

NEWSLETTER



St Andrew's Church, Marks Tey

www.marksteychurch.org.uk

Church Tower Renovation Update

The stripping of the tower exposed several areas of substantial unexpected decay. It took time for an agreement as to the practical and safe way to carry out the repairs. Preparation works have continued during the wait for more oak. Although we had allowances for repairs in the building contract we are expecting costs to increase by at least £11500.

Understandably we are appreciative of the continuing donations and monies raised at the Easter Concert.

The Hard Hat tours on 22 March were very successful and it is hoped that further tours can be organised before the new oak planks are fully fitted. **Andrew Waters.**



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.

4th May, 11.00am Morning Worship

11th May, 11.00am Morning Worship

18th May, 11.00am Holy Communion

25th May, 11.00am Morning Worship

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

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!



HIRING OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL

Now that the church hall at St Andrew's has been redecorated and been fitted with acoustic boards (thanks to Peter Hurcomb), it is available to hire again.

It is 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.

The size of the hall is 24ft x 35ft.9ins or 7.3m x 10.9m but the height is only 7ft 6ins with a maximum of 16ft or 2.2m x 4.8m. There is also another small hall which is 18ft 10ins x 10ft 8ins or 5.75m x 3.5m.

The use of Kitchen is included with plenty of crockery & cutlery together with oven, hob & microwave. There are toilets including one disabled toilet. Parking available. Good access for wheelchairs. Good venue for seminars and meetings. Tables and Chairs for about 70 people. The hire fee for private hire is currently £55 for 3 hours, then £16 per hour after or £8 for 30 minutes.

For regular hire charges & to hire the Hall please contact **Yvonne Norman 07709064599.**

This month we will be praying for all who live and work in **Keable Road, Godman's Lane and Badgers Green**. For further details/prayer requests, please contact us on: prayer@marksteychurch.org.uk



Marks Tey Heritage Project

The dedicated website should be functioning by the beginning of May and with members trained in the loading of further digitised material and stories.

A professional photographer has made his initial inspection of the tower so that we have a series of quality photos and a short video which will be available to see at exhibitions and on line.

The first Oral History recording has now been made and more are to follow shortly. We had four individuals with over 330 years residence in the village sharing numerous great stories and insights which in due course will be available to hear.

Andrew Waters.

Dear Friends,

We all need a degree of change and challenge to grow and develop. However, the level and range of change since Donald Trump became president for a second term has been very unsettling. Along with his fluctuating public comments in relation to Canada, Greenland, Nato, Ukraine and tariffs. Uncertainty seems the new norm and the future of the World concerning unclear. I have been struck by contrast with the words from the letter to the Hebrews written on the stained glass Millennium window in the Church 'Jesus Christ yesterday, today and forever'. A reminder that the Gospel Easter message from 2000 years ago has not changed. Jesus gave his life for our misdeeds and on the third day he rose from the dead. Whilst on Pentecost his spirit was poured out on all who believe and trust in him.

Christian life is built on a firm relationship and a sure hope. Yet a life where there is an expectation and need for change. A change in character and deed to be more like Jesus.

The journey of life has a number of key moments, such as the death of a parent or spouse, when we are drawn to reflect on the changes to who we are, what we are and where we go. Reflecting on my father when he died increased my appreciation of his character and has inspired me in several areas. Many will have a fresh appreciation of the attractive fruitfulness of their loved one's faith. So always be prepared to change to positively benefit yourself and others.

Andrew Waters

DONATING TO ST ANDREW'S CHURCH VIA QR CODE

We have now had a QR developed for donations to St Andrew's church to help with our mission and ministry. If you would like to help us it is very easy to use. The QR code will take you straight to the give-a-little giving page. Tap the link and it will take you to our donating page where you have the chance to choose how much you would like to donate and then you just enter your card details. Anything up to £30 can have gift aid added to it under the small donations scheme, regardless of whether you pay tax or not. Every amount is a great help to us so, thank you in advance.



1st Marks Tey & Copford Scout Group

Exciting Opportunities & Events for Our Young Adventurers!

Looking Ahead – Norjam Fundraising!  Scouts

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

Over the course of this year, Miss Ramsey has continued to ensure the children of St Andrew's have the opportunity to take part in a range of competitive sporting events.

Our most recent outing, to a Netball tournament, saw our team win their group and proceed to the next stage of the competition.

This coming half term, Miss Ramsey has organised for each class to receive a weekly cricket session with an Essex County Cricket Coach - which is a great opportunity and will support us in the future cricket tournaments planned for later in the term!

This term we have enjoyed welcoming parents into school for Juniper class assembly, that included a musical performance on the 'toots'; Chestnut Easter Performance, which included spectacular singing and we finished the term with Parents' evening.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention to the local community that we will be holding our Summer Fair on Friday 4th July, from 3:30pm, and all are welcome to come and enjoy the stalls and help support the school.

Best wishes,

Mr. Keith Birbeck Head of School

St Andrew's Church of England Primary Academy

Mandeville Road, Marks Tey, Colchester, Essex. C06 1HL
Telephone Number: 01206 210638



What an interesting range of services and events we have had this Holy Week.

The Palm Sunday morning service of praise that continued with the concert in the afternoon.

The intimate communion on Maundy Thursday evening when we sat around a table in the Chancel hearing the account of the Last Supper with several of us willing to have our feet washed.

The reflective meditation service at Aldham with the Rev Robin Spittle meditating on the words of Psalms 22, 2 and 23 in the Passiontide story but remembering Tony Campolo's words it's Friday but Sunday is coming.

The walk of witness on Friday afternoon was special. Friendly waves from local residents, very considerate motorists on the A120 and one family stopping their car driving home to run and catch up with us. Well done Tim. And lastly a wonderful Easter Sunday Service. A blessed Easter.

Andrew Waters.

Community News.

Community Litter Pick- Saturday, 26th April 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. Bring your own picnic and we'll supply crafts, bouncy castle, toys and games. Thanks to generous sponsorship from Holmes and Hills Solicitors we don't need to charge an entrance fee.

Tea, coffee, squash, biscuits and fruit & veg snacks are available and we do ask for a donation towards the cost of these.

Join us at our next one on 28th May at half term.



COMMUNITY LIBRARY AND CAFÉ VE Day CELEBRATION

ON MAY 3RD AT MARKS TEY PARISH HALL

10am to 12:30pm

Come down and help us celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE day. The hall will be decorated and the music will be playing to add to the atmosphere. The wonderful homemade cakes, with a VE Day theme, will be out to go with a cuppa or perhaps even a Camp coffee! Have a cream tea too.

Andrew Waters will be bringing a display of Marks Tey and surrounding villages during the war. Do you have any memorabilia of the war that you would like to share with us? If so, please bring it down.

All the books will be available for you to choose from across all genres and it is free to join. You can borrow up to 4 books per person and there is a lot of books for children to choose from and they have a craft table too. Got a favourite author? If you can't find a book by them on the shelves please ask as we may have more in our overflow cupboards as we can't put them all out at once.

Sue will have her wonderful homemade cards for sale and Corinne will be bringing her plants at £1 per plant. She can also give advice on how to look after them. Like doing a jigsaw? We have a big selection at £2 each.

It's a lovely way to spend the morning meeting up with friends and neighbours and having a chat over a cuppa and borrowing a good book or two and this month will be even more special.

IF YOU CAN WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO MAKE US A CAKE PLEASE AS WE'RE HOPING TO HAVE A LOT OF PEOPLE COME

Look forward to seeing you.

Yvonne 07709064599



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 14th of May. Come and join us at the Parish Hall, Old London Road for tea, coffee, home made cake.

All welcome.



For more information contact Trish on 07815 125261



Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/marksteyparishcouncil



Lydia Wrenn and her husband David moved to Ashbury Drive in 1971. Many will remember her as the lady on the bike. She was one of many who worked at By-Pass Nurseries helping grow the primroses. Her Funeral will be on Monday 28th April at 11am in St. Andrew's Church.

Public Meeting 26th April 5-7pm in the Parish Hall

Organised by the Parish Council to look at the allocation of 2,500 new houses, centred on Marks Tey, under the Local Plan.

Seeking your views and sharing information on the proposed plans.

Extracts of the plan will be available to view.

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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