Church Matters!

SGCC = St George's Christian Centre

February 2020



Welcome to St Giles' and St George's Church

We hope you enjoy the service. We offer many different services and if you would like to know more, please just ask. Additionally if you would like any information or would just like to talk or pray with someone, please speak to the Service Leader or somebody wearing a name badge.

Rector's sabbatical - update from Richard Jones

I began by studying a course on 'Creation and the Gospel' at Regent Theological College in Vancouver. This explored the centrality of caring for creation from a theological perspective and how this is worked out in our daily lives. Taught by a leading theologian and members of A Rocha, I was challenged and inspired. I enjoyed meeting other students and using the fantastic library. I also visited two churches.

Despite what Vancouverites called "Snowmaggedon", I managed to fly to Portland to visit Bridgetown church. "Time" magazine described Portland as "...the most irreligious city in America". In this context and faced with issues of poverty and homelessness despite a thriving economy, the church was planted 10 years ago. It has an intentional focus on discipleship and is flourishing. I enjoyed meeting with members of their leadership and attending services and events.

Following time in rainy Seattle, I'm excited to fly to Rio to visit Christ Church, the Anglican Church that our parish helps to support. I will take a service, help in their holiday club and share in mission work in poorer areas. It will be a wonderful opportunity to learn as well as to deepen our links.

Rev. Richard Jones, richard.jones@ashteadparish.org

Tea and Toys Saturday 8 Feb 3 - 4.30 pm, Dell Centre

An afternoon for those with Babies and Toddlers to come and have a tea party! Fun toys and craft, as well as tea and cake for all. No need to book, just turn up.

Jaynie Kendall jaynie.kendall@ashteadparish.org

Archbishop Justin Welby Thurs 19 March 7.30pm, Camberley

Our Diocese is organising a special event, "An Evening with Justin Welby", at a large venue and it should be a great evening. If you'd like to go please book a free ticket online at Eventbrite.co.uk or on the Guildford Diocese webpage. If you've got any doubts let me know, we'd really like to encourage you to go.

Rev. Nico Ohlsson nico.ohlsson@ashteadparish.org

Parish Quiz Evening Saturday 22 Feb 7.30pm, Dell Centre

A warm invitation to join us for our second Quiz Evening. Open to all church members, along with family and friends, for teams of up to 8 people. Inviting 'non-church' members is an excellent way of reaching our "Connecting" challenge in the 2023 Vision.

Cost is £5 per person payable on the evening, BYO refreshments and glasses. Donations of prizes for the raffle would be greatly appreciated.

All proceeds will go towards the outreach projects linked to our church. Please contact Malcolm to book your place.

Rev. Malcolm Raby rm.raby007@btinternet.com

Please Pray For.....



To pray with others, please come to First Thursday Prayers, 6 February, 8pm, SGCC.

Church

- Our call to be disciples, followers and apprentices of Jesus. That we might have deep roots in prayer, following his footsteps.
- Our call to be witnesses for our amazing God, that we might be able to shine with God's love and peace in our everyday lives.
- Our new staff member Sarah Jones as she takes up the role of Ministry PA.
- The advertising for and recruitment of a new Operations Leader.

Community

- Those who in different ways are going through a difficult time in their lives, that they might feel that God is with them in the middle of the storm.
- Those who for different reasons have lost their faith and their hope, that they might reconnect with God and join a Church.

World

- The negotiations with the EU, wisdom for our politicians, that they might have God's priorities in mind.
- Those affected by the bushfires in Australia.
- Persecuted Christians around the world, that they have a strong faith and a renewed hope. That they might feel God's presence and embrace.

Spiritual Growth

Listening to God

Tuesday 18 Feb, 8pm - 10pm, SGCC

Come and spend an evening enjoying God's presence by spending time worshipping, led by Bryn Howarth, and listening to the Holy Spirit.

Rosemary Bull rosemarybull@talktalk.net

Lent Lunches

2 March - 6 April, 12 noon to 1.30pm, Dell Centre

Please come and join in with our Lent Lunches on the six Mondays in Lent. A simple lunch of soup, bread and cheese will be served. A voluntary donation of £5 will go to Water Aid.



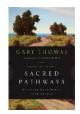
The Promises of God....Comfort 14 March, 10am - 12 noon, Dell Centre

Led by Patrick Coyne who will explore how through God's covenant, both in the OT & NT, we are brought comfort in challenging and surprising ways.

Lent Reading

We would really like to encourage you to read a book this Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, 26 Feb. Here are some suggestions:

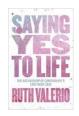
Sacred	Divine	The Little	Sabbath as	Saying Yes	The Merciful	The Boy, the
Pathways	Sparks	Book	Resistance	to Life	Humility of	Mole, the Fox
		of Prayer			God	and the Horse
Gary	Donna	Mirander	Walter	Ruth	Jane	Charlie
Thomas	Lazenby	Threlfall- Holmes	Bruggeman	Valerio	Williams	Mackey

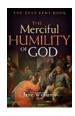


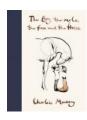












Spiritual Book Group

4, 11, 18, 25 March and 1 April, 11am - 12 noon, Dell Centre If you would like to join the group, please sign up by contacting Sharon Seal.

Please contact Sharon if you would be interested in an evening or Saturday morning book group, or a one-off meeting to talk and pray about The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse by Charlie Mackesy.

Sharon Seal, 813200 sharon.seal@ashteadparish.org

Mission Focus - Karen Border Ministries

Christ Church Bangkok, Border Ministries work with the Karen, one of the many ethnic groups in northeast Thailand, a displaced people on the Thai-Burma Border who first started to face opposition during the late 1940s. It's an ongoing conflict of over 70 years which has affected millions.

Life can still be challenging for those who fled from Burma (Myanmar) into Thailand. Moving about Burma is easier now, but returning is difficult as they fled from persecution, losing land and property in the process. People are now starting to return but many still live in and out of camps along the whole of this lengthy border.



Christ Church Bangkok through which the gifts for the Border are given

Help for those living in camps comes from various sources but **Noh Bo Academy** (NBA), a school for approx. 200 students aged 11 – 23, is supported almost entirely by Christ **Bangkok's Border Ministries.**

Burma above the river,

Thailand below.

Since the early 1990s when NBA was founded, local Karen teachers have worked tirelessly at the school and many generous, able volunteers from abroad have served for varying lengths of time.

These volunteers are especially appreciated for their strong Christian witness and the variety of skills they bring. Visitors can

be a great encouragement to the Karen who often feel they are a forgotten race. Yet they are a capable group of over 7 million people, (Norway has 5.3 million people).

In November this year a small team of people from Ashtead Parish will go out to Noh Bo to live and work for 2 short weeks to share these peoples' lives. Volunteers who can go for at least a school semester are far more valuable to give continuity and stability, but short-term visits can still be beneficial, if we go to serve and learn from and about the God who is the same yesterday, today and forever, wherever we are.

Please pray for:

- those from both sides who are seeking to bring peace and resettlement to the Karen
- return or not
- ⋄ those who lead, serve & guide the Karen
- students who are taking final exams in February and making decisions for the future
- ♦ those who are making decisions whether to
 ♦ the Karen staff at NBA and the vicar of Noh Bo Church
 - the proposed mini trip from Ashtead

If you would like to know more about the Border Ministry, try reading the latest edition of Border News at christchurchbangkok.churchdesk.com/share/file/813782

Gwynneth and John Cooper, gwynneth.john@gmail.com

Parish Notices

2020 - Camps & Residentials - save the dates

We're excited to launch two new residentials this summer for children and young people. Details will be emailed to parents soon. If you don't yet receive emails please contact Jaynie for children or Sean for youth.

jaynie.kendall@ashteadparish.org sean.skinner@ashteadparish.org

Spree

Friday 3 - Sunday 5 July, for school years 5-8Building on the success of the Pathfinder Weekend, we're extending the age range and joining with other churches from across the area for awesome activities, exciting worship and inspiring teaching. We'll be camping in the Rock UK centre in Northamptonshire, www.urbansaints.org/spree.

Limitless
Friday 7 - Wednesday 12 August, for school years 9-13

A fresh change from Soul Survivor with accessible worship, Jesus-focussed teaching and a chance to grow as a community, camping with thousands of other teenagers at Staffordshire Showground.



Do you have two hours free on a Wednesday morning or afternoon? Would you like to have fun supporting our shop team in ALDAG's Re-Use It shop in Dorking?

If you are free each week or every other week we would love to hear from you.

Pam Walden info@aldag.org.uk

Financial Fact

Every year, SGSG likes to provide financial assistance to a number of Christian Charities, Mission Partners and Mission Agencies both locally and overseas. We have a dedicated Mission Committee to decide where our money is sent and we budget to provide at least 10% of our total giving (before Gift Aid) to these worthy causes.

Over the past 5 years we have sent over £300k to people and organisations who seek to share the love of Jesus in a variety of ways. It is so rewarding to see the real difference that our contribution makes. For further details, please do look at our Mission poster which is located at the back of both churches.

David Arnold, Treasurer dpjarnold@gmail.com

Parish Notices

The Beginning of Everything Mondays 3, 10 & 24 Feb 10.30am - 12 or 8 - 9.30pm **Dell Centre**

A weekly course on Genesis 1-11, pausing at half-term. More information from Tim Long.

Rev. Tim Long timmslong@gmail.com



Friday 7 & 28 Feb 9.15 - 10.30am, SGCC

your Brighten up mornings with a giggle as we

discuss the characters and themes from the TV series Motherland, from PTA pressures, to the mums who are all in control and those who are very much not!

All ladies aged 20-50 welcome, no charge/no booking required. Free care for the under 5s and home schooled children, coffee and cake provided, fun guaranteed!

Maxine Simpson, 272177 maxinesimpson2003@yahoo.co.uk

Flix for adults with a Disability Saturday 8 Feb, 2.30pm, SGCC

Our film is Cheaper by the Dozen.

Dee Peck, 07759 707872

deempeck@gmail.com

Evergreen Wed 12 Feb, 2.30 - 4pm, SGCC An enjoyable afternoon of music with

Mirkku Ridanpaa, our Contemporary Music Leader, followed by afternoon tea & raffle. Lifts from Gill Laver, 275260.

Jacqui Kershaw, 813200 jacqueline.kershaw@ashteadparish.org

Link Group

Thursday 13 Feb, 7.30pm, SGCC Link group, for ladies over fifty, has an interesting programme of speakers, social activities and charitable fund raising.

This month we will hear about Mauritius and its culture. This will be followed refreshments in the café. All are welcome.

Sue Dusmohamed, susan.dusmohamed@btinternet.com

Worship Together
Friday 14 Feb, SGCC, 8 - 9.15pm
Alternative Valentine's Day: Come and

celebrate God's love for us! Together is an informal evening of worship, prayer and praise. Everyone welcome!

Mirkku Ridanpaa mirkku.ridanpaa@ashteadparish.org

Ashtead Churches' Men's Breakfast Saturday 15 Feb 8 - 9.30am, Baptist Church Hall

Please join us as we welcome Tony White, who will be speaking on behalf of The Samaritans on the work that they do.

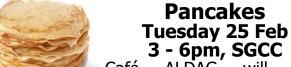
Cereals & bacon butties breakfast for £3. All men are very welcome; do come and join us, no need to let us know in advance.

ashteadmensbreakfast@gmail.com

Evergreen Plus - Music Tuesday 25 Feb, 2.15 - 3.30pm, SGCC We look forward to welcoming you for an enjoyable afternoon of music. Lifts available. For transport call Barbara Kelley 276844.

Jacqui Kershaw, 813200 jacqueline.kershaw@ashteadparish.org

Parish Notices



Café ALDAG will serve pancakes for Shrove Tuesday.

Sweet and savoury options, with prices starting from £1.50 for two. Refreshments will also be available. Why not invite your friends?

Fiona McVicar fimcvi@googlemail.com

Ash Wednesday, 26 Feb 2pm - 3pm, SGCC 8pm - 9pm, St. Giles'

Please join us for a service of Ashing and Communion as we start our journey through Lent together.

Rev. Nico Ohlsson nico.ohlsson@ashteadparish.org



Thurs 27 Feb, 10am - 12 noon, SGCC Please join us for coffee in the café from 10am, followed by a talk by Dr Emma Griffin (GP) on the subject of Mental Health. Everybody welcome.

Carol Kester j.kester@btinternet.com

Lunchtime Jazz Thurs 27 Feb, 12.15 - 1.30pm, SGCC

The café is here to build you up with a special lunch and perhaps a treat. Let Dolores warm you up you with some smooth, traditional Jazz beats.

Rosie Bennett rclbennett@hotmail.com



Thursday 27 Feb 4.15-6pm, Dell Centre

Messy Church is a time for people of all ages to enjoy

being together, making things, sharing a meal and learning more about God.

This month our theme is The Good Samaritan. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Jaynie Kendall jaynie.kendall@ashteadparish.org



Friday 28 Feb, 7.45pm, Dell Centre Drinks, nibbles and a panel conversation on 'When life takes an unexpected turn.......'. Three women from our church family will share how they have dealt with

unexpected events in their lives.

All women are welcome. Free and no booking required. If possible please walk or car share – thank you!

claire436whittaker@btinternet.com

Explorers Play Sunday 15 March, 10am, Dell CentreThe St Giles' Explorers Play will be performed at the 10am service, held in the Dell Centre. Everyone is very welcome. If

anyone has some surplus wallpaper for

máking scenery please contact Bridget.

Bridget Murray

dandbmurray@ntlworld.com

Parish Diary

Morning Prayer, weekdays, 9 - 9.20am, St George's Church

Monday 3 Feb	Little Flames	10am -	- 11.30am	Dell Centre
	The Beginning of Everything	10.30am -	- 12pm	Dell Centre
	The Beginning of Everything	8pm -	- 9.30pm	Dell Centre
Wednesday 5 Feb	The Ark	10am -	- 11.30am	SGCC
Thursday 6 Feb	First Thursday Prayers	8pm -	- 9pm	SGCC
Friday 7 Feb	Oasis	9.15am -	- 10.30am	SGCC
Saturday 8 Feb	Tea and Toys	3pm -	- 4.30pm	Dell Centre
	Flix for adults with a Disability	2.30pm -	- 4pm	SGCC
Monday 10 Feb	Little Flames	10am -	- 11.30am	Dell Centre
	The Beginning of Everything	10.30am -	- 12 noon	Dell Centre
	Horizon	2pm -	- 4pm	SGCC
	The Beginning of Everything	8pm -	- 9.30pm	Dell Centre
Wednesday 12 Feb	The Ark	10am -	- 11.30am	SGCC
	Evergreen	2.30pm -	- 4pm	SGCC
Thursday 13 Feb	Link Group	7.30pm -	- 8.30pm	SGCC
	Community Prayers	8pm -	- 9pm	SGCC
Friday 14 Feb	Worship Together	8pm -	- 9.15pm	SGCC
Saturday 15 Feb	Ashtead Churches' Men's Breakfast	8am -	- 9.30am	Baptist Church Hall

Parish Diary

Morning Prayer, weekdays, 9 - 9.20am, St George's Church						
Monday 17 Feb	Contemplative Prayer	8pm - 9pm	st Giles'			
Tuesday 18 Feb	Listening to God	8pm - 10p	m SGCC			
Thursday 20 Feb	Community Prayers	8pm - 9pm	sGCC			
Saturday 22 Feb	Parish Quiz Evening	7.30pm - 9.30	pm Dell Centre			
Monday 24 Feb	Little Flames The Beginning of Everything The Beginning of Everything	10am - 11.3 10.30am - 12 r 8pm - 9.30	noon Dell Centre			
Tuesday 25 Feb	Evergreen Plus ALDAG café pancakes	2.15pm - 3.30 3pm - 6pm	•			
Wednesday 26 Feb	The Ark Citizens Advice Bureau Ash Wednesday Service Ash Wednesday Service	10am - 11.3 11am - 12.3 2pm - 3pm 8pm - 9pm	SOpm SGCC SGCC			
Thursday 27 Feb	Mothers' Union Lunchtime Jazz Messy Church Community Prayers	10am - 12 r 12.15pm - 1.30 4.15pm - 6pm 8pm - 9pm	Opm SGCC Dell Centre			
Friday 28 Feb	Oasis Tonic	9.15am - 10.3 7.45pm - 10p				

Groups at SGSG Ashtead

Ashtead Churches Men's Breakfast

A group for men from all the churches in Ashtead. All ages, backgrounds and interests are very welcome including non-church goers, neighbours and friends. Breakfast of cereals and bacon butties is included for £3.

ashteadmensbreakfast@gmail.com

Church Community Prayer

An opportunity to meet for worship, listening prayer and intercessory prayer.

Rosemary Bull, 273647 rosemarybull@talktalk.net

Citizens Advice

Citizens Advice provides a monthly drop-in session for advice at SGCC. Booking is not necessary.

Julie Newham, blfproject@camv.org.uk

Contemplative Prayer

An opportunity to be still and reflect on our relationship with God. To help us there will be words, music, silence, quotes and prayers. Takes place monthly.

Sharon Seal, 813200 sharon.seal@ashteadparish.org

Evergreen

For friendship and entertainment. Evergreen is a social group for seniors. There is always a warm welcome and a cup of tea. For transport call Gill Laver 275260.

Jacqui Kershaw, 813200 Jacqueline.Kershaw@ashteadparish.org

Evergreen Plus Games Afternoon

Social events with board games, beetle drive and tea and biscuits! For more details and lifts contact:

Jacqui Kershaw, 813200 Jacqueline.Kershaw@ashteadparish.org

Flames Flix

Takes place every month during term time. Family film, popcorn, sweets, drinks and DVD giveaway. For families with young children. All free!

Jaynie Kendall, 813965 jaynie.kendall@ashteadparish.org

Flix for Adults with a Disability

Film viewings for adults with a disability. For more information please contact:

Dee Peck, 805182 deempeck@gmail.com

Horizon

A support group for those who have been bereaved recently.

Sue Balaam, 274153 fiworb1@gmail.com

Horizon Lunch Club

Horizon lunch club is a group for those who have been bereaved more than three years.

Peter and Vivienne Longhurst, 815626

Kindle

A social group for those aged 25-35. If you would like to join us, or would like more information about being part of Kindle, please let us know. You would be very welcome.

Nico Ohlsson, 07387 015646 kindle@ashteadparish.org

Groups at SGSG Ashtead

Link Group

Link group is a friendly, sociable group for ladies over fifty. Activities include monthly meetings with a speaker, outings, fundraising for charity and special seasonal events. Visitors are always very welcome.

Gail Arch, 274508

Little Flames Toddler Group

Crafts, sensory play, singing, a short Bible story and interactive prayer. All pre-school children and their parent/carers welcome.

Jaynie Kendall, 813965 jaynie.kendall@ashteadparish.org

Mothers' Union

Open to all men and women who care deeply about family life, the wellbeing of children and the enabling of women to improve their own and their family's welfare. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month. Refreshments available.

Carol Kester, 276711 i.kester@btinternet.com

Oasis

A friendly women's group that meets fortnightly on Fridays during term time. For women in their 20s, 30s and 40s to enjoy coffee and homemade cakes. Each term there is a new 'theme', so check the website and fliers for more information. A free well-equipped crèche for any pre-schoolers is also available.

Maxine Simpson, 272177 maxinesimpson2003@yahoo.co.uk sgsgashtead.com/oasis

Shed Time

Shed Time is a regular forum looking at some of the important issues facing men in the modern world. It's an opportunity to be challenged, to be inspired and to network with other like-minded men. For our next event please visit the website.

Andy Thacker, info@shedtime.men sgsgashtead.com/shedtime

The Ark

Join us during term-time for play, followed by singing together. All children up to the age of four and parents/carers welcome.

Jaynie Kendall, 813965 jaynie.kendall@ashteadparish.org

Tonic

Tonic is a programme of events for women of all ages across the church, aiming to 'refresh, inspire and equip' us in our life and faith. We have four events a year which provide opportunities for us to grow in our faith and our relationships with each other. For further information please contact Claire Whittaker or Jo Jones.

claire436whittaker@btinternet.com jrj37@aol.com sgsgashtead.com/tonic

Triple SG

A ministry group for 18-25s which includes housegroup-style weekly meetings and fun socials in the holidays — from pub quizzes to scavenger hunts and barbecues.

Bella Kraushaar, 275395 kraushaarpb@btinternet.com

Contacts and Information









Parish Reception

Church and room bookings Weekdays 9am - 4.30pm, Tel: 813964 reception@ashteadparish.org

Parish Office

Weddings, baptisms, funerals and finance Weekdays 9am - 2pm, Tel: 813332 parish.office@ashteadparish.org

Café

Weekdays 9am - 2.30pm, Tel: 803088

Ministry PA

Sarah Jones, Tel: 200866 ministrypa@ashteadparish.org

Rector

Rev. Richard Jones, Tel: 805182 Mobile: 07387 015647 richard.jones@ashteadparish.org

Associate Minister

Rev. Nico Ohlsson, Tel: 07387 015646 nico.ohlsson@ashteadparish.org

Ordinand

Leah Perona-Wright, Tel: 07776 661762 leah.perona-wright@ashteadparish.org

Pastoral Care

Sharon Seal, Tel: 813200 sharon.seal@ashteadparish.org

Youth

Sean Skinner, Tel: 813965 sean.skinner@ashteadparish.org

Children and Families

Jaynie Kendall, Tel: 813965 jaynie.kendall@ashteadparish.org

Contemporary Music Mirkku Ridanpaa, Tel: 07704 096677 mirkku.ridanpaa@ashteadparish.org

Verger

Mark Haustead, Tel: 07387 015649 mark.haustead@ashteadparish.org

St George's Christian Centre

Barnett Wood Lane Ashtead, Surrey KT21 2DA

Church Matters!

The copy deadline for the **March** issue is 11am on **Thurs 20 February.**

The Parish Office, 813332 communications@ashteadparish.org

Media

Friend us on Facebook to keep up with the latest news and events:

www.facebook.com/ashteadparish

Check the website for children's groups, sermons, parish updates and more:

sgsgashtead.com



Stamps

Please remember to save your used stamps, collection boxes are at the entrance to both churches.

Val Porter, 803368

Carol services collections

The collections at our carol services raised £2,238, which had been divided equally between Christian Aid and Leatherhead Start.

Janine Brims finance.leader@ashteadparish.org

Every Day with Jesus

Notes for March and April will be in pigeonholes from 9 February.

Jean Hampstead jean.hampstead@gmail.com

Scripture Union

Please collect SU Bible Reading Notes from Pigeon Holes.

Carol Kester j.kester@btinternet.com



