

CHURCH NEWS

ASH FETE SPECIAL EDITION - JUNE 2009

The Rectory, The Street, Ash, Nr Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 7HA

Tel: 872209

My dear friends,

I am writing this early as Jacquie and I are just off on a long - and long-planned holiday. We hope to travel the old Silk Route, from Uzbekistan to Kyrgystan and then on to China. A great assortment of hotels, overnight trains and even a night in a yurt. We do love to travel and feel ourselves so privileged to have visited so many countries over the years. I hope that God allows us to visit more over years to come.

We usually travel with one particular company when going beyond Europe. This is partly because they know what they are doing and it does save us trouble. The particular company, however, is within our price range and we are able to be part of the particular communities we visit. Breakfast is always arranged for us but evening meals are usually left to us. Sometimes we all eat together as a group. Other times Jacquie and I like to go off and explore on our own. The hotels we stay in are usually two or three star - and just right for us.

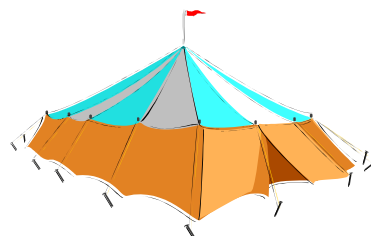
I have never been a great one for five star accommodation, I fear - partly because I could not afford it anyway, but, more importantly, because I feel that it isolates me from the people who surround me. It is so easy to take our little cocoon of 'Britishness' away with us and never really meet the 'natives'

There is a great sense in which this can be all too true of our everyday life as well I fear. It is all too easy to live in our own little world completely isolated from others around us. We are, rightly, shocked by horrendous crimes committed against people where no concern is obviously felt by the perpetrator about the feelings, or even the humanity, of the victim. In a much lesser way, however, we are sometimes capable of hurting others ourselves - sometimes by accident, sometimes by thoughtlessness. This may simply be imperiously driving past with no acknowledgement when someone gives way to us in one of our narrow lanes. It may be being too busy to speak when we pass someone in the street - or too engrossed with our friends in church to acknowledge a stranger. Sometimes we need to be where other people are, to share their feelings of aloneness, rejection, fear. Sometimes we need to realise that they are already feeling guilty enough and really do need a shoulder to cry on, a port in the storm, a smile: empathy and sympathy are often in short supply when needed most.

I leave with two thoughts 'Do as you would be done by' and 'Never criticize someone until you have walked one week in their shoes'. How would you feel if the boot was, as they say, on the other foot?

Yours very sincerely,

John A Peal.



SERVICES AT ST. PETER & ST. PAUL'S ASH

<u>Time</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>When</u>
8.00	Holy Communion	Every Sunday in month
10.30	Family Worship	First Sunday in the month
10.30	Family Eucharist	2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays

SERVICES AT ST. PETER'S RIDLEY

<u>Time</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>When</u>
9.15	Parish Communion	Every Sunday in the month
6.30	Evening Prayer	Second Sunday in the month only

diary dates - Full details can also be found on the website.

June	Sun.	7 th	Trinity Sunday Service in NAG School NB: No 10.30 a.m. Service in Ash Church !	10.30 a.m.
	Tue.	9 th	Ash P.C.C. Parish Affairs Committee	
	Tue.	16 th	Ridley P.C.C. meeting	
	Sun.	21 st	Deanery Praise Service - Longfield Church	
	Sat.	27th	ASH FETE	
	Sun.	28 th	Patronal Festival	
July	Sat.	4 th	Holy Matrimony	3.30 p.m.

FROM THE REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM

April Sun. 26th Tristian Steven Creasey

CONFIRMATION

Gary James Bancroft.
Daniel John Anu-Oluwapo Carrington
Suzanna May Hall
Siun A'Yi O'Neill-Byrne
Geraldine Lynda Shove
Julian Arthur Walker
Jillian Jameson Walker

HOLY MATRIMONY

May Sat. 23rd Gareth Alexander Heywood-Beldon and Cynthia N'Guessan Alice Armand-Khant

FUNERAL

May Fri. 1st Arthur Ernest Dean aged 88 May he rest in peace.

Young Ash Church Alive

Young Ash Church Alive (YACA) is something new and exciting for the young and young at heart of Ash Church. We will be holding the last of our three trial meetings on Sunday 21st June at Ash Village Hall from 10:15 onwards, finishing by 11:50. We plan to have a review of the pilot scheme in July to confirm whether or not we start again in September on a full term basis.

In our last two meetings we have looked at how we can experience God with our senses and how we can reflect his love for us all on our friends and families.

The morning is a great mixture of games, arts, crafts, reading, songs, worship, refreshments and, most importantly, having fun! Everyone aged 5 to 18 is more than welcome, as well as anyone else who would like to come along as an alternative to the usual 10:30 service in Church.

For more details please see or call Mark Nurdin (873414), Kiki O'Neill-Byrne (873230) or Jacquie Hall (872644). We hope to see you there!!

Friday 26th June - Pre-Fete Barbeque!

The Fete weekend and our Patronal Festival are fast approaching, and once again this year we shall be having a barbeque on the field as a big old slap on the back for all the hard work so far that week (and this year!) and to warm us up for the Fete the next day. As always we are looking for entertainment – something light, something cheerful and above all something fun!

If you would like to take part – be it singing a song, performing a poem or monologue, or playing an instrument – then I would love to hear from you. See me in Church or call me on 873414! Thanks!

Mark Nurdin.

Jacky and Allan Richardson would like to thank everyone for the good wishes and beautiful flower arrangement that they received for their Ruby Wedding anniversary.

Congratulations to you both.

Longfield Church Flower Festival 3rd to 5th July

St Mary Magdalene church in Main Road Longfield will be holding a **Flower Festival** from Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th July. The title of this event is *A Celebration of Hymns* so the church will be filled with beautiful arrangements that depict the words of many of our favourite hymns and sacred songs.

The arrangers will be local ladies, many of whom belong to the flower clubs in Hartley, Meopham, Sole Street, Shorne and Sevenoaks.

The church will be open from 10am to 7pm on Friday 3rd July for viewing of the flowers; this will be followed at 7:30pm by a *Songs of Praise* accompanied by Jane Noakes, our resident organist. **We make a special invitation to our friends in the Covenanted Churches to come and join in singing with us a selection of the hymns depicted in the flower arrangements.**

On Saturday 4th July the church will be open from 10am to 6pm. Sunday worship will be at 10am and the church will be open for visitors to the flower festival from 12 noon until 6pm.

There will be stewards in attendance to welcome visitors and to sell programmes, at a cost of £1 which will go towards church funds. Light refreshments will be available in the Jubilee Hall adjoining the church.

Visit www.longfieldchurch.org for more details.

SONGS OF PRAISE AT ST MARY MAGDALENE LONGFIELD

As part of the Flower Festival, Longfield church will be holding a *Songs of Praise on Friday 3rd July at 7:30pm*. This will be an informal event giving everyone in the parish of Longfield and beyond, an opportunity to join in singing a selection of the popular hymns portrayed in the beautiful floral arrangements. The hymns will be accompanied by Jane Noakes, the resident organist.

ASH CHURCH NEWS - CALENDAR OF EVENTS

There are many events and social activities held during the year, some at Ash Church, others in the surrounding villages. News and details about these events can be found in the “Dates for your Diary” section on the Church Website - <http://www.ash-church.org.uk> and may also be announced in Church or put on the Service Pew Sheet.

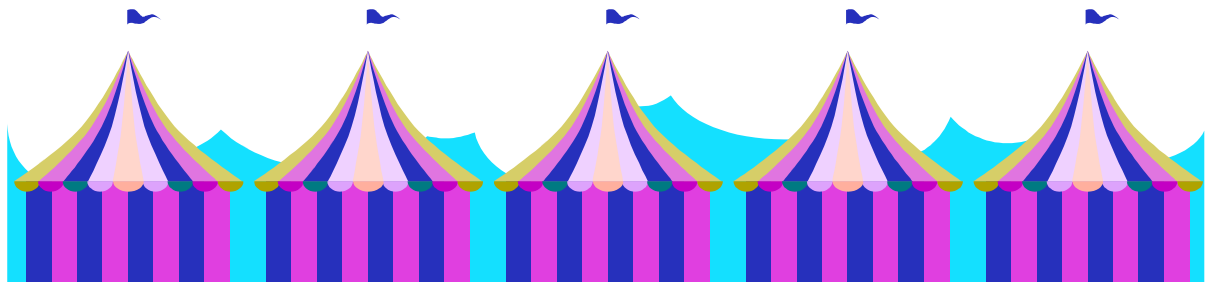
By consulting the calendar and listening out for advance publicity everyone can find out what is coming up and make a note of the details. All of the various organisations can discover what is being arranged and plan their events accordingly, to try and avoid any clashes.

However, not everybody has access to the Internet, or it may not always be convenient to log on to see “What’s On”, and following a suggestion at the APCM in April it was agreed to produce an Ash Church Calendar of events. The Calendar would be published in the Church News and a hard copy put on display at the back of the Church for reference.

The Calendar will be quite simplistic, with a rolling twelve month format, with enough space for the name or type of event, but the idea is that if anyone wants to publicise an event further then it can be listed on the calendars and more details published, both in the Church News and on the website. All details can be passed to Ann Aves (873385-bobaves@tiscali.co.uk) or Ian Nurdin (873414 - ian_nurdin@hotmail.co.uk) or James Clark (879675 - james@jeclark.co.uk).

The Calendar makes its first appearance in this June issue of Church News, if you have an event coming up over the next twelve months please let us know. And sorry - Saturday 27th June is already booked - Ash Fête!

Ann Aves, James Clark, Ian Nurdin



ASH FETE – SATURDAY 27th JUNE 2009

ASH FETE 2009 – SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT FOR “CHURCH NEWS” READERS!

An open invitation to everyone in Ash and New Ash Green!

Ash Fete - Saturday 27th June, Church Meadow, Church Road, Ash. Gates open: 1.30 pm

In celebration of our patronal festival, Ash Church is again holding its traditional village fete, held in the idyllic rural setting of the cricket ground on Church Meadow, in Church Road. Opened in traditional manner by the New Ash Green May Queen, with some assistance from the Rector of Ash, an afternoon of fun and festivities is promised for all who come along. Admission is free (although we do encourage a donation, and there is a small charge for parking); there are bargains to be snapped up on all the stalls; some superb prizes to be won in the Grand Draw, including a £250 cash first prize (with grateful acknowledgment to the Irving family, for their donation in memory of Tracey), and several other raffles and tombolas; eccentric backwards bikes to ride; a bouncy castle; coconut and wet sponge shies; and many other side-shows, traditional and novel. We will have live music from The Mike Richards Big Band, with local vocalist Shane Hampsheir, and displays from the West Hill Morris Dancers and a wonderful motor cavalcade, presented by the Brands Hatch Morgans, in celebration of the Centenary of the Morgan car.

There will be a quiz in the Fête Programme, with all the questions based on Ash Church - some on the building itself, some on its people old and new. All entries have to be given in at the Fête, after which judging and careful deliberation will take place, with a winner announced at the end of the afternoon. There is a prize of £50 for the first all-correct entry drawn at random. There are two runners-up prizes of £25, one of which will go to the competitor under the age of fourteen with the most correct answers.

There will be an opportunity to let fly a quiver or two of arrows on our supervised Archery range and just before the fete the church bells will be rung and then the bell ringers will be waiting to see you in the Bell Tower - yes, the Tower will be open for visitors this year, and once again you can enjoy some spectacular views across the neighbouring fields and countryside.

Sit back and enjoy some leisurely afternoon refreshment whilst watching the boys v. girls tug-of-war (you could even join in – the rope is long enough for plenty on each side). The afternoon ends with the Grand Draw and the lucky programme number draw – it could be a very lucky end to your visit. Don't worry if you haven't received a free programme – you can get one at the gate (subject to availability).

Tell all your friends and neighbours, put the date in your diary and although we can't make any promises about the weather we can be confident that you will have a lovely time!

The Ash Fête Management Committee

ASH FETE 2009 – SATURDAY 27th JUNE - WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

ASH FETE is here again and we need YOUR help to ensure that it is a success. Our Traditional style Fête attracts visitors from all around the area, and we want to make sure they have a very good time!

FETE PROGRAMMES and POSTERS: We are fortunate that many local businesses are keen to advertise in the Fête programme, and to support them in return we state that we will deliver a programme to every household in Ash and New Ash Green. These will soon be available for distribution, if you can take a bundle and deliver them before Fête day it would be much appreciated! If you can display a poster at home or at work, that would be great as well!

WORK PARTY VOLUNTEERS: At the back of the Church are some sheets that are hoping to be filled with names of willing volunteers! We need help in setting up the Fête, running it on the day and of course taking it down and putting it all away. If you can help on any of the times listed, you will be made very welcome!

MONDAY 22nd JUNE: Meet at Ash Village Hall, 5.30pm, to admire our wonderful new Storage Facility and to take all the equipment to the Fête field and erect the stalls. Afterwards we will all retire to the White Swan for a well earned spot of refreshment!

THURSDAY 25th JUNE: Meet on the Fête field at 5.00pm, to put up the Marquee and to set out all the stalls. Afterwards we will again retire to the White Swan for another well earned spot of refreshment!

FRIDAY 26th JUNE: 7:30 – 9:30 pm – Fête Field

There will be the traditional ‘eve of fete’ **cook-it-yourself family barbecue**, with some entertainment (hopefully) and lively barbecue conversation. Bring your own food, something to sit on, crockery and cutlery and we’ll provide the barbecue and the company.

SATURDAY 27th JUNE: We meet at 9.00am on the Fête field to set up all the remaining stalls and side-shows, mark out parking areas and other vital tasks. After what we hope will be a fantastic day, we then all meet up again from 4.00pm onwards to start taking things down, ready to put away at the end of proceedings. **THIS IS THE STINT THAT NEEDS THE MOST HELP** – there will be something for everyone to do, and the more people who can help, the quicker it will all be done – our grateful thanks in advance!

ASH FETE GRAND DRAW - SATURDAY 27th JUNE

There are still plenty of tickets to be sold with some great prizes to be won!

Further supplies available from Ian Nurdin Tel: 873414 or Bryan Parlett Tel: 873655 or after church each Sunday.

WANTED - WANTED - WANTED - WANTED - WANTED - WANTED

Only a few weeks until our Fete so now is the time, if you have not already done so, to look out your White Elephants, Gifts, Books, Bottles and Cans. And have you made Cakes, Marmalade, Jam and Pickles – if not, why not? All these are desperately needed if we are to beat the wonderful amount we raised last year – and of course we are!!

Boxes will be appearing at the back of church very soon to receive everything you can donate and if your White Elephants are too big for the boxes I'm sure Joan Mills or Jacky Richardson will be glad to hear from you so that arrangements can be made to receive them.

As you know, a lot of hard work goes into putting on Ash Fête, but if we don't have anything to sell we won't be very successful! PLEASE search through those cupboards, look at your book shelves or contact the people listed below:

BOOKS: Any items for the Book Stall would be welcomed by Lyn Lacey – 873853

BOTTLES & CANS (FULL ONES PLEASE!): Pauline Bailey would love to hear from you on 873148.

GIFTS: Contact Marion Simmons on 703440 if you have that special something for her!

WHITE ELEPHANT STALL: Joan Mills on 872455 or Jacky Richardson on 873733 want your White Elephants!

CAKES – LARGE & SMALL! These are needed for the Tea Tent and for the Home Produce Stall – in VAST quantities! Please contact Debbie Nurdin (873414) and Nora Hosford (01474 702468) if you can help provide much needed goodies!

HELPERS: Can YOU help at the Fête, in any capacity? Why not ask family members to come and help and make a big day of the occasion? We would love to hear from you! If you and/or a friend or family could help in any way PLEASE contact Marion Simmons on 01474 703440 or Christine Gorton on 01474 874381, or Ian Nurdin (873414).

We are especially looking for volunteers to help with the Bar-B-Q and/or in the Tea Tent for a short stint during the afternoon - your help would be much appreciated!!

Marion Simmons

Christine Gorton

Ian Nurdin

