



# SANDON TOPICS

## Summer 2014 Newsletter from Sandon Parish Council

Website: [www.sandon.info](http://www.sandon.info)

### The 2014 Annual Assembly

The Annual Assembly of Sandon Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 28th April 2014 at 7.30 pm.

Thanks to all our special guests who attended, including Essex County Councillor Ian Grundy, Chelmsford City Councillors Ian Wright and Bob Shepherd, Chelmsford City Council Planning Officer Claire Stuckey, Julie Fisher – Sandon Village Hall Committee, Christine Hogben - Farleigh Hospice and Dennis Terry (representing the Revd Terry Brown, Rector of St Andrew's, Sandon).

Thanks also to all parishioners for their support. We were very gratified at the turnout, which was much higher than has been the case in recent years. We trust that the opportunity to speak to the PC as well as the representatives from various bodies present was both useful and beneficial.

On a more sombre note, this was the first Annual Assembly since the passing of our colleague Cllr Dianne Neal and it was a bit surreal to not have her vibrant presence in our midst on such an occasion. The Parish Council unanimously decided this year to award the Sandon Cup (for service to our Parish community) posthumously to Dianne. The presentation was made to her husband Brian by the Mayor of Chelmsford Cllr Bob Villa who was the guest of honour at the Open Gardens event held on 18<sup>th</sup> May.



### Sandon Open Gardens

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2014**



What a beautiful day we had for our 5<sup>th</sup> Open Gardens event in Sandon.

The sun shone and the people came from as far afield as East Sussex, Epping, Southend, Shoeburyness, Romford, and so the list goes on. Going back to March a committee was formed in answer to the plea made by Christine Hogben from Farleigh Hospice. As you are all probably aware Dianne Neal had previously organised this event until she sadly passed away last August. Darren Chaplin from Sandon Parish Council bravely stepped forward and offered to bring a committee together under the guidance of Christine. The willing members were persuaded, bribed whatever it took to join together and pull the event off so John Wilsmer from The Old Rectory, Dennis Terry representing St Andrews Church, Andy Hilton (for his sins a friend of Darren's!) started the planning. It was quite a formidable act to follow but we eventually had 12 gardens plus the Classic Car Display on Butts Green, the ever popular barbeque on the Village Green and (new for this year) an Arts Display plus artists at work.



*A display of Classic Cars ... beautiful gardens on show ... music by the Chelmsford Silver Band on the Village Green*

There was a constant stream of visitors queuing for the Taxibuses on the Village Green and the Chelmsford Silver Band played on the green and entertained our visitors. The 'garden hosts' were wonderful opening their gardens, serving endless cups of tea and scrumptious cakes. We were fortunate enough to have the Mayor of Chelmsford Cllr Bob Villa and his wife come along – he was only 4 days into his new role so we felt very honoured.

A bench was presented by the Parish Council to the village in memory of Dianne and the Mayor paid a wonderful tribute to Dianne and also thanked all the garden hosts for their participation in this year's event.

The Sandon Cup was also presented to Brian Neal in honour of Dianne's work in the Parish. After the formalities the Mayor and his wife listened to the band before visiting some of the gardens and taking tea at the Old Rectory – thanks go to Cllr Ron Bullus for escorting the Mayoral party and to John & Yvonne Willsmer for providing the tea.



The bell ringers from the church gave a wonderful peal of bells which certainly added to the occasion.

Comments heard around the gardens – “What a welcome we have received – everybody is so friendly ...”

“Well do you know, I never thought I would see the day when I was opening our garden for visitors – but we have enjoyed ourselves!”

“I have lived on the Green for many years and now through Open Gardens I have met many more of my neighbours. It certainly has added to village life.”

*Dianne's proud family posed for this photo on the bench dedicated to her memory*

Fortunately only the day before - a new addition to the family- namely a dog, prevented Darren from worrying too much – he had been having sleepless nights.

He need not have worried. You all, residents of the village and beyond, enabled a wonderful day to happen and you also raised the wonderful sum of **£3861.82** which will help towards the provision of high quality care for patients and their families.

Farleigh Hospice says thank you very much.

**Report by Christine Hogben – Fundraising Manager Farleigh Hospice**



## **Grass Cutting in Sandon Parish – who's responsible for what?**

At the recent Annual Assembly the question was raised as to who is responsible for maintenance within the parish, as it was noted that some of the areas within Hall Lane/Cards Road/Brook View had not been maintained, especially in view of the forthcoming Open Gardens event. Immediately following the Assembly, the body responsible for this area, Chelmsford City Council, were contacted and it appeared that they had mistakenly omitted this from their schedule. This was rectified within a couple of days and the Parish Council worked hard to ensure that the parish looked its best for the event.

One issue in particular which requires clarification for the benefit of all residents is that strictly speaking grass cutting in Sandon, apart from those areas in the ownership of the Parish Council, is not a responsibility of the Parish Council but rather falls within the purview of Chelmsford City Council, Essex County Council and the Highways Agency.

Below is a useful summary of **which authority or body is actually responsible for grass cutting** in various parts of the Parish. Please do not hesitate, though, to contact the Parish Council via the Clerk if you have any complaints about neglected areas which we might otherwise be unaware of. We will be only too willing to take up matters on your behalf.

**Sandon Village** – the Parish Council is responsible for the allotment site, village green and the small areas of grass outside the church and by the flower bed, together with the Glebe, (apart from the area around the Village Hall which falls under the Sandon Village Hall Committee of Management's responsibility). The grass areas in Hall Lane/Brook View/Cards Road/Gablefields/Lintons (including the pond area) all fall under Chelmsford City Council's remit. All other verges are maintained by Essex County Council Highways.

**Butts Green** – the Parish Council owns and maintains Butts Green together with the other areas running from Brown's Cottage to outside The Turnpike and the verges from Shrublands up to the end of Butts Green Road, also along East Hanningfield Road up to Chelmsford Nursing Home. All other verges come under the responsibility of Essex County Council Highways.

**Howe Green** – the Parish Council does not own any land in this area; the car park area and small grassy area outside St Anne's is owned by Essex County Council although they currently do not maintain it as they should. This is an area currently under discussion and it is hoped to be resolved soon. The remaining verge areas from the car park both north and south should also be maintained by ECC; we are aware of a few issues with regard to overhanging trees and lack of maintenance of the bridleway/cycleway and we are also trying to resolve this. All areas relating to trunk roads, i.e. A12/A130 are the responsibility of the Highways Agency.

**WE EXTEND A VERY WARM WELCOME TO ALL NEW RESIDENTS**

## St Andrew's Sandon - Letter from the Rector



On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2013 I was inducted by the Bishop of Bradwell and the Archdeacon of Chelmsford as your new Rector. I will be celebrating my first anniversary with you at our Church Fete on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July. The fete will be from 1pm to 4pm and will be held in the Paddock of the Old Rectory thanks to John Willmsmer. As I visit in the parish I am overwhelmed by how people are proud of the Village. I have certainly come to share this with you as I have found a good sense of community. During the last year I have tried to build on this by inviting parishioners to events and services and have been pleased with the response. On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August we are holding an event for all of Sandon to attend. We are calling it Tea on the Green at 3pm, which will be followed by a Songs of Praise accompanied by the Salvation Army. Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August is the day we remember the outbreak of the First

World War. The Church will be open and there will be exhibitions of artefacts as well as a chance to light a candle for remember past relatives and friends as well as an opportunity to pray for World peace. At 10pm there will be a service of music, poetry and prayers and will finish at 11pm, the time when War was declared.

The weekend of Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September we are launching a Friends of St. Andrew's Church Sandon. We are holding an open afternoon on both days from 2pm to 4pm when there will be exhibits from our church organisations, as well as a chance to ring one of the bells or have a go with the hand bells. At 3pm on each afternoon there will be a short presentation on the importance of becoming a Friend of Sandon Church. Our church was built over 900 years ago and is one of the most outstanding historic buildings in the area (Grade 2\*). As with any such building there is always need for maintenance and repair. The time has come for major works to the roof, restoration work, cleaning and decorating the interior together with heating and lighting work. We intend to apply for grants but we know that many of them require match funding.

I know that many in the local community value this beautiful old church and churchyard, and I would like to ask you, as a resident of the parish, to consider what part you can play. While not everyone is in a position to give a large amount, I am sure that if we all do what we can, the money will come in. And for every individual or family able to give, their names will be preserved in a sealed time capsule to be placed in the Churchyard.

The sooner we raise the money, the sooner the work can be completed. Local people down the centuries have supported and maintained this beautiful and historic church building, so I hope you are able to play your part in preserving it, both for the benefit of both this and future generations.

I hope to see you at the Open Weekend.

Revd. Terry Brown



## Youth Focus



- ❖ Are you aged 14 to 18?
- ❖ Do you care about what happens in your local area?
- ❖ Do you want to get involved in issues that affect your local community?
- ❖ Do you have lots of enthusiasm and ideas?

Chelmsford Council's Youth Panel gives young people an opportunity to put forward their views on the issues that affect them. The Youth Panel provides lots of opportunities for you to express your opinions about Council services and Chelmsford in general with at least two consultations sent out a year, and at least one meeting. You will receive regular updates via a newsletter, and there will be a chance to enter competitions and prize draws.

If you would like to become a member of the Youth Panel and receive a welcome pack including a free wristband, key ring and pen, please visit <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/youthpanel> and complete a short form.



## Highways

*(Extracts from Cllr David Pearson's report on the Neighbourhood Watch meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> June 2014 – the full report is posted on both the Sandon and Howe Green email forums)*

**Sandon School Parking:** Our PCSO, Sarah Martin, has visited the school at the relevant time three times in the past month and, as a result, 24 letters have been despatched to errant drivers. If you can take timed and dated photos of cars parked off the road, on the pavement and send them to her at [sarah.martin@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:sarah.martin@essex.pnn.police.uk) she will take the necessary steps. Photos must show the registration number of the car and please try to be discreet in taking them - we don't want any confrontations with irate drivers. Your Parish Council are negotiating to install bollards to prevent cars from blocking the pavement outside the school. If it is successful, cars parked there on the double-yellow lines will be subject to fines issued by Chelmsford City Council parking enforcement (not the police).

There have been complaints about **traffic speeding** through the village. The police do speed checks occasionally and I hope to reinstate our **community speed watch** activities shortly. If you can spare the occasional hour or so to monitor traffic speeds, do get in touch. I need more volunteers if we are to get this off the ground. The police run a short training course for those who have not already done one.



## YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

All Parish Council information is available on our website including minutes of meetings at [www.sandon.info](http://www.sandon.info). The Council meets at 7.15p.m on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each Month at St Andrews Church meeting room and on alternate months at Howe Green Chapel. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

<b>SUE DOBSON – CLERK</b> Crack Willows, Mayes Lane, Sandon, CM2 7RP Tel: 01245 227734 <a href="mailto:parishclerk@сандон.info">parishclerk@сандон.info</a>	
Parish Councillors	Areas of responsibility/representation
<b>RON BULLUS</b> Rumbolds House, Hammonds Road, Sandon CM2 7RS Tel: 01245 473633 <a href="mailto:r.bullus188@btinternet.com">r.bullus188@btinternet.com</a>	<b>CHAIRMAN</b> Highways
<b>MARTIN CROSS</b> Magrathea, East Hanningfield Road, Howe Green CM2 7TQ Tel: 01245 478275 <a href="mailto:xfamily@nildram.co.uk">xfamily@nildram.co.uk</a>	<b>VICE CHAIR</b> Finance Sandon Village Hall Committee of Management Parish Transport Committee
<b>CEDRIC CALMEYER</b> 25 Hall Lane, Sandon, CM2 7RJ Tel: 01245 478900 <a href="mailto:cedhilcal@aol.com">cedhilcal@aol.com</a>	Maintenance Allotments
<b>DEE HYATT</b> Peartree Lodge, 2 The Old Orchard, Howe Green CM2 7TX Tel: 01245 478203 <a href="mailto:dee.hyatt@virgin.net">dee.hyatt@virgin.net</a>	Planning Sandon Quarry Liaison Committee
<b>DAVID PEARSON</b> 9 Chalklands, Howe Green, CM2 7TH Tel: 01245 471589 <a href="mailto:david@pearson7.plus.com">david@pearson7.plus.com</a>	Website & Email Forum Neighbourhood Watch Neighbourhood Action Panel
<b>RON ROBBIN-COKER</b> 10 St Swithins Cottages, Howe Green, CM2 7TN Tel: 01245 476808 <a href="mailto:ronrobco@gmail.com">ronrobco@gmail.com</a>	Youth Matters Publicity & Newsletters
<b>DARREN CHAPLIN</b> 2 Gablefields, Sandon, CM2 7SP Tel: 01245 478325 <a href="mailto:drnchpln@aol.com">drnchpln@aol.com</a>	Highways St Andrew's PCC Friends of St Andrew's

## CITY COUNCILLORS

**CHRIS KINGSLEY - 97 Main Road, Danbury, CM3 4DL**  
 Tel: 01245 223744 [c.kingsley@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:c.kingsley@chelmsford.gov.uk)

**BOB SHEPHERD - 2 Chase Cottages, Riffhams Chase, Little Baddow, CM3 4AU**  
 Tel: 01245 223709 [b.shepherd@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:b.shepherd@chelmsford.gov.uk)

**IAN WRIGHT - Farm Cottage, Sporhams Lane, Danbury, CM3 4AJ**  
 Tel: 01245 226289 [i.wright@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:i.wright@chelmsford.gov.uk)

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Chelmsford City Council	01245 606606
Police	01245 491491 Ask for S Woodham Ferrers
Broomfield Hospital	01245 443673
Citizens Advice Bureau	0845 4040506
Neighbourhood Watch	01245 471589

## LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

St Andrew's Church - Priest in Charge	Revd T Brown	01245	698988
Church Wardens	Mrs J Terry	01245	472997
	Mr M Puffett	01245	222066
Bell Ringers	Mr N Tovey	01245	472692
St Andrew's Youth Fellowship	Mrs E Ellis	01245	222682
77 Youth Club	Mrs E Ellis	01245	222682
Women's Institute	Mrs D. Gray	01245	223609
Sports Club	Mr G Lucas	01245	283730
Howe Green URC	Rev J Sermon	01245	601662
Howe Green URC Elder	Mrs P Knott	01245	471691
Village Hall Management Committee	Ms J. Fisher	01245	475976
Brownies	Mrs S Little	01621	840525
Guides	Mrs A. Malin	01245	476584
Beavers	Mrs J Bernades	01245	476830
Cubs	Mrs Jean Blake	01245	603155
Scouts	Miss A. Agombar	07549	206055
Village Hall Bookings	Mr S Turner	01245	471575
Parish Magazine Editor	Mr R. Cecil	01245	224747
Sandon Tiny Tots/Mother and Toddler Group	Mrs A Read	01245	474858
Chelmsford Rambling Club	Ms M Say	01245	381262

Are your details correctly listed? If not, please contact the Parish Council Clerk on 01245 227734 (email: [parishclerk@сандон.info](mailto:parishclerk@сандон.info)) with any updates.