#### FREE MONTHLY

# GoodNEWS MAGAZINE

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

March 2016

# Jesus said "I am with you always"

**Matthew 28:20** 

**#lovelindfield** 

### Bible verse of the month

Jesus said
 ''I am with you
 always
 '')

Matthew 28:20 NIV







Our verse this month was chosen by Graham Campling, see page 10 for more information

If you have a verse or article you would like to share in GoodNEWS email: goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk



## Editorial

We are delighted to welcome Ruth Goodall to our Good News Team, We hope she will enjoy helping us. March is a very special month in our Christian year. Easter falls early this year and it is such an important celebration with so much meaning.

Our House Groups have been following studies throughout Lent, which can help us to enrich our faith. Danny our Youth Pastor relates all he is doing to help our young people to find answers to the many questions they have. Do read about all that is being done to keep our children interested in learning more about Jesus.

Graham Campling has given one of his favourite texts for this month which has great meaning and refreshing thoughts and guidance, for us all. Read how walking can help us in so many ways. The update on Romans 1:11 Trust, tells of the work continuing in Uganda, which is very encouraging.

There is an open invitation to everyone to join in our Mothering Sunday Service. We hope that the Stepping Stones families may want to come and join us. We all have so much to celebrate and look forward to. Can you guess who is the mystery person? Where is the place that is photographed in Lindfield?

God Bless and enjoy the peace that Jesus brings us.

Anne

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Please include your contact details in case of query

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# **Dear friends**

want to tell you a little today of something I saw, or rather didn't. I had been on a long walk with the dog and was on my way home, my legs were getting a little tired as I was not used to walking such a distance in the welly boots that are a necessity at this time of year in the mud. I normally prefer hiking boots or trainers but mid-February and my chosen route would not allow this. Bracken, my Labrador, was not hindered by such clumpy footwear and was just as ready to frolic in the field as when we had set off and demonstrated this capability as he ran around being chased, then chasing, and being chased again by a similarly sized four legged friend we had met; Oh to "run and not be weary," I thought to myself.

This reflection however soon stopped for as I looked ahead on the path I could see a man with a white stick negotiating the gate so I felt the safest thing was to clip my dog back on the lead so that he would not be a distraction or annoy the guide dog. As the man approached I saw there was no guide dog, or indeed any dog, how brave I thought to be venturing into the countryside with only a stick, but then I looked again and realised it wasn't a "white stick" but a stick that was white. the man was not blind had a trekking pole. It was then that Bracken gave a hard tug on the lead and on the slippy mud I had to wave my arms wildly to regain balance, nearly falling over; it would seem I was the one in need of a stick

Sometimes we think we know what we have seen, or what we should see. We build a picture in our mind based on past experiences, stories we have heard and those we have met; in Northampton we (Bracken and I) used to regularly meet a guide dog out for his daily exercise out of his harness, and this was probably setting in my mind something about this man, which was entirely inaccurate.

The people of the first century Holy Land had an idea of what the Messiah would be: They had heard the scriptures read, they experienced the occupation of their land by the Romans, they dreamt of a great king with a mighty sword, and then they met Jesus. Was he what they were expecting? Probably not! He didn't look or act, like any king in the history of earth, yet that should not be a surprise, for what he did was bring a victory like none in history. He did not beat a simple human enemy army, but through the cross triumphed over sin, and on that first Easter Morning rose victorious from the grave. As followers of The Way we should not be looking for something too familiar but seek the change that comes through Christ our Lord.

May He that gave His life in love for you, bless you in every way this Easter.

Your minister

Keith

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# **Family News**

# 120 Years of Marriage to celebrate!!

We send our warm congratulations to Chris and Mary Comber and to Mike and Moira Wells, both couples celebrating their Diamond Weddings on the same day, 31st March. We rejoice with them and their families at this happy time! May you continue to know God's blessing on your lives.

#### **Fo Tingley**

### Lunch Fellowship

The Lunch Fellowship is up and running for 2016 and some 50 people meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 12.30pm. The cost of the lunch is  $\pounds4.00$ .

As always you are most welcome to come but please do phone Sue Waller on 01444 455047 by the Sunday before to confirm your place..

If for any reason you have booked and are unable to make it – again please let Sue know preferably before 8.30am on the day or on the Church telephone number 484620 during that morning.

Many thanks and look forward to seeing you. The next lunch is the 2nd March.

### Thank You

**S** ue and Brian are overwhelmed by the loving and caring support from the Church Fellowship and their House Group following Sue's emergency operation at the RSCH Brighton.

We are blessed to have received such wonderful support and good wishes by telephone, emails, cards, flowers, gifts, visits and offers of practical help.

Your prayers and kindness are much appreciated. It is at such times that we are privileged to know the love of God's people.

#### Sue and Brian Tester

### The Fellowship

Our next meeting of 'The Fellowship' will be held on Wednesday, 23rd March at 2.30 pm.

Danny Goodall will be telling us about his work at Lindfield United Reformed Church, as our Youth Pastor.

There will be the usual Bring & Buy Stall and, at the end of the meeting, there is time for a chat and a cup of tea. A warm welcome awaits all who come.

#### Sue Waller

#### **Pat Phillips**

# **Family News**

#### In Touch

Our next meeting will be on the 22nd March when we will be welcoming a guest speaker Ros Black who will be telling us about her book about Lady Henry Somerset and the Temperance Movement. This should be a fascinating insight into this subject and we welcome everyone to join us for the evening.

Looking further ahead we ask you to try and keep Saturday May 14th free as this is our Quiet Day at Burrswood. More details will follow nearer the day but there will be an opportunity to attend a Healing Service as well as spending time in reflection and prayer at your leisure throughout the day.

Lunch can be purchased at the Centre or you can take a packed lunch if you prefer. These days are usually very popular as it enables us to set aside our activities at home and just spend some time with God in peaceful surroundings. Everybody is very welcome to join us for the day.

Meanwhile we hope to see you in March when we will start the evening with a cup of tea or coffee at 7.45 before Ros speaks to us at 8.00pm.

#### Janet Wade

An Invitation to Mothering Sunday

An interactive all age service

Sunday March 6th, 9.30am

At Lindfield United Reformed Church, High Street, Lindfield

Sharing God's love in word and action

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### Mission News Romans 1:11 Trust

or March and April the mission focus will be the Romans 1:11 Trust.

I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you, that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith P
Romans 1:11-12

The Romans 1:11 Trust started in 1992 and it is the above biblical passage that has inspired its work throughout. Its main aim is to provide mutual encouragement for churches in the UK and in African countries. In its early days the Trust had links with Ghana, Malawi and Uganda. The work in Malawi later developed into Zambia. Today most of the work is in Uganda and Zambia.

Almost twelve years ago LURC was introduced to Samuel Muhumuza. Samuel is pastor of the Kibaale-Ssanje congregation, where he also directs the first Spiritual Life Centre to be set up. He has a nursery and primary school in Ssanje and the Romans 1:11 Trust operates a significant child sponsorship scheme for children in his church and school. Several of the sponsored children have gone on to further education with some already having graduated from university.

The Trust produces a news and prayer letter, "Mutually Encouraged," once a year.



Chris Vivian and Samuel (July 2015)

A Friends' Update is available from the Trust on a monthly basis, preferably by email, for those who wish to keep in touch on a more frequent basis.

The Trust's Chairman, Rev Jon Sermon, and Administrator, Rev Chris Vivian, visited Uganda in July 2015 and it was good to have first hand news of the Trust's projects in Uganda on their return. We will be including news and photos from their visit in the March/April Missions display at LURC.

Please see the Mission display for more details or contact Helen Hall at LURC.

As always, if you would like to give please use the special envelopes and place your donation in the offertory at any Sunday Service. Thank you for your wonderful support of mission as always.

#### **Missions Group**

## **Easter Reflection**

Every year, at Easter, I am reminded of Tony Campolo's talk 'It's Friday, but Sunday's coming!'

I find it helps me to focus on the death and resurrection of Christ as a whole event. An event to be celebrated, overjoyed about, thankful for!

We often celebrate more at Christmas than we do at Easter, but Easter gives Christmas its purpose!

I found this Easter meditation by S.M. Lockridge, which is similar to Tony Campolo's talk.

It's Friday Jesus is praying Peter's a sleeping Judas is betraying But Sunday's comin'

It's Friday Pilate's struggling The council is conspiring The crowd is vilifying They don't even know That Sunday's comin' It's Friday The disciples are running Like sheep without a shepherd Mary's crying Peter is denying But they don't know That Sunday's a comin'

It's Friday The Romans beat my Jesus They robe him in scarlet They crown him with thorns But they don't know That Sunday's comin'

It's Friday See Jesus walking to Calvary His blood dripping His body stumbling And His spirit's burdened But you see, it's only Friday Sunday's comin'



It's Friday The world's winning People are sinning And evil's grinning

It's Friday The soldiers nail my Saviour's hands To the cross They nail my Saviour's feet To the cross And then they raise him up Next to criminals

It's Friday But let me tell you something Sunday's comin'

It's Friday The disciples are questioning What has happened to their King? And the Pharisees are celebrating That their scheming Has been achieved But they don't know It's only Friday Sunday's comin'

It's Friday He's hanging on the cross Feeling forsaken by His Father Left alone and dying Can nobody save Him? It's Friday But Sunday's comin'

It's Friday The earth trembles The sky grows dark My King yields His spirit It's Friday Hope is lost Death has won Sin has conquered and Satan's just a laughin'

It's Friday Jesus is buried A soldier stands guard And a rock is rolled into place

But it's Friday It is only Friday Sunday is a comin'!

But what's so special about Sunday?

Christ rises! Sunday reveals that He has vanquished sin, that there is life beyond the grave, that we may have hope...

The redeemer of sins on the Friday changes the world, when all appears lost, when it looks like the darkest of days; the Son rises on the third day, bringing new light. Without Sunday, we are left with those who are weary and sad on the road to Emmaus - they knew the horror of the Friday, they had had their Sabbath, and now their Sunday was a day of gloom.

We, however, have a Sunday which is very different. A Son-day full of hope and new life!

Danny

## **Bible Verse**

# Jesus said "I am with you always" Matthew 28:20

hat a month March is! Springtime with beautiful flowers, warm weather on the horizon (hopefully), Mothering Sunday (6th), St Patrick's Day (17th), losing an hours sleep when summer time begins (27th), Palm Sunday (20th) and, of course, most important of all, Good Friday (25th) and Easter Day (27th). When I was asked to choose a biblical verse for March, so many verses flooded my mind. However, in spite of the sad events of Good Friday, there is a wonderful, happy ending and therefore, as I'm only allowed one verse, I wanted my verse to be a happy one which demonstrated the love and forgiveness of Jesus.

In the end I chose the verse above. Something to really treasure and give us a spring in our step to know, however young or old we are, however weak or strong mentally and physically, however happy or sad. Whatever our circumstances, none of us at Lindfield URC will suffer the mental anguish or physical pain that Jesus endured on Good Friday for each and every one of us; nothing we have to bear, bereavement, illness, tragedies, problems with work or families, can be anything like that.

It is especially at these times that we need to remember this verse. He is always there as friend, comforter, guide, supporter, encourager..... We can rely on Him at all times, including, of course, the happy times too. You may remember the Footprints poem when a man dreamed he was walking along a beach with the Lord, and there were two sets of footprints in the sand, one belonging to him and the other to the Lord. But the man noticed times when there was only one set of footprints, which occurred when he was at his lowest and saddest, and so he asked the Lord why He had deserted him. The Lord replied "My precious child, I love you and would never leave you...I was carrying you".

We know from this verse that we have a real friend, someone who we can talk to in prayer, someone who will understand the situation we are in, be it happy or sad, someone who will forgive us and still be there when we make mistakes! Gosh, what a true friend we have!!

Happy Easter!

#### **Graham Campling**

### **Beatitudes: For Teachers**

Then Jesus took His disciples up the mountain, and gathering them around Him, He taught them saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Then Simon Peter said, "Do we have to write this down?" And Andrew said, "You don't expect us to learn this, do you Lord?" And James said, "Will this be in the exam?" And Philip said, "I haven't got any paper" And Matthew said, "My pencil's broken" And Bartholomew said, "Do we have to hand it in?" And John said, "The other disciples didn't have to learn this" And Judas said, "I'm bored. What's this got to do with real life?"

Then one of the Pharisees who was present asked to see Jesus' lesson plan, and demanded, "Where are the learning outcomes? Why haven't you written down your aims and objectives?"

And Jesus wept.



# **Wonders of Walking**

Walking has been such a wonderful activity for me that perhaps a few words may just encourage and inspire others. The opportunity to take time out can refresh and renew at any time and can create a pathway to contentment and peace.

I had never done any real serious walking until I retired more than 15 years ago when I joined the Sussex Downsmen, a conservation group with an active walking programme. The first walk I did was the South Downs Way one Easter and as soon as I started I was hooked. I suppose it became a passion that has enabled me to see many beautiful places, both here and abroad, make new friends, learn new skills and also keep fit. Now don't get me wrong, I know only too well that many of vou who would like to do more walking are unable to do so for many reasons, but the benefits of getting out into the fresh air and enjoying the scenery are very close to home. Listen to the birds singing, watch and listen to a stream, that was once a tiny brook, now has become a small river with waterfalls, wonder at the colours of the countryside

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as the trees come out into leaf again and in the woodland the spring flowers emerge through the undergrowth. The climb up the hill may be difficult but the view from the top is worth it, or maybe if that is impossible, find a car park on the top of the Downs and feel the wind on your face as you walk along the top.

I have found the result is both relaxing and stimulating at the same time as well as a great way of keeping fit. We live in a beautiful county with so much variation and even though Sussex can be very soggy in places at this time of year there are plenty of drier places. The down side – well we all fall over occasionally and get plastered, get lost in the woods or nearly blown off the tops but my friends – it's worth it!!

Brenda Johnson



# Concert

Anthems and Motets by Elgar, Howells and Schutz plus excerpts from "The Crucifixion" by John Stainer

Saturday 12th March 7.30pm Lindfield United Reformed Church

Entrance free of charge, retiring collection in aid of St. Peter & St. James Hospice

www.ashdownsingers.org.uk

### **Down Under** Falling attendance turned upside down

A bout this time each year I receive a missive from a retired ministerial colleague, whose hobby it is to analyse the statistics in the URC Yearbook and draw attention to the ever downward membership of our church and indeed of all the mainline denominations.

Now, as I have said in "Good News" before, I am a "glass half full" Christian. Over the centuries of the Christian era churches have waxed and waned and, in due time, the Lord has always sent revival, so I have faith things will change – but it set me thinking about our recent experience down under. When we visit our son and his family in Adelaide, we normally attend the Uniting Church a few yards from his home. This is, of course, a sister church of the URC and the ethos of Eden Hills Uniting Church is very like that at home in Lindfield – an evangelically based, Spirit led family church with a mix of ages, which enjoys both traditional hymns and gospel songs.

In January we went with the family to Port Elliot on the coast. Our 18-year old granddaughter, Isobel was baptised last year and she came along with us to the local Uniting Church, where I guess she was almost the youngest present – by some 40 years!



The church was pretty full – holidaymakers and local, retired folk. Worship was typical of the traditional "hymn sandwich" of many URCs I preach in here.

On our second Sunday back in Eden Hills we were warmly welcomed by the members there we have come to know over the years and were uplifted by the service, as we would have been at home.

On our last Sunday there, however, we asked Isobel to take us to her church, the Edge Church. It was some way away in a pleasant suburb and we arrived for the 11am service. There had already been a 9am and the place was absolutely humming.

The whole ground floor appeared to be café/ restaurant and communal space. We fought our way through upstairs to the enormous, hanger-like worship sanctuary, which gradually filled with people. There must have been getting on for a thousand present – all ages, shapes and sizes!

We started by singing for some 20 minutes led by a large group and five solo singers – virtually one continuous, rather emotive song repeating "God is great". We then had a reading and the word preached for 45 minutes (as it happened by a UK visiting minister from Bradford) on the theme of the faith of the centurion in Luke 7.

Then finally there was more singing interspersed with programme announcements from the pastor, but I was surprised how little prayer time was included.

Though it was not, frankly, the diet of worship I would feel spiritually fulfilling each week, there is no doubt it was an uplifting experience and took me back to some of the campaign extravaganzas of Billy Graham and Tom Rees.

But it set me thinking – what was it that attracted so many very different worshippers to flock together in a country which seems much more secular than the UK, whilst the URC and, I gather, the Uniting Church suffer diminishing numbers and influence?

Perhaps society as a whole demands a more graphic, emotionally challenging way of worship than the mainline churches offer. How do we combine this with true biblical nourishment?

What do you think?

#### **Michael Davies**







The photographs shown were taken at the Art Group's Open Day Coffee Morning. 'The Art Group', meet on Monday mornings, and the members were displaying their work. The smiles are the obvious contentment of those people who have produced the Art Work. Doreen Fowler organises this group which is enjoyed by so many.

### 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 (4th 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
Thur	8.00pm	Church Prayer Evening 'Engine Room' (4th Thursday)
Sat	8.45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting. Venue rotates between the three churches

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	Boys' Brigade - Anchor Boys (5-7 years)
	6.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Junior Section
	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
Wed Thur	2.30pm 10.00am	
		(4th Wed) for men and women of all ages Pop-In
	10.00am	(4th Wed) for men and women of all ages Pop–In Coffee and a chat Church Meeting (2nd Thur) P.U.L.S.E Junior
Thur	10.00am 8.00pm	(4th Wed) for men and women of all ages Pop–In Coffee and a chat Church Meeting (2nd Thur)

The church is open on Tuesday (Concourse) and Thursday (Pop-In) 10.00am –Noon.

# **March Church diary**

2nd Wednesday 3rd Thursday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship Lent Groups	<b>20th</b> Sunday	9:30am 11:15am 6:30pm	Morning Worship Keith Morrison
5th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints	21st Monday	6:30pm	<i>Holy Week</i> Boys' Brigade Awards Evening
Sunday 9:30am F 11:15am N F 6:30pm F	<i>Mothering Sunday</i> Family Service Morning Worship	22nd Tuesday	7:45pm	In Touch	
	6:30pm	Rev Keith Morrison Evening Worship Rev Keith Morrison	23rd Wednesday	•	The Fellowship Elders' Meeting
10th Thursday		Lent Groups	<b>24th</b> Maundy	7:30pm	Joint Service Evangelical Free
12th Saturday		3 Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints	Thursday		Church
	7:30pm	Ashdown Singers Concert	<b>25th</b> Good	10:30am	Good Friday Service
<b>13th</b> Sunday	9:30am 11:15am	Family Worship Morning Worship	Friday		Keith Morrison
, ,	6:30pm	Rev Keith Morrison Communion Rev Keith Morrison	26th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints
17th Thursday	<u> </u>	Lent Groups	<b>27th</b> Easter Sunday	6:30am	Clocks Change Son-Rise Service Lindfield Common
19th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints		10:30am 6:30pm	Keith Morrison



# YOUTH

Hello

This month I want to focus on PULSE Plus, who meet every Sunday evening from 7.30 to 9pm.

Since I have arrived, PULSE Plus have looked at many different topics including:

- Personal Faith,
- How to be a Christian at school or college,
- What is evangelism and how can we tell others about Christ?

We have played games, eaten food, laughed, and enjoyed each others company!

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Most recently we have been learning about worship.

A few weeks ago, David Goodchild came and led a session all about worship. He asked the group questions such as:

- What is worship?
- Who is it for?
- When should we worship?
- How should we worship?
- Where do we prefer to worship?

I won't mention here how the conversation continued, but I challenge you to ask yourself those questions. Do we approach worship in different ways at different times with different attitudes?

David continued his session by getting us to write our own Psalms. He guided us with each section, then we passed it to the next person to continue the Psalm. Here is one of the ones that were written. Lord of All from the past, present and to come Because you are awesome and amazing The world reflects your Glory, You care for all you have made. You look after me everyday I thank you Jesus because you saved me. Therefore I promise to spread your kindness And your message.

I have enjoyed learning more about worship alongside PULSE Plus. It always amazes me how much I learn even though I am usually the one teaching.

PULSE Plus will soon be starting a study book similar to the one that the house groups have been using before Lent began. I am looking forward to studying alongside them and excited to see where God will be taking us next!

Danny



# **Boys' Brigade**

The BB Battalion organised a trip to Laserquest in Burgess Hill for Junior Section Boys, and there was a big response, with a record number of boys attending, including four from our Company.

The Junior Section has been the growth area of the Company this session, with several new members, and a good spirit among them. Two of our new lads are from Brazil. They are in this country for a year while their mum is working at the Seed Bank. It was a challenge when they first came along as they could not speak any English but they have picked up the language guickly and the boys have helped them integrate fully into the Company. All the Junior Section lads enjoyed the pancake evening. They all make pancakes, some they ate and then others were used in the team pancake races. These pancakes didn't look quite so appetising after they had been on the floor several times during the races.

We are keen to continue, and build on our links with the life of the Church as a whole. Some boys participated in The Gift fm, and now we are looking forward to reviving Church Parades during 2016. As a starter we are inviting the boys, with their mums along to the Mothering Day service on Sunday 6th March. Church Parades have been dormant for some time, mainly because of other Sunday activities. It may take a while for them to really come back to life, but we are sure that members of the congregation will welcome boys who do attend.



Our Awards Evening is planned for Monday 21st March, 6.30pm, to which all are welcome. Terry Ward will preside as Chief Guest.

At this evening we will be saying farewell to Geoffrey who will be standing down as the Captain after serving us in this way for 15 years. Geoffrey has given his all in this post and has never failed to ensure that, in all we do, the main aim of Advancing Christ's Kingdom among boys is to the fore. His commitment did not stop on a Monday night after the meetings and he made sure he got to know every boy's family well.

He will be greatly missed although he will maintain contact carrying out some admin work in the background. We are currently looking at ways to fill the role of Captain in the long term.

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#### **David Walters**



Mar16 C deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

### Who am I?

Where were you born?

Germany

What was your favourite subject at school?

My favourite subject was Latin. I did terribly at first (got an E, but then pulled my socks up, grew to love it and ended up with straight As).

What was your first Church?

My first church was the St Andreas Evangelical Church in Hollage, Lower Saxony. We lived just round the corner from it, so I could have lie-ins and still get to church on time (something I somehow do not manage anymore, I wonder why.....).

**BELOW: Flag of Lower Saxony** 



What is your job?

I work in domestic and family management as an unpaid volunteer (aka housewife & mum), but love it. What is your favourite hymn/worship song?

That's get to be "Gehet wicht auf in den Sorgen dieser Welt, suchet zuerst Gottes Herrschaft" ("Don't despair at the worries of the world, first seek God's reign "). I went to a Catholic convent school where we sang it often and I grew to love it. It has a beautiful melody and powerful message - very relevant to me today. I would love to hear and sing it in English once, but have never found ił.



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Are you a half-full or half-empty sort of person?

I can be a bit of both, but am always striving to "feel" half-full when things look tricky.

What's your favourite food?

Halloumi burger with quacamole, houmous, sweet chilli sauce & lettuce in a sesame bun.

If you could go anywhere on holiday where would it be?

I am happiest at home. I love England.

What makes you laugh?

A good comedy film. I love Ben Stiller.

#### What's your favourite sport?

Swimming, I used to be scared stiff of the water as I fell off on airbed into the deep end when I was a child. The smell of chlorine still sends a chill down my spine, but I love swimming now.

What would be your best round of questions in a pub quiz?!

Geography - has always been my strong point.

All will be revealed in next month's Good News magazine. Till then we encourage all our readers to find out more about one another's past lives, present joys (or challenges) and future ambitions.



t is the thought of the Elders and Minister to run a Residential away Weekend in 2017.

It is likely to cost in the region of  $\pm 170$  per person, with children under four free and over four approximately half the cost of the adult.

Before we can go ahead with this, we would like to ascertain the mood of the members and regular worshippers in regard to this idea. It is asked therefore that you prayerfully consider this and reply to the notice sheet invitation that will be out in March.

Spending time together over a weekend has great potential and it is an opportunity to get know people in a deeper way and encourage spiritual growth within the Fellowship.

#### **Sue Waller**

### Peace

# peace.

it does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble or hard work. it means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in your heart.

(unknown)

The above quotation, written exactly as above, was on the front of a card we received recently and it was very timely, arriving during a period of stress and helping us remain calm.

Unfortunately the author was 'unknown', but the message prompted me to look at what other quotes on peace are out there that I was unaware of – I uncovered a surprising number, from both secular and religious backgrounds, and share a couple with you here. Firstly some advice on finding and holding onto inner peace:

• Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset.

St Francis de Sales 1567-1622 Bishop of Geneva

Once you have found inner peace you have the opportunity to share it with others:

• First keep the peace within yourself, then you can also bring peace to others.

Thomas à Kempis 1380-1471 German monk, author of "The imitation of Christ" Of course the Bible is a wonderful source of inspiration to those seeking peace, for example, providing peace to the author of the Psalms:

Answer me when I call to you, O my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress: be merciful to me and hear my prayer.....I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 4:1&8 NIV

Jesus himself invited us to receive His peace:

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.
John 12: 27 NIV

I pray that we might all find, hold onto and share the peace that comes from accepting Jesus as our personal Saviour.

#### **Martin Hall**

<sup>6</sup> The God of peace be with you all. Amen.<sup>9</sup> Romans 15: 33 NIV

# **Ruth Writes**

This past year has been somewhat of a whirlwind, with many changes in my life happening in one big clump.

At the end of March 2015, I gave up my lovely job at an old fashioned sweet shop in my home town of Worthing, and spent the next couple of weeks packing my belongings and organising the last details of the wedding. In-between dress fittings and cake decorating, it was great to spend time with my family before starting the next chapter of my life. Those weeks passed very quickly and soon enough I was in my dress and heels walking down to Goring URC in the sunshine.

I left the security of living with my parents, and moved in with my new husband Danny, to a town where I knew hardly anyone, with no job to go to. It was a slightly bewildering and uncertain time, and took me a while to adjust, but was also really exciting and so much fun. Looking back, so many things could have gone wrong. I'm thankful that God was there throughout all the changes to guide and provide.

It was now that I had to decide what kind of job I'd like to do. This is a tricky one, as although I have many interests, nothing stands out to me as something I'd like to make a career of.



Some may label me as having no ambition, but I have every ambition to have a successful life. Not in the highflying-money-making way that people are told is essential nowadays, but to be successful in building relationships and helping people feel valued.

I have worked in my current job as a Catering assistant for 7 months now. On my first day, my new colleagues had heard my name was Ruth and were expecting a rather older lady, not a 21-year-old. To learn I was married was another surprise! Working in catering has its challenges, especially trying to ignore the Gordon Ramsay style language that is the norm!

So now we are one year on, in March 2016, and who knows what changes God has in store for me and Danny this year! We are excited to find out, and we put our trust in Him.

#### **Ruth Goodall**

## **Know Lindfield**



### Questions

How many public houses were there in the High Street in 1900?

Can you name them all?

Answer in the next issue of Good News.



# Answer to February photo

This was the Mid Sussex Steam Laundry opened in 1902 as a charitable venture, on land at the bottom end of Gravelye Lane. As well as providing work, it contained housing for up to 30 young women in difficult circumstances and a creche for the working mothers.

# Lucy Update

ello! My name's Lucy and I'm a Blue Roan Cocker Spaniel now aged 2 years and six months.

I thought I would just update you as to how I am getting on with my work as a Pets As Therapy visiting Dog.

I have been visiting Compton House and St. Peter & St. James' Hospice officially now for eighteen months and get so excited when my PAT Dog uniform comes out. During that time I have met lots of lovely people and made some good friends.

The ladies and gentlemen in Compton House were so pleased when I turned up in my red Santa coat on Christmas Eve to wish them a happy Christmas!

One day back in the Autumn I was doing my visiting with Rosemary when we met a lady who was very distressed. She asked if I could sit on her lap so that she could cuddle me, which I was happy for her to do. She put her arms round me and buried her head in my coat and wept and wept. I could feel her tears falling on my fur.

After a few minutes she dried her eyes and said what a help it had been just to cuddle me.

What a privilege it was for me to bring her some comfort.

When I am not 'working' I am just like any other Cocker Spaniel and love to race around the house first thing in the morning before my breakfast. Later, after his breakfast I take Ray out for a walk. Although I have calmed down a lot I still have a mischievous streak in me and love to go through pockets looking for tissues and gloves as well as run off with Ray's socks if I can get to them before him!

The other day when I went out first thing in the morning I found my garden was covered in white stuff which I had never seen before. It certainly wasn't there the night before! I understand it was snow. I had a wonderful time running round in it and kept asking to go out after that! The funny thing was it had all disappeared by lunchtime!

Well, it is nearly my dinner time so I will say goodbye for now.

Love



# Phonebook

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#### **Hall Booking Secretary**

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Lunch Fellowship

Sue Waller 01444 455047

#### **Pastoral Group**

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#### **The Fellowship**

Pat Philips01444 484507Stepping Stones20e McQuillin01444 484364

TransportJanet Drayton01444 483621

Lighthouse (Junior Church) Co-ordinator Dawn Walters 01444 441601

### **Flower Rota**

	Arranging	Distributing
March		
6th	Betty Billins	Heather Swann
13th	Gladys Porter	FoTingley
20th	Carol Walters	Nick Bingham
27th	Easter Flowers	Easter Deliveries
April		
3rd	Anne Parker	Liz Cantwell
10th	Mies Campling	Sue Tester
17th	Carol Marsh	Jo Bloxham
24th	Zoe McQuillin	Iris Bingham

If anyone would like to be involved with distributing the church flowers on Monday morning at 10.30am please contact Heather Swann

# **Around Lindfield**

### Wednesday 9th March

 12.15pm Tiger Arts : Lunch in Lindfield URC
 1.00pm Concert : Lewes Old Grammar School Choir
 8.00pm Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall An Insight into Oathall School Farm : Howard Wood

### Saturday 12th March

7.30pm Concert : Adur Concert Band in King Edward Hall "March to the Movies" In aid of St. Peter & St. James Hospice Tickets available from Tufnells.

### Tuesday 15th March

2.30pm Lindfield Preservation Society in King Edward Hall "The Wealden Iron Industry"

### Thursday 17th March

7.30pm Lindfield Film Night in King Edward Hall "Spectre" starring Daniel Craig 12A Tickets available from Tufnells

### Saturday 19th March

7.45pm Haywards Heath music society, Piano recital from award winning concert pianist Caroline Tyler at St Wilfrid's Church. Tickets £12 (non members) Information : Christine HH 456227 or www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk



www.lindfieldurc.org.uk