

# NEWSLETTER



St Andrew's Church, Marks Tey

[www.marksteychurch.org.uk](http://www.marksteychurch.org.uk)

## List of Candidates for the May elections

### Thursday May 7th 2026

### Voting Hours 7am to 10pm

Election of Councillor to Colchester City Council for Marks Tey and Layer Ward.

- Andrew Patrick Harding (Reform)
- Mark John Hull (Liberal Democrats)
- Berthold Lausen (Green)
- Jackie Maclean\* (Conservative)
- Wayne Tearle (Labour)

Election of Councillor to Essex County Council for the Stanway and Marks Tey Division

- Amir Anbouche (Liberal Democrats)
- Kevin Paul Bentley\* (Conservative)
- Andrew Patrick Harding (Reform)
- Lesley Anne Scott-Boutell (Independent)
- John Spademan (Labour and Co-operative)

Don't forget to Vote in the Local Elections.

Remember to bring photographic ID to vote.

## Worship Services at St Andrew's Church,

Church Lane, Marks Tey

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Sunday 3rd May</b>  | <b>11am Morning Worship</b><br>With Rev Wendy Pagden |
| <b>Sunday 10th May</b> | <b>11am Morning Worship</b><br>With Andy Carter      |
| <b>Sunday 17th May</b> | <b>11am Holy Communion</b><br>With Rev John Chandler |
| <b>Sunday 24th May</b> | <b>11am Morning Worship</b><br>With Helen Swaris     |

**Sunday 31st May**

**NB 10 am Combined Morning Worship will be at Wakes Colne Church**

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

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!

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

**Local Medieval Minstrel** Lizzie Gutteridge, who can be found running the Colchester Early Music concert series at St Andrew's Church over the winter months, is setting off on a new venture this summer. Combining her regular work as a performer of live-looped arrangements of Medieval and Renaissance music with her love of cycling, she's setting off on her bamboo bicycle to give concerts throughout East Anglia. Lizzie has been using loop pedals to give ancient melodies a modern spin for over a decade already, bringing her lively arrangements of everything from C13th dances to Holbourne consorts and Playford catches to audiences in churches, pubs and folk clubs as **"Consort of 1"**. Her latest programme makes use of a compact collection of reproduction instruments including recorder, chalumeau, bagpipe and sordune, as well as some small percussion and vocals. Packing all of this, along with a small amp and all the necessary

electronics, into her panniers, she'll be doing a few day trips from home before heading off for a week towards Norwich in July. The tour is called **"Fortune's Wheels"**, referring to the Medieval concept of luck and how what comes around goes around....

She can be seen on 14th of May at 6.30pm at Mettle Works, Chelmsford and 11th June 1pm St Andrew's Church - Earls Colne.





### Dear Friends, Prayer

There are very few people who have not prayed at sometime. The expression 'There are no atheists in foxholes' is attributed to US Army Chaplain William Cummings who was addressing a unit under intense bombardment in the Philippines.

The celebrated war time Archbishop William Temple once said "When I pray coincidences happen. When I don't they don't."

In World War 2 there were 7 National Days of Prayer. The most famous is probably that on 26th May 1940 when the British Army of over 300,000 men was being driven back to the beaches of Dunkirk. It looked as if only a few thousand could be evacuated and a miracle was needed to prevent total defeat. In the end 338,000 British and French soldiers were rescued.

The second and third were during the Battle of Britain on 11th August and 8th September 1940. Later Air Vice Marshall Dowding said "I will say with absolute conviction that I can trace the intervention of God ..... Humanly Speaking victory was impossible." After each national day of prayer significant things happened which changed the course of the war.

Over the last couple of months a group of us have been earnestly praying for a woman with a one year old child who faced losing everything due to a serious drink problem. Thanks to family support, attending AA meetings, and prayer she is now in control and helping others to recover.

On May 15th & 16th we will again be organising at least 24 hours of continuous prayer. Prayers will be offered over our village school, our community, besides our Church, situations in the world and for friends to come to faith. This will be part of the Thy Kingdom Come ecumenical worldwide wave of Prayer running in 90% of countries and 85 denominations between Ascension 14th May and Pentecost 24th May. This year's theme, **God With Us**, reminds us that God is present in joy and in sorrow, often through the quiet work of His Spirit and through the love and care of others. Material available on line [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global) and in the Church. **Andrew Waters.**

### St Andrew's Church of England Primary Academy

As we move forward together in the life of our school and wider community, it has been a joyful and productive time for our children.

We were absolutely delighted to host our very first Rock Steady concert, which proved to be a tremendous success.

The children performed with remarkable confidence and passion, showcasing not only their musical talents but also their growing self-belief. It was a proud moment for staff, families, and the children themselves.

Parents' Evening also provided a valuable opportunity to come together, reflect on each child's academic progress, and share clear targets for the summer term. These conversations are so important in ensuring we continue to support every child in reaching their full potential.

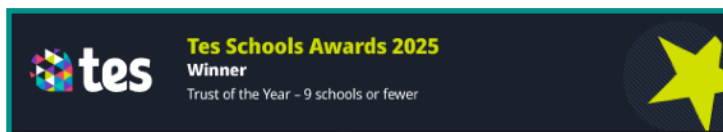
A particular highlight of the term was Chestnut Class's Easter performance. It was truly incredible, with the singing standing out as especially impressive. The children demonstrated great dedication and enthusiasm, and it was a pleasure to see their hard work come to life.

As we enter the summer term, there is much to look forward to. We are excited for sunny days on the field, our upcoming Sports Week, Summer Fairs, and many more opportunities for learning, laughter, and community spirit.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Best wishes, **Mr. Keith Birbeck** Headteacher

St Andrew's Church of England Primary Academy  
Mandeville Road, Marks Tey, Colchester, Essex. CO6 1HL  
Telephone Number: 01206 210638.



Young at Heart meets on **The Young at Heart Group** for the over 50's living in the Marks Tey area **the first Wednesday of the month from 2pm to 4pm.** We have a variety of activities including guest speakers, quizzes, bingo and games or just come for a chat and to meet and make friends. Come and join us at the Parish Hall, Old London Road for our next meeting on **6th of May** for tea, coffee and delicious home made cake. All welcome.



For more information contact  
Trish on 07815 125261



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MARKS TEY ANNUAL ASSEMBLY  
**PRIDE OF MARKS TEY AWARDS**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May  
7-9pm  
Marks Tey Parish Hall

E: ASSISTANT.BOOKINGS@MARKSYTEYPARISH.GOV.UK

Nominations are now in for **the Pride of Marks Tey Awards**. This is Marks Tey Parish Council's first community awards ceremony. The judges will be looking for ambassadors whose contribution to our village improves life for residents and whose commitment is outstanding. All nominees and candidates for the award will receive an invitation to the **Marks Tey Annual Assembly Pride of Marks Tey Awards** at the Parish Hall on Monday 18th May. Who will win these 'Special Community Awards'?



**MARKS TEY SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
In aid of Essex & Herts Air Ambulance  
St Andrew's Church and MTPC Community Events

**FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY**

**SATURDAY, 29TH AUGUST**  
12:00 TO 18:00 AT MARKS TEY PARISH HALL  
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**Village Spring Clean** . We were blessed with a lovely sunny day for our village spring clean in March. Armed with sticks and hoops our Wombles removed 20 or so large sacks of rubbish off our streets and reported three fly tips which were cleared by Colchester City Council soon afterwards. Thank you to all our volunteers who brought a bit of sparkle to the village and those who manned the kitchen to feed them on their return. A big thank you also to our litter warriors who go out regularly all year round to litter pick. You really do make a difference. We'll be doing it all again on **26<sup>th</sup> September** so come and join us then.



photo of Anita Hargreaves and Adrian Binckes

The Deadline for Contributions for the June Edition of the St Andrew's Church Newsletter is **15th May 2026**.

**Community Picnic**  
Our next Community Picnic will be on **Wednesday, 27th May 12:00 to 3pm** at the Parish Hall. Bring your own picnic and we'll provide the fun with bouncy castle, dress up, crafting, toys and games. Tea, coffee, squash and snacks are available. There is no charge for entry due to Holmes and Hills Solicitors kindly sponsoring these afternoons.



**Community Library and Café**  
**Saturday 2nd May Marks Tey Parish Hall**  
10am-12.30pm

Come down to the Parish Hall on May 2nd and see what it is all about. It is a good place to catch up with people you may not have seen for a while and have a chat over a cuppa and a piece of home-made cake. If anyone is a baker we would really appreciate a cake if you would be able to make one for us please. We like to have as big a selection as possible. It is all donations only which go towards future community events. Thank you.

We have a lot of books on our bookcases for you to borrow but if you have a favourite author then we may have more books of theirs in our stock cupboards, so please ask. There is a big children's section with lots of books for them to read and a craft table for them too. There isn't any fee to join, and you can borrow up to 4 books per person for a month and you can even renew them if you haven't quite finished.

We have also started a Craft Corner where you can bring your own crafts, whether it is knitting or crocheting or something else, and sit with others to chat and perhaps learn a new craft. Sue can even show you how to make your own handmade cards.

We will have two craft tables:- Sue with her homemade cards and Jo with diamond craft gifts. Both are very beautiful. Corinne will be there with some of her plants too at £1 each. Look forward to seeing you. **Yvonne 07709064599**



**Whit and Natter Sip and Sew**

**Crafty Corner**  
First Saturday of the month  
10:00 to 12:00  
at **Community Library**  
Parish Hall  
Old London Road, CO6 1EJ

*Bring your own materials*

**Church Website** [www.marksteychurch.org.uk](http://www.marksteychurch.org.uk)

**Rector:** Vacancy (The Rectory, Church Lane CO6 1LW )

**Church Warden:** Andrew Waters, 43 London Road, Copford, CO6 1LG 07774 709989

**Pastoral:** Tim Dooley, 65 Godmans Lane, Marks Tey CO6 1NQ Mob 07878 769843

**Treasurer: + Church Hall & Bookings:** 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](mailto:juliebrig8@gmail.com)

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