



ASH AND RIDLEY CHURCH NEWS JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2023



A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS!

So here we are with Christmas behind us, looking forward to the events of the coming year. But before we leave the festive season entirely, here are some images from our wonderful Christmas tree festival to remind you.





2022 Tree Festival

The 10th anniversary was a great success with hundreds of people visiting our church. Every year the entries are more and more creative. Many thanks to all who took part and to all who helped. The refreshments were as popular as ever!

A few small prizes were given to those who gained the most number of votes in their class:

GROUP: The WI with the bobble hats for the homeless

SINGLE ADULT: Chris Watson and her amazing use of loo rolls and lost earrings

CHILDREN: Jojo and Julia Bentley and their miniature famous paintings.

Next year – it would be great to have more Neighbourhood and Local Business entries.

Help - if you are interested in helping with odd jobs and promoting the event, please let me know.

Jean Bentley

Carol Singing in Trafalgar Square

On 23rd December, for the first time since 2019, Ash Church Choir, together with friends from Local Vocals, Front Room and others, were finally able to return to sing carols under the Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square. The weather was extremely kind to us, the previous persistent rain stopping just as we were about to sing, and we spent a magical hour performing our repertoire of well-known traditional carols. A large and appreciative audience gathered on the steps, and joined enthusiastically in the ‘audience participation’ numbers. Before returning home, we were treated by our coach driver to a tour of the spectacular Christmas lights in the West End. On the day we raised over £300 for the Ellenor Hospice, and that, together with money previously raised at Woodlands Garden Centre, meant that we were able to send them a total donation of £421.37.

Many thanks to all who joined us on the day, and to Ian Nurdin for organising all the details of the coach travel.

Nick Noakes





St Peter & St Paul, Ash
St Peter, Ridley
All Saints, Hartley, Fawkham & Hartley Church Centre
St Mary, Fawkham
St Mary Magdalene, Longfield

Ash Church Services & Opening Times

Tuesday 9am

Service of Morning Prayer

2nd Wednesday of each month 10am

Holy Communion

Thursday 9am

Service of Morning Prayer

Thursday 10.30am

Ash Saplings – church for pre-schoolers and their adults

Sunday 8am Sunday Service

1st & 3rd Sunday BCP Morning Prayer
2nd & 4th Sunday BCP Holy Communion

Sunday 10am Sunday Service

**1st Sunday Morning Worship 2nd Sunday Holy Communion 3rd
Sunday All Together Family Service 4th Sunday Holy Communion 5th
Sunday 8am and 10am Worship**

Sunday 10.30am RNWK Group Livestreamed Service

To watch and subscribe go to:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGcdOwG_w9D_jbDYmZRJCQA

The church is open every day for you to spend time in prayer, reflection or just savouring the quiet and peace that is found there.

For full details of events, activities and services at Ash and across the Rural North West Kent Group of churches visit our website or Facebook Page: Ash Church Website - www.ash-church.org.uk

RNWK Group of Churches Facebook Page - @ruralnorthwestkentgroup

SERVICES AT ST. PETER'S RIDLEY

<u>Time</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>When</u>
9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)	1 st & 3 rd Sunday in the month
9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer (CW)	2 nd & 4 th Sunday in the month
9.00 a.m.	Time for Prayer	Every Friday
6.00 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)	4 th Sunday January
4.00 p.m.	Service with a difference	4 th Sunday February



Online
ZOOM SERVICE

1ST & 3RD SUNDAY FROM SEPTEMBER
10:00AM START LOGIN BY 9.55AM

**WORSHIPPING
TOGETHER**

AT ASH

**IN CHURCH
AND AT HOME**

JOIN US

**ZOOM LINK AVAILABLE VIA THE WEEKLY EMAIL.
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS EMAIL PLEASE
CONTACT REV HELEN**

The poster features a background of grey and white polka dots. On the right side, there is a circular graphic containing black silhouettes of people with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or joy. The text is primarily in bold, sans-serif fonts, with the word 'Online' in a cursive script. The overall color palette consists of orange, grey, white, and black.



If you would like to help us keep our 12th century church building in good repair, may we invite you to donate towards our operating costs by using the QR code below. Thank you for all your help!



ASH CHURCH PCC

THE BIG BREAKFAST IS BACK!

THE NEXT BIG BREAKFAST IS ON SATURDAY 4th FEBRUARY 2023 09.00 - 11.30

The next "Big Breakfast" in aid of the Hodsoil Street Village Hall Refurbishment Fund takes place on Saturday 4th February 2023 from 09:00am. The Breakfast costs £5 a head and is excellent value for money.

In order to work up an appetite for this excellent fare we invite anyone interested to join us on a circular walk to Hodsoil Street. Meet at 5 Manor Forstal at 8:40am - from there the walk takes about an hour, and then after breakfast we take a slightly shorter route back to New Ash Green. The walk isn't suitable for buggies and please note that although dogs are welcome to join us they are not allowed in the Village Hall, so will have to be left outside whilst you are enjoying your meal.

We do need to book breakfasts in advance so please contact us by **Thurs 2nd February 2023** if you would like to come along - 01474 873414 or ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk

See:

<http://www.hodsollstreet-ridley.co.uk/index.html> for more details.

Next Breakfast Walk after this one will be on the 4th March 2023

Ian and Debbie Nurdin



JOHN CRAWFORD - R.I.P

Gale Crawford and family would be very pleased if you were able to join them in Ash Church on Monday 6th February 2023 at 2:00pm for John's funeral and to celebrate and to give thanks for his life and for his many contributions to the work and events at both Ash and Ridley.

CAN YOU HELP WITH REFRESHMENTS?

It's wonderful to be able to worship at Ash Church and then join together for a cuppa and a biscuit afterwards. We need more people to join the refreshments teams rota - can you help? The more people who volunteer, the fewer times you will need to do it! If you would like to know more, please have a word with Alison Harding or drop her a line at alison.harding@btinternet.com Many thanks for your help!

ORDER THE 2023 REAL EASTER EGG NOW

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Mr Ian Nurdin
5 Manor Forstal
New Ash Green
Longfield
Kent
DA3 8JG

Our ref:366993/J:366993

12 January 2023

ellenor cares for people of all ages – babies, children and adults.

Dear Mr Nurdin and all at St Peters and St Pauls Church,

I am writing to thank you for your kind donation of £442.00 raised at your Christmas Carol singing event. Your event sounded amazing, and I don't think there would be a better setting to sing carols than at Trafalgar Square in front of the Christmas Tree. It sounds like this would have taken some great organisation to put together with the different choirs coming together for the carol service we hope everyone involved enjoyed it and had a wonderful time after seeing all the Christmas lights.

This Christmas, our staff and volunteers were also able to prepare a celebration for our Living Well patients at the Manor Hotel in Gravesend, where we have recently begun offering care as our Capital Build project begins.

It is only through the help of our supporters and volunteers, that we can continue providing care to patients in our community of all ages. Your kindness both through holding your fundraising event and continuing with your support for ellenor has made a real impact on people in our community.

The services that you have all helped to provide mean that local families can make their own precious memories and make the most every second they have together.

Thank you for being a part of ellenor!

Warmest wishes,



Sarah Williams
Fundraising Assistant
01322 626 509

www.ellenor.org 01474 320007

 info@ellenor.org

    [ellenorcharity](https://www.ellenor.org)



Warm Space

Every Thursday

2pm - 4.30pm

Starting on 12th January 2023



Warm space
Warm Welcome
Warm Refreshments
Warm Community Spirit
Free of charge - All very welcome

New Ash Green Youth & Community Centre

News from Ridley

Ridley church enjoyed a gathering for Christmas. "All things Christmassy" was a wonderful hour of sharing stories and songs that make us feel it's Christmas. We heard music and poems. Susan Heads brought us stories of the Ash church mice. You will have to ask her about them!! We laughed with each other and enjoyed singing the 12 days of Ridley Christmas. (Thank you Jayne for putting that together) And of course there was hot chocolate, Christmas cake and yule log.

Tricia Carr

CHURCH CLEANING TEAMS

This is a big THANK YOU to all the hard working congregation members who volunteered to join (or rejoin) the church and brass cleaning teams in spring last year.

A new system meant that there is no rota for church cleaning but individuals are responsible for cleaning a nominated area of the church as necessary, and to suit their own timetable.

This was an idea first suggested by John Harding, and currently all the areas of the church are cleaned and the system seems to be working well.

There is a rota for brass cleaning as the brass is cleaned every 2 months. This is usually in the first two weeks of the member's designated month, although it may vary a bit to make sure the brass is sparkling for major events and celebrations. Currently we have 5 individuals/pairs on the rota and would very much like to recruit one or two extra pair(s) of hands to cover the sixth session of the year. One of our current cleaners will be able to show you exactly what is needed and give advice and tips, so please let me know if you would be interested.

Jacky Richardson

Flowers for an occasion

If any member of the church would like some flowers dedicated either to a person or to commemorate an occasion, this can be offered by the flower team.

Please write on the calendar on the notice board with brief details and speak to a member of the team. The names of the people on the rota are on the list taped to the inside of the flower cupboard (the one nearest to the kitchen).

We would suggest a small donation and an idea of any favourite flower.

Flower Team

Ash Village Hall Cinema

Ash Village Hall Cinema continues in the New Year with two new films (see posters below) which both look brilliant, so please put the dates down in your diaries. Also, if you are able to send the information on to any groups or people you know who might be interested, please do! We need to get the word around!

We want to continue having the film show monthly, and we would like to encourage you, not only just to come to the film, but also to think of Ash Village Hall as a venue for any event that you may be hosting , and also tell others about it.

Unfortunately I (Iris) won't make it on Jan 25th as I will be recuperating from an operation - I will be so sorry to miss it, but other members and helpers will be there providing refreshments .

Best wishes from Iris and the Village Hall team.

ASH VILLAGE HALL
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 25th

"FUNNY AND POIGNANT..."
DIGITAL SPY

"ROLLICKING ENTERTAINMENT"
DAILY MAIL

"PUREFOY DELIVERS A POWERFUL PERFORMANCE"
THE SUN

JOHN PURIFOY JOHN SWANBURY STEVE ANDRUKA HARRINGTON HAYLEAM 1999

BASED ON A TRUE STORY

FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS: ONE AND ALL (PG)



FAME IS NEVER PLAIN SAILING

Doors Open 7.00 for 7.20
www.curzoncountrycinema.com
ALL SEATS £7.00

Reserve and Pay on line or Pay at the Door

CURZON COUNTRY CINEMA

ASH VILLAGE HALL
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22nd

Mrs. Harris Goes to PARIS (PG)



Doors Open 7.00 for 7.20
www.curzoncountrycinema.com
ALL SEATS £7.00

Reserve and Pay on line or Pay at the Door

CURZON COUNTRY CINEMA

**FROM THE REGISTERS
BAPTISM**

Belle Marise Cooper 27th November

FUNERALS AT ASH

Janis Ann Fryer 8th November
Bridgit Anne Kidd 9th November
Joan Rose Littlejohn 8th December

FUNERAL AT RIDLEY

Vic Stroud 30th December

A Christmas Carol Teaser-Answers

You were asked to identify some well-known Christmas carols from the clues given.

- 1) Approach, everyone who trusts. **O Come, all ye faithful**
- 2) The Lord keep you cheerful, male people. **God rest you merry, gentlemen**
- 3) Not playing at home in a feeding trough. **Away in a manger**
- 4) The witching hour was cloudless when it arrived. **It came upon the midnight clear**
- 5) Bohemian monarch surveyed the scene on Boxing Day. **Good King Wenceslas looked out (on the feast of Stephen)**
- 6) Long ago in the town of Jesse's son. **Once in Royal David's City**
- 7) Keepers were nocturnally supervising their ovine creatures. **While shepherds watched their flocks by night.**

- 8) The original French Christmas? **The First Nowell**
- 9) Small community that was home to the man in question 6. **O little town of Bethlehem**
- 10) Listen to Gabriel's crew in chorus. **Hark, the herald angels sing**

A Winter Warmer

10 questions, the answers to which are or contain words associated with the current season. (Answers, as ever, in next edition)

- 1) Family name of BBC presenter Peter, Channel 4 newsreader Jon, and historian Dan.
- 2) Novel by Margaret Mitchell which became a major Hollywood film starring Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable.
- 3) American actress best known for playing Betty Draper in *Mad Men*
- 4) *Dipturus batis*, a popular edible fish of the ray family.
- 5) Name of the first novel in the *Game of Thrones* series by George R.R. Martin
- 6) Name of British rock band formed in 1997, with members including Chris Martin, Jonny Buckland and Will Champion.
- 7) Name of TV detective played by David Jason from 1992 to 2010.
- 8) Popular Mexican dish normally served with rice, with ingredients including minced beef and kidney beans.
- 9) Surname of 'Milady', the anti-heroine of *The Three Musketeers* by Alexandre Dumas
- 10) 2013 Disney film whose heroine is Princess Elsa of Arendelle.

A final word from the editor. As we embark on another year with all its new possibilities and opportunities, I hope, as ever, that you will find plenty in these pages to both inform and entertain you over the next few weeks. Please do keep your own contributions coming – they are the ‘life-blood’ of Church News. The next edition will be published in early March and will cover the months of March and April. Please send any items for inclusion to n.noakes@btinternet.com by Sunday 19th February latest. Have a good couple of months, everyone!



ASH CHURCH PRIVACY POLICY

Ash Church PCC have agreed a Privacy Policy in light of the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and these can be found on the church website:

<http://www.ash-church.org.uk>

If you no longer wish to be contacted by Ash Church by email or other means please contact Ian Nurdin (ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk) and request that your contact details are deleted and removed.

Who to contact at Ash & Ridley

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	Group Curate	Rev Jayne Shillito	708696	jayne@rnwkgroup.org.uk
	Ordinand	Carol Bridge	07979 146332	bridgecarol@hotmail.com
	Churchwardens - Ash	Ian Nurdin	873414	ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk
	Churchwardens – Ridley	Tricia Carr	873647	tricia.triciacarr@googlemail.com
		Alistair Davidson	871932	alistairandjenny@btinternet.com
	Licensed Lay Ministers	Alison Harding	874770	alison.harding@btinternet.com
		Susan Heads	873777	susanheads@gmail.com
	Sacristan	Bryan Parlett	873655	bryan_parlett@hotmail.com
	Parish Safeguarding Officer - Ash	Rhian Rutland	831216	rhianrutland51@btinternet.com
	Parish Safeguarding Officer - Ridley	Rhian Rutland	831216	rhianrutland51@btinternet.com
	Choir Master	Nick Noakes	874122	n.noakes@btinternet.com
Committees		Rev Helen Reeves - Chair	872209	ashandridleyrector@gmail.com
	PCC - Ash	Cameron Clark (Secretary)	874526	pcc@ash-church.org.uk
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	PCC - Ridley	Rev Helen Reeves - Chair	872209	ashandridleyrector@gmail.com
		Ian Paddy (Secretary)	873314	ianpaddy2014@gmail.com
		John Airey (Treasurer)	01732 822418	john.airey@zen.co.uk
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		TBA (Vice-Chairman)		
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	Deanery Synod - Ridley	Alistair Davidson	871932	alistairandjenny@btinternet.com

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	Junior Church	TBA		
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	Bell ringing	Sue Fever	874611	susanne.fever@gmail.com
	Social Committee - Ash	TBA		
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