

ASH AND RIDLEY CHURCH NEWS JULY & AUGUST 2025



FLOWER FESTIVAL 2025

My thanks to all who took part in the VE Day- themed Flower Festival. We commemorated everything from the “White Cliffs of Dover” to the firemen fighting the city fires of World War 2, with flowers and artefacts.

My grateful thanks to the members of the congregation whose kind sponsorship covered the cost of all the flowers.

Our wonderful Flowers Team played a very large part in the events success but we could not have done this without the help and support of the amazing Hartley Flower Arrangers.

We have also welcomed a new member to the Church group, Julie Bridge. Julie was responsible for the “Land Girls” display. I will never forget her rows of potatoes.

Although the event was not planned as a fund - raising event, due to the huge number of appreciative visitors, we raised over £1000 for Church funds. Of course – the tea and cakes played a large part in this, so thanks to all who helped serve and to those who donated the goodies.



Jean Bentley



Ash Church Services

& Opening Times

Tuesday 9am

Service of Morning Prayer

Thursday 9am

Service of Morning Prayer

Thursday 10.15 am

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

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

Contact:

Churchwarden - 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 July
4.00 p.m	Informal Service (Tea at 3.30 p.m.)	4 th Sunday August

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

ST PETER, RIDLEY

**INFORMAL SERVICES 2025
4PM START WITH
AFTERNOON TEA AT 3.30PM**

23RD FEBRUARY



27TH APRIL



22ND JUNE



24TH AUGUST



23RD NOVEMBER



**EACH MONTH CONSIDER THE
IMAGE WHAT DOES IT SAY TO
YOU?**

**BRING A READING, SONG,
PICTURE, THOUGHT
WHATEVER FEELS RIGHT TO
SHARE DURING THE SERVICE.**



RIDLEY

St Peter's Pop in

**Join us at St Peters for
Refreshments, Cakes, biscuits
and a chat**

**Second Saturday of each month
10.30am to 12.30pm**

St Peter's Church, Ridley Hill, TN15 7EU

Next pop-in is on Saturday August 9th.

ST PETERS RIDLEY TABLE FAIR

SATURDAY JULY 12TH --- 11 AM - 2:30PM

CAKES,
CARDS,
BOOKS,
PAINTINGS,
UPCYCLED,
REFRESHMENTS,
POLISHED STONES
BESPOKE CLOTHING,
PLANTS & GARDEN
ORNAMENTS

RIDLEY CHURCH GROUNDS, RIDLEY HILL, RIDLEY, TN15 7EU

For more details contact stpetersridley@gmail.com



SCAN ME

And a date for your diaries - Ridley Harvest Lunch will on Sunday 28th September - more details in the next edition.

Tricia Carr

QUIET DAY - RIDLEY - SAT 5th JULY

With regret, this event has had to be postponed. The next Quiet Day is planned for Saturday 6th September at St Peter's Church, Ridley.

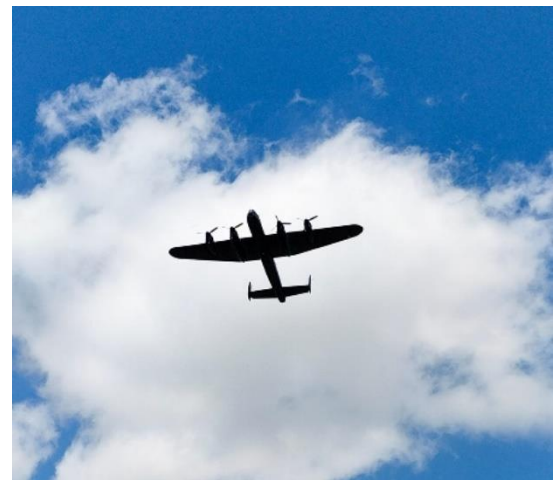
If you would like to help us keep our 12th century church building in good repair, may we invite you to donate towards our operating costs by using the QR code below. Thank you for all your help!



ASH CHURCH PCC

VILLAGE DAY 2025

Ash Church was as ever represented on Village Day which took place on Saturday 28th June on the Sports Field. As well as the Grand Draw, we had Crack the Safe and the Lucky Dip, manned as usual by Alison Harding. Sadly a lack of volunteers on the day meant we had to curtail some other planned activities. However we were blessed with a glorious sunny day, and even had a fly-past from an RAF Lancaster! Huge thanks to all those who helped in any way on the day. Here are some pictures to remind you.



Congratulations Carol and Scott!

On Saturday 28th June the Rev'd Carol Bridge was Priested at Rochester Cathedral Cathedral, to serve in the benefice of Kent Downs and Malling Team, in a service presided over by the Bishops of Rochester and Tonbridge.

On the same day the Rev'd Scott Norwood Witts was ordained a Deacon, to serve in the in the benefice of Fawkham and Hartley and the benefice of Longfield. Scott will also be involved with Ash & Ridley Churches but our churches weren't mentioned on the day because we are in Vacancy. Scott will be working with the Rev'd Joss Walker and we look forward to welcoming him to Ridley on Sunday 6th July and to Ash on Sunday 13th July





If you would like to receive the link for the Sunday Zoom Services and news about other events at Ash Church please contact Ian Nurdin - ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk

ASH SAPPLINGS

Church for pre-schoolers and their adults



Every Thursday at
ASH CHURCH

10.15-11:30am

Songs



Stories



Refreshments

Fun and Games
ALL WELCOME!!

For more information contact
Jean Bentley - 01474 872333 or
Alison Harding - 01474 874770



2025 SPONSORED RIDE AND STRIDE

The date for this year's event is **Saturday 13 September**. You can cycle or walk to as many or as few churches as you want between 10:00am and 6:00pm – choose your own route to any of the hundreds of participating churches.

Half the money raised by each participant helps to support churches across the county and the other half goes to a church chosen by the walker or cyclist (we hope you will choose our church!). Please help to raise funds to support Ash or Ridley Churches and the many others in the County that receive grants towards the cost of essential maintenance work. If you pay income tax, do remember to tick the box on the sponsorship form so that Gift Aid increases the money raised.

This year is the 40th anniversary of Kent Ride and Stride so they are hoping to beat last year's total of £151,018. The Ride and Stride was by far the biggest fundraiser towards the £165,500 given to churches in 2024. A further £65,214 was distributed to the churches nominated by walkers and cyclists.

For sponsorship forms and lists of the churches that are taking part contact Cameron Clark on 01474 874526, email cameron@cclark.me.uk or Tricia Carr (01474 873647, tricia.triciacarr@googlemail.com) or look at the notice boards in Ash and Ridley churches.

There will also be an opportunity for the less active to help by spending an hour or more at Ash Church between 10 o'clock and 6 o'clock to greet visiting cyclists and walkers. It's not an onerous task – all that is needed is to sign their forms and keep a record of their call and to offer them some refreshment and encouragement (especially if their next call is up the hill to West Kingsdown or Stansted!). Please put your name on the form on the notice board in Ash Church if you can help. We now have to comply with the church's lone working policy which means that there must be at least two people present in the building at any time to ensure that no-one is alone with any potentially vulnerable visitors. Therefore, we will need twice as many volunteers.

You can do more! The Friends of Kent Churches also invite people to become members. For just £10 a year (£15 for a couple) members enjoy guided visits to churches and lectures on subjects related to church history, architecture, art and related topics. Application forms are available in the church or see <https://friendsofkentchurches.co.uk/>.

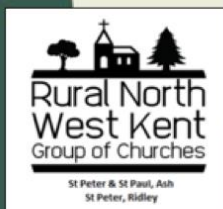


ALL ARE VERY WELCOME TO....

THE SPACE

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

FREE REFRESHMENTS, GAMES,
COMPANY, CONVERSATION





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
Instagram: @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 KINGSDOWN, 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 ¾ 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

Kent Chamber Choir

Director - Daniel Gethin

Soprano - Nicole Ng

Kath Topping Award Winner

Accompanist - Francesca Massey

Musical, anniversaries

**Including works by Palestrina,
Salieri, Ravel and more**

Saturday 5th July 2025 at 7:00pm

**Church of St Peter and St Paul,
Ash TN15 7HD**

Refreshments from 6:30 and in the interval

Tickets £15, free for under 18s

at tickets@abbitt.co.uk or on the door

Kent Chamber Choir
Patrons: Dame Emma Kirkby
Harry Christophers CBE
Conductor Emeritus: Alan Vincent
Registered Charity No. 1069391
www.kentchamberchoir.org.uk





Front Room singers

present

A potpourri of Summer delights

An evening of songs by
Bacharach, Berlin,
the Beatles
(and other people who
don't begin with B)

In support of
the Friends of
Meopham church

at St John's Church, Meopham



Saturday 19th July at 7.30pm

Tickets £12 (free for under 18s)

available from the parish office:

ally@stjohnsmeopham.co.uk

or **Louise Banks: 07795 363807**

or **on the door**



THE BIG BREAKFAST- ALL ARE WELCOME!

THE NEXT BIG BREAKFAST IS ON SATURDAY 5th JULY 09.00 - 11.00

The next "Big Breakfast" in aid of the Hodsoll Street Village Hall Refurbishment Fund takes place on Saturday 5th July 2025 from 09:00am. The Breakfast costs £6 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 8:50am - 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 3rd July** 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 August **2025**



Ian and Debbie Nurdin

FROM THE REGISTERS

WEDDING

Ashley Burt & Lucy Smith 31st May

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

Susan Banks 10th May

BURIAL OF ASHES

Faith Bowers 15th June

Another Seasonal Teaser (Answers)

All the following questions relate in some way to the months of May and June.

- 1) The May Tree is an alternative name for which shrub? **Hawthorn**
- 2) Actress who played Dot Cotton/Branning in EastEnders from 1985 until 2020.
June Brown
- 3) 16th century composer of the well-known madrigal 'Now is the month of maying.' **Thomas Morley**
- 4) 'June is bustin' out all over' is a song from which Rodgers & Hammerstein musical? **Carousel**
- 5) Singer-songwriter whose well-known song include 'Maggie May' **Rod Stewart**
- 6) What is celebrated in the UK on the 3rd Sunday in June? **Fathers' Day**
- 7) Astrophysicist and lead guitarist of the band Queen who has been married to actress Anita Dobson since 2000. **Brian May**
- 8) Comedy actress who had a long partnership with actor/comedian Terry Scott and later found fame as Jennifer Saunders' mother in Absolutely Fabulous.
June Whitfield
- 9) At which Oxford college do the choir sing from the tower at dawn on 1st May.
Magdalen College
- 10) What are the three signs of the zodiac which cover the months of May and June? **Taurus, Gemini & Cancer**

A Fruity Quiz for Summer

All the answers to these questions contain the name of a fruit.

- 1) Academic character in Cluedo who uses a purple playing piece.
- 2) Ice-cream sundae named after a famous Australian opera singer of the late 19th/early 20th century.
- 3) Beatles song released as a 'double A-side' single with 'Penny Lane' in 1967.
- 4) 'Yes, we have no - what?' - an American novelty song by Frank Silver and Irving Cohn originally published in 1923.
- 5) The painting 'Bubbles' by John Everett Millais was used for many years in an advertisement for which soap?
- 6) William III, who ascended the throne of Great Britain in 1688 jointly with his wife Mary, was a member of which Dutch royal house?
- 7) A statement issued by four senior Labour politicians in 1981, which ultimately led to the founding of the Social Democratic Party, was known as the —— Declaration.
- 8) 1993 film starring Johnny Depp in the title role and Leonardo di Caprio as his younger brother.
- 9) Nickname for the stretch of the Derwent Valley Light Railway between Layerthorpe and Skipwith.
- 10) The —— Triangle, a 9 square mile area in West Yorkshire bounded by Wakefield, Morley & Rothwell. (Disclaimer - yes, I know this is technically a vegetable, but is normally used in the manner of a fruit.)

Answers, as ever will be in the next edition.

A final word from the editor.

As I write this, the sun is again streaming through my window as we bask in what has been for the last few days a mini-heatwave, so summer is well and truly upon us. Within these pages you will again find news of what has been happening in the last couple of months, as well as details of many exciting events coming up in the future. The next edition of Church News will be published in early September and will cover the months of September and October. Please send all items for inclusion to n.noakes@btinternet.com by Sunday 24th August at the latest. Enjoy the rest of the summer.



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

Positions	Rector	Vacancy		
	SSM Associate Priest	Rev Elizabeth Robertson	871637	elizabeth@revemr.me
	PTO	Rev Dorothy McGarvey	07803 009745	revdmcgarvey@gmail.com
	Group Curate	Vacancy		
	Churchwardens - Ash	Ian Nurdin	873414	ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk
	Churchwardens – Ridley	Tricia Carr	873647	tricia.triciacarr@gmail.com
		Alistair Davidson	643614	alistairandjenny@btinternet.com
	Licensed Lay Ministers	Susan Heads	873777	susanheads@gmail.com
		Alison Harding	874770	alison.harding@btinternet.com
	Sacristans - Ash	Lesley Thurman	703546	lesleythurman@icloud.com
		Joyce Andrews	711163	joyce.andrews@gmail.com
	Parish Safeguarding Officer - Ash	Vacancy		
	Parish Safeguarding Officer - Ridley	Vacancy		
Committees		Ian Nurdin - Vice Chair	873414	ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk
	PCC - Ash	Cameron Clark (Secretary)	874526	pcc@ash-church.org.uk
		Susan Heads (Treasurer)	873777	susanheads@gmail.com
	PCC - Ridley	Chair - TBA		
		Ian Paddy (Secretary)	873314	ianpaddy2014@gmail.com
		John Airey (Treasurer)	01732 822418	john.airey@zen.co.uk
	Ministry Team			
		Rev Elizabeth Robertson	871637	elizabeth@revemr.me
		Rev Dorothy McGarvey	07803 009745	revdmcgarvey@gmail.com
		Susan Heads	873777	susanheads@gmail.com
		Alison Harding	874770	alison.harding@btinternet.com
	Deanery Synod - Ash	Cameron Clark	874526	cameron@cclark.me.uk
		Gillian Noakes	874122	gillian.noakes@gmail.com
Deanery Synod - Ridley	Alistair Davidson	643614	alistairandjenny@btinternet.com	

Groups - Ash	Anna Chaplain	Rev Elizabeth Robertson	871637	elizabeth@revemr.me
	Ash Saplings	Jean Bentley	872333	jeanbentley51@gmail.com
		Alison Harding	874770	alison.harding@btinternet.com
	Bell ringing	Sue Fever	874611	susanne.fever@gmail.com
	Choir Master	Nick Noakes	874122	n.noakes@btinternet.com
	Flowers	Pauline Bailey	873148	pauline-bailey@hotmail.co.uk
	Social Committee - Ash	TBA		
	Prayer Ministry	Rev Dorothy McGarvey	07803 009745	revdmcgarvey@gmail.com
		Julia Kilfoyle	872731	kilfoylejulia@gmail.com
	Friends of Ash Church	Mike Rose	873445	mikeinnag@hotmail.com
Rota's - Ash	Master Rotas	Alison Harding	874770	alison.harding@btinternet.com
		Ian Nurdin	873414	ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk
	Servers	TBA		
	Sidesmen and Welcomers	Alison Harding	874770	alison.harding@btinternet.com
		Ian Nurdin	873414	ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk
	Bible readings and Intercessions	Alison Harding	874770	alison.harding@btinternet.com
		Ian Nurdin	873414	ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk
	Transport and Refreshments	Alison Harding	874770	alison.harding@btinternet.com
		Ian Nurdin	873414	ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk
	Ash Sound and PA System	Alison Harding	874770	alison.harding@btinternet.com
		Ian Nurdin	873414	ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk
	Church Opening & Locking	Ian Nurdin	873414	ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk
	Church cleaning & Brass cleaning	Jacky Richardson	873733	jackyrichardson92@outlook.com
Keeping in Touch - who to contact	Church News	Nick Noakes	874122	n.noakes@btinternet.com
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	Website - Ash	Colin Irving	879500	colin.irving@btinternet.com
	Weddings	Jan Kennedy	873675	jankennedy2546@aol.com