

Sandon Annual Reports 2019



Contents (completed after the meeting with revised Financial Statement and Minutes of 2019 APCM)

Minutes of the 2018 Annual Vestry Meeting	2
Minutes of the 2018 Annual Parochial Church Meeting	2
Minutes of the First 2018-19 Parochial Church Council Meeting	7
Electoral Roll Report	7
Annual Report	7
Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2018	13
Fabric Report	19
Deanery Synod Report	21
Compass Group Churches	22
Christians Together in Chelmsford	22
Howe Green United Reformed Church	23
Baycroft Care Home	23
Bell Ringing Report	24
Bible Reading Notes	24
St. Andrew's Choir	25
Magazine Report	25
Churchyard	25
'Friends of Sandon Church'	26
1 st Sandon Scout Group	26
1 st Sandon Scout Troop	26
Sandon Cubs	27
Sandon Beavers	27
Ladies' Breakfast	27
Community Choir	28
Annual Inter-Village Walk	28
Ride and Stride	29
Flower Rota	29
Flower Festivals and Events	29
Holy Dusters	30
Tiny Tots Toddler Group	30
Soup and Sandwiches	31
Minutes of the 2019 Annual Vestry Meeting	32
Minutes of the 2019 Annual Parochial Church Meeting	32
Minutes of the First 2019-20 Parochial Church Council Meeting	38

Minutes of the 2018 Annual Vestry Meeting

held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 15th April 2018 at 11:30 am

- 1 Opening prayers were led by Revd Terry Brown.
30 members of the electoral roll were present.
- 2 Appointment of Clerk. Richard Cecil was appointed.
- 3 Apologies were received on behalf of Christine Farrar and Dennis Terry.
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2017 Annual Vestry Meeting
Approval was proposed by Christine Mennie, seconded by Judy Cecil and approved unanimously.
- 5 Election of two Churchwardens. Nominations had been received for:-
Michael Puffett proposed by Eileen Bartrup and seconded by Brenda Moyses;
Judy Cecil proposed by Christine Mennie and seconded by Ron Woods.
There being no other nominations Michael and Judy were duly elected.
- 6 Date of Next Meeting –
It was provisionally set as Sunday 21st April 2019, now revised to Sunday 14th April 2019, circa 11:30 am

The Meeting was then closed.

Minutes of the 2018 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 15th April 2018 after the Annual Vestry Meeting

- 1 Notice Convening the Meeting had been displayed on the church door for the previous 2 Sundays.
- 2 Apologies for absence – as for the Annual Vestry meeting.
- 3 Election of Tellers – Revd Pat Cotton and Beryl Puffett were elected.
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2017 Annual Parochial Church Meeting.
Valerie Grimwood proposed and David Farrar seconded approval, which was agreed unanimously.
- 5 Reports as listed below had been circulated (as above) and were noted. The Flower Report was not there then but was noted and in particular Greta Mills' contributions over the years was acknowledged.

- 5.1 Electoral Roll Report – Liz endorsed the report above. the most significant change as a result of the Independent Examiner’s work was to include the Building Fund monies.
- 5.2 Annual Report – David Farrar said that Dr Peter Beattie had brought the Christian Aid material the day before and encouraged the church’s involvement. 5.4 Fabric Report
- 5.3 Financial Report – Nick Bobeldijk explained that 5.5 Deanery Synod Report
- 5.6 Chelmer Crouch and Compass Report
- 5.7 Christians Together in Chelmsford

- 6 Election of Deanery Synod members for 2 years. Following the resignation of the post holders Nick Bobeldijk was elected, leaving one vacancy.
- 7 Election of PCC Members – the following nominations had been received:- Valerie Grimwood proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by Christine Mennie; Denise Carter proposed by Richard Cecil, seconded by Beryl Puffett; John Gruby proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by David Farrar. All were duly elected for 3 years.
- 8 Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer – Liz Bobeldijk was proposed by Christine Mennie, seconded by Judy Cecil and appointed.
- 9 Appointment of Child Protection Officer
Alison Read was proposed by Janet Terry, seconded by Michael Puffett and appointed.
- Appointment of Vulnerable Adult Officer
John Gruby was proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by Janet Terry and appointed.
- 10 Appointment of Independent Examiner
Revd Terry Brown explained that Richard Wheatley was not well enough and very kindly Martin Harcourt-Williams had stepped in on a one off basis. Valerie Grimwood suggested that members of the congregation consider if they can offer suggestions.
- 11 Appointment of Sidesmen and Sideswomen
- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| Colin Bryan | Gill Hodge | Valerie Grimwood |
| Joan Bridger | Anna Cosby | Christine Mennie |
| David Farrar | John Gruby | Denise Carter |
| Kim Davies | Richard Cecil | Pam Norrington |
- Eileen Bartrup
Those on last year’s list (as above) were proposed by Nick Bobeldijk and seconded by David Farrar. Agreed unanimously.

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

13 Rector's Report

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

There is so much to give thanks for over the last year. First, I need to thank the churchwardens, Judy and Michael. They are great wardens to work with. They know their job and they just get on with it to make this a delightful place to come and work and worship. Thank you.

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

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

We need to thank Nick and all our bellringers for their work during the year.

It is so good to hear that we have new recruits and we need to thank Mike Worboys for the training of new members.

We thank Richard particularly for all his work on our church magazine. Our magazine is delivered four times a year to the whole Parish and this is a very important part of our mission.

Also I wish to thank Richard and Judy helping me to run Lent and Advent courses in the nurturing of our congregation as well as preparing food for us to share.

Then there is Tiny Tots with Alison, Gill, Anna, Janet, Kim and Diane every Wednesday. There has been a real growth here with sometimes 16/18 babies and toddlers and of course mums, dads and grandparents. It is such a demonstration of love to these families. I love the playdoh.

Then there are the excellent flower arrangers who beautify our church all the year but particularly at the festivals of Christmas and Easter. I am very thankful to Lesley Worboys who has kindly taken on the role of co-ordinator. This Easter we had the wonderful display of Lilies with the names of loved ones in frames. Such a lovely idea.

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

Also thanks to Liz for all her work in maintaining the electoral roll. Just a warning Liz, you have a big job next year as the whole of the Electoral Roll is redone.

Thanks to Dennis for the pew sheet.

For all the helpers in the churchyard and for taking part in the Essex Competition for the Best Kept Churchyard. For Christine and all her hard

work in the churchyard and her enthusiasm in arranging churchyard mornings. Also for Christine in bringing together our cleaning volunteers, The Holy dusters, once a month. We could do with others to join us.

The uniformed organisations and the way they are coming to Church Parades and wanting to come up to the church for various badge work, etc. Just yesterday I spoke to Charles the leader of the Explorer Scouts who wanted a service on St George's Day. Next Sunday around ten young people with their leaders will be attending our 10 am service.

Lots to give thanks for last year.

Tea on the Green last August with 170 people with the Salvation Army Band. John Wraw, Bishop of Bradwell was due to preach at this event, but sadly Bishop John died in July 2017. We were fortunate in having a challenging talk from the Archdeacon of Southend, Mike Lodge, who stepped in to help us. Bishop John did join us in May when he came and licensed and inducted me as your Rector. This came as a wonderful occasion when the community came together.

We continue our relationship with Sandon School, taking assemblies to all year groups once a term. I will begin doing the visits and the follow up lessons in June.

Ladies' and men's breakfasts continued last year but sadly the men's breakfasts have stopped since January as we work out what the future is for the men. We look forward to inviting both speakers and new people to these mornings held at Butts Green garden centre.

We were fortunate in receiving a grant from the government and with the hard work of Anna we obtained other grants to enable us to have the roof retiled during January and February last year. We are grateful to Sandon School as we held seven services in the school which enabled us to save time on the building plan and also meant that we didn't need to clean up every Saturday for the Sunday services. This year we were able to retille the north slope of the chancel. We hope that our church building is now in a good state of repair and we look forward to receiving our quinquennial inspection in the next month.

We held a Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 30th when we welcomed the Mayor, Canon Ivor Moody from the Cathedral to preach, our Architect and the workmen who carried out the work on the roof. Thanks to Maldon Choral Society who provided music for the occasion.

Last year we were pleased that Judy became our Pastoral Assistant and one of the results was the setting up of a shepherd and a small group of people to look out for. This is a very important step made in the pastoral care of our congregation. We hope that this will be of benefit to all.

Last year we also began to work closer with the United Reformed Church in Howe Green. There have been various social events including coffee mornings, a church crawl around four churches stopping at each one for a different course in the lunch, Fairtrade wine tasting evening but above all meeting together in worship. We have held café church, as well as traditional URC worship on various Sunday afternoons, Tea on the Green, Carol services at both churches. We intend to deepen this friendship more and more. Last year a lot of work was put in to form a new MMU (mission and ministry unit) group of churches. Our original seven Chelmer Crouch Churches have now joined with five other churches in the area. We had our Commissioning Service in February and now we look forward to working together in the future. There will be the Quiet day in Bradwell in June, Ascension Day services in Ramsden Bellhouse, Stock and Sandon. We are looking towards other joint events in September as well as a joint Alpha course in the autumn. So what are our priorities for 2018?

Just three things to put at the top of our list;

The first is a challenge. For a number of years members of the congregation have bought the New Daylight bible notes. Our first priority this year is to have more members of the congregation growing in their faith and becoming Disciples of Christ. To this end the next copy of Daily Light is issued in May. All members of the congregation will be given a free copy and asked to try to use it for the four months up to the end of August. The aim is to meet up two or three times either during a morning or an evening with a cup of tea/coffee and help each other in what we have read and how we are challenged. I do hope everyone will take up this challenge and learn how to spend a few minutes each day reading the bible.

Our second priority for the year is to increase our prayer time each day. Between Ascension Day and Pentecost there will be Thy Kingdom Come when our Archbishop asks us to prayer. I will be setting up an hour each day when we will ask all members of the congregation to pray for five minutes. Material will be available for you to use. Let's make sure that we all become involved in this.

Our third priority this year is the ministry of invitation. In the notices I often ask you to an event and say bring a friend. I would like us to take this seriously this year. We have lots of special services and events which we can invite someone along.

I hope and pray that by this time next year all our congregation will have a stronger faith and that the numbers of people involved in our church will increase.

14 Concerns / Questions to be Expressed / Asked – There were none.

15 Date of Next Meeting

It was provisionally set as Sunday 21st April 2019, now revised to Sunday 14th April 2019, circa 11:30 am.

- 16 Closing Prayers were said by Revd Terry Brown, giving thanks for all present, all in Sandon and seeking guidance for all and sought from the Lord the fruits of the Spirit followed by collectively saying the Grace.

The Meeting was then closed.

Minutes of the First 2018-19 Parochial Church Council Meeting

held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 15th April 2018 after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

- 1 Appointment of Vice Chairman – Judy Cecil was proposed by Janet Terry, seconded by Valerie Grimwood and appointed.
- 2 Appointment of PCC Treasurer – Nick Bobeldijk was proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by Michael Puffett and appointed.
- 3 Appointment of PCC Secretary – No appointment was made. To be considered at the next PCC meeting.
- 4 Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer – Liz Bobeldijk had already been appointed by the APCM immediately prior to this meeting.
- 5 Next meeting dates
21st May and then provisionally 3rd Monday of odd months.

Electoral Roll Report

This is a year when a complete new roll is required, meaning everyone wishing to be included on the electoral roll was required to fill in a form. A total of 15 people were removed from the roll; 7 resident in the parish and 8 non-resident. A total of 14 people were added to the roll; 13 of who were resident and 1 of who was non-resident.

The total for the roll is 70, comprising 39 resident and 31 non-resident.

Liz Bobeldijk (Electoral Roll Officer)

Annual Report

Aims and Purposes

St Andrew's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent Revd Terry Brown (Terry), in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building and Churchyard at The Green, Sandon.

Objectives and Activities



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

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

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

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

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

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

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year which our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling.

This year we have continued to welcome families and visitors into our church to the family service on the 2nd Sunday morning each month at 10 am.

All are welcome to attend our regular services of sung Communion at 10 am on the other Sundays, as well as a said communion on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am. At present there are 70 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 31 are not resident within the parish. The average weekly attendance is 38, though average numbers counted during October were 45 as we celebrated Harvest festival at that time. Numbers increased for other special services such as the Memorial service for



loved ones, Patronal festival, Christingle and at Easter and Christmas times. On Easter Day 61 people attended and there were 55 communicants (slightly more communicants than last year, but fewer total attendees), while 337 attended special services during Advent (49 more than 2017). On Christmas Eve and Morning 151 people attended and 56 received communion (slightly fewer than 2017).

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of life's journey. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life completed in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. We have celebrated six Baptisms, two weddings, one wedding blessing and held eight funerals in our church this year. Ashes have also been buried in the garden of remembrance after cremations.

We have a committed and enthusiastic team of bell ringers who ring each Sunday morning before the 10 am service and on other occasions. This year was a special year during which we commemorated the 1400 bell ringers who died in the First World War. A recruitment drive has brought in over 2000 ringers nationally and in Sandon we thank Mike Worboys who has given many hours of his time to teach new recruits. As a result we have six new regular ringers who have joined the St Andrew's band. Our Choir continues to sing and enhance worship at services supported by our faithful organist Ron Woods.

We have held regular bible study courses during the year – looking at New Daylight daily readings and more recently during Advent we followed the Bible society ' Bible Course' which encouraged us to understand an overview of the bible noting pointers towards Jesus.

Deanery Synod and Compass Churches

One lay member of the PCC and the incumbent sit on the deanery synod. (There is one lay vacancy). This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. This year the PCC continues to explore working as part of the Compass Churches Mission. Compass churches is composed of St Andrew's together with our 11 neighbouring churches, with Terry as clergy chair and Richard Cecil as a council member. Compass churches are running an Alpha Course starting on 16th January 2019.

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

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

Work on the North slope of the chancel roof was completed by Cater Roofing using the remainder of the government grant and donations from the PCC and the Friends



of Sandon church. The Friends also part financed the straightening of the Gibson Memorial Cross which stands in the churchyard close to the main church door. The remainder of funds came from Queens' College, our Patrons, in remembrance of Stanley Gibson, one of their alumni. The Quinquennial inspection of the church building was carried out in May by our architect David Ferguson. Thankfully there are only minor works to be done. The PCC will address the recommendations over the next 12 months.

Each Wednesday in term time the St Andrew's Room and church are used by our Tiny Tots mothers and toddlers group. Up to 20 children and their carers have been regular attendees. There was also a teddy bear's picnic, a summer party for Tots old and new, and a family party in the autumn.

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

The PCC agreed to start a monthly Soup and Sandwich lunch in December for local people to get together on the first Tuesday of the month at 12 noon. A monthly men's lunch group has met twice and there are plans to hold future lunches on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Pastoral Care

Terry and church members have been visiting the two local Nursing Homes and offering lay led communion to some of the residents and staff once each month. In October one of the Homes closed and sadly, residents were moved to other homes around Essex. Terry is a governor at the local secondary school and visits to lead assembly and as chaplain. Church members visit those who are unwell or not able to get to church and we have set up a more formal group to take some of the load from Terry as he expands his role in other ways.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. The PCC has encouraged fund-raising and a decision was made to continue to support 4 charities during the year to the end of December 2018, giving another £750 to each, representing about 10% of our income for last year. The four charities were CHESS (the local homeless support group), Water Aid, J's Hospice and the Samaritans. Donations were also made to the British Legion and the Children's Society. We have also supported the Chelmsford Foodbank with regular donations of food.

We have enjoyed fundraising concerts by the Anglia Singers and 'The Southend Boys and Girls' choirs. Our summer fete included a dog show and stalls in the

churchyard and raised much needed funds while proceeds from the Christmas Fayre in the village hall also boosted our finances.

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

Ladies breakfasts continue bi-monthly at Butts Green Garden centre. Nine church members took part in the annual Christian Aid week collection.

Our annual outreach 'Tea on the Green' in August again attracted a crowd of over 150 who sang with the Salvation Army Band, listened to a message from Nigel Bolitho and shared in a time of prayer.

Ecumenical Relationships

The church is a member of Christians Together in Chelmsford and The Compass Churches. We have this year supported the local United Reformed Church (URC) at Howe Green by attending their Christmas Carols, Fair-trade coffee morning and a new venture of Cafe church on some Sunday afternoons. One member of the URC congregation has joined us for bible studies. Small groups have attended lay and clergy led courses.

Volunteers

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

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. St Andrew's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), 2 Churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. There are up to 2 deanery synod representatives and there are 9 elected members allowed with 3 elected each year for 3 years. All those who attend our services are encouraged to

register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC. The full PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 80%. Thank you to our electoral roll officer and our vulnerable adult and child safeguarding officers.

Administrative Information

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

c/o The Vicarage, 1 Glebe Meadow, Great Waltham, Chelmsford CM3 1EX.
PCC Members who have served from 1 January 2018 until the date of this report are:

Incumbent: Revd Terry Brown

Wardens: Mrs Judy Cecil from 1 September 2016

Mr Michael Puffett from May 2017

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Mr Nick Bobeldijk elected 2018 for 2 years to May 2020

One vacancy for 2 years to May 2020

Elected members:

Mrs Denise Carter to 2021

Mrs Valerie Grimwood to 2021

Mr Colin Bryan to 2019

Mrs Anna Cosby to 2019

Mrs Janet Terry to 2019

Mr John Gruby to 2021

Mrs Alison Read to 2020

Mrs Claire Jefferies to 2020

Mr Dennis Terry to 2020

PCC secretary (non-voting):

Dr Mike Worboys

Standing Committee:

Incumbent or Chairman, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary and one other PCC member (for this year Alison Read)

Bank: Lloyds TSB, Chelmsford Branch

Examiner: Mr Jeremy Watson

Judy Cecil, Churchwarden

Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

Total receipts from all sources were £56,860 of which £11,908 was unrestricted voluntary donations qualifying for additional Gift Aid and apart from that received through the Parish Giving Scheme. This will be claimed from HMRC early in 2019.

The planned giving through envelopes and direct credits increased by 6.2%. Total income, including tax recovered and a legacy of £2,000 went up by 4.8% compared with 2017. This is excluding receipts and payments made through the Building Maintenance Fund i.e. roof repairs carried out in 2017 and 2018.

£59,168 was spent from all sources to provide the Christian ministry of St Andrew's church, including the contribution to the Diocesan Parish Share which increased by 2.1% this year. Overall, our total expenses increased by 9.2% in 2018 with the largest individual increase being spending on Fabric Maintenance (Other) which included £1,307 spent on replacement Choir Robes and £1,850 for a new shed in the churchyard. A further £800 for the shed base was not paid until early 2019 so is not included in the 2018 accounts.

The net result for the year, if church fabric repairs are excluded, was a surplus of receipts over payments of £3,993. When income and spending from restricted funds, mainly on fabric maintenance i.e. the roof, is included however, as the restricted funds spending exceeded receipts by £6,300, the overall result is an excess of expenditure over income of £2,307. This is the figure that is reflected in these final annual accounts.

Adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December on unrestricted funds totaled £23,118, with a further restricted funds balance of £7,574 giving an overall total of £30,693.

The majority of the net restricted funds balance of £7,574, is the sum of £8,515 remaining in the Building Maintenance Fund which is being retained towards meeting any future costs of fabric repair, re-decoration and refurbishment.

Nick Bobeldijk, Treasurer, 7th April 2019

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts				
Donations and legacies	£39,155.81	—	£39,155.81	£54,263.96
Income from charitable activities	£4,028.33	—	£4,028.33	£4,504.00
Other trading activities	£6,593.58	—	£6,593.58	£7,149.13
Investments	£38.11	—	£38.11	£37.31
Other income	£7,045.00	—	£7,045.00	£55,280.00
Total receipts	£56,860.83	—	£56,860.83	£121,234.40
Payments				
Raising funds	£744.97	—	£744.97	£532.07
Expenditure on charitable activities	£44,018.36	—	£44,018.36	£50,530.86
Other expenditure	£14,404.86	—	£14,404.86	£49,720.13
Total payments	£59,168.19	—	£59,168.19	£100,783.06
Excess of receipts over payments before transfer	(£2,307.36)	—	(£2,307.36)	£20,451.34
Transfers				
Gross transfers between funds - in	£23,444.27	£16,203.72	£39,647.99	£183,537.50
Gross transfers between funds - out	(£16,203.72)	(£23,444.27)	(£39,647.99)	(£183,537.50)
Excess of receipts over payments before other gains / losses	£4,933.19	(£7,240.55)	(£2,307.36)	£20,451.34
Net movement in funds	£4,933.19	(£7,240.55)	(£2,307.36)	£20,451.34
All assets at 01 January 2018	£18,185.20	£14,814.75	£32,999.95	£12,548.61
All assets at 31 December 2018	£23,118.39	£7,574.20	£30,692.59	£32,999.95
Represented by				
Unrestricted				
General fund	£23,118.39	—	£23,118.39	£18,185.20
Restricted				
Restricted Funds	—	£7,574.20	£7,574.20	£14,814.75

Balance Sheet

Class and Code	Description	This year	Last year
Current assets			
6501	Current Account	£237.94	(£2,483.87)
6505	Deposit Account	£30,000.00	£35,000.00
6510	Cash Account	£38.83	£112.45
6520	Deposits Paid Account	£105.00	£105.00
6530	COIF Units Held 461090001T	£562.34	£562.34
	Total Current assets	£30,944.11	£33,295.92
Liabilities			
6610	Building Maintenance Fund	—	—
6620	Diocesan Board of Finance	—	—
6640	Treasurer's Expenses	—	—
6650	Friends of Sandon Church	—	—
6660	Rector's Fees & Expenses	—	(£124.03)
6670	Sponsored Flowers	£77.52	£95.00
6680	Tiny Tots	£174.00	£325.00
	Total Liabilities	£251.52	£295.97
	Net Asset surplus(deficit)	£30,692.59	£32,999.95
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	(£2,307.36)	—
Z01	Starting balances	£32,999.95	£32,999.95
	Total Reserves	£30,692.59	£32,999.95
Represented by funds			
	Unrestricted	£23,118.39	£18,185.20
	Designated	—	—
	Restricted	£7,574.20	£14,814.75
	Endowment	—	—
	Total	£30,692.59	£32,999.95

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	General	Restricted	This year	Last year
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand				
Current Account	£237.94	—	£237.94	(£2,483.87)
Deposit Account	£22,841.62	£7,158.38	£30,000.00	£35,000.00
Cash Account	£38.83	—	£38.83	£112.45
Totals	£23,118.39	£7,158.38	£30,276.77	£32,628.58
Current assets - Debtors				
Deposits Paid Account	—	£105.00	£105.00	£105.00
Totals	—	£105.00	£105.00	£105.00
Current assets - Investments				
COIF Units Held 461090001T	—	£562.34	£562.34	£562.34
Totals	—	£562.34	£562.34	£562.34
Liabilities - Provision for liabilities and charges due within one year				
Rector's Fees & Expenses	—	—	—	(£124.03)
Sponsored Flowers	—	£77.52	£77.52	£95.00
Tiny Tots	—	£174.00	£174.00	£325.00
Totals	—	£251.52	£251.52	£295.97
Grand total	£23,118.39	£7,574.20	£30,692.59	£32,999.95

Fund Movement by Type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Closing
Rest1 - Restricted Funds					
Restricted	£14,814.75	—	—	(£7,240.55)	£7,574.20
Sub-total for Rest1	£14,814.75	—	—	(£7,240.55)	£7,574.20
General - General fund					
Unrestricted	£18,185.20	£56,860.83	£59,168.19	£7,240.55	£23,118.39
Sub-total for General	£18,185.20	£56,860.83	£59,168.19	£7,240.55	£23,118.39
Grand total	£32,999.95	£56,860.83	£59,168.19	—	£30,692.59

Analysis of Receipts and Payments

Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
0101 - Collections - Gift Aided	£317.00	—	£317.00	£471.80
0110 - Direct Credits - Gift Aided	£4,350.00	—	£4,350.00	£4,770.00
0201 - Donations - Gift Aided	£1,145.85	—	£1,145.85	£231.25
0301 - Collections - Non Gift Aided	£195.36	—	£195.36	£253.19
0401 - Direct Credits - Non Gift Aided	£2,394.00	—	£2,394.00	£2,329.00
0410 - Donations - Non Gift Aided	£1,974.30	—	£1,974.30	£19,469.50
0501 - Parish Giving Scheme	£13,734.09	—	£13,734.09	£12,742.54
0510 - Small Donations Scheme	£6,052.54	—	£6,052.54	£6,959.69
0601 - Gift Aid Recovered	£6,992.67	—	£6,992.67	£7,036.99
0701 - Legacies	£2,000.00	—	£2,000.00	—
Total	£39,155.81	—	£39,155.81	£54,263.96

Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
1101 - Parochial Fees	£4,028.33	—	£4,028.33	£4,504.00
Total	£4,028.33	—	£4,028.33	£4,504.00

Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
0910 - Fundraising - Gift Aided	£42.00	—	£42.00	£121.00
0911 - Fundraising - Non Gift Aided	£5,754.08	—	£5,754.08	£6,798.13
1250 - Magazine - Advertising	£797.50	—	£797.50	£210.00
1260 - Magazine - Sales	—	—	—	£20.00
Total	£6,593.58	—	£6,593.58	£7,149.13

Investments

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
1001 - Investment Income	£22.71	—	£22.71	£22.24
1020 - Interest Received	£15.40	—	£15.40	£15.07
Total	£38.11	—	£38.11	£37.31

Other Income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
0550 - Grants Received	£7,045.00	—	£7,045.00	£55,280.00
Total	£7,045.00	—	£7,045.00	£55,280.00

INCOME TOTAL	£56,860.83	—	£56,860.83	£121,234.40
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Raising Funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
1730 - Event Expenses	£744.97	—	£744.97	£532.07
Total	£744.97	—	£744.97	£532.07

Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
1850 - Mission	£4,609.99	—	£4,609.99	£7,198.11
1910 - Parish Share	£27,350.76	—	£27,350.76	£26,789.04
2310 - Fees	£2,100.97	—	£2,100.97	£7,720.47
2340 - Cost of Services	£597.87	—	£597.87	£440.52
2350 - Churchyard Expenses	£826.20	—	£826.20	£897.25
2360 - Printing & Stationary	£81.53	—	£81.53	£317.30
2370 - Clergy Expenses	£2,543.98	—	£2,543.98	£1,033.30
2401 - Church Running Expenses - Electricity	£2,333.38	—	£2,333.38	£2,150.10
2410 - Church Running Expenses - Insurance	£1,937.20	—	£1,937.20	£1,929.34
2420 - Church Running Expenses - Water Rates	£96.11	—	£96.11	£80.84
2430 - Church Running Expenses - Vestry Supplies	£284.79	—	£284.79	£264.70
2440 - Miscellaneous	£22.88	—	£22.88	—
2501 - Magazine Costs	£1,190.70	—	£1,190.70	£1,667.89
2510 - Church Running Expenses - Extinguishers	£42.00	—	£42.00	£42.00
Total	£44,018.36	—	£44,018.36	£50,530.86

Other Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
2701 - Fabric Maintenance - Buildings	£10,802.14	—	£10,802.14	£49,588.13
2710 - Fabric Maintenance - Other	£3,602.72	—	£3,602.72	£132.00
Total	£14,404.86	—	£14,404.86	£49,720.13
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	£59,168.19	—	£59,168.19	£100,783.06
GRAND TOTAL	(£2,307.36)	—	(£2,307.36)	£20,451.34

These accounts are the final 2018 Financial Statement, as approved by the Independent Examiner on 13 April 2019, and replace the provisional accounts.

Fabric Report

The North slope of the Chancel roof was retiled by Cater Roofing in March/April 2018 completing urgent work on the roof as specified in the Quinquennial report of 2013. The whole roof has now been retiled with the exception of the south slope of the chancel which is regarded as less urgent although this will require attention in some five years' time.

The 2018 Quinquennial architect's report was received with relief as it recommended only relatively minor work, some of which has already been completed.

The old metal central heating header water tank, above the organist's seat, was showing signs of rusting. We have been watching it for some years and now it has been replaced with a plastic one.

Some re-pointing is needed to the west window, the porch buttress and some remedial work to the easterly window on the south wall of the nave. Because of other activities we have not made any progress with this as yet but have it in mind. Some minor work is needed to a headstone and two tombs.

The Gibson Memorial Cross has been straightened up by Bradford Memorials, with a grant from the Friends and funding from Queens' College, our patrons. We are

grateful for their help. A Faculty was required for this work.

A wooden shed has been erected on a concrete base on the south-eastern boundary of the churchyard, to provide extra storage. It now contains chairs and garden equipment. A Faculty was required for this work.

There was a problem with our electricity supply during the Christmas carol service which affected the boiler, the organ, and all the lighting to the tower and back part of church. The service continued by candlelight and thankfully some lighting in the front part of the church. It created a Christmas atmosphere! Danbury electrical subsequently investigated and replaced a supply fuse. It was determined that the 60 Amp fuse may well have worn over time because of repeated overload (the boiler, nave overhead heaters and Lady Chapel heaters together take a load of 69 Amps). For now, we will only use either nave or Lady Chapel heaters, but not both. A notice is displayed to that effect near to the switches. As a result of this episode we are looking into provision of emergency lighting in the bell ringing chamber, the tower stairs, the organ loft and the church and porch. We await an estimate from Danbury electrical. At present the only emergency lighting is in the St Andrew's Room and the Link.

An application was made to the Diocesan Advisory Committee for a table to use for communion in the Lady Chapel so that the chairs can be arranged facing to the North to allow safe distribution of communion for members who are not very mobile. They rejected our proposals for several reasons and we are now considering how best to proceed. A local family had offered to meet at least some of the cost.

The arrangement of the church gates have made entry by car difficult for drivers reversing from the road when bringing less mobile members of the congregation to the church door. A Faculty has been agreed for removal of the centre post and changes to make one large vehicle gate and one small pedestrian gate. This should make access easier.

Redecoration of the church interior is planned. Quotations have been obtained and application made to the Archdeacon under List B. It has been determined that lime wash was used for the previous decoration and will be used this time too. We have obtained quotations for this work and await formal permission. We hope that the work will be done in 2019.

Both of the St Andrew's room heaters have stopped working. One has been replaced and Danbury Electrical are about to repair/replace the other one. They have a heavy use and were last replaced in 2013.

Gutters have been cleared, branches that were overhanging the St Andrew's Room roof have been trimmed and security lights have had replacement bulbs and a sensor fitted.

The church fence is old and has been repaired throughout the year.

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

Michael Puffett, Churchwarden

Deanery Synod Report

The Deanery Synod met four times during 2018. The first meeting was in February when we met at St. John's Danbury and the main business was Parish evangelism. This was led by Revd Capt Peter Allen. Peter spoke briefly about his evangelism experience in the Church Army and since his ordination. Peter outlined the programme for Evangelism Enablers. They attend four Saturday meetings a year. They also complete a placement with another church. Current examples include working with a strongly evangelical community church and working with Street Pastors, both out on the streets and as part of the prayer team. The four training Saturdays were important for participants to encourage and support each other and to broaden their perception of what evangelism is. Peter then challenged members to try out sharing their own faith story in a 'one minute witness' which was done in pairs. Peter was thanked for sharing the information and his insight and experience in this important area.

At our June meeting at Meadgate the main business was titled 'Walking as Jesus Walked'. Talking to strangers about the One we Love. John Wright, a lay reader and a director of the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship spoke to the synod. John encouraged everyone to witness for Christ on an everyday basis. Whilst not all are called to be evangelists, we all have to play our part in the wider Christian team to make known to others what being a follower of Jesus means to us. John gave a number of illustrations from his own experience of how this might be done. John said that helpful preparation is for each person to practice in giving testimony about the difference that Jesus has made to our lives in 30 seconds.

At our September meeting at St. Andrews, Sandon, the main business addressed was Hospital Chaplaincy. Tim Blake was the speaker, who is the Lead Chaplain and Head of Bereavement Services for Broomfield Hospital, St Peter's Hospital, Maldon and the Braintree Community Hospital. Tim heads up a team of four NHS employed staff chaplains, which include Anglican and Roman Catholic members, plus twenty-two volunteers and bereavement office staff. Between them they visit over 500 bedsides, plus being available to staff, relatives and outpatients. Praying with people, taking Holy Communion, administering Last Rites, conducting marriages are just some of the ways in which they minister to people of all faiths in

the hospital community. Tim spoke of how churches can help the Chaplaincy service – prayer support is vital, particularly for the health and wellbeing of the volunteers and staff.

At our November Synod on Tuesday 20th November at St. John's Danbury our guest speaker was Bishop John Perambulath who used the opportunity for parishioners to meet him.

Revd Terry Brown

Compass Group Churches

As you may recall the Compass Group was formed a year ago in February 2018 and consists of Bicknacre and Woodham Ferrers, Danbury, Downham, East Hanningfield, Little Baddow, Ramsden Bellhouse, Ramsden Heath, Sandon, South Hanningfield, South Woodham Ferrers, Stock and West Hanningfield. Revd Terry Brown and Mr Alex Cooper (from Danbury) are now joint chairs. During the year Mrs Margaret Partridge (from South Woodham Ferrers) resigned as lay chair because of the need to look after a member of her family. Claire Newman from East Hanningfield and Robert Andrews from Downham remain as secretary and treasurer respectively.



During the year there have been a number of meetings but perhaps more importantly a shared Ascension Day service, a Quiet day at Orthona, Bradwell in June led by Venerable Vanessa Herrick, a shared lunch at Danbury in September and an ongoing Alpha course again at Danbury from which perhaps the biggest gain will be the engagement of a number of folk, about 20, together to form stronger relationships between group members.

The work to divide the Parish Share between parishes also falls to this group. It is based on a cost calculation which is then overlain with a donation principle. As you can image the issue attracts a lot of interest from some members. But behind it is a test of our willingness to work together in a loving way.

Richard Cecil

Christians Together in Chelmsford

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

Collectively the churches in Chelmsford support the work of CHESS, the Foodbank, Street Pastors, Renew Counselling, Work Place Chaplaincy, YMCA, Christian Aid and Interfaith Forum and Chelmsford 24-7 Prayer. Last May, at its AGM, David Gilbey, who worships at Life Church, was elected as Chairman and Pete Bardwell,

who leads Oasis Church and the Foodbank, has become Vice-Chairman. Breakfasts on the first Wednesday of the month and the third Thursday have been a valuable point of contact between difference church members. All main Christian denominations are involved and it provides a vehicle where churches can share events across a wider forum. Its AGM is likely to be on Sunday 9th June.

Richard Cecil

Howe Green United Reformed Church

During the past year Howe Green URC has shared many occasions with St. Andrews. Some of these events have been more ‘community’ related, such as the Fair Trade Fortnight, when Howe Green hosted a Coffee Morning and St. Andrews held a wine tasting evening, with members of both churches attending and taking part. We are also pleased to attend the ‘Ladies Breakfasts’ organised by St. Andrews and taking place at a local Garden Centre.

Sunday services have also been shared. Rev. Terry Brown has led some afternoon services at Howe Green (some as Café Church), one of them being for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and other members of St. Andrews are also able to be present at the monthly services held there. The Howe Green congregation has attended various services at St. Andrew’s - Mother’s Day, Harvest Festival, and some of the Easter and Christmas services. They have also shared in various Bible studies, one based on the ‘daylight’ daily readings, a Lent Group and ‘the Bible Course’.

Howe Green organises a very popular Christmas Carol Service which includes some village organisations. The Rev. Terry Brown has an important role in that service and was joined by several others from St Andrews.

Pam Knott

Baycroft Care Home

Even before the closure of the Howe Green nursing home we had been thinking of offering a similar service to Baycroft, and this came about towards the end of 2018. Baycroft is a 64-bed home in Molrams Lane, offering 24-hour personalised residential, nursing and dementia care. The home opened last year and, with a small number of our congregation, we have begun taking a lay communion service for the residents on the fourth Monday of the month at 2.30pm. We have about 10-18 residents joining us and after the service there is a cup of tea and an opportunity to talk with the residents. We would love to see more members of the church joining with us and think that many would find it enjoyable and enlightening. On the second Monday of the month at 2.30pm Terry visits the home when it is called ‘Tea with the Vicar’. This always proves to be a lively chat about various topics.

There are residents who would like to visit St. Andrews church. They have a minibus and it is hoped that they will visit and have a cup of tea in St. Andrews Room. Some would welcome a short service on a Sunday afternoon. We will be looking into this possibility in the coming months.

If you would like to help us please have a word with Dennis, Judy, Nick or Gill Hodge.

Dennis Terry

Bell Ringing Report

“We have continued to ring for most Sunday services during the last year but are highly dependent on the support of Ken and Jo Elliot, whose home tower is Great Baddow.” That was how my report began last year. Well things have changed for the better. A combination of the ‘Ringing Remembers’ initiative, a lot of training, particularly from Mike Worboys, a welcoming enthusiasm in the tower and hard work from the ringers themselves has seen six new ringing members at Sandon; namely Mandy Lawford, Carol Lowry, Alex Luketa, Brian Wood, Dinah Wood and John Wood, with two more in training. Additionally Alex Bessent and Sandra Murphy, aka Smurf, have been ringing regularly at Sandon. The ‘Ringing Remembers’ initiative was about recruiting ringers in like numbers to those who were lost in WW1 to mark the centenary of WW1. At Sandon the bells were rung at 11:00 am on Sunday 11th November by a team that had recently learnt to ring. If anyone is interested please contact Richard Cecil.

Neil Arnold and Mike Worboys have continued with maintenance of the bells and general cleaning of the tower steps and ringing chamber. The biggest task this year was the quick turnaround replacement by Neil of a broken stay, without which the bell cannot be safely rung so we are very grateful for his ongoing help and support.

Richard Cecil, Tower Captain

Bible Reading Notes

‘New Daylight’, published by BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship), provides a short scripture reading for each day with a commentary about it. But you knew that because last year Terry gave everyone on the electoral roll a copy for the four months, May to August. For reasons that, as I write this, I wonder if has been adequately explored, that take up did not prevail into the succeeding months. The interest in the Bible was clearly piqued in some by the Bible Society course run in the autumn. These commentaries, written by a wide range of authors, can explain stories from the Old and New Testaments as well as use scripture to illuminate the lives of men and women of God from different ages both before Christ and since. To grow effectively as a Christian some form of Bible study (along with prayer,

fellowship and witnessing) seems a must. These notes do not have a monopoly on this but do provide an outlet for a disciplined approach if that is what you aspire to.

Richard Cecil

St. Andrew's Choir

The Parish is fortunate in having a choir whose members regularly attend a practice each week (in all weathers) and lead the services on a Sunday. I am grateful to them. We do, of course, welcome new members. Our cassocks had been in use for many years and were badly worn. We are grateful to the PCC for bearing the cost of replacing them.

Ron Woods

Magazine Report

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

Richard Cecil, Editor

Churchyard

Every month from March to October a working party, made up of volunteers, help to keep the churchyard in the excellent condition that has won us awards over the years. Unfortunately the numbers of volunteers has fallen. As you can imagine, the churchyard, being quite large, takes a lot of work. Most of the work is done by George Turner, who can be seen working throughout the year. Without him the churchyard would not be in such a good condition. We have one paid person who cuts the grass around the church itself but the rest is done a couple of times a year by the Parish Council, for which we are grateful. We are also grateful to David Farrar, who cuts the grass around all the graves and in the Garden of Remembrance. Thank you to everyone who looks after their own family graves and adheres to the Church of England rules for churchyards, i.e. no artificial flowers or ornaments. Thank you to everyone who helps. We would love to see more volunteers on our Saturday mornings. We are a very friendly group and refreshments are provided.

Christine Mennie



‘Friends of Sandon Church’

In 2018 we raised money primarily through two events; a concert given by The Southend Boys and Girls Choir on the 16th of September which raised £560 and another quiz held in November which raised £543. During the year we 50% financed the straightening of the Gibson Memorial Cross which is just outside the church porch. We now have 50 life members and 40 annual members. This year we will have another concert, this time by The Chelmsford Cathedral Choir in September and a quiz in November. Please do your best to support these events and also by becoming new members of this very useful supporter of Sandon’s St. Andrew’s church. At the present moment we have £8,068 in our ‘kitty’ for use solely for the church’s fabric support.

David Farrar

1st Sandon Scout Group

The Scout Group has had a very busy year within the Sections. We have had a group camp with a Disney Pixar theme where we had over 100 people for dinner on the Saturday. It was enjoyed by all the Dads and Mums and young people as well as the leaders.

The scouts have been busy with camps and badgework and other activities.

The Cubs have been busy with badgework and fun activities.

The Beavers have been busy with badgework and fun activities.

The Group as a whole made a fantastic display of poppies at the Church on Remembrance Sunday.

A few awards for the leaders have been awarded;

Janet Bernardes Beaver Leader – Chief Scout Commendation for Good Services

Steve Eatly Cub Leader – Chief Scout Commendation for Good Services

Aimee Agombar Assistant Scout Leader – Chief Scout Commendation for Good services

Kirsty Rickwood Assistant Beaver Leader – Award for Merit (medal of Merit)

Congratulations to them all, very well deserved.

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

Jean Blake, Group Scout Leader

1st Sandon Scout Troop

The scouts had another busy year, undertaking the County Backpack challenge in March, walking around the Thorrington countryside. We then had a summer camp in Cromer where we went seal watching, had a surfing lesson and went to an activity

centre where we did the high ropes. There was also plenty of time on the beach and in the sea!

In January we participated in the Pedal Car Olympics at Thriftwood and for the 3rd year running came home with medals. We have a full programme again for the coming term and would welcome any that would like to try out scouting with us.

Sue Bushell

Sandon Cubs

Sandon Cubs have had another exciting year – we've had a full Pack with a waiting list for most of the time! Over the year our young people have completed a varied programme of badges, activities, games and trips out including learning about home safety and emergency aid – practicing on each other! We've learnt about wildlife and the environment with the naturalist badge, including recycling our old plastic woggles into bird feeders. We made a Cub scarecrow for the Church summer fete, then with Beavers and Scouts we made a fantastic poppy cascade for St Andrew's Church for the Remembrance Centenary in November. We've enjoyed making numerous other art and craft creations including gaining the DIY badge and had a day trip to Pleasurewood Hills theme park. Recently we had the largest attendance at the District World Challenge day, have just completed the disability awareness badge and we can't wait to see our Cubs at the 62nd Gang Show in April at the Civic Theatre. All of our leaders and young leaders have been fantastic in supporting the programme – a great team effort.

Steve Eatly, Akela

Sandon Beavers

We've had another fun year mainly playing games on a Thursday evening but mixing it with plenty of badge work (they love getting new badges to be sewn on their uniform). We had a few beavers camping in June. We attended Christingle and rung the bells at Christmas after some tuition from Terry the two Thursdays before. But I have to say the highlight of our year was collecting bottoms of plastic bottles all summer with the other sections to help transform them into poppies. We were so proud we had a great turnout on remembrance Sunday.

Janet Bernardes, Beaver Scout Leader

Ladies' Breakfast

This is always very well attended. We meet about six times a year at Butts Green Garden Centre. We always have a very good speaker and this year we have had Canon Christine Horton, Rev Jackie Thorne, Sue Finch, Rev Ann Harvey, Gil Gordon and Canon Jacqui Jones. The speakers are followed by an excellent 'Full English' breakfast. This year we were sorry to lose two of our attendees, Gwen and

Beryl, who was one of our original ladies and thoroughly enjoyed every one. Loved by all, they are greatly missed.

Thank you to all the lovely staff, who make us so welcome. Please come and join us by adding your name to the list in church. Thank you to all those who give lifts to enable the non-drivers to come.

Christine Mennie

Community Choir

The Sandon Community Choir was set up in its current form in September 2016 after it ceased to run at Sandon School. No members of that choir joined us in St Andrew's Church Hall and so it was effectively a brand new group.

Initially we were having rehearsals just once per month but since the Spring of 2018 started to meet every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, with members paying a nominal £5.00 pay as you go fee. This fee covers all copies of music as well as the musical director charge.

Holding practices every other week saw a huge turning point for the choir. It attracted new members and the quality of music making is now excellent. Most members now read music and we are singing more regularly in 2 and 3 parts. We have a membership of around 15 people who mainly come from the church community or Sandon village.

The repertoire is wide, and we enjoy singing a range of songs from musical theatre, sacred, middle-of-the-road pop as well as fun rounds and exercises to improve our voices.

The highlight of the year was to sing at the village carol service where we performed three short items. The performance was well received by the congregation.

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

Jill Parkin Cert.Ed, ALCM, Musical Director

Annual Inter-Village Walk

The walk took place on May the 12th and we did a loop from the Church car park via the river clockwise to Danbury ending up at the Cricketers for lunch: about 4 miles! After lunch we came back to Sandon over a shortened route of about 3 miles. The number of walkers totalled 25 and there were 30 of us at lunch. Overall we raised £532 in sponsorship for our charities. This year please do join us on May the 18th when we will start at 10 a.m. for a 'figure of eight' walk with lunch hopefully at the Crown, Sandon. Watch out for more details. All sponsored funds will go to the six church charities supported this year.

David Farrar

Ride and Stride

Last year the Annual Ride and Stride Day was Saturday the 8th of September and we did a circular tour starting in Hadleigh at the Olympic Bike Track and went along the Saffron Way to Leigh on Sea and on to Westcliff. Our group comprised 4 people and we visited 25 churches via lunch at Ye Olde Smack in Leigh on the return trip. Overall we cycled about 13 miles and raised £476 to be split between Church funds and Friends of Essex Churches. This year we intend to cycle again as usual on the second Saturday in September. What about joining us – please!

David Farrar

Flower Rota

Each week one or more of the sixteen flower arrangers on the rota provides flowers and foliage and creates arrangements on the Altar and around the Paschal candle that enhance the beauty of the Church and our worship. I would like to thank all the Flower Arrangers for giving their time and talents to decorating the Church each week and on the special festivals and to Lesley Worboys for successfully organising the annual festivals and fund raising events.

Sadly we lost two of our long serving flower arrangers this year - Christine Farrar and Su Whinney. Christine always produced beautiful arrangements for our flower festivals, seasonal festivals and each time she was on the weekly rota, even when her illness made it physically difficult for her to do the arranging. I would like to record our grateful thanks to her. She will be sadly missed. Before Su moved to Maldon in 2013, she too was an active and proficient flower arranger, creating equally beautiful arrangements for our festivals. Our grateful thanks go to her too.

Looking to the future, we would welcome new arrangers on the weekly rota. If you are interested, please speak to Janet Underwood.

Janet Underwood

Flower Festivals and Events

The St Andrew's Flower Team currently consists of 16 arrangers. It has been a busy year! Arranging for Easter, Harvest and Christmas has been well supported with some beautiful arrangements throughout the church. In addition, arrangements for one wedding, two funerals and Remembrance Sunday were created as requested. In the last year there have been seven arrangements sponsored by the community. The Christmas Door Wreath Making workshops generated sufficient donations to cover the cost of the Christmas flowers. Two workshops were held with 24 participants. Donations towards the cost of the Easter flowers have been advertised for 2019. Janet and I plan to refurbish the Easter tomb in the coming weeks. The cost of flowers for the Harvest Flowers is generously paid for by the Flower Team. More flowers were arranged for Remembrance Sunday and we plan to involve more

arrangers in 2019. Overall, we still have a small carry forward into the next year, which is held in the general Church funds.

I am conscious of the amount of floral foam we are consuming and have greater awareness of the impact of this plastic on the environment. The challenge for the future is to reduce its use, experimenting with more traditional methods of flower arranging. We will need to source some suitable containers to achieve this.

We have received many positive comments about the flowers in St Andrew's and are fortunate to have such a skilful team of arrangers. They have risen to the challenge of moving around the church to try new locations and the team are wonderful in supporting each other.

Thank you to all the flower arrangers, Terry Brown, Judy Cecil, Nick Bobeldijk and Janet Underwood for your support, positivity and encouragement over the year.

Lesley Worboys, Festivals and Events Co-ordinator

Holy Dusters

The cleaning of the church is undertaken about every six weeks by a loyal group of volunteers. Sometimes the numbers are just two or three. The few have to sweep, Hoover, polish and wash all the floors in the church, kitchen and toilet. This is, as you can imagine, quite a lot of work. I would particularly like to thank Gill, who cleans all the silver (and there is a lot), Brenda for always cleaning the porch and making the tea, and Terry who insists on washing all the floors, including in the pews. We could always do with more cleaners. We usually meet on a Monday morning but you are welcome to come and clean any time. We are a very friendly group.

Christine Mennie

Tiny Tots Toddler Group

So where to start. In the beautiful way groups tend to work, our numbers continue to rise and fall like the ebb & flow of the tide, our leadership team continues to be strong despite all the personal challenges that come along but above all our faith carries us through, which is wonderful. What more is there to say.

OK, I'll add a little more. I think we all agree that we are blessed to be given the opportunity to run this group, sewing seeds for future generations and supporting young families at a time when they can be at their most vulnerable and yet most joyous all in one.

As always after the end of the summer term when we wave goodbye to our next lot of Tots, flying the nest as such, we always feel a little depleted and somewhat sad

that they are heading off. However, around the corner the younger Tots flourish in the space left behind and new ones arrive to explore and join the group.

Once again we were honoured to receive a donation following the success of Danbury fireworks and already the money has gone towards a number of new 'investments' for the group including a new banner for the gate, new remote controlled cars and exciting craft activities that might normally be out of budget!

Our Facebook page has enabled us to keep in touch with families, current, old and new, along with a number of other online advertisements that generate a slow but steady source of interest from new enquiries. All essential for a small village group to survive & prosper in the modern world.

'Mighty oaks from little acorns grow' is how we shall end our report this year.
Spread the word.

Alison Read

Soup and Sandwiches

This is a new venture. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month for two hours, from 12.00-2.00 pm. So far we have met three times and have enjoyed soup and a sandwich, and have even had a quiz. This event is for people who perhaps live on their own and would like some company. We are a very friendly and welcoming group and I have to say we laugh a lot, especially during the quiz. Please come along. If you need a lift or just someone to walk in with, just let us know. Hope to see you one Tuesday.

Christine Mennie

Minutes of the 2019 Annual Vestry Meeting

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

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

Minutes of the 2019 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

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

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

changes to how the Restricted funds were shown. A question was asked about why the Fees figure was lower in 2018 compared with 2017, which related to the architect doing more work for the roof replacement in 2017 compared to 2018.

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

5.5 Deanery Synod Report

5.6 Chelmer Crouch and Compass Report

5.7 Christians Together in Chelmsford

6 Election of one Deanery Synod member for one year.

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

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

Colin Bryan proposed by Audrey Bryan, seconded by Valerie Grimwood; David Farrar proposed by Richard Cecil, seconded by Christine Mennie; Laura Scurlock proposed by Alison Read, seconded by Gill Haddington; Janet Terry proposed by Nick Bobeldijk, seconded by Claire Jefferies.

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

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

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

9 Appointment of Parish Safeguarding Officer

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

Appointment of Vulnerable Adult Officer

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

10 Appointment of Independent Examiner

Revd Terry Brown proposed that this be carried over to the first full PCC

meeting, which would allow time for confirmation as to whether the Independent Examiner being used to audit the 2018 accounts would be willing to take on the role.

11 Appointment of Sidesmen and Sideswomen

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

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

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

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

13 Rector's Report

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

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

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

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

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

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

Richard particularly for all his work on our church magazine. It must be the best one for miles around. Our magazine is delivered four times a year to the

whole Parish and this is a very important part of our mission. Claire for working to increase the advertising revenue for the magazine.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lots to give thanks for this year.

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

In March there was Greta Mills who had served this church for many years.

In July was Gwen Horscroft. Although Gwen had only been a member of our church for a short time she showed us how much she loved our Lord and

enjoyed our Lent and Advent courses when she was able to express herself in her beliefs.

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

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

Tea on the Green last year was a success, but due to the heat it was held in the churchyard under the trees for shade. More and more people look forward to this event. Our summer fete was very successful last year, as was the Christmas fayre. It is good to see us all working together on these events. Last year our new MMU group of churches. Our original 7 Chelmer Crouch Churches had our Commissioning Service in February and now we look forward to working together in the future. There will be the Quiet day in Bradwell in June, Ascension Day services in Ramsden Bellhouse and Stock. We held a picnic and songs of praise in September and this year this event will be held here. We also held a joint Alpha course in the autumn. We now have a very successful Community choir with nearly 20 members, with Jill Parkin as our leader. We could still have new members, especially men.

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

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

Last year I gave us 3 challenges;

The first challenge was for us to take reading the bible seriously and we were encouraged to use New Daily Light bible notes. All members of the congregation were given a free copy and asked to try to use it for the 3 months up to the end of July.

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

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

This year I wish to work with our PCC on setting out a vision Statement.

St Andrew's Sandon – Our Vision

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

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

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

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

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

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

Amen

14 Concerns / Questions to be Expressed / Asked

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

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

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

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

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

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

15 Date of Next Meeting

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

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

The Meeting was then closed.

Minutes of the First 2019-20 Parochial Church Council Meeting

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

17 Appointment of Vice Chairman – Judy Cecil was proposed by Nick Bobeldijk, seconded by Claire Jefferies and appointed.

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

Agreed as a true record

Revd Terry Brown, Rector of Sandon

19 April 2020