

GoodNEWS

LINDFIELD URC'S VILLAGE MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2003



Going home for Christmas?

- **FEATURE:** Homelessness in Mid Sussex.
- The church secretary's Annual Report.
- **PLUS...** local events coming up in December.

FREE
PLEASE HELP YOURSELF

Dear Friends...



Advent, it's good to pause...

We know that Christmas is about Jesus. But it's good to pause for a moment and remember who Jesus was – and is. The season of Advent provides us with the time to do just this. It's so easy at Christmas for everything to push Jesus out.

There is so much more to Jesus Christ than the manger and the shepherds. He has had more impact on world history than any other man. And yet he is much more than just someone in history. Jesus Christ is alive now.

Jesus is not only for special times of the year like Christmas and Easter; nor just for times of desperation when we have tried everything else. Jesus can meet us in our everyday lives, in the ordinary things we do. Millions of people throughout the world have discovered the reality of the Lord Jesus Christ.

One of the most beautiful truths in the Bible is that God loves us. It was because of God's love that Jesus was born. It's an amazing mystery: God joined us in the human race as a man.

But this leads us to another plainly presented Bible truth. God joined us as man to rescue us. We don't really like to accept the fact, but we don't match up to

God's standards—and in our own strength never can. We don't only need forgiveness for failing but also the power to do better.

Following Jesus is more than just “being religious” and going to church. Jesus wants to make us new people – and he can give us the power to do just that.

Why not – as the title of this article suggests – take time to pause, take a break from all the Christmas hustle and bustle and reach out to God. The words of this prayer may help you :–

**Loving Father God,
I know that Christmas is about Jesus,
but so often He gets pushed out and forgotten.
Help me this Christmas to give Jesus his rightful place.
I ask, Lord Jesus, that you will be real to me.
That you will lead me into that new life only you
can give.
Please make this Christmas a special time.
Amen.**

You may like to read the account of the first Christmas for yourself in the Bible. I suggest that you use a modern version such as the Good News Bible or New International Version. See Matthew 1: 18 – 2: 23 and Luke 1: 5 – 2: 40.

Colin Bones, minister

GoodNEWS

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Editorial



**Christmas comes but once
A year, and it is the
Church's 'busy season' with
more to do than ever!**

But it should be a great opportunity for Christians to share about Jesus, at just about the only time of year when 'Society' doesn't mind us speaking of Him – and, sadly, even that seems to be in debate in some quarters (see p 10)!

Aside from the familiar story of Jesus' birth at Christmas, this month we take a look into what is, perhaps, a bit more unfamiliar – the real issue of homelessness in our community. John Barling and Mark Dew have put together our feature articles, starting at page 4.

From page 29 you will see what's going on in our wider Church community – with a report on a recent URC District Council Meeting and a Christmas letter from moderator of the Southern Province Synod.

Ron Goodenough, as our church secretary, presents his Annual Report for the year (p 22) which makes for interesting and, at times, amusing reading.

Finally, should you be in need of prayer, 'who you gonna call'? Your answer should be: our church prayer chain (p 27). A rapid response is promised – to be prayed for, presumably – as opposed to the answer! Although with God everything is possible.

Prayer Diary



SUN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray that we will be open to the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of our church, corporately and personally. • Uphold Colin, not just for his work on Sundays, but in his total ministry and preparations throughout the week.
MON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember the Concourse ministry, open throughout the week. • Pray for the outside organisations that use our premises. • Uphold our Boys' Brigade, its officers and staff.
TUE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Touch – pray that we may use this women's meeting to introduce others to the church and to faith in God. • The work of the Girls' Brigade, its officers and staff.
WED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wednesday Lunch Fellowship – Iris Green and her team. • Uphold the Fellowship which meets monthly. • Pray for the elders, in particular those recently elected. • Pray for Lindfield Festival Night on 3rd December.
THUR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Pop-in', that it may continue to be a valuable resource to church folk and others alike. • Our December mission focus – the Worthing Churches Homeless project. • Pray for all homeless and disadvantaged people at Christmas time.
FRI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Friday Lunch Fellowship – Derrick & Gwen Hillman and their team. • Meeting of URC District Council on the 5th December. • The Sunday Morning Singers with many concerts/services in December.
SAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children, young people, Junior Church and youth leaders. • United Reformed churches in Eastbourne, Willingdon and Bexhill. • Thank God for (and pray for) our postal workers at this busy time of the year.

Feature – Going home for Christmas _____

Christmas is often a time for many to consider the needs of those around us who sleep on the streets of our towns and cities. For instance, as a church we have traditionally supported Worthing Churches Homeless Project (WCHP) in December. Not surprising, when we remember that Jesus' family were relative refugees without a home, in the run up to his birth 2000 years ago. Christians should always have a heart of compassion for those struggling in life, but is there a homeless problem in leafy Lindfield?

In our feature this month, John Barling investigates what the scale of the homelessness problem is in our locality and updates us on WCHP's work further afield in Sussex. Mark Dew writes about his work with YMCA, based in Burgess Hill, and what they are seeking to achieve in the area.

Homelessness in Sussex?

Surely not?... but according to statistics published by Mid Sussex District Council in September this year there were 396 'Homeless Applications' during the period April 2002 to March 2003 and 702 enquiries for housing advice from both single people and families.

Under the provisions of the Homelessness Act 2002, duties were placed on local authorities to carry out a review of homelessness in their areas and to produce a 5 year homelessness strategy by July 2003. Our local authority duly complied and published "A Review of Homelessness in Mid Sussex 2003" and "A Homelessness Strategy for Mid



Sussex 2003–2008” in July, which are available from the Council Offices, Oaklands, Haywards Heath.

Although, unlike towns such as Brighton and Worthing or even the larger cities, very few “homeless” people were thought to be sleeping rough, in common with these other centres of population the reasons individuals in Mid Sussex (extending from Copthorne and East Grinstead in the north to Pyecombe in the south, Ashurst Wood in the east to Warninglid in the west) gave for being homeless were the inability to remain with parents, relatives or friends (38.1%), violent breakdown of relationship with partner (8.6%), non violent breakdown of relationship with partner (13.9%), mortgage arrears (2.3%), rent arrears (5.1%), “other reasons” for loss of rented or tied housing (19.4%), discharge from an institution (3.3%) and “other” reasons (which could include mental or physical disability, drug or alcohol related problems) (9.3%). After investigation 166 of the 396 applications were upheld as genuinely qualifying. In other words only that number would be offered temporary accommodation or long term rented property.

The Homelessness Act 2002, which received Royal Assent in February 2002, introduced several changes to the Housing Act 1996 which affect the Council’s duties to homeless people. Many of the provisions came into force in July 2002, notably the strengthening of duties to provide advice and assistance to homeless people, and an indefinite duty to arrange temporary accommodation for those accepted as being homeless.

There are many agencies in Mid Sussex involved in working to support the homeless or those threatened with homelessness. Homelessness happens, but there are many people out there, both dedicated professionals and equally dedicated volunteers, offering advice and help.

For further detailed information or assistance with issues relating to housing needs and homelessness in Mid Sussex, professional guidance should be sought from Mr Julian Till, Housing Needs Manager at Mid Sussex District Council Offices. Telephone 01444 477232 or email juliant@midsussex.gov.uk

John Barling

Support where it is needed



Mark Dew, a member of Lindfield URC, writes about his experiences working for the YMCA in Burgess Hill.

I have been working for the Mid Sussex YMCA since March, as a Floating Support Worker. My brief is to support 11 young men and women, to enable them to sustain their tenancies.

The project assists young people by supporting them through housing and benefit issues, training employment enquiries, assisting with form filling, writing letters, making telephone calls and supporting young people at interviews and meetings. The project provides support to equip young people with life skills and confidence to cope with the move to independent living.

The project has forged links with the Mid Sussex District Council Homelessness Department and Social Services. It has also established links with Haywards Heath College and Sussex Oakleaf Housing. New Downland Housing Association has sent referrals to the project, which proves there is a real need for tenancy support.

These young people have to negotiate a difficult and complex

housing and benefits system, and they need help and support if their tenancies are to be secured.

While the young people are in temporary accommodation, they are provided, in some cases, with support from the Housing Associations. Once they are provided with permanent accommodation they lose the support. This is when the majority of tenancies break down, because there are still issues and life skills that need to be addressed. This is when the Floating Support Project is sent referrals to support them through the transition period.

There is now legislation, which means the council has a duty to house 16 to 17 year olds, which puts further pressure on local housing.

The YMCA has been working in the Denham Road area of Burgess Hill. Carolyn Smith, who runs a support group for young parents, invited me to provide housing support at the group. At the time we were working directly from St Edwards Church, which is located at the end of

TOYS/GAMES REQUIRED!

The YMCA Toy Bank needs good quality toys and board games for local families in need.

Could you donate a game that you have never played?

If so, contact Mark Dew at the YMCA on 01444 233366

CAN YOU HELP?

Mid Sussex
YMCA

Denham Road. This helped us spiritually and to serve the young people within the church environment was fantastic. The number of young people has grown so quickly though, that over the summer break we had to relocate to larger premises, at the Park Centre in Burgess Hill. This was a difficult decision, but the group has grown so much, it was no longer possible to provide effective support in a safe environment.

I do not know what God has in store for me, or what challenges

lie ahead. I do know I have been called to do this work and to serve God in this way. I am enjoying this challenging but rewarding and fulfilling work, in supporting the young people in the Mid Sussex area. I hope and pray the funding will continue so the YMCA can have an impact on young peoples' lives.

Mark Dew

Contact Mid Sussex YMCA at:

54a Church Road, Burgess Hill RH15 9AE

Email: ymcamidsussex@aol.com

Tel: 01444 233366

Squats, soup, sandwiches

Ever slept rough? I have. **Maybe two or three times in those far off student days when on my travels and the money ran out. It was fun – an adventure – in the summer, anyway, but not much fun on a cold, wet night.... and I always knew there was a warm bed, a family and regular meals to go home to.**

Unfortunately for some, and for a variety of reasons – rejection, family breakdown, failed marriage, unemployment, depression, mental illness, bereavement or other personal loss – sleeping rough has become a way of life not out of choice. So spare a thought (and hopefully some time and money) especially this Christmas season for the many homeless being helped by organisations such as the Worthing Churches Homeless Projects, featured in our church's December missions giving.

WCHP for short and founded just over a decade ago, the charity offers the love of Jesus in the most practical way by providing warmth, security, food, clothing, help and accommodation. With a full time staff of 20 and around 150 volunteers WCHP is able to work

with 400 local homeless each year. Specialist staff offer help with drug related problems, counselling and individual problems as part of the support process to help clients move forward in their lives.

With two residential projects, a Direct Access Hostel with 14 beds and Stepping Stones, providing medium term accommodation and life skills for community living, as well as St Clare's Day Centre providing breakfasts Monday to Friday, evening meals two nights a week, washing, shower facilities and other daily necessities. WCHP is working hard every day of the week, every week of the year. It relies on the local community to share in the work and to show compassion and care for those it helps.

Why not come along to our church's 9.30 or 11.0am services on 7th December to hear WCHP's Alison Godfrey speak about the work amongst the homeless, or visit the Missions display in the church concourse area any day midweek between 10.0am and 1.0pm. New volunteers are always welcome!

John Barling (Missions Group)

and saints

Pat Delaney

1932 – 2003

On a cold February morning Pat Delaney was found dead in Liverpool Terrace, Worthing, having spent one night too many on the streets. Hypothermia was the official cause of death. Pat had arrived at this point after years of living on the street – a consequence of circumstances and limited options.

To many Pat may have been no more than “a character” but to those present and to many others Pat was a real person, a son, a brother, a father and a friend. An obstinate, kind and funny man without self pity.

A carpenter by trade, Pat had lived in Worthing for many years. To remember and appreciate Pat is to recall his caring ways, the generous and polite gentleman who would walk the volunteers at the hostel home on dark winter evenings.

It was sad to see Pat’s health decline in recent years. As he continued to sleep rough, despite his failing health he fell victim to a particularly vicious assault. For the last year or two he slept on the seafront often unable to move from there because his feet were so bad. The staff and volunteers at WCHP did their best to continue their care for him by providing him with food, clothing and blankets.

Pat never lost hope and nor should we. We salute Pat’s courage, celebrate his life and are sad to see him go.

Taken from Worthing Churches Homeless Project’s Annual Review

Jesus in Red Cross Christmas ban

The British Red Cross has come under criticism from faith leaders after “banning” Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus from its charity shops this Christmas. Shop volunteers have been told not to display the Nativity or other Christian images for fear it might offend those of other faiths. Cards on sale in the shops picture non-religious scenes, and contain a ‘season’s greetings’ message.

Source: Christian Herald – the UK’s only inter-church weekly. Subscribe on 01903 602100

Open all hours!

The UK’s largest independent toy shop chain, founded by Christian entrepreneur Gary Grant and his wife Catherine in 1981, has now opened its 35th store. After launching the country’s largest toy store within a shopping mall at Birmingham’s Bullring, The Entertainer chain last week doubled its floorspace at Kingston upon Thames to 10,000 sq ft. The Entertainer is based in Amersham, Buckinghamshire, with more than £30m in annual sales.

Source: Christian Herald – the UK’s only inter-church weekly. Subscribe on 01903 602100



On 1st December a new law will come into force banning drivers from using mobile phones while at the wheel. A quarter of drivers who know about the law will ignore it, according to research by a mobile headset manufacturer, Jabra. You have been warned! Drive safely.

This will be sited in the concourse from Sunday 30th November for the use of church members and regular worshippers only. Please address envelopes clearly with christian name, surname and address. A box for donations to Tearfund will be alongside.

Last posting date:

Friday 12th December

Card collection date:

Sunday 14th December

Note: This is not a free service so please give generously.



Andrew & Gladys Muir



LINDFIELD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

**High Street
Lindfield**



ASPECTS OF CHRISTMAS 2003

ON

THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER

AT 7.45PM

&

SUNDAY 21ST DECMEBER

AT 6.30PM

Evenings of Carols, Songs and Drama

Presented by the

Lindfield URC Sunday Morning Singers

Local Guest Artists

Admission free -- Refreshments

***Donations in aid of St Peter & St James Hospice and
Other Good Causes***

Thanks

Jo and Paul Bloxham would like to thank all their friends at LURC for all the kind messages, prayers, support and flowers following the death of Paul's mother on 15th October. They were very much appreciated.

Thank you to all my friends at Lindfield URC for the prayers and support given to me during my recent illness. I hope it won't be too long before I can attend and worship with you. Thank you so much.

Vera Dorton

Congratulations...

To **Annabel & James Goody** on the birth of their second son Timothy James who arrived on 23rd October, weighing in at 8lbs 15ozs.

...and to **Catherine Bones** who has recently been appointed as Care Manager (Matron) at Compton House Care Home.

Bereavement

We offer our love and sympathy to **Fiona Sutherland** and her family on the recent death of her brother,

...and also to the family and friends of **Lilian Peake** who died recently. Lilian had been a member of Lindfield URC some years ago before moving from the village.

Christmas Greetings from Fo Tingley:



To send you cards at Christmas time
Is something I like to do;
But the time it takes is such a crime!
I guess it's the same for you?

My church friends I see and we exchange greetings.
Or if not, you will read "Good News".
So forgive me, if, instead of writing
"Happy Christmas" is said in the pews.
(Sorry, chairs don't rhyme!)

So to each one of you my love I send
As Christmas time comes near.
Whether an elder, a member or friend,
I hold you all very dear.

Thanks for your prayers, your support and your love.
I pray that you all may know
That God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, from above,
His blessings on us all to bestow.

Street scene

Peter Swann will lead the Perdido Players on their final event of the year – playing Christmas carols outside Lindfield URC on Saturday 20th December.

Commencing at 10am, the group will be playing come rain (snow!) or shine – and are hoping to not only drum up financial support for local Rotary Club collection, but also to encourage pedestrian participation in the singing.

Pray for them as they witness to the community.

Feels like only a few years!

It is amazing to think that my husband and I have been married for 50 years, but the lovely cards, flowers and many good wishes left me in no doubt it was so – and we are very grateful to all who remembered us.

We had a wonderful time of celebration, even the trees were golden in the sunshine. It was lovely to see so many relatives and friends. We felt truly blessed and I thank God for all the goodness to us over the years.

Winifred Scopes

New church leadership

At Lindfield United Reformed Church's AGM in November, two new elders were elected. Jeremy Campling and David Jones stood for election for the first time at the church. Sue Waller was also re-elected to stand for a further three years service.

Elders form part of the URC's church leadership team, under the minister, meeting regularly discussing spiritual and practical matters of the fellowship.

The Fellowship meets next on Wednesday 17th December, for their Christmas Tea. All members are welcome to come and join in the festivities. We shall be entertained by 'The Sunday Morning Singers'.

Balcombe United Reformed Church

Bramble Hill, Balcombe, RH17 6HR

Contact: Mrs Leonie Wren (01444 811253)

Our main services are held at 11am on the first and third Sunday of each month and the children usually go out to Sunday School during the second part of the service. Visitors are always welcome.



Services for this month are as follows:-

7th 11.0am Family Service including Communion

Michael Davies

14th 3.30pm CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Colin Bones

21st 11am Favourite Carols

Philip Wren

Visitors are most welcome to join us at any time, including our afternoon Carol Service. Tea and mincepies will be served after this service.

Lindfield Village Festival Night

Wednesday 3rd December is Village Festival Night and the church has again been asked by the Parish Council to take part. This year they have asked us to host the village Father Christmas.

We have therefore decided to make the full premises available and run a programme for all ages:-

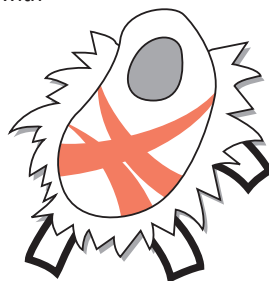
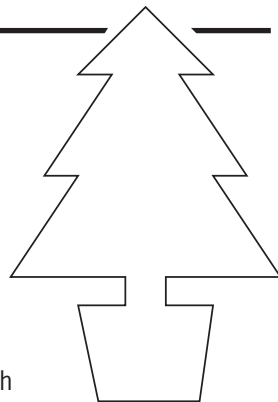
For the children – as well as **Father Christmas** – we will have **Face Painting, Hair Braiding & Table Football** together with **refreshments**. We will also have a **Nativity video** so that we can show the children the real Christmas story – “God so loved the world that he sent his own Son to be born into this world as Saviour”.

Teenagers will be able to chill out at **The Igloo** (in the lounge) with **non-alcoholic cocktails**, coffee etc.

In the church, music will be provided by **Galleons Leap** and local **Bell-ringers** and we will have a “**Christian Escapologist and Illusionist**”. There will also be a **Fairtrade/Traidcraft** stand and a Christian **bookstall**. **Refreshments** will be available throughout the evening. We will be promoting the **Alpha course** to be held in early 2004.

Outside will be a **Nativity** in the “**Ryecroft Stables**” together with **carol singers**.

David Jones



A Christmas Kit

put together
by the Junior Church

**Sunday 14th December
at 4.00pm
Lindfield URC**

This event is for EVERYONE not just mums and dads but for anyone who would like to come along and support the Junior Church. They are a little nervous because this is something new for them – but each teaching group is taking part in very different ways. There will be lots to see and some participation parts!

Join us for tea afterwards because there will be no evening service on the 14th – allowing us plenty of time to eat and chat!

Clare Nibloe
Junior Church co-ordinator

**put the date in
your diaries NOW!**

“When I became a Christian, I worked with three others in one department in the company,” writes ex-Muslim Farid (name changed).

One day, I discovered that someone had broken into my locker and stolen my wages. My old self rose to the occasion: I wanted revenge! I suspected that one of my colleagues had stolen the money, so decided to break open their lockers and burn the contents. I grabbed a hammer, and prepared to strike – but suddenly felt as though an invisible hand grabbed my wrist, holding me back. Frightened, I sat down. What was wrong with me? Forgiveness, not revenge – then I heard a gentle voice, full of sympathy and love: ‘Don’t avenge yourself. Don’t give in to Satan’. I replied: But Lord, my wages are all that I have. Who will take care of my wife and child? The Lord answered ‘Think of what is written: trust in God, he will care for you’. I replied, saying: Then please put out the flames of anger. Tell me what to do.

The Lord told me to write the following words on a piece of paper: “To my brother who opened my locker, I am sorry that I have nothing valuable to give you. If you need something in particular, let me know. God will take care of it. I will not repair the broken lock, as proof that I mean what I say. I bless

you with the peace of God filling your life, and the grace of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ”. I signed it “The brother who loves you despite what happened”.

I went home full of joy about this great victory... that night someone threw a stone onto my balcony. Attached was a letter, from another Christian whom I had not met for security reasons. The letter contained the same amount of money as my wages. I was amazed!

When I arrived in the office the next day, one of my colleagues was waiting for me, a religious Muslim. With a trembling voice, he said “I was the one who broke your locker open. I found your letter yesterday, and was very moved. I have already spent the money I stole on my sick children. I will repay you as soon as I can.”

I told him that the money was his, I didn’t need it any more, God had replaced my loss. It was almost impossible for him to accept it. “Where did you learn to act like that” he asked. I told him my story of conversion, and he wanted more. I gave him a New Testament, one month later was ready to follow Jesus! How true are Jesus’ words: ‘People will see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven’!

Source www.offengrenzen.ch quoted in the International Prayer Bulletin 259. Published by Revival, 13 Lismore Road, Eastbourne, BN21 3AY

December diary

3rd

Wednesday eve Lindfield Village
Festival Night

4th

Thursday House Groups

6th

Saturday Boys' Brigade
Coffee Morning

7th

Sunday

9.30am Communion
Richard Walters
& Colin Bones

11.0am Colin Bones
12noon Copy Date for
January GoodNEWS

6.30pm David Nibloe &
Colin Bones

10th

Wednesday 12.30pm Lunch Fellowship

12th

Friday 12.30pm Lunch Fellowship

13th

Saturday 7.30pm *Mid Sussex
Choir: Carol Concert at St
Wilfreds Church HH.
Contact: Fiona Tingley

14th

Sunday

9.30am Richard Walters
& Colin Bones

11.0am Colin Bones

4.0pm 'A Christmas Kit'
put together by the

Junior Church
followed by refreshments
(NO EVENING SERVICE)

17th

Wednesday 1.0pm *Christianity
Made Clear 30min talk at
Clair Hall HH. Free.
tbc The Fellowship

18th

Thursday 7.30pm Concert
'Aspects of Christmas'
Followed by mince pies
and coffee/tea

21st

Sunday

9.30am Carol Service
for all the family
Richard Walters
& Colin Bones

11.0am Christmas
Worship
Colin Bones

6.30pm Concert
'Aspects of Christmas'
plus carols

24th

Wednesday **7.0pm** Christmas Eve
Celebration of Christmas

25th

Thursday **10.30am** Christmas
Morning Family Service

28th

Sunday

10.30am Communion
One morning service
(NO EVENING SERVICE)

*seven
prayerless
days
makes
one
week*

ADVANCE DIARY

1st Jan **Church open for Prayer:
10am – Midday**

* = event not held at Lindfield URC

Sunday services explained...

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

Coffee is normally served between the morning services and after the evening one.

The **11.00am service** is usually more set and formal.

At **6.30pm** it is sometimes a celebration, sometimes a quieter ministry time and sometimes an open communion service or something quite different!

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

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

Cassette **recordings of services** can be borrowed free from the church.

Jesus – the way to God

Jesus Comforts His Disciples

¹Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴You know the way to the place where I am going."

Jesus the Way to the Father

⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

⁹Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have seen among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. ¹²I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.

“Why Bother With Jesus?” is the title of a little book written a few years ago. Why indeed? What is wrong with a simple faith in God, free of all the complications of Jesus as the Son of God (let alone the mysterious teaching about a Holy Spirit)?

In these verses from John 14, Jesus is preparing his closest friends for a bereavement. We have all heard “Do not let your hearts be troubled” in the context of a funeral service, yet Jesus is here talking about his own death. His friends were Jews, brought up on the Old Testament scriptures to trust in God, yet they were now terrified at the thought of an unknown future without the constant companionship of Jesus, who had brought them new peace and inner strength. Jesus’ reassurance in v1 is no mere “Don’t worry, it may never happen.” Jesus knows that it will happen; the disciples are going to pass through such testing that even Peter’s faith will seem to fail (see 13v36–38). Belief in God would not be enough; they needed to trust in Jesus (v1). Why?

1) Jesus is the way to God (v6). He was returning to God and will one day take those who trust in him to live with him (v3). Through Jesus’ death and

resurrection, we can be at home with God.

2) Jesus is the truth (v6). In a world of conflicting beliefs, those who trust in Jesus will have the Holy Spirit’s guidance (see 16v13)

3) Jesus is the life (v6). He himself would conquer death by his resurrection, and he would give life, eternal life, to all who believe in him (see 5v24, also 20v31)

4) Jesus shows us what God is like (v9); he is God’s revelation to help people like us understand a transcendent God. (see 1v18 – and Hebrews 1v1–3 is also helpful)

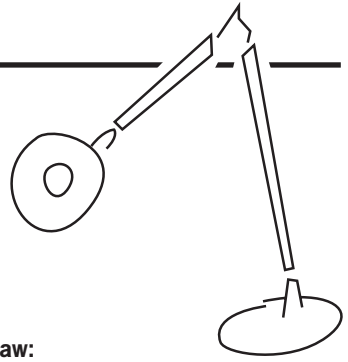
5) Jesus, ascended and reigning in heaven, is the one who gives power for living (v12–14), enabling believers to turn words into deeds and to make prayer real. There are depths in these verses that most of us have not yet fathomed. Perhaps the old hymn is right: “If our love were but more simple, we should take him at his word ...”

Why bother with Jesus? This passage – and the rest of John’s Gospel – tells us why. It’s Christmas, so let’s take the time to recap on the opening Prologue (1v1–18), and give thanks for him who came from God to be our Saviour.

Mike Gardiner

Twenty more questions

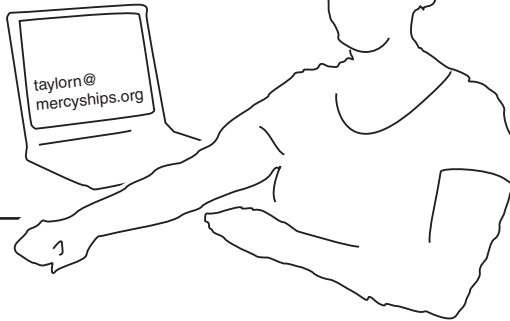
GoodNEWS takes a probing glimpse into the minds of those who come to the church! Twenty Questions gives you a chance to guess the interviewee and learn a bit more about them too! This month's guest is revealed on the foot of page 31.



- 1. What is your best memory from your school days?**
School exchange trip to Germany.
- 2. Favourite film?**
Grease.
- 3. If 'Changing Rooms' were to visit your home, which room would you ask them to redecorate?**
Bathroom.
- 4. Banoffee Pie, Apple Crumble or Fruit Salad?**
Apple Crumble.
- 5. Which service do you frequent most often?**
6.30pm.
- 6. Have you been trained in a specific line of work, if so what?**
Accountancy.
- 7. What one person do you think has most influenced your desire to follow Christ?**
Corrie ten Boom.
- 8. Who would you most want to have a 'one-to-one' conversation with (past or present)?**
Jonathan Edwards.
- 9. Do you qualify for a free Bus Pass?**
No!
- 10. Shoe size?**
6.
- 11. Create a new law:**
4 day working week.
- 12. Mug or cup & saucer?**
Mug.
- 13. Do you have a personal email account?**
Yes.
- 14. What is the best strength of the Christian church?**
The message of grace.
- 15. Describe the 'Christian life' in no more than three words.**
Unpredictable.
- 16. Most romantic moment?**
Summer evening stroll along the Thames.
- 17. Best moment of fame?**
A hospital radio song dedication for me.
- 18. Give one piece of wisdom to the next generation.**
God's way is always the best way.
- 19. Most read Bible verse?**
Romans 8 v 38-39.
- 20. Glasses, contact lenses or none?**
Glasses.

My world

Missionary tales by Nikki Taylor



Mercy Ships Switzerland

Well, thank you for your prayers... I have been able to spend more time with God and reading his word this last month. I feel so much closer to him and a good friend has been encouraging me and we are studying together. It is really great when you can return to a friendship (through Discipleship School) which has strong spiritual roots.

The work... oh man – I have so much to do! I think I have become a workaholic. My computer is within easy reach, just two flights of stairs below my bedroom, it is too easy to just pop in in the evenings and catch up with emails and bits and pieces. We are in need of so much funding for the programme and the new centre we are building down in Sierra Leone.

I have not really been at the responsible end for this before and it is hard to know where planning and using the ways and means of the world to raise funds and then where God provides. Hmmm?

So I have had one experience with the famous Swiss hospitals. I dropped my hairdressing scissors in the bathroom into my foot!

I am not really enjoying the wet autumn but I have a friend coming to visit soon and Mum, Dad and hopefully Grandad are coming the weekend after so it will be great to show them around my life here. Christmas is coming and I am looking forward to a bright, cold Christmas, lots of fat geese and all the lights on in the shopping centre.

Please continue to pray that God will direct me along the right path as I seek his will for the next stage in my life.

Church secretary's Annual Report _____

It is the church secretary's pleasure and privilege to summarise all that has gone on within the life of the church at the annual church members' meeting, which takes place in November each year. Here it is in written form; Ron Goodenough takes us through a year in the life of Lindfield URC...

It has been great to be able to look back and praise God for the way that he led us to call Colin Bones as our minister together with Balcombe URC. I was able to report last year that one possibility of filling the vacancy was pending. It was only just a few days after our 2002 AGM, when the Elders were able to interview Colin and invite him, with Catherine, to spend a weekend with us and 'preach with a view'. This took place on the 7th & 8th December. There then followed an Elders' Meeting on the 11th December and a Special Joint Church Meeting with Balcombe the following evening when there was overwhelming enthusiasm for a call to be issued. This was quickly accepted by Colin. The Induction was held on Saturday 12th July when the church was packed and there was a real atmosphere of celebration and anticipation.

Several months were then taken up with preparation for Colin and his family to arrive with a great deal of work being carried out on Ryecroft in modernising, refitting and decorating. Much of this was carried out by our own members and we are extremely grateful to all those involved and for the way that this project was taken on.

It is also encouraging that the Evangelical Free Church has called a new pastor and All Saints now have

an extra Curate. We continue with our desire to work together where possible and this year enjoyed United Lent Groups hosted here and taking the theme 'Jesus in the Old Testament – Promise to Fulfillment'. There is the possibility of a series of joint meetings in Holy Week next year.

Up until the end of July we were grateful for the services of Mike Gardiner as Pastoral Assistant. We have acknowledged before that the Lord's timing in this was perfect. Not only did Mike visit and support many people at a pastoral level but conducted a large number of funerals and I personally am very grateful for his support and encouragement.

Earlier in the year Mark Turner stood down from the Eldership. Dennis Rowell completes his three year term and felt it right not to allow his name to go forward again. He has been an Elder since 1986 and again we thank him for his input into the life of the Fellowship in this and other areas.

During the year our membership has dropped from 185 to 181, six new members have been welcomed, four by profession of faith and two by transfer. Sadly ten of our members have died, many of whom had devoted their lives to serving the Lord either in this church or others previously. We honour them

and miss them.

In addition to our members there are many who worship regularly with us and it would be good to encourage more to consider and take up the offer and indeed the responsibility of full membership. Maybe we should be more proactive as individuals in encouraging this.

Our Sunday services continue to be well attended with both the 9.30 and 11 o'clock being comfortably full and it was also good to see almost 50 at our 6.30 service last Sunday.

We also praise God for his material provision in enabling us to maintain a healthy set of accounts and at the same time to be able to give outside of the church to World Mission. Our total Mission Giving this year is likely to increase yet again and be around £20,000. On the Mission front we have held suppers with speakers from Release International and WorldShare. We also organised, in-house, our service on Persecuted Church Sunday last November. This week we were able to dispatch 190 shoeboxes to Samaritan's Purse for their Operation Christmas Child Project.

Another initiative has been a regular monthly Traidcraft Stall, which has proved to be a success. I can recommend the chocolate!!

It was good to see the church filled over the Christmas period last year. Services were well attended, particularly Christmas Morning. The concert incorporating John Peterson's 'Night of Miracles' was very much appreciated and our

gratitude to all those who took part. The Lindfield Village Festival Night saw many people coming on to the premises for refreshments and to enjoy the music and programme organised. The month of December is a valuable time to reach people who do not have any on-going contact with the Christian Gospel.

During the year we have received recognition from outside sources that are worth a mention; the Mid Sussex (South) Access Group was very impressed with our premises with good accessibility to the disabled and we were presented with their "We Care" Award. Secondly, our GoodNEWS magazine was entered for the 2003 Parish Magazine Awards, a nationwide competition. From over 500 entries we were judged 12th in the Best Overall category, this included a 9th place for the Best Editor category. Well done and our thanks to all those involved.

Turning to the regular activities that take place in the Church I have received reports from various leaders and summarise these as follows:

Youth and Children's Work. Stepping Stones is still very popular with over 30 children currently on the register – average attendance is around 24 each week and there are 9 on the waiting list. There is some confusion at the present time in the group with three sets of identical twins and another two sets on the waiting list. There have been opportunities for personal witness recently and it is hoped that some of the parents and carers can be

Church secretary's Annual Report cont. _____

encouraged to do a daytime Alpha Course in the New Year. Gratitude is expressed to all the team involved who I understand feel as if they have done a workout in the gym by the end of each morning!

There are 48 names registered in Junior Church with an average attendance each week of around 30. Recently changes have been made in some of the age bands to spread the numbers between the groups more evenly but it is not easy where, for instance, one group is top heavy with boys – which presents a challenge in itself. There is always a need for more help; many of the teachers are committed to other aspects of church life.

Carpe Diem has been a small group this year, which is a disappointment, but it is hoped that the changes in the age range will help to re-vitalise it. The sessions normally include activities and refreshments to encourage a more relaxed atmosphere. The leaders have been encouraged by the enthusiasm of the core group with a deeper understanding of Bible passages and a growth in confidence to pray.

The age limit for the 14+ Group has been slightly reduced and it is hoped that numbers will increase with the new format and time where the young people come to the first part of the evening service and then leave for their own session. The first session last Sunday was, I understand, encouraging. Some of the older members of the group left in the summer for university, which will change the character of the

group somewhat. Those who left are still in touch and are doing well.

Both groups joined forces for a residential weekend at West Watch in September. It proved to be a good bridge building event – helping the young people to move on spiritually and the younger ones on and into the 14+ Group. The theme for the weekend was 'Knowing Me, Knowing You' and encouraged the young people to get to know each other better and develop a relationship with the Lord.

At the end of last year Terry Ward retired from his position as Boys' Brigade Captain, which he had held for 18 years over and above his time as an officer. Our appreciation to Terry has already been expressed but we need to put it on record in this particular report. In July, Geoffrey Cocksedge took over as Captain and we are grateful to him for stepping into this role. All sections of the BB are adequately staffed but we should not be complacent about this. There is a weekly attendance of between 35 and 40 boys but during the year the leadership have experienced some difficult disciplinary problems, which have reduced the effectiveness of the work. There have, however been some encouragements, Jim Johnson was awarded the Ernest Beal VC Watch by the Brighton Battalion, which is a high honour. Three other young men, long standing members of the BB have been helped to Christian faith.

After a year's break Sam Hoare-Ward has returned to lead the Girls' Brigade and we appreciate her

commitment for this work. There are still almost 30 girls attending regularly and it is encouraging that three of the older girls still continue to come, having left school. One Brigader attended the Young Leaders Training Course in October. A number of ladies give their time to help at GB but there will be a need for another trained officer in the not too distant future if the Brigade is to continue.

Child Protection continues to be a high priority. We have adopted guidance from the church nationally in the past twelve months and seventy-seven registration forms have been issued which request two personal references and a willingness for us to initiate a Criminal Records Bureau check. Some checks have already been made. It is worth noting that in one or two places (not Lindfield) checks have revealed causes for concern, demonstrating the value of the process.

We need to continue to surround all of our youth and children's activities with prayer as this work is vital in bringing the gospel to a generation who would otherwise not hear and have the opportunity to follow Jesus.

The two teams catering for the Lunch Fellowships continue to provide a total of around 80 meals each month, giving the opportunity for fellowship and a chat. Numbers remain high and introductions are often by word of mouth. The aim is friendship evangelism with one-to-one conversations and a short talk after each meal. Sadly a

number of regular members of these lunch fellowships have died during the year and others have become increasingly frail. The annual outing by coach was to Denmans Gardens near Fontwell followed by cream teas, which were enjoyed by all. It's no mean feat to organise and take a group like this on a coach outing. Extra help is always appreciated and there is an increasing need for transport.

The Fellowship continues to attract between 35 and 40 to its monthly meetings with speakers giving talks on a wide variety of subjects including Christian Broadcasting, the RNLI, Bluebell Railway and Hedge Laying. The annual Charity Lunch this year raised funds for Compton House.

Ladies' In Touch continues to provide an informal setting for meeting together with a varied programme and the opportunity to invite non-Christian friends to some of the events. As with all successful groups food was included in the programme, a dinner followed a short walk in Cuckfield in the summer. Up to 30 ladies meet each month and it was encouraging that 35 attended a day at Ashburnham in May led by Jennifer Rees-Larcombe. A further 20 have booked for another day later this month.

The Concourse continues to be open for individuals to come and pray and talk if they wish and we are grateful to those on the team who make this facility available.

Pop-In on Thursday mornings continues to attract good numbers who come for coffee, biscuits and a chat.

Church secretary's Annual Report cont. _____

There is much activity in the church which is evidenced by what I have just summarised but there is also much going behind the scenes which is seldom noticed. The church is the body of Christ and when one part struggles and hurts every other part should too. Our Pastoral Group is kept busy seeking to ensure that people's needs are being met and we are grateful to them for their dedication in this vital aspect of church life. But there are many who, on a personal level, take initiative and get alongside and support those who need encouragement and help. You are appreciated.

So what of the future? Well, the format of the House Groups has slightly changed and they are studying a series on 'Witnessing'. Already there is a heightened awareness of our responsibility to be witnesses. We need to be looking for those opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus and to have a bigger heart to reach out to those outside the walls of our church building. We need to be engaging with people where they are. We need to ensure that all of our activities have two equally important goals; to introduce people to Jesus and encourage growth in our Christian lives. Everything we do must be surrounded and supported by prayer, Ephesians 6: 18 commands us to pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. Prayer also goes with being alert and awake to the work of the enemy who would seek to come amongst us, undermine our unity and frustrate the work of

God. Let's be on our guard.

The Elders are meeting for an extended time together for prayer and reflection on Sunday 23rd November. It is hoped that we can finalise the Mission Statement for adoption by the church, to look at priorities and begin to draw together some thoughts for the future. The feedback from our July Church Meeting will be incorporated in our deliberations.

I have expressed appreciation before, but I am grateful to all those who have supported me and the eldership with prayer and words, even letters of encouragement, throughout another year. I'm sure we don't always get things right but we do want to serve the church and the Lord in a way that honours him.

Let's press on, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus and being open to where the Holy Spirit wants to lead us for another year.

Ron Goodenough
13th November 2003

“Help!”

**Are you in need of RAPID RESPONSE PRAYER
for a MAJOR INCIDENT in your life, or that of family or friends?**

Call on the church PRAYER CHAIN by ringing the minister (487607) or, in his absence, Mary Comber (482641) or Carol Walters (457938), who will alert members to pray for your needs, and who will keep in touch over the changing situation.

In less urgent cases use the PRAYER BOOK in the Concourse (for daily prayer Monday to Saturday), updating as necessary. Alternatively, contact Norna Derham for prayers to be included in the regular Monday and Wednesday Prayer Meetings, or Mike Gardiner for the Friday Prayer Meetings.

Remember PRAYER is the POWER SOURCE of the church. YOU are encouraged to keep this topped up in YOUR PRIVATE PRAYERS as well as THE REGULAR PRAYER MEETINGS listed in the back of this magazine or the weekly notice sheet.

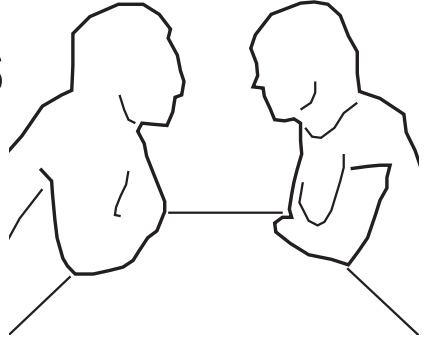
Without regular and sustained prayer support our church will die!

James Chapter 5, verses 13 – 16 (“The Message”)

“Are you hurting? Pray. Do you feel great? Sing. Are you sick? Call the Church leaders together to pray and anoint you with oil in the name of the Master. Believing prayer will heal you, and Jesus will put you on your feet. And if you’ve sinned, you’ll be forgiven – healed inside and out.

Make this your common practice; confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed. The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.”

Conversations



- A:** I'm beginning to hate Christmas!
Always family problems, presents and cards you've forgotten to send...
- B:** Er, yes, I suppose it can be trying.
[to self: Should I have reminded them about Bethlehem?]
-

- C:** If I go to church and the Vicar says "Let us confess our sins", I can't think of anything I've done wrong.
- D:** Perhaps there are things you haven't done or said, which God wanted you to do.
-

- E:** I went to a service at the Crematorium – didn't know the neighbour well. They had two well known hymns, but nobody sang, so I didn't!
- F:** But you sing well – sometimes God wants you to give a lead.
-

- G:** I don't know why some of these people come to a Horticultural Show. They never exhibit or take part.
- H:** Perhaps they just want to get out, away from their four walls to see people. I heard one lady say "God has given us such lovely fruit and flowers – I wish I could grow them".
- G:** Perhaps I should go to see her?
-

Herbert Fisher

Evangelism is...

- **A journey with a friend, not a confrontation with a stranger.**
- **One beggar telling another beggar where to get bread.**
- **Loving your neighbour until he/she asks why, then speaking of Jesus.**
- **God reaching out in Jesus to those who don't yet recognise His love.**
- **Doing things for others without an ulterior motive.**
- **Unconditional love.**

Seen by *John Barling* on the noticeboard of the oldest surviving place of Methodist worship in the world, in the village of Hawkshead, Cumbria.

We are part of a wider family – the United Reformed Church, its Southern Synod and its Sussex East District Council. Now you may feel ‘Grandfather’ is a bit out-of-touch and you cannot stand ‘Aunt Maud’, but like it or not, they belong!

Here Michael Davies brings us some snippets from the most recent District Council Meeting.



- Our long-time member and regular preacher, Dr Graham Campling, has been elected synod clerk of the Southern Province. He will succeed Christine Meekison, clerk since 1990, who retired in March. He will be one of the senior officers of the Synod, working with the moderator – big job.
- Hassocks URC, after a long vacancy, will be welcoming a new minister when the Rev Bryan Shirley is inducted there on 6th December. Bryan comes from Salisbury. He will be half time at Hassocks, the other half of his time will be as synod ecumenical officer.
- Last year the Sussex East District Outreach Group organised a series of Mission Workshops “Mobilising for Mission”, attended by some 80 people representing most churches. In 2004 another series of three Workshops will take place on “Preparing for Outreach”. These will be run on Saturday mornings in the Spring (one hopefully at Lindfield). Watch out for the dates.
- Many denominations are facing a shortage of resources of personnel and finance, not least the Methodist Church. It makes sense to work together and to share, whenever that is practicable. On the morning of Saturday, 22nd May, ministers and two lay representatives from all Methodist and United Reformed Churches in this part of Sussex will meet for a brainstorming session on “Working Together” at Burgess Hill URC.

Michael Davies



The United Reformed Church Southern Province Synod

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Synod Clerk:
Synod Treasurer:

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Mrs C P Meekison DCS, Synod Office
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Telephone: 01444 451422

New Email Address: moderator@urcsouthern.org.uk

Christmas Letter 2003
to all churches in Southern Province

Alan Fierds

This has been the Wesleys' year. John's three hundredth birthday has seen great celebrations of Methodism's father. And on the back of that we have sung countless hymns by his brother Charles. Amongst the best is a Christmas carol, rich in both poetry and theology. The younger Wesley sums up the birth of Jesus as: 'the incarnate Deity, our God, contracted to a span, incomprehensibly made man.' (1)

That's the Christmas Gospel: that the 'source guide and goal of all that is' (2) embraces 'the dust and joy of human life' (3). We live in a world where 2.4 billion people do not have clean water and which is too readily at war; a world of personal challenges aplenty. In our generation the Church knows the need of radical evolution but struggles to understand and accept it. In the midst of all of that there is immense value in the annual celebration of the God who is at hand. Jesus is God, not just with us, but also beckoning us out of the half living to which too many of us are captive and offering us 'life in all its fullness' (4). May this Christmas be for you, and the church of which you are a part, an opportunity to celebrate and to proclaim the birth of this Christ, whose self-emptying love mirrored in us can radically change things for the better, and in whom our hope rests.

I would like to close with a tribute to two Synod officers who have served with diligence and distinction and who retire over the next six months. Mr **Brian West** has been Honorary Treasurer during six years that have required a huge amount of work. He has carried it out with skill, effectiveness and good humour. We could have asked no more of him, and probably ought to have asked considerably less. When she steps down on 31st March 2004 Mrs **Christine Meekison** DCS will have been Synod Clerk and Trust Secretary for fourteen years. She too has 'spent and been spent' in this role, to which she has brought enthusiasm, determination and efficiency. Throughout the Province there are renewed church buildings and manses that will be a lasting tribute to Christine's ministry amongst us. We owe both Christine and Brian an immense debt of gratitude, and in thanking them wish them well for whatever 'retirement' holds.

Christmas Greetings

Nigel Uden, Moderator

(1) REJOICE AND SING 190, (2) ROMANS 11.36 (NEB), (3) REJOICE AND SING 533, (4) JOHN 10.10

New start with 2004 mag copydates

In an effort to help contributors know when the GoodNEWS magazine copydates are, we have decided to simplify the system.

Thus far, the copydate has always moved according to the publication date. However for 2004 copydate will **always be the 12th day of the month at 5.0pm.** Publication date will **always be the last Sunday** of the month.

We hope this makes things clearer, and helps ensure your copy gets in to the right edition on time. Let me know how it goes, and keep 'em coming!

David Tingley, editor

	Copydate	Publication
Jan 04	Sun 7th Dec	28th Dec
Feb 04	Mon 12th Jan	25th Jan
Mar 04	Thur 12th Feb	29th Feb
Apr 04	Fri 12th Mar	28th Mar
May 04	Mon 12th Apr	25th Apr
Jun 04	Wed 12th May	30th May
Jul/Aug 04	Sat 12th Jun	27th Jun
Sept 04	Thur 12th Aug	29th Aug
Oct 04	Sun 12th Sept	26th Sept
Nov 04	Tue 12th Oct	31st Oct
Dec 04	Fri 12th Nov	28th Nov

Don't forget you now have until 5pm on the copydate, and that postal contributions can also be made to the church address.

Our Twenty Questions guest this month was Suzy Jacques



Flower Rota

	Arranging	Distributing
Dec. 7	Margaret Goodare	Betty Peter
14	Iris Green	Jacqueline Wood
21	Christmas Dec.	<i>No delivery</i>
28	Christmas Dec.	<i>No delivery</i>
Jan 4	Gladys Porter	Iris Bingham
11	Carol Marsh	Fiona Tingley
18	Audrey McKee	Heather Swann
25	Mary Comber	Sue Tester

Christmas flower arrangements are in hand, but I do need people to make up hanging and shelf arrangements. These can be done at home, then brought to the church by the morning of Thursday 18th December.

If you have any holly or evergreens, these would be much appreciated.

Please let me know if you would be able to undertake an arrangement.

Betty Billins

PS: **URGENT:** If anyone has any greenery I could have for general use in the church flower arrangements – please let me know as soon as possible, thanks.

Church activities

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

- 9.30am Service for all the family, including crèche and Junior Church
(Most weeks, children leave after 20 minutes for their own activities)
- 11.00am Morning Worship
Holy Communion (4th Sunday)
- 6.30pm Evening Service
Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)
- Healing Services as announced*

PRAYER MEETINGS:

- Mon 9.15am An Hour of Prayer
- Wed 9.45am Short Service of Intercession
- Thur 8.00pm Church Prayer Evening
(4th Thursday)
- Fri 7.30am Prayer Meeting in the Lounge

REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Sun 6.30pm Sunday Evening Youth Group
- Mon 6.30pm Boys' Brigade – Junior Section (8–11 years)
- Tue 10.00am Stepping Stones
(Parents and toddlers)
- 6.15pm Girls' Brigade – Juniors, Seniors & Brigaders
- 7.45pm In Touch (4th Tuesday)
- Wed 2.45pm The Fellowship (4th Wed.)
- Thur 10.00am Pop-In (for coffee and a chat)
- 8.00pm Church Meeting (2nd Thur.)
- Fri 5.30pm Boys' Brigade – Anchor Boys (5–7 years)
- 7.30pm Boys' Brigade – Company Section (11+ years)

House Groups normally meet 1st and 3rd Thursday

**The church is open Monday to Saturday
from 10.00am to 1.00pm**

Phonebook



Church Telephone Number:

01444 484620

Boys' Brigade:

Geoffrey Cocksedge
01444 474007

Cradle Roll:

Sue Tester 01444 482810

Flowers:

Betty Billins 01444 484494

Girls' Brigade:

Margaret Luscombe
01444 412156

Hall Letting Secretary:

Audrey McKee 01444 415031

In Touch:

Sue Waller 01444 455047

Lunch Fellowship:

Wednesday:
Iris Green 01444 484117

Friday: Gwen and
Derrick Hillman 01444 456963

Magazine: Editor:

David Tingley 01444 451024

The Fellowship:

Jessie Green 01444 452708

Roy Billins 01444 484494

Stepping Stones:

Janet Goodenough
01825 740351

Transport:

Tina Elphick 01444 484440

Youth and Children's Work

Co-ordinator:

Rob Biersteker 01444 440835

Junior Church Co-ordinator:

Clare Nibloe 01444 484683