



Introducing Reverend Tom Darwent

There will be much joy and shouts of celebration in the parish of Ashted as we welcome Revd Tom Darwent, our newly appointed Rector, at his Collation Service later this year. After what seems like a long period of vacancy we are excited for what the future holds.



Reverend Tom Darwent

Born in Edmonton in North London, Tom grew up in a Christian family, making a firm commitment to Christ at 15. Leaving home in 1993, Tom attended Robinson College, Cambridge, studying Social and Political Sciences.

“I really benefited from the vibrant Christian community in Cambridge.” says Tom. “After graduation I returned to London to work. I got involved in my local church, St Mark’s Battersea Rise, moving from helping with youth work and Life Group leading, to preaching, to PCC membership, to Church Warden.”

In 2004 Tom made a bold decision to leave his job to study full-time on the Cornhill Training Course, a preaching and theology course based in London, whilst also still serving at St Mark’s and exploring the possibility of ordination. He was accepted for ordination training later that year. After completing a BA in Theology which incorporated a number of placements, including a Summer in Australia, Tom moved to Guildford Diocese for his curacy at Holy Trinity, Claygate.

“This was a really fruitful time, as the church grew significantly and I played my part in developing a large young adults’ ministry there. This is where I met my wife Kate.”

Tom took up the post of Associate Rector at St Saviour’s, Guildford in 2011, soon after which he and Kate married, welcoming two children (Clara and Harry) in the years that followed. The family have been based in Camberley since 2016, and though they are sad to leave, they are excited about helping SGSG fulfil its potential.



Kate, Harry, Clara & Tom are looking forward to moving to Ashted.

“It is a privilege and a joy to have been appointed to this role” says Tom, “I first felt God laying Ashted on my heart some time ago. It is a church with wonderful people, a rich heritage and incredible resources.”

Andy & Malcolm, (your Churchwardens)

Ashtead Churches Together Pond Service Funds: Thank you to all those in the Ashtead community who braved the British weather on Good Friday to attend the annual Pond Service, followed by hot cross buns at St George's Café. The event raised a massive £1,191.01. This will be divided and donated to **LeatherHEAD START** and **Epsom & Ewell Refugee Network**. Click on the cause to find out more.

Lent Wheelchairs: Thank you to everyone who sponsored a wheelchair during Lent for Through The Roof's 'Wheels for the World.' You collectively raised £2,100, sponsoring 46 wheelchairs and 10 bibles.

Games on the Rec: Youth Leader, Ben Andrews, has some exciting fixtures lined up this Summer for Youth Games on Ashtead Rec. The first event will be held on Saturday 18 May at 4.00pm. All those in years 6 - 9 are invited to sign up to the challenge **here**. More games will be held across the Summer for years 6 - 13. Visit the **youth pages** on our website to find out more, or speak to Ben.

Ashtead Village Day, Saturday 8 June: The combined Ashtead Churches will once again be running the Tea Tent and require volunteers to serve teas during the afternoon, make cakes or help put up and dismantle the Marquee. Offers of help will be gratefully received. **Sign up here** or contact Carol Dare on 07704 838071.

Youth Event - Thy Kingdom Come - Sunday 19 May (book your space here): No Youth church at The Six on Sunday 19. Instead we will be taking our Youth to Thy Kingdom Come at Christ College, Guildford from 4:15pm-6:30pm. This will be a night of games, food, prayer and worship led by the Diocese. Meeting there at 4pm. **Sign up here to let Ben know you are coming.**

Please pray for...

- Tom, Kate and their children as they work to bring closure to all they hold in Camberley and look forward to their move to Ashtead
- positive outcomes in the upcoming Mental Health Awareness week (13-19 May), which seeks to shine light where darkness consumes
- students at schools across the UK as they undertake examinations. That they know God's peace and wisdom in the coming weeks
- give thanks for those who completed the Hope Explored course earlier this month and as our whole church continues its journey of Hope, that we each find God's peace

Events Coming Up

For full details click on the title of each event, visit sgsgashtead.org.uk/events or you can contact us.



Horizon - Monday 13 May, 2:00-4:00pm - St George's Quiet Room

Please do join us if you are bereaved for less than three years, we aim to offer an informal way of meeting others, so that you might find it supportive in your grief.

Link Group for Women - Wednesday 15 May, 2:30-4:00pm

A friendly, caring group of ladies, meeting each 3rd Wednesday at St George's. Enjoy coffee and companionship, informative talks and fundraising activities.

Spring Craft Fair - Friday 17 May, 9:00am-1:00pm - St George's Church

Drop in for a browse of a selection of original and hand made items from local vendors, including Coco Kiri Designs, My Look, Cookies and More, Bags by Jane and much more!

Games on the Rec (Yrs 6 - 9) - Saturday 18 May, 4.00-5.00pm

If you are in school year 6-9, come and meet up with Ben and your mates on the top field at Ashtead Rec (by the play park) for some Team games. Free to come but please do let us know by signing up.

Contemplative Prayer - Monday 20 May, 8.00-9:00pm - St Giles' Church

Come and join us in a time of led Contemplative Prayer, which offers us space within our everyday lives to reflect, receive and respond to God.

Lunchtime Jazz - Thursday 23 May 12:15-1:30pm - St George's Café

Professional musicians Sarah Jane Eveleigh and the band are back! Come enjoy great jazz and great food!

Play Café - Wednesday 29 May - 9.00am - 2.00pm - St George's Café

Come and meet up with friends and enjoy a cuppa and a delicious cake while your little ones play. No need to book, just find a table when you arrive.



Here For You

If you have any questions, speak to one of our team

Sermon Series:

Hope Explored

12 May

The Fruit of Hope - Love

Colossians 1: 1-8

19 May

Pentecost

Acts 2: 1-21

Talks & services:



St Giles' Church

Park Lane, Ashted KT21 1EJ

Sundays: 8:00am (3rd Sunday) | 10:30am (with SGSG Kids) | Choral VI 6:00pm

Thursdays: 11:00am

St George's Church

Barnett Wood Lane, Ashted KT21 2DA

Sundays: 10:30am (with SGSG Kids) | The Six 6:00pm (with SGSG Youth)

Connect with us:

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