

*PARISH  
MAGAZINE*



*ST. ANDREW  
SANDON*

*APRIL 2010*

*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.*

**SUNDAY SERVICES** (Please see Church notice board and Newsheet for variations)

8 00am	Holy Communion	(Third Sunday)
9.00am	Sung Eucharist	(Except Third Sunday)
10.30am	Family Service	(Third Sunday)
6.30pm	Evensong (Traditional)	(First Sunday)
6.30pm	Evensong (Alternative)	(Third Sunday)
Fifth Sunday	Joint Eucharist either at Sandon or Little Baddow	

**WEEKDAY SERVICES**

9.15am	Holy Communion.	Wednesday
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**REGULAR ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS**

Tuesday	10.30am - Noon	Coffee & Chat.
	3.45 pm - 5.15 pm	SALT for children (4-7yrs) and their families (in term time)
	6.30pm - 9.15pm	Youth Fellowship (Village Hall).
	7.45pm	Bell ringers.
Wednesday	2.00pm - 3.30pm	Tiny Tots
Friday	7.30pm - 8:30pm	Choir Practice.

Arrangements for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals (also for visiting of the sick) may be made with Revd. Clive Ashley.

**WHO'S WHO**

<b>PRIEST-IN-CHARGE:</b>	Revd. C. Ashley	Tel: 01245 243863
<b>READER:</b>	Miss K. Moore	Tel: 01376 501128
<b>CHURCHWARDENS:</b>	Mr. R. D. G. Cecil	Tel: 01245 224747
	Mrs. C. J. Mennie	Tel: 01245 281305
<b>HON. TREASURER:</b>	Mr. I. A. Underwood	Tel: 01245 225756
<b>HON. SECRETARY:</b>	Mr. D. M. Farrar	Tel: 01245 471484
<b>MEMBERS OF PCC:</b>	Brian Amey, Nick Bobeldijk, Richard and Judy Cecil,	
	David Farrar, James Gilder, Christine Mennie, Kate Moore,	
	Michael Puffett, Alison Read, Dennis Terry, Jack Whinney,	
	Ian Underwood.	
<b>BELL RINGERS:</b>	Mr. N. Tovey	Tel: 01245 472692
<b>ACTING ORGANIST:</b>	Mr. R. Woods	Tel: 01245 268304
<b>FLOWERS:</b>	Mrs. B. Underwood	Tel: 01245 225756
<b>TINY TOTS:</b>	Mrs. A. Read	Tel: 01245 474858

# **The Parish of St Andrew, Sandon and the Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Little Baddow**

**The Revd Clive A. Ashley**

**Priest in Charge of Sandon and Little Baddow**

**The Rectory, 25 The Lintons, Sandon, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 7UA**

**Rectory Tel: (01245) 243863      Email: [cliveashley@btinternet.com](mailto:cliveashley@btinternet.com)**

Dear Friends

I am delighted to write to you from the address above for the first time, a new entry for your diaries and address books as a new additional point of contact for both Sandon and Little Baddow Parish Churches. I hope you do not see me as a replacement but as someone who has come to join the two fantastic teams of clergy, churchwardens and the heavenly hosts of Sandon and Little Baddow that minister in many and various ways. Indeed, I believe we are still recruiting and all who consider themselves to be in the fallen angel category are also invited to apply, several have come through and are now ordained, even consecrated!

Archdeacon David Lowman preached at St. Mary's on 7th March, delighted to see a full church, he asked where is everybody? Some of our neighbours would be worshipping at the Catholic Church, Danbury Mission (not the URC as they were with us) and others may travel to neighbouring Parish Churches or the Cathedral. He estimated that still did not account for 80-90% of local people! It would seem that we have a task ahead of us. Whilst maintaining Church Organs, funding new kitchens and supporting underprivileged communities around the world we must also be a Christian community that opens not only it's front door for those confident enough to walk through it but we must also keep a proverbial 'back door' open too for those of us less confident, less sure.

The Gospel has a few examples of the people who came to Jesus privately, quietly, or who tried to gain a glimpse of Him from a distance without him noticing, Zacchaeus is one such person. I would love to see in the future an opportunity created for those of us who struggle with questions about Christian faith to come and ask, discuss, argue and listen to other points of view. A Parish similar to Little Baddow near Chichester ran a group called 'Pints of View' in a local pub! Who knows, might there be a place for such a gathering here?

Some people expect 'the Vicar' to come knocking on every door in the Parish, others are more than pleased to be left alone. However, if you would like me to visit, all you have to do is ask, I'd be more than pleased to pop in at a time that is mutually convenient. I look forward to our meeting and getting to know one another.

Love and prayers

Clive

**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH – SANDON**  
**PARISH DIARY: APRIL.**

Thurs. 1st	<b><u>Maundy Thursday</u></b> 7:30pm	Holy Communion and stripping of the Alter.
Fri. 2nd	<b><u>Good Friday</u></b> 2pm 7:30pm	Easter Garden Service for Children Service of Meditation & Prayers.
SUN. 4th	<b><u>EASTER DAY</u></b> 9:15am	Easter Liturgy and Eucharist
SUN. 11th	<b><u>EASTER 2</u></b> 9am	Parish Eucharist
SUN. 18th	<b><u>EASTER 3</u></b> 8.00am 10:30am 6:30pm	Holy Communion (Said) Family Service Evensong
SUN. 25th	<b><u>EASTER 4</u></b> 9am	Parish Eucharist

**On-line information:** [www.sandon-church.info](http://www.sandon-church.info) and [www.sandon.info](http://www.sandon.info)

**MAY MAGAZINE:**

The closing date for next months magazine will be Sunday 18 April, for publication around 26 April 2010. Ed.

**Daphne Tovey**

It was with great sadness that the Sandon church community learnt of the death of Daphne on 16 March. She was truly a much-loved stalwart of our congregation, and a fitting tribute will be printed in next month's edition. In the meantime, sincere condolences are offered to Nick and all the family at this sad time. Ed.

*Rest eternal grant unto her O Lord  
And let light perpetual shine upon her*

**THE SANDON PAX - M.W.HANSON** (as mentioned in last month's magazine) I am in the process of researching material for a book about trees in Essex, my special area of interest being ancient woodland and in particular what are known as wood-pasture sites a group of habitats that is characterised by the combining of grazing animals with the production of wood and timber from the same site. Included in this group are ancient Royal Forests, deer parks and wooded commons. These three habitats are closely related and were very common features of the medieval landscape particularly in Essex.

### **The Medieval Economy**

The medieval economy revolved around the management of trees, for cooking (charcoal), fuel for fires, structural timber for building (all types from castles to hovels), for domestic utensils, tool handles, farm implements, thatching spars, willow baskets - you name it, it was made out of wood. Possibly rather unwisely, I decided to research material on wood products from this period for a chapter in the book. My aim was to try and establish a brief list of 'The Best in Essex' for such a list, because Essex has no really usable building stone, many of the buildings in the medieval period were skilfully constructed in wood and there is a huge list of medieval timber-framed buildings that have survived in Essex to demonstrate the durability of wood as a construction material one thinks immediately of the tower of Blackmore church or the Cressing Temple Barns. Having visited a number of Essex churches I realised that there was a vast but as far as I know unintentional and un-inventoried collection of examples of the medieval carpenter's and carver's work in the form of doors (there are doors known to be 6 or 700 years old), carved screens, font covers (Thaxted has a font and font cover which I think is about 15 feet high and is a magnificent and exuberant example of the medieval carvers craft dating from the late medieval period), bench ends, chests of many different types from crude dug-outs to elaborately decorated works of fine craftsmanship, wooden tomb effigies for which Essex is justly famous and of course the wooden pax at Sandon!!

### **The Sandon Pax**

I first found out about the pax in a circa 1940 county history, needing to know more I contacted the former vicar of Boreham, William Smith, shortly to be celebrating his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, requesting information about the pax and he very kindly enquired, on my behalf, of the church-wardens of Sandon and through the kind offices of Richard Cecil (he even picked me up from Boreham!) managed to get to see the pax on a very wet Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of February. The pax was a feature of every medieval church, it invariably had some representation of the crucifixion and was passed around for members of the congregation to kiss (the kiss of peace hence pax) some were fashioned in ivory, some in silver and probably many in wood. I would guess that eventually the pax was declared to be idolatrous and the reformation finished them off as part of the ritual of worship in most if not all churches. The Sandon Pax is said to be the only wooden example known to have survived.

### **Survival of the Pax**

Reg Bush in his 1999 book about the village of Sandon devotes a whole chapter to the known history of the Sandon Pax, at any point in its history I get the feeling it was only by the slimmest of chances that the pax survived and slipped through each stage and at any time could have been lost to the world, it was seemingly only by the greatest luck it was actually identified as a pax, later verified by the V&A museum. The pax was subsequently exhibited for a number of years at the museum and I suspect they must have researched it, recorded it photographically and produced and archived a written description.

(Continued on Page 12)

# **FUN DAY**

**THURSDAY 15th APRIL**

**ST. ANDREWS CHURCH**

**1PM – 4.30PM**

**IF YOU ARE AGED BETWEEN 7 AND 11 COME AND JOIN  
US FOR A FUN AFTERNOON OF GAMES AND CRAFTS. TO  
BE FOLLOWED BY TEA**

**PHONE TO BOOK YOUR PLACE**

**ALISON - 01245 474858**

**OR LIZ - 01245 471756**

## **Sandon Garden and Allotment Society**

The trading shed is now open on Sunday mornings from 10 to 12 for all your gardening requirements. Come and support us and have a chat about all aspects of gardening. The joining fee stays the same: £2.50, or £1.50 for senior citizens.

Don't forget the outing to Saville Gardens on Saturday, 24th of April, leaving 9 a.m. from the village hall in Sandon (price £16 inclusive). Another date for the calendar is the trip to Wadderston Manor on the 18th of September (£16 p.p.).

Hope to see you then.

Eileen Tappin

Secretary

## Meeting of Sandon WI for March 2010

Eileen Bartrup, President, welcomed members and visitors, and later presented Kathleen Barker and Betty Usher with their new member's packs. She thanked Janice Harris for the flowers which were later sent to Margaret Gill who had a nasty fall. Jerusalem was the sung. Eileen said we had all been sorry that Joan Davis, who had been a member for many years had recently died, and a number of members had attended her funeral in Sandon Church. The February meeting on recycling had been very informative and members were reminded about the collection by George Mills. There will be a Village Spring Clean on March 25th starting at 10a.m. and a Coffee Morning for new members at the WI Centre on April 24th. The Secretary, Angela Harvey read out correspondence about a New Speakers day, two County Style days and various trips being organised both by other WIs and Federation, and a Christmas stay at Chatsworth House in Derbyshire. Keep Fit meets next Monday, and would welcome new members and the Craft group will meet on March 18th. Eileen then introduced the Speaker, Mr Derek March on the history of English Cheeses. Cheese started in Egyptian times when goat's milk was separated into curds and whey, and made into either hard or soft cheese. This skill was passed on to the Greeks and Romans, who made cheese in a hygienic manner, and later this was passed on to monks, who were able to write down the recipes. In the 1600s, cheese started to be made from contaminated cow's rather than ewe's milk but this problem was finally solved by pasteurisation. Today there are over seven hundred English cheeses, but Mr March listed the best starting with Cheddar, Stilton which he thought the King of English Cheese, Cheshire, red Leicester, Lancashire, a crumbly cheese suitable for cooking especially in Welsh rarebit, Wensleydale, Caerphilly, sage Derby and Double Gloucester. In reply to a question he said it was best not to store cheese in a refrigerator, but to buy only as much as you need and keep it at room temperature. He was thanked by Maria Green, and members were invited to taste some of the cheese Mr March had brought with him.

After tea, Marlene Bishop and Jean Galbraith were given birthday cards, and Dorothy Gray given a flowering plant to celebrate her Golden Wedding. The records of the February meeting were signed as correct. Sonia Trevett won the flower of the month, Val Butler the competition for a card showing a Spring Flower and Anne Nickol the cheese recipe. Pat Eden read extracts from the letter from Millsom WI. The next meeting will be Brian Carline on "Humour in Secondary School Life" with a competition for the best knitted/ crocheted article for a child.

Anne Nickol



# **Little Baddow OPEN GARDENS 2010**

## **Saturday 8th May**

### **11:00am to 5:00pm**

*Adults £5.00*

*Children under 16 free*

Tickets in advance from Meacock & Jones, Danbury and The Rodney and General's Arms public houses, Little Baddow. On the day, tickets available from all open gardens and the Memorial Hall.

For more information, ring 01245 223624 or visit the Little Baddow website at [http://www.littlebaddow.org.uk/open\\_garden.asp](http://www.littlebaddow.org.uk/open_garden.asp)

Event in support of St. Mary's Church Little Baddow.

Programmes and signs sponsored by Meacock and Jones.



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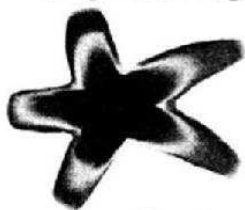
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[www.buttsgreenpottery.co.uk](http://www.buttsgreenpottery.co.uk)

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for Young People – 8 to 12 years (up to school Year 8)

Sandon Village Hall – Tuesdays – 6.30 to 8.00 pm  
in school term-time

**ACTIVITIES INCLUDE** – Organised indoor games – new/old,  
games tuition, field games, rounders, races, netball, quick  
cricket, 5-aside football etc etc

**DRAMA** – annual pantomime (all can take part if they wish –  
Feb half-term week) We are members of NODA  
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**EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP** – all LEADERS CRB checked  
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Annual PRESENTATION and OPEN EVENING

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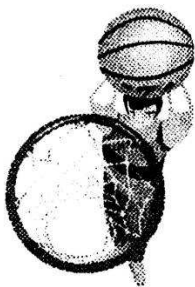
Club members also get involved in helping at the annual fete,  
Carol singing and charity fund raising

There is also a free annual outing

**CONTACT THE LEADERS on**

**01245 222682**

**Peter and Evelyn Ellis**



(Continued from Page 5)

## **Differing Opinion**

On seeing the pax in its glazed wooden box, I was struck by its overtly used appearance with its damaged gilding, exposed wooden frame with worm holes and damaged image of the crucifixion, what a fantastic object, bearing all the scars of public use, surviving the iconoclasm of the reformation and its adventurous life from being just a framed medieval miniature to its being recognised as the lone survivor of a once commonplace object of everyday worship. I could not agree with the description given by Reg Bush in his Sandon book 'The Painting is of no particular merit, and is such as would be found in a third-rate illuminated Book of Hours...' the image is exactly what you would expect in a very rural Essex parish in an object with a very public everyday function. Books of Hours were commissioned by wealthy patrons and were lavishly and finely decorated according to the pocket of their future owners and were the private prayer-books of such people, ultimately kept securely in private libraries. The pax image was never meant to compete with the likes of the Tres Riches Heures of the Duke of Berry !! Reg Bush also suggests the image shows Mary and St. John but I wonder if in fact the image is of Mary and Mary Magdalene grieving as Christ suffers in agony on the cross at Golgotha? It is a wonderfully simple medieval evocation of what was probably the best known image from the bible. I also noted a flat area on the frame below the image of the crucifixion, all the gesso and gilding was missing but I wonder if this formerly held some relevant wording, possibly even the letters INRI or a biblical phrase appropriate to the use of the pax.

## **My Shock!!**

I was rather shocked at some aspects of its storage, in the box, a glass (or was it plastic?) plate inserted probably with the best of intentions to protect the image, had come adrift from its wooden flange and if handled inappropriately has the potential to damage the image further. I was also concerned about the fact the pax had at some stage slipped out of two of the four metal brackets holding it in place in the glazed box.

## **Unique Status**

It was a great privilege to look upon the Sandon Pax but I had to wonder, given its unique (in the true sense of the word) status, whether an item as rare and I would say of probable national significance should really be in the situation it now finds itself in.

Many thanks to Mr. Hanson for this interesting and informative article. It is quite humbling, and a little scary, to think that we have what could possibly be termed a National Treasure in our modest country church. Ed.

**PRODUCER'S NOTES ON PANTOMIME, HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME**

This proved to be a very interesting and informative subject for a pantomime but I must say a very successful production. Our Cast was much smaller this year which meant that the brilliant young people had to work hard in rehearsals and performances but their results were fantastic - much admired by the audiences who came. Next year we must work harder to improve on our seat sales.

Everyone in the Cast is to be applauded. A very difficult job for those who were judging to award the Ellis Trophy for Best Performance in the Hunchback.

The sets, music, dance, back stage, set and stage hands, front of house, all went well together to support the wonderful Cast.

Here are some remarks from some of the critics 'a remarkable evening', 'great effort with costumes and make-up', 'a highly enthusiastic audience' (John Warburton, NODA Eastern Region Councillor)

'The kids did themselves proud', 'the singing as strong as I can remember', 'the sets superb, the painter and set makers deserve a medal', 'all in all, a very good show', (Eric Smart, NODA Chairman and Past President)

'Impressed by the costumes - skilful make-up', 'band excellent', 'the scenery impressive', 'the dancers well drilled'. (Michael Puffett - Parish Magazine)

'It featured ultra-violet dancing skeletons in the catacombs, talking gargoyles, as well as valued traditions', 'the best panto exit line this season: "See you later, boys and girls, I've got to get ready for the hanging .."', 'the beautiful set - Notre Dame in grisaille', 'this annual fund-raising panto is a welcome reminder of the days when all youth groups - and many others - would work for months to put on a show. Long may it thrive, but could we have something a little more traditional next year?' **(We will!)** (Michael Gray - Chelmsford Weekly News writing on his Arts Blog)

Well done everyone. It was worth all your time, talent and hard work. The show cost (not paid hours) £2,300 to produce. Unfortunately this year we will only make a tiny profit for the work of SAYF. Panto week has been booked for 2011.

**NEW FOR 2010 - our own WEBSITE!**

James Tovey has created our own website - [www.safysandon.webs.com](http://www.safysandon.webs.com) where all our news, diary information, photographs and events can be viewed. You can also catch up on **FACEBOOK** - James and Julie run a page on Facebook. So watch these SPACES.

**Come Visit the SAYF Website:**

**[www.sayfsandon.webs.com](http://www.sayfsandon.webs.com)**

Sign up as a member to access reviews, newsletters and  
also receive event updates.

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Just come along or call  
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## ORGANISATIONS & ACTIVITIES IN SANDON & HOWE GREEN

### UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HOWE GREEN

**MINISTER:** Revd J. Sermon (01245 601662).  
**SUNDAY SERVICE:** 11.00am Morning Service (Communion 2nd Sunday).

### SANDON PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings are usually on the 2nd Monday of the month and are held alternately in Sandon Village Hall and at Howe Green.

**CHAIR:** Mr I. Wright  
**PARISH CLERK:** Mrs S. Dobson. (01245 227734)  
**PARISH OFFICE:** Crack Willows, Mayes Lane,  
Sandon, Essex CM2 7RP

### SANDON VILLAGE HALL

**CHAIR:** Mr P. J. Ellis (01245 222682)  
**SECRETARY:** Mrs J. Cecil (01245 224747)  
**CARETAKER/BOOKINGS:** Mr S. Turner (01245 471575)  
Hall Telephone (message facility) (01245 471970)  
**TREASURER:** Mr N. Bobeldijk (01245 471756)  
**BEAVER CUB LEADER:** Mrs J. Bernardes (01245 476830)  
**BROWNIE GUIDER:** Mrs S. Little (01621 840525)  
**CUB SCOUT LEADER:** Mrs J. Blake (01245 603155)  
**GARDEN & ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION:** Mrs E Tappin (01245 476951)  
**GIRL GUIDES:** Mrs A. Malin (01245 476584)  
**OVER SIXTIES:** Mrs S. Whinney (01245-222239)  
**SANDON W.I.:** Mrs A. Harvey (01245 474294)  
**GROUP SCOUT LEADER:** Mr N. Paul (01245 474891)  
**SPORTS CLUB:** Mr G. Lucas (Secretary) (01245 283730)  
**YOUTH FELLOWSHIP:** Mr P. J. Ellis (01245 222682)

### OTHER ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

Wednesdays	6.00pm	1st Sandon Brownies in the Village Hall
Last Wednesday	2.00 - 4.15pm	Over Sixties Club.
Thursdays	5.00 - 6.15pm	Beaver Cubs in the Village Hall.
	6.15 - 7.45pm	1st Sandon Cub Scouts in Village Hall.
	8.00 - 9.30pm	Sandon Scouts in the Village Hall
2nd Thursday	2.00pm	Women's Institute in the Village Hall.

Please inform the editor of any alterations.

The editor is pleased to accept notices, reports and articles from any Village organisation, whether or not connected with the Church. Inclusion of any such items is at the Editor's sole discretion. Verbal requests for insertions cannot be accepted.

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