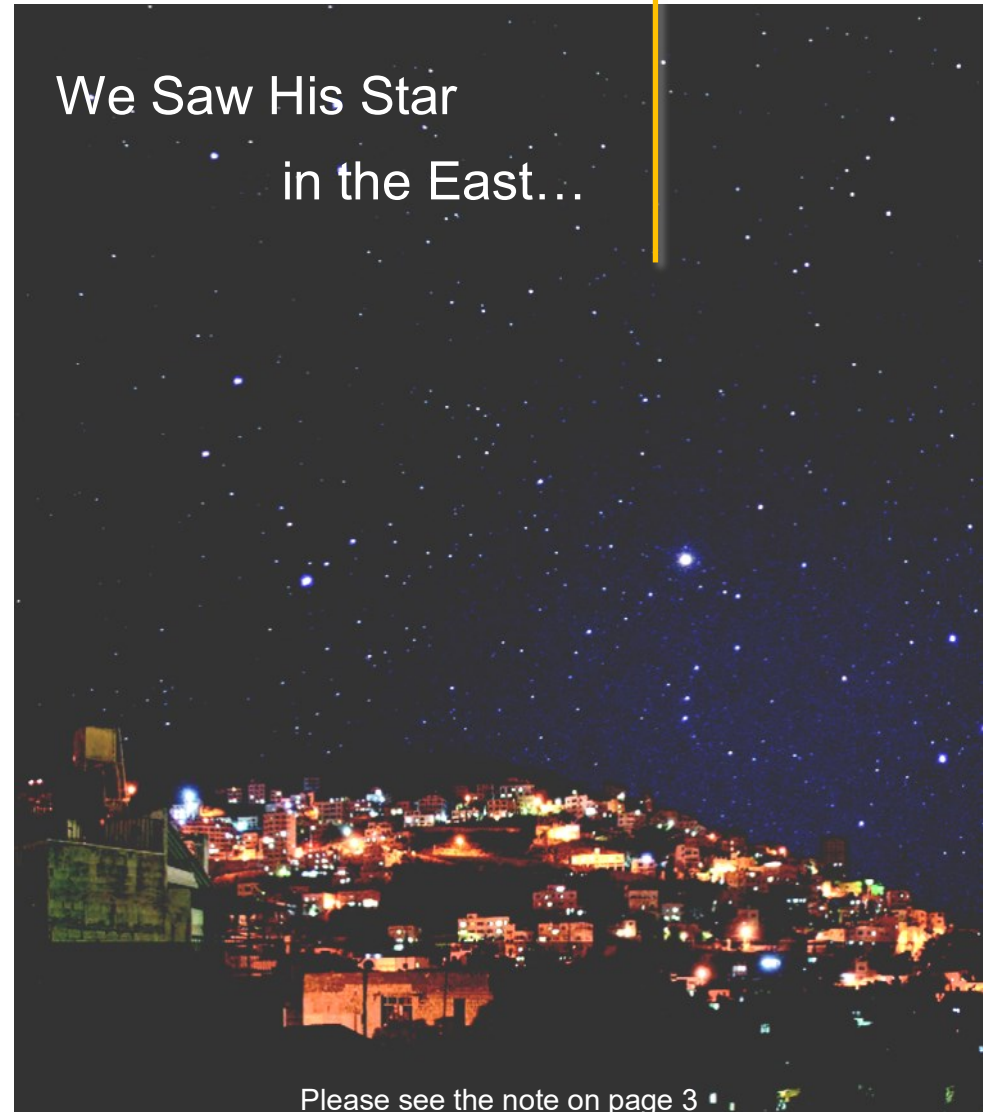


## We Saw His Star in the East...



Please see the note on page 3

## APL Paving

Based in Sandon



Fencing



Turfing



Landscaping



Driveways



Astro Turf



Fully Insured



Patios

**M: 07957868833**  
**T: 01245475698**  
**E: aplpaving@gmail.com**

## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The image on the front cover comes from this year's material for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, published by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. The original photo, of Nablus, a town in Palestine, formerly Shechem was taken by Dr. Michael Loadenthal [michaelloadenthal.academia.edu/](http://michaelloadenthal.academia.edu/) (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0).

Each year the week runs from 18<sup>th</sup> –25<sup>th</sup> January and this year the material has been prepared by churches in the Middle East. From their material, "The story of the Magi visiting the Holy Family in Bethlehem is one very familiar to us. Indeed, we celebrate Christmas; the Feast of Incarnation and Epiphany. The Magi have sometimes been seen

as a symbol of the world's diversity – different religions and cultures – that comes to pay homage to the Christ-child. The story might therefore represent the unity, that God desires, of all creation. The Magi travel from far-off countries, and represent diverse cultures, yet they are driven by the same hunger to see and know the new-born king and are gathered into the little house in Bethlehem in the simple act of giving homage. In this we can find a metaphor for Christian unity:

- that is, of different Christian peoples drawn together in their common search
- to recognise Christ, to know him and to worship him and witnessing to wider
- need for unity and to overcome injustice.

## The Claydon Clinic

*Physiotherapy*  
*Sports Injury Rehabilitation*  
*Acupuncture*  
*Pilates*

[www.theclaydonclinic.com](http://www.theclaydonclinic.com)  
Tel/fax 01245 401255

Email. [theclaydonclinic@btinternet.com](mailto:theclaydonclinic@btinternet.com)  
Old Southend Rd,  
Howe Green CM2 7TB

## Koicom Services

Pest control,  
Wildlife management  
& Grass cutting.  
Honey bee swarms collected.  
RSPH2 Qualified  
Trained & Qualified deer stalker  
Contract or one off jobs.  
Find us on  
[Checkatrade.com/trades/  
Koicomservices](http://Checkatrade.com/trades/Koicomservices)  
Call:  
01245922064/07845642815

## Rector's Letter

We hope you will join in celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ this Christmas. There's something so special about being in your local parish church at this seasonal time of year.

As we make our plans for Christmas, we have a variety of services which help us to celebrate the birth of Jesus: Carol Services, Crib Service, Beer and Carols, Drive in Carol Service, Christingle Service and the uniquely special service of Midnight Communion.

One of my favourite stories about a school nativity service is of the little boy who wanted to play the part of Joseph. He was very disappointed to be given instead the part of the innkeeper, but he appeared to accept his teacher's decision and got on with his part in the play. However, on the day of the performance, in front of a school hall packed with parents, the boy took his revenge. When Joseph and Mary asked him if there was any room in his inn, he abandoned the script, stood back so that the door to the inn was wide open and said, 'yes there's plenty of room; come on in!'

That might not be the way the familiar story goes but I think the

little boy's actions have some things to say to us at Christmas. We all are invited to 'come in' to greet the holy child. All will be welcomed to the variety of different services which we offer at Christmas as we join together in celebrating the birth of Jesus, the One who comes to save us and bring us joy. There literally is 'room for all' because God welcomes each and every one of us. He does not want anyone to be turned away, because He loves each of us so much. God has shown the depth of that love in His unique gift to us; the gift of His Son, born as one of us, part of a loving human family; the One who was willing ultimately to give his life for us, so that we might share in his life, for ever.

Our Christmas celebrations lead into celebrations of the new year, with a heightened sense of anticipation for all that 2022 might bring. Many will be praying that the next year will be better than the last; others will be going into the New Year with a deep sense of anxiety and uncertainty. This year listen to our bells as they ring out the Old Year and welcome the New Year. However as we approach 2022, we should remember the wonderful promise which Jesus made to us: 'remember that I am with you always; yes, to the end of

time' (Matthew 28, verse 20). Jesus promises to be there with us in whatever it is that life brings; in the happy times and in the sadness, in the pain and also in the joy.

Do join us as we rejoice at Jesus' birth and embrace him in our lives as the most wonderful, and life changing gift, that one can ever receive. Jesus is a free gift from God but it will take you until eternity to unwrap its treasures.

I wish everyone a very HAPPY & HOLY CHRISTMAS and a peaceful New Year. Terry



BEAUTY SALON  
ESTABLISHED 2007

01245 471888

Beauty treatments for men, women and teens  
Gift vouchers available all year round

Waxing, Shellac, Lash Lift,  
Microdermabrasion, Skincare,  
Swedish Massage, Scrubs,  
Deep Tissue Massage, Hot Stones,  
Reflexology and much more

Professional, quality treatments with a  
friendly therapist, always

19 CHURCH STREET, GREAT BADDOW,  
CHELMSFORD, CM2 7HX  
WWW.JUSTPAMPHERED.CO.UK  
BEAUTY@JUSTPAMPHERED.CO.UK

OPEN 7 DAYS, LATE NIGHTS AVAILABLE

## Keith's Garden Maintenance Services

For a free quote, contact Keith on: -  
M: 07958 462913  
T: 01245 931866



I can help with:

- General maintenance
- Grass cutting & scarifying
- Border edging & tidying
- Hedge trimming
- Weeding & pruning
- Patio & driveway cleaning

I'm local and fully insured



A family business established 3 generations ago

**T. PENNACK & SONS**  
**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**  
1-3 Maldon Road, Great Baddow, CM2 7DW  
**PERSONAL SERVICE**  
*anytime*  
**01245 471157**



## Welcome to Tomorrow!

This is extremely interesting. If you think the virus is going to make changes!

I guess we'll have to come back in person to see if this forecast comes true. All of the following will likely become reality in the next 10-20 years. Many of us won't see the changes, but our kids and grand-kids probably will.

1. Basic auto repair shops will disappear. Read on to know why.
2. A gas/diesel engine has 20,000 individual parts. An electrical motor has only 20 parts. Electric cars are sold with lifetime guarantees and are repaired only by dealers. It takes only 10 minutes to remove and replace an electric motor.
3. Faulty electric motors are not repaired in the dealership, but are sent to a regional repair shop that repairs them with robots.
4. Your electric motor malfunction light goes on, and so you drive up to what looks like a car wash, and your car is towed through while you have a cup of coffee and out comes your car with a new electric motor!
5. Gas pumps will go away.
6. Street corners will have meters that dispense electricity.
7. Companies will install electrical recharging stations; in fact, they've already started in the developed world.
8. Smart major auto manufacturers have already designated money to start building new plants that build only electric cars.
9. Coal industries will go away. Gasoline/oil companies will go away.
10. Drilling for oil will stop. Say goodbye to OPEC! The Middle East is in trouble.
11. Homes will produce and store more electrical energy during the day than they use, and will sell it back to the grid. The grid stores it and dispenses it to industries that are high electricity users. Has anybody seen the Tesla roof?
12. A baby of today will see personal cars only in museums. The Future is approaching faster than most of us can handle.
13. In 1998, Kodak had 170,000 employees and sold 85% of all photo paper worldwide. Within just a few years, their business model disappeared and they went bankrupt. Who would have thought of that ever happening?
14. What happened to Kodak and Polaroid will happen in a lot of industries in the next 5-10 years ... and most of us don't see it coming.
15. Did you think in 1998 that 3 years later you'd *never* take pictures on film again? With today's smartphones, who even has a camera these days?
16. Yet digital cameras were invented in 1975. The first ones only had 10,000 pixels, but followed Moore's law – that technological capacity will *double* every year. So as with all exponential technologies, it was a disappointment for a time, before it became 'way superior' and became mainstream in only a few short years.
17. It will now happen again (but much faster) with Artificial Intelligence (AI), health, autonomous and electric cars, education, 3D printing, agriculture and jobs.
18. Forget the book, 'Future Shock'; welcome to the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution.
19. Software has disrupted, and will continue to disrupt, most traditional industries in the next 5-10 years.
20. Uber is just a software tool; it doesn't own any cars, and is now the biggest taxi company in the world! Ask any taxi drivers if they saw that coming.
21. Air BnB is now the biggest hotel company in the world, although they don't own any properties. Ask Hilton Hotels if they saw that coming.
22. Artificial Intelligence: Computers become exponentially better in understanding the world. This year, a computer beat the best Go player in the world, 10 years earlier than expected.
23. In the USA, young lawyers already don't get jobs. Because of computers, you can get legal advice (so far for right now, the basic stuff) within seconds, with 90% accuracy – compared with 70% accuracy when done by humans. So, if you study law, stop immediately. There will be 90% fewer lawyers in the future, (what a thought!). Only omniscient specialists will remain.
24. Computer programs already help nurses diagnosing cancer, and the programs are 4 times more accurate than human nurses.
25. Facebook now has pattern recognition software that can recognize faces better than humans. In 2030, computers will become more intelligent than humans...computers can be unplugged...or shot!!!!
26. Autonomous cars: In 2018 the first self-driving cars were already here. In the next 2 years, the entire industry will start to be disrupted. You won't *want* to own a car anymore as you will call a car with your

phone; it will show up at your location and drive you to your destination.

27. You will not need to park it. You will pay only for the driven distance and you can be productive while driving. The very young children of today will never get a driver's license and will never own a car.
28. This will change our cities because we will need 90-95% fewer cars. We can transform former parking lots into green parks.
29. About 1.2 million people die each year in car accidents worldwide including distracted or drunk driving. We now have one accident every 60,000 miles. With autonomous driving that will drop to 1 accident in 6 million miles. That will save more than a million lives worldwide each year.
30. 6 million miles. That will save more than a million lives worldwide each year.
31. Some traditional car companies will doubtless go bankrupt. They will try the evolutionary approach and just build a better car, while tech companies (Tesla, Apple, Google) will do the revolutionary approach and build a computer on wheels.
32. Look at what Volvo is doing right now; no more internal combustion engines in their vehicles starting this year – with the 2019 models using all-electric or hybrid only, with the intent of phasing out the hybrid models.
33. Many engineers from Volkswagen and Audi are completely terrified of Tesla – and they should be. Look at all the companies offering all-electric vehicles. That was unheard of only a few years ago.
34. Insurance companies will have massive trouble because, without accidents, the costs will become cheaper. Their auto insurance business model will disappear.
35. Real estate will change. If you can work from home (or from literally anywhere), people will abandon their towers to move far away to more beautiful affordable locations.
36. Electric cars will become mainstream about 2030. Cities will be less noisy because all new cars will run on electricity.
37. Cities will have much cleaner air as well.
38. Electricity will become incredibly cheap and clean.
39. Solar production has been on an exponential curve for 30 years, but you can now see the burgeoning impact. And it's just getting ramped up
40. Fossil energy companies are desperately trying to limit access to the grid to prevent competition from home solar installations; but that simply cannot continue - technology will take care of that strategy.

41. Health: "Tricorder X" will be announced this year. There are companies which will build a medical device (called the Tricorder from Star Trek) that works with your phone – taking your retina scan, your blood sample, and you breathe into it. It then analyses 54 bio-markers that will identify nearly any disease. There are dozens of phone apps out right now for health.

Welcome To Tomorrow! – some of it actually arrived a few years ago.



## Monthly Soup & Sandwich Lunch

at St Andrews Church, Sandon

We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month

Future dates are 7<sup>th</sup> December,,

4<sup>th</sup> January and 1<sup>st</sup> February

Join us for lunch once a month, for companionship & fellowship  
(and food of course!!)

We would love to see you.—No charge, donations welcome

Time: 12:00pm - 1:30pm

Contact: Christine Mennie for more details on 01245 281305



## Carols at Butts Green Garden Centre & Café

(Mayes Lane, Sandon, CM2 7RW)

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm

Come along and join in with carol singing,  
spend time together and enjoy festive refreshments from the café



### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December Christingle Service 4 pm

A magical start to Christmas for all the family, with oranges, sweets and candles.

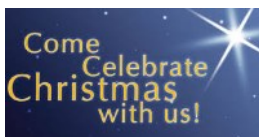
### Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm

“Hark the Herald Angels sing” – come and celebrate the season as we gather together to sing well-loved Christmas Carols in the comfort and safety of our own cars.

We warmly invite you to a drive-in Carol Service at Sandon School. Come and hear the wonderful story of the first Christmas and celebrate the hope that it offers, even in difficult times.

Please remember to wrap up warmly and bring a blanket – you will need to open your windows to hear the music, and we will be asking you to switch off your car engine.

Please also note that toilets will not be available to make the event as safe as possible for everyone, so please come prepared!!



Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
4:00 pm  
Nine Lessons & Carol Service

Everyone has heard of, or seen, the famous Nine Lessons and carols from King's College Cambridge on the TV each Christmas eve. This is Sandon's version! Our choir and singers offer music alongside the Christmas readings to really set the Christmas celebrations going. This candlelit service is amazing and really captures the wonder of Christmas.

### Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

#### Beer and carols @ The Crown @ 7 pm.

Join us for our ever-popular Beer and Carols night with free Mince Pies.

This is a great way to enter the festive period, with a drink in one hand and a carol song sheet in the other! No pressure to sing - but come and meet us, invite your friends and join in with the fun. We'd love to see you there!

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 4 pm

#### Crib service especially for families

If possible children dress up in costumes of the kings, shepherds, angels, donkey, etc.

There will be costumes available in church.

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 11:30 pm

#### Midnight Communion Service

### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December at 10 am

#### Christmas Day Service & Communion

This is the day that changed the world. Come and celebrate together at this Service.

Please bring an opened present to show us at the service.

## Bell Restoration Appeal

When we launched the appeal back in April, our plan was to achieve the £45,000 target through a combination of fundraising and taking advantage of discounts offered by the bellhanger for volunteer support. I'm delighted to confirm, we've done it! At the start of November, we had secured funding of just over £40,000 and we have offers of volunteer support with the bell work in the tower, loading and transport of the bells worth £5,000 of in-kind funding. A fantastic response from the local community, businesses and those living further afield. We thank you all.

A significant portion of the funding, £8,400, has come from grant awards. Over the summer we submitted applications to seven organisations, some of which are specialist bell Trusts. To date, four have made an award, two applications were unsuccessful and one is outstanding. We gratefully acknowledge grants from AllChurches Trust, The Leche Trust, The Sharpe Trust and Essex Association of Change Ringers.

The Heritage Open Day on 11<sup>th</sup> September was an enjoyable and



successful day. We had around 80 visitors to the church, with 47 taking a trip up the tower to see the bells and enjoy the views from the top. Thank you to all who took part and manned the stalls in the churchyard, highlighting the number and range of church and community activities on offer in the village. Thank you also to everyone who donated prizes and purchased tickets for the Appeal raffle, which was drawn on 1<sup>st</sup> October and raised £260.20. All the winners were delighted to receive their prizes.

We are working on the detailed planning for the restoration work which, at the time of writing, is scheduled to start on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and, all being well, complete by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April so the bells will be back for Easter. There will be opportunities

to see the bells when they are taken out of the tower on 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> January and again when they are moved back in on 4<sup>th</sup> April. More detailed information will be available on the church website, Facebook and other communication channels nearer the time. It will be a once in a lifetime opportunity, so do try and come along.

Whilst we are in a great place with the appeal, it is a significant project and we are dealing with a listed building and some very old bells so it is impossible to remove all the risks. We have decided therefore to continue our fundraising efforts to ensure we can cover all eventualities without any further call on church funds

*Mike Worboys,  
Tower Captain, Sandon  
01245 224612  
mike.r.worboys@gmail.com*

Exhortation is used more and accomplishes less than almost any behaviour-changing tool known to man.

*Statement at the head of a chapter in "Developing attitude towards learning" by Robert F. Mayer  
A Jack Gleaning*



## Farleigh Hospice

After a year's hiatus, Farleigh's Christmas tree recycling scheme is back! Working with Justhelping, collections will be taking place across mid Essex on 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Register and donate today at [farleighhospice.org/trees](https://www.farleighhospice.org/trees) and we will collect your tree from your home. The whole of Sandon is covered by this project. We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who donated and volunteered last year, even though the collections could not take place due to the sudden spike in COVID-19 infection rates in our area. For more information call 01245 457411 or email [fundraising@farleighhospice.org](mailto:fundraising@farleighhospice.org).

## Farming Today

The most important subject regarding the production of next years crops is the price and availability of the raw materials needed to produce them. All the autumn sown crops are now in and growing, but it is the price of the resources to produce economical crops that is staggering. The price of fertilisers and lime are the highest on record, and for those who have not already purchased and taken delivery, it may be they find that there is none available when it is needed. The same also applies to crop sprays. All due to the world shortage of fuel and energy. On the land that we farm, the grassland that has been found to be acidic has had an application of lime. Gone are the days when whole fields would be given a covering of lime irrespective of whether only parts required it. Most fields have now had soil samples taken all over and maps show their various levels fertility, which can then be adjusted by treating just those areas. This is done by entering these details into the onboard computer on the equipment doing the application work, which can then vary the rates of application as it progresses, guided by it's own satnav, thereby making great savings on what used to be the old system.

As a result of all the technical equipment required, there are those who have found that there is a good second hand market for it. One morning we found that a lot of this equipment had disappeared overnight from a farm which we considered secure. So this has meant improving the security system at considerable expense to try and keep one step ahead.

There is still grazing for the sheep on outlying land in three different parishes. The flock has been split into three to clear up this grass leaving the grass nearer home for lambing time in February 2022. Any hayledge that has to be fed has been found to be low in protein due to the lack of sunshine in the growing season, so the feed is being supplemented with fodder beet which has to be bought in.

Hare coursing has now been made illegal, but we are still being plagued with fly tipping, which means all access to the land has to be secure.

At the moment, mid-November, we are finishing the hedge cutting, and generally making sure that all machinery is fit for use when required; and try to plan so that we can rise to all the challenges next year.

*Gillian and Bernard*

## Church Warden Vacancy

It is with deep regret that Claire Jefferies has had to step down from being Church Warden. This is due to personal reasons. I would like to put on record our thanks to Claire for all her work as Church Warden. Claire will still be around, singing in the choir and reading and leading prayers at our services. Our prayers are with her and the family at this time. We now have to begin the process of electing a new warden.

What exactly do they do? In co-operation with the Parish Priest, they are responsible generally for the day-to-day functioning of the parish. They play an active and valuable role in the spiritual, pastoral and legal life & work of the church.

The Legal responsibilities:

- To keep the inventory and other records (i.e. terrier) up to date and in a safe place.
- To attend visitations.
- To keep up to date with relevant legislation and inform others as appropriate.
- To ensure the smooth running of services.
- To ensure that the PCC meets its financial obligations.

Who can put their name forward to be Church Warden?

Persons whose names are entered on the church electoral roll of the parish.

Persons resident in the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors by reason of such residence.

The person must be actual communicant members of the church.  
The person must be at least 21 years old.

If you would like to discuss this further then please get in touch with our other Church Warden Richard Cecil on 01245 224747

Nomination forms for Churchwarden will be found on the welcome table in church. These should be completed and handed or posted to Revd. Terry Brown The Rectory, St. Augustines Way, North Springfield, Chelmsford, CM1 6GX by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

A vestry meeting will be held on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January at 11:30 am

*Terry*



## Church Services

## St. Andrew's, Sandon

Services currently planned online via Zoom are shown in italics.

Others which will not be in the Church are shown in bold.

### December

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	8:30 pm	<i>Night Prayer</i>
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8:30 am	<i>Compass Group Morning Prayer</i>
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Advent 2</b>
	10:00 am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 pm	<i>Night Prayer</i>
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am	<i>Compass Group Morning Prayer</i>
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	4:00 pm	<b>Carols at Butts Green Garden Centre</b>
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Advent 3</b>
	8:00 am	Holy Communion
	10:00 am	Morning Worship
	4:00 pm	<b>Lighting the Christmas tree</b>
		<b>by the church gate</b>
	4:00 pm	Christingle Service
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 pm	<i>Night Prayer</i>
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am	<i>Compass Group Morning Prayer</i>
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 pm	<b>Drive in Carols at Sandon School</b>
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Advent 4</b>
	10:00 am	Holy Communion
	3:00 pm	<b>Worship at Howe Green URC</b>
	4:00 pm	Candlelit Festival of Carols
		and readings in Church
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:30 am	Holy Communion
	7:00 pm	<b>Beer and carols at the Crown</b>
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8:30 pm	<i>Night Prayer</i>
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Christmas Eve</b>
	4:00 pm	Crib Service
	11:30 pm	Midnight Communion
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Christmas Day</b>
	10:00 am	Christmas Communion
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Christmas 1</b>
	10:00 am	Christmas Service
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 pm	<i>Night Prayer</i>
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	11:30 pm	<b>The Bells ring in the New Year</b>
<b>January</b>		
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>		<b>Epiphany</b>
	10:00 am	Holy Communion

**Private Prayer**

The Church is now open for private prayer in the day time

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>

9:30 am Holy Communion  
 8:30 pm *Night Prayer*  
**Epiphany 1**  
 8:00 am Holy Communion  
 10:00 am Family Service  
 9:30 am Holy Communion  
 8:30 pm *Night Prayer*  
 8:30 am *Morning Prayer*

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>

**Epiphany 2**  
 10:00 am Holy Communion  
 3:00 pm Worship at Howe Green URC  
 9:30 am Holy Communion  
 8:30 pm *Night Prayer*  
 8:30 am *Morning Prayer*

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Epiphany 3**  
 10:00 am *Morning Worship*  
 9:30 am Holy Communion  
 8:30 pm *Night Prayer*  
 8:30 am *Morning Prayer*

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>

**Presentation of Christ**  
 10:00 am Holy Communion

### February

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>

9:30 am Holy Communion  
 8:30 pm *Night Prayer*  
 8:30 am *Morning Prayer*

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>

**Fourth before Lent**  
 10:00 am Holy Communion  
 9:30 am Holy Communion  
 8:30 pm *Night Prayer*  
 8:30 am *Morning Prayer*

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>

**Third before Lent**  
 8:00 am Holy Communion  
 10:00 am Family Service  
 9:30 am Holy Communion  
 8:30 pm *Night Prayer*  
 8:30 am *Morning Prayer*

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>

**Second before Lent**  
 10:00 am Holy Communion  
 3:00 pm Worship at Howe Green URC  
 9:30 am Holy Communion  
 8:30 pm *Night Prayer*  
 8:30 am *Morning Prayer*  
**Sunday next before Lent**  
 10:00 am *Morning Worship*

## Saint Andrew's Parish Church Contacts

Rector	Revd. Terry Brown*	tgabrown@hotmail.com 01245 698988
Church Warden	Richard Cecil**	224747
PCC Secretary	Judy Cecil**	224747
PCC Treasurer	Nick Bobeldijk*	471756
Safeguarding Officer	Alison Read*	474858
Electoral Roll	Liz Bobeldijk	471756
Bell Ringing	Mike Worboys	224612
Tiny Tots	Alison Read*	474858
Flower Arranging	Lesley Worboys	224612
Magazine Editor	Richard Cecil**	224747
Parochial Church Council Members	as * above and Liz Bobeldijk, Colin Bryan <sup>+</sup> , David Farrar <sup>+</sup> , John Gruby, Andy Home, Christine Mennie <sup>+</sup> , and Janet Terry <sup>+</sup>	

Licensed to assist in the distribution of Holy Communion

As <sup>+</sup> above and Valerie Grimwood and Gill Hodge

## Regular Events see pages 22-23 for full details of worship.

Sundays	8:00 am	Holy Communion in Church
	10:00 am	Morning Worship/Communion (Zoom on 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday)
Tuesdays	9:30 am	Holy Communion
	7:30 pm	Ringling Practice
Wednesday (Zoom)	8:30 pm	Night Prayer
Thursday (Zoom)	8:30 am	Compass Group Morning Prayer

The login details for all the above Zoom services can be found on the website (sandon-church.info) just prior to the meeting.

## St Andrew's, Sandon

[www.sandon-church.info](http://www.sandon-church.info)

Editor Richard Cecil  
 Advertising Manager Claire Jefferies  
 Editorial Team Valerie Grimwood  
 Distribution Manager Alison Read



We congratulate on their marriage:  
 Angus Kirkwood and Veronica Poplawski 13<sup>th</sup> August  
 James Plumb and Louise Tester 10<sup>th</sup> September

We commended into God's care at the funerals of:  
 Peter Lowe 23<sup>rd</sup> August  
 Priscilla Anne Edwards 13<sup>th</sup> September  
 Kathleen Maud Willis 22<sup>nd</sup> September

At a Memorial Service we commemorated the life of :  
 Ron Woods 12<sup>th</sup> September

Following all safety guidelines  
 Members of NHBF

Open times:  
 Monday - Saturday from 9am til 6pm

**01245 476460**  
[salon19roma@gmail.com](mailto:salon19roma@gmail.com)  
 19 Church Street, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 7HX

## The Man at the Gate

I said to the man  
 who stood at the gate of the year  
 "Give me a light that I may tread  
 safely  
 into the unknown."  
 And he replied  
 "Go out into the darkness  
 and put your hand into the hand  
 of God  
 that shall be to you  
 better than the light  
 and safer than the known way!"  
 So I went forth  
 and finding the hand of God  
 Trod gladly into the light.

*Quoted by King George VI in the  
 Christmas Broadcast 1939  
 M. Louise Haskins  
 A Jack Gleaning*

## The Muzzle Loader.

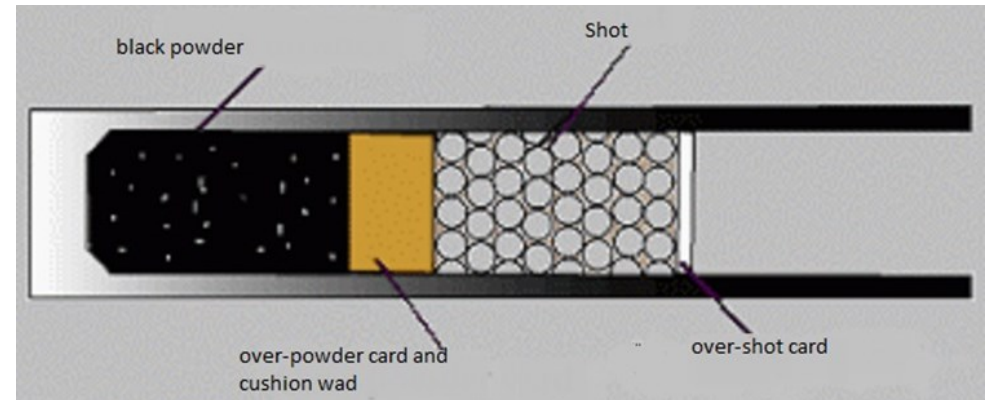
Recently, while musing about days gone by, I recalled a story told to me by gamekeeper, Dick Bennett some 50 years ago. In those days, the area around me in the easterly extreme of our parish, bordering Danbury and East Hanningfield parishes, was part of a shoot managed by Dick. Dick, who was then in his mid-sixties, had spent most of his adult life as a gamekeeper, largely in his native Norfolk and neighbouring Suffolk - as was obvious from his form of speech. With my family roots also in Norfolk, I was particularly drawn by Dick's brogue which, for me, considerably enhanced our conversations.

Early in Dick's career, when Dick was an under-keeper on a large estate in Norfolk, the link between employer and employee was an almost feudal relationship of 'Master and Man'. One morning Dick's 'master' - a titled landowner - summoned his game keeping and agricultural 'men' and enquired if anyone knew how to prepare a muzzle-loading shotgun for firing. One young chap held up his hand, professing to have experience with muzzle-loaders; whereupon the Master handed the lad a very old but in good condition muzzle loading shotgun and told him to load it for him.

In Dick's words (as close as I can remember) the boy poured in the powder then a wad followed by the shot and the overshot card. He then rammed that well down and handed the gun back to his master. Master raised the gun to his shoulder, took aim and pulled the trigger: there was a click – but no bang. The master handed back the gun to the loader telling him to try again and this time to get it right! Again the lad poured in the powder then a wad followed by the shot and the overshot card, rammed it well down then handed the gun to his master who once more raised the gun to his shoulder, took aim and pulled the trigger. But, as before, the gun failed to go off. The master was becoming visibly annoyed and told the 'expert' loader to have one more go – and this time to do

## Butts Green Garden Centre & Café

Mayes Lane  
CM2 7RW  
Gifts - Plants - Food  
Open 9:30 am till 5:00 pm  
Tel: 01245 223524  
for reservations



The diagram shows how a charge is loaded. A ramrod is then pushed down the barrel (from the right hand side of the diagram – and then removed!) to consolidate the charge. Finally, a percussion cap (not shown) is positioned over small hole in the barrel to be hit by the hammer when the trigger is pulled thus causing the powder to explode and propel the shot towards the target.

it properly. At his next attempt the chastened loader was particularly cautious, though somewhat nervous and after ramming the charge well down handed over the gun which, apart for a subdued 'click', still stayed silent.

By now The Master was fuming. He examined the gun and seeing that the lad had omitted to attach a percussion cap administered a severe scolding to his hapless loader who immediately rectified his omission.

The Master raised his gun and fired. An enormous explosion and kick-back threw him off his feet and into the ditch behind him. As the smoke cleared and the Master struggled to climb out of the ditch, his loader stepped forward,

helpfully to advise his boss saying; "Dew yew not git up yit Maaster; that's got ter goo orff toice more yit".

Around thirty years after Dick had told me this story, I relayed it to a (late) old friend with whom I met weekly on Friday evenings over a pint in a local pub. Neither of us knew that we were both to be guests at the Farmers Supper of the Mid-Essex Beagles in Roxwell Village Hall the following evening. The next day I was surprised to find that he, as Master of the local foxhounds was a 'top table' honoured guest who had been invited to 'sing for his supper' with an amusing speech. Yes, you've guessed it – Dick Bennett's tale was aired once again!

*Bernard White*

## New Church Path For Wheelchair Users

The idea for improving our rear path came to me in 2019, a year after my wife Christine died. In her final days the only way she could get



Christine Farrar and Su Whinney



The path January 2020



Coral Mann and Gwen Horscroft

about was in a wheelchair. I could see how difficult it was for wheelchair users to get into our church via the church rear entrance!

Our path was composed of gravel and weeds but at least it was a starting point and had served its purpose for many years. Little did I expect the process of getting a better, wider, natural York stone path to be so difficult!!

The easiest part of the process was to find three more generous financial donors and also three potential 'contractors'. The difficult part was the frustrating paper chains for approvals through the Church of England system. And I have probably done a dozen or so of these before in my lifetime! Of course one needs to have drawings, pictures, competitive



The finished path

quotes (from 3 sources), statements of necessity, public notices displayed, approvals for



work in Protected Areas, Diocesan Advisory Submissions. No matter, the Chelmsford Borough Planning Department were very helpful with their quick suggestion to use York stone slabs- end of story! However the Chelmsford Diocese have a group entitled the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee) who meet every other month to assess application plans for repairs or new builds within the Essex Area of churches. Assuming all of the paperwork and design is finally OK it can receive the DAC stamp of approval and is returned to the



Benefactor Reg Horscroft and a selection of scenes at the opening.

person applying for permission. Next a Public Notice needs to be put out for 30 days so local people can object to the plan if necessary. Then the application is sent to the Diocese Registrar, who issues a Faculty Number (Permission to proceed) and a form to complete when the work is finished! All approvals were received gradually in 2020 and then another 'spanner' was thrown in

the 'works'. This was about the insurance levels covered by contractors working in C of E churches and churchyards. Historically there was a requirement for contractors to have Public Liability Cover of £5 million but now the Authorities insisted that this be doubled to £10 million. Now very few small companies have this cover so the Sandon Parochial Church Council stomped up the extra £315 needed so that our contractor was 'legal'!

Finally our local company Hilton Property Maintenance, who had patiently waited, and who had already generously pared down their quote, was actually able to carry out the work last autumn. Then another big spanner hit all of us! COVID!

Of course everything closed down and it was not possible to officially 'open' the path until very recently, some 12 months later.

This 'consecration' of the path was done beautifully one Sunday morning in September by our Archdeacon Elizabeth Snowden with the help of Rev. Terry Brown plus many of our local people. All four of the commemorated families were there.

I can now say that after three years we had finally got to the end of a small project!

*David Farrar*

## St Andrew's Eco Church

When we embarked on the Eco Church project somewhat over a year ago now, we made the act of Eco commitment set out below. This seems worth renewing both as a church and as individuals. We live in a very self, or maybe Nation, centred world. So, making changes that are costly to ourselves, and probably more importantly, to individual nations, is therefore very difficult. We are all encouraged to put our own interests, and the interests of the individual nation to which we belong, ahead of those of other individuals and other nations. God gave us a role of custodians of the World. He created this World for all to benefit from it and enjoy it both now and in the future. He did not ask us to look after it to benefit ourselves. He created it. He sustains it. He provided the means of its salvation. All we are asked to do is care for it particularly out of honour to its Creator but also as a legacy for all its inhabitants in the future and that does not just mean human beings. We therefore ask you to join us in the act of Eco Commitment whether you are a member of St Andrew's Church or not.

### Act of Eco Commitment

Noah made a big sacrifice to the Lord God, and the Lord said in his

heart 'I will never again curse the ground because of humankind.' Genesis 8:21

As we offer our own sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving, we pledge ourselves to honour the everlasting covenant between God, the creator of all things who loves the world, and the creation which responds in joyful praise. Lord God, the earth is yours and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; hear our prayer, accept our service and receive our pledge: We pledge ourselves to your service in caring for your creation, that your kingdom may grow from the seed of hope into a tree of righteousness and justice for the world, and the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### What's Eco Church all about?

St Andrew's Church currently holds a bronze Eco award. The award covers all aspects of Church life from worship and prayer; where we source our tea and coffee; who generates the power we use and how we use it in as environmentally friendly way as possible; how the churchyard is used to enhance the natural world; to what we do to fight injustices meted out to God's

natural world. However, being an Eco church is not about jumping through hoops set up by others, in this case ARoche, it is about changing how we think about our world, or rather, God's world. It is about remembering that we look after it in trust for our Creator and therefore we treat it as part of the worship we owe him.

### Creation Care

Creation Care is a project run by St Paul's Church, Dorking in Surrey (<https://creationcare.org>). It is very similar to Eco church but run focussed on individuals. If you log into the website and register you can look at a variety of different areas how we all live and see how you measure up. They warn you that you may feel you are not doing very well when you start. Again, it is not about getting your individual award, although because of human nature we all enjoy accolades, it is about the process of seeing where you can make individual changes that will help improve the world, we all live in. Unfortunately, you need to be brutally honest with yourself. It is very easy to keep saying. "Yes, I reckon we just about do that," or, "I think that really means." The whole point is to truly challenge yourself and your family to improve in every area. As a bonus they put out a very good monthly

newsletter by email to keep you up to date, give ideas for prayer and things to look out in the natural environment for the time of year.

*Andy Horne*

## Farleigh's Run returns!

The Fun Run for Farleigh is on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December from 9.30 am in Central Park.

The 5 km route is suitable for all ages and abilities, you can run, jog or walk it. Entry is just £15 per adult and includes a free Santa suit. Children can enter for just £5, and will receive a free Santa hat. Children under 3 are free. Dogs are also welcome, but must be kept on leads. There is a competition for the best dressed dog. All sponsorship will go towards helping us to continue to provide care and support to those in our local community affected by life-limiting illness and bereavement. The route is suitable for all ages Register online at [farleighhospice.org/santa](http://farleighhospice.org/santa). by 5 pm on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021. This is a wheelchair and pushchair friendly event. For those that can't make the event on the 5<sup>th</sup> December, There is a virtual option to run on a date that suits. Contact the Farleigh Hospice Fundraising Team on 01245 457411 or email [fundraising@farleighhospice.org](mailto:fundraising@farleighhospice.org).

## Eco Church

St Andrews Church is an Eco Church. We have received a bronze award and in the New Year we will be working towards our silver award. If you would like to join us to achieve this award please contact Terry email [tgabrown@hotmail.com](mailto:tgabrown@hotmail.com) or Richard [richard@cecil.family.clara.net](mailto:richard@cecil.family.clara.net) or Andy [andyhorne57@gmail.com](mailto:andyhorne57@gmail.com) We would love to involve you in this important work for church and community.

In the meantime here are a few Eco tips to help us this Christmas.

### Need not greed

Christmas is a time when we all love to celebrate with lots of food and gifts but do you sometimes end up throwing away excess food or receive gifts that you don't really want or need. Everything we buy uses up the earth's resources and has a carbon footprint.

### Christmas Trees – Real vs Fake

Studies have shown that unless you use a fake tree for 10+ years, a real tree is better for the environment. If you go for a real tree, choose one that has been grown locally and recycle (they can be turned into chippings).

### Choose Seasonal vegetables

Choose traditional vegetables like potatoes, sprouts, carrots, parsnips and leeks, ideally grown locally. These can be purchased from a local farmers market.

### Get creative with gift wrapping

A lot of wrapping paper contains plastic so is not recyclable. If it's plastic it will not scrunch up. Instead, try using brown paper, adding your own decoration with stamps or greenery from the garden. You could even create your own freehand designs. String or Japanese Washi tape can be used instead of plastic adhesive tape. Another alternative is drawstring bags that can be reused.

### Avoid buying new plastic decorations

The great thing about plastic is that it is long lasting so Christmas decorations can be used over and over again and it's great to welcome 'old friends' each year. If you want to introduce new decorations, why not try making Christmas wreaths and table-decorations using greenery from the garden. There are some great YouTube clips that will show you how. Felt and knitted Christmas decorations look great and are fun to make too.

### Consider local traders, Fairtrade and natural materials for Christmas gifts

Instead of going to big chains or on-line retailers, why not try local independent shops. Zero Waste Shop ([natures-intention.co.uk](http://natures-intention.co.uk)) Traidcraft also support many local cooperatives (Fair Trade Products & Ethical Gifts | Traidcraft Online Shop ([traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://traidcraftshop.co.uk))). If you are buying clothes, natural materials like wool, cotton and bamboo are more sustainable than manmade fibres. If you are buying electronic goods, could you buy refurbished rather than new items? Have a happy Eco Christmas  
*Terry*

### Santa

Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.

### Observations on life

I don't always go the extra mile, but when I do it's because I missed my exit.

A lot of money is tainted – It taint yours and it taint mine.

### Jesus Is The Reason



In Bethlehem,  
God gave to us  
The source of  
Christmas joy;  
A star shown on a miracle:  
The virgin birth of a boy.

He was born both God and  
man,  
A Saviour for us all,  
The way to get to our heavenly  
home,  
If we just heed His call.

So as we shop and spend and  
wrap  
And enjoy the Christmas  
season,  
Let's keep in mind the sacred  
truth:  
Jesus is the reason.  
*By Joanna Fuchs*

Once you've seen one shopping  
centre, you've seen a mall.

Bakers trade bread recipes on a  
knead-to-know basis.

It was so cold last night, the  
thermometer knocked on the door  
and wanted to come in.



### Howe Green URC

We are continuing with our monthly afternoon service at the Chapel, on the third Sunday at 3:00 pm (19<sup>th</sup> December, 16<sup>th</sup> January and 20<sup>th</sup> February). These are usually led by our Minister, Rev. Paul Stein. And of course we are really looking forward to our Annual Christmas Carols by Candlelight Service on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30 pm. We very

much hope that you will be able to join in this special celebration, when once again the community can be together for a joyful time. We are also planning to carry on with the coffee mornings etc. at the Chapel, but at present have no fixed dates. So look out for any notices in the New Year when we hope things will, as far as possible, be getting back to what we used to do. *Pam Knott*

## Chelmsford Plumbing & Heating Ltd

Reliable, family run business

All calls answered personally

Our charges are competitive,  
100% clear and quoted in advance

Boiler servicing, breakdowns and repairs

New boilers and heating systems

Electrical work undertaken

T: 01245 478 588

W: [www.cph.uk.net](http://www.cph.uk.net)



## Recipe Ham and Cauliflower Stew

### Ingredients

1 tablespoon oil,  
1 finely chopped onion,  
1 small roughly chopped cauliflower,  
1 tablespoon paprika,  
1 teaspoon ground cumin,  
2 x 400g tins chopped tomatoes,  
300ml chicken or veg stock,  
125 g cooked ham pieces,  
400g tin chickpeas drained,  
large handful of chopped coriander.

Heat the oil in a large pan and fry the onion until softened. Add the chopped cauliflower and cook for about 5 minutes before adding the paprika and cumin. Stir in the tinned tomatoes, stock, ham and chickpeas and bring to the boil. Simmer for 10 minutes until the cauliflower is cooked through. Stir through most of the coriander and season to taste. Garnish with the remaining coriander and serve with crusty bread.

For a meat free version, omit the ham and add some finely sliced kale towards the end of cooking.

*Narelle Arnold*

## St John the Baptist, Danbury Monthly Lunchtime Concerts

Having been curtailed due to the pandemic, we are pleased to announce that the programme of lunchtime concerts at St John's will resume on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 12.15pm. The first concert will be an organ recital by St John's organist, Paul Hagger. Paul will play a varied programme of light music and his image will be projected onto the big screen from the organ console so that concert goers will be able to watch the organ being played.

Concerts will take place on the second Friday of each month at 12.15pm and lunches will be available from 11.45am. Concert goers are also welcome to bring their own lunch with them to enjoy during the concerts.

Entry to the concerts is free and there will be a retiring collection in support of the church's work.



**Thomsons**  
 Home and Business  
 Computer and Internet Support

PC problems giving you a headache?  
**SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATIONS**

2 High Street | Great Baddow | Chelmsford | Essex CM2 7HQ  
 T: 01245 471 465  
 E: mike@thomsonsuk.com | W: thomsonsav.com

The heart has its reason, which reason does not understand.  
*A miss quotation of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century philosopher Blaise Pascal  
 A Jack Gleaning*



**ECFS**  
 Independent Financial Advisers

Established in 2006 as a subsidiary of Edmund Carr Chartered Accountants, we offer independent financial advice on the following:

- Life Assurance/Protection/Income Replacement Cover
- Pensions and Retirement Planning
- Investments
- Inheritance Tax Planning

Working normally from home

For more information or to arrange a free initial consultation please contact us on 01245 294900 or [advice@ecfsltd.co.uk](mailto:advice@ecfsltd.co.uk)  
[www.ecfsltd.co.uk](http://www.ecfsltd.co.uk)

122 New London Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0RG  
 E C Financial Services Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority



# Keeping the county warm

Contact BFS for prompt delivery of your domestic heating oil direct from our local Danbury Fuel Services depot. You'll find no better service, no better value.



T 01245 425251

Fuel Services [www.bfsfuelservices.uk](http://www.bfsfuelservices.uk)





## BUILDING SERVICES

- External & Internal alterations
- Windows, Fascia, Soffit and Guttering.
- Boundary Fencing, Drives, Patios, and Decking.
- Sheds, Summer Houses, Pergolas.
- General garden maintenance.
- Friendly, efficient, reliable service.



For more information and a FREE quotation

Phone Eric

**07736 238138 • 01245 474587**

Email: [erw.buildingservices@yahoo.com](mailto:erw.buildingservices@yahoo.com)