

NEWSLETTER



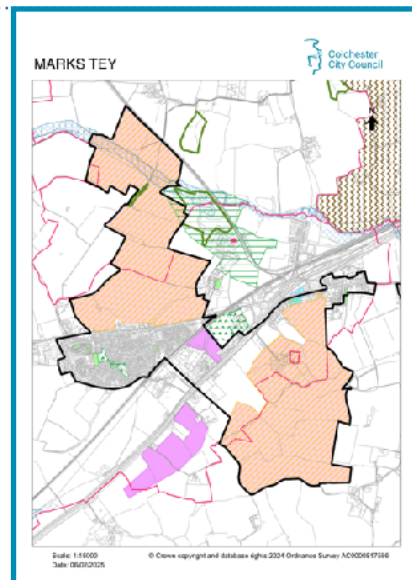
St Andrew's Church, Marks Tey

www.marksteychurch.org.uk

Breaking NewsWhat Tey?

Colchester has for many years met or exceeded its housing targets. The Government's demand for a major increase plus the exclusion of the development of Middlewick has resulted in the draft Local Plan's allocation for 1500 around Marks Tey Hall and a further 1000 to the North of the A120. That's a planned 2,500 new houses. Even over the suggested 15 years this is quite a bombshell and will more than triple the population. But there could be even more housing as developers will be pushing for their sites to be included. Ratification of a Local Plan is a long process and will include consultations and a Planning enquiry. During this process the Parish Council will need full support from residents in the press for the long promised road improvements and better services. Currently there are three vacancies for Parish Councillors.

If you are interested to find out more you can watch Colchester City Council Local Plan Committee Meeting 17.02.2025 on [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) which gives further details. Andrew Waters.



The map is taken from Colchester City Council Preferred Options Local Plan Policies Maps Regulation 18 Consultation 2025 Document. The key to the map can be found on page 3 of the document.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL NB The church hall at St Andrew's is being decorated from Monday 7th April until Friday 18th April so will be unavailable to hire. It will then be available to hire during the daytime during the week. It is ideal for any groups who meet regularly or perhaps a Toddler Group who is looking to either start up or looking for new premises. It is also available most weekends for parties, both children and adults, and general get-togethers. Kitchen included with plenty of crockery & cutlery with oven, hob & microwave. Toilets including one disabled toilet. Parking available. Good access for wheelchairs. Good for seminars and meetings. Tables and Chairs for ~ 70 people. Hire Fees private hire £55 for 3 hours, then £16/hr after or £8 for 30 mins. Contact Yvonne Norman. 07709064599

Men's Breakfast 9.15am 28th March 2025 The Cricketers with Rt Revd Roger Morris, Bishop of Colchester contact Leon whiskersnook@farmside.co.nz by 21st March for details.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals for your family can take place in St Andrew's Church. You don't need to be a regular Sunday worshipper. We are your church, please ask and we'll do our best for you!

This month we will be praying for all who live and work in **Mandeville Road, Honeywood Close, Norman Close, and Bree Avenue.**

For further details/prayer requests, please contact us on: prayer@marksteychurch.org.uk

Worship Services at St Andrew's Church, Church Lane, Marks Tey

You are very welcome to join us on a Sunday morning and afterwards to stay for a drink and refreshments.

2nd March, 11.00am Morning Worship

9th March, 11.00am Morning Worship

16th March, 11.00am Holy Communion

23rd March, 11.00am Morning Worship

30th March, 11.00am Mothering Sunday Family Service (Special present for all mums).

The Church is always open so if you would like a time of quiet reflection or just to look around, do drop in.

Hard Hat Tours of the tower hope to be held on **22nd March**, contact Andrew Waters copford43@gmail.com to be included.

Andrew Waters writes...

Dear Friends,

When I was growing up one of the sayings my mother passed on was 'If a job is worth doing it is worth doing well'.

When our daughter was preparing for her GCSE's I said 'if I know you have done your best I will not moan at your results'. Nearly half of England's Grade 1 listed buildings are Churches. Many of them like 900 year old St. Andrew's were built in small rural villages by men with little or no education. Years ago I realised that one should never underestimate the skills of the medieval craftsmen. In a number of Churches there is a sign saying 'Built to the Glory of God'. As more of the tower structure is exposed the skills of the men who built our village church becomes clearer and admiration grows for the durability of their work.

Everyone doing work or service on God's part should always undertake it to the best of their ability responding to God's love for them. Likewise any parent will do their best for their child. Actually doing one's best in any service to others is an act of respect and leaves a beneficial legacy.

In the last few weeks quality work has been undertaken in creating the profile that will be used to attract a new rector. By the time this newsletter is delivered the profile will be with the Archdeacon for vetting and approval. The post will be advertised in the Church Times for four weeks and on websites of the Diocese and our Patrons the Church Pastoral Aid Society. It is a slow process.

With best wishes,

Andrew

1st Marks Tey & Copford Scout Group

Exciting Opportunities & Events for Our Young Adventurers!

Looking Ahead – Norjam Fundraising!

We're already planning for an exciting event in 2025 – the Norfolk Jamboree, or *Norjam*! Our Scouts will be taking part in this fantastic jamboree, and we can't wait to see them challenge themselves and have a blast. To help fund this incredible experience, we'll be organising various fundraising events in the coming months. We'll also be seeking support from local businesses and the community to help make this event a reality for our Scouts. Please look out for details on how you can get involved and help our Scouts make the most of this amazing opportunity! Thank you for your continued support of the Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts. We look forward to an exciting year of fun, friendship, and adventure with all of our young members, and we hope to welcome new faces to our group soon! Please get in touch if you're interested in joining or volunteering as a helper on Thursday evenings.

Emily Rooney 07917 851337

Akela/Group Lead Volunteer



St. Andrew's Church of England Primary Academy

One of the highlights of this half term has to be the spotlight that has been placed onto music at St Andrew's.

Mrs Shirt, our reception class teacher and music lead, has organised for children in Juniper class to have lessons in playing the toot (a step up from a recorder and the step before the flute). She also set-up a 48 child choir who took part in 'The Big Sing' which was held at The Stanway School - a wonderful opportunity for these children.

On 7th February we took part in the NSPCC Numbers Day. This was a day dedicated to all things maths and the children took part in a range of activities in their own classroom as well as a whole school scavenger hunt. As part of this day children in Juniper (Year 4 and 5) and Sycamore (Year 5 and 6) had a visit from Dr Litterick (a senior maths lecturer from Essex University). This was a wonderful opportunity for our older children to see and hear what maths looks like beyond primary school and to take part in some great activities. Teaching the children to stay safe online is part of the curriculum in every year group at St Andrew's but we also took part in the National Safer Internet Day on 11th February. Later this term we are very much looking forward to World Book Day and Science Week - both of which are sure to be popular and engaging events.

Finally, I would like to inform you that thanks to ATH training, we have managed to obtain and install an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) on our site. It is also being set up on the Circuit website to allow members of the public to be able to use it. The times it is available to members of the public is:

Term Time only, Monday to Friday 08:30 - 15:30

As I'm sure you will agree, having this AED on site could potentially save lives so thank you ATH Training for your wonderful donation. Kind Regards, **Mr. Keith Birbeck Head of School**





New Club

Junction Line Dance Club

Opening Night

☆☆☆☆☆
Friday, 28th March

4th Friday of the month.
Doors open 7:15pm.
Live music from 8pm.
£8 admission.

Marks Tey Parish Hall, Old London Road, CO6 1EJ

Find us on Facebook
Junction 25 Line Dance Club

Contact 07815 125261 to book



Community News.

Community Litter Pick- Saturday, 26th April The snowdrops are out, the daffodils aren't far behind and before you know it it's time for the annual village spring clean. We meet at the Parish Hall around 09.45 to collect our equipment to set out at 10.00 to pick litter for a couple of hours before returning to the hall for hot soup and bacon rolls. This is a family friendly event although not suitable for very young children. Please email cllr.p.wynnewillson@marksteyparish.gov.uk or text 07815125261 if you would like to volunteer as a litter picker, or to help in the kitchen.

Community Picnic These run from 1pm to 3pm on most Wednesdays in the school holidays at the parish hall. £2 per child over the age of 2 ; no charge for adults. The next two are 16th April in the Easter Holiday and 28th May at Half Term. More details to follow in next month's newsletter.

Defibrillators A defibrillator is a device to revive someone in cardiac arrest. The Parish Council have three of them in Marks Tey paid by charitable donations and fundraising events. Two are housed in former public telephone boxes; one by the bus stop at Poplar Nurseries and one at the parade of shops on London Road and the latest one is at the Parish Hall outside the main entrance.

There is an annual cost to have them professionally maintained and there are collection boxes at various local businesses to enable local residents to contribute to this cost so please pop some loose change in when you shop locally.



The Young at Heart group for the over 50's

living in the Marks Tey area meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 2pm to 4pm. We have a variety of activities including quizzes, bingo and games or just come for a chat and to meet and make friends.

Our next meeting is 2pm on 12th March. Come and join us at the Parish Hall, Old London Road where we'll be a 'warm space' during the colder months serving hot sausage rolls as well as the usual tea, coffee, home made cake. All welcome.



For more information contact
Trish on 07815 125261



www.facebook.com/marksteyparishcouncil

Colchester Early Music

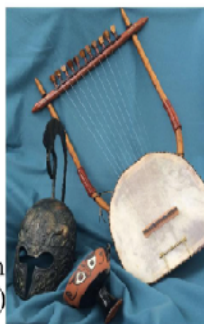
Glorious Early music at St Andrew's Church, Marks Tey

Clare Goodall & Lizzie Gutteridge

"Iliad the musical"

March 9th 2.30-4.30pm

A brand new collaboration between award-winning storyteller Clare Goodall and local musician and series organiser Lizzie Gutteridge with punchy narrative and a mixture of ancient Greek music with modern composition and improvisation on aulos (ancient double pipes) and lyres.



Tickets £15/10 available online & on the door (cash please).
Under 18s free, when accompanied by a paying adult.

Please note: We will sell tickets at the concessionary rate to anyone who asks for one – and we don't need to know why. You might be a pensioner, a student or unemployed, or you may just be waiting for pay day. We'd rather that you come and hear the music without stress than that you struggle to pay or fret about the cost.

www.colchesterearlymusic.org.uk

Thursford Spectacular 2025 The coach has been booked and tickets are reserved for Friday, 14th November 2025. This trip to 'the biggest Christmas show in Europe' is likely to sell out so if you want to register your interest, no obligation, email

cllr.p.wynnewillson@marksteyparish.gov.uk

Tickets will go on sale in August.



The Community Library and Café is on Saturday 1st March from 10am-12.30pm

This month we have Roz Clough from the Health Partnerships and Wellbeing Team to help you with advice and any questions for Colchester City Council. As a designated warm space it is now a community hub and part of Essex Frontline website. Come along, borrow up to 4 books/month. Have a chat with friends and neighbours. Hot soup and sausage rolls, homemade cakes, coffee and tea. Crafts for children, cards and puzzles. We don't make a charge, but do ask for a donation to future community events. Look forward to seeing you. Yvonne

Church Website www.marksteychurch.org.uk

Rector: Vacancy (The Rectory, Church Lane CO6 1LW)
Church Warden: Andrew Waters, 43 London Road, Copford, CO6 1LG 07774 709989
Church Hall & Bookings: Yvonne Norman 29 Coggeshall Rd Marks Tey CO6 1LL Mob 07709 064599
Pastoral: Tim Dooley, 65 Godmans Lane, Marks Tey CO6 1NQ Mob 07878 769843
Treasurer: Yvonne Norman 29 Coggeshall Rd Marks Tey CO6 1LL Mob 07709 064599
Newsletter Editor: Julie Briggs, 8 Keable Road, Colchester CO6 1XB email : juliebrig8@gmail.com

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