

# *Good*NEWS

Lindfield URC's Village Magazine

Summer edition 2010



## LINDFIELD URC WELCOMES JOSH!

- Book Reviews
- Find out about Samaritan's Purse
- Puzzles to relax with



# ***Family Barbecue***

***Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July***

***4.30pm to 7.30pm***

***Lindfield United Reformed Church***

***featuring the***

***Jelford Baptist Gospel Choir***

***and showcasing***

***Samaritan's Purse***

***including 'Operation Christmas Child' 2010 Shoebox***

***Appeal – Gifts for children in hard places***

***Admission free***

To reserve your place, call John Barling on

01444 482415 or email: [barling@infrapave.co.uk](mailto:barling@infrapave.co.uk)

# GoodNEWS Summer 2010

Produced for Lindfield United Reformed Church,  
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All contributions should be emailed to [goodnews@lindfieldurc.org](mailto:goodnews@lindfieldurc.org), or hard copy placed in the "GoodNEWS" pigeon hole at the rear of the church. Please ensure that you include your contact details in case of query.

You can contact Val Cookney on 01444 440029.

## Editorial



Summer has arrived - at least for the next few days, and that means we have come to the Summer Issue of the magazine. Josh Thomas writes, telling us a bit about himself and how God has led him to Lindfield URC.

We have book reviews; from Barbara Shepherd and Mike Gardiner. Please do follow their example and send in book reviews to the magazine. We are always delighted to have reviews on good books which encourage and challenge us in our faith. Ray Tijou tells us about the Arts festival back in May and also talks about how God has blessed him through his art.

There is news about the Boys' Brigade, 'Potential', and Family News. There is a letter from Nigel Uden the Church Moderator too.

We have puzzles for you as you while away the lazy summer days.

As I 'edit' this editorial, summer has been and gone and winter has returned .... Still where would we British be without our weather to talk about, so whatever the weather I hope you have a really enjoyable and relaxing summer. Val

P.S. Just a reminder – there will be no magazine in August, but we will be back in the autumn.

## DIRECTORY



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*A list of serving Elders can be found in Who's Who?*

**Dear Friends,**

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It's difficult living with uncertainty, but often there is no alternative. By the time you read this letter, I may know more about my immediate prospects, but now, all I can say with confidence is that I will have to undergo open-heart surgery in the near future. As yet I have no definite date\*, but it's likely that at sometime in July I will be admitted to hospital for a second heart by-pass.

This won't come as a surprise to anyone. You have all been aware for some time now that I haven't been well and the kindness and concern you have shown has been very supportive. I don't want to bore you with details of my personal life, but it does give me an opportunity to "practise what I preach". All of a sudden, faith has ceased to be a concept to commend to others and become a much deeper reality in my own life as I face the future.

When we are young and fit we tend to take good health for granted, but as the years go by and age takes its toll, it's a different matter. The need for security and re-assurance becomes greater. So, is that what faith amounts to – a kind of emotional comfort zone to bolster our confidence when life gets tough? I don't think so. Faith is the life-line we have to God, the conduit along which our need flows to Him and His mercy and healing power comes to us.

For a Christian, faith is the air we breathe from the first moment we accept Christ as our Saviour and make Him our Lord, to the moment He calls us home. To some people, that may seem simple and childish, but for me, at the moment, it's the thing that makes life possible. I know I am in His hands.

Maybe you also are coping with uncertainty. The new government promises "an age of austerity". That won't be welcome news to people who depend on benefits which are likely to be cut, or someone trying to run a business if they have to pay more in tax. Relationships are much less stable now than in the past and to find yourself rejected, facing life alone must be devastating. Bereavement and unemployment are just two of the disasters life can bring, but in it all, what can make the difference between survival and going under, is a personal relationship of love and faith in the God Who keeps His promises.

No one will be surprised that an old hymn comes to mind, so here it is:

*"All the way my Saviour leads me, what have I to ask beside?  
Can I doubt His tender mercy who through life has been my Guide?  
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in Him to dwell!  
For I know whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well."*

Over the next few months, I will have another opportunity to prove that those words are true. Whatever your circumstances, let me invite you to join me along the way.

Your Pastor and friend, **Charles S. Martin.**

\* Now confirmed as 5th July (Ed)

## **Prayer Focus**



As we enter the summer months it is easy to worship God for the beauty of his creation. It is also good to reflect upon his re-creation both in terms of the opportunity to take holidays and relax but even more so his grace in making us new creations and renewing us day by day. We have much to praise him for.

Over the summer months there are also a number of things that require our continued intercessions such as those covered in the recent green booklets, but also some directly related to the fellowship.

Here are three that we need to be bringing before the Lord at this time.

Our new Youth Pastor will be joining soon. We need to pray for Josh that the practical arrangements will be in place e.g. accommodation, support and oversight arrangements. That he will feel welcome. That the Lord will give clear direction to the way ahead for our youth work from the crèche through to the Youth Fellowship. That the whole church will recognise that our success in youth work, will be a joint effort and that we are all involved in some way. That God will honour and lead it.

The Church Conference will soon be here. Pray for all the practical arrangements. For the speaker that he will be given God's word for the church to move us forward in the direction he wants us to go. For the sessions that we will have a spirit of worship, meet with the Lord and have ears to hear and hearts to obey.

In the autumn we will be holding an Alpha course. It will need participants. Pray that we will be led to people to invite. That many will attend and come to know the Lord.

Additionally there are several in the fellowship with real needs, continue to pray for them.

## ***About me by Josh Thomas.....***

Hi, I'm Josh, I am 21 years old and will be moving to Lindfield towards the end of July to take up the post of Youth Pastor from August.

I have been involved with Christian youth work for about five years in varying capacities from volunteering to help with a youth club once a week, to most recently being a student youth worker working for Woking United Reformed Church whilst studying to gain my JNC (the qualification for youth work.)



During the past two years, as I said, I have been based in Woking running a number of youth activities within the church here. These have varied from a once weekly Christian based youth club, to running a drop-in centre for young people in a deprived estate. I have specifically been in charge of running our weekly Sunday morning group and this has very much been about looking after the pastoral needs of our young people and developing them on their Christian journeys. I have felt passionately about this and am looking forward to carrying out this kind of role in my new post!

So that's my professional background but I want to give you a flavour of how I came to apply for this role and the calling that has led me to take it up.

I was born in Portsmouth and grew up in a town called Waterlooville (just outside Portsmouth.) I attended a United Reformed Church on Hayling Island where my family had always been involved since my Grandfather was Minister to that congregation. I grew up within this Christian family and so always had an understanding of faith and what it was to be a Christian. However like many teenagers, I questioned the need to go to Church to be a Christian. When I was fifteen I was asked to go as a representative from the area to FURY Assembly (the national assembly for the young people in the URC.) It was here, meeting with other young Christians and being able to talk about our experiences as well as spending time worshiping together, that God really seemed to become real to me. I started going to Church more regularly and became a Church member

aged 16. When I was 17 years old I was part of a team of young people who visited Jamaica with Christian Aid, I saw a lot of incredible things whilst out there and a lot of the Jamaican people inspired me with their faith. Some of them had so little material possessions but their faith that God would provide was amazing. When I returned I was asked to run a youth session based on my experiences out there. I didn't have much experience but did my best and surprised myself with this ability I didn't know I even had. It was from this point I felt God's call on my life to disciple young people in the same way I had been disciplined. Without Christian youth work and its practitioners I'm not sure I would be the person I am today and I'm convinced God is calling me to be that light for Him within the lives of young people today.

In my spare time I am a keen musician and play guitar, bass guitar and drums as well as dabbling in song writing, I also enjoy playing and watching football and I follow Chelsea football club. Many of you have met my girlfriend Hannah who will be studying at Brighton University from September but if you haven't I am sure you soon will!

I am looking forward to joining you all very soon and cannot wait to start working with the young people of Lindfield!

Josh

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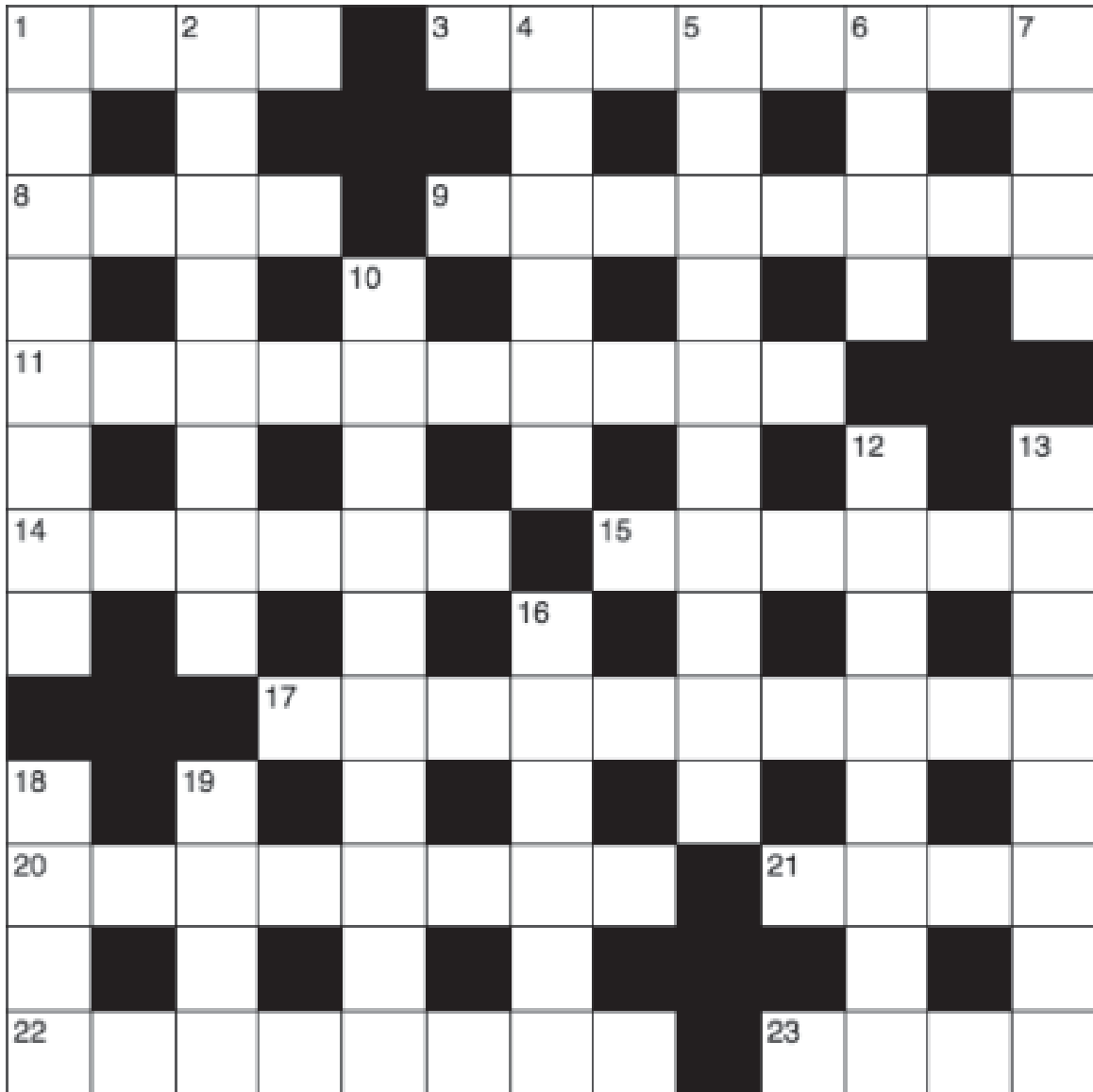
## ***BOYS' BRIGADE***

Our annual display was one of the best supported for many years, and there was also a full turnout of the Boy membership. L/Cpls. Alex Pippard and Matthew Dew were presented with the President's Badge and Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award by Derek Hinton, the Battalion President.

Since then, the Company Section has been to a weekend camp at Blackland Farm, and participated in the Battalion Athletics at the Withdean Stadium. Our Junior relay team (Jonathan, Wesley, Louis, and Danny) won the event, and received the trophy (although it had to be retrieved from the previous year's winners, who'd forgotten to bring it!), and Lindfield was placed third overall: a satisfying result.

*Geoffrey Cocksedge*

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## Across

- 1 and 3 Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)  
 3 See 1 Across  
 8 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)  
 9 O Simon is (anag.) (8)  
 11 Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)  
 14 How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)  
 15 In The Pilgrim's Progress, the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubting Castle (2-4)  
 17 Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)  
 20 Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)  
 21 Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6) (4)  
 22 'The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)  
 23 Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)

## Down

- 1 David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)  
 2 'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)  
 4 'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)  
 5 Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2) (10)  
 6 Female servant (Isaiah 24:2) (4)  
 7 'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)  
 10 'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)  
 12 Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)  
 13 One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)  
 16 'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)  
 18 'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — —, and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)  
 19 Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)



## **Book Review**

### **"A Man With a Mission" by John Taylor.**

I would like to recommend an autobiography called "A Man with a Mission" by Canon John Taylor OBE. John began his career in civil engineering, but then at the young age of 21 he felt called to a vocation in the church. He became a lay-minister with the Mission to Seamen, first in Cardiff and then in London. He learnt how to communicate with people whether in the port or with the families left behind when their men were away at sea. He then met his wife, Rose, and they were soon sent to Hong Kong, with very little money but plenty of faith. He has a delightful sense of humour which got him into and out of a few tricky situations.

After studying for ordination, followed by a period as a curate in two parishes in Wales, he and Rose went back to the Mission to Seamen and were sent to Dar es Salaam, where they stayed for 12 years. By now they had a son and a daughter who were sent back to the UK for their education. This must have been at great cost to them all.

Things couldn't have been more different here to the UK, but he was obviously really loved and became chaplain. He was then promoted to Archdeacon and eventually Canon.

His last posting abroad was such a contrast - Bangkok. He worked amongst the prisoners and refugees and the disillusioned expats from Britain.

His gifts were so varied and he became involved just as much with fund-raising as one-to-one ministry with the crew and families or buying toothpaste for a prisoner! It was while he was in Bangkok that he was appointed to a top job - chaplain at the British Embassy.

His sense of humour and his belief that to show God's love meant practical everyday help, were as important as his words. He felt he could no longer carry on when he lost his beloved help-mate, Rose, and he regretfully came home. He is now retired, aged around 80, and lives in the former rectory of a Sussex parish.

*Barbara Shepherd*

## **Book Review**

### **THE LAST OF THE 39 BOOKS!**

On Sunday evening 4th July, I'll be giving a brief overview of the book of Malachi. It's the last book in the Old Testament and will bring to an end my occasional Sunday evening introductions to the Hebrew scriptures that Jesus read and knew.

I've enjoyed getting to understand the Old Testament a little bit better and hope you have too. I hope that it has helped us to see how this collection of 39 books fits together, and to see their place in the spiritual journey of God's ancient people. And I hope we've been able to apply the teaching of these inspired books to our own walk with God.

For those who want to deepen their Old Testament knowledge, there are dozens of helpful books. I can't provide a comprehensive list, but I've found the following very readable:

"Introduction to the Old Testament" John Drane - an excellent reference book;

"The Bible Jesus Read" Philip Yancey – helpful, practical;

"After Eating the Apricot" John Goldingay – some unorthodox insights into the early part of the Bible.

*Mike Gardiner*

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## ***The Alliance Notice Board (online)*** ***meeting Spiritual and Practical needs***

Are you looking for a Christian event, a new job or training?

Are you planning a church, family or personal holiday/retreat?

Do you want access to a range of Christian books/resources and other support products/services?

If so, why not visit the *Evangelical Alliance's* Christian resources web pages:

***The Alliance Notice Board (online)*** [www.eauk.org/anb](http://www.eauk.org/anb)

Entries are changing all the time so why not become a regular visitor to these pages.

Enjoy the Sunshine...when it's out!!

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## BIBLE BIRDS

There are lots of birds in the Bible - Noah sent them out from the Ark to see if the flood waters had gone down, first a raven and then a dove (Genesis 6: 6-13). Elijah was fed by ravens while he lived in the desert (1 Kings 17: 1-8).

Mary and Joseph made an offering of 'a pair of turtle doves or two young pigeons' (Luke 2: 22-24) when they took baby Jesus to the Temple. When Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist, the Spirit of God descended like a dove (Matthew 3:3-17). That is why the Holy Spirit is usually shown as a dove. The

dove is also a symbol of peace.

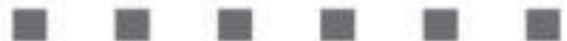


But my favourite bit about birds is Luke, chapter 12, verses 4-7. 'Aren't 5 sparrows sold for 2 pennies? Yet not one sparrow is forgotten...' It reminds us that God loves and cares for everything, even the smallest part of His creation.

## BIBLE BIRD WORDS

Some clues are in the first column, but can you answer these Bible questions all about birds? Which bird...

1. Didn't come back when Noah sent it out of the ark. (Genesis 7)
2. Flocks of these fed the Israelites in the desert. (Numbers 11)
3. Those who wait on the Lord will rise up with wings like... (Isaiah 40)
4. The first bird Noah sent out of the ark. (Genesis 7)
5. Saul hunted David like one of these in the mountains (1 Samuel 27)
6. Jesus said this bird would be at a scene of desolation (Matthew 24)
7. Cost 2p for 5? (you shouldn't need a clue for this one!)



**What do you give a sick bird?**

Tweetment.

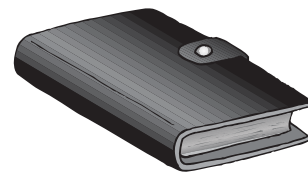
**Why can't a duck fly upside down?**

Because he'd quack up.



1) dove 2) quail 3) eagles 4)  
raven 5) partridge 6) vulture  
7) sparrow

# July Church Diary



## 3rd

Saturday 8.45 — Prayer Meeting  
9.30am at LURC

## 4th Sunday

9.30am David Jones -  
Communion  
11.00am David Jones  
3.00pm Strawberry Tea for  
Newcomers  
6.30pm Mike Gardiner

## 10th

Saturday 8.45 — Prayer Meeting  
9.30am at LURC  
4.30pm Family BBQ

## 11th Sunday

9.30am Family Worship  
To be confirmed  
11.00am To be confirmed  
6.30pm David Walters -  
Communion

## 17th

Saturday 8.45 — Prayer Meeting  
9.30am at LURC

## 18th Sunday

9.30am Ron Goodenough  
11.00am Ron Goodenough  
6.30pm Healing Service-  
Peter McIntosh

## 21st

Wednesday 7.30pm Elders Meeting

## 22nd

Thursday 8.00pm Church Prayer  
Meeting

## 24th

Saturday 8.45 — Prayer Meeting  
9.30am at LURC

## 25th Sunday

10.30am David Walters -  
Communion  
6.30pm David Jones

## 27th

Tuesday 6.30pm In Touch Visit to  
Latchetts Gardens

## 28th

Wednesday 2.45pm Afternoon  
Fellowship  
Garden Tea

## 31st

Saturday 8.45 — Prayer Meeting  
9.30am at LURC



# August Church Diary

**1st**  
Sunday

10.30am David Jones -  
Communion  
6.30pm Mike Gardiner

**7th**

Saturday 8.45 — Prayer Meeting  
9.30am at Evangelical Free

**8th**  
Sunday

10.30am Mike Gardiner -  
Baptisms  
6.30pm David Walters -  
Communion

**14th**

Saturday 8.45 — Prayer Meeting  
9.30am at Evangelical Free

**15th**  
Sunday

10.30am To be confirmed  
6.30pm Rev. Pauline  
Crispin,  
Hurstpierpoint  
Methodist Church.

**21st**

Saturday 8.45 — Prayer Meeting  
9.30am at Evangelical Free

**22nd**  
Sunday

10.30am David Walters -  
Communion  
6.30pm To be confirmed

**25th**

Wednesday 7.30pm Elders Meeting

**28th**

Saturday 8.45 — Prayer Meeting  
9.30am at Evangelical Free

**29th**  
Sunday

10.30am To be confirmed  
6.30pm To be confirmed

## Sunday Services explained....

The **9.30am service** is an opportunity for all age groups to join in a relaxed informal time. There is a crèche, and after about 20 minutes, children and young people up to age 14 go out to their own groups on most Sundays.

**Coffee** is served between the morning services, and after the evening service.

The **11:00am service** is usually more set and formal.

(Exceptions to these times are shown in the Diary).

At **6:30pm** it is sometimes a celebration, sometimes a quieter ministry time and sometimes an open communion service or something quite different!

**Personal prayer** is available after every service. Prayer requests and brief statements of praise for answered prayer can be put in the red book on the concourse table. We can also offer personal prayer ministry at home or in hospital.

We **do not take up an offering** during the services, but those wishing to give are invited to place a gift in one of the bowls at the doors before or after the service. Thank you.

**Recordings of services** can be borrowed free from the church.

# Balcombe United Reformed Church



**Bramble Hill, Balcombe RH17 6HR**

Our services are held weekly at 10.30am. Visitors are welcome to join us.

*Speakers for July are as follows:-*

July 4th Mathew Wren  
 July 11th Philip Wren  
 July 18th To be confirmed  
 July 25th Philip Wren

*Speakers for August are as follows:-*

August 1st Stuart Dew  
 August 8th Philip Wren  
 August 15th To be confirmed –  
 Communion Service  
 August 22nd Steve Haggar  
 August 29th Philip Wren

## FLOWER ROTA

Arranging		Distributing	
<b>July</b>		<b>August</b>	
4th Carol Walters	Barbara Shepherd	1st Jean Baxter	Iris Bingham
11th Janet Wade	Kay Phillpot	8th Ann Parker	Janet Sanderson
18th Gladys Porter	Jo Bloxham	15th Carol Marsh	Sue Tester
25th Fiona Tingley	Heather Swann	22nd Mies Campling	Jacqueline Wood
		29th Audrey McKee	Barbara Shepherd

Arranging		Distributing	
<b>September</b>			
5th Joan Durrant	Kay Phillpot		
12th Zoe McQuillin	Jo Bloxham		
19th No Services	(Heather Swann)		
26th Harvest Festival	Iris Bingham		



# Holiday Sudoku

HOLIDAYS! That's right, the holiday season is upon us at last! However, if you don't want to give your brain a complete rest you could challenge it to this holiday Sudoku. As a change to the normal numbers 1-9 in a Sudoku puzzle, all you have to do below is fill the empty cells so that each 3x3 box, each row and each column contains all of the eight different letters and the exclamation mark in HOLIDAYS! This puzzle is marked with a difficulty rating of Moderate.

Have fun and good luck!

The answer is on page 20

S			H	!	I			
A						H	Y	
L		H		A		O		
	A						D	O
	O		I		A		S	
Y	D						L	
		!		H		S		D
	S	A						Y
			O	S	!			A

**The Lindfield URC Accounts and Trustees' Report for 2009** is now available - hard copy or electronically - from the Treasurer (details on Page 1).

## ***Monthly Mission Giving & FAMILY BARBECUE showcasing SAMARITAN'S PURSE Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2010***

Samaritan's Purse – we normally think of Christmas time and shoe boxes however the vision that children and families in need will have hope – for today, for tomorrow, for eternity. Through local churches in Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia Samaritan's Purse proclaims and demonstrates the love of God amongst impoverished communities.

There are several areas where development work is carried out.

**Positive Impact** - a campaign to care for children affected by HIV and AIDS. Around 15 million children are orphaned by AIDS in the world. Children are left to play the part of adults, caring for themselves and their siblings. Samaritan's Purse has trained over 400 churches in places like Swaziland and Kenya to care for over 20,000 children in need of protection. Look at [www.positiveimpact.org.uk](http://www.positiveimpact.org.uk) for more information on this campaign.

**Turn On The Tap** – is a campaign for safe water in the developing world. Imagine having to live with drinking water that isn't safe to drink! Imagine having to walk about four miles to get it! That's what happens to millions of people in our world. This is changing – slowly... Thanks to the work of Samaritan's Purse over 200,000 children and families in places like Liberia, Uganda and Ethiopia now have one of life's bare necessities – clean water. Look at [www.turnonthetap.org.uk](http://www.turnonthetap.org.uk) for more information.

**Good Thought** – an initiative to connect with and understand the Global Church. Church Partnership Programme – giving the church an opportunity to connect with a church or project in the developing world – partnering together in God's Global mission. When disaster strikes support through an Emergency Team response and to raise funds to help in these areas. Look at [www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/churchpartnership](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/churchpartnership)

**Alive to Thrive** – A campaign to ensure families in Africa have the means to thrive, not just survive. In rural parts of Liberia, Kenya and Zimbabwe, jobs are hard to come by, the land is hard to grow crops and families can be left wondering where the next meal is coming from. In Jesus' words in John 10:10 "I came to give life – life in all its fullness". This means ensuring that families have a livelihood, the ability to fend for themselves and put



meals on the table. It may be giving rabbits or training farmers. Look at [www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/alivetothrive](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/alivetothrive)

And of course **Operation Christmas Child** - our annual shoebox appeal which we all enjoy doing. Please get your shoe boxes early. "I know that the Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy".

Psalm140:1

Our prayers can help the heart of the work this organisation is doing. It sustains us and the workers when we face tough situations in different places where we work. We can pray for emergencies and disasters that affect families across the world, for wisdom for Government Leaders and for aid agencies, including Samaritan's Purse as they work to bring relief to children and families in need.

We can pray for the water sanitisation programmes and pray that God will give them perseverance and strength to continue the vital work for children and families to receive clean water. Pray for outreach groups working with children and families who have been affected by HIV and AIDS that they would be renewed with joy and strength. Give thanks for goats, mature hens and other livelihood gifts that have been bought for families, and pray that they know the love each gift comes with from people who care deeply about children and their families' difficult plight.

If you would like to give towards the work of Samaritan's Purse please use the special envelopes and place your gift in the offertory at any Sunday Service. Please complete a gift aid slip if appropriate. Thank you.

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## ***In Touch***

Our meeting, last month, involved a walk in the lovely country side around Heaven Farm near Danehill. We were fortunate in that the weather remained fine and that due to the late spring the bluebells were still at their best. After a walk we all enjoyed a light supper provided at the farm and where we had an opportunity to relax and 'catch up' before returning home.

Our next meeting will be at Latchetts, on 27<sup>th</sup> July, when we will have a guided tour around the garden, followed by a cup of tea. More details will be available nearer the time and any one wishing to join us for the evening will be very welcome.

Janet Wade

## ***Lindfield Arts Festival***

I just thank God for such a fulfilling day at the Lindfield Arts Festival on Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. The day started for Rosemary and myself at 9.15 am and went on until 6.30 pm. Display tables had been set up in the church and in the lounge and people were displaying different works of art - watercolours, acrylics, oil paints, through to cross stitch, embroidery and attractive patchwork quilts etc.

The programme throughout the day was very varied and people were using their gifts from music and singing, poetry reading and dancing. It was a pleasure to see and hear all that was going on and there was a freedom about it all, which made me and others, I'm sure, feel good inside and blow the cobwebs away. Praise The Lord!

Since June last year I have been working on two main paintings, one of All Saints Church, Lindfield and of our own church including Ryecroft and Paul's greengrocer's shop. Dan McQuillin asked me to bring in the painting I am working on of Lindfield URC and to sit and work on it in the lounge as people came to view the display.

I had been asked to write a brief testimony to put with my paintings, which I did, and people came and talked to me as I worked throughout the day. Men and women and even small children were interested. I felt God was blessing me in my heart of 'arts with God having all the glory. My main desire was to enjoy the freedom of my art that God had brought to me through the Holy Spirit. I hope too it inspired others to start using their gifts. There were many meaningful conversations and I went to bed with a smile on my face that night.

I love the verse in Philippians 4.8 "whatsoever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things." I love singing among other things and being myself in Christ which takes courage at times, and a good sense of humour along with love and faith in our dear Saviour. We are all part of the Body of Christ and should let our light shine...don't hide it! God has done so much for us in our lives and He hasn't finished yet! The best is yet to come.

Raymond Tijou

## ***Why I love to Paint***

Just after I became a Christian in 1973 I had a desire to paint in oils. I bought a daler board and some oil paints in order to begin my new hobby. I asked God to help me. My early pictures were very amateurish and I attended evening classes and did 'O' level Art which helped me.

I remember reading in the book of Philippians in the Bible "Whatsoever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things..."

Even now, each time I sit down to paint I ask God to help me and to give me inspiration. I give the glory to Him on what I achieve.

This hobby of painting has given me a lot of peace over the years and satisfaction, and it's lovely talking to others in the Art Group who share a common interest.

Raymond Tijou

## ***FAMILY NEWS*** **CONGRATULATIONS**

We offer our warm congratulations to two couples this month. In July, Ray Smith will be marrying Sally (her health permitting), and Kay and Barry Phillpot celebrate their Silver Wedding. We send our love and good wishes to them all, and pray that they will know God's rich blessings.

## **OUR PASTOR**

Please do uphold Charles and Jenny in your prayers as they anticipate Charles' heart surgery, planned for 5th July, and for his speedy recovery.

**Helen Merrett** is now back from her second year at Exeter University and looking forward to working in Germany as part of her course from next September. Helen writes:

"I would be very happy to babysit for any family within Lindfield URC over the summer - I have done babysitting previously - and would be available weekdays/weekends.

If you would like me to look after your children please speak to me between services on Sunday morning or call me at home.

I look forward to speaking to you.

Thank you,

Helen"

## *PO10tial* - update

We are excited to report that our final attendee numbers for our "*PO10tial* : Waking up to God's Power" away weekend at home are over 110! It is fantastic that so many people are able to be part of the weekend and we trust and believe that it will be a real time of teaching and growth for us as a church.

Now is the time to pray. Whether you are able to be with us on the weekend or not our vision is for God to challenge and refresh us all as a church with a new awareness of his power and our *PO10tial* as his children as we seek to live daily as his disciples. Prayer suggestion cards will be available shortly but please pray for the presence of God in all the planning and preparation, and that God will be preparing each of us in the lead up to the actual weekend.

A letter with the full details will be sent out nearer to the date but if there are any questions in the meantime then please do speak to a member of the *PO10tial* committee who will do their best to provide some answers: Charles Martin, Sue Waller, Jessie Green and Richard and Dawn Walters.

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### **Reminder....**

**The Mini-exhibition of model railways** with morning coffee/afternoon tea takes place at the church on **Saturday 14 August** from 11am to 4pm, in aid of general church funds.

The model railway "Uxbridge Junction" will also be on display at the Haywards Heath URC, South Road on **Saturday 4 September**.

Michael Davies and LURC model railway group.

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### ***Nigel Uden***

Nigel Uden, presently the Moderator of the Southern Synod, will soon be moving back into local church ministry and opposite is a transcript of the letter he wrote to all Ministers, Church Secretaries and Synod Staff explaining his decision. Nigel has been very kind to us at Lindfield. Since he has been Moderator he has helped us in times of difficulty and along with the whole Synod we owe him a great debt of gratitude. We send him and his family our good wishes and assure them all of our prayers for his future ministry in Cambridge. The process of appointing his successor will begin in due course after General Assembly in July.

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## ***Letter from Nigel Uden to Churches...***

Dear friends

I am writing to tell you that I have accepted the call to be the next minister both of St Columba's United Reformed Church, Cambridge and of the United Reformed Church in Fulbourn, a village five miles outside the city.

For some three years I have been pondering, in company with mentors, a deepening inclination to return to local church ministry, but have felt it right to continue in the Synod whilst together we dealt with the structural matters that followed the General Assembly's decision to remove District Councils.

I cannot overstate how I appreciate the privilege that the last nine years have afforded me, the significant amount I have learned and the happy relationships that I have enjoyed with ministers, staff, young people, committees and countless folk in the churches. Ever since I candidated for ministry in this Synod more than thirty years ago I have appreciated it; I will now hold it dear. I owe my family, Bethan and Jess an immeasurable amount for their utterly unselfish support and unfailing love throughout my service amongst you.

Please be assured of my prayers and good wishes for all that the future holds. As Pentecost approaches I am drawn to words with which Peter Marshall led Congress to pray in 1947, "Lord Jesus, you have promised to give us the Holy Spirit. ... We know deep down in our hearts that without your guidance we can do nothing, but with you we can do all things. Let us not be frightened by the problems that confront us, but rather give you thanks that you have matched us with this hour. May we resolve, God helping us, to be part of the answer, and not part of the problem; for Jesus' sake." So be it.

Yours in Christ



## The Fellowship

Our meeting is on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July at 2.45pm when we have our Annual Garden Tea. We hope the sun will shine and we will be in the Church garden.

This is the last meeting of the current session and we are now planning next year's programme which will start in September.

The meetings are open to all so bring along your friends and neighbours, all will be made most welcome.

Winifred Scopes

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## SUDOKU Solution

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## CROSSWORD ANSWERS

**ACROSS:** 1, John. 3, And James. 8, Near. 9, Omission. 11, Theocratic. 14, Asleep. 15, By-path. 17, Stalingrad. 20, Backbone. 21, Baca. 22, Whose eye. 23, Seth.

**DOWN:** 1, Jonathan. 2, Heavenly. 4, No meat. 5, Justifying. 6, Maid. 7, Sins. 10, Acceptable. 12, Marriage. 13, Shadrach. 16, Plenty. 18, A bow. 19, ECHO.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP:**

- 9.30am Service for all the family, including crèche and Lighthouse (Junior church). (Most weeks, children leave after 20 minutes for their own activities)  
 Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
- 11.00am Morning Worship  
 Holy Communion (4th Sunday)
- 6.30pm Evening Service  
 Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)

*Healing services as announced*

**PRAYER MEETINGS:**

- Mon 9.30am An Hour of Prayer
- Wed 9.45am Short Service of Intercession
- Thur 8.00pm Church Prayer Evening  
 (As announced)
- Sat 8.45am Three Churches Prayer Meeting.  
 – 9.30am Venue rotates between the three churches.

**REGULAR ACTIVITIES:**

- Mon 10.00am Art Group
- 6.30pm Boys' Brigade – Junior Section (8–11 years)
- 7.45pm Boys' Brigade – Company Section (11+ years)
- Tue 10.00am Stepping Stones (Parents and toddlers)
- 7.45pm In Touch (4th Tues) for women of all ages
- Wed 2.45pm The Fellowship (4th Wed) for mature ladies and gentlemen
- 6:45pm Zest 4:5:6 games, craft, tuck plus the 'Bible bit' (term time)
- Thur 10.00am Pop-In (for coffee and a chat)
- 8.00pm Church Meeting (2nd Thur)
- Fri 5.30pm Boys' Brigade – Anchor Boys (5–7 years)
- 7:30pm Zest Plus (Years 7–10) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)

House Groups normally meet 1st and 3rd Thursday

The church is normally open Monday to Saturday from 10.00am to 12.30pm

**Church Office:** 01444 482098

**Charles Martin (Minister)**

**Mobile No:** 07821 904785

**Church (payphone):** 01444 484620

**Boys' Brigade:**

Geoffrey Cocksedge 01444 474007

**Cradle Roll:**

Sue Tester 01444 482810

**Flowers:**

Betty Billins 01444 484494

**Hall Booking Secretary:**

Carol Walters 01444 457938

**In Touch:**

Sue Waller 01444 455047

**Lunch Fellowship:**

Wednesday:  
 Janet Drayton 01444 483621

Friday:  
 Gwen Hillman 01444 456963  
 Anne Parker 01444 473519

**Magazine: Editor:**

Val Cookney 01444 440029

**The Fellowship:**

Chris Comber 01444 482641

**Stepping Stones:**

Janet Goodenough 01444 417002

**Transport:**

Ray Smith 01444 484427

**Zest Co-ordinator:**

Clare Nibloe 01444 484683

**Lighthouse (Junior church)**

**Co-ordinator:**

Dawn Walters 01444 441601



# *Alpha*

***Coming Soon!***

*Lydia Goodchild tel: 01444 458050*

*or*

*Tim Sanderson tel: 01444 455830*

*email: [alpha@lindfieldurc.org.uk](mailto:alpha@lindfieldurc.org.uk)*