



ASH AND RIDLEY CHURCH NEWS JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024



A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS!

As we leave 2023 behind us and move forward into a new year, here are some reminders of the past festive season.

Christmas Tree Festival 2023





A big thank you to all who took part either by decorating a tree, welcoming or serving refreshments.

As ever, I had huge support from Ian. He and Jerry (and the Woodlands Group's trailer), collected, returned and put up the table tops.

Although there were not as many trees as previously, I have been told on numerous occasions that our festival produces amazing creativity.

I am also told that it is expected to be an annual event! We raised over £600.

Jean Bentley

The winners were :

Most voted for Young Person: Gabriella Pearce Cardona

Most voted for Group: The Space

Most voted for Tree: 'Revolution' by Jean Bentley (further comment superfluous ! Ed:)

Trafalgar Square Carol Singing

On Friday 22nd December, Ash Church Choir, ably supported by members of Local Vocals and Front Room, made their annual pilgrimage to sing carols under the tree in Trafalgar Square. A large and enthusiastic audience gathered on the steps to listen to us, and also joined heartily in the 'audience participation' numbers. We raised a total of £237.77 on the day which, together with money previously raised at Woodlands Garden Centre, means we have a total of £353.41 to donate to the Ellenor Hospice, Many thanks to all those involved.

Nick Noakes



Ash Saplings

Ash Saplings had great fun in December making their own mini - Christmas puddings



Ash Church Services & Opening Times

Tuesday 9am

Service of Morning Prayer

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 & 3rd Sunday Morning Worship – Zoom connection available
2nd & 4th Sunday Holy Communion
5th Sunday 8am and 10am Worship

1st Sunday 3pm Children's Church

A service particularly for families with primary school aged children

2nd & 4th Sunday 10.30am RNWK Group Livestreamed Service

To watch and subscribe go to: <https://www.fawkhamandhartley.org.uk/live.html>

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

Contacts: Rector - Rev Helen Reeves - helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk
Church Warden - Mr Ian Nurdin - ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk

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
(Refreshments at 3.30)		



If you would like to make a donation towards the work of St. Peter's Ridley, may we invite you to do so by using the QR Code below. Thank you for your help.



RIDLEY CHURCH PCC



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

Congratulations to our Rev'd Helen Reeves on her appointment as Area Dean for the Cobham Deanery, we wish her every success in her new role!

THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER

The Rt Rev Dr Jonathan Gibbs



To: Cobham Deanery
Beneficed, Licensed and PTO Clergy
Licensed and Authorised Lay Ministers
Churchwardens
Lay members of Deanery Synod

11 January 2024

Dear Sisters and Brother

Area Dean of Cobham

Following consultation with the Archdeacon, Deanery clergy and others, I have invited the Rev Helen Reeves to become your next Area Dean in succession to Alyson Davie. I am very pleased to let you know that Helen has accepted my invitation. Archdeacon Andy and I look forward to working with her in this new capacity.

I also want to state my thanks to Alyson for all her hard work and care while she has been your Area Dean. I am sure that you will all join me in thanking Alyson and wishing her well.

On 28 January Archdeacon Andy will formally Commission Helen to her new role. I am sure that Helen will have your prayerful support as she takes on this new role.

Yours in Christ,

Jonathan, Bishop of Rochester

cc Archdeacon of Rochester

Bishopscourt, 24 St Margaret's Street, Rochester, Kent, ME1 1TS
tel 01634 842721 email bishopscourt@rochester.anglican.org





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



ASH SAPPLINGS

Church for pre-schoolers and their adults

Every Thursday

ASH CHURCH

10.15-11:30am

Songs



Stories



Refreshments

Fun and Games

ALL WELCOME

For more information contact Rev'd Helen 01474 872209



Children's Church

EVERY 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
AT 3PM

COME AND JOIN US!

ST PETER & ST PAUL, ASH
CHURCH ROAD, TN15 7HD



Find out more by emailing Rev Helen: helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk



The RNWK Group of Churches are delighted to announce that this year's Deanery Confirmation Service with Bishop Simon will take place on Sunday 25th February 2024 at 4.00 pm at St Nicholas Church, Southfleet.

We are running five classes for those who wish to prepare for confirmation.

The classes will be held on:

Sunday 21st January 11.45am – 12.30pm in Longfield Church

Sunday 28th January 11.45am – 12.30pm in Longfield Church

Sunday 4th February 11.45am – 12.30pm in Longfield Church

Sunday 11th February 11.45am – 12.30pm in Longfield Church

Sunday 18th February 11.45am – 12.30pm in Longfield Church

Saturday 24th February a quiet morning of preparation at Longfield Church

If you would like to be confirmed or need further information please contact: helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk 01474 872209 jayne@rnwkgroup.org.uk
01474 708696



Ash Church Flowers

We have a flower calendar hanging on the notice board. Anyone who would like an arrangement done to commemorate an anniversary or in memory of someone, please fill in the date and speak to Pauline or me.

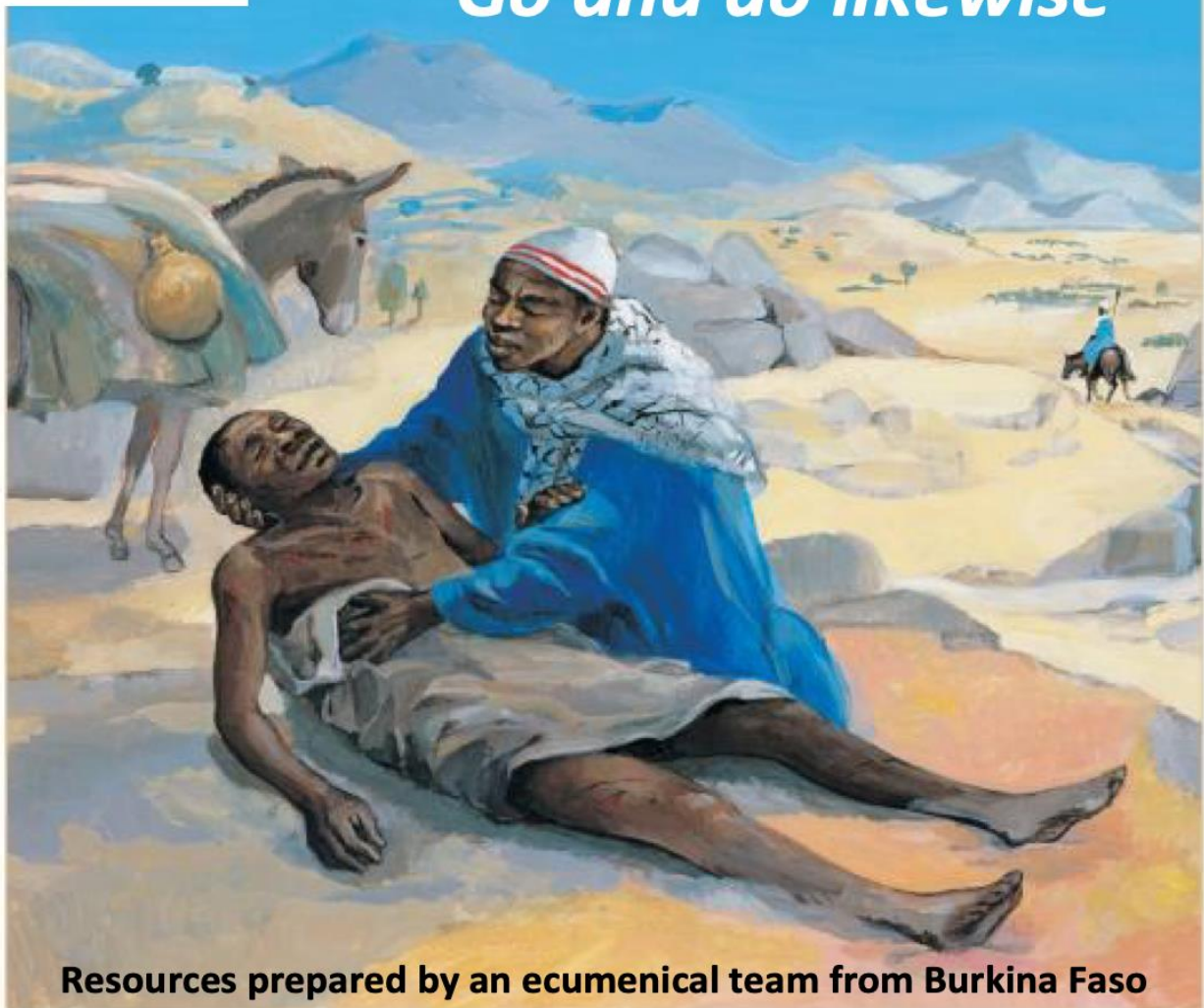
For a small donation you can choose any preferred arrangement or type of flower. Thank you.

Ann Aves

Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

churches
together
IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND®

“Go and do likewise”



Resources prepared by an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso

Friday 19th January at 10.30am

St Francis de Sales Catholic Church, Church Road Hartley, DA3 8BL

All are Welcome

Please join us after the service for refreshments and a chance to chat

For catering purposes please let Carol Wilton know if you are attending:

carolwilton0@gmail.com

YOU ARE INVITED TO A CELEBRATION OF

BURNS NIGHT

THURSDAY JANUARY 25th

6.30 for 7.00

3 COURSE MEAL

ASH VILLAGE HALL

TN15 4HB

INCLUDING HAGGIS, NEEPS and TATTIES

(Vegetarian haggis can be ordered in advance)

FOLLOWED BY SOME SCOTTISH ENTERTAINMENT

KILTS and TARTANS WELCOME!

BRING YOUR OWN DRINK and GLASSES

TICKETS £20 from Jean Bentley

07985171402

jeanbentley51@gmail.com

PLEASE BOOK BY JANUARY 10th

Individuals or Groups - Proceeds to Ash Church Projects

CAN YOU HELP? Jean Bentley is in need of a Warming Oven(s) for the Burns Night - if you can help can you please contact her as soon as possible! Many thanks in advance!



PROVIDING FOOD & SUPPORT IN THE COMMUNITY

EVERYONE NEEDS A LITTLE HELP SOMETIMES

SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

The Community Cupboard is a registered charity providing food & grocery support to those in the surrounding areas when they are unable to temporarily provide for themselves. We offer a friendly, non judgemental welcome and are able to signpost individuals & families to local agencies and support systems for further assistance.

Email: communitycupboard19@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/thecommunitycupboard19

Twitter: [TheCommunityCu1](https://twitter.com/TheCommunityCu1)

Instagram: [@thecommunitycupboard](https://www.instagram.com/thecommunitycupboard)

Telephone: 07526 823122

(during opening hours)

Opening Times

Mon-Wed-Fri 10.00 till 12.00

Tue-Thu 12.00 till 14.00

**THE COMMUNITY CUPBOARD
THE GARAGE, GAMECOCK MEADOW,
WEST KINGSOWN, KENT TN15 6BZ**

CHARITY REGISTRATION: 1185331

MENS POP IN GROUP

LET'S GET MEN TALKING

The place to go for a cuppa and a chat, meet new people, make friends and know there is somewhere you can go if needed.

Suicide is the biggest cause of death in men under the age of 50 and around $\frac{3}{4}$ of deaths from suicides each year are men.

If life's getting you down and you just need a need an outlet drop in and see us

DATE

Every Wednesday

TIME

7.30pm

LOCATION

New Ash Green
Youth Club

ADDRESS

Ash Road,
DA3 8JY



menspopin@outlook.com



ALL ARE VERY WELCOME TO....

THE SPACE

EVERY THURSDAY 2PM - 4.30PM
NEW ASH GREEN YOUTH &
COMMUNITY CENTRE

FREE REFRESHMENTS, GAMES,
COMPANY, CONVERSATION



**Rural North
West Kent**
Group of Churches
St Peter & St Paul, Ash
St Peter, Ridley

THE BIG BREAKFAST - ALL ARE WELCOME!

THE NEXT BIG BREAKFAST IS ON SATURDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2024
09.00-11.00

The next "Big Breakfast" in aid of the Hodsoll Street Village Hall Refurbishment Fund takes place on Saturday 3rd February 2024 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 Hodsoll 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 **Weds 31st January** 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 **2nd March 2024**

Ian and Debbie Nurdin



Save the date



MESSY CATHEDRAL

**SATURDAY 20TH APRIL 2024
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL
PM**



**Need help
with your
digital skills?**

**Need help
with the cost
of living?**

**Need advice on
water social
tariffs?**



WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

**Come and have a chat about how we can
support you**



**Date: Tuesday 6th February 2024
Time: 10am – 12pm
Location: New Ash Green Village Hall –
Centre Road, New Ash Green, Longfield
, Kent DA3 8HH**



from
Southern
Water.



south east water



**DIGITAL
KENT**

AffinityWater

**Kent
County
Council**
kent.gov.uk



ASH VILLAGE HALL
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24th



Doors 7.00 for 7.30
www.curzoncountrycinema.com
ALL SEATS £7.00

Reserve and Pay on line or Pay at the Door



ASH VILLAGE HALL
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 28th



Doors 7.00 for 7.30
www.curzoncountrycinema.com
ALL SEATS £7.00

Reserve and Pay on line or Pay at the Door



FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

Albert Teddy George Ansell 26th November
Matilda Mitchie & Teddy Mitchie 17th December

WEDDING

Jack James Hutchins & Shannon Tracey Pews
14th December

ORDER THE 2024 REAL EASTER EGG NOW

EASTER IS EARLY SO ACT TODAY

Original RRP from £4.50

Special Edition
RRP £9.99

Dark
RRP £5.50



Out of the 80 million chocolate Easter Eggs sold each year, The Real Easter Egg is the only Fairtrade one with the Easter story in the box.

AVAILABLE FROM...

New Design Easter Story

New 24 page Easter story-activity book is included in Original and Dark eggs.

PALM OIL
FREE

PLASTIC
FREE

PRIZE
COMPETITION

www.realeasteregg.co.uk Tel: 01925 877004

HOW TO ORDER YOUR REAL EASTER EGGS

Please contact Ian Nurdin on 01474 873414 / 07767 024388 or by email: ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk. Please order by Tuesday 5th March if possible.
Original Eggs - £4.50, Dark - £5.50, Special Edition - £9.99, Fun Packs - £5.00
See website for more details - www.realeasteregg.co.uk

A Quiz for the Festive Season - Answers

The answers to these questions all contain words which are associated with Christmas :

- 1) Pioneer of rock and roll who was killed in a plane crash in 1959 **Buddy Holly**
- 2) Modern-day country in which the ancient city of Troy was located. **Turkey**
- 3) Market town in Powys, Wales, known as the 'town of books' and which hosts an annual literary festival. **Hay-on Wye**
- 4) The French verb 'to eat'. **Manger**
- 5) First name of the Coronation Street character played by Lynne Perrie from 1971-1994. **Ivy**
- 6) Square in the centre of Prague - the traditional setting over the centuries for many demonstrations, celebrations and other public gatherings. **Wenceslas Square**
- 7) Property in Monopoly that forms a set with Euston Road and Pentonville Road. **The Angel Islington**
- 8) Street in London where the Great Fire began in 1666. **Pudding Lane**
- 9) Wife of romantic poet Percy and author of the Gothic novel 'Frankenstein or the modern Prometheus' (1818) **Mary Shelley**
- 10) Hero of the Spanish epic novel (1615) by Miguel de Cervantes. **Don Quixote**
('donkey-ote - sorry about that one!)

A New Year Teaser to Recharge the Brain

Once again with thanks to Alison Dixon, please decipher these coded clues :

Example : 26 LOTA = 26 letters of the alphabet

- 1) 16 OITP
- 2) 1001 AN
- 3) 12 SOTZ
- 4) 30 DHS
- 5) 147 HBIS
- 6) 24 BBIAP
- 7) 600 RITVOD
- 8) 3 BMSHTR
- 9) 57 HV
- 10) 4 HOTA
- 11) 18 HOAGC
- 12) 32 POAC

Answers, as ever, will be in the next edition.

A final word from the editor.

It doesn't seem like much more than five minutes ago that I was writing in the last edition that autumn was upon us, and we were looking forward to Christmas. How quickly the seasons seem to go these days! As we move into the cold winter months, I hope, as ever, that you will find plenty to both inform and entertain you in the pages above. The next edition of Church News will be published in early March and will cover the months of March and April. Please send all items for inclusion to n.noakes@btinternet.com by Sunday 25th February at the latest.

Happy New Year and best wishes to everyone for 2024!



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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	SSM Associate Priest	Rev Elizabeth Robertson	871637	elizabeth@revemr.me
	Group Curate	Rev Jayne Shillito	708696	jayne@rnwkgroup.org.uk
	Ordinand	Carol Bridge	872786	bridgecarol@hotmail.com
	Churchwardens - Ash	Ian Nurdin	873414	ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk
	Churchwardens – Ridley	Tricia Carr	873647	tricia.triciacarr@googlemail.com
		Alistair Davidson	643614	alistairandjenny@btinternet.com
	Licensed Lay Ministers	Susan Heads	873777	susanheads@gmail.com
	Sacristans - Ash	Lesley Thurman	703546	lesleythurman@icloud.com
		Joyce Andrews	711163	joyce.andrews@gmail.com
	Parish Safeguarding Officer - Ash	Rhian Rutland	831216	rhianrutland51@btinternet.com
	Parish Safeguarding Officer - Ridley	Rhian Rutland	831216	rhianrutland51@btinternet.com
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		John Airey (Treasurer)	01732 822418	john.airey@zen.co.uk
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		Rev Jayne Shillito	708696	jayne@rnwkgroup.org.uk
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		Alison Harding	874770	alison.harding@btinternet.com
		Susan Heads	873777	susanheads@gmail.com
	Deanery Synod - Ash	Cameron Clark	874526	cameron@cclark.me.uk
	Deanery Synod - Ridley	Alistair Davidson	643614	alistairandjenny@btinternet.com

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	Bell ringing	Sue Fever	874611	susanne.fever@gmail.com
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