for all the work he puts in to keep the choir going, (we are still looking for new members) and for his organ playing on most Sundays plus all of the extra services that have been held this year.

We thank Alison Read and her helpers for running the Tiny Tots group, which we know can be hard work. We also thank Nick Tovey and his team of bell ringers who ring on practice nights, before most Sunday services and also for weddings.

Barbara Underwood has now retired from flower arranging and our special thanks go to her for all the work she has put in over the years. In addition we thank all flower arrangers for the excellent displays they have put on during this very busy year. We would welcome anyone that would like to help us with flowers.

Finally, we especially wish to thank Terry for all the hard work he has done throughout the year in particular with services and events and starting the 'Friends of Sandon Church', the Pastoral Group, and the Pilgrim and Lent Courses.

Janet Terry Church Warden



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Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2014

Our planned giving increased in 2014 by £2,333 as did income from collections by £1,757 but other giving decreased by £1,117. Due to difficulties in converting our HMRC Charity account to an online basis, no Gift Aid was recovered in 2014 although this will be reclaimed in 2015. Partly as a result of this, our overall income for 2014 decreased by £2,667 compared to 2013.

Donations fell by £1,371 while legacies decreased by £3,887. Fundraising however, increased by £2,977 with the Summer Fete raising £1,400, the Sponsored Walk £460, Easter Teas £86, the Jumble Sale £391, the BBQ £315, the Southend Children's Choir concert £580, the Harvest Lunch £61 and the Christmas Fayre £1,916. The much-appreciated grant of £1,000 from Sandon Parish Council for the upkeep of the churchyard was also again received in May.

The Parish Magazine broke even with a small surplus of £30 and we continue to deliver bumper editions to the whole parish in special seasons. Parochial fees fell by £1,676.

Overall, with total expenditure decreasing by £1,093 our excess of payments over income for the year was £1,439.

The Building Maintenance Fund has a balance of £1,280. We are also holding £120 on behalf of the Friends of Sandon Church.

Total payments were £43,067 with the main items being: - Insurance £1,868, Electricity £2,148, Water £74. Building maintenance expenditure of £642 was for an electrical inspection and gutter cleaning. Other expenditure classed as maintenance included Organ Tune £125, Fire Extinguisher service £114 and, the major item, the replacement of the churchyard notice board at a cost of £1,210. Churchyard expenses mainly comprised the charge for mowing at £939 but with much voluntary work being carried out over the year for which we must be most grateful.

In Mission, £1,000 was sent to Marsabit to enable the purchase of a motorcycle together with 4 quarterly payments totalling £1,920. Donations were also made to Guide Dogs for the Blind £77, Little Havens Hospice £230 and the Royal British Legion £236.

Fund Raising expenses were £933 including the cost of hiring Sandon Village Hall hire of £302.

We paid Interregnum fees of £635 which was a balance outstanding from 2013 and affiliation fees to the Deanery and CCG of £44.

Miscellaneous expenses were £90.

Our Parish Share was £27,416, a decrease of £2,247.

Nick Bobeldijk, Treasurer
6th April 2015



ST.ANDREW'S CHURCH, SANDON



Parochial Church Council of St Andrew Sandon Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2014

Receipts and Payments Account

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2014	2013
Receipts					
Voluntary receipts					
Regular Giving		18547		18547	16214
Collections at services		6742		6742	4985
All other giving/voluntary receipts	a	3336	1686	5023	6140
Gift Aid Tax recovered		0		0	5640
		<u>28626</u>	<u>1686</u>	<u>30312</u>	<u>32979</u>
Activities for generating funds	b	6418		6418	3441
Investment income	c	23		23	25
Parochial Fees		3598		3598	5274
Other receipts	d	1276		1276	1015
Total Receipts		<u>39942</u>	<u>1686</u>	<u>41628</u>	<u>42734</u>
Payments - Church Activities					
Parish Share		27416		27416	29663
Clergy Expenses		1338		1338	277
Church running expenses	e	6596		6596	10473
Mision giving and donations	f	3463		3463	3311
		<u>38814</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>38814</u>	<u>43724</u>
Payments - Other					
Cost of generating funds		933		933	436
Magazine Printing		1159		1159	
Maintenance	g	2162		2162	
Total Payments		<u>43067</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>43067</u>	<u>44160</u>
Excess of receipts over payments		-3125	1686	-1439	-1426
Cash at bank and in hand at 1st January		6230		6230	9478
Cash at bank and in hand at 31st December		<u>3105</u>	<u>1686</u>	<u>4791</u>	<u>8052</u>

Funds held	Balance 1st January	Receipts	Payments	Balance 31st December
Note 1 Funds Held				
General Fund	5449	41628	43067	4010
Designated funds				
Endowment funds				
Mrs Mary Christina Pearsons bequest	45			45
Total funds	<u>5494</u>	<u>41628</u>	<u>43067</u>	<u>4055</u>

Note a: Other voluntary receipts

Legacies	1253			1253
Donations	2083			2083
Building Maintenance Fund	1280			1280
Donations to Sandon Friends	120			120
Recovered from HM Courts	280			280
Treasurer's Expenses	6			6
	<u>5022</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5022</u>



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Note b: Activities for generating funds

Parish Magazine -sales and adverts	1188			1188
Easter Teas	87			87
Jumble Sale	391			391
Sponsored Walk	460			460
Summer Fete	1400			1400
BBQ	315			315
Concert	580			580
Harvest Lunch	61			61
Christmas Fayre	1936			1936
	<u>6418</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6418</u>

Notes to accounts

Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2014	2013
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Note c: Investment income

Mrs Mary C Pearsons Bequest	21			
Bank and deposit interest	2			
	<u>23</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Note d: Other Receipts

Sandon Parish Council	1000			
Miscellaneous	276			
	<u>1276</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Note e: Church running expenses

Church Insurance	1868			
Electricity	2148			
Water Rates	74			
Vestry Supplies	294			
Churchyard Expenses	1102			
Cost of Services	167			
Fees and Subscriptions	819			
Printing and Stationary	34			
Miscellaneous	90			
	<u>6596</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Note f: Mission Giving

Guide Dogs Association	77			
Marsabit - Quarterly Donations	1920			
Marsabit - Motorcycle	1000			
Little Havens Hospice	230			
The Royal British Legion	236			
	<u>3463</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Note g: Maintenance

Electrical Inspection	504			
Gutter Cleaning	138			
Fridge for SAR	70			
Organ Maintenance	125			
Fire Extinguisher Service	114			
Notice Board Replacement	1211			
	<u>2162</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>



ST.ANDREW'S CHURCH, SANDON



Fabric Report for 2014

- 1 **Porch Roof** Following the theft of lead from the porch roof a repair of the masonry and replacement of the lead with an alternative substance was carried out successfully. Total cost was £2,650 covered mainly from our insurance.
- 2 **The Main Roofs** The Quinquennial Report covering the 5 yearly inspection of the fabric of the Church by our Church Architect stated that two stretches of roofs were in need of repair. **Specifically, these are the two slopes between the main roof and the North Chapel roof which are joined by a box lead gutter.** The gutter needs to be replaced and both roofs retiled after a careful inspection of possible damage underneath the tiles. For this we will need to raise **about £50,000** to cover all eventualities. To initiate this Rev. Terry Brown suggested that we form a '**Friends of Sandon**' Group formed from several P.C.C. members and volunteers from across the Parish. Both Churchwardens and Terry are now 'Friends' committee members together with John Willsmer, Richard Speakman, Darren Chaplin, John Gruby and Andy Hilton. Starting the Friends group in September 2014 and holding Open Days at Church plus 'Lambing Live' at Richard and Sally Speakman's farm has enabled The Friends to raise over £6,000 by the year end. There are now over 60 members of the Friends who have joined for Life or are paying membership on an Annual Basis. **We look forward to getting many more supporters this coming year.**
A small committee, mainly from the P.C.C., have now put in a bid for financial support from the 'Listed Places of Worship' Roof Repair Fund which is part of the National Heritage Memorial Fund and supported by The Department for Culture, Media and Sports. The deadline is 31/1/2015 and we hope to hear a result by the end of March 2015. This has suddenly come about following George Osborne's Autumn Statement offering a special fund of £15 million to support places of worship in the U.K. for the repair of roofs and rainwater goods on vulnerable Churches. We hope to raise about 80 % of the refurbishment costs through charity funding.
- 3 **Lightning Conductor** This has been repaired by Mike Warboys and Neil Arnold for which many thanks.
- 4 **Churchyard Trees** A Faculty from the Chancellor and a Chelmsford Borough license were raised to enable us to remove two Churchyard trees and prune the large yew tree at the front of the Church. At the time of writing work has been completed on the first two trees. The lifting of the crown of the yew tree has now been done. The cost of this work will be about £680 plus VAT.
- 5 **Church Electrics** The required 5 yearly inspection was done in September 2014 by Danbury Electrics. Remedial work was then needed to ensure that the many circuits were safe. We also needed the addition of some new indicator lights on the heating circuits and a new sensor light installed in the boiler house. Total cost of this was £1,152 ex VAT.
- 6 **New Notice Board** This was ordered by the previous management and skilfully assembled by our choir singer Mike Harris. Cost was about £1,200.
- 7 **Churchyard** This has been maintained by a small party of regular helpers and this coming year 2015 we expect to take part in the 'Best Kept Churchyard' Competition. Some encouraging new regulations concerning what one can do and cannot do to memorials and graves in the Churchyard have been put up in 'easy to read places' in the Churchyard to help to get the Chancellor's rules on Churchyards followed diligently.
- 8 **St Andrew's Room Footings** Just before the end of the year 2014 someone tore off the lead skirts around the SAR footings, leaving them for later collection in a heap-- which was rescued by us. This will get due attention this year 2015.
- 9 **Car Park Holes** These are mainly created by a few speedsters and ladies picking up their children from Sandon School and Mike Harris and I have filled the larger ones in. There is a large sack of filler material at the end of the car park plus spade so as the holes reappear can you all try to use this material carefully to re instate the surface as you would expect to find it. Thank you!

Overall, therefore one can see that the Church Fabric costs for the year were about £6,000. This together with the 'Family Purse in the region of £27,000 illustrates how important the 'Friends of Sandon' Church will be for supporting the Church Fabric Costs in the long-term!

However the Church fabric, other than the interconnecting valley of two roofs, is generally in good condition thanks to the help of many people.

David Farrar, Churchwarden



ST.ANDREW'S CHURCH, SANDON



Deanery Synod Report

Synod met in June, September and November 2014 and February 2015 at Downham, Boreham, Sandon and St Luke's Moulsham, respectively, with an extra Saturday workshop at Sandon in January concerning the process for putting together the new Deanery Vision. Business included the following:

Transforming Presence and Units

There were and are ongoing lengthy discussions about the formation of 'Pastoral Units' (mindful that the Bishop has proposed there will be 10.5 stipendiary ministers available for this deanery by 2016 and only 7 by 2025). Further discussions are planned and consultation with PCCs is planned for early 2015.

Review of the Year of Evangelism

Parishes shared the successes and challenges of their mission weekends and other outreach events, particularly looking at Welcome, Proclamation, Nurture, Decision/Baptism/Confirmation and Discipleship. We at Sandon reported achievements at welcome with children's party, 'tea on the green' and formation of 'friends', and nurture with the Pilgrim course.

Pleshey Refurbishment

Archdeacon David Lowman told us about developments at the Pleshey diocesan retreat house - improvements to washing and toilet facilities and an additional room at the back of the main house, as well as improvements to the gatehouse. He expressed thanks for generous legacies received but is fundraising and seeking grants for further work.

Finance

The Deanery share formula for 2014 was presented and approved. A £70k shortfall in the deanery payment to the diocese for last year was noted with some regret. (Sandon paid their parish share in full.)

Judy Cecil

Chelmsford Nursing home

A small group of people visited the Chelmsford Nursing home once a month to take Communion to the residents and some staff. About 6 residents join us and a few have Communion in their rooms. In June and at Christmas about 12 from St Andrew's entertain the residents with a small concert of carols and hymns. This is greatly enjoyed because, although most appear to have dementia, they seem to remember the words.

Christine Mennie

Bell Ringing Report

We have continued to ring for most Sunday services and weddings this last year. We still have to rely on the support of Ken and Jo Elliot. Their home tower is Great Baddow, so when Great Baddow require their support on the first Sunday of the month it is hard to find enough ringers at Sandon.

Attempts at recruiting more ringers have produced Judy Cecil, Nicholas Champness and Brian. All are making good progress; Nicholas remarkably so. They are proving to be a great asset to our ringing.

There was an Essex Association of Change Ringers S.E. District Meeting at our Church the other day, This involved ringing, a service, tea, the meeting (where Nicholas was elected a member of the E.A.C.R.) and further ringing, where good training and ringing was had. Thanks to Terry for organising and conducting the service and Judy (also a new member of E.A.C.R.) for coordinating the teas.

Practice nights have been fairly well supported, and from other towers; Great Baddow, Downham and Galleywood.

Neil Arnold and Mike Worboys have regularly inspected the bells. They have purchased wood for stays in case of breakages, which could well happen with learners ringing.

We are always looking to recruit and train more ringers. If anyone is interested please contact Nick Tovey.

Nick Tovey, Tower Captain

Bible Reading Notes

A limited number (8 copies - some to couples) have been taking New Daylight which provides a short scripture reading for each day with a commentary about it. These commentaries can explain stories from the Old and New Testaments as well as use scripture to illuminate the lives of men and women of God from different ages both before Christ and since. I am convinced that to grow effectively as a Christian some form of Bible study (along with prayer, fellowship and witnessing) is a must. These notes do not have a monopoly on this but do provide an outlet for a disciplined approach if that is what you aspire to.

Richard Cecil



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St. Andrew's Choir

During the year, the choir has joined with the choirs of Holy Trinity Southchurch, St. Mary's Maldon and the Ascension Church Chelmsford to sing Choral Evensong. It is always encouraging to make music with other larger choirs. On Passion Sunday we joined with the choir of All Saints Springfield for "The Cross of Christ" On the Sunday after Ascension we have been invited to sing at Ascension Church Chelmsford for their Patronal Festival.

We are still a very small body of singers. We need to look to increase our numbers; otherwise there will be no choir and little music at St. Andrews.

Finally, I should like to thank the members of the choir for their loyal support and regular attendance in all weathers on Sundays and Friday practices.

Ron Woods

Magazine Report

The magazine is indebted to the wide variety of those who contribute in so many ways: ideas, articles, reports, advertisements, distribution. Thank you to all with particular mention to Lesley Worboys who has been offering a gardening column each month. There are several new advertisers for which we are most grateful. There have been articles about local business including the Police Dog section, the Speakman's farming operation and Colets piling. Each month has included a letter from Terry and some light hearted items too. Pat Eden and David Farrar have contributed well on that front. There is a current series about a WW1 soldier with daily records of his diary 100 years after the event. Alison Barker has contributed some scholarly work most recently on a fictional account of one of the dead on our war memorial. We have a good team of distributors who circulate the magazine to all households in the parish 4 times in the year. It is my hope that the magazine can be a part of the ministry of Sandon Church and part of a ministry of reconciliation bringing different people together with ideas and events and thus articulating the Love of God in Jesus Christ in a practical way. To that extent I have included some varied articles from beyond the parish but with local connections for example covering the Queen's visit to the cathedral and Felsted School. Thank you again to all who have contributed and please continue to do so.

Richard Cecil, Editor

Marsabit Report

In 2012 the PCC decided to promise an annual sum of £1920 to the diocese of Marsabit in North Kenya to support a Minister and an Evangelist. We have continued to raise money for this and we also remember them in our prayers. The Revd Joshua ministers in Kargi and the evangelist, James, is in an even more inhospitable region of the country but with our support continues his work. We were privileged to have a visit from Rob Martin, the Bishop of Marsabit, and his wife Sue in June when Bishop Rob preached at the Sunday service and Sue sold a number of wares that had been hand crafted in Kenya. Bishop Rob contrasted the shepherd qualities of Jesus with those of Islam which is so prevalent in northern Kenya where he and Sue serve. In readiness for Bishop Rob's retirement he has started a Friends of Marsabit which allows donations to be made directly into a UK account rather than to a Swift account; the new arrangement starting in February 2015.

Richard Cecil

St Andrew's Youth Fellowship Report – 2014/15

We had a wonderful summer term 2014 and good membership. From the Jack Petchey money, the following were paid for: - singing lessons completed, all members and leaders undertook a certificated First Aid course and enjoyed an end of term treat ten pin bowling in Maldon. We also held a Presentation Evening when members received their Jack Petchey Medallions, NODA Drama Awards and Club Membership Cards. The Ellis Trophy for Best Performance in Jack and the Beanstalk was awarded to Katie Loosemore and Julie Fisher for their excellent performance as 'Daisy May' the cow. Julie stepped into the rear of the cow at very short notice to cover a deficit in cast numbers and ended up playing this role for most of the performances. A friend of Bekki Tovey's gave us a large number of wedding dresses which were ex-stock. They were high quality, most having been several hundred pounds up to £1,000. We set up a wedding dress sale evening in May and had some of the older club members 'walking the cat-walk' in these dresses. Unsold stock was later passed to Farleigh Hospice Charity Shop - Wedding Dress department. In July we set up and ran a Fete stall to aid the refurbishment of the village hall. We also supported Comic Relief later in the year.



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The autumn term brought a severe dip in membership because we lost several members to other commitments mainly in further/higher education. We are now building on a regular group of 13, ranging from 6 years to 17 years. SAYF Drama Leaders, Bekki and James Tovey started pantomime rehearsals in October. Unfortunately because of extremely low numbers and young, inexperienced age group, we felt that we could not undertake the commitment to stage a pantomime this year as it always costs around £2,000. We felt it too much of a gamble as we are a self-funding group. We are however still open to putting on another show in 2016.

We are also excitedly awaiting the results of our nomination by NODA for Best Pantomime of 2014, Jack and the Beanstalk. We are in the final 2 and will know if we have won at the end of April 2015. We also have been nominated for Best Youth Award. These are very prestigious, national awards.

In addition to losing members we also lost some of our assistant leadership. Weekly sessions are now covered by me, Julie Fisher with Eileen Bartrup running the Tuck Shop.

On 31st March 2015 SAYF will have run for 41 years. We held a birthday party at our club evening on Tuesday 24th March. Some friends and family were invited to join us for games and cake. (I was young in 1974 when the club began and I helped!!! Eileen Bartrup joined to help a year or 2 later.)

Our website, www.sayfsandon.webs.com, thanks to James Tovey, is continually updated and we can also be found on Facebook.

I think this report is a good round up of the year. What I would like to point out is that although we may not get the young people to church regularly, they all know that the club is connected to the Church in Sandon.

We always encourage the youngsters to join in church events such as the fete, bazaar, and Christmas Eve crib service and often I am sad to say the take-up is poor. Something to keep working on.

SAYF gives young people a place of safety to meet their friends and 'hang out'. They love just to relax and not be fixed to a timetable as at school. The present members are enjoying a variety of organised games that they request and are very competitive among themselves. We offer a sympathetic ear if needed and feel we give members confidence to work as a team, to respect others, even if younger, to be proud of their group, gain self-assurance and to socialise with others. This means that our work is useful and we help in their development to adulthood.

Evelyn Ellis, Group Leader

Scout Report

Membership

We have 84 members at present, including adults. All Sections have a healthy membership.

Group Executive Committee

We are still needing a Chairman and two Executive Committee members. If anyone feels that they could offer their services, I would be delighted to meet them and let them know what is involved. In essence, could you manage to attend a meeting four times a year?

Dads, Lads & Lasses Camp

This is one of the Group's key events of the year. This year, it takes place from Friday 26th to Sunday 28th June, at Belchamps. It will be a Superheroes theme and Jean Blake is leading the organization. This is invariably well supported and we invite Mums along Saturday evening to join us for dinner.

Overseas adventure

One of our Scouts is attending the World Jamboree in 2015. Additionally, our Summer Camp has been arranged in Holland from 1st to 7th August this year – this is a good opportunity for Cubs and Scouts to meet their brother Scouts from other countries.

Leaders and Section Assistants

We still need more support from parents. A particular need is for another Leader for our Beaver Colony. The Colony meets every Thursday during term time, from 5:00 pm to 6:10 pm. If anyone thinks they might be interested, do please contact me. Anyone who may be hesitant about what is be involved would be welcome to come along for a few weeks and observe – just come and see what we do. There would be no obligation – you might just enjoy yourselves!!

Neville J A Paul. Group Scout Leader



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Tea and Chat

We have had another successful year with our Tea and Chat. We have a very loyal group coming every week. We have been lucky to have some very good speakers on a variety of subjects. Terry has also organised some quizzes, none of which have been taken seriously, and we even had a small Beetle Drive. We have been out to two lovely meals, one summer one at the Cricketers and our Christmas lunch at the White Hart, Margaretting Tye with twenty one sitting down together. Everyone is welcome to come to our fun Tea and Chat.

Christine Mennie

Tiny Tots Toddler Group - Annual Report 2014/15

2014/15 has been a wonderful year for Tiny Tots, seeing our numbers of attendees continue to increase steadily and the team of leaders continue to grow in strength as well as numbers. Always great news to share. On average we will have around 10-12 families joining us on a Wednesday afternoon, with our peak being 15 adults with 17 babies/children! Oh yes, it can get quite busy!!

We have a hive of activity in the kitchen as hot drinks are served to the adults (and helpers!) accommodating late comers as well as early arrivals. Once adult drinks are nearing completion production line for kiddies drinks and snacks begins. This is not a job for the faint hearted.

We make great use of the small tables and chairs, using them for dinosaurs, tea-sets and dolls houses to name a few. Before long it is time to clear the tables ready for children's snack time. Children are always encouraged to sit together for snacks; showing that we enjoy coming together for food & drink (& minimising sticky fingers/crumbs elsewhere of course!).

Our very own home made play dough continues to be a very popular activity, led by our very own Rev. Brown who is always the first to begin play dough time! He'll even share if the children ask nicely! We have a great variety of toys and go to great lengths to keep them all clean, organised and in good working order. A basket of soft /'quiet' toys is always put together at the end to be left at the back of the church ready for our young visitors during services.

Song time at the end is an excellent way of bringing everyone together. The children dive into the bag to find a toy representing a song to sing, and then match it to the corresponding card on the floor. We even had Alexander's dad, Stuart, bring his guitar along one week, which I have to say, gave us renewed enthusiasm! It is always sad to say goodbye to our older children who head off to infant school, however since we changed the start time from 2pm to 1pm several years ago we have been able to attract many more families with children at school but who are able to still enjoy toddler group before pick up. This allows us to keep in touch with many more families and welcome the older children back when we have Children's Workshops in the holidays.

Our team of helpers is the strength behind Tiny Tots and our thanks shows no boundaries to this lovely team. It has been wonderful to enjoy Terry's company on a Wednesday afternoon since he joined us and we have also been pleased to welcome Anna onto the team. Anna is not only great with our team of Tots and a dab hand at kids craft but is also incredibly fast at setting up and packing away – just perfect!

Gill continues to entertain anyone under 3ft with fantastic ball games and fix almost anything that needs attention (including the children). Janet offers her support in ways far too numerous to list here but needless to say she is a star on many levels. Sheree, as catering manager, has the kitchen down to a fine art and is also a whizz at setting up and packing away. Who could ask for more? We welcome Lesley and Diane on days when staff shortages strike, and their energy and enthusiasm brings us great joy every time.

(Message from Gill: We must not forget Alison our leader who, despite now being a working woman, finds time to come up with great crafts and activities each week for all to enjoy.)

We give thanks for all who are involved in Tots and also to those who work behind the scenes allowing us to enjoy the beauty of St Andrew's Wednesday afternoons.

Alison Read



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Agenda for Annual Vestry & Parochial Church Meetings and First PCC Meeting

The meetings will be held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday the 19th April 2015 at 11.30 am

Annual Vestry Meeting

- 1 Opening prayers
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Appointment of Clerk
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2014 Annual Vestry Meeting
- 5 Matters Arising
- 6 Election of two Churchwardens
(Nominations must have been received by the chair *prior* to the meeting.)
- 7 Date of Next Meeting – 10th April 2016 circa 11:30 am

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (immediately after the Annual Vestry Meeting)

- 1 Notice Convening the Meeting
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Election of Tellers
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2014 Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- 5 Matters Arising
- 6 Reports
 - 6.1 Electoral Roll Report
 - 6.2 Annual Report
 - 6.3 Presentation of the Accounts to
31st December 2014
 - 6.4 Report on the Church's Fabric
 - 6.5 Deanery Synod Report
 - 6.6 Chelmer Crouch Group Report
- 7 Election of PCC Members
- 8 Appointment of Child Protection Officer and Vulnerable Adult Officer
- 9 Appointment of Independent Examiner
- 10 Appointment of Sidesmen and Sideswomen
- 11 Reports from other Organisations
 - 11.1 Beavers
 - 11.2 Bell Ringers
 - 11.3 Bible Reading Notes
 - 11.4 Brownies
 - 11.5 Choir
 - 11.6 Coffee and Chat
 - 11.7 Cubs
 - 11.8 Flower Arrangers
 - 11.9 Magazine
 - 11.10 St Andrew's Youth Fellowship
 - 11.11 Scouts
 - 11.12 Tiny Tots
- 12 Concerns/Questions to be Expressed/Asked
- 13 Other Appropriate Business
- 14 Date of Next Meeting – 10th April 2016 circa 11:30 am
- 15 Closing Prayers

Parochial Church Council Meeting (immediately after the Annual General Meeting)

- 1 Appointment of Vice Chairman
- 2 Appointment of PCC Treasurer
- 3 Appointment of PCC Secretary
- 4 Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer
- 5 Next meeting dates PCC 15th June, Standing Committee 1st June both in SAR at 7:30 pm