



St Andrew's May Festival Programme

Welcome to our May Festival

There has been a church building on the very site where St. Andrew's Church resides since at least 1086, and possibly even earlier in Saxon times, so this has been a place offering worship to God for about 1000 years.

Today, St. Andrew's Church community is alive and well, and wants to invite you, as part of our wider community, to join us in a whole month of celebrations; St. Andrew's May Festival 2024.

These pages reveal an extraordinary range of events for every age group. In all of the events you will hear how a faith in Jesus changes and enriches the lives of people just like us.

Come and join us for as much of this extraordinary month as you can.

Most events and activities are free and no booking required. A few are ticket only and need to be booked.

Ticket Bookings email: star2024@gmx.co.uk

For Festival enquiries and information please use the .gmx email above or email the vicar: alancomfort11@gmail.com



FRIDAY 3rd May

'Chinwag'

A Community Tea for the over 60s

FRIDAY 3rd MAY

2 - 4pm in St Andrew's Church Hall

Communities Together East Anglia in conjunction with our Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council launch this monthly event at the start of our May Festival. A free and welcoming event of community fellowship for all over 60s. On offer will be refreshments, activities and entertainment with plenty of time to 'chinwag' and meet people.

Do come and enjoy this new initiative, it is for you...

**COMMUNITEA
CHINWAG**
Rushmere St Andrew
2024

- Friday 3rd May
- Friday 7th June
- Friday 5th July
- Friday 2nd August
- Friday 6th September
- Friday 4th October
- Friday 1st November
- Friday 6th December



What is a 'Chinwag'?

A 'Chinwag' is a social group for the over 60's. We offer free refreshments, activities and entertainment, plenty of chat and an opportunity for anyone to come along, regardless of their interests, challenges, mental health, physical difficulties and caring status.

**FREE
Event**

Time: 2pm-4pm
Venue:
The Church Hall at
St Andrew's Church, The
Street, Rushmere St Andrew,
IP5 1DH

Funded by: Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council





SATURDAY

4th May

Hope for Creation?

A Community Concert finding God's way

SATURDAY 4th MAY

7pm in St Andrew's Church

A lively presentation of musical items, dramatic interludes, and readings by members of St Andrew's Church and their friends on the theme of Creation, how the actions of mankind are undermining it and how we can still turn things round.

- The show will last about 75 minutes.
- There is no charge for admission.
- No need to book, just come and enjoy!
- Expect some audience participation!
- Light refreshments afterwards.

Held in conjunction with St Edmundsbury Cathedral and Richard Hubbard, the Music Development Director for the diocese.





SUNDAY 5th May

Songs of Praise

A morning Songs of Praise Service

SUNDAY 5th MAY

10am - 11am in St Andrew's Church

A morning Songs of Praise service rejoicing with many of your favourite hymns and songs that bring joy and hope! Celebrating the festival theme of Creation - we plant but it is God that makes it grow.

Please join this celebration and if you have a suitable favourite hymn or song either:

email the title to star2024@gmx.co.uk or

write it down drop it into church marked 'Songs of Praise'.

The Open Door is open every weekday from 10am - 12noon for refreshments and fellowship – just leave it with them or leave it next to the 'Prayer Tree'.

Deadline for suggestions is Thursday 25th April.





THURSDAY 9th May

Up, Up and Away *Special Interactive Toddler Worship* THURSDAY 9th MAY

11 - 11.30am in St Andrew's Church

All toddlers, their brothers, sisters and carers are most welcome to join in this very special Toddler Group Service.

Come and enjoy fellowship with other families.

If you feel comfortable with the group do ask one of the leaders about coming regularly or contact the vicar - the Toddler Group meet every Thursday in the church hall from 9.45 - 11.30am in term time.





THURSDAY

9th May

Ascension Day Service

With Special Guest Speaker

THURSDAY 9th MAY

7.30pm in St Andrew's Church

An Ascension Day Evening Holy Communion service featuring different styles of music, reflecting the festival theme of sustainability and community.

Guest speaker Alan Cutting, the lead person in 'Together for Ipswich' Ukraine Support Group.

Alan has worked as a pastor for 20 years and in more recent years his primary role has been to support churches across the world in their mission to their communities. Since the recent Russian invasion of Ukraine, much of his time has been spent with the Ukrainian community that presently call Ipswich their home.





SATURDAY 11th May

Festival Breakfast

A football themed event for all ...

SATURDAY 11th MAY

9am-11am at Dumbarton Hall

Breakfast for all in Dumbarton Scout Hall on Dumbarton Road recreation ground.

A football themed event: following breakfast the eloquent guest speaker is Graham Daniels – now the General Director of Christians in Sport and a director of Cambridge United Football Club. Recently recognised for his outstanding contribution to Cambridge United Football Club. He is a former Cardiff City and Cambridge United player, having played alongside the likes of David Moyes, Andy Sinton, and our vicar Alan Comfort!

A no-charge full cooked breakfast. Please book your ticket – either email star2024@gmx.co.uk or contact Kevin (01473 729125) or Tim at church.

If you are able, donations will be welcome.





SATURDAY 11th May

Guest Dinner

A not to be missed evening, only £15!

SATURDAY 11th MAY

7pm in St Andrew's Church

A delightful evening with a three course dinner with musical accompaniment followed by an after dinner speaker.

The extraordinary musical team of Rachel and Ken Bartels will be showcasing their musical instruments during their evening recital while you enjoy your dinner. The exquisite sound of the Welsh Harp and wind instruments is a thing to behold, that at times is so beautiful that time stands still. The couples musical attunement will turn this special dinner into a beautiful recital.

Graham Daniels, the director of Christians in Sport will be giving the after dinner talk - not to be missed.

Book your tickets now: email star2024@gmx.co.uk or at church. Tables of eight if you wish to reserve a whole table for your friends and neighbours. Tickets £15 per person.





SUNDAY 12th May

Festival Guest Service

Worshipping God's Creation

SUNDAY 12th MAY

10am at St Andrew's Church

The main Festival Worship Service for all the family.
A family non-communion service with guest speaker
Dr Graham Daniels.

As well as General Director of Christians in Sport Graham
is a lecturer at Ridley Hall theological college in Cambridge.

He has spent many years travelling the globe and speaking on
many national and global platforms.

The service is followed by tea, coffee, soft drinks and
fellowship in the adjoining church hall.





WEDNESDAY 15th May

'A-May-zing Love'

Mothers' Union Festival Meeting

WEDNESDAY 15th MAY

2.30pm - 4.30pm

in St Andrew's Church and in the hall

This meeting is open to all men and women, you do not have to be a member.

This Wednesday afternoon the MU will host a special 'Festival Tea' – St Andrew's MU is renowned for its teas! The afternoon starts with a short worship service followed by a thought provoking talk from Dr Jill Comfort, titled 'A-May-zing Love', about her therapy work with children in London - recalling God's touch on little lives, the power of God's love and the privilege Jill feels when sitting alongside little ones and seeing how God knows their hearts' needs. The MU is a Christian organisation whose main purpose is to strengthen and preserve marriage and family life. For more information email: star2024@gmx.co.uk





SUNDAY 19th May

Pentecost Praise

Morning Service

SUNDAY 19th MAY

10am in St Andrew's Church

Someone once said "The Holy Spirit gives me everything I need". Do you need God's help? Come and find out more.

The service is followed by tea, coffee, soft drinks and fellowship in the adjoining church hall.





WEDNESDAY 22nd May

StAR Youth Club

Festival Evening with Guest Speaker

WEDNESDAY 22nd MAY

6.30 – 8.00pm in Church Hall

All young people of school years 4 to 11 are welcome to this special evening of group games, refreshments and a talk by Matt Levett, a trustee of Sizewell Hall and a youth and young adult enabler for the diocese.

Another great evening for young people.

Earlier in May StAR Youth Club will be having a special group outing to Ipswich Clip 'n Climb.

StAR Youth Club meets in St Andrew's Church Hall every Wednesday during term time from 6.30 – 8pm.

For further information please email:

yfworkerstar@gmail.com



SATURDAY 25th May

The Festival Concert *London Community Gospel Choir* **SATURDAY 25th MAY** **7.30 start in St Andrew's Church**

St Andrew's Church is delighted to welcome this internationally-renowned group of singers and their supporting instrumentalists for ninety minutes of joyous, infectious music. It will be a rousing finale to our May Festival and a challenge to stay in your seat!

The London Community Gospel Choir was formed in 1982 to spread an important message of peace and unity in diversity through music and faith. Pioneering the sound of British Gospel Music they soon rose to fame and went on to become Europe's leading Gospel band.

Admission by ticket only in advance. £15 adult, £10 child

Email: star2024@gmx.co.uk for ticket reservations or from Tim or Graham in church.





SUNDAY 26th May

Trinity Sunday

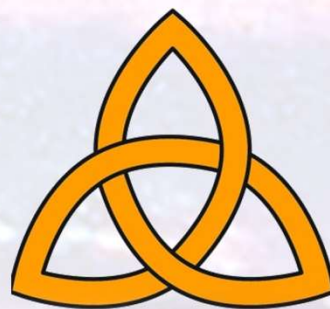
Main Sunday Worship

SUNDAY 26th MAY

10 - 11am in St Andrew's Church

A communion service with a guest singer from the London Community Gospel Choir supported by members of the church choir

The service is followed by tea, coffee, soft drinks and fellowship in the adjoining church hall.





SUNDAY 26th May

Messy Praise Party!

Messy Church

SUNDAY 26th MAY

3pm - 5pm in Dumbarton Hall

For children and adults in Dumbarton Hall on Dumbarton Recreation Ground. We are thrilled to welcome you to a special end of festival 'Messy Church' – a Messy Praise Party!

A member of the London Community Gospel Choir is going to burst into the hall to lead with Jill and the StAR team in this afternoon of sheer crazy joy, fun, and musical energy.

There will be the usual light sabres and balloons, party food (Sausage and burgers for all tastes) and stories set within Kids Style gospel music!

A fantastic party time, sharing God's fantastic love to our community. Contact the vicar: alancomfort11@gmail.com or phone: 01473 270976 for more information

