

NEWSLETTER



St Andrew's Church, Marks Tey

www.marksteychurch.org.uk

Church Tower Renovation Update

The building works are now well underway behind the sheeting. The spire has been stripped of the shingles, sections of the boards beneath have been removed so some modest repairs could be made. The overall condition of this spire was better than expected due to the extent of previous work. The belfry section has been stripped and the timbers cleaned. For the first time in centuries one can fully see and appreciate the structure. More elements have been replaced in the past than I had appreciated. All the professionals have been amazed at how such large heavy timbers could have been put together 30 foot off the ground more than 500 years ago.

Mainly on the lower stage there are significant areas of decay and weakening to the timber frame where moisture has got in and major difficult repairs are being made by skilful carpenters. Andrew Waters.



Easter Services St Andrew's Church,

Church Lane, Marks Tey

Mothering Sunday 30th March,

11.00am Family Service
(Special present for all mums).

Passion Sunday 6th April,

11.00am Morning Worship
Incorporating Annual Meeting

Palm Sunday 13th April,

11.00am Morning Worship
3.00pm Easter Concert.

Maundy Thursday 17th April

7.30pm Holy Communion

Good Friday 18th April

9.15am Reflective Service *at Aldham Church*

Easter Sunday 20th April ,

11.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 27th April,

11.00am Morning Worship

You are very welcome to join us on a Sunday morning and stay for refreshments afterwards. The Church is always open so if you would like a time of quiet reflection or just to look around, do drop in.



More from the
Beavers, Cubs
and Scouts
inside...



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 venue for seminars and meetings. Tables and Chairs for approximately 70 people. Hire Fees private hire £55 for 3 hours, then £16/hr after or £8 for 30 mins. For regular hire charges and to hire hall please contact Yvonne Norman. 07709064599.

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.

Happy Easter to all our readers.

This month we will be praying for all who live and work in *LongGreen, Wilson's Lane, Stane Field, Ley Field and Dinants Crescent.*

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

Iain MacCallum Churchwarden for Aldham writes...

Dear Friends,

What I wanted to talk about was a chance remark a visitor from Friends of Essex Churches made when he asked about our progress with the search for a new Priest-in-Charge of the six churches. I told him we now had the proof copy of the advertisement that will appear in the next issue of the Church Times. He nearly fell off his chair! His church had been in Vacancy for 18 months before they had got this far!

Our Vacancy began on 27th October 2024 when there was a farewell to Ian and Jane at Chappel Village Hall. The search for a new incumbent was outlined in the December/January Newsletter. Since then, two members of each of the six churches were appointed to produce the Profile, a document that describes the churches and the kind of person we would like to have as our next Priest-in-Charge. Emma Hopkins has collated all contributions. The Profile is on the Diocese of Chelmsford website. In anticipation of the interviews, a group of 8 selectors have been appointed, two from each PCC. These are Andrew Waters and Emma Hopkins for Marks Tey, and Coral Wingate and Iain MacCallum for Aldham.

Since the last inter-regnum in 2009, diocesan procedures have changed and the Archdeacon now takes a more prominent role. Our Archdeacon, Ruth Patten, is only now emerging from a long illness (please pray for her) and the Archdeacon of Stansted, Kate Peacock, is leading the process. With input from the 12, she has formulated the Advertisement, a copy of which may also be found on the Diocesan website. This Link will take you to the Advertisement <https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/vacancies/priest-in-charge-marks-tey-aldham-great-little-tey-wakes-colne-chappel>

This Link will take you to the profile https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/uploads/vacancy/Teys_etc_Parish_Profile_final_March_2025_1.pdf

Meanwhile it's business as usual at both Marks Tey and Aldham, where we are being supported by a variety of interesting visiting preachers to whom we are most grateful. It's still 9.15am at Aldham and 11.00am at Marks Tey. Why not come along? You'll be made most welcome at either church. While you have the opportunity, why not come and sample this variety of talks. Our services are easy to follow on screen or in Service Books. There's always coffee, tea and biscuits after the service.

Iain MacCallum, Churchwarden.

St Andrew's Church of England Primary Academy



Over the last week or so we have very much enjoyed seeing daffodils appear around school. This has acted as a natural reminder to us that our plans for creating an opportunity for our children to learn more about gardening needs to commence. Over the last few months we have received a generous donation of seeds and equipment from Poplar Nurseries and during the months of March, April and May we will be creating gardening spaces and opportunities for the children of St Andrew's to engage with these.

This year we took part in British Science Week and each class spent a period of each day focusing on a progressive set of science lessons:

Oak - precious planet - animal classification and adaptation which included building effective dam's.

Maple - investigations linked to Fairy Tales such as 'Is ginger bread really the most resilient biscuit to build a house from?'

Chestnut - creating the perfect silly putty. Conducting a fair test to discover which ingredients make the best silly putty.

Juniper - sustainable packaging including making beeswax covers and finding out the best way to store food items.

1st Marks Tey & Copford Scouts



Exciting Times for Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts!

Our troop has been buzzing with activity! Our young people had a magical start to the year with St. Andrew's Church annual Christingle service in January. It was a beautiful service of singing, candlelight and reflection, where they joined in celebrating the spirit of the season.

Beavers: Bath Bombs! The Beavers had a fantastic time visiting the Lush shop to make their own bath bombs as part of their Science badge, and it was a great way for the Beavers to explore the chemistry behind these fizzy creations. The Beavers loved mixing different ingredients and experimenting with colours and scents. It was both fun and educational, they couldn't wait to take their bath bombs home!

Cubs: Sleepover Fun at Go Bananas Soft Play

The Cubs enjoyed an unforgettable sleepover at Go Bananas Soft Play in February! The Cubs played, took part in fun games, and challenged each other in exciting activities. The sleepover was a fantastic way for the Cubs to work on their teamwork and build friendships, all while having an absolute blast!

Scouts: Essex County Backpack Challenge A huge congratulations to our Scouts who took part in the Essex County Backpack Challenge in February! Our Boys Under 12's team made an impressive debut, finishing 5th out of 60 teams. The weekend-long event, included hiking, map reading, and team-building exercises. Our Scouts showed incredible resilience and teamwork, tackling each task with enthusiasm and determination. You did us proud, working hard all weekend and demonstrating the true spirit of Scouting. We couldn't be more proud of their efforts, and we're already looking forward to next year's event!

Thank You to Our Community and Supporters

A big thank you to all the parents, volunteers, and community members who continue to support our Scout Troop. Your time, energy, and dedication help make these fantastic experiences possible for our Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts. Whether it's through volunteering at events, attending our activities, or supporting our fundraising efforts, you play a crucial role in the success of our troop. We're looking forward to another exciting term, and we hope to see you at our upcoming events. Thank you for your continued support, and here's to more adventures ahead! Yours in Scouting, *The Local Scout Troop Leaders.*

Sycamore - testing and designing inventions including making their own vacuum cleaners.

Another highlight of the last few weeks was the Year 6 CarWash. This is a new initiative whereby Year 6 are using their pot of 'end of year treat money' (kindly donated to them by our wonderful PTA) to create events to grow this money for an even better treat. A way of teaching enterprise, hard work and the value of money! This event raised over £300 and they will be holding another event in the summer term

Best Wishes, Mr Keith Birbeck Head of School

Community News.Spring Litter Pick 26h April 2025

Come and help spring clean the village. We'll meet at the Parish Hall, litter pick around the village for a couple of hours then head back to the hall for refreshments. All equipment will be provided by Colchester City Council but do bring gloves (gardening gloves or similar) and wear suitable footwear. This is a family friendly event but not suitable for very young children. If you would like to volunteer to pick litter or help out in the kitchen then please contact

Trish Wynne-Willson on 07815 125261.

Community Picnic These run from 12 noon 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 & games. £2 per child over the age of 2 ; no charge for adults. Join us at our next one on 16th April for the Easter Holiday and 28th May at half term.

The Community Library and Café is on Saturday **5th April** from 10am-12.30pm. As we are in the small hall there is reduced space. There will still be a bookcase of children's books and a smaller craft table for them. We are only going to put out the bookcases of fiction books and some of the jigsaws. This is to leave enough room for the tables and chairs of the café.

There isn't any fee to join, and you can borrow up to 4 books per person for a month and renew them if you haven't quite finished reading them.

Borrow a great book and have a coffee/tea, cake and chat. It is a good place to catch up with people you may not have seen for a while and have a chat over a drink and piece of home-made cake. We don't make a charge for refreshments but do ask for donations towards future community events..

On **May 3rd** we will be Celebrating **VE Day 80**.

At the **Community Library and Cafe** 10am-12.30pm

Please Save The Date and Help Us Celebrate.

If you can would you be able to make us a cake please as we're hoping to have a lot of people come.

Hope to see you there . Yvonne 07709064599



1st Tey Rainbows It's been a busy start to 2025 and our newest Rainbows have settled in well and all made their promise confidently just before half term.

We are working on the theme of 'Know Myself' and the girls have enjoyed activities including playing Victorian style games, making magical illusion scenes and creating drawings larger than themselves. They have also learned new campfire songs which they performed to other Brownies, Guides and Rangers at our District Pyjama Party to celebrate Thinking Day. Most of the girls were able to attend this event and re-made their promise online with Rainbows from the whole of the Anglia region. The eldest girls also had the opportunity to sleep over.

We all enjoyed celebrating Shrove Tuesday by decorating pancakes with sweet fillings and toppings and are looking forward to making some Mother's Day gifts and taking part in some Easter fun. We will end the term with our usual badge presentation at which we will be proud to present our longest-serving Rainbow with her Gold Award before she moves on to Brownies.

If you feel your daughter (or granddaughter) would be interested in becoming a Rainbow, please register at: <https://go.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us/join-as-member/>



The St Andrew's Marks Tey Worship Band is holding a **Lent and Easter Concert** on **Palm Sunday 13th April** at 3pm in the church. We will be singing well known hymns and songs by contemporary songwriters: Opportunity to donate to the tower repair fund: refreshments afterwards. Mark J Hull per pro St Andrew's Church Worship Band: 07754 762190



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 **9th April**. 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

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.



Church Website www.marksteychurch.org.uk

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 I am a Violin Teacher.
 I graduated from the Conservatory in Ukraine. I have extensive experience teaching violin. My name is Nadiia.
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 Call me on 07512 814813

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