

## 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

As previously communicated, I will be on sabbatical from 1 January to 15 March 2020. During this time, I will attend a course on Christianity and the environment at Regent College in Vancouver. I will then visit several churches on the West Coast of the USA, meeting with members of their teams to learn about how they nurture discipleship.

I will also visit Christ Church, Rio, where our mission partners Mark and Jess Simpson are based, and will share in their ministry amongst the poor and marginalised.

Returning to the UK in mid February, I will attend a spiritual retreat at Launde Abbey, prior to visiting churches in York and Edinburgh, as well as attending a New Wine Leadership Conference.

Thank you for your support and prayers during this time for myself and the staff team here.

While I'm away, Nico Ohlsson and Sharon Seal will lead the staff and ministry teams, with the support of the church wardens. I look forward to seeing you in March! Thank you.

**Rev. Richard Jones**

[richard.jones@ashteadparish.org](mailto:richard.jones@ashteadparish.org)

### New Appointments

Following interviews, we are delighted to announce two new appointments. Sarah Jones joins the team as Ministry PA. Sarah has been an active member of the church for many years. She will work 25 hours per week, Monday-Thursday, starting on 3 February. Judith Lovett starts in January as Families Outreach Worker, working 15 hours per week. Reporting to Sharon Seal, Judith will develop our growing ministry in the community and help to realise our 2023 vision. Further information is on our website.

**Rev. Richard Jones**

[richard.jones@ashteadparish.org](mailto:richard.jones@ashteadparish.org)



### Welcome Back Sunday 12 Jan

Please bring friends and neighbours, who might have come to one of our Christmas Services, to our services that welcome everyone back to church for the new year.

[sgsgashtead.com/welcome](http://sgsgashtead.com/welcome)

### Week of Christian Unity

**Tuesday 21 Jan, 8pm, St Michael's**

Please join us as we celebrate our week of Christian Unity in a joint service at St Michael's Church. We will also pray together on Monday 20 Jan at 9am in St George's and on Thursday 23 Jan at 10.15am in Ashtead Baptist Church.

**Rev. Nico Ohlsson**

[nico.ohlsson@ashteadparish.org](mailto:nico.ohlsson@ashteadparish.org)

# Please Pray For.....

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## **Church**

All who came to church over the Christmas period, that they may be encouraged to continue 'Following the Star' and to attend the 'You're Welcome Back' services on Sunday 12 January.

The week of Christian Unity, 18-25 Jan, including the ecumenical service at St Michael's on Tuesday 21 Jan, prayer sessions on Monday 20 Jan, 9am in St George's and Friday 23 Jan, 10.15am in Ashted Baptist Church, and the ongoing partnership between the three churches in Ashted.

All those involved in teaching and preaching across our church, as we start a new sermon series on Moses and consider Genesis in the study course run by Tim Long and Christine Bailey.

The youth weekend away at Carrotty Wood at the end of the month, for all attending and for Sean and the team as they lead and encourage our young people.

Our Families Outreach Worker, Judith Lovett, as she takes up her new role in Sharon Seal's team.

## **Community**

All who work in the health and emergency services in our community, as the winter brings additional pressures and workload.

Those involved in supporting families and relationships, especially following Christmas which can be a time of increased tension and discord for many.

People who have moved into our community recently, that they may quickly feel at home and build friendships.

## **World**

All those elected to parliament last month, both in government and opposition, as they begin to debate and implement new policies.

The ongoing negotiations with the EU as the Brexit deadline approaches, and for all those tasked with implementing the changes that will follow.

Countries that continue to suffer from war, violence and economic collapse, including Syria, Yemen, DRC, Zimbabwe and Venezuela.

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# Spiritual Growth

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## The Promises of God.....Heaven

Wednesday 29 January, 10am - 12, Dell Centre

Led by Canon Margaret Marsh, please book your place with Sharon Seal.



Sharon Seal, 813200  
sharon.seal@ashteadparish.org

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## Mission Focus

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### 2020 Theme: Building Hope and Confidence

Hope is called the anchor of the soul (Hebrews 6:19), because it gives stability to the Christian life. But hope is not simply a 'wish' (I wish that such-and-such would take place); rather, it is that which latches on to the certainty of the promises of the future that God has made. *RC Sproul*

The outcomes of our global listening process MULO (Mothers' Union Listens, Observes and Acts) have enabled the Worldwide Council to draw together key elements, and shape the way forward for Mothers' Union Worldwide. **"Building hope and confidence"** has been placed at the heart of our call to support individuals and families to transform their lives. As we build our hope and confidence in God we will be inspired and equipped to build hope and confidence in others, in both a local and global context. Our theme for 2020 aims to help us live out our faith to build hope and confidence in ourselves as well as those we support, and to nurture our faith as we continue to walk forward in step with God.



### **1. FAITH IS AT THE CORE OF WHAT WE DO**

Across the world, in 84 countries, Mothers' Union members respond to the immediate and pressing needs of hundreds of thousands of people in their communities. Our four million members are driven by their Christian faith to make a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable people around them, regardless of their religion, politics or backgrounds.

# Mission Focus - Mothers' Union

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## 2. COMMUNITY ACTION

*CASE STUDY: Wendy, Ethiopia*

Bishop Grant's wife Wendy was involved in a health and education programme, training Mothers' Union representatives in basic childcare. This knowledge was passed on to local groups and communities around the country. One of the aims was to counteract harmful local traditions, like not giving your baby water if they have diarrhea. Because of this training from Mothers' Union members, one resident said their village had gone from burying 500 infants to none in the space of a year.



## 3. FIGHTING POVERTY

*CASE STUDY: Joyce, Tanzania*

Joyce Mbelwa is part of the St Veronica's Village Community Bank (VICOBA) in the Diocese of Tanga, Tanzania. VICOBA started in March 2018 and already has split into two groups because of demand. Joyce has savings in her VICOBA of TZS 165,000\*. She decided to take a loan of TZS 500,000 from the group to start small-scale poultry keeping and plant maize. Joyce has harvested 29 100kg bags of maize, some of which she has sold, and some kept for her family. She also regularly sells eggs in the market. Joyce has been able to pay school fees for her two children as well as her Mothers' Union contribution for the first time. (\*figures as of October 2018)

## 4. SOCIAL JUSTICE

Mothers' Union founder Mary Sumner was a 19th century social activist who fought for the UK's age of marriage for girls to be increased from 12 to 16. That social justice tradition carries on. As a movement led by women, a particular focus continues to be on gender-based matters. Mothers' Union takes practical action in the community, and also through advocacy at local, national and global levels. In March 2019, delegates from Ghana, Zambia, Canada and the UK participated in the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW). The theme was rural women. More than 200 members from seven countries participated in a survey, which uncovered common ground in the challenges faced by rural women:

- isolation;
  - poor local transport;
  - reduced education;
  - reduced "voice" due to a more patriarchal environment.
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# Mission Focus - Mothers' Union

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Mothers' Union continues to raise awareness of these issues through the international campaign of '**16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence**'. It takes place each year from 25 November, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, until 10 December, International Human Rights Day.

This is only a snapshot of the types of activities carried out by MU. Locally, our branch is one of the largest in the diocese and our members are active in prisons, schools, hospitals and prayer. Visit [www.muguildford.org.uk](http://www.muguildford.org.uk) for further information.

The Ashtead Branch would like to thank the church for its continued support as a mission partner in 2020. All men and women are welcome at our meetings held at 10am on the 4th Thursday of each month in St George's. If you would like further information, please contact **Carol Kester** on 276711 or visit **sgsgashtead.com**.

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## Parish Notices

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### **Kingfisher Group, 11am service at St George's**

Kingfishers is a group for adults and young people with additional needs. We enjoy fellowship together including our news, prayers, learning about God in a more accessible way through looking at the Bible, singing, drama, games, including parachute games, crafts and much more. We start in the church service and go out to the Quiet Room when the children go to their sessions. We remain in church when it is All Age Worship and we generally come back into church to share communion on Communion Sundays. We welcome new members, come and give Kingfishers a try.

**Monica & Graham Lee, 273085, msbiggs@btinternet.com**

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### **Financial Fact**

We are proud of the fact that the SGSG Parish is the 14th largest Church of England parish in the UK by number of worshippers and is the largest outside major city centres. This fact comes from the National Church of England statistics, which help to determine our Parish Share, the money we give to the Diocese of Guildford to fund Ministerial salaries, to provide rectories and vicarages, to provide training of curates, to fund Diocesan running costs and to support multiple Church Schools of all ages across the Diocese, including our very own St Giles' Infant School here in Ashtead. SGSG Parish pays in excess of £270k from your generous gifts each year to the Guildford Diocese to help fund all of this.

**David Arnold, Treasurer, dpjarnold@gmail.com**

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# Parish Notices

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## Café

The ALDAG café re-opens on Monday 6 January and St George's café re-opens on Wednesday 8 January.

**Rosie Bennett**  
rclbennett@hotmail.com

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## Evergreen

**Wed 8 Jan, 2.30 - 3.45pm, SGCC**

An enjoyable afternoon of games with homemade tea. Lifts from Gill Laver, 275260.

**Jacqui Kershaw, 813200**  
jacqueline.kershaw@ashteadparish.org

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## Link Group

**Thursday 9 Jan, 7.30pm, SGCC**

We start the New Year by welcoming a speaker from Be@titude, which will be our charity for 2020. The talk will be followed by our AGM (very brief!) and, as always, there will be refreshments in the cafe afterwards. Do come along and find out more about our friendly group for ladies over fifty.

**Gail Arch, 274508**

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**Friday 10 & 24 Jan**  
**9.15 - 10.30am, SGCC**

Brighten up your Friday 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

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## Flix for adults with a Disability

**Saturday 11 Jan, 2pm, SGCC**

Our film for January is SHREK, please note 2pm start.

**Dee Peck, 07759 707872**  
deempeck@gmail.com

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## The Beginning of Everything

**Monday 13 January, 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.

**timmslong@gmail.com**

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## Ashtead Churches' Men's Breakfast

**Saturday 18 Jan, 8 - 9.30am**

**St Michael's Church Hall**

Please join us to welcome Monsignor Roderick Strange, who will be speaking on the life of St John Henry Newman. Rod Strange is a well-known public figure, Professor of Theology at St Mary's University, Twickenham and a regular columnist for the Sunday Times. 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**

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## Mission and Evangelism

**Thursday 23 Jan, 8pm, SGCC**

If you're interested in sharing ideas and developing our evangelism, or interested in praying about going on a mission with a team from our church, please come along. We will brainstorm ideas and pray about mission opportunities locally and internationally.

**Rev. Nico Ohlsson**  
nico.ohlsson@ashteadparish.org

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# Parish Notices

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## **Thurs 23 Jan, 10am - 12 noon, SGCC**

Please join us for coffee in the café from 10am. Following our AGM Mirkku Ridanpaa, our Contemporary Music Leader, will talk and sing to us. All men and women are very welcome to join us.

**Carol Kester, [j.kester@btinternet.com](mailto:j.kester@btinternet.com)**

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## **Lunchtime Jazz**

### **Thurs 23 Jan, 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 with some smooth, traditional Jazz beats.

**Rosie Bennett**  
**[rclbennett@hotmail.com](mailto:rclbennett@hotmail.com)**

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## **Thursday 23 Jan 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. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Jaynie Kendall, 813965**  
**[jaynie.kendall@ashteadparish.org](mailto:jaynie.kendall@ashteadparish.org)**

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## **Friday 28 Feb, 7.45pm, Dell Centre**

Drinks, nibbles and a panel conversation on 'When life takes an unexpected turn.....' Free, no booking required. Further details to follow.

**[claire436whittaker@btinternet.com](mailto:claire436whittaker@btinternet.com)**

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## **Archbishop Justin Welby Thursday 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](http://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](mailto:nico.ohlsson@ashteadparish.org)**

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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, 275466**  
**[info@aldag.org.uk](mailto:info@aldag.org.uk)**

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## **Christmas Hampers**

A massive thank-you to the church community for your amazing donations of food, gifts and money. Your kindness and generosity has blessed 18 families, bringing God's message of love and much needed joy this Christmas.

**The Besom team**

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## **Flat available**

Ashtead United Charity has a one bedroom, self-contained flat available in Ashtead, for a female over 55 years of age with Ashtead connections, £524 pcm. For further details please contact the Charity's Clerk.

**Mary Cooper, 273489**

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# Parish Diary

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

Sunday 5 Jan	Choral VI Epiphany Carols	6pm - 7pm	St Giles'
Wednesday 8 Jan	Evergreen	2.30pm - 3.45pm	SGCC
Thursday 9 Jan	Link group	7.30pm - 8.30pm	SGCC
Friday 10 Jan	Oasis	9.15am - 10.30am	SGCC
Saturday 11 Jan	Flix - adults with a Disability	2pm - 4pm	SGCC
Sunday 12 Jan	Welcome Back Sunday	<a href="http://sgsgashtead.com/welcome">sgsgashtead.com/welcome</a>	
Monday 13 Jan	Little Flames	10am - 11.30am	Dell Centre
	Beginning of Everything	10.30am - 12pm	Dell Centre
	Horizon	2pm - 4pm	SGCC
	Beginning of Everything	8pm - 9.30pm	Dell Centre
Wednesday 15 Jan	The Ark	10am - 11.30am	SGCC
Saturday 18 Jan	Men's Breakfast	8am - 9.30am	St Michael's

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# Parish Diary

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

Monday 20 Jan	Little Flames	10am - 11.30am	Dell Centre
	Contemplative Prayer	8pm - 9pm	St Giles'
Tuesday 21 Jan	Ecumenical service, Week of Christian Unity	8pm - 9pm	St Michael's
Wednesday 22 Jan	The Ark	10am - 11.30am	SGCC
Thursday 23 Jan	Mothers' Union	10am - 12pm	SGCC
	Lunchtime Jazz	12.15pm - 1.30pm	SGCC
	Messy Church	4.15pm - 6pm	Dell Centre
	Mission and Evangelism	8pm - 9pm	SGCC
Friday 24 Jan	Oasis	9.15am - 10.30am	SGCC
Monday 27 Jan	Little Flames	10am - 11.30am	Dell Centre
Wednesday 29 Jan	The Ark	10am - 11.30am	SGCC
	Promises of God....Heaven	10am - 12pm	Dell Centre
Thursday 30 Jan	January PCC Meeting	7.30pm - 10pm	Dell Centre

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# Groups at SGSG Ashtead

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## 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**

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### Church Community Prayer

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

**Rosemary Bull, 273647**  
**rosemarybull@talktalk.net**

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### Citizens Advice

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

**Julie Newham,**  
**blfproject@camv.org.uk**

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### 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**

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### 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**

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### 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**

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### Flix for Adults with a Disability

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

**Dee Peck, 805182**  
**deempeck@gmail.com**

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### 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**

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### 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

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## 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**

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## 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](mailto:info@shedtime.men)  
[sgsgashtead.com/shedtime](http://sgsgashtead.com/shedtime)**

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## 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](mailto:jaynie.kendall@ashteadparish.org)**

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## 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](mailto:jaynie.kendall@ashteadparish.org)**

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## 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**  
**[j.kester@btinternet.com](mailto:j.kester@btinternet.com)**

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## Tonic

Tonic is a programme of occasional events for ladies. As well as informative talks, we have organised meals and exciting & challenging activities. For our latest events please look on the church website.

**Claire Whittaker**  
**[claire436whittaker@btinternet.com](mailto:claire436whittaker@btinternet.com)  
[sgsgashtead.com/tonic](http://sgsgashtead.com/tonic)**

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## 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](mailto:maxinesimpson2003@yahoo.co.uk)  
[sgsgashtead.com/oasis](http://sgsgashtead.com/oasis)**

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## 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](mailto:kraushaarpb@btinternet.com)**

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For further information please visit the website or pick up a leaflet at either church  
**[sgsgashtead.com/groups](http://sgsgashtead.com/groups)**

# 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

John Cooper (interim), 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 **February** issue is 11am on **Thurs 23 January**.

**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 from Christmas. Collection boxes are at the entrance to both churches, thank you.

**Val Porter, 803368**

## Every Day with Jesus

Notes for January and February are in pigeonholes.

**Jean Hampstead**  
**jean.hampstead@gmail.com**

## Scripture Union

Please collect SU Bible Reading Notes from Pigeon Holes.

**Carol Kester,**  
**j.kester@btinternet.com**

