



SANDON TOPICS

Autumn 2013 Newsletter from Sandon Parish Council

Website: www.sandon.info

REMEMBERING DIANNE NEAL



Dianne Dorothy Neal
(22nd December 1945 – 31st August 2013)

AN IRREPARABLE LOSS TO SANDON

On 19th September, many assembled at St Andrew's Church, Sandon to remember and give thanks for the life of Dianne Neal. Rev Terry Brown led the service and the subsequent burial at the Greenwood Cemetery at Herongate Wood. Many in Sandon will have known her for organising the Open Gardens event in aid of Farleigh Hospice for the last four years. In doing that she demonstrated some of the qualities that were celebrated in the Church service. She showed a thoroughness with detail and an ability to negotiate in an affable way. These qualities were also evident in her work with the Parish Council. She was our Vice Chairman when she died on the last day of August 2013.

Dianne was a valued member of the Committee that produced the Village Design Statement for Sandon. She also edited *Sandon Topics*. She had developed considerable knowledge of the various planning guidelines which meant her advice was treated with considerable respect both within the Parish Council and the City as well.

Dianne was clearly very well organised. She had chosen the music to be played at her funeral. It was an unusual selection but clearly from one who knew her own mind. At the funeral alongside Brian, her husband of 48 years, were their three children, Alexander, Natasha and Emily. The basket style coffin was brought into the church to enigmatic strains of The Band of HM Coldstream Guards playing 'The Great Escape'. There was hope in her choice too with 'Hello Again' by Neil Diamond and she was taken out of church to 'We'll Meet Again', by Curtis Stigers.

At the September meeting of Sandon Parish Council (SPC), Dianne's fellow councillors expressed their appreciation of her contributions to the Parish -

Chelmsford City Cllr Ian Wright (for many years previously SPC's Chair): 'Dianne was a truly wonderful lady, who with excellent support from her devoted family, gave so much to this Parish. She established and organised the mammoth task of showcasing Sandon by arranging the Annual Open Gardens event for charity ... I personally owe Dianne a debt I could never repay, for her outstanding support and loyalty whilst I was Parish Council Chairman and she my Deputy. She was fully committed to the Parish and the people living in it. I received the same support from Dianne regarding my City Council duties as she was a mine of information and had her finger on the pulse regarding so many local issues. Although extremely busy, she always made time for people...'

Cllr Ron Bullus (Current chair of SPC): 'Her passing is a great loss to the Council and the local community. She was a delightful person and will be remembered for her kindness, good humour and commitment to serving the interests of Sandon residents. A friend to all.'

Cllr David Pearson: 'Dianne will be greatly missed in the parish for her tireless efforts on our behalf. For example, in her Planning role, she spent days working on the Anaerobic Digester application, studying the application, liaising with other Parish Councils, City and County officials and councillors and instructing our planning solicitor. She was always willing to help and took her responsibilities very seriously.'

SPC Clerk Sue Dobson: 'Di was a very good friend and colleague; we worked so well as a team, often thinking the same thing at the same time to the point we felt we must have had a telepathic link somewhere. She and I shared the same sense of humour and spent many a time putting the world to rights. She was a very special lady and I shall miss her.'

Cllr Ron Robbin-Coker: 'It has been a pleasure and a humbling privilege to have known Dianne Neal and to have spent the past half-decade working alongside her on SPC. Her passing leaves a void in our organisation which will be well nigh impossible to fill.'

Cllr Martin Cross: 'I was "interviewed" by Dianne and the Parish Chairman a few years ago. They explained what being a Councillor entailed and she lent me a book on "How to do it." I learned some things from the book but much much more from Dianne herself. She will be sorely missed in the parish ...'

Requiescat in Pace

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WELCOMING TWO NEW MEMBERS TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

We are pleased to welcome two new councillors who were co-opted on to the Council on 11th November. This brings our team up to full strength.

Married, with two children, **Darren Chaplin** has lived in Sandon for some 10 years. He has an accountancy and financial services background – and is currently employed as a Senior Wealth Adviser. His work involves a great deal of commuting between London, Chelmsford and Cambridge. He is keen to become involved in the local community and, with his financial background and experience, will be a valuable asset to the Parish Council.

Cedric Calmeyer and his wife have been Sandon residents for some 20 years. He originates from South Africa where most of his family still live. His professional life has been spent in the building and construction industry, although these days he only takes on small projects like house extensions, building repair work and decorating. He has now elected to devote his spare time in serving the local community. His business background and experience of the building trade will make him a valuable member of the team.

WE EXTEND A VERY WARM WELCOME TO ALL NEW RESIDENTS

HIGHWAYS

Our frustration with the ECC Highways Department continues. All our efforts, at the moment, are concentrated on establishing a channel of communication between us. To this end, we are trying to get in touch with Mr Paul Bird who is Head of the Highways Department but, as yet, no response. Of course, this is a totally unsatisfactory situation but, until it is resolved, we have no way of pursuing highway issues or reporting to Sandon residents on plans and progress. We will push on this matter until we get a result.

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH GROUPS IN THE PARISH



Introducing 1st Sandon Scout Group



I am delighted to respond to an invitation to tell you something about our Scout Group – and about Scouting!

Scouting is aimed at young people aged 6 to 25, split into five sections: Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Scout Network. The purpose of Scouting is to help young people achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. Those over 25 in Scouting will usually be Leaders, Section Assistants and helpers – whatever their role, their contribution is vital and very much appreciated.

Yes – but is it fun? It most certainly is – the fun element plays a huge part of the activities that are organised. Our activities include week-end, family and summer camps (occasionally abroad) that are very popular.



Our Group has a Beaver Colony, a Cub Pack and Scout Troop and all three sections have helped out in Sandon with community-based activities, such as bulb-planting, litter picking and footpath clearance.

If there are any young people and adults who would like to find out more, do please contact me: Neville.paul@dsl.pipex.com (Group Scout Leader)

Do also please take a moment to look at our website:

www.sandonscoutgroup.org



(Photo: Cubs and Scouts at Brownsea Island, 2013)

Saint Andrew's Youth Fellowship in pictures



SAYF's Annual Presentation Evening was held on 9th July 2013. The event featured a BBQ and a bouncy castle, etc. Membership cards were presented by St Andrew's Churchwardens Janet Terry & Michael Puffett



Presentation of Ellis Trophy for Best Performance as *The Wicked Witch of the Woods* in Red Riding Hood 2013 Pantomime Evelyn Ellis on Microphone (not singing!!!), Dawn Dack, Charlotte Dack winner (Dawns' daughter) & Heather Tovey

Saint Andrew's Youth Fellowship is a local voluntary youth group for kids aged 7-18. SAYF meets Tuesday evenings, 6:30pm to 9:00 pm in school term time. New members always welcome. For further info about the group visit <http://www.sayfsandon.webs.com>

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST ANDREW'S SANDON

- Saturday 7th December Lighting of the Christmas Tree 5pm
- Sunday 8th December 10am Family Service
- Sunday 15th December Christingle Service 4pm
- Sunday 22nd December Candlelit Nine Lessons & Carol Service 6.30pm
- Monday 23rd December Beer and carols at The Crown 7pm.
- Tuesday 24th December Crib service at 4pm
- Tuesday 24th December at 11.30pm Midnight Mass
- Wednesday 25th December at 10am Christmas Day Service with Communion



All at St. Andrews wish you a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Do join us at any of the above services. We would love to see you.

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

All Parish Council information is available on our website including minutes of meetings at www.sandon.info. The Council meets at 7.15p.m on the 2nd Monday of each Month at Sandon Village Hall and on alternate months at Howe Green Chapel. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

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USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Chelmsford Borough Council
Police
Broomfield Hospital
Citizens Advice Bureau
Neighbourhood Watch
LOCAL ORGANISATIONS
Church Warden
Church Warden
Priest in Charge
Sandon Parish Council
Bell Ringers
St Andrews Youth Fellowship
77 Youth Club
Women's Institute
Sports Club
Howe Green URC
Howe Green URC Elder
Village Hall Management Committee
Guides
Brownies
Scouts
Beavers
Mother and Toddler Group
Village Hall Bookings
Parish Magazine Editor
Sandon Tiny Tots Toddler Group
Chelmsford Rambling Club
Parish Council Newsletter

01245 606606
01245 491491 Ask for S Woodham Ferrers
01245 443673
0845 4040506
01245 471589

Mrs J Terry	01245	472997
Mr M Puffett	01245	222066
Mr T Brown	01245	698988
Mrs S Dobson	01245	227734
Mr N Tovey	01245	472692
Mrs E Ellis	01245	222682
Mrs E Ellis	01245	222682
Mrs A Harvey	01245	474294
Mr G Lucas	01245	283730
Rev J Sermon	01245	601662
Mrs P Knott	01245	471691
Mrs J Cecil	01245	224747
Ms J Ronaldson	07939	047987
Mrs S Little	01621	840525
Mr N Paul	01245	474891
Mrs J Bernades	01245	476830
Mrs A Read	01245	474858
Mr S Turner	01245	471575
Mr N Bobeldijk	01245	471756
Mrs A Read	01245	474858
Ms M Say	01245	381262
Mr Ron Robbin-Coker	01245	476808

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