

Sandon Annual Reports 2020



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Minutes of the 2019 Annual Vestry Meeting

held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 14th April 2019 at 11:30 am

- 1 Opening prayers were led by Revd Terry Brown.
20 members of the electoral roll were present.
- 2 Appointment of Clerk. Mike Worboys was appointed.
- 3 Apologies were received on behalf of Alison Read, David Farrar, John Gruby, Valerie Grimwood, Colin Bryan, Audrey Bryan and Liz Bobeldijk.
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2018 Annual Vestry Meeting
Approval was proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by Christine Mennie and approved unanimously.
- 5 Election of two Churchwardens. Nominations had been received for:-
Michael Puffett proposed by Kay Tyler and seconded by Ron Woods;
Judy Cecil proposed by Christine Mennie and seconded by Valerie Grimwood.
There being no other nominations Michael and Judy were duly elected.
- 6 Date of Next Meeting –
It was provisionally set as Sunday 19th April 2020, circa 11:30 am
The Meeting was then closed.

Minutes of the 2019 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 14th April 2019 after the Annual Vestry Meeting

- 1 Notice Convening the Meeting had been displayed on the church door for the previous two Sundays.
- 2 Apologies for absence – as for the Annual Vestry meeting.
- 3 Election of Tellers – Judy Cecil and Michael Puffett were elected.
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2018 Annual Parochial Church Meeting.
Janet Terry proposed and Judy Cecil seconded approval, which was agreed unanimously.
- 5 Reports as listed below had been circulated (as above) and were noted. It was noted that a Safeguarding report should have been included under item 5, this to be included on the agenda for 2020.
 - 5.1 Electoral Roll Report
 - 5.2 Annual Report
 - 5.3 Financial Report – Nick Bobeldijk noted that the Independent Examiner is still working on the accounts. Nick had completed the changes requested by the Examiner and was awaiting final approval. There would be no change to the bottom-line figure but there would be changes to how the Restricted funds were shown. A question was

asked about why the Fees figure was lower in 2018 compared with 2017, which related to the architect doing more work for the roof replacement in 2017 compared to 2018.

5.4 Fabric Report – it was noted that the pointing needed to be addressed in the coming year.

5.5 Deanery Synod Report

5.6 Chelmer Crouch and Compass Report

5.7 Christians Together in Chelmsford

6 Election of one Deanery Synod member for one year.

A nomination had been received for Richard Cecil, proposed by Mike Harris, seconded by Gill Haddington. There being no other nominations Richard Cecil was duly elected for one year.

7 Election of PCC Members – the following nominations had been received:-

Colin Bryan proposed by Audrey Bryan, seconded by Valerie Grimwood;

David Farrar proposed by Richard Cecil, seconded by Christine Mennie;

Laura Scurlock proposed by Alison Read, seconded by Gill Haddington;

Janet Terry proposed by Nick Bobeldijk, seconded by Claire Jefferies.

Dennis Terry tendered his resignation as he felt he hadn't been able to give the level of commitment required by the role during the last year. It was agreed that Janet Terry would be elected to cover the one year vacancy created by the resignation of Dennis Terry. Colin Bryan and David Farrar were duly elected for 3 years. Laura Scurlock was elected for three years but co-opted for the first three months as she had only been on the electoral roll for three months.

8 Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer – Terry thanked Liz Bobeldijk in her absence for her work in completing a full re-work of the electoral roll.

Michael Puffett noted that this had also provided an opportunity to update the information held for data protection purposes. Nick Bobeldijk confirmed that Liz was happy to carry on in the roll so Liz Bobeldijk was proposed by Michael Puffett, seconded by Mike Harris and appointed.

9 Appointment of Parish Safeguarding Officer

Alison Read was proposed by Claire Jefferies, seconded by Eileen Bartrup and appointed.

Appointment of Vulnerable Adult Officer

John Gruby was proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by Janet Terry and appointed.

10 Appointment of Independent Examiner

Revd Terry Brown proposed that this be carried over to the first full PCC meeting, which would allow time for confirmation as to whether the

Independent Examiner being used to audit the 2018 accounts would be willing to take on the role.

11 Appointment of Sidesmen and Sideswomen

Colin Bryan	Gill Hodge	Valerie Grimwood
Joan Bridger	Christine Mennie	Eileen Bartrup
David Farrar	John Gruby	Pam Norrington
Kim Davies	Richard Cecil	

With the removal of two names, those on last year's list (as above) were proposed by Richard Cecil and seconded by Mike Harris. Agreed unanimously. Christine Mennie thanked Judy Cecil for compiling the rota.

12 Reports from other Organisations were noted and received with thanks.

Michael Puffett noted that, due to a lack of volunteers, there would be no Christian Aid collection this year. Richard Cecil noted that there had been no mention on Nick Tovey in the Bell Ringers report as he had struggled to access the tower over the last year but had nonetheless managed to ring on a small number of occasions. Following his recent death, Richard Cecil wanted to record the fact that all the bell ringers had much appreciated his help and advice. Richard Cecil noted that he was stepping down as Tower Captain and passing the role to Mike Worboys.

13 Rector's Report

These are the notes to which the Rector Terry Brown spoke;

There is so much to give thanks for over the last year. I am so lucky to have such a lovely church and people working together to advance the Kingdom of God.

First I need to thank the churchwardens, Judy and Michael. They know their job and they just get on with it to make this a delightful place to come and work and worship. Thank you.

Then there is the PCC with Mike our Secretary and Nick our Treasurer and all the PCC who have worked together this year on many things that we have learnt to work together and love each other.

Then there is Ron our organist and our choir who have had a good year combining with other choirs to bring wonderful music in our church.

We need to thank our bell ringers for their work during the year and at this point we remember Nick Tovey who has been our Tower Captain for many years who died in March. It has been great to see new members joining the team of ringers.

Richard particularly for all his work on our church magazine. It must be the best one for miles around. Our magazine is delivered four times a year to the whole Parish and this is a very important part of our mission. Claire for working to increase the advertising revenue for the magazine.

But that's not all, Richard and Judy are both enthusiastic in the nurturing of our congregation in helping me to run the courses during the year. We ran two Lent courses last year on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning with a total of 16 people in attendance. Then in November we ran the Bible course for 8 weeks and had 20 people in total attending.

Then there is Tiny Tots with Alison, Gill, Janet, Kim, Lesley, Diane, Dessie and Liz every Wednesday. There has been a real growth here with sometimes 12 babies and toddlers and of course mums, dads and grandparents. Such a demonstration of love to these families. I love the Play Doh.

Then there are the excellent flower arrangers who beautify our church all the year but particularly at the festivals of Christmas and Easter. I would like to thank Lesley for her skill as well as organising special flower displays and help with the wedding flowers. Also thank you Janet for keeping the rota of flower arrangers.

Then there is Nick, our sacristan, who works hard to order supplies of candles, etc., for our services, as well as changing altar frontals and preparing the altar for every Sunday.

Also thanks to Liz for all her work in maintaining the electoral roll. This year has been a busy year as the Electoral Roll had to be changed completely.

We thank Dennis for the pew sheet which he publishes each week.

All the helpers in the churchyard. For Christine and all her hard work in the churchyard and her enthusiasm in arranging churchyard mornings. Also for Christine in bringing together our cleaning volunteers once a month. We could do with others to join us. Thanks must go to George for all of his work in the churchyard and it is so good to see him every week worshipping with us in church

The uniformed organisations and the way they are coming to Church Parades and wanting to come up to the church for various badge work etc. Thanks especially for all the work they do for Remembrance Sunday in the making of ceramic poppies and this last year the wonderful display of poppies outside cascading down from the roof of the porch.

Lots to give thanks for this year.

2018 will certainly go down as a very sad year as four members of our congregation died.

In March there was Greta Mills who had served this church for many years. In July was Gwen Horscroft. Although Gwen had only been a member of our church for a short time she showed us how much she loved our Lord and enjoyed our Lent and Advent courses when she was able to express herself in her beliefs.

Then in August was Christine Farrar, a member of this church for many years who died after a long illness. Our thoughts are with David and the family. Finally in December Beryl Puffett. This was very sudden for us as a church and I am pleased to say that on Sunday 28th April at our 10am Sung Eucharist Beryl will be remembered at the end of the service with a special hymn and prayers. Our thoughts are with Michael at this time.

With Judy our Pastoral Assistant we continued to look after members of our congregation. There is still work to be done here and I hope this year to see a development in the team. In the autumn of last year we began making a monthly visit to Baycroft where we have a lay communion service. I am thankful to Judy, Gill, Nick and Dennis for their involvement in this area. We continue to work closer with the United Reformed Church in Howe Green. There have been various social events including coffee mornings, Fairtrade wine tasting evening but above all meeting together in worship. We have held café church, as well as traditional URC worship on various Sunday afternoons, Carol services at both churches. We intend to continue this friendship more and more.

Tea on the Green last year was a success, but due to the heat it was held in the churchyard under the trees for shade. More and more people look forward to this event. Our summer fete was very successful last year, as was the Christmas fayre. It is good to see us all working together on these events.

Last year our new MMU group of churches. Our original 7 Chelmer Crouch Churches had our Commissioning Service in February and now we look forward to working together in the future. There will be the Quiet day in Bradwell in June, Ascension Day services in Ramsden Bellhouse and Stock. We held a picnic and songs of praise in September and this year this event will be held here. We also held a joint Alpha course in the autumn.

We now have a very successful Community choir with nearly 20 members, with Jill Parkin as our leader. We could still have new members, especially men.

Our Soup and Sandwich lunch began last December and each month the numbers are increasing.

On Sunday 28th April we will begin a Tea Time service at 4pm on the 4th Sunday of the month. Residents from Baycroft will attend and it is hoped that people young and old who find it difficult to get to church on Sunday mornings will be able to attend.

Last year I gave us 3 challenges;

The first challenge was for us to take reading the bible seriously and we were encouraged to use New Daily Light bible notes. All members of the

congregation were given a free copy and asked to try to use it for the 3 months up to the end of July.

Our Second priority for the year was to increase our prayer time each day. Between Ascension Day and Pentecost there was Thy Kingdom Come when our Archbishop asked us to pray. I set up an hour each day when we asked all members of the congregation to pray for 5 minutes. Material was available for us to use.

Our third priority was the ministry of invitation. I often in the notices ask you to an event and say bring a friend. I would like us to take this seriously this year. We have lots of special services and events which we can invite someone along. So many events, e.g. Tea on the Green, our Church Fete in July, Quiz nights and of course our Sunday services. Let us invite the friend and let's see God at work in their lives.

This year I wish to work with our PCC on setting out a vision Statement.
St Andrew's Sandon – Our Vision

- To be a welcoming spiritual centre for our community that actively shares the Good News of Jesus Christ.
- As Christians, to serve our local area as good neighbours and be involved in organisations that help enrich people's lives.
- To look outward to the wider world, helping people who suffer poverty, conflict and injustice, and to care for the environment.
- To enable all members of our congregation to feel at home and to find their gifts so that our Vision may be more fully realised.

Finally I would like to thank every one of you for supporting me during the last year. It is such a privilege to be your Rector. I'm proud to be the priest in this parish. I'm proud when I preside over this worshipping community each Sunday and look at all the people at various stages in their walk with Jesus and in their walk through this life. I am proud to be able to tell other people about our family here in Sandon, my family of Christians and your family in this place.

I am reminded of the Greeks who went to see Jesus in John 12

‘Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.”

We can do it. I can't do it, and you can't do it.

But together we can do it. We can share the joy.

Amen

Judy Cecil thanked Revd Terry Brown for being a good friend and leader, who had brought the family together in Sandon.

Judy Cecil noted that the Archdeacon had asked whether we wanted Revd Terry Brown to continue as our rector when and after he reached his 70th birthday in June. The PCC had confirmed they did and the Archdeacon had now written back and confirmed two years, with hopefully a further three years to follow, taking us to the maximum five years.

Christine Mennie noted that St Andrews would be entering the Best Kept Churchyard competition in 2020. The churchyard has been divided into sections and she is looking for volunteers to look after a section, doing the work at a time of their choosing.

Richard Cecil noted that as a next venture within MMU, Justin Welby, as part of ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ had proposed 11 days of prayer between Ascension and Pentecost (29 May to 9 June). Richard is looking for people to offer 30 minute slots to host prayers, across the MMU churches over that period of time.

Mike Harris asked whether repairs to the plasterwork would be undertaken before the planned painting of the internal walls – it was confirmed they would.

Dennis Terry noted that Richard Cecil has provided an excellent website with an events page - if any publicity is required for events then to let Dennis or Richard know.

15 Date of Next Meeting

It was provisionally set as Sunday 19th April 2020, to follow the Annual Vestry Meeting.

16 Closing Prayers were said by Revd Terry Brown, followed by collectively saying the Grace.

The Meeting was then closed.

Minutes of the First 2019-20 Parochial Church Council Meeting

held in St. Andrew’s Church on Sunday 14th April 2019 after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

- 1 Appointment of Vice Chairman – Judy Cecil was proposed by Nick Bobeldijk seconded by Claire Jefferies and appointed.
- 2 Appointment of PCC Treasurer – Nick Bobeldijk was proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by Claire Jefferies and appointed.
- 3 Appointment of PCC Secretary – Mike Worboys was proposed by Claire Jefferies, seconded by Judy Cecil and appointed.

- 4 Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer – it was noted that this was an APCM appointment so shouldn't be on the agenda. To be removed for next year. Revd Terry Brown noted that he would like to see the appointment of a 'shadow' church warden, for when the church wardens are on holiday or there is additional workload. This would also provide some level of succession planning to allow someone to become familiar with the role and duties. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next PCC meeting.
- 5 Next meeting dates
Monday 29th April 2019 and then provisionally 1st July 2019, 2nd September 2019, 4th November 2019, 6th January 2020 and 2nd March 2020.

Electoral Roll Report

The electoral roll for 2020 was displayed from Saturday 19th September 2020. Three new applications for inclusion in the 2020 Electoral roll have been received. They are Mr. Andrew Horne and Mrs. Catherine Horne, both being non-resident in the parish and Ms Katherine Hollows who is resident in the parish. Sadly, we have also lost three members of our congregation in the last 18 months, namely Pat Eden, Audrey Bryan and Dennis Terry all of whom were resident in the parish. The total number of individuals on the 2020 Electoral Roll is 71, comprising 37 resident and 34 non-resident. *Liz Bobeldijk (Electoral Roll Officer), 8 September 2020*

Annual Report

Aims and Purposes

St Andrew's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent Revd Terry Brown (Terry), in 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.

Objectives and Activities

During the year, we continued with the following vision In the light of God's Call, and our situation here, our vision is:

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

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Andrew's. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing a knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work we feel it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Andrew's and regular maintenance is carried out, mainly by volunteers.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year which our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. This year we have continued to welcome families and visitors into our church to the family service on the 2nd Sunday morning each month at 10 am.

All are welcome to attend our regular services of sung Communion at 10 am on the other Sundays, as well as a said communion on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am. We have included some 'Tea-Time' services this year on Sunday afternoons at 4pm.

Residents of Baycroft nursing home have attended and they have also come to our shoebox and crib services. We are grateful to the lovely carers who bring them in the Baycroft minibus. Lay-led monthly Communion services and a Remembrance Day service were held at Baycroft by a small team from church and we also shared in some Christmas carol singing. Terry visited several times for 'Tea with the Rector'.

At present there are 71 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 35 are not resident within the parish. The average weekly attendance is 36, and similarly average numbers counted during October, were 37. We celebrated Harvest festival in September with 60 people. Numbers increased for other special services such as the Memorial service for loved ones, Patronal festival, Christingle and at Easter and Christmas times. On Easter Day 67 people attended and there were 51 communicants (slightly fewer communicants than last year, but more total attendees), while 399 attended special services during Advent. On Christmas Eve and Morning 208 people attended and 62 received communion.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of life's journey. Through baptism we thank God for the gift

of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life completed in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. We have celebrated five Baptisms and three weddings and held seven funerals in our church this year. Ashes have also been buried in the garden of remembrance after cremations. We held a bible study course during Lent.

Safeguarding

The Parochial Church Council agreed a safeguarding statement in September 2018 which followed the guidance issued by the Chelmsford Diocese, which itself is based on National guidelines. This was updated at the PCC meeting on 29th April 2019 and safeguarding is a standing item on each monthly PCC agenda. The website has been updated to include the Diocesan safeguarding statement and information and posters are displayed in church giving safeguarding information.

Deanery Synod and Compass Churches

Two lay members of the PCC and the incumbent sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. This year the PCC continues to explore working as part of the Compass Churches, composed of St Andrew's together with our 11 neighbouring churches, with Terry as clergy chair and Richard Cecil as a council member.

Use of the Church building and the St Andrew's Room

The church remains open every day from about 9 am to dusk and many neighbours and visitors come in for quiet prayer and reflection.

Each Wednesday in term time the St Andrew's Room and church are used by our Tiny Tots mothers and toddlers group. About 12 children and their carers have been regular attendees and the group also organised a teddy bear's picnic and a summer party.

Refreshments are served after the Tuesday morning service. A group enjoyed a Christmas lunch at the Crown. The St Andrew's room is also used by the local school, WI, Chelmsford Street Pastors, Community Choir, Parish Council and our church choir.

The monthly Soup and Sandwich lunch encourages local people to get together on the first Tuesday of the month at 12 noon and is a good opportunity for meeting up with friends old and new. A monthly men's lunch group has visited various pubs on the 4th Thursday of each month. Ladies breakfasts continue every other month at Butts Green Garden centre.

Pastoral Care

Some members of our parish are unable to attend church due to sickness or disability. Terry visits at home and church members have visited the local Nursing

Home and offer lay led communion to some of the residents and staff once each month. Terry is a governor at the local secondary school and visits to lead assembly and as chaplain. Church members visit those who are unwell or not able to get to church.

Terry was very unwell in August and had a major operation. He returned to work on light duties in November and thankfully has been gaining strength through December. We are grateful to the local clergy who have helped us by taking Sunday services, weddings, a baptism and funerals, ensuring that all our regular services have continued through Terry's absence. It has been a time when the congregation have pulled together and we have been able to continue with most of our normal activities.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. The PCC has encouraged fund-raising and a decision was made to support 6 charities during the 2 years to the end of December 2021, giving £800 to each charity during 2020, representing about 10% of our income for last year. (Donations were also made to the British Legion and the Children's Society.) The six charities are RNLI, MacMillan Nurses, Wilderness Foundation, MIND, Marsabit diocese and RNOH charity. We have also supported the Chelmsford Foodbank with regular donations of food.

We have enjoyed a fundraising concert by the Chelmsford Cathedral choir. Our summer fete included a dog show and stalls in the churchyard and raised much needed funds while proceeds from the Christmas Fayre in the village hall also boosted our finances.

Our parish magazine is now distributed quarterly to all houses in the parish and to those on the Electoral Roll, and copies are available in church. The magazine keeps our parishioners informed of the important matters affecting our church and includes articles which help to develop our knowledge and trust in Jesus as well as some which are more light-hearted. A weekly email is sent out to about 50 members of the congregation and other supporters to keep them up to date with the following week's services and events. The St Andrew's website is kept up to date and includes information about events and services, as well as previous magazines, pew sheets and photos of past events.

Our annual outreach 'Tea on the Green' in August again attracted a crowd of over 150 who sang with the Salvation Army Band, listened to a message from Andy Griffiths and shared in a time of prayer. An offering collected was given to the Salvation Army.

Ecumenical Relationships

The church is a member of Christians Together in Chelmsford and The Compass Churches. We have this year supported the local United Reformed Church (URC) at

Howe Green by attending their Christmas Carols, Fair-trade coffee morning and a new venture of Cafe church on some Sunday afternoons. One member of the URC congregation has joined us for bible studies.

Volunteers

We thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church a lively and vibrant community: those who clean the church and arrange flowers, work in the churchyard, ring the bells, sing in the choir, make the tea, manage our website, edit and deliver our magazine and all those others who share their talents and time in so many different ways to make St Andrew's a loving community.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. St Andrew's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), 2 Churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. There are up to 2 deanery synod representatives and there are 9 elected members allowed with 3 elected each year for 3 years. All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC. The full PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 70%. Thank you to our electoral roll officer and our vulnerable adult and child safeguarding officers.

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, St Augustine's Way, North Springfield, Chelmsford, CM1 6GX
PCC Members who have served this year are:

Incumbent: Revd Terry Brown

Wardens: Mrs Judy Cecil from 1 September 2016

Mr Michael Puffett from May 2017

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Mr Nick Bobeldijk elected 2018 for 2 years to May 2020

Mr Richard Cecil elected 2019 for 1 year to May 2020

Elected members:

Mrs Valerie Grimwood to 2021, resigned March 2020

Mr Colin Bryan to 2022

Mrs Denise Carter to 2021, resigned January 2020

Mrs Janet Terry to 2020

Mr John Gruby to 2021
Mrs Alison Read to 2020
Mrs Claire Jefferies to 2020
Mrs Laura Scurlock to 2022, resigned January 2020
Mr David Farrar to 2022

PCC secretary (non-voting):

Dr Mike Worboys

Standing Committee:

Incumbent or Chairman, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary, one 'Shadow Churchwarden' (for this year Claire Jefferies) and one other PCC member (for this year Alison Read).

Bank: Lloyds TSB, Chelmsford Branch

Examiner: Jeremy Watson

Judy Cecil, Churchwarden

Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

Total receipts from all sources were £55,912.16 of which £5,224 was unrestricted voluntary donations qualifying for Gift Aid apart from that received through the Parish Giving Scheme. The bulk of Gift Aid due, up to the end of November, was claimed from HMRC in December 2019. Gift Aid due under the Small Donations Scheme up to the same date was also claimed in December.

The planned giving through envelopes and direct credits decreased by 10.1%. Total income, including tax recovered and a legacy of £3,000 decreased by 1.7% compared with 2018. Total income includes a donation of £6,000 gratefully received from the Friends of Sandon Church towards the interior redecoration of the church carried out this year.

£56,499.91 was spent from all sources to provide the Christian ministry of St Andrew's church, including the contribution to the Diocesan Parish Share which decreased very slightly this year. Overall, our total expenses decreased by 4.5% in 2019 with the largest decreases being in Fabric Maintenance, Fees paid and Clergy expenses.

The net result for the year was a small deficit of £587.75.

Adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December totaled £30,104.50, which includes restricted funds of £1,045.51.

We continue to hold a small residual balance of just over £3,000 in the Building Maintenance Fund.

Nick Bobeldijk, Treasurer, 7 January 2020

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts				
Donations and legacies	£44,972.64	—	£44,972.64	£39,155.81
Income from charitable activities	£3,254.00	—	£3,254.00	£4,028.33
Other trading activities	£7,467.60	—	£7,467.60	£6,593.58
Investments	£217.92	—	£217.92	£38.11
Other income	—	—	—	£7,045.00
Total receipts	£55,912.16	—	£55,912.16	£56,860.83
Payments				
Raising funds	£526.15	—	£526.15	£744.97
Expenditure on charitable activities	£41,484.37	—	£41,484.37	£44,018.36
Other expenditure	£14,489.39	—	£14,489.39	£14,404.86
Total payments	£56,499.91	—	£56,499.91	£59,168.19
Excess of receipts over payments before transfer	(£587.75)	—	(£587.75)	(£2,307.36)
Transfers				
Gross transfers between funds - in	£10,590.89	£3,151.50	£13,742.39	£39,647.99
Gross transfers between funds - out	(£3,151.50)	(£10,590.89)	(£13,742.39)	(£39,647.99)
Excess of receipts over payments before other gains / losses	£6,851.64	(£7,439.39)	(£587.75)	(£2,307.36)
Net movement in funds	£6,851.64	(£7,439.39)	(£587.75)	(£2,307.36)
All assets at 01 January 2019	£23,118.39	£7,574.20	£30,692.59	£32,999.95
All assets at 31 December 2019	£29,970.03	£134.81	£30,104.84	£30,692.59
Represented by				
Unrestricted				
General fund	£29,970.03	—	£29,970.03	£23,118.39
Restricted				
Restricted Funds	—	£134.81	£134.81	£7,574.20

Balance Sheet

Class and Code	Description	This year	Last year
Current assets			
6501	Current Account	£2,434.43	£237.94
6505	Deposit Account	£27,500.00	£30,000.00
6510	Cash Account	£35.60	£38.83
6520	Deposits Paid Account	£105.00	£105.00
6530	COIF Units Held 461090001T	£743.65	£562.34
	Total Current assets	£30,818.68	£30,944.11
Liabilities			
6610	Building Maintenance Fund	—	—
6620	Diocesan Board of Finance	£160.00	—
6630	Organist's Fees	—	—
6640	Treasurer's Expenses	—	—
6650	Friends of Sandon Church	—	—
6660	Rector's Fees & Expenses	£468.00	—
6670	Sponsored Flowers	£144.00	£77.52
6660	Tiny Tots	£273.51	£174.00
6670	Ringling Simulator Fund	(£331.67)	—
	Total Liabilities	£713.84	£251.52
	Net Asset surplus(deficit)	£30,104.84	£30,692.59
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	(£587.75)	£18,143.98
Z01	Starting balances	£30,692.59	£12,548.61
	Total Reserves	£30,104.84	£30,692.59
	Represented by funds		
	Unrestricted	£29,970.03	£23,118.39
	Designated	—	—
	Restricted	£134.81	£7,574.20
	Endowment	—	—
	Total	£30,104.84	£30,692.59

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	General	Restricted	This year	Last year
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand				
Current Account -	£2,434.43	—	£2,434.43	£237.94
Deposit Account -	£27,500.00	—	£27,500.00	£30,000.00
Cash Account -	£35.60	—	£35.60	£38.83
Totals	£29,970.03	—	£29,970.03	£30,276.77
Current assets - Debtors				
Deposits Paid Account -	—	£105.00	£105.00	£105.00
Totals	—	£105.00	£105.00	£105.00
Current assets - Investments				
COIF Units Held 461090001T -	—	£743.65	£743.65	£562.34
Totals	—	£743.65	£743.65	£562.34
Liabilities - Provision for liabilities and charges due within one year				
Diocesan Board of Finance -	—	£160.00	£160.00	—
Rector's Fees & Expenses -	—	£468.00	£468.00	—
Sponsored Flowers -	—	£144.00	£144.00	£77.52
Tiny Tots -	—	£273.51	£273.51	£174.00
Ringing Simulator Fund -	—	(£331.67)	(£331.67)	—
Totals	—	£713.84	£713.84	£251.52
Grand total	£29,970.03	£134.81	£30,104.84	£30,692.59

Fund Movement by Type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Closing
Rest1 - Restricted Funds					
Restricted	£7,574.20	—	—	(£7,439.39)	£134.81
Sub-total for Rest1	£7,574.20	—	—	(£7,439.39)	£134.81
General - General fund					
Unrestricted	£23,118.39	£55,912.16	£56,499.91	£7,439.39	£29,970.03
Sub-total for General	£23,118.39	£55,912.16	£56,499.91	£7,439.39	£29,970.03
Grand total	£30,692.59	£55,912.16	£56,499.91	—	£30,104.84

Analysis of Receipts and Payments

Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
0101 - Collections - Gift Aided	£785.00	—	£785.00	£317.00
0110 - Direct Credits - Gift Aided	£3,915.00	—	£3,915.00	£4,350.00
0201 - Donations - Gift Aided	£544.00	—	£544.00	£1,145.85
0301 - Collections – Non-Gift Aided	—	—	—	£195.36
0401 - Direct Credits – Non-Gift Aided	£2,229.00	—	£2,229.00	£2,394.00
0410 - Donations – Non-Gift Aided	£6,564.83	—	£6,564.83	£1,974.30
0501 - Parish Giving Scheme	£13,414.19	—	£13,414.19	£13,734.09
0510 - Small Donations Scheme	£5,734.62	—	£5,734.62	£6,052.54
0601 - Gift Aid Recovered	£8,786.00	—	£8,786.00	£6,992.67
0701 - Legacies	£3,000.00	—	£3,000.00	£2,000.00
Total	£44,972.64	—	£44,972.64	£39,155.81

Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
1101 - Parochial Fees	£3,254.00	—	£3,254.00	£4,028.33
Total	£3,254.00	—	£3,254.00	£4,028.33

Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
0910 - Fundraising - Gift Aided	—	—	—	£42.00
0911 - Fundraising - Non-Gift Aided	£6,086.60	—	£6,086.60	£5,754.08
1250 - Magazine - Advertising	£1,356.00	—	£1,356.00	£797.50
1260 - Magazine - Sales	£25.00	—	£25.00	—
Total	£7,467.60	—	£7,467.60	£6,593.58

Investments

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
1001 - Investment Income	£204.48	—	£204.48	£22.71
1020 - Interest Received	£13.44	—	£13.44	£15.40
Total	£217.92	—	£217.92	£38.11

Other Income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
0550 - Grants Received	—	—	—	£7,045.00
1320 - Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	£7,045.00

INCOME TOTAL	£55,912.16	—	£55,912.16	£56,860.83
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EXPENDITURE

Raising Funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
1730 - Event Expenses	£526.15	—	£526.15	£744.97
Total	£526.15	—	£526.15	£744.97

Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
1801 - Bank Charges	£2.59	—	£2.59	—
1830 - Bank Interest Paid	—	—	—	—
1850 - Mission	£6,144.36	—	£6,144.36	£4,609.99
1910 - Parish Share	£27,297.24	—	£27,297.24	£27,350.76
2310 - Fees	£411.42	—	£411.42	£2,100.97
2340 - Cost of Services	£382.50	—	£382.50	£597.87
2350 - Churchyard Expenses	£758.50	—	£758.50	£826.20
2360 - Printing & Stationary	£151.62	—	£151.62	£81.53
2370 - Clergy Expenses	£857.50	—	£857.50	£2,543.98
2401 - Church Running Expenses - Electricity	£1,729.99	—	£1,729.99	£2,333.38
2410 - Church Running Expenses - Insurance	£1,950.56	—	£1,950.56	£1,937.20
2420 - Church Running Expenses - Water Rates	£104.08	—	£104.08	£96.11
2430 - Church Running Expenses - Vestry Supplie	£327.48	—	£327.48	£284.79
2440 - Miscellaneous	£49.03	—	£49.03	£22.88
2501 - Magazine Costs	£1,317.50	—	£1,317.50	£1,190.70
2510 - Church Running Expenses - Extinguishers	—	—	—	£42.00
Total	£41,484.37	—	£41,484.37	£44,018.36

Other Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
2701 - Fabric Maintenance - Buildings	£12,780.11	—	£12,780.11	£10,802.14
2710 - Fabric Maintenance - Other	£1,709.28	—	£1,709.28	£3,602.72
Total	£14,489.39	—	£14,489.39	£14,404.86
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	£56,499.91	—	£56,499.91	£59,168.19
GRAND TOTAL	(£587.75)	—	(£587.75)	(£2,307.36)

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of St Andrew's Church, Sandon

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2019, which are set out above.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an Independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to –

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- Follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the final accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
 - to prepare accounts, which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jeremy Watson, Independent Examiner, 4 March 2020

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding commitments;

- To follow the House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy for children, young people and adults
- To promote a safer environment and culture within our church
- To safely recruit and support all those with any responsibility to children and vulnerable adults
- To respond promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- To care pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse
- To respond to those who may pose a present risk

We have spent much of 2019 bringing ourselves up to date with the ‘administrative’ side of Safeguarding by following the ‘Parish Safeguarding Checklist’ issued by the Diocese. This guides the PCC through their key roles and responsibilities. One of our key responsibilities is to ensure those who need a DBS check (electronic police check, previously known as CRB) have completed one and any who have previously had one are up to date. Another aspect is to ensure all those who work with children, young people and/or vulnerable people are able to access and complete the appropriate online (C0 & C1) and face to face (C2) training provided by the Diocese. The online training is available for anyone within the church who is interested so please contact me if you would like further details. You will simply need access to a computer along with an email address. There are 2 separate courses, one for adult safeguarding and one for children. You can complete one or both as many of us have already done.

We have also updated St Andrew’s Safeguarding Policy demonstrating our commitment to following the Church of England’s Safeguarding Policy and a copy is on display in the St Andrews room along with a poster named ‘Promoting a Safer Church’.

Safeguarding is a matter for all and we would ask anyone who has any concerns to share their concerns, in confidence, with either myself, one of the Church Wardens or with the Diocese directly.

Alison Read, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Fabric Report

Work on the Fabric of the church has made some good progress during the year but there have also been frustrations, some of which are ongoing into 2020.

In the early part of the year the internal decoration of the church was completed,

including the organ loft which we felt should be included because it can be seen from the body of the church. This work was done by Lodge & Co and was completed quickly and with minimal disruption. The cost of this work was about £8000 and £6000 of this was given to us by the Friends of Sandon Church. No faculty was required as it is a List B matter (Archdeacon consent).

Because of some disruption caused during the evening Christmas Carol service in 2018 it was decided that we should have a system of Emergency Lighting in the church, the tower, the bell ringing chamber and the porch to safeguard the congregation in the event of a power failure. We had hitherto relied on an automatic torch in the bell ringing chamber and a portable torch in the church itself. A faculty was obtained for this work and we were careful to make the lights unobtrusive. The work was done by Danbury Electrical.

Last year we commented that we had applied to the Diocesan Advisory Committee for permission to have a communion table for use in the Lady Chapel. They refused our application, wanting one in oak to match the existing furniture. We have not made much progress with this but a small working group is considering the way forward.

The configuration of the church gates was changed and a faculty was obtained for this work. It has been very successful and means that vehicles can now be brought to the church door for transport of the infirm and for maintenance purposes.

We are planning an audio enhancement system in the church and also flagstones to the rear path. Faculties will be required for both of these and good progress has been made in each case. The audio system is particularly complex and we have taken a great deal of advice to try to ensure that the sound will be good in all parts of the church.

Some small masonry repairs to the porch and two window frames were required by the architect. We have actively followed up on this requirement and expect the work to be done early in 2020.

A metal shed has been proposed - to be owned by the Parish Council for the storage of a mower. This will need a faculty and planning permission. We anticipate problems with this but will persevere. The DAC are not happy with visual impact and the planning outcome is still awaited.

The 5-yearly electrical check was done during the year and a few small repairs were found to be necessary and done. The annual fire extinguisher check was carried out as was the 18-monthly lightning conductor test. All these items were done by specialist contractors.

A bell simulator was installed (with Archdeacon's consent) and this is mentioned elsewhere.

I referred to frustrations above. We are now required to only use contractors who have a high level of public liability and employers' liability insurance. We have

hitherto used small local firms in some cases and can no longer use some of these. The frustration is that we have been pleased with our previous contractors and also that the larger firms tend to be expensive. We are actively addressing this problem. It is a diocese-wide direction which we must abide by.

As always we are very grateful to all those who do minor maintenance jobs, clean and polish the inside of the church, maintain the churchyard and do various other tasks which enhance the building in which we worship.

Michael Puffett, Churchwarden

Deanery Synod Report

The Deanery Synod met four times during 2019. The first meeting in February, at Holy Trinity, South Woodham Ferrers, discussed a new deanery plan which was adopted. It involves a reduction in the number of clergy over the coming years and parishes are urged to engage with this. The Minutes have the sentence, "However clergy and PCCs who did not want to address change now were, in fact, diminishing their parishes in the long run, since once their incumbent had gone they would not be equipped to face the future." At this meeting it was announced that Revd Tom Page was stepping down as Area Dean of Chelmsford North Deanery. Thus, began a process of joining (really re-joining) Chelmsford North and Chelmsford South, of which Sandon is a part. Rev Canon Tim Ball has been acting as Rural Dean for Chelmsford North whilst he remains so for Chelmsford South.

At the meeting in June, in Widford, it was reported whilst Rev Canon Tim Ball had been installed as Acting Dean of Chelmsford North Deanery, the legalities of bringing the two deaneries together were likely to take some time. For the moment both deaneries would have separate synods and standing committees. Bishop Stephen's thinking behind the decision to bring the two together was that as MMUs became more important at working level, deaneries should be amalgamated to cut down on duplication and administration. This meeting included a talk by Revd Elizabeth Jordan about the training and roles of lay people in the Diocese.

In September, at East Hanningfield, the main business was prayer for the different parishes in the Deanery which included prayer around smell, sound, images imaginatively prepared by Rev Tim Ball.

In November there was a well-attended service at the Cathedral to celebrate the union of the new Chelmsford Deanery. I think Tim Ball is continuing to work on converging Deanery plans from the 2 source Deaneries.

Additionally the Synod received information from General Synod that it has been considering the following topics:

- Responding to serious youth violence;
- Clergy wellbeing;

- Living in love and faith seminars (exploring aspects of human sexuality and identity);
- Safeguarding;
- Mission and ministry in covenant (with the Methodists);
- Refugee professionals;
- Cathedrals' measure;
- Church funding;
- Mission Shaped Church and Fresh Expressions 15 years on; and
- Setting God's people free.

Richard Cecil

Compass Group Churches

This year the Compass Group has been finding its feet in terms of setting and agreeing the level of Parish Share contributions. These remain largely unchanged, i.e. up 1.7%, and include a small amount to support parts of the Diocese that are more pecuniarily challenged.



It has also been challenged by Terry Brown's illness since he is its Chairman. During this time Alex Cooper seemed absent and Christine Horton acted as de facto leader. Claire Newman from East Hanningfield and Robert Andrews from Downham remain as secretary and treasurer respectively. The February meeting had a talk about Youth from Mark Tiddy of the Diocese. The Compass Group also organised an Alpha Course in the spring of 2019 at Danbury with an Away Day at Purleigh.

There was a joint Ascension Day service on 30th May with plenty of incense at All Saints Stock.

On 1st June Revd Canon Ivor Moody led a Quiet Day at Othona Community near Bradwell which was well attended.

The service at which Nicholas Henshall was due to speak was cancelled with what seemed like a loss of leadership following Terry's surgery. The Group picnic did take place, as it happens at Sandon.

In November Tim Ball chaired the meeting and explained how the Deanery plan might be translated to a Compass Group plan. It remains a work in progress but in terms of Sandon it seems to be that following Terry's departure, whenever that might be, Sandon will be the recipient of Stipendiary Ministry from the same stable as Little Baddow and Danbury.

Richard Cecil

Christians Together in Chelmsford

Sandon have for many years been members of Churches Together in Chelmsford. About 50 churches in Chelmsford are members and its main activity is the Procession of Witness from 5 points to the City centre High Street for a service to mark Good Friday.

Collectively the churches in Chelmsford support the work of CHESS, the Foodbank, Street Pastors, Renew Counselling, Work Place Chaplaincy, YMCA, Christian Aid and Interfaith Forum and Chelmsford 24-7 Prayer which has been renamed City Prayer. David Gilbey continues as Chairman and Pete Bardwell as Vice Chairman. Breakfasts on the first Wednesday of the month and the third Thursday have been a valuable point of contact between different church members. All main Christian denominations are involved and it provides a vehicle where churches can share events across a wider forum.

Richard Cecil, Secretary

Howe Green United Reformed Church

During the past year Howe Green URC has shared several occasions with St. Andrews which are more community related. Once again both churches hosted an event for Fairtrade Fortnight, Howe Green had a Coffee Morning and St. Andrews held a wine tasting evening, with members of both churches attending and taking part. We are also pleased to attend the 'Ladies Breakfasts' organised by St. Andrews and taking place at a local Garden Centre, and the village soup lunches held monthly at St. Andrew's Church.

Howe Green now has a share of a URC Minister (Rev. Paul Stein whose main Church is Christ Church URC in Chelmsford), but we have very few members in the congregation. So we only have a monthly service and it was good that in February Rev T Brown was able to come and lead that service in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We welcome other members of St. Andrews who are able to be present at our services, and thank them for their support. The Howe Green congregation has attended various services at St. Andrew's - including being part of the Easter (Maundy Thursday) and Christmas services, and we very much appreciate being included in your traditional events. They have also shared in various Bible studies.

Howe Green organises a very popular Christmas Carol Service at the Chapel which includes some village organisations. So it is good that the Rev T. Brown was able to take an important role in that service and was joined by several others from St Andrews.

We very much look forward to continuing with our connection to St. Andrews' church and events that we can share.

Pam Knott

Bell Ringing Report

We were saddened at the start of the year by the death of Nick Tovey, who had led the ringing at St Andrews for many years in the role of Tower Captain. Nick was buried in April and a quarter peal was rung in his memory in early May. Nick was passionate about good striking and, despite there always being room for improvement, I like to think would have been proud of our efforts at the Call Change competition at Little Baddow later that month where a team of relatively new ringers achieved third place. The number of ringers has continued to grow so that we finished the year with fifteen ringing members. Many of these were starting from scratch so in June we installed a ringing simulator, which enables us to ring the bell with the clapper silenced so it can't be heard outside the church. This has proved invaluable as a teaching aid and, in December, was extended to cover all six bells. The cost was funded through a grant from the Essex Association of Local Councils, which was very much appreciated. We supported Sandon Open Gardens and St Andrews Summer fete by opening the tower for visits, which proved extremely popular with those that went up. Mike Worboys passed his teaching assessment in October to become a full member of the Association of Ringing Teachers (ART) and we continue to use the ART 'Learning the Ropes' teaching scheme. Maintenance of the bells is an ongoing task and the PCC approved the purchase of a new set of ropes in November – these have a long lead time and will be delivered in October 2020. Neil Arnold continues to provide invaluable support and enthusiasm for maintaining the bells, with a number of jobs completed and ongoing maintenance being carried out during the year. In November we had the bells inspected by Nigel Taylor, Technical Advisor to the Essex Association of Change Ringers. This confirmed that the bells were generally in good order but highlighted some work required to replace worn pulleys, sliders and clapper fixings. This work will be addressed in due course. To close the year we enjoyed the festive company of other ringers that support us throughout the year when thirty-four of us sat down in December to enjoy a Christmas meal at The Crown.

Mike Worboys, Tower Captain

Bible Reading Notes

'New Daylight', published by BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship), provides a short scripture reading for each day with a commentary about it. These commentaries, written by a wide range of authors, 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. To grow effectively as a Christian some form of Bible study seems 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

St. Andrew's Choir

The choir has continued to provide the music at the Sung Eucharist and other services. St Andrews is fortunate in having members of a regular choir who are committed to Sunday services and regular choir practices. We are grateful to them. Of course, we are always ready to welcome new members.

Ron Woods, Choir Master

Magazine Report

The magazine is indebted to the wide variety of those who contribute in so many ways: ideas, articles, reports, advertisements, distribution. David Farrar and Terry Brown of course also provide a regular supply of material. We are grateful for the regular columns provided by Narelle Arnold and the Speakman family. During the course of the year, Valerie Grimwood has consistently contributed by proof-reading which has been greatly appreciated. Claire Wood has reviewed the advertising and gained some new business. Alison Read has been organising the distribution with a great team of distributors who circulate the magazine, now free, to all households in the parish four times in the year. Those outside the parish are asked to pay 50p. Thank you again to all who have contributed and please continue to do so.

Richard Cecil, Editor

Churchyard

I think that this past year the churchyard has really been looking at its best. This is mainly down to George Turner who works tirelessly through the year and without him the churchyard would suffer. Thank you George.

Once a month we have a Saturday morning from 10.00-12.00 where volunteers are asked to come and help us keep the churchyard to a good standard. Unfortunately, the number are few. I would like to thank those who do come for giving up their time, especially Judy Cecil (who seems to do the work of ten men!), Eileen Bartrup and Pam Norrington who work on the Garden of Remembrance. Thank you to David Farrar, Nik Mennie and the Parish Council for keeping the grass cut and strimming. I have sewn some more wildflower seeds in the nature garden and I hope we are successful this year. I am going to enter this year into the Best Kept Churchyard. As I have said, we are very short of volunteers - please come down and help in any way, however large or small. We do offer an incentive, which is a helping of homemade bread pudding! Thank you all once again, your help is much appreciated.

Christine Mennie

'Friends of Sandon Church'

In 2019 we raised money primarily through two events: A concert given by the Chelmsford Cathedral Choir on the 21st of September which raised £370 and a quiz

held in November which raised £731. During the year we financed about 75% of the Church redecoration which cost in total just over £8,000. We now have 55 life members and 40 annual members. This year we are organising another concert, this time by The Essex Police Choir on the 9th of September and a quiz on October the 31st (Halloween). Please do your best to support these events and also by becoming new members of this very useful supporter of Sandon's St. Andrew's church. At the present moment we have approximately £6,000 in our 'kitty' for use solely for the church's fabric support.

David Farrar

1st Sandon Scout Group

The Scout Group has had a very busy year within the Sections. We have had a group camp celebrating 100 years of Scouting in Essex where we had over 100 people for dinner on the Saturday. It was enjoyed by all the Dads and Mums and young people as well as the leaders. We are looking forward to this year's camp with a theme of Tokyo 2020 (Olympics). The Group as a whole painted stones with poppies for Remembrance Sunday to be hidden and we have two notifications a couple have been found and rehidden.



The scouts have been busy with camps and badgework and other activities, i.e. Pedal Car Olympics in January (from which several of the Scouts came home with medals), Adventure camp in May, District and County events. Another good year is planned for this year. Unfortunately, one of the Scout Leaders stepped down at the end of the summer term last year.

The Cubs have been busy with badgework and fun activities. I would like to welcome Nick Mennie who has joined the Group as an Assistant Cub Scout Leader. The Beavers have been busy with badgework and fun activities.

A very big thank you to all the leaders and helpers for without them the young people would not be having fun and learning the Skills for life.

Jean Blake, Group Scout Leader

1st Sandon Scout Troop

Report incorporated in 1st Sandon Scout Group report.

Jean Blake, Group Scout Leader

Sandon Cubs

Throughout 2019, Sandon Cubs have worked towards the Essex Scouting Centenary badge, completing 100 activities, and had a programme with a wide variety of

games, badge work to compliment this challenge. Highlights of the past year are learning martial arts, which we performed at the AGM, planting wild seed bombs in Sandon Church yard with the Beavers and Scouts, and enjoyed a few weeks of outside athletics during the summer. We also went for a hike around Sandon and had an evening of fun at Highlands Park, and most Cubs attended Dads Lads and Lasses camp at Thriftwood in Brentwood. During the autumn, we learned about fire safety, visiting Baddow fire station, and also completed the local knowledge badge. We dressed up for a Halloween party, and learnt about the World Scout Jamboree from a Scout and Scout Leader who were lucky enough to visit America. We invited Chelmsford food bank to tell us about the great work they do, and donated a pile of non-perishable items for them. We also completed the disability awareness badge, visited Essex Police Museum, attended the District Christmas party and Group swimming party at Riverside plus made some fabulous cards and crafts. We played Cubnopoly with other packs in the District and visited Kidzania in London, where children run a whole city. Last but definitely not least we've attended Church parade at Sandon and had an especially good turnout for the Remembrance Day service, where we displayed our Remembrance creations. Quite a year!

Steve Eatly, Akela

Sandon Beavers

Once again we have had a full year, playing lots of games on Thursdays, such as in January we had a Backward Night, harder than it sounds! For Valentine's day we made heart shaped pizza. In March we had a team of four win a relay race at a swimming gala. In April, Kirsty was presented with an award of merit. May found us in the church yard planting flower bulbs. We also attended the rogation service at the barn. Some of the Beavers went camping in June with the Dads, Lads and Lasses camp. We had more awards given out at our annual AGM in July. Some Beavers attended the summer fete. We did some readings at the Harvest Festival in September. October saw us at Great Baddow Fire Station for the evening. Halloween saw us dressing up and turning Beavers into Mummy's using toilet rolls. We painted stones for Remembrance Sunday and we had a very good turnout at the service. Some of the Beavers met Father Christmas at the Christmas Fayre. In December we attended the Christingle service and helped decorate the Christmas tree at the end. This year looks just a busy - so far we've tasted Chinese for Chinese New Year and have been with the other sections to a Christmas Swimming Party where there were lots of inflatables and we had so much fun.

Janet Bernardes, Beaver Scout Leader

Ladies' Breakfast

A delicious full English breakfast and a talk from a visiting speaker were enjoyed by between 8 and 14 ladies four times this year. The speakers shared insights into their lives, work and faith. We also looked at representations of Christ in art. The relaxed and friendly breakfast gatherings were held at Butts Green Garden Centre.

Janet Underwood

Community Choir

This year has seen a big turning point for The Sandon Community Choir. We now number 20 members who each pay a £5.00 pay as you go fee which covers my own time and photocopying costs. The choir comes from the local community, some from church and the village but also some from Great Baddow and other surrounding villages.

We meet every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month in St Andrew's Church Hall. The rehearsals are all about having fun whilst singing. We welcome anyone and do not audition. Most members are non-music readers but we use music copies to give everyone the familiarity of finding their way around the music. Our repertoire includes pop, musical theatre and sacred music – in fact anything if it suits our standard, which is mostly in 2 parts but sometimes 3.

This year we have sung at The St Andrew's Summer Fete and St Andrew's Day Service. We have also spread ourselves outside of the community by being invited to perform at The Rose and Crown, Great Waltham Christmas Festival. All performances have been well received by the audience/congregation.

From January 2020 we are very pleased to have an official accompanist - James Housego will join us as often as possible. This will add a new dimension to the choir who will now learn to follow a conductor and this should add to their already excellent abilities.

Anyone interested in joining us please contact me on 07778 772126 or at jillparkin58@talktalk.net.

Jill Parkin Cert.Ed, ALCM, Musical Director

Annual Village Walk

The walk was different this year - we did a figure of eight in two parts around the outskirts of Sandon. In the morning 25 of us walked via Hulls Lane to Sandford Mill and back down Brick Kiln Road. Lunch was at the Crown and we managed to consume 33 lunches on the pub benches in sunshine!

The afternoon route went via the Great Baddow Tennis courts in Lady Lane, past the gravel pits to Mayes Lane, then down Woodhill Road and back to the Green. The charities supported were MIND and Macmillan Nurses and we raised £771.

David Farrar

Friends of Essex Churches Annual Ride and Stride

We did not take part in this for the first time since before the year 1993. This year we are proposing to do our own charity cycle ride in support of our agreed charities. The date has yet to be decided.

David Farrar

Flower Rota

The thirteen ladies on our flower rota have used their talents each week to create the arrangements that you see on the Altar and around the Paschal Candle. They show the beauty of God's creation and add to that of our Church. I would like to thank all the flower arrangers for giving their time, talents and for providing the lovely variety of flowers and foliage on display each week, and for their work to produce our seasonal festivals, along with the ladies who join us for the festivals but are not on the weekly rota. I would also like to thank Lesley Worboys for organising the festivals and the very popular wreath making sessions that generate income for the Church, and for giving us all encouragement to develop our skills.

Sadly, we lost one of long serving flower arrangers this year. Pat Eden created some beautiful arrangements on the weekly rota and at our festivals for many years. She is probably best remembered for the intricate cushions of flowers that adorned the radiators at Easter. She always complained that they were fiddly and time consuming but always looked stunning. Our grateful thanks go to her.

We are always looking for new flower arrangers to join the weekly rota. If you are interested please contact Janet Underwood.

Janet Underwood

Flower Festivals and Events

The Flower Arranging Team have had another busy year, arranging for Easter, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas. There have been two weddings and three funerals requiring flowers. In the last year there have been seven arrangements sponsored by the community. Christmas Door Wreath workshop evenings generated enough funding to cover the cost of the Christmas flowers. Two workshops were held with 24 participants. Donations towards the cost of the Easter flowers have been received from the community. The cost of flowers for the Harvest Flowers continues to be generously paid for by the Flower Team and we still have a small carry forward into the next year, which is held in the general church funds.

More formal arrangements for organisation and payment for flowers for funerals and weddings is an area to develop in the coming months.

Throughout the year I have been experimenting with creating arrangements that don't use floral foam as it is a single use plastic. This year we will continue to

reduce the quantity of floral foam used, substituting bio-foam and experimenting with more traditional methods of flower arranging. We will continue to source suitable containers.

We have received many positive comments about the flowers in St Andrews and are fortunate to have such a skilful team of arrangers who are supportive of each other. Thank you to the flower arrangers, Terry, Judy, Nick Bobeldijk and Janet Underwood for your support, positivity and encouragement over the year.

Lesley Worboys, Festivals and Events Co-ordinator

Holy Dusters

To welcome people into the church it is always important to have the church clean. With this in mind, Judy instigated a new regime in which each month two people will clean the church. It was hoped that they would only have to do it once a year but, due to a lack of people coming forward to help, they will have to clean twice. When we have a special service, i.e. Easter, Christmas, etc., we try to bring in more people. Each year we have a spring-clean and thank you to all those that come forward to help.

Unfortunately, we are very short of people to help. Those who clean do a wonderful job and we are so grateful - we could not have the church looking as it does without them. Thank you. If you feel that you can help in any way please speak to Judy Cecil.

Christine Mennie

Tiny Tots Toddler Group

Tiny Tots has enjoyed another delightful year with all the comings and goings of an active toddler group. We continue to benefit from a great leadership team helping to create an incredibly warm welcome to all who come. We also know that, should we be short of help, we have several offers of help, which is greatly reassuring.

One of the highlights of the year was our Summer Sponsored Toddle around the churchyard. With great enthusiasm Gill marked out a route around the churchyard, clearly flagged so it was easy to follow. After many, many circuits (whilst earning a gold coin for every circuit completed!), we had to encourage the children to stop and reap the rewards of a picnic! We managed to raise an amazing £211.50 all of which was donated to the church's chosen charities for this year. Hailing it a great success for both young and old, we unanimously agreed to repeat the event again next year! Another summer highlight was our visit to Cherry's Farm, Sandon at the kind invitation of the Speakman family. We were able to see farm life at its best including the newly born lambs, exploring the tractors and benefit from the learning materials from Lambing Live. The highlight of our winter season was welcoming the residents from Baycroft to Tots for the afternoon. With tea, cake, party games

and a sing along to finish we had a quality afternoon together. Our Christmas Party went off with a bang too!

We have continued to benefit from the donation given to us the previous year, with the specific aim to benefit the children involved in the church. This year we have invested in some incredibly robust rubber bricks, endless fun for adults and children alike. We also bought beautiful Easter gifts for the children and we mustn't forget the new boat for the ball pit area! Who could ask for more!

Along with this, and donations to the kitty each week, we are able to give a donation towards the heating each year – let's be honest, making the church warm enough for us to take our coats off at any event through the winter is no mean feat!

As always at the end of the summer term we said a sad farewell to 7 of our children at the teddy bears picnic. However, at the same time we were pleased to welcome back a family who have joined us with their first 3 children and are now back with their 4th. We have a small but loyal group of mums and tots at the moment, however we hope to see more children join us as the weather warms up for spring... or there's a baby boom in the village! Spread the word.

We would like to thank all those involved in making St. Andrews such a welcoming environment for one and all, helping to make Tots possible.

Let us pray that our group, which continues to grow from a small seed of vision planted many years ago in the days of the Mother and Baby Group and Pram Club, continues to become an ever-sturdier branch of an even mightier tree, where whole families feel welcomed and loved and can flourish as they grow. We are thankful for this opportunity we have been given to be a part of this truly wonderful process. Amen.

Alison Read, on behalf of the Tots Team

Soup and Sandwiches

Once a month on a Tuesday from 12-2pm we have a lunch of soup, sandwiches and cake. We already have about 12 regular people attending. The idea is that people who live on their own or are lonely come together for company and a chat. This has been very successful, due a lot to Pam and Judy who give up their time to help. We usually end up with a (not very difficult) quiz of some sort. Please come and join us - all are welcome and I hope to see you there.

Christine Mennie

2020 Vestry, Annual Parochial Church and First PCC Meetings

The meetings will be held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 4 October 2020 at 11:30 am

Agenda for 2020 Annual Vestry Meeting

- 1 Opening prayers
- 2 Appointment of Clerk
- 3 Apologies
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2019 Annual Vestry Meeting
- 5 Election of two Churchwardens
(Nominations must have been received by the chair prior to the meeting.)
- 6 Date of Next Meeting –
provisionally Sunday 18 April 2021 circa 11:30 am

Agenda for 2020 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

(to follow 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 2019 Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- 5 Reports
 - 5.1 Electoral Roll Report
 - 5.2 Annual Report
 - 5.3 Financial Report
 - 5.4 Fabric Report
 - 5.5 Deanery Synod Report
 - 5.6 Compass Churches Report
 - 5.7 Christians Together in Chelmsford
- 6 Election of Deanery Synod members for 3 years
- 7 Election of PCC Members
- 8 Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer
- 9 Appointment of Child Protection Officer and Vulnerable Adult Officer
- 10 Appointment of Independent Examiner
- 11 Appointment of Sidesmen and Sideswomen
- 12 Reports from other Organisations
- 13 Rector's Report
- 14 Concerns / Questions to be Expressed / Asked
- 15 Date of Next Meeting –
provisionally Sunday 18 April 2021 after the Annual Vestry Meeting
- 16 Closing Prayers



Agenda for 2020-21 First Parochial Church Council Meeting

(to follow immediately after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting)

- 1 Appointment of Vice Chairman
- 2 Appointment of PCC Treasurer
- 3 Appointment of PCC Secretary
- 4 Next meeting dates
Monday 2 November 2020, 11 January 2021, 1 March 2021