

St Philip within the Parish of St Peter & St Paul Tonbridge
Salisbury Road, Tonbridge, TN10 4PA

“St Philip’s aims to be a people who worship God & serve Him within our community”

There has been a worship centre, formally known as Cage Green, in north Tonbridge since 1956 serving a dense residential area and a community of mixed affluence and life experiences. There are many young families in the area as well as a number of long-established households.

The present building was built and dedicated in 1970. It comprises a large hall with a number of side rooms and a good kitchen. It is well used during the week by a variety of secular community organisations as well as by church groups. Not only are these lettings a significant source of income for the Parish, but they can also be an important form of outreach encouraging members of the local community into the church building.

The Caleb project was initiated in 1999 in response to words and pictures from the Lord with a two-fold vision to reach out with love and the message of the Gospel and to improve the existing building to serve a larger church family better. Some early stages of the building project were achieved, but the focus now is to enhance the outreach into the community. This church has had recent changes to the building and garden to enable greater community use. We wish to make greater use of this and extend our outreach and mission to the local community. This is very much being looked forward to by St Philips and the Parish family.

St Philip’s has a lively worship style with a regular music group and services led more informally within a liturgical framework. Young people and children leave during the service for their own teaching, unless it is an all-age service or they are serving on the rota. Around 50-60 adults regularly attend Sunday morning services with 73 members on the Parish’s Electoral Roll.

St Philip’s is a caring, prayerful and praising Christian community seeking, through the work of the Holy Spirit, to use their varied gifts in the best possible way to fulfil God’s mission for his church.

Regular activities at St Philip’s include:

- **Lunch** after morning service on 5th Sunday and special occasions such as Harvest and Christingle
- **Men’s forum** meeting fortnightly for fellowship and outreach
- **Women’s fellowship** meeting fortnightly for Bible study, prayer and various activities
- **Tots & Co** meeting weekly in term time for toddlers with their carers
- **Grapevine** which is a weekly informal ‘open house’
- **Stretch and relax** meeting weekly in term time

- There is also a monthly local **prayer meeting**.

St Philip's has recently hosted the Parish autumn outreach social including 70s, 80s and 90s Nights with a live band. Other events inviting the local community have included regular quiz evenings, occasional breakfasts, coffee mornings, strawberry teas, open air service and games on the green. The annual Candlelit Carol and Christingle services draw in visitors as does the Pet Service.

Currently St Philip's is hosting a Parish outreach initiative 'Big Questions and Bacon Butties' on Saturday mornings, led by the Parish Curate and well supported by St Philip's members. Members of the church also undertake various roles across the Parish including management of, and support to, the Coffee Shop at St Peter & St Paul and key roles in the annual Holiday Club, annual Parish camp at Coldharbour Meadows and other events and initiatives.

In common with the other three churches in the Parish St Philips has a leadership team, responsible for the day-to-day running of the church, with accountability to the Vicar.