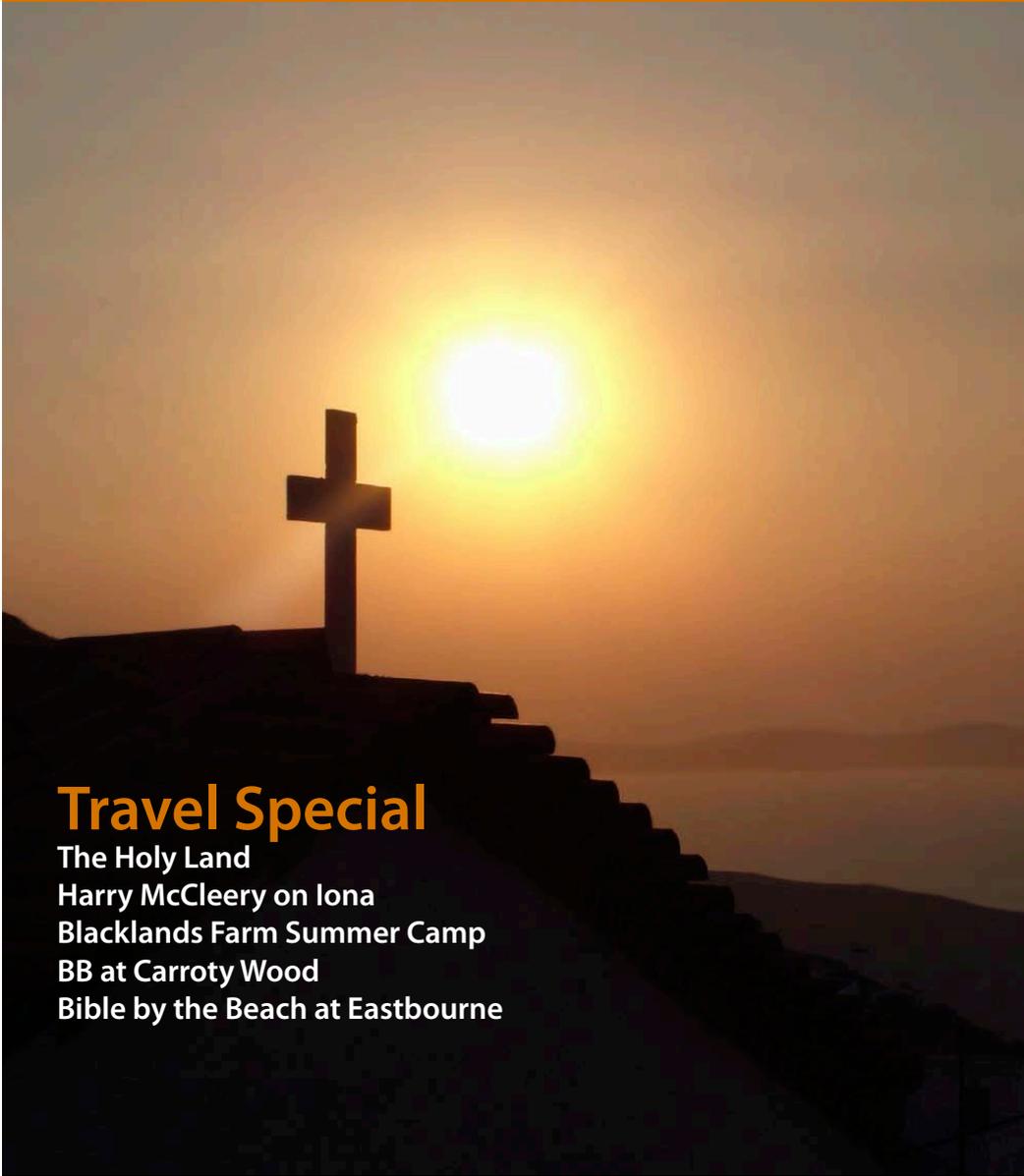


GoodNEWS **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

June 2013

A photograph of a cross on a hill, silhouetted against a bright sunset sky. The sun is a large, glowing orb in the center, casting a warm orange and yellow light. The cross is a simple wooden structure, and the hill it sits on is dark and silhouetted. The background shows a hazy landscape with distant hills.

Travel Special

The Holy Land

Harry McCleery on Iona

Blacklands Farm Summer Camp

BB at Carrotty Wood

Bible by the Beach at Eastbourne

Bible verse of the month

**"Keep open house;
be generous with your
lives. By opening up to
others, you'll prompt
people to open up with
God, this generous Father
in heaven."**

**Matthew 5:16
The Message**



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**If you have a verse or article
you would like to share in
GoodNEWS email:**

goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk



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Editorial

This month our members have many experiences to share with everyone. Travel seems to be the word on so many lips. There are vivid accounts from our members when they visited the Holy Land. Quite obviously it is simply a magic feeling when you see the many beautiful places that are mentioned in the Bible.

A little nearer home, the Boys' Brigade and Zest have visited Blacklands Farm and The Boys' Brigade Juniors have visited the Battalion Holiday at Carrotty Wood on the same weekend. They obviously have all enjoyed the experiences there. There are messages from The Bible by the Beach Meeting in Eastbourne. This gave so many special lessons for us to learn.

Tina has written about special verses in the Bible which encourage and help her. It is so good to have these messages, so we also can look at what we can have simply by asking Jesus to come into our lives.

The Young People have been very busy with different projects so do read about them and pray that they will all come to love and accept Jesus as their Saviour.

God Bless,

Anne

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Dear friends

Some years ago, as I was on my way to vote in a local election, I met a young father and his small son coming out of the polling station. The lad was so excited and wanted to tell me how his dad had voted. "Shh!" said his father "It's a secret." The little boy was quiet for a moment, but he couldn't contain himself and he burst out "I know it's a secret but we voted for number three!"

I have to say I have never encountered greater passion for the democratic process and it was wonderful to behold.

The recent surge in support for the United Kingdom Independence Party set me thinking. How far should Christians be involved in politics? Is it enough simply to vote at every election and leave it at that? Or should we risk the bruises and join the fray? I can understand how some folk feel cynical about politicians. They certainly have a track record of broken promises, but in the cut and thrust of political life, the one necessary skill is the art of compromise. That's why it's so difficult for Christians to be politicians.

Nevertheless there are committed Christians in all the major parties and many MPs witness openly to their faith. I wish the brave attempts to create a Christian political party were more effective, but apart from attracting a few hundred votes at each election, they never seem to make a breakthrough.

The one thing we cannot do is opt out and leave it to other people. Jesus made it very clear that His followers have a job to do. He used salt, light and yeast to describe it. Just as salt preserves food and stops it rotting away, just as light allows us to see where we're going and yeast works from within, so Christians must try to make a difference in society, preserving what is good, revealing what is bad and working to open the way for God's Kingdom.

In his seminar at Bible by the Beach, John Stevens, the Director of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches pointed out the drift away from Christian values and the emergence of real hostility to what we believe. How do we face that hostility? Certainly not by turning away from the real world and hiding, in the hope that things will get better on their own. No! We accept that there has always been a cost to following Jesus. (If people hated Him, He told us they would hate us too.) We put our confidence in the God who keeps His promises and with love and truth and faith as our weapons, we join in the fight to win back the world, for the God Who loved it so much that He gave His Son to save it.

How we do it is a matter of choice. For some it will mean joining a political party. Others will find a different strategy, but no one can opt out. So what are you going to do about it?

Your Pastor and friend,

Charles S Martin

The Fellowship

On Wednesday 26 June, our good friends Ron and Janet Goodenough will talk to us about "A Window on the World." We meet at 2.30 pm.

We will have the usual Bring & Buy stall and a cup of tea after the talk. We extend a warm welcome to all who come.

Pat Phillips

Fair Trade

It is with regret that Jenny Machell, Sue Dunford and I have decided to stop having a Fair Trade stall in the Church Lounge on Sunday mornings. We feel that now there are so many opportunities to obtain fairly traded goods in our local shops that there really isn't the need to sell them at our church.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who have so loyally supported us over the years and if anyone has any difficulty in obtaining goods that they previously bought from us I'm sure that we could order them from our local supplier. Of course, if anyone felt like taking the task over from us we would only be too willing to give them assistance to get started!

Carol Marsh

Prayer Focus

As I write the sign-up sheet for our twenty-four hours of prayer on May 18th/19th is filling up really well. Let me use this opportunity to thank everyone who took part and because I am a man of faith and the event itself is still to come, let me give glory to God for a job well done!

This is the last but one time I shall write the Prayer Focus notes for Good News. The Elders have it high on their agenda to find the best way to co-ordinate the prayer life of the church, so if you feel you can help in that regard, please talk to your Elder.

It's not a job for one person. I've proved that conclusively. We need a group of committed people who will constantly remind us that we must to be a praying church.

When Jesus returned to His home town, we're told that He could do no mighty work there because of the people's lack of faith (St. Mark 6:5-6.) Our readiness to pray and the seriousness with which we do so is a measure of our faith.

Let's give the Holy Spirit the space He needs to do wonderful things here at Lindfield!

Charles Martin

Where is Iona?

If I am completely honest, I sometimes wonder why reasonable people ask me to write for 'Good News' magazine, as I can only write the disjointed ramblings of a christian madman. That's why I love children's work, because they really prefer it if you are mad. Anyway here goes.....

The advancement of modern medicine dictates that we have made wonderful advances in managing long term medical conditions – diabetes, heart disease, asthma and high blood pressure. There are many fine examples of people living healthily, and with a great sense of well-being, to an old age. I balance this with the anecdotal thought that breast and prostate cancer are ever increasing in the people I meet. I have recently read about an, 'Antibiotic Armageddon!'

On Maundy Thursday this year I stood in a pharmacy filling endless bags, as it seemed, with antidepressants. As a Christian, I could understand a sense of depression at Christ's pending demise-but I thought Sunday is coming and my God would rise and live in my life again. I was filling bags that would last long after Sunday. My heart aches for the lives behind the bags. No Christ. No hope.

I often put contraceptives and antidepressants in the same bag. With the contraceptive some recipients anticipate receiving freedom to enjoy every sexual pleasure of the flesh. In the same bag, I place antidepressants. Satan's work is to win over the body, heart and mind, and consume the soul.

I am writing part of this article on Iona, a tranquil Scottish island three miles long. You have to leave your car on Mull, another Scottish island, when you get the ferry to Iona. You carry your luggage onto the island. Iona has long been used as a refuge from life to find a spiritual pulse from God's heart. I can see people who have peacefully found space in a quiet place, which is beautiful to see. My greatest gain as a Christian is to find out how I can find God's heart in the place where he has put me – family, friends, work - the busyness of who I am. How do I find sanctuary in my daily life whilst living in Christ's presence and peace? As much as I love being able to hear the water lapping onto the shore, on a star-filled night on Iona, I need my heart to connect to God's heart every day.

A Recent pop song started:

“Seems like everybody's got a price. I wonder how they sleep at night. When the sale comes first and the truth comes second. Just stop for a minute and smile.”

We seem to live in a culture where a person's value is measured in what car we drive, what clothes we wear, the schools



we send our children to, how well we can cover up the ageing process. The appearance of success or lack of it will determine our place value in society. I recently heard of children without shoes in townships in South Africa being distributed with flip flops. When the flip flops were thrown out the children didn't fight with each other, they just accepted that someone else had won and handed them over. And they never stopped smiling! How do we value ourselves and others through the eyes of a loving God?

I recently bought a smart-phone. The first app that I downloaded was the Bible. Wherever I go, I read the Bible – in the toilet, in bed, waiting to go into the dentist, picking up the kids from a club – I have the Bible. I have a telephone in my head – it's called prayer. I can talk to my

God anytime, anywhere. It's all reverse charge- God picks up the bill. If you want to be serious about your relationship with God talk to him as much as you can. Pray when you feel like it. Pray when you really don't feel like it. Pray when you are happy. Pray when you are sad. Don't stop praying and listening, and watching, and waiting for God to come and transform who you are. Through the pain, success will flow, as Christ's heart is overlaid on yours. It's a wonderful gift given from the heart of a loving God to his children. A verse in our hallway says 'Draw near to God and he will draw near to you.' James 4:8. You have to initiate the process, and you have to be serious.

Everyday I try to spend half an hour in prayer. It will often take 10-15 minutes for my mind to settle into a place where

I feel God's presence, when I can sit at God's feet and hear His voice. Half an hour may seem an impossible length of time to spend connecting with God each day, and yet it is such an oasis of peace, physical and mental healing, wrapped up in overwhelming love, that makes life worth living. I have found Iona right where I am.

When I look in the mirror I see the face of my father. I remember my dad in his death bed and I've realised that one day I'll be the father in the bed. Those moments of transcension that have served me so well throughout my life will be my passage and peace when I face life's greatest fear.

My love for my Jesus Christ in life will be my salvation. However you find Christ in life, I believe, will be your hope, your joy, your fulfilment in feeling complete. I believe with all my heart that there is no other way. My greatest work is to tell children of Jesus' love for them - for all of their lives.

Isaiah 55 v 6 reads:

**“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call on him while he is near”**

May God bless you with the love and hope of Jesus Christ,

Harry McCleery



Family News

Sad News

Our dear friend Ray Saunders died peacefully on May 6th after a long battle with illness. His much valued gardening advice has benefitted many of us over the years, including his care of the Manse and Church Garden some years ago. We extend our love, prayers and sincere sympathy to Audrey, Chris, Nicola and Toby.

Fo Tingley

Bible by the Beach

The organizers prayer was that, “we may all be encouraged, renewed and challenged as we learn from God’s word together” and I for one felt that this was achieved.

Stuart Townend led the worship, which added to the event. All the speakers were good value and there was clearly a good children’s/young people’s work demonstrated at the closing event.

I am looking forward to receiving the recordings as there was much to think about. I would thoroughly recommend it for next year.

David Jones

Not on the beach but in the Congress Theatre! The teaching through seminars, bible reading and sermons was thought provoking and challenging.

Some of the things that I came away with:

- We are all full time Christian workers. Sunday is about equipping people for wherever we are for the rest of the week.
- Don’t spend all the time in the changing room listening to half time talk, we need to get back on the field.
- Today is the day to spread the Good News; it is a tragedy that many don’t know the message of reconciliation.
- It was always God’s priority to evangelise the whole world. Where is mission in our thinking, praying, giving because it is at the heart of God.

Great weekend

Janet Goodenough

Holy Land

I am one of those people who always get very apprehensive about going on holiday, even if I am only going to Eastbourne! However, as this long-awaited trip of a life time grew nearer, I had an extraordinary sense of calm – a real assurance that it was a Pilgrimage, a privilege, and that God was in control and would be with us. It was such a memorable experience, for which I shall always be grateful.

To pick out one or two highlights is not easy because they were many. The Shepherd's Fields just looked so natural, very much in the way they would have done, not only at Jesus' birth, but also in the time of Ruth and Naomi and where King David had been a shepherd boy. We had times of worship at many of the sights we visited, and here we sang, "While shepherd's watched their flocks by night" a very special moment for me! It was amazing to realise how often New and Old Testament events had happened in the same geographical area.

Briefly, two other special times. One was on the Mount of the Beatitudes where our local guide (a lovely Palestinian Christian) read Matthew 5, so sincerely and movingly. There we visited a simple round Catholic Church where there was just an over-whelming sense of God's presence. I just didn't want to leave! And

to celebrate Communion on the shores of the Sea of Galilee was quite awesome. It truly felt like Jesus was there along side us all. We sang "My Jesus, my Saviour", and were encouraged to keep 'fishing' for people, even as Christ had commanded His Disciples.

I am grateful to my family and friends back home for all their prayers. We were in a lovely group of Christians from various parts of England, and we all got on so well. This is just another blessing of this wonderful experience for which I praise and thank God.

Fiona Tingley

All thanks and praise go to God for the blessings experienced during the ten-day Maranatha Pilgrimage to the Holy Land led by Rev. Paul Snell [URC minister from Plymouth.] Every small aspect of the holiday was girded by prayer, for which I am truly thankful. All thirty-six of us [from many areas of the UK] were kept healthy, safe physically and enjoyed a sense of unity.

The pre-arranged Bible readings and worship times flowed seamlessly and naturally into our sight-seeing which was God's grace to us.



I was particularly struck by our walk along the Palm Sunday route which Jesus took to fulfil the Zechariah 9v9 prophecy. It was assumed that the very cobble-stones of limestone were not the actual ones that Jesus' donkey trod- but that the pathway down into the Kidron valley and then up into Jerusalem was credible.

I was grateful for a fresh aspect of Holy week and about the high priest choosing the Passover lamb himself. Apparently he walked up the Mount of Olives and examined many lambs eventually choosing an unblemished one, which he then carried to the temple precincts to await the Passover ritualistic slaughter.

Our knowledgeable guide Andre, who was a Palestinian Christian Arab, became very excited about all of the fulfilments which Jesus demonstrated in these last days of His earthly ministry.

How in awe I am of Jesus' enactment of this great "rescue plan" for us. He was the only one who was perfect, worthy to bear the world's collective sin. That fact is keeping me constantly humbled before Him!

What a Saviour!

Janet Drayton

This trip of a lifetime fulfilled all my expectations and more. We were attached to a lovely Christian group of warm, friendly people, and the daily psalm and prayers which were said every morning in the coach as we were pulling away from our hotel, was moving and uplifting as we asked God to be with us in every activity of the day.

There were so many memorable times, one was when I first saw the Bedouin shepherds leading their small flocks of sheep in the hills, just as they have always done. I could so clearly see Jesus' illustration of the sheep following the shepherd because they knew his voice, and he knew each one of them by name.

We stayed for five nights in a hotel in Jerusalem, and from there we were able to visit many places including Bethlehem, Mount of Olives, Gethsemane and the Garden Tomb where we saw a rolling stone tomb from the first century.

We had free time in which to return to the Old City and explore the markets and bazaars. It was 'mind blowing' to walk through the Damascus gate and enter a labyrinth of narrow cobbled roads, lined each side and down the middle with stalls selling clothes, brightly coloured spices, huge bundles of herbs, fruit and vegetables, sweet cakes and much more. We sat outside a cafe drinking mint tea on the Via Dolorosa, watching and listening to pilgrims following the route which

Jesus took, some carrying large wooden crosses.

Leaving Jerusalem and the green hills all around, the scenery dramatically changed to huge, dry rock formations which were the Wilderness of Judea where John the Baptist lived. One could so easily imagine Jesus being tempted in the wilderness.

We spent the remaining four nights in a kibbutz hotel down by the shore of Lake Galilee--the view was glorious as we gazed across this totally unspoiled area.

Wherever we went, as we were worshipping with readings, prayer and sometimes singing, we could hear other pilgrims worshipping our amazing God in their own language. Although we couldn't understand what they were saying, we agreed that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ which gives us a common bond in our love of the Lord Jesus, making it a natural thing to love one another.

I praise and thank God for this opportunity to walk where Jesus walked and to feel His presence constantly with us throughout our ten days.

Lesley Sparks

Our visit to the Holy land proved to be an amazing opportunity to visit the places of Jesus' birth, ministry, death, and resurrection. It was fantastic to FEEL these places "come alive" after so many years of

hearing about them, and being just so very familiar with the names mentioned in the Bible. As a result, the Scriptures were revealed to us in new ways and this subsequently helped us understand more clearly how God worked through His people. This is shown in the Old Testament and through His son Jesus, and later through the first disciples and early church.

The Holy Land is a land of contrasts, not only geographically, but also in the diversity of the faiths and cultures of the people living there. It is long and narrow and has features ranging from forested highlands, fertile valleys to mountainous deserts with deep wadis. The Dead Sea (the lowest point on earth with no life in it) is unique and we were fortunate to experience floating in it while trying not to swallow any of the water! In contrast, the Sea of Galilee was full of life with some of the fishing methods virtually identical to those used 2000 years ago. It was sad therefore, to see how divided this beautiful country has become, and how hard it must be for modern day Christians facing some of the issues that exist in sometimes difficult situations.

By visiting so many places where Jesus lived, and the fact that we were sharing this with many other Christian groups from all over the world, this was a unique experience. This emphasised the fact that we belong to a very special world wide Christian family.

Janet Wade

Alpha Recipe

Ground Nut Stew from Africa (delicious, healthy and so easy to make!

A much requested recipe from one of the recent Alpha Course meals.

Ingredients (Serves 4)

1lb sliced onions.
Medium red or green pepper sliced;
One medium aubergine sliced;
One fourteen oz can tomatoes;
Half pound carrots sliced;
2 teaspoons yeast extract;
4 to 6ozs smooth peanut butter.
4oz frozen peas or broad beans;
2 level teaspoons of paprika
[some folk prefer less to taste]
Salt and Pepper to taste.
2 pints of water.
[It is possible to put a vegetable stock cube in this if desired but not in recipe]

Method

Place water, yeast extract, onions and peppers in a large saucepan. Boil together, stirring occasionally for 5 minutes. Add all other ingredients except peas/beans and simmer until tender. [About 20 minutes or can stand a lot longer than this] Add peas and paprika and simmer further 10 minutes. Serve with mashed potato and rice and green vegetables.

Enjoy

Jenny Martin

Sunday Services

The **9.30am** service is an opportunity for all age groups to join in a relaxed informal time. Most weeks, children leave after 20 minutes for their own activities (including crèche). Lighthouse (Junior church) is for children and young people up to age 14. Holy Communion (1st Sunday)

Coffee is served between the morning services.

The **11:15am** service is a more traditional service than at 9:30. Holy Communion (4th Sunday) Where there is a fifth Sunday in the month, normally a joint service is held at 10:30am

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

Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)

Healing services as announced

Personal prayer is available after every service. We can also offer personal prayer ministry at home or in hospital.

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

Recordings of services can be borrowed free from the church.

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. <small>Venue rotates between the three churches</small>

Prayer requests and brief statements of praise for answered prayer can be put in the red book on the concourse table.

Regular Activities

Mon	10.00am	Art Group
	6.00pm	Brigade - Anchor Boys <small>(5-7 years)</small>
	6.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Junior Section <small>(8-11 years)</small>
	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Company Section <small>(11+ years)</small>
Tue	10.00am	Stepping Stones <small>(Parents and toddlers - term time)</small>
	7.45pm	In Touch <small>(4th Tues) for women of all ages</small>
Wed	2.30pm	The Fellowship <small>(4th Wed) for men and women of all ages</small>
Thur	10.00am	Pop-In <small>Coffee and a chat</small>
	8.00pm	Church Meeting <small>(2nd Thur)</small>
Fri	7.15pm	Zest <small>(Years 6-9) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)</small>
Sun	7.30pm	Youth Fellowship

The church is open most mornings from 10.00am to 12.30pm

June Church diary

1st Saturday	8:45am	Village Day Three Churches Prayer Meeting All Saints	16th Sunday	9:30am 11:15am 6:30pm 7:30pm	Morning Worship Morning Worship Tim Griffiths Evening Worship David Jones Youth Fellowship
2nd Sunday	9:30am 11:15am 6:30pm	Communion Morning Worship The Pastor/Alex Jeffs Evening Worship The Pastor	20th Thursday		House Groups
6th Thursday		House Groups	22nd Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting All Saints
8th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting All Saints	23rd Sunday	9:30am 11:15am 6:30pm 7:30pm	Morning Worship Morning Worship The Pastor Healing Service with Communion Robert Bushby Youth Fellowship
9th Sunday	9:30am 11:15am 6:30pm 7:30pm	Morning Worship Morning Worship The Pastor Healing Service with Communion Robert Bushby Youth Fellowship	26th Wednesday	2:45pm 7:00pm	Afternoon Fellowship Elders' Meeting
11th Tuesday	8:00pm	Music Group	27th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting
12th Wednesday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	29th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting All Saints
13th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Meeting	30th Sunday	10:30am 6:30pm 7:30pm	Joint Service House Group/ Graham Campling Evening Worship The Pastor Youth Fellowship
14th Friday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship			
15th Saturday	8:45am 6:00pm	Three Churches Prayer Meeting All Saints Missions Barbecue			

Hello! In this month's magazine we take a look back at summer camp and Shackleton's visit to Lindfield URC as well as looking forward to next month's BBQ in aid of our Romania trip.

Josh
Thomas
Writes...



Josh

Summer camp 2013

On the weekend of April 26-28th fifteen young people and nine leaders went away to Blackland farm campsite in East Grinstead. Over the weekend we spent time doing various fun activities which included; rock climbing, swimming, zip wire and lots of games in the vast forest surrounding the campsite. These activities were hugely enjoyable and you will be able to see some of the photos alongside this article. The prize for the most entertaining camper on the zip wire goes to Peter McCleery who 'wowed' all of us around him with his dance moves from mid-air!

The camp did have its serious points as well. We spent some great time in worship particularly thinking this year about the life of David and how sometimes we can make mistakes, but God forgives us if we are truly sorry.

Our thanks go to Charles and Alex Jeffs for leading these two sessions. In the main the weather stayed good for us apart from the odd shower of rain. The arctic conditions overnight were not good but we all managed to thaw out in the morning, when the sun came up. This was aided by a cooked breakfast and by the now legendary hot chocolate. A big thank you to Zoe McQuillin who provided such brilliant food during the weekend!

All in all we had a fantastic weekend with young people who actually went to sleep at bedtime. Anyone who has ever run a youth weekend will know this is close on a miracle!

Next year we promise that the camp will be a bit later and hopefully warmer overnight!



Shackleton

As part of this year's Arts Festival, we had a very special service on the Sunday evening to close the Church's involvement in the Lindfield Arts Festival. We invited 'Shackleton' to come and lead an evening service with a difference. The band who are from Guildford, led us in songs both old and new and we had a great time worshipping God, albeit at a slightly louder volume than usual!

We had a guest speaker Bekah Legg who is the Editor of Liberti Magazine and comes from Littlehampton, with us for the evening. She brought us an inspirational message on the theme of 'Coming Home' with particular reference to the story of the prodigal son. She was able to draw parallels with the situation of the three women in America who were recently rescued from kidnap some ten years ago. She demonstrated how their friends and family felt when they eventually came home.

It really was a fantastic evening of worship, a huge thank you to all who came and supported the event and also to those who were praying for it.



Romania BBQ

On Saturday 15th June 2013 we will be holding a very special event to raise funds for our Young People's trip to Romania this summer.

The trip will involve us attending a summer camp which has been running since the tragedies of 1989 in Romania. It was originally set up to help young people who had been affected by these tragedies. Most of them are now in their 20's so it has changed slightly but still remains a vital work out there. In the past the organisation have led camps in topics such as 'how to run an honest business in a corrupt country' and this year the theme of the camp will be 'The Ambiguities of Democracy'. These are big topics for anyone to think about. They are so important, especially to young people who are the future and will therefore be the decision makers very soon. The group's aim is to take a Christian perspective to what are worldly issues. Our young people from Lindfield are going not only as participants but also as advocates of 'British Young Christians'.

On Saturday 15th June we will be holding a BBQ at the Church, there will be no charge for this event but your donations towards our trip will be gratefully received. During the evening we will be



joined by Dickie Twort, who runs the Cascaid organisation and others from the team. They will be doing a presentation which will be very informative. Having met him myself, I can tell you he is a very interesting person and the work they are doing is well worth hearing about.

There will also be a presentation from the team of young people from Lindfield URC that will be going to Romania. If you can please come to encourage and support them on this occasion.

Tickets will be available from Sunday 26th May from Josh, Hannah, Ron Goodenough, John Barling or Jean Gardiner.

Thank you in anticipation of your support

Josh

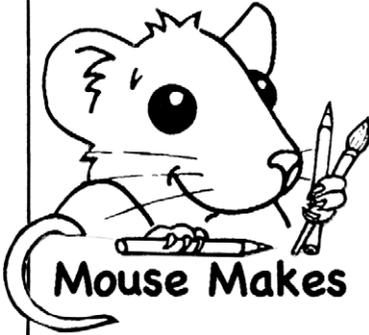
Boys Brigade



Four of our Juniors, Brandon, Marden, Gabriel, and Ben were able to get places on the annual Junior Section holiday weekend. Terry Ward accompanied them. The venue was Carrotty Wood near Tonbridge, a Rock UK centre with excellent facilities.

This event is always over-subscribed anyway, but accommodation was particularly limited this year, so our boys were lucky to get places. The weather was kind, and the boys had a whale of a time enjoying all the adventure activities, swimming, games, and crafts - and good food! - that were provided for them.

Geoffrey Cocksedge



You may have read the bible story of Daniel in the lions den, but have you ever read the whole book of Daniel?

Take your time and read a little each day and find out about *the vegetables*, *the statue*, *the gold idol*, *the furnace*, *the tree*, *the writing on the wall*, *the lions*, *the four animals*, *the ram and the goat*, and the man.

Hidden in the lion's mouth are all these names and words, can you find them?

- DANIEL
- ASHPENAZ
- HANANIAH
- MISHAEL
- AZARIAH
- DREAM
- STATUE
- IDOL
- FURNACE
- TREE
- WRITING
- WALL
- DARIUS
- LIONS
- PRAYER
- GOD
- NEBUCHADNEZZAR



W	D	A	N	I	E	L	V	N
A	S	H	P	E	N	A	Z	E
L	T	A	K	I	W	A	R	B
L	A	Z	J	D	R	U	H	U
E	T	A	D	O	I	D	A	C
M	U	R	R	L	T	F	N	H
I	E	I	E	D	I	U	A	A
S	T	A	A	A	N	R	N	D
H	R	H	M	R	G	N	I	N
A	E	U	G	I	G	A	A	E
E	E	F	O	U	P	C	H	Z
L	Q	V	D	S	W	E	E	Z
P	R	L	I	O	N	S	Q	E
U	X	P	R	A	Y	E	R	R



Ashpenaz changed the names of Daniel and his friends.

Look up *Daniel 1:7* to see what he changed them to.

June Mission

This month we are supporting the work of a charity that we have been linked with for over 20 years in Romania.

The Hannah Foundation

Following the fall of the repressive Communist regime under Ceausescu we were introduced to a Christian couple, Orest and Cristina, who with vision, enthusiasm, persistence and against many setbacks started an ongoing ministry amongst the poor, the orphaned, the Roma community and the youth of north-eastern Romania. This was centred around the town of Radauti, not too far from the borders of the Ukraine and Moldova and an area which is also home to beautiful, frescoed monasteries.

Over the years the work has expanded under 'The Hannah Foundation'. Our contact with the work now is through Dr Dickie Twort (a medical doctor with the Blood Transfusion Service in London) and the UK Charity, 'The Cascaid Trust'. Dickie (now fluent in Romanian) and his wife, Annie, members of King's Church, Catford, have visited our church on several occasions, keeping us updated on developments in Romania.

The mission of 'Hannah' is to respond to the spiritual and material needs of those around them. To this end, they run their own projects, and also actively cooperate with Radauti town council and with schools.

They run projects to help the poor locally, including families and elderly people. This includes provision of free clothing (as well as the sale of second hand clothing in their charity shop, to raise funds).

For young people, there is a Pupil Sponsorship scheme at the local secondary school, as well as other input into the school. They run extra educational classes in various subjects, and a Computer & Internet Club.

Conferences are held regularly in the Radauti area, to assist young people think through the dramatic changes taking place within their society, as well as providing discussion material in the form of two-monthly bulletins.

Hannah also works with the Roma community, which makes up between 5 and 10% of the population. The Roma people tend to be very isolated, even ostracised and therefore in most need. Work amongst the Roma people started with the founding of a church in a gipsy village many years ago by a Baptist Pastor known affectionately at 'Papa'. He set up 'Hope Church' from scratch. Attendance now is good, especially among the children, and Papa has provided all sorts



of invaluable lifestyle teaching. Local Roma themselves now take positions of responsibility within the church, and other Romanians have become involved too.

Breaking down barriers between people is a key aspect of the Gospel, and a key value of 'Hannah'. It is an aspect of the "Good News" that is particularly needed in Romania.

Papa did a huge amount of renovation work, to provide decent housing for families, and has even brought in an electricity supply and provided a village water tap.

A small group of our own young people will be attending the Summer Camp in Romania this year. This will be a good 'cross-cultural' experience. The conference involves talks, small group discussion, debates etc, the aim being to make faith relevant to every aspect of lives.

The young people need to raise their own finance for this trip. A barbecue at the church is being organised by them on June 15th (please put the date in your diaries) when Dickie Twort will also be coming to share more about the work. There are also special envelopes available on the book trolleys these can be placed on the Sunday offertory

We will also be supporting the work of 'Hannah' in June. More information is available on the mission display area.

If you would like to give towards this work please use the special envelopes marked 'Mission Giving' and place your gift in the offertory at any Sunday service. Please complete a Gift Aid Slip if appropriate.

Thank you

The Missions Group

Sound Seminar

Can you hear me at the back?

In last month's instalment, looking at the work of the technical team in the life of the church we arrived at Sunday lunchtime. The 11.15am service has finished, everything has been packed away and the system shut down. This month Richard Walters looks at what happens during the week.

You may think that this instalment will be somewhat short, the Sunday services have finished, so surely that's it until next Sunday- which would bring us back to where we started a couple of months ago. However there are various things which need doing during the week: On a weekly basis, the CDs of the Sunday services need producing; then, as required, technical support is provided midweek meetings; then, finally, there is the ongoing maintenance of the system which again is undertaken as required.

CD Production

So the most pressing need following the Sunday services, is the production of the CDs for the CD library at the back of the church. The services aren't recorded direct to CD because a standard CD can only hold 74 minutes of recording, and the 9.30am service can be up to an hour and a quarter long, so if it overruns at all there's a danger that it won't all fit. As a result we record to a memory card and then copy the service to CD later. So at some point on Sunday I will normally pop up to the church and collect the memory stick. The audio is then transferred to a dedicated hard drive on my PC at home and loaded into a specialist piece of audio software. I'll then do a quick check to make sure that the service has recorded ok, and that we haven't inadvertently recorded anything we are supposed

to leave out, and then produce the CD. Much of what is used in the services- for example the choruses at the 9.30 service- are copyrighted, and we can produce the CD of the service under licence from the Churches Copyright Licensing agency.

Once the audio is transferred to the CD, the inlay cards for the CD case are printed, together with the front surface of the CD itself. The CDs are then ready to be placed into the CD rack for people to borrow as required. Generally, the CDs stay in the rack for a year before being archived. We also upload the sermon to the Internet so it is available to listen to on-line. The sermon is extracted from the rest of the service and converted into an MP3 file. This is then passed to Dan McQuillin who will upload it to the website which hosts the sermons, together with information about the speaker, the date of the service,

the reading, the title of the sermon, and, if it is part of a series, the title and number in the series. Currently, we have a number of people who regularly log on to listen, both locally and further afield. As the Internet develops, so do the possibilities for what can be achieved. The latest development is the possibility of streaming services live over the Internet, which we are currently in the process of considering both from a technical viewpoint and to see whether it would be desirable.

Midweek Meetings

The requirements for technical support in midweek meetings can be many and varied. These include regular commitments such as providing sound and projection for church meetings and the set up of a full sound, lighting and projection system for Jigsaw each month. Technical support is also supplied for funerals as required. Then there are the one off special events, for example, the set up of a sound or projection system for 'In Touch' or the Fellowship, or the set up of the portable PA system and projector in the large hall for the recent Boys' Brigade Awards evening.

Maintenance

The other ongoing need is for servicing and maintenance of the equipment.

At the time of writing, there are currently three items on the 'to do' list, some of which are more pressing than others. For the youth service last Sunday evening, the connections to the mixing desk were substantially rearranged. These will need to be sorted and checked through to ensure that the system works correctly the next Sunday, and this will go under the urgent category since it needs to be done that week. There is then a slight mains hum on one of the congregation mics. It's annoying and needs sorting, but is not at such a level that the mic is unusable so is not quite so pressing. Then there is the upgrade of the loop system for hearing aid wearers. The current system is probably more than 30 years old now so has arrived at the end of its natural life and needs replacing. It's still working more or less ok, so isn't urgent. It's also quite a big job as the loop laid around the floor will need replacing. We will probably try to book that in for sometime later on this year.

As you can see, there's quite a lot which happens during the week on the technical front. Next month, we will look at how the GoodNEWS magazine itself is recorded to CD.

Richard Walters

Wider World

Pakistan

The Global Minorities Alliance (GMA), an international charity based in the UK, who fights global poverty, persecution and inequality, is urging the recently elected Prime Minister of Pakistan, Nawar Sharif, to protect the rights of the religious and ethnic minorities in the country.

Sherez Khan, chief executive of the GMA, is calling upon Sharif to end the discrimination against minorities in public and private sectors. He also wants the Pakistan government to introduce measures to stop the 'misuse' of blasphemy laws, which human rights groups say are being used to discriminate against Christians.

The GMA are particularly concerned about Christian woman Asia Bibi, who was sentenced to death in 2010 and has been in prison ever since.

Africa

SOS Children's Villages, an independent, non-governmental, international organisation which cares for orphaned children in 125 countries across the world, is being partnered by British Telecom to connect twenty of

the charity's sites across Africa to the internet, bringing huge changes and benefits to thousands of people.

The first two sites to get online are in Gambia. The remaining eighteen, across twelve countries in Africa are scheduled to be connected by October of this year. Under BT's "Connecting Africa" programme, the telecom's company is using under-used and de-commissioned BT equipment to build the network infrastructure, as well as training local IT support teams to maintain and operate the equipment..

All this means that children living in the SOS villages will now be able to access e-learning courses and the charity's on-line mentoring programmes, opening their eyes to a whole new world of information and education opportunities.

Meryl Davies, from SOS Children's Villages sees the benefits for the charity saying, "BT has the vision to understand that with improved systems and structures, we will be better able to bring long term values to incredibly vulnerable children and families, helping them to reach for a better future."

Carol Marsh

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Sue Tester 01444 482810

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Betty Billins 01444 484494

Hall Booking Secretary

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In Touch

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Lunch Fellowship

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Friday:
Anne Parker 01444 473519

Pastoral Group

Fiona Tingley 01444 483419

The Fellowship

Chris Comber 01444 482641

Stepping Stones

Janet Goodenough 01444 417002

Transport

Janet Drayton 01444 483621

Zest Co-ordinator

Josh Thomas 07598 779553

Lighthouse (Junior Church)

Co-ordinator

Dawn Walters 01444 441601

Flower Rota

Arranging

Distributing

June

2nd	Carol Walters	Iris Bingham
9th	Barbara Shepherd	Heather Swann
16th	Brian Tuppen	Janet Sanderson
23rd	Audrey Saunders	Fo Tingley
30th	Heather Swann	Sue Tester

July

7th	Winifred Scopes	Jan Foreman
14th	Janet Wade	Barbara Shepherd
21st	Gladys Porter	Jo Bloxham
28th	Fo Tingley	Iris Bingham

Around Lindfield

Saturday 1st June

Village Day

Thursday 6th to 8th June

Ardingly Showground - South of England Show

Wednesday 12th June

12.15pm Tiger Arts - Lunch in the Tiger : "The Singing Allsorts"

