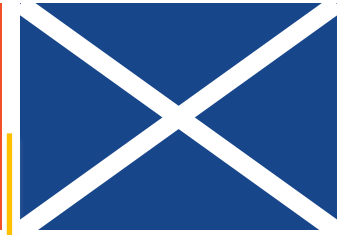


Sandon Voice



Quarterly from St Andrew's 60p for non residents

September 2022



Farming Today

Back to the 70's

1975 was an exceptionally difficult harvest, very wet and no grain drier. The decision was made to install one for the following harvest. Tony (my late husband) and Len Skennerton put one in during the winter. 1976 harvest came and went, as this year, with scorching hot days and the grain drier was not needed.

Back to today

We finished harvest on 1st August, the earliest ever. Richard thanks all in Hall Lane for allowing access.

The grain coming in is so dry, it has to be continually turned and cold air blown into it. It is low in protein through lack of moisture; this will have a knock-on effect with the price and cost of flour, bread etc. The last of this year's lambs have just gone on 9th August and 125 new shearlings (1 year old) have arrived to join the breeding flock, making 500 to lamb next February. *A night helper with experience is needed for the lambing shed - any offers? Please call 07860 875 333.*

The students have settled in well but not without the usual problems, lack of concentration at times and inevitable damage to machinery. There will be no Oil Seed Rape grown next year to try and control the rye grass, but a decision

has now been made to increase the bean acreage. (The cover photo shows beans being harvested this year.) The last of the straw bales have left the farm to the power station in Eye Suffolk.

Gillian Speakman

Over the years Sandon Voice readers will have read many of the Farming Today articles certainly typed up by Bernard Richmond but in many cases embellished and crafted by him too. Sadly Bernard died on 8th June. Here are a four pictures by which to remember this lovely upright, good-natured man.

Richard Cecil



>>> Could YOU be a Blood Runner? <<<

EssexVoluntaryBloodService.com

Rector's Letter

I am writing this letter in August. The recent hot weather has taken us by surprise, despite all the weather warnings. We are told by scientists that this is what we are now to look forward to over the coming years as Global Warming changes our weather pattern. For many of us, 38°C plus is just too hot! We are not used to extremes in temperature and yet that is the way things are heading unless real and radical change is made. A sign was put outside St Andrews on 18th and 19th July inviting people to come into church to keep cool. With the thick walls of our church the church was comfortable to sit in.

The Church of England has committed for the Church to be carbon neutral by 2030. This is an ambitious target, but there is so much we as a community, can do to reduce our footprint: from recycling and not using single-use plastics to sourcing food that is locally produced to reduce 'food miles'; from turning the thermostat down a degree in our homes in winter to getting better insulation; from using our cars less to investing in renewable energy supplies. This is just the tip of the iceberg.

Over the coming months we are going to be thinking seriously how we as a church and community can work together to help save the planet. I am delighted that a small team at St. Andrews as well as students from Sandon School will be working together on this important issue. But why are we doing this?

The obvious answer is because of Global Warming and the desire to preserve the planet. As Christians we know that this earth is a gift from God. Sadly, our stewardship has been decidedly lacking in recent decades as well as our care for God's gift. Everything we have is a gift from God and yet we often take it for granted. Now is the time for us to get real about the imminent crisis we are facing and our lack of gratitude to the God who loves the world so much he came to earth to be one of us in the form of Jesus Christ.

Recently, with all the weddings we have had, our thoughts have turned to the use of flowers in church. The concerns are, first, about the carbon footprint of importing unseasonable flowers; and second, about the widespread use of floral foam (often sold under the name

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Oasis), which is made of toxic microplastics.

Three years ago The Sustainable Church Flowers movement was founded. Its vision is simple: to reduce pollution by using locally sourced and carbon-neutral flowers, and to cut the use of plastic. It's all about "glorifying God" sustainably. I am pleased to say that at St. Andrews under the leadership of Lesley Worboys, our lead flower arranger, we are fully supporting this movement.

Many churches have cupboards full of floral foam. This is hugely problematic from an environmental point of view. It is a relatively recent invention, created in the 1950s as a plastic by-product.

It is extremely hard to dispose of. Anyone who has used it is aware of the green dust — micro particles — released when handling it, and this is often washed down the sink. There is clear evidence of the damage that this does to marine life. I am told that a single block of foam contains the same amount of plastic as ten carrier bags. When it becomes unusable, it is often put on the compost heap. Being plastic, of course, it does not compost. The lifespan of a block

of floral foam is estimated to be between 400 and 500 years. Happily, alternatives for flower-arranging include using crunched-up chicken wire, making structures from twigs, or simply using taller vases.

Do you feel passionate about our planet and want to find ways to work with others? It was interesting when we celebrated the Queen's Jubilee in June that the first item on June 2nd was a litter sweep. We have formed a small group at the church to look at not only what our church can do but also how we can get people in Sandon involved. Have you ideas or want to do something about saving the planet? If you would like to be part of our group then please get in touch with me by email so I can let you know when we are going to meet.

Two invites.

On Sunday 25th September we will be holding our Harvest Festival at our 10am service. I invite you to come along so that we can give thanks for our world and to pray for its future and how we can do our part in caring for it. In October we are running a short course entitled Christianity Explored. All of us have questions to ask and this course is an

opportunity to come along to a meeting for an hour and half where we can discuss and think about the big questions of life. Elsewhere in this magazine there are more details of dates and times. We would love you to join us and get some answers to the many questions about life that have been troubling you over the years. I am looking forward to seeing you this autumn at any of our services or events. Terry



1st Sandon Scout Group

It has been a great year with badges being gained. Well done to all the young people who have attained badges.

All sections have had fun packed programmes from making ice cream to internet safety and model building to a the Games workshop.

We had our AGM in July at Riffhams and the following awards were made:
Beaver of the Year -William Yates
Cub of the Year
Sebastian Spinks

Butts Green Garden Centre & Café

Mayes Lane
CM2 7RW

Gifts - Plants - Food
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Tel: 01245 223524
for reservations

Richard Martin Award -
Danilo Odoardo Lillo
Dennis Terry Memorial Award
William Gillard
Cub and Scout Section Assistant

At the end of the term, we said goodbye to Ben Eatly, Section Assistant for the Cub section as he and his partner are moving to Cambridge. We wish them happiness in their new home. We have been back to Church parades this year and it is great to look forward to lots of fun and learning skills for life during the next Scouting year.

Stay safe everyone.
Yours in Scouting
Jean Blake
Group Scout Leader
www.sandonscoutgroup.org

Who Is It For?

Christianity Explored is intended for those who have questions about the Christian faith, whether or not they would describe themselves as a Christian.



CHRISTIANITY|EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST NEWS
YOU'VE EVER HEARD?

What Is The Format?

The evening course begins with a cup of coffee/cake at 7:00 pm. There's a mixture of informal discussion, thinking about the big questions of life, looking at Mark's gospel and a short video presentation. The evening ends at 8:30 pm.

When Does It Happen?

The next Christianity Explored course will start on Monday 10th October at 7:00 pm.

There will also be a daytime course starting on Tuesday 11th October at 11:00 am. Why not invite a friend to do it with you?

Where Does It Happen?

Christianity Explored will be in St. Andrews Room in Church

What Is The Content?

The course is based on Mark's gospel, one of four accounts of Jesus life in the Bible. We encourage people to read this and engage with it as a 'primary source' alongside the course material and raise any questions they may have.

Everyone is welcome. You don't need to know anything about the Bible. You won't be asked to read aloud, pray or sing and you can ask any question you want, or just listen.

Our aim is to help people investigate Christianity in a relaxed and accessible way and we encourage guests to come with all of their questions. Why not join us?

Mondays 10th October – 21st November 2022, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

or

Tuesdays 11th October – 22nd November 2022, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm



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Ukraine refugees

Representatives from St. Johns Moulsham came to the Deanery Synod in June to talk about what they are doing to assist with the Ukrainian resettling scheme. The following is some of what they said.

They had heard that some of those who were hosting refugees wished that their guests could meet other people. Was God speaking to them though this wish? They thought about what they could do about this.

They didn't know how many people there were. There was talk about the diocesan system, which is a specific scheme setting up hubs in various places to match people to hosts. What they have set up at St Johns involves receiving 50 people a week at the moment. They are a church in vacancy and they questioned whether they have enough volunteers to do what they needed to keep the church running, let alone branch out into a new ministry.

But they're good at hospitality! They talked to a local host who said that a gathering in the early evening would be valuable because most of the hosts are working people. And there was a

good reason for that, because of the need to have space and the need to have enough money to help Ukraine families when they first come to this country, usually with one suitcase and very little money. So the PCC agreed that, for six months, they'd set up a trial, where they would open up the church and just invite guests and their hosts to come along, have a cup of tea, and be able to talk to each other. They recognized that it was exhausting when you go to a different country and have to learn the different language and a different form of writing. And so they wanted them to be able to come and relax, have a cup of tea, and the inevitable church cake, and just chat to each other in their own language. Also the hosts really need support.

There are no wrap around services for Ukrainians coming to this country. So they're all learning. The Ukrainians need a national insurance number, they need a Visa, they need to register with the Job Centre, they need to apply for Universal Credit. It all takes time. And it's all made more complicated by little things. They use Google Translate. Universal Credit becomes 'loans forever'. When people meet that they are very frightened – they think 'oh

my goodness, they're lending us all this money, when are we ever going to repay it?' And when your hosts don't speak Ukrainian and your guests don't speak English, trying to explain that, when even Google Translate can't get it right is quite hard.

So they offer space. They started out and in the first week they got about 30 visitors. And then they've had around about 56. They produce an information leaflet which they are very happy to share with any who are having contact with Ukrainian families. It's just an information sheet about where help is available and what can be available. They edit it every week because every week they learn something new.

It's usually women who have come over with their children. Their husbands and fathers and brothers can't even come for a holiday. They've been told they cannot leave the country until the war is over.

They described what happens. Very often, you'll find that the hosts congregate in one area and the Ukrainians are all chatting beautifully in a lively way with each other. We have about four or five volunteers each week. That's about two people dealing with the

massive rush at the beginning for a cup of tea (and Ukrainians do like tea!). They do like cake. But we're also having to learn that there are certain kinds of cake that they like more – honey cake is very popular.

The first week we left the worship area in darkness with doors closed, because a lot of people said no, they didn't have faith of any kind. And so they were a bit dubious about coming into a church. The second week, we left the lights on in the church and we left the door open and nobody went in. The third week we arranged a prayer station. It was a simple thing – just a small, square table with the Ukrainian flag at the front and candles at each side. We had an area for people to light their own candle if they wanted to. And we put on it some prayer cards with specific prayers that they use in Ukraine.

We also made up our own bookmarks, using a variety of help with the translation of the Ukrainian Lord's prayer on one side and translated into English in the other. So there we were, this third week, the first week that we'd set up a prayer table. And people were drawn because it was very central; by the Ukrainian

(Continued on page 10)

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flag and the fact that there were candles. And it was quite amazing and very moving. Two boys aged 11 went up to the prayer station, looked at it, read it and both of them crossed themselves and went back to play. And they were followed by a little girl aged 10. She got hold of one of the cards that I was handing out and she read the Our Father in Ukrainian and then passed the card to me, indicating that I had to read it in English. So together, we prayed.

The most amazing experience, I'll just tell you, I'll call her Marcia. That's not her real name. The first week that Marcia came, she had said she was reluctant to come because she really didn't want to talk to anybody about Ukraine. She was very traumatized. And so the first week she came and it was really hard to convince her to have a cup of tea and that it wasn't going to cost her any money. We've now got very adept at working with apps that you speak into, and it translates it into Ukrainian and vice versa. They do the same with us. So she had a cup of tea but didn't talk to anybody. The second week Marcia came back, she had a cup of tea and a piece of cake. And she was talking to one of the Ukrainians. The third week when we got the prayer station up, as I

walked down the aisle, she was hovering at the door. So with just sign language we said she could light a candle. She stood for a long time in front of the altar. It was invitational, we didn't ask anybody to go. It's there for anybody, or nobody, and most people didn't. But some did. And it was incredibly moving.

Robin Stevens



Monthly Soup & Sandwich Lunch at St Andrews Church

1st Tuesday of the month

Next Lunch is 6th September
Future dates 4th October,
1st November, 6th December

Join us for lunch once a month,
for companionship & fellowship
(and food of course!!)
We would love to see you.

No cost.
Donations gratefully received

Time: 12:00 noon – 1:30pm
Contact: Revd Terry Brown for
more details on 01245 698988



Sunday 25th September at 10am

In our Harvest Festival, we celebrate God's goodness in our creation. We bring to mind God's call on us to be abundant and generous in the sharing of God's goodness with others, for example with the Foodbank. Please bring along to this service any Harvest donations for the Foodbank.

Food items needed especially tinned rice (pudding), tinned fish, tinned fruit, tinned potatoes, tinned spaghetti, tinned meat and long life milk, coffee -small/medium jars, instant mash potato (packets and medium boxes) pasta sauce, sponge puddings, jam and marmalade, packets of biscuits, sweets and chocolate bars, non-food items, kitchen roll, washing up liquid, washing tablets, nappies size 6 and larger.



A special service for All Souls Day Time to Remember Sunday 30th October at 3 pm at St Andrew's church

Every year near to All Souls Day churches hold special services of remembering which provide an opportunity for people to remember their loved ones. It is equally appropriate for people who lost a loved one a long time ago or very recently. The service will last about an hour and it will be simple, quiet and peaceful. We will read out the names of those to be remembered and you will be invited to light a candle in their memory. Please tell others of your family, your friends and neighbours and invite them to come too. It is a time for quiet reflection and peace. Please write names on the list at the back of the church or email names to Revd. Terry tgabrown@hotmail.com



Flower Report

Congratulations to Kris and Marisa, married in May at St Andrew's. Lots of beautiful seasonal British flowers from Spalding with just a few imported to create the wedding flowers for their very special day. Foliage supplied by the bride's family and Keith, the churchyard gardener. Everything arranged in water without using floral foam.



The flower arranging team decorated the church for the Jubilee in June. Another chance to improve our skills with a workshop as we continue to develop our sustainable practices. We used mesh cages and, of course, seasonal British grown flowers in red, white and blue, so fitting for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee as many imported flowers were not available in 1952.



Interested in joining the team? We welcome new arrangers. No experience necessary.

Booking for Christmas Wreath Workshops will open in September.



Contact Lesley via email ljworboys@gmail.com for more details.
Lesley Worboys

Confess

A man walked into a minister's study and confessed: "I think I'm addicted to Twitter." The minister looked at him and replied, "Sorry, I don't follow you."



The Platinum Jubilee Flower Displays



Chelmsford City Council Review of Local Plan

The consultation is open for comments till 6th October.

For more information go to chelmsford.gov.uk/lp-review or phone 01245 606330.

See the poster in church for face to face exhibition details.





Sunday 13th November 10am Remembrance Day service

All are welcome as we remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

WE WILL RE MEMBER THEM

Please join our uniformed organisations for this special service

Choral Evensong

Patronal Festival for St. Andrew

Friday 25th November at 7:30pm

Do come and join us for this beautiful evening service

Service followed
by cheese and wine.

All are most welcome to join us.

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Cover Picture

The picture was taken by Joe Harris on 31st July and shared on a Butts Green WhatsApp group.

Jane Willis writes,

A couple of weeks ago I was having some building work done in the bathroom. The bathroom installer and I were having a gentle moan about the high temperatures and humidity. He was more entitled than me to do so, as his job meant he needed to go into our loft. Working in the loft of a bungalow is no joke when outside temperatures are approaching 30 degrees.

When I remarked that we were very fortunate not to be dodging shells in Ukraine he began singing 'Always look on the bright side of life'. I think he was being ironic, because he thought I was behaving in a naively optimistic and hopeful way— but I really meant it.

Easy for me to say – because life in Butts Green Road is mainly threatened only by unwelcome development, speeding cyclists and the occasional abandoned Ford Fiesta. Perhaps it is our moral duty to find pleasure in our surroundings and the unexpected tiny joys of daily life. This picture of the bean harvest in the fields behind Butts Green Road gave me an immediate mood lift; the perfect summer sky, straw coloured field, the dust-emitting harvest in the distance and the beautiful rural view made the perfect background to the children's enthusiastic curiosity about what was happening over their back fence.

Perhaps pictures like this can help us re-ignite our own curiosity and enthusiasm in the face of the continual onslaught of bad news.



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Hope for Tomorrow

Judy and I found ourselves on a 3-week Lent course in St Andrew's. Except this one was in Great Yeldham. It's hard to go much further north than Great Yeldham and remain in Essex. But tucked away there is an interesting minister, Justin Tompkins, who seems, with his wife and 2 children, to have a thriving ministry. Justin studied for a PhD in Chemistry and so spend several years in research, taught Chemistry at secondary school prior to training for ordination. This background has given him an interest in where science and technology might be taking us and how Christians might respond. This was the basis of the Lent course which was entitled 'Hope for Tomorrow', the title of a book recently published by Justin. It follows on from another book by Justin called 'Enhanced Humans or Better People'.

I hadn't realised the extent of this, but a number of thinkers have come up with quite radical visions for how technology and science might be used in the future and how that might affect our thinking. Justin's overall theme is that the individual Christian, and probably more so Christians collectively, should be thinking about the general principles that can be applied to decide how folk might

respond to these ideas. But first some examples of the ideas that some are suggesting. The introduction begins, "You may remember the 2013 advert for the French manufacturer Le Trèfle. A husband teases his wife, Emma, for her old-fashioned reliance on paper rather than his technological alternatives. She uses paper-based worksheets, sticky notes, a puzzle book, a boarding pass and a novel. He has electronic versions of them all: all of them, that is, until he finds himself in the bathroom with the toilet paper gone. The advert ends with his look of shocked recognition when she passes him his electronic notepad under the bathroom door. On its display is a photo of a roll of toilet paper!"

Justin references a book called 'The Singularity is Near' by inventor and futurist, Ray Kurzweil. It is a 2005 non-fiction book about artificial intelligence and the future of humanity. (By singularity is normally meant a place where the laws of physics break down.) The book builds on the ideas introduced in Kurzweil's previous books, *The Age of Intelligent Machines* (1990) and *The Age of Spiritual Machines* (1999). Kurzweil describes his law of accelerating returns which predicts an exponential increase in technologies like computers,

genetics, nanotechnology, robotics and artificial intelligence. Once the Singularity has been reached, Kurzweil says that machine intelligence will be infinitely more powerful than all human intelligence combined. Afterwards he predicts intelligence will radiate outward from the planet until it saturates the universe. The Singularity is also the point at which machines' intelligence and humans would merge.

Some will find such ideas abhorrent. Others welcome them. But what might a Christian think and why? It is not very constructive to just bury one's head in the sand.

Justin describes a biblical response setting such ideas alongside what might be considered 5 stages in the overall Bible story, namely: In the Beginning, A Life of Awe and Wonder; Israel and the Law, A Life of Freedom; The Incarnation, A Well-fitting Life; Resurrection and New Creation, A Life with a Future; and The Church, Living in the Moment.

Quoting from his book, "From tech billionaires to Amish farmers, from toddlers born into a world of smart phones to pensioners without email access, from those

who are hungry but on social media to Silicon Valley youth whose tech-rich parents limit their screen time, each of will find ourselves somewhere on a matrix of technological engagement.

"How do we assess our own responses to technology? What possible relevance can a Middle Eastern figure from 2000 years ago have for the world of 5G, Zoom and online shopping? What does it mean to be human in a world of AI? How do I live with hope in a world which prompts me to fear? Am I a bad parent if I don't buy my son a smartphone?"

"Justin invites readers to engage with these questions and more by journeying through stories including those of new species, virtual bodies, thousand-year-old humans, million-dollar races and robotic priests. Justin invites the reader to face the future with hope by exploring how the overarching story of the Bible sheds light on some of the most pressing issues of the today and tomorrow."

I commend Justin Tompkins' work to you. *Richard Cecil*

Broken?

How do you fix a broken website? With stick e-tape.

Church Services

St. Andrew's, Sandon

Services currently planned online via Zoom are shown in italics.

September

Sunday 4th

Trinity 12

10:00 am Sung Eucharist

9:30 am Communion

Tuesday 6th

Wednesday 7th

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

Sunday 11th

Trinity 13

8:00 am Communion

10:00 am Family Service

Tuesday 13th

Wednesday 14th

9:30 am Communion

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

Sunday 18th

Trinity 14

10:00 am Sung Eucharist

3:00 pm Worship at Howe Green URC

Tuesday 20th

Wednesday 21st

9:30 am Communion

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

Saturday 24th

12:30 pm Harvest Lunch at Howe Green URC

Sunday 25th

Trinity 15

10:00 am Harvest Festival

9:30 am Communion

Tuesday 27th

Wednesday 28th

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

October

Sunday 2nd

Trinity 16

10:00 am Sung Eucharist

9:30 am Communion

Tuesday 4th

Wednesday 5th

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

Sunday 9th

Trinity 17

8:00 am Communion

10:00 am Confirmation

Tuesday 11th

Wednesday 12th

9:30 am Communion

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

Sunday 16th

Tuesday 18th

Wednesday 19th

Sunday 23rd

Tuesday 25th

Wednesday 26th

Sunday 30th

November

Tuesday 1st

Wednesday 2nd

Sunday 6th

Tuesday 8th

Wednesday 9th

Sunday 13th

Tuesday 15th

Wednesday 16th

Sunday 20th

Tuesday 22nd

Wednesday 23rd

Friday 25th

Sunday 27th

Tuesday 29th

Wednesday 30th

Trinity 18

10:00 am Sung Eucharist

3:00 pm Worship at Howe Green URC

9:30 am Communion

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

Bible Sunday

10:00 am Morning Worship

9:30 am Communion

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

All Saints' Day

10:00 am Sung Eucharist

3:00 pm Time to Remember

9:30 am Communion

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

3rd before Advent

10:00 am Sung Eucharist

9:30 am Communion

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

2nd before Advent

8:00 am Communion

10:00 am Remembrance Sunday

9:30 am Communion

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

Christ the King

10:00 am Sung Eucharist

3:00 pm Worship at Howe Green URC

9:30 am Communion

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

7:30 pm St Andrew's Day Service

Advent

10:00 am Morning Worship

9:30 am Communion

8:30 pm *Night Prayer*

Saint Andrew's Parish Church Contacts

Rector	Revd. Terry Brown* tgabrown@hotmail.com 01245 698988	
Church Wardens	Richard Cecil**	224747
	Andy Horne*	475279
PCC Secretary	Judy Cecil**	224747
PCC Treasurer	Nick Bobeldijk*	471756
Safeguarding Officer	Alison Read*	474858
Electoral Roll	Liz Bobeldijk*	471756
Bell Ringing	Andy Horne*	475279
Tiny Tots	Alison Read*	474858
Flower Arranging	Lesley Worboys	224612
Organ	Cathie Horne*	475279
Choir	Gill Haddington	476598
Magazine Editor	Richard Cecil**	224747
Parochial Church Council Members	as * above and Colin Bryan ⁺ , David Farrar ⁺ , John Gruby, Christine Mennie ⁺ , and Janet Terry ⁺	

Authorised to assist in the distribution of Holy Communion

As ⁺ above and Valerie Grimwood and Gill Hodge

Regular Events see centre pages for full details of worship.

2 nd Sunday of the month	8:00 am	Holy Communion in Church
Sundays	10:00 am	Morning Worship/Communion
Tuesdays	9:30 am	Holy Communion
	7:30 pm	Ringling Practice
Wednesday (Zoom) sandon-church.info	8:30 pm	Night Prayer
Thursday (Zoom) compasschurches.org.uk	8:30 am	Compass Group Morning Prayer
Thursday	7:00 pm	Choir Practice

Zoom services links can be found at the websites just prior to the service.



St Andrew's, Sandon

www.sandon-church.info

Editor Richard Cecil
Advertising Claire Jefferies
Proof Reader Valerie Grimwood
Distribution Manager Alison Read
Copy for December's magazine
by 10th November 2022 please.
magazine@sandon-church.info

Howe Green URC

We have had some good services at the Chapel during the summer, and have enjoyed the discussions which took place after a question or two from Paul (our Minister). It is good to be talking face to face again.

Thanks to all those who supported our Strawberry Tea Afternoon, when we had a good time together. Our next event will be the Harvest Lunch on 24th September from 12.30 p.m. when we welcome you all to join us again.

We commended into God's care
Roy Smith 26th May

We welcomed at their Baptism
Lucy Renaldo 26th June
Zack William Fourceaud 10th July
Penelope Elizabeth Richardson
14th August

We celebrate as these couples are joined in matrimony
Crispin Drummond Arthur
Simpson and Marissa Antoinette
Jones 20th May
James Longley and Charlotte
Collins 23rd July
William Gilder and Emily Alecock
30th July
Michael Ian David Miller and
Lauren Josephine Hawkins
12th August
James Richard George Jaffa and
Millie Daria Ramsey 13th August

Our regular monthly services will be on 18th September, 16th October and 20th November at 3.00 p.m.
Pam Knott

Revd Paul Stein, who is the minister at Christ Church URC in Chelmsford, and whose role has been to oversee Howe Green URC, has given his notice and is due to leave his responsibilities in the area. He writes, "Yes I am moving pastorate, and I've no problem if you put that in your magazine."
Richard Cecil

Made for More

As we enter the summer holidays, I wanted to thank everyone involved with Made for More.

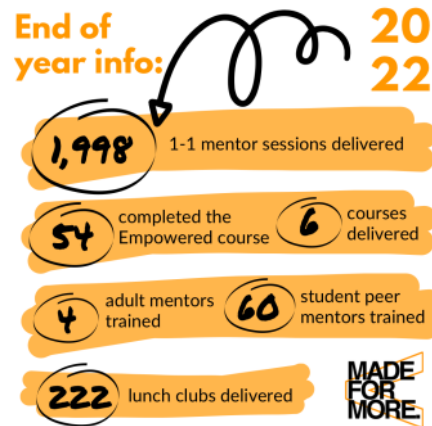
The dedication has been nothing short of inspiring, from the Board of Trustees and advisors, to our staff, volunteers and you, our supporters. We have all played our part in the huge success of Made for More.

This is our first complete year since the COVID-19 pandemic.

We chose to respond to the demand with vigour, passion, enthusiasm and responsibility, knowing that our young people needed the support more than ever.

Not only did we provide our usual services, comprising of one-to-one mentoring and lunch clubs, we also included peer to peer mentor training and Bereavement training which was delivered by the team at Farleigh Hospice. Kate Gowen and Lynsey Wells worked tirelessly on composing and designing 'The Empowered Course' - a new 6 week well-being course unique to Made for More. To see the course impacting the youngsters as it is rolled out is superb!

I am thrilled to share with you some up to date statistics of our work. Together we achieved this and together we are making a huge difference in the lives of



Chelmsford's young people.

Finances

We are grateful for additional funding this year from the Essex County Council and Chelmsford City Council, allowing us to pilot and deliver 6 Empowered courses.

However, a combination of COVID-19 and increased living costs, has resulted in a general decline in monthly support. I appreciate times are tough and the demand on finances is especially challenging at present. As a charity we need to ensure we are sustainable as we carry out our mission in Chelmsford and we are fully dependent on the support of generous individuals, churches, and other organisations.

If you are in a position where you would like to start giving on a monthly basis to our work, we would be very appreciative.

Alternatively, you may already be giving and be in a position to increase your monthly amount.

We would be extremely grateful should this be a possibility. If you do have any questions regarding this, please contact me or visit our website to give directly through the Stewardship link:

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20024622>

Thank you for all the love, prayers, time, support and generosity you have displayed throughout this year.

I hope you are encouraged by our work and I look forward to September, anticipating new opportunities as we believe in the young people of Chelmsford. Together, we believe in our young people.

Yours Sincerely, Tim Button
Director Made for More

(St Andrew's are giving £10 per month to Made for More.)



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Sponsored Walk

18th June

This year our walk was a repeat of last year's walk but in an anticlockwise direction. It was well supported by walkers and 'eaters' (lunch only).

Twenty-one of us left Sandon Church Car Park at 10:45 am returning after a 4 mile hike at 12 noon approx. Some were a trifle earlier having completed a shortened (unauthorised?) route. No names here except his name begins with G and he wore a distinctly red Tee shirt! Answers in a sealed envelope please!

It was a fact that that the ages of our walkers went from 9 to 80!

Lunch was well served by the Crown and we thank the extra lunching supporters!



Some 90 minutes later a smaller party of 13 walkers left to do an afternoon 4 miles walk leaving the rest still enjoying themselves.

N.B. It was the first time that Rev. Terry was discovered wearing shorts!

The final group got back about 3:30 pm at the Crown and congratulated themselves by having a drink in the rain!

Thanks to all who took part or sponsored us so well. Altogether we raised about £750 for Christian Aid. Thank you again.
David Farrar





Beneath the Indian Bean Tree We Sit

Beneath the Indian Bean Tree we sit
 As sun's golden rays - the dappled leaves catch
 Onto welcome bench, we do ourselves submit
 Together, alone from a world detached.
 The turf lays lush, in softened shaded space
 The blades of grass, a faint warming breeze catch
 As daisy heads, rear white as patterned lace
 Beauty of nature, no photo can match.

The chiming bells - lay silent for so long
 Now toll their note, as sleeping stones still lay
 Never again to hear sonorous birds throng
 Never again, feel a warming sun's ray.

The churchyard now still, as shadows lengthen
 This time with trees a briefer redemption

Richard Simmonds 9th July 2022.

Women's Institute

We met on 12th May for our Annual Meeting. The meeting followed a Ploughman's lunch and apple pie and cream, superbly arranged and served by Sue Wells. After this excellent meal the business section of the meeting commenced. The committee was voted in again with the inclusion of Sue Wells. After the business member Val Chiswell described her travels in Crimea, then in Ukraine, when her husband visited the battlefields of the Crimean War. Val had brought along a souvenir booklet showing some marvellous artefacts, paintings, icons and ceramics etc. We were able to appreciate why the Ukrainians are so proud of their country and heritage.

On the 9th June we celebrated Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a cream tea. The Village Hall was bedecked with bunting - Union Jacks and Jubilee insignia everywhere! The delicious scones were mostly made by Fran Luke, who also supplied the sandwiches and cakes were served to the members by Julie Fisher and Sue Wells. The celebrations continued after this super tea with a couple of Jubilee inspired games of bingo followed by a royalty

themed quiz. With a Jubilee Raffle at the end of the afternoon all the members went home happy that they had celebrated in style.

Ms Helen Beard from the charity Pets As Therapy (or PATs) was welcomed on the 14th July along with her two black Labradors Sapphire and Steel. In her talk Helen described how the charity was started by a lady in County Durham who took her pet along with her when she visited a care home. This was greeted with great scepticism, but was in fact such a success that it soon became a national charity which is not only beneficial in care homes but also in hospitals etc. It was found that dementia patients benefited from interaction with a pet, usually a dog but in some cases a cat, and it helped soothe them and improve their quality of life. Sapphire and Steel were very friendly, roaming amongst the members and were very well behaved.

Monica Richardson

Hearing is not believing

A wise schoolteacher sent this note to all parents on the first day of school: "If you promise not to believe everything your child says happens at school, I'll promise not to believe everything he or she says happens at home."

Danbury And Villages Rotary

We are still collecting unwanted bicycles to help locally based refugees and their children. Call Soroush on 01245 221564 to arrange collection. Refurbishment can be arranged if necessary! To raise funds for our charity account, we are planning a prize draw, a treasure hunt and a quiz. For the treasure hunt, entrants pay £10, and have to answer fifteen clues to have a chance of winning a beautiful framed original oil painting of a snow leopard. The questions are available from geof.clark@hotmail.co.uk and

entries must be returned to him before 20th September. The quiz will be at Danbury Sports Centre on 16th September from 7.00pm. Entry is £10, which includes a fish and chip supper (or alternatives). Details from david.denyer@btinternet.com. Finally, tickets for the prize draw are £5 and obtainable from derek.202@btinternet.com. Prizes include a meal for two at Le Bouchon and also Blue Strawberry and a cricket bat signed by the Essex team, including Alastair Cook. Details of all these are on our website danburyandvillagesrotary.co.uk.

Eric Cater

Virologist's Report

We are still battling Covid 19 and the next thing is here already. The NILE Virus, type C. Virologists have identified a new Nile virus type C It appears to target those who were born between 1940 and 1970

Symptoms:

1. Causes you to send the same message twice.
2. Causes you to send a blank message.
3. Causes you to send a message to the wrong person.

4. Causes you to send it back to the person who sent it to you.
 5. Causes you to forget to attach the attachment.
 6. Causes you to hit SEND before you've finished.
 7. Causes you to hit DELETE instead of SEND
 8. Causes you to SEND when you should DELETE
- It is called the C-NILE virus!

And if you can't admit to doing the above you've obviously caught the mutated strain, the D-NILE virus.

From David Farrar

That Sermon!

Bishop Mike Royal experiences history being made at the National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast.

The National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast has been a fixture in the ecumenical calendar for many years. Led by Christians in Parliament and attended by 700 delegates, it is an opportunity for church and Christian leaders to invite their local MP's to gather at Westminster for fellowship and prayer. It involves representatives from across the political spectrum, and is one of the few opportunities in the year where politicians like Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat); Janet Daby (Labour) and Danny Kruger (Conservative) stand together side-by-side in Christian prayer and faith. This year, we were honoured that Rev Les Isaac OBE, founder of Street Pastors, was the guest speaker. His speech was a masterclass, laced with humour but also challenge. As the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and several Cabinet Ministers listened, Les' words particularly struck the Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP. He took the decision to resign from the Cabinet and cited Les' sermon as part of the reason for making this decision.

Later that day, in his resignation speech in Parliament, Sajid Javid said "this House broke bread together at the Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast, and listened to the words of Rev Les Isaac who spoke about the responsibility that comes with leadership: the responsibility to serve the interests of others above your own and to seek the common good." In a later interview with the BBC, Sajid Javid elaborated on this, saying "I was listening to the sermon by this amazing man, Rev Les Isaac...he started Street Pastors. I was listening to him talking about the importance of integrity in public life and just focusing on that, I made up my mind. I ...drafted the resignation letter and went to see the Prime Minister".

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Lambeth Conference

We have just returned from an extraordinary, intense and moving Lambeth Conference, in which we gathered with bishops from across the Anglican Communion to discuss and pray for many of the most profound issues affecting the world and the church. The theme of 'God's Church for God's World' directed our thoughts and attention away from the internal divisions and disagreements of the church, and towards a world that is in desperate need of the healing balm of the Gospel.

Within the context of prayer, worship and bible study, we discussed a wide range of issues. Perhaps the theme to which we gave the greatest attention was the urgent and catastrophic issue of climate change. We heard from Bishops whose islands in the Pacific are sinking under rising sea levels and others experiencing severe weather events, including drought, floods and fires. Member churches of the Anglican Communion have a unique perspective on this issue as our 'call' pointed out: We are the people facing devastation in disaster-stricken communities.

We are all the polluters, especially in wealthy countries.

We are people living in poverty and on the margins.

We wield power and political influence.

We are experiencing loss and damage of our land, homes and livelihoods.

We are investors with financial capital.

We are first-responders to disasters and those who accompany communities on the journey of recovery and resilience.

Of course, the press coverage of the Conference has often focussed on other matters – and particularly the 'call' on Human Dignity and the various statements issued by various groups. Please don't believe all the headlines you may have seen or heard. Many of them do not reflect the reality of what we have experienced during our time at the Conference. We encourage you to read both Archbishop Justin's letter and his address during the session on Human Dignity. Links to both of these can be found at the end of this letter.

We deeply regret that Bishops and their spouses from Nigeria, Rwanda and Uganda were not with us, having followed the call by their Archbishops to boycott the Conference.

It is also painfully disappointing that the impression given by the media was that we were spending large amounts of our time discussing same sex relations

and passing judgement on our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. This simply was not the case. For one session (part of an afternoon), we discussed the call on 'human dignity' within our small groups with whom we had already spent much time studying the Scriptures. Nonetheless, we are deeply conscious of the hurt and upset that some have felt, and we very much want to affirm and celebrate the gift of LGBTQI+ people in and for the church.

God's love embraces all. In a wide-ranging 'call' that summoned action on global poverty, sustainable development and prejudice (including homophobia), it was acknowledged that, while many Provinces continue to affirm that same-sex marriage is not permissible, other Provinces have blessed and welcomed same-sex union/marriage after careful theological reflection and a process of reception. The 'call' made clear that, as Bishops in the Anglican Communion, we remain committed to listening and walking together to the maximum possible degree, despite our deep disagreements on these issues. A great deal of pressure was put upon the Archbishop of Canterbury (largely from voices outside the Conference) to take punitive action against Provinces which have authorised same-sex

unions. But Archbishop Justin stated very forcibly, 'I neither have, nor do I seek, the authority to discipline or exclude a church of the Anglican Communion. I will not do so.'

The end result is that, in the words of the Bishop of Monmouth, 'we can all go home feeling that we are bound together with something stronger than our context, our experience, our views and opinions, our reading of scripture. We are held together in the love of Christ, and we have to honour the fact that we are working in massively different contexts'. We are possibly more united as an Anglican Communion, despite our deep disagreements, than we have been for some time.

We appreciate that there will be many for whom this does not go far enough. Many will have wanted to see something more decisive. However, it is worth remembering that the Lambeth Conference is not a decision making body, and that the only Statements made by the Conference were in solidarity with troubled Provinces across the Anglican Communion whose situations we continue to hold in our prayers.

As the Church of England, we have been committed to a long

(Continued on page 32)

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The Bells

*'Zeit gibt und nimmt alles'
Time gives and takes all*

The bells lay silent, day and night;
Years of labour, took their toll
Like human frailty - cracks and wear,
Yes time had wrought its pains – had stole.

The bells I now hear Tuesday eve,
Caught on the breeze this summer night;
Now heard the same as cent'ries past,
Sounds of comfort – sounds of delight.

I think of time past, long ago;
Before the age of watch and `phones
When sons of the soil, endless tired,
List'ning for those distant tones.

Now go to somewhere quiet and still;
Listen caref'ly and you may hear
The ringing of some distant bell,
The sounds of ages in your ear.

Richard Simmonds 6-7 June 2022.

(Continued from page 31)

process of open listening and reflection under the heading, 'Living in Love and Faith', LLF. We, as your Bishops in the Diocese of Chelmsford, remain fully committed to LLF. We ask for your prayers as the College of Bishops meets a number of times over the next few months, as the process reaches its conclusion, and as we seek to come to a common mind about possible next steps.

Our Link Bishops (including +Qampicha from Marsabit who was unable to attend due to the worsening conditions in his diocese) send their blessings and best wishes. We enjoyed an evening meal with our Kenyan Link Bishops and their spouses, and we also met with Bishop Claude of our Trinidad and Tobago Link. We keep his wife, Dawn, in our prayers as she was unable to attend the Conference and is currently in hospital.

This comes with our continued prayers.

Yours,

+Guli Chelmsford,
+Roger Colchester,
+John Bradwell,
+Lynne Barking

Monthly Lunchtime Concerts in Danbury Church

12.15pm to 1pm

9th September

Organ recital by Hilary Punnett,
Assistant Organist of Chelmsford
Cathedral

14th October

Lynne Creasey with a
programme of music for harp

11th November

Sue Williams and Fiona
Henderson Hill are Secondo and
Primo with their concert of piano
duets

Come along a little earlier for a sandwich lunch, available from 11.45am (and there will also be some delicious cake available), or you are welcome to bring your own lunch, which you may eat during the performance. Entry is free.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. Do go along if you can sing at all. They need all the help they can get.

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Recipe Smoked Mackerel Salad

Serves 4

Ingredients

300g small new potatoes
4 eggs
1½ tablespoons light olive oil
Squeeze of lemon juice
3 spring onions, chopped
55g sweet pickled cucumber, chopped
Small bunch of dill, chopped
Salt and pepper
4 heaped tablespoons mayonnaise
4 tablespoons buttermilk
4 smoked mackerel fillets

Cook the potatoes in boiling water and then drain. Boil the eggs for 7 minutes, then put them into cold water. Quarter the potatoes and put them into a bowl with olive oil, lemon juice, spring onions, pickled cucumber, half the dill and season with salt and pepper.

Separately mix together the mayonnaise and buttermilk.

Shell the eggs while they are still warm and quarter them.

Place the potato mixture on a serving plate, put eggs on top and spoon over half of the dressing and rest of the dill on top.

Flake smoked mackerel on top and spoon the remaining dressing over.

Also delicious with cold beetroot which has been roasted in the oven.

Recipe from Simple by Diana Henry

Narelle Arnold



Terry is offering a £5 prize for the best caption received at caption@sandon-church.info by 31st July.

From last month.

Julie Fisher wins £5 with her winning submission, namely, "Oh come on Richard, I know we are in the choir but how many times do we have to circle you singing ring a ring of roses?"



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