

GoodNEWS **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

March 2014



Bible verse of the month

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.”

**1 Timothy 4 v12
NIV**

**This month verse chosen
by Joanna
See Page 25**



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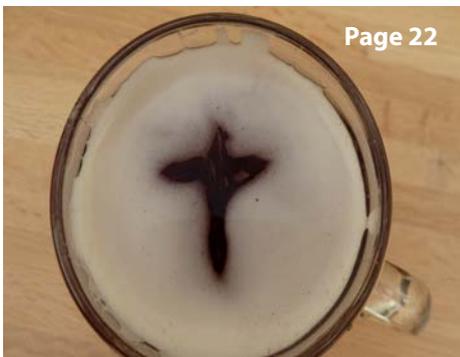
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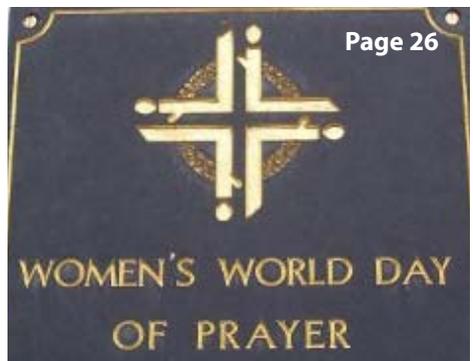
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**If you have a verse or article
you would like to share in
GoodNEWS email:**

goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk



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Editorial

We hope that this month's magazine will help convince you all into thinking spring is here.

The young people seem to have had great fun in enjoying so many new activities. It is wonderful that they are able to enjoy the company of other young people. Josh our 'Youth Pastor', is inventing all sorts of new ideas to keep them both happy and wanting to learn more about Jesus. Do read about their activities and the new meetings of 'Pulse'. There is a special welcome to any young people of all ages to join them.

There is an update on how with all the volunteers, the 'Food Bank' is progressing. It is good that this project is really helping so many people through difficult times.

Geoffrey Cocksedge, the Boys Brigade Captain has written an interesting article so do read this. It is the Women's World Day of Prayer which should be an inspiring and exciting day. Do read when and what it is all about. The service is shared with the other Churches in Lindfield so it is something to be looked forward to.

Again the three Churches are organising something special on alternate Saturday afternoons, do not miss reading all the information about this in our magazine. I hope that March will be a month when our activities and our thoughts, revolve around Jesus and with His help we will further his Kingdom.

God Bless,

Anne

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Dear friends

As I sit at the computer typing this letter the rain is pouring down outside (nothing new there), many places are flooded, people are without electricity, major rail routes have been damaged and many are longing to get back to some normality.

I must admit, as someone who worked all hours for many weeks on getting the power system up and running following the 1987 storm, I have some sympathy with the staff at agencies and utilities and think some of the criticism is a bit unfair, although my ex-work colleagues and I don't think they are making such a good job of it as we did! And, of course, my heart goes out to those whose homes have been under water for weeks and for the farmers whose fields are unworkable and whose cattle are having to be sold off.

By the time you receive this magazine the Winter Olympics will be underway and hopefully GB will have gained some medals to cheer us up. However, I hear on the radio that there is concern that there is not enough snow at present in Sochi for some of the events to take place and the organisers are trying to conserve what snow they have.

With all the progress made over the years it appears the one thing we cannot do is control the weather or protect ourselves from its extremes.

It is at times like these that we need to realise we are not in ultimate control, we cannot do everything ourselves and we need to hand it over to God. Of course we do need to 'play our part', we do need to be sensible and pro-active and not just sit back.

In the Old Testament we see how Nehemiah dealt with the problem of a ruined city. The walls of Jerusalem were in disrepair, almost just a pile of rubble in places, and they urgently needed rebuilding. He prayed for some days then set about the task. He then continued to pray at every opportunity. He planned, mobilised, and motivated people and he got down to work with them. Prayer and action that was Nehemiah.

In all that we seek to do the first step is to pray and then under God's direction get to work together. We can't all build walls but we can all play some part. When our efforts are united in prayer and action the impossible can be accomplished.

David Walters

David Walters - Elder

Family News

There are a number of our Church Family who are very unwell at this time, either in hospital or at home. Please uphold them and those who are concerned and care for them in your prayers.

Also, several of our 11.15 congregation are no longer able to get to the Church to share in worship. We want them to still feel part of the family of LURC, and it's quite likely they would appreciate a visit from time to time. If you are able to spare a little time to visit our friends, then please have a word with me. Meanwhile we can all pray for them.

Fiona (483419)

Come and join us to hear some music!!

Blow away the winter blues and join the Sister group and the Perdidos at the 'Tunes and Tea Café' on Saturday 1st March at 3-00pm in the Lindfield URC Church.

Hopefully there will be music for all tastes, plus a cup of tea. Free admission but a collection for the Salvation Army as they strive to help storm victims in the Philippines.

Peter Swann

Sad News

Gill would like to thank all her friends at the Church for the cards, phone calls, flowers and expressions of concern that she has received since Brian's illness. These, and all your prayers, are very much appreciated.

Sadly Brian died peacefully in hospital on February 17th.

Gill Couchy

In Touch

We met in January for our "Christmas" meal and had a very enjoyable evening. We even remembered to move around the tables so that we could speak to a variety of people. (In between courses naturally!!)

"Reflections of the Holy Land" will have already taken place in February but we hope to have a short report on that in the next Good News.

Please watch the notices in future to check what we have planned for the next meeting on March 25th. As usual everyone is very welcome to come.

Janet Wade

Lindfield Royal British Legion.

Lindfield Royal British Legion Women's Section is holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 1st March from 10.00am until 12.00 Noon in the Jubilee Room, King Edward Hall.

Do come and join us.

Taxi Service

Extension of "TAXI SERVICE TO CHURCH"
"This service you perform is not only supplying the needs of GOD's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to GOD" 2 Corinthians ch.9 v 12

Recruitment into this Taxi service is sought immediately.

As you are well aware recently several of the regular worshippers are absent from Lindfield URC recently. This is either due to health reasons or else they have moved elsewhere. Both reasons result in gaps in our rotas.

Therefore we urge you to consider offering to join the Taxi-ranks ONCE PER MONTH.

Please offer your car (with you prayerfully at the wheel) to: The Car Tzar Janet on; 01444 483621 or janetdrayton@uwclub.net. Thank you so much.

Janet Drayton

Family News from Elizabeth Rice

Having worshipped in Lindfield United Reformed Church for several years, I do want to thank all those who have shown such kindness and friendship to me.

I now feel it is the right time to move to the Free Evangelical Church which is so close to my home and therefore making it easier for me and more convenient.

With my love,
May God continue to bless you all.

Elizabeth Rice

The Fellowship

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 26 March, at 2.30 pm.

Margaret Nicholls will delve into her Archives of Sussex to bring us some interesting tales of our county.

There will be the usual Bring & Buy stall, together with a cup of tea after the talk. All who come may be sure of a warm welcome.

Pat Phillips

Thank you for your Christmas cards!

We know that it is a little late to thank you for using the church's post-box, but we only knew the final total that we had raised after the last Good News was published. The amount raised was £155 and this has been sent to the Worthing Churches Homeless Project to help them in the wonderful work that they do there.

So a big 'Thank You' to you all!

Stuart & Carol Marsh

New Who's Who

The new Who's Who is now available. Please would you collect one from any of the Elders.

If you require a Large Print copy please contact David Walters.

Active Kids Vouchers

The Boys' Brigade would be most grateful to anyone shopping at Sainsburys and collecting 'Active Kids Vouchers', donating them to us by dropping them into the boxes around the Church. The boys have benefited from the generosity of people who donated last year, and we trust they will feel able to do the same from February onwards. We are most grateful to everyone.

**Geoffrey Cocksedge,
Boys Brigade Captain**

Redeeming our Communities

**ROC ON SATURDAYS
STARTING
12TH APRIL
3.00pm – 4-30pm**



This is a new initiative run by the three churches in the village on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. It will be held in the URC Lounge. The project will be launched under the banner of Redeeming our Communities, a Christian based national charity founded in 2004. ROC brings together community groups, churches, the police, the fire service, local authorities and voluntary agencies to encourage them to work together in positive partnerships for practical 'on the ground' change.

There will be an open invitation for people mainly over 55 years of age (this would be flexible) to meet together over a cup of tea/coffee and cake. There will be opportunity for table activities and interest groups.

If you would like to be involved please contact David Walters.

David Walters

Compton House

A day in the life of Mary Moppitt

(Fictitious resident of Compton House)

It's 1.15am and I cannot sleep, I feel as if I have been awake for ages! I ring my bell and along comes a lovely nurse or carer. They will offer to make me comfortable, assist me to the toilet or make me a nice hot drink and snack if I fancy. I live in Compton House Nursing Home. I have not lived here very long and I did not really want to come if I am honest, but I cannot believe how quickly I have settled in. Yes it is true, it is not like living at home, but then I was not managing very well. I resisted the idea for a while and now I wonder why.

All fear and worries have disappeared, or if I do have a concern there is always someone I can tell. I have a chat every morning to the housekeeper when she brings my paper; my breakfast is delivered to my room by a smiling carer, what better way to start the day. When I am ready to get washed and dressed there is always someone to assist me. It is a nice part of the day, as I get to know the carers and they get to know me. The Nurses give wise advice; assist with the medications and treatments I need, with skill and compassion. The Deputy Manager has given me confidence in making decisions about my care and has encouraged me to make choices about all aspects of daily life and activity in Compton House.



My room is cleaned by one of the housekeeping staff, some are chattier than others but are always courteous and polite, and the maintenance man often pops in to see all is well too. I usually go down to the lounge, unless it's the day when the hairdresser comes in, I do like to have my hair done, it makes me feel better. In the lounge I might read, or chat or simply listen to music which is usually playing up until lunchtime. Every Wednesday and Sunday there is a service which I enjoy. I very much enjoy choosing and singing hymns and it is lovely to have people coming in from the community to conduct the service. Lunch is around 12.30. The cook has told me the food comes from local suppliers, meat comes from Cockhaise Farm and fruit and vegetables from Paul's Greengrocer. There is always a choice if I do not fancy the dish of the day. The cook also makes a cake every day for afternoon tea, which is usually hard to resist.

After lunch I sometimes go to my room as I like to listen to talking books, or watch a little bit of television. But most afternoons I like to join in any of the activities that our social activities coordinator puts on.

P.S.

The CQC have just informed Lindfield Christian Care Home that it is fully compliant. The Environmental Health Officer also made an unannounced visit that week, and following a thorough inspection we have retained our 5 stars.

The care home is supported by the three churches in Lindfield. The Lindfield URC Trustee is Stuart Marsh.

Paula Craen

Entertainers visit every week, yesterday we had a visit from a wonderful person, who played the harp. Tomorrow it is a local artist, she runs weekly art classes. I have recently learnt once again how to play dominoes, so I hope to play with my grandchildren when they visit at the weekend.

Two weeks ago the Manager held a meeting for residents and told us about things that are going to happen in Compton House. This includes telling us about a new dining room extension which will be nice and also some of the events that are planned in the coming weeks.

I have seen a lot on the television about care homes and heard about care home inspections and then last week we had one. The inspector was here all day and spent a long time talking to me and other residents. I am sure we are fine as I could not be happier.

Mary Moppitt

Food Bank

Haywards Heath Foodbank opened in 2012 and by December 2013 food has reached 1,900 people. We are often asked whether the number of people we are serving is increasing. Our data shows that from April to December in 2012, 280 vouchers were given out and 700 people were fed, but in the same period in 2013, 400 vouchers were issued feeding almost 1,000 people. It might be interesting for you to know that 5.5% of the vouchers go to people with a Lindfield address.

Reaching people at Christmas

As a Christmas initiative we asked schools to identify families who they knew would struggle over the holiday period. In this way we were able to deliver 15 Christmas hampers to local families and we also gave hampers to 15 people nominated by Linwood Community Mental Health Centre. These hampers were in addition to the 38 vouchers brought in to Foodbank in the normal way which

meant that we gave food to an amazing 227 people in December (88 people per month was the average from January to November last year.)

Collecting tins have been in place by the tills in Pound Shop since May. In that time we have collected £430. Our volunteer Sue, who empties them regularly, said that often there are pounds amongst the





pennies but in her Christmas collection there were a few notes too. The Rag Bag box is situated in the window at the Co-op. It is a Trussell Trust initiative that earns our Foodbank 40p for each kilogram collected, or for a tonne of clothes that's £400. The title Rag Bag is a little misleading as they are happy to collect any used clothes, shoes, sheets, and bags rather than rags.

Community Lunch

Foodbank launched a community lunch in mid October after concern from the volunteers at the distribution centre that what many people who came for food also really needed, was someone to talk to. The aim of the lunch is twofold: to provide a nourishing meal and a safe place to talk. Many new volunteers offered to help and we have a team of over 20, about 9 are on duty each Monday. The Haywards Heath Baptist Church offered its facilities, and the MSDC gave approval to the hygiene standards of the facilities. The lunch got off

to a slow start in regard to the number of customers coming, but this enabled the teams to work out practicalities and get to know each other. One man has been along every week and greatly enjoys the company. Numbers started to pick up in time for the special Christmas dinner and those who attended that day took part in carols around the piano. Since the New Year the numbers have increased and a steady flow of people are coming. One volunteer said: 'To listen to some of the complex stories of difficulties and pain that our neighbours carry could easily be disheartening. But at the lunch it feels that we are offering something, however small, to show our support in their suffering. It is both humbling and rewarding.'

If you would like to read more about Foodbank go to the Haywards Heath Foodbank website :

<http://haywardsheath.foodbank.org.uk>

Pastoral Vacancy

How are we progressing?

A lot has happened in the last couple of months. The Synod Scoping group visited to assess our current position. Following that meeting it was agreed by the Synod Deployment Group and Central Sussex United Area that Lindfield would be scoped at 100%, meaning we would have a full time Minister; a rare occurrence these days.

The Pastorate Profile was completed and subject to some minor changes will be ready for issue to any interested ministers. A Summary Profile has been submitted which is available for ministers to view on the National URC Web site.

The Elders had a meeting with the Synod Moderator, Revd. Nicola Furley-Smith. She gave us some advice and took away information to share with the Moderators at their monthly meeting. It is at this meeting that vacancies and ministers seeking a move are discussed. We are also ensuring that our current position is known in other areas within the denomination.

And Ryecroft.....well unfortunately we still have not secured a tenant for a short term let. A number of people have looked at the property, some

have shown interest but it has gone no further.

Many want a longer term tenancy. We are now with two local agents with national coverage.

Church Members should continue to contact their Elder if they have any questions or concerns. Those within the fellowship, who are not Church Members can contact any of the Elders. House Groups are also avenues for pastoral caring and the Pastoral Group are, as always, available.

If you have a Pastoral matter or any other concern PLEASE SPEAK UP

Of course the whole process needs to be surrounded in prayer by the whole church. We are not just appointing someone to be chairman of our club or society we are about seeking Gods will for the future church in Lindfield.

David Walters



Directed by Terence Steele

Concert

Crucifixion—Stainer

and to include motets by Poulenc, Purcell, Parry

Saturday 29th March, 7.30pm

At Lindfield United Reformed Church



Entrance is free of charge. A retiring collection will be taken in aid of St. Peter & St. James Hospice. Registered charity 1056114.



St Peter & St James

HOSPICE & CONTINUING CARE CENTRE

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)

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

Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)

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 (4th Thursday)
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 blue book on the concourse table.

Regular Activities

Mon	10.00am	Art Group
	6.00pm	Boy's Brigade - Anchor Boys (5-7 years)
	6.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Junior Section (8-11 years)
	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Company Section (11+ years)
Tue	10.00am	Stepping Stones (Parents and toddlers - term time)
	7.45pm	In Touch (4th Tues) for women of all ages
Wed	2.30pm	The Fellowship (4th Wed) for men and women of all ages
Thur	10.00am	Pop-In <small>Coffee and a chat</small>
	8.00pm	Church Meeting (2nd Thur)
Fri	4:30pm	P.U.L.S.E Junior (1st and 3rd week, term time)
	7.30pm	P.U.L.S.E (Years 6-9) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)
Sun	7.30pm	P.U.L.S.E +

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

March Church diary

1st Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, The Tiger	20th Thursday		House Groups
2nd Sunday	9:30am	Communion	22nd Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, The Tiger
	11:15am	Morning worship Graham Campling			
	6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Darryl Sinclair			
6th Thursday		House Groups	23rd Sunday	9:30am	Family Worship
8th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, The Tiger		11:15am	Communion Rev Nicola Furley-Smith Moderator South- ern Synod URC
				6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Mike Gardiner
9th Sunday	9:30am	Family Worship	25th Tuesday	7:45pm	In Touch
	11:15am	Morning worship Dan McQuillin			
	6:30pm	Communion David Walters			
12th Wednesday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	26th Wednesday	2:45pm	Afternoon Fellowship
13th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Meeting		7:45pm	Elders Meeting
14th Friday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	27th Thursday	8:00pm	Engine Room Prayer Meeting Lounge
15th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, The Tiger	29th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, The Tiger
16th Sunday	9:30am	Family Worship	30th Sunday	Clocks Change	
	11:15am	Morning worship Canon James Clarke		9:30am	Mothering Sunday
	6:30pm	Evening Worship Josh Thomas		11:15am	Morning Worship Rev Robert Bushby Richard Walters



PULSE

Pulse - The Launch

Since the start of the new term, Pulse has officially landed! We are now meeting at the slightly later time of 7.30pm to 9pm on a Friday evening and the format has changed quite significantly!

We are using some new material called 'Rock Solid' which is a resource from 'Youth for Christ'. We have enjoyed the fresh approach with many new ideas for games and activities. It has also been good that the message for the evening has been intertwined throughout the session and the games and activities are designed around this, to reflect our teaching point for that evening.

Pulse Junior was also launched and on our first session we had ten young people. This was great for the first evening and there have been lots of enquiries since! We meet between 4.30pm and 6pm every other week and have a mixture of games, craft, a bible story and tea as well. It is for children who are at primary school and are aged 5years to 10years. We have had a good few sessions and the young people who are coming along seem to be really enjoying themselves. We would really appreciate some help with providing tea for the children, and if you would be happy to do a very small amount of cooking for us every so often, I'd love to hear from you. We will of course provide expenses towards this!

Pulse + meet at our house every Sunday evening and we have around ten older teenagers who range in age from 14 years to 21 years old. We always have time for a game, pizza and some really interesting Bible study. We are currently working through a book called 'Bible from Scratch' and the young people seem to be really enjoying this and are learning some of the interesting facts they never knew about!

Josh

Weekend Away

Over the weekend of the 31st January to 2nd February, The Gift FM team was reunited for one weekend. The venue was the newly renovated 'West Watch Centre' in Horsted Keynes. We had a fantastic time and as well as getting to hear highlights from the radio station, we ran various Rock Solid sessions which is a 'Youth for Christ' material. We were able to think about church and what it means to a young person, specifically how they can be involved in an evolving and growing church.



We thought about the gospel and the freedom we have in it and how free will can be used to bring God's glory. We discussed how we use it wisely and how we all have a God shaped hole which needs to be filled. This was nicely demonstrated by doughnuts which is always a good analogy!

The weekend involved a lot of fun and laughter and some rather messy games. Most importantly it proved to be a time young people from various churches could get together, for worship and to think about their faith, as well as reliving some of their experiences on 'The Gift FM'. Here are some quotes from the young people who were a part of the weekend:

"I liked being able to chat and meet each other as part of a team and one big family."

Peter McCleery

"Increase of faith"

Kieron Harfield

"I had a really good weekend!"

Melanie Collins

"I had such an amazing weekend, had so many laughs and the activities were so good! Best weekend!"

Cerys Fruin

"I really enjoyed being part of the leadership and seeing the young people have an amazing weekend"

Tom McQuillin

"You have millions of people supporting you, you just need to look"

Izzy McQuillin

Boys' Brigade

My parents sent my younger brother and myself to Boys' Brigade in Thornton Heath, Croydon, when I was a child. At first, the tedious routine of drills, spit and polish, and a certain amount of rather heavy handed discipline, had only limited appeal. It did not really engage my imagination and I kept up my membership on a rather low key, half hearted basis. A week in camp at the age of 15 changed that perception completely. I realised how joyous the fellowship of The Boys' Brigade could be.

I was challenged to commit my life to Christ by an excellent Baptist Minister, for whose call to faith I shall always be grateful. I realised that to get anything from BB, I had to give to it first, so became wholeheartedly involved, and never looked back (and, incidentally, saw the point of all that drill - it was beneficial!). Among other things, I became a kind of junior preacher and leader in the Company Bible Class, passing on to other Boys the Gospel I had so strongly embraced myself.

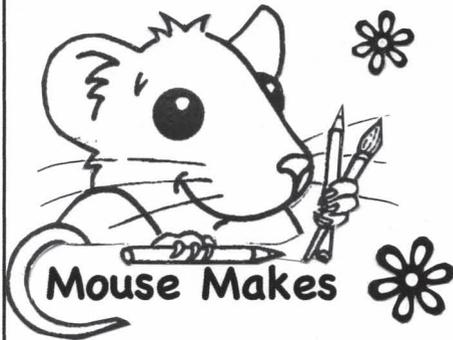
Many decades have passed, and my passion for this work has if anything grown, rather than diminished. I am certain that The Boys' Brigade is the BEST way of communicating the Christian Gospel to Boys.



Not necessarily through overt preaching, although that is by no means unimportant. The BB helps Boys to grasp the true meaning of Christian living by a subtle process of example, comradeship, and the inter-weaving of a Christian thread into all it does. The leadership of the Officers themselves is the best sermon. I have seen plenty of evidence that this process changes Boys lives; even though that may take some time to become apparent.

I see the fresh faces coming in to our Company here in Lindfield, and relish the challenge of building Christian manliness into their lives. The potential is enormous: any one of these lads won over would be a big gain for us. I know we shall have the support and prayers of our membership in carrying out that task. However, before long we shall also need a new generation of committed workers to carry that task forward. Are we as a Church community, fully geared up to ensure that our work with young people has a long term future? We need to be clear that for all intents and purposes this is the future of the Church itself.

Geoffrey Cocksedge



Mouse Makes

The 4th Sunday in Lent is celebrated as

Mothering Sunday.

Originally families would get together for a special service at the 'mother' church, often at the local cathedral.

Today Mothering Sunday is celebrated as a family day, a time to say 'thank you' to our mothers and to all who look after us.

There are many wonderful Mothers in the Bible, look up the Bible verses and find out who they are....

- Matt 1:16 M _ _ _
- Num 26:59 _ O _ _ _ _ _
- Luke 1:57-60 _ _ _ _ _ T _
- 1 Sam 1:20 _ _ _ _ _ H
- Genesis 4:1 _ _ E
- Gen 25:21-26 R _ _ _ _ _
- Gen 21:1-2 S _ _ _ _



Thank you Mum for all you do,

For all your love and care,

For helping me as I grow up,

For all your loving prayers.

For teaching me about Jesus,

Of how he loves me too.

Thank you Mum for loving me,

I LOVE YOU!

A bookmark gift for Mother's Day. Cut out the bookmark above, glue onto card and colour in.

Youth Assembly

Youth Assembly 2014 - All change!

Sitting on the train up to Alrewas, Staffordshire with Johanna Harfield, I found myself in exactly the same position as 12 months earlier. Am I glad to be going to URC Youth Assembly? Are we finally going to see signs of change? Are we going to have a holy encounter with Jesus? The answer was a resounding yes on all counts.

Johanna and I travelled up on Friday 24th January (with a minor detour at Nandos), and was greeted in typical British fashion: rain and a train station that have similar characteristics to that of a shed. We then had to wait an hour until our backup transport arrived, so perhaps it wasn't the best start to Assembly. Despite that, we arrived at the centre with eagerness and anticipation, which didn't leave us until the Sunday afternoon when the event finished.

This year was somewhat busier than previous Youth Assemblies; more Bible studies, more workshops, and more resolutions. The main theme for the weekend was around being lost and found, in more ways than just spiritually. This was to prove a great success overall, the theme ran through all activities, and without a doubt left me feeling closer to Jesus than previously.



Missions Group

However, the highlight of the weekend was during one of the business sessions, which we were deciding what the URC Youth should be doing. It wasn't necessarily an enjoyable highlight, however without a doubt it was the most important period of the weekend. One of the young people whom I know very well came forward and started talking about his mental illness, and how it has affected him in recent years. I won't go into the nature of it. Feel free to seek me out if you want to know more. The outcome of this was to call upon General Assembly to commit to training ministers and pastoral assistants with regards to mental health issues. Should you want the full resolution seek me out.

The outcome of the weekend was a very tired Johanna and I, but spiritually refreshed. I hope Johanna will join me in this by saying Youth Assembly 2014 was the best yet, and we eagerly look forward to next year, though probably with a few more energy drinks to hand!. If there's anything you would like to know about Youth Assembly or the role Johanna and I have during it and at synod level, please, please, please don't hesitate to talk to us. This is something we are really passionate about, and would love to tell you more about what is going to be happening in the URC's across Southern synod.

God bless,

**Alex Jeffs (Southern Synod Youth
Executive Chair)**

Hello from the Missions Group!
As many of you know, Ron and Janet Goodenough stepped down from the Missions Group recently. We would just like to take this opportunity to extend a huge THANK YOU to them for their many years of service spreading the word on local and worldwide mission. They are going to be greatly missed.

Jean Gardiner and Val Cookney remain on the Missions Group and are now joined by Vera Amos, Alex Hall and Helen Hall. We are looking forward to continuing the work of bringing exciting mission news to the LURC family. The mission we are promoting in March and April of this year is Open Doors so please look out for the forthcoming display on the concourse.

Any suggestions for mission news and activities would be very welcome. If you have a heart for a particular mission and would like to take a more active role in promoting it at LURC, do please get in touch with one of the Mission Group team to discuss it with us – we would love to hear from you!

We thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement.

In His Service,

Jean, Val, Vera, Alex and Helen

Quiz Team

“Onward Quiz Team Soldiers!”

At 8 p.m. on another dark, wet Thursday evening in January, 16 men associated with the URC competed in two teams at the regular quiz evening held at the Wheatsheaf pub in Cuckfield. This was an Outreach Group initiative, organised about twice yearly, bringing men from the church and church fringes together in a social atmosphere to have fun, share experiences and, in an unpressured way, the Gospel. “Onward Quiz Team Soldiers” was the witty name of the younger team!

The older team showed less imagination and took the name “Scratchings” from the packet of the same name being consumed. Both teams won prize money during the evening,

some of which was ploughed back in to fund further rounds of the competition and some of which found its way into the offertory bowl on the following Sunday. The older team basked in the glory of winning the first round of general knowledge with 14/15 answers correct, but they were brought back to earth with a bump when they came last overall in the next round, music!

The younger group were a whisker away from winning a couple of thousand pounds in a special roll-over round but, for some reason, were unable to correctly answer how many different colours of Crayola crayons were included in the 2014 range (121 apparently)! It was an excellent evening of fellowship and if you fancy taking part in the next occasion do please contact Dan, Jeremy or Josh from the Outreach Group for further information.

Martin Hall



Our Father

The Alive 2014, Living Faith programme continues as our Sunday morning teaching will be working through the Lord's Prayer during March.

Jesus said "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9) and throughout His prayer Jesus grants us not just a template of how to pray but also a series of wonderful revelations about the heart and nature of God.

The prayer starts with the most personal revelation of all, that God longs to restore us into relationship with Himself, our Father.

"Our Father" reveals the intimacy which Jesus shared with God and invites us all into that same relationship with him.

Where we might rightly expect Old Testament phrases such as Sovereign Lord, Almighty God or King of the Universe; Jesus begins with "Abba". Daddy, a children's word, a simple word with the most profound implications.

Mostly I am known as Dan, to some Americans Danny, formally as Mr McQuillin and, when in trouble with my wife or my mother as Daniel. But there are 3 people on earth who call me Dad. Maybe one day they will consider it more adult to call me Dan, but I hope not. That is a name anyone can use, Dad is just for them. It marks them as special and grants them absolute access to me.

The fact that Jesus tells us we can call God Dad should shock and stun us as powerfully today as when the disciples first heard Jesus teaching. Jesus did not come to start a religion but to restore a relationship, a living faith with a loving God.

We will study the prayer in six sections; each exalting God with proper awe and powerful calls to worship, but also stunning intimacy, abundant love and generous grace.

I hope that it will not just shape our prayer life but transform our whole lives into those that our heavenly Father longs for us to live.

Dan McQuillin

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your Kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours.
Now and for ever.*

Amen.

Mothering Sunday

Very soon, Mothering Sunday will be here again. It is always good to be able to spend time to think and appreciate how our Mothers have shaped our lives. To me, I feel that I have been so lucky to have a Mother, who was simply so precious to my sister and myself. As we read Marion's story of having a family we all can remember how Mothers simply put all other things to one side, in order to help and cherish their children. I remember so well how I felt when similar things happened, when my girls were that age! I smiled when I recalled many other incidents which were so very frustrating.

As a Mother one tries to do your best for your children, it is all trial and error. We try to show them how Jesus loves them and how God wants them to live. Children are such blessing and I hope that all the Mothers are especially cherished on Mothering Sunday.

Thoughts on Motherhood

In Rob Parsons "The Sixty Minute Mother" a woman is asked at a dinner party, full of important guests if she worked. A stay at home mother to 3 children, one a teenager, a three year old and a newborn. Her body not returned to pre-pregnancy shape, she sits opposite a young, attractive female executive. Did she work? Her response is one I return now and again...

"Yes" she replies, "I'm in a programme of social development. At present I'm working with three age groups. First with babies and toddlers. That involves a basic grasp of medicine and child psychology. Next, I'm working with teenagers. I confess the programme is not going too well in that area. Finally, at evenings and weekends I work with a man aged thirty-nine who's exhibiting all the classic symptoms of mid-life crisis. That's mainly psychiatric work.

The whole job involves planning, a "make-it-happen" attitude and the ability to crisis manage. I used to be an international fashion model – but I got bored."

I love this quote. As a mother, we think of others before ourselves. Those "others" tend to be small, occasionally antisocial and altogether oblivious of anyone else's needs but their own and on their time schedule. Tiny, demanding little tyrants who try to rule the roost. Boy is it a challenge to change that point of view!

When pregnant, I never considered what life was going to be like, day in and day out with the responsibility so completely for someone else. I do think it is a bit of a conspiracy that no one really tells you about the relentlessness of it. The worry, the hopes and dreams, the need for bottomless pits of patience... But then I'm not sure we weren't and we simply didn't hear them. It goes without saying that we wouldn't change a thing.

They bring endless variety and challenge to our lives and have taught us to love more deeply, be more selfless and try to be better people – surely all things that God desires of us too? If it were only a little easier from time to time!

I remember once watching Grace sleep one night while carrying Fraser and I was overcome with fear that I wouldn't love the child I was carrying as much as I loved Grace. It overwhelms you the feelings you have for these little people. And though there are times when I feel I could cheerfully throttle the pair of them (like the time they drew on Fraser's wall within hours of us finishing decorating it, or the time when I walked in to find they had emptied the shredder over the floor I had tidied and hovered. Or the time... well,... you get the picture!) I'd walk over coals for them if they needed me, lift cars, move mountains, do whatever it took if they needed me. I'm a social secretary, tutor, disciplinarian, medic, bad dream warrior, moral compass, cheerleader, bankroller, tickle-monster, chef, PA, cleaner, warmer up, comfort provider,... and more. I'm a mother. It's exhausting. It's important. It's who I am now and one day, they won't need me like this.

One day, they will have their own lives and I will need to stand on the side and cheer on, and pray that they live life well. Until then, I will wipe noses, and hold hands and scold if they stand too close to the road. I will keep praying that I will raise them well, with Charlie beside me to help every step of the way.

I recommend that book, by the way
Marion Tingley

Bible Verse

'Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.'

1 Timothy 4 verse 12

This verse has always meant a lot to me, especially when I became a member of the Church. It has always reminded me that no matter my age, I am important in God's plan, no matter how small or how big, it is important.

It also reminds me that we are the next generation for the Church, we are as important as those older than us.

Joanna Harfield

Clock Change

Don't forget the clocks will go forward one hour when British Summer Time starts on **Sunday March 30th 2014**



Day of Prayer

Women's World Day of Prayer

All are welcome to the Women's World Day of Prayer, which will be held this year at Lindfield United Reformed Church :

1.30pm on Friday 7th March

The theme is 'Streams in the Desert' and the Christian women of Egypt have prepared the interdenominational service.

There will be a play area for children and refreshments will be served after the service.

Streams in the Desert

Women's World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organization, which enables us to hear the voices of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is extensive. An international committee works from New York and each participating country has its own national committee. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans. Finally, at a church near you on March 7th, women and men will gather to celebrate using a programme of worship offered this year by women in Egypt.

The theme of our service is 'Streams in the Desert' and we are asked to reflect on our Christian role of being a 'stream in the desert' for those who experience spiritual 'drought'. We believe that the service from Egypt has universal appeal.

One of the oldest civilisations in the world, Egypt has long been home to Coptic Christians. Since the uprising in 2011 there has been conflict between religious groupings. Political change affects individual lives and we pray with the women of Egypt for peace.

We envisage a great wave of prayer, rising with the sun over the island of Samoa and sweeping across Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas, coming to rest in American Samoa some 36 hours later. By then WWDP services will have been celebrated in over 170 countries.

All are welcome to attend, men and women and people of all ages. For further information and resources, together with details of services in your area, see the WWDP website:

www.wwdp.org.uk

Phonebook

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Cradle Roll

Mel Campling 01444 484140

Flowers

Betty Billins 01444 484494

Hall Booking Secretary

Carol Walters 01444 457938

In Touch

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Lunch Fellowship

Wednesday:
Sue Waller 01444 455047

Friday:
Anne Parker 01444 473519

Pastoral Group

Fiona Tingley 01444 483419

The Fellowship

Chris Comber 01444 482641

Stepping Stones

Jo Bloxham 01444 483672

Transport

Janet Drayton 01444 483621

P.U.L.S.E. Co-ordinator

Josh Thomas 07598 779553

Lighthouse (Junior Church)

Co-ordinator

Dawn Walters 01444 441601

Flower Rota

Arranging

Distributing

March

2nd	Barbara Shepherd	Fo Tingley
9th	Serena Nathan	Sue Tester
16th	Winifred Scopes	Barbara Shepherd
23rd	Audrey Saunders	Jo Bloxham
30th	Betty Billins	Iris Bingham

April

6th	Anne Parker	Heather Swann
13th	Heather Swann	Janet Sanderson
20th	Easter Flowers	Fo Tingley
27th	Janet Wade	Nick Bingham

Around Lindfield

Thursday 6th March

7.30pm Village Film Night in KEH - "Gravity".

Tuesday 11th March

2.30pm Lindfield Preservation Society in KEH
Sussex Village Life in the Middle Ages.

Wednesday 12th March

12.15pm Tiger Arts : Lunch in the Tiger

1.00pm Concert : Soprano and Piano

8.00pm Horticultural Society in KEH - Clematis Through the Seasons

Saturday 15th March

2.30pm Haywards Heath Music Society - Young Musicians' Showcase
St Wilfrid's Church Tickets: £3 (adult), £1.50 (children)
Further information Christine Colbourne: HH 456227

7.30pm Special Tiger Arts in All Saints Church - Golden Piano Trio
Admission by ticket

Thursday 3rd April

7.30pm Village Film Night in KEH - "Saving Mr. Banks"

