

GoodNEWS

LINDFIELD URC'S VILLAGE MAGAZINE

JULY / AUGUST 2002



**World Cup
players
with more
than one
manager!**

see page 4

-
- Thoughts for the summer hols!
 - WIN a family trip to Fishers Farm Park
 - Village & church events for July & August

FREE
PLEASE HELP YOURSELF

GoodNEWS

This magazine is produced by:
Lindfield United Reformed Church,
50 High Street, Lindfield, West Sussex RH16 2HL

Editor: David Tingley
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Editorial Oversight: Hilary Shepherd

Copydate for the September edition is 12noon, Sunday 11th August 2002. All contributions should be given to the Editor by this time via Email or paper copy can be placed in the "Good News" pigeon hole at the rear of the church. Please ensure that you include contact details in case of query.

Church Directory

Secretary: Mr. Ron Goodenough
"Downside" Stone Quarry Road,
Chelwood Gate RH17 7LS
Tel: 01825 740351; Fax: 01825-740157
Email: ron@rgoodenough.freemove.co.uk

Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Sue Waller
58 Queens Road, Haywards Heath RH16 1EE
Tel: 01444 455047 Email: susanwaller@lineone.net

Treasurer: Vacant at present

Accountant: Mr. Ken Walden
"Prisken" 1 The Cedars,
Haywards Heath RH16 1UR
Tel: 01444 458707 Email: prisken@btinternet.com

Pastoral Assistant: Rev. Mike Gardiner
48 Finches Gardens, Lindfield RH16 2PB
Tel: 01444 482559 Email: mike.g@virgin.net

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



Editorial



The summer provides us with many opportunities, whether they be fun in the sun or change in pace.

Stuart Dew encourages us to spend some of our summer time with God (**page 1**), Suzy Jacques recommends a good read (**page 16**) and my mum tells us how her holiday has already gone (**page 21**) – visiting Norman & Sarah Smith and Harry & Diana Goodchild.

There is plenty of local news and reports in our bumper double issue too. Cameron Sharpe gives us a real treat and rare insight into what a Boys' Brigade expedition is really like, see **page 18!**

As we come to the tail-end of football mania, I have included a piece illustrating that there are Christians in the professional football workplace too on **page 4**. It is interesting to see how they describe their various lives in that domain.

Other challenges come in the form of environmental responsibility (**page 9**) and a call to action for care in our community (**page 20**).

New this month is the realisation of the magazine on audio tapes and CDs, for those who find it difficult to read the real thing. Your feedback would be appreciated on this pilot project – so that we can ensure it is worth doing it. Best wishes,
David Tingley

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)
- 5.00pm Girls' Brigade – Explorers
- 6.30pm Girls' Brigade – Juniors and Seniors
- 7.30pm Girls' Brigade – 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:

Captain: Terry Ward
01444 482986

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-ordinators:

Stuart Dew 01444 413694

Rob Biersteker 01444 440835

Junior Church Co-ordinator:

Clare Nibloe 01444 484683

Dear Friends...



Some of you will already have had a Spring or Summer break; those restricted to going away during school holidays may be eagerly anticipating packing the bags, and setting off.

There are certainly some attractive holiday offers available. Two members of our congregation were able to get to Italy for only £8.99 each. That is less than a single peak rail-fare to London!

I hope that you will have the opportunity for a holiday of some kind. Those who know me well will tell you that I don't find it easy to relax at home, because there are always jobs to do. It is only when I am away that I don't feel impelled to clean the windows, cut the grass, or wash the car. You probably won't be surprised to read that I don't find it easy to fit time with God into that daily schedule.

My routine has changed recently, and I now travel to London most days, which gives me some free time. After all, it's not really practicable to clean the drains out, while sitting on the 0759 to Victoria! So, my first task – or rather, privilege – once I'm on the train, is to read my Bible notes and spend time quietly with God.

Holidays take us away from the pressures of daily routine. The most difficult choice to be made on holiday may concern whether to have the strawberry

or mint choc chip ice cream. I can't think of any evidence in the Bible of Jesus taking a holiday, but he did insist on having time on his own with God, away from his tasks of teaching, preaching and healing. For instance, when he heard the news of John the Baptist's death, the Bible tells us that he withdrew privately to a solitary place (Matthew 14:13), similarly when his arrest and crucifixion were imminent (Matthew 26:36). From my reading of the gospels, it is clear that this was something Jesus did frequently, probably daily. He needed to distance himself from worldly distractions and be on his own with God.

While drafting this letter, I read an article by the former Cabinet Minister Jonathan Aitken, who spent some time in prison. He says that of all his spiritual experiences to date – including three Alpha courses, confession through a Catholic priest, and two years at an evangelical theological college – by far the most powerful has been his perseverance with simple private prayer, while in custody. Like many a monastic occupant of a cell, he says, he experienced a "peace that the world cannot give".

I hope that, through spending time apart with God – on holiday rather than in prison – you too will find that peace.

Stuart Dew, Elder

Prayer Diary



SUN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All who preach and lead our worship • The musicians, organists and singers • Junior Church (special arrangements for Summer) • Carpe Diem (11-14s group) • Pastoral Assistant (Mike Gardiner)
MON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys' Brigade Junior Section • Concourse staff • Those that clean our premises • Those that clean and tidy our village streets • URC General Assembly (in early July)
TUE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls' Brigade (urgent need of more staff) • Stepping Stones (meeting in term time) • Anyone considering our vacancy for a new Minister • 'In Touch' (ladies group) • All who work in the health service
WED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luncheon Fellowships (outing in July) • The Fellowship (committee planning new programme) • The Elders (extra responsibilities) • Sussex East District of URC • UR Churches in Alfriston, Seaford and Bexhill
THUR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House Groups • 'Pop-in' • Our Interim Moderator (Charles Martin) • Services at Crossways home (2nd Thursday) • Shop-keepers and tradesmen in our village
FRI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys' Brigade (more staff required) • Church Secretary, Assistant Secretary & Accountant • FEBA (Far Eastern Broadcasting Association) • U R Churches in Burgess Hill, Crowborough and Eastbourne • Bentswood Holiday Outreach 24th – 26th August
SAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That we all may be supportive & encouraging, one to another • Outside organisations who use our premises • 14+ Group (Any leaving school or college) • Southern Province of URC • Happiness, refreshment and safety for all able to take holidays

Please remember to keep seeking God's will for our future ministry.

Balcombe United Reformed Church

Bramble Hill, Balcombe, RH17 6HR
Contact: Mrs S Billings (01444 400283)



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.

Speakers for this month are as follows:-

July 7th Donald Nisbet – Hymn choice
July 21st Rev. Michael Davies – Communion Service
Aug 4th David Walters
Aug 18th tbc

Friendship Lunch

This is held on the second Sunday of the month at 1pm and is preceded by an informal family service at 12 midday. Do come and join us for either or both events. Please bring a small contribution if staying to the lunch.

U&W

During July & August please pray for those of our fellowship whose surnames begin with U and W.

Children under your feet?

Not sure what to do?

**Ages 9 to 13 catered for Sunday
28th July to Friday 2nd August**

**SUSSEX
CHRISTIAN
CAMPS**

Fully equipped and safe site in the Sussex countryside, just south of Uckfield, closely supervised by experienced personnel. It is a Christian camp with an emphasis on leading and helping young people to accept Jesus Christ as their own personal saviour. There is also a Youth Camp, for 14-19 year olds, from Sunday 4th to Friday 9th August. Both weeks offer an exciting and varied programme.

We also need lots of help!...

1. **Prayer**; 2. **Tent leaders** (male and female) for the first week. Are you a Christian, young and active, looking to work with young people? Here's your opportunity; 3. **Cooks** and general kitchen staff (complete teams welcome!); 4. Friday 26th, and Saturday 27th, help to **erect marquees** and tents; 5. Saturday 10th, help to **pack everything away!**

More information, application forms and costs from: Peter Trump – 01444-451572

Footballers' lives

At a time when a good percentage of the UK has been going football-mad, GoodNEWS goes hot-foot to the land of the rising sun, and digs a little deeper to find the thoughts of some Christian footballers who battled it out in Japan.

It is perhaps reassuring to learn that a number of countries do have committed Christians in their World Cup squads. In a game that, arguably, receives a lot of media attention for inciting or displaying aggressive behaviour – it would appear that some biblical influences wouldn't go amiss!

Nigeria-born Benny Akwuegbu, begun playing for his home country when he was 19. When talking about how he tries to be different, Benedict comments “when I was playing in Belgium I did some things, you know... but some people advised me, some pastors and Christians and I changed and I am [now] doing what the Bible says. Since then my life started changing and I'm scoring and playing good”. He goes on “I think it is not hard if you can read the Bible every day and make notes to make it easier for you and if you play Christian music and watch the Christian Channel, always you are focussed, you know about God”.

Akwuegbu participated at the



1987 World under-16 championships in Scotland and the 1993 African under-20 championships in Mauritius. He was an Austrian Cup winner in 2000 with Grazer ASK. But, when all is not going so well, Benny displays a philosophical stance: “That is how God wants it to be. That gives me courage again. And I say that is the will of God. Let His will be done.”

Lucimar da Silva Ferreira (Lucio) is in the World Cup squad for Brazil. He also takes a placid attitude to footie failures: “The most important thing in a game of football is to give your all and do things in a responsible way because for sure the victories will come, but there will also be defeats. Anyone who steps onto the playing-field is subject to any result.” He considers that the Lord is “guarding him” and preparing him for bigger future blessings when it doesn’t work out on the field as he would have liked. “When you lose there is a need to analyse why. That always happens in football. I don’t think there is any reason to lose hope just because you lose a football match.”

Lucio was taken by his mother to an Evangelical Church in Brasilia during his childhood. Louis Crayton, whose national team – Liberia – failed to qualify, had a very different experience of God. During the war in Liberia, he found himself in many situations close to death, indeed many of his friends died. Having been taught about God from a young age, he assumed that his ‘escapes’ were God’s hand on his life. One day he cried out “God if really you are there, I want you to carry me through

this war, and I will serve you with all of my heart, with all of my life. Since then I have been striving by the grace of God to fulfil my vow and my promise that I made to Him.”

Louis goes on to say, “Some people say that Christianity is for the weak-minded. I disagree strongly. Christianity is for humanity. I mean if we look around the world today with all that is happening, if man could only get to know this God that we serve and obey and do that which he has asked us to do, we would not have all the problems that are happening today.”

Juan Carlos Valerón (World Cup squad for Spain) realises that life on the international sports field isn’t everything, “all you can get in life is not really worth anything if you are not happy – if your heart is not filled with God.” He cites the Bible as the tool which God has left to us to help us. In particular “Psalm 23, which tells us that God will always be with us, whatever happens.”

Valeron comments, “I still haven’t been able to score for Spain, but I hope to put that right very soon!” I guess only time will tell, but one thing is for sure with these guys, they have got God on their side!

Christians co-operate in political service

A new cross-party initiative has been launched in The Houses of Parliament, at a reception hosted by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

This unique idea is to encourage Christian involvement in politics. A new website has been launched – www.christiansinpolitics.org.uk – with a message that Christians should join in and become involved in the mainstream political party for which they normally vote. The Christian groups in the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat Parties have cooperated with a cross-party group of MPs to launch this project.

The initiative aims to show that despite political disagreements there is a common belief that Christians should fruitfully be involved in Britain's mainstream political parties. It also represents a Christian response to the growing cynicism and disengagement from politics seen in declining Party membership and in voting patterns.

God answers attack prayer

Ten weeks after a church blast which nearly took his life, Dr Christy Munir has been discharged from an Islamabad hospital – the last of several local Christians critically wounded in the 17th March attack to be released from hospital care. Munir was president of the International Protestant Church where five people were killed and another 45 injured by a grenade attack in a diplomatic enclave. “I found myself getting weaker and weaker,” he said. As he realised he was losing consciousness, he prayed: “Whatever your will, Lord, I am here. You can take me.”

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

Fair Trade Petition

Thirty six members of Lindfield URC signed a petition supporting the national lobby of parliament, that took place on 19th June, when thousands met MPs to encourage them to support trade justice for the developing world. The Mayor of Haywards Heath, Mrs Irene Balls, was the last to sign locally, at a ceremony which was held in the presence of representatives from the Churches Together in Haywards Heath and the Justice and Peace Group.

Anniversaries

Congratulations to Norna and Aubrey Derham who celebrate their Golden Wedding on 5th July. Congratulations also to Elsie and Reg Campling who celebrate their 70th Wedding Anniversary on 30th August.

"Many thanks to those who sponsored me at the Charity Hedgelaying on 2nd March. £3000 was raised for Chailey Heritage." *John Blake*

Brian & Sue Tester rejoice in the birth of a grandson – Nathan – (9lb 4oz) on 18th May 2002 to their daughter Alison and son-in-law Mark, a brother for Hannah.

Moving Home

Hilary Slatter has moved to :-
3 Cedar Lodge, Cudlow Gardens,
Rustington, W Sussex. BN16 2RJ

Congratulations

to Bert Sarsons who celebrates his 90th Birthday on 16th August.

Tea Tent thanks

Suzy Jacques & David Tingley would like to sincerely thank all those who assisted at (or for) the three churches Village Day tea tent this year. Particular recognition should go to Roger & Eileen Jacques, Peter Ford, Ben Dorsett, Emma Tingley & Peter Trump. Great team work, thank you all.

Katy Lewis' summer address (until 13th August), do write and support her while she is away from Sussex!

Katy Lewis, c/o Camp Allegheny
RD1, Box 255, Ellwood City, PA 16117, USA
Email: katyell@hotmail.com

Betty holds 'standard' for Lindfield

One church member not only saw the Queen's Jubilee Parade on Tuesday 4th June, but was invited to take part in it. Betty Billins had the privilege to represent the Lindfield Womens' Section of the Royal British Legion in the special parade through Central London. "It was absolutely breathtaking to hear the cheers as we entered The Mall" Betty said after the event. She joined over 400 colleagues from Royal British Legion branches across the country.

Having arrived in London at 11am, they were not actually called into the parade until 3.45pm. Betty, however, is not new to such prestigious occasions. She carried the flag 25 years ago for one of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Parades. Nice one Betty!

A word from the Gnomes 'Ome

"Gnomes-R-US" – yes, it's official – that's our registered name – as per the Royal Alex Childrens' Hospital Rockinghorse Appeal website! Fame at last! But, it is to you our church friends and the villagers of Lindfield and beyond, that we must say a very grateful 'thank you' for supporting our two 'plant & pud' sales so readily. We were encouraged not only by your generous giving, but also by your prayers – for this was and still is a very big venture for us.

As this report is penned – it's early June – an end (monetary) total is not possible as yet. However on my abacus (an Irish one – only one bead – it takes a long time!!!) we are over £500 in profit, and there's more!!

So if you've worked with us, as a 'potter', a 'foster carer for plants', a 'seller', or in 'the transport section', then consider yourself one of the family, an HONORARY GNOME, no less, and thank you for your service in taking the church into the community.

Jess, Pad and I wish you all a happy hols and remember "Don't be a weed – be a seed for Christ – Bloom where you're planted".

In His Service,
"Blossom"
(aka Ann Lay)

Garden Tea offer

A **Garden Tea** has been arranged on Wednesday 24th July, at 15 Blackthorns, Lindfield at 3pm. If wet, in the church hall. If you can manage to bring a garden chair it will be appreciated. Look forward to seeing you.

A sincere thank you to all who supported our charity lunch on 29th May for 'Headway'. A cheque has been sent for £233.50 to Ann Cunningham, Chairman of Headway, towards the wonderful work they do at their rehab house in Newick for brain injured patients.

Jessie Green & Roy Billins
The Fellowship

Tea tent makes profit for Tearfund

The Common & Garden, this year's three churches refreshment marquee at the Jubilee Village Day, served over 900 hot drinks during the eight hours it was open.

Suzy Jacques, co-organiser of the fairtrade tea tent, said that after the expenses of setting up and paying for practicalities we will be able to send Tearfund a cheque for nearly £300.



This month's focus is on our environment. As Christians we often look around us and see God's beauty in creation.

We're amazed when we look at the incredible detail of a flower and we're filled with awe when we see new life all around us. Some people feel closest to God when surrounded by his creation. We read in Genesis that Adam was instructed 'to take care of' His creation (2:15) – that's quite a responsibility! Taking care of God's creation should not be thought of as unimportant, or even unspiritual – it's one of our duties as Christians. We need, therefore, to live in harmony with, and show respect for, all of creation, after all we're ultimately responsible to God for how we treat it. Abuse and misuse of the earth and its resources will lead to disaster and we are already seeing some of the consequences of this. Creation is a testimony of the existence and nature of God (Romans 1:20) – we can all play a part in taking care of it.

You only have to read a newspaper, or listen to the news, to hear of genetically modified crops, BSE, pollution, greenhouse gases and global warming. One quarter of the UK's carbon dioxide emissions originate from the energy used to heat and light our homes –

that means that we can all do something to actively take more care of God's creation. In fact, there are lots of things we can all do in our homes and beyond to help reduce pollution and promote care of God's earth. Here are a few ideas to either get you going, or confirm that you're already doing a good job!

- ✓ Where possible
REDUCE – REUSE – RECYCLE!
- ✓ Save water by not leaving taps running
- ✓ Turn off lights when you leave a room
- ✓ Use energy efficient light bulbs
- ✓ Avoid leaving appliances on 'stand-by'
- ✓ Always try to wash a full load in the washing machine or dishwasher and use an economy setting if you have one
- ✓ Try to choose products that are environmentally friendly, such as washing liquids and other cleaning products
- ✓ Don't buy foods and products that contain genetically modified ingredients

For more energy saving ideas visit The Energy Saving Trust (www.est.org.uk) or to find out how Christians are responding to environmental issues check out Christian Ecology Link at www.christian-ecology.org.uk.

Emma Tingley

fun page

This month's competition is for all those budding artists among you and has a bit of an animal theme, so get your pens, pencils, crayons or paints out and get to work colouring in Noah's ark and the animals.

The prize for this summer competition has been kindly donated by Fishers Farm Park in Wisborough Green and is a free ticket for a family of four to spend the day there. Don't forget – entries should be placed in the Good News rack at the back of the church by Sunday 14th July, so you can use the voucher before the end of the summer.



Feel free to copy and enlarge if you wish

Last month's winner

The June magazine featured a competition for those young at heart to take part in. Only a small number of entries were received, but the winner, selected at random, was Emma Nibloe – who will get a £5 voucher to spend in the Haywards Heath Christian Resource Centre. Maybe not much of a bonus for someone whose Grandad owns it (!), but we hope you choose something you want, Emma.

This month is a colouring competition where you can win a trip to Fishers Farm Park. Enter by Sunday 14th July.

Summer Picnic

Sunday 14th July

from 12.30pm

at Downside, Stone Quarry Road
Chelwood Gate

Bring your own food, garden chairs and perhaps an outdoor game for the children

Drinks will be provided

Swimming pool will be open

No need to reply - just turn up

If wet we'll have to cancel

If you need directions please speak to
Ron or Janet Goodenough (01825 740351)



Fishers Farm Park, Newpound Lane, Wisborough Green
Telephone 01403 700063

WINNER Visitor Attraction of the Year South East of England

A unique mixture of farmyard fun and dynamic adventure play.

Animal shows, play zone, slides, tractor rides, combine harvester rides, beach paddling pool, trampolines, foodbarns.

A wonderful day out for all the family.

Phone for more information and prices
or visit our website at www.fishersfarmpark.co.uk
Open every day 10.00 - 17.00

July & August diary

July

4th

Thursday House Group week

7th

Sunday 9.30am* David Nibloe & Ron Goodenough
11.00am* Ron Goodenough
6.30pm* Richard Walters & Peter Trump

11th

Thursday **No Church 'Members Meeting'**

14th

Sunday 9.30am* David Nibloe & Charles Martin (Interim Moderator)
11.00am* Healing Service – Charles Martin
6.30pm* Communion – Richard Walters & Charles Martin

18th

Thursday House Group week

20th

Saturday Lindfield Horticultural Society Show at The King Edward Hall

21st

Sunday 9.30am* David Nibloe & Derek Heath
11.00am* Derek Heath
6.30pm* Richard Walters & Jeremy Heath

23rd

Tuesday 6.30pm Ladies 'In Touch'

24th

Wednesday 3.00pm The Fellowship – Garden Party at 15 Blackthorns
7.45pm Elders' Meeting

25th

Thursday 8.00pm Monthly Prayer Meeting

28th

Sunday 9.30am* David Nibloe & Daryl Sinclair
11.00am* Communion – Daryl Sinclair
6.30pm* Richard Walters & Philip Wren

August

1st

Thursday Senior Citizens' Car Outing & Tea

3rd

Saturday Induction of Revd. Andrew Fairchild to the joint pastorate at Haywards Heath URC (remaining with Burgess Hill URC)
3.30/4pm tbc

Don't forget, you can now download GoodNEWS from www.lindfieldurc.org.uk

4th

Sunday

9.30am* Communion –
Richard Walters & Mike
Gardiner
11.00am* Mike Gardiner
6.30pm* David Nibloe &
David Jones

11th

Sunday

9.30am* Richard Walters
& Norman Nibloe
11.00am* Norman Nibloe
6.30pm* Communion –
David Nibloe &
Ron Goodenough

12noon Copy Date for
September 'Good News'

18th

Sunday

9.30am* Richard Walters
& Barry Piper
11.00am* Barry Piper
6.30pm* David Nibloe &
Brian Stone

22nd

Thursday

8.00pm Monthly Prayer Meeting

25th

Sunday

9.30am* Richard Walters &
Carol Walters' House Group
11.00am* Communion –
Michael Davies
6.30pm* David Nibloe &
Peter Trump

27th

Tuesday

Ladies 'In Touch' (time tba)

What about our Sunday Services* then?

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

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.

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.

Now, listen up

During July and August we are, as a church, focussing on the marvellous work of FEBA, the organisation dedicated to beaming the good news of Jesus Christ by radio to India, Africa, Central Asia and the Middle East.

So, imagine you live without access to TV, newspapers, books, let alone a bible... in fact, you can't even read. There are no local churches and no preachers. Your lifeline to the outside world is a portable radio. Well, it would be if you have one.

Peter Akec Ater in Southern Sudan, unable to read or write, heard his own language, Dinka, on a radio and was so determined to own one himself that he sold one of his cows so that he could buy a radio and listen for himself. It happened to be FEBA's Dinka language programme that caught his attention. "Now I have found FEBA Radio useful to me, for it has educated me to know Jesus as my Master, Friend and Saviour".

Listeners in other areas, of course, are highly educated and submit written feedback to the programme producers. For example, Iman Tabet, FEBA Lebanon's production team leader, remarks "It is true that I write programmes, but believe me I think that the fruit of our broadcasting is seen in the correspondence we get. I see broadcasting as a strong tool to reach the ear of the listener and from it his heart, the same is true of the correspondence counselling ministry that follows up the effect of the programmes, making what the listener has heard more concrete and clear."

Others have found faith through the cassette ministry used as follow up to the broadcasts. On the other hand the Arabic website is announced on air and Internet is becoming an important source of information and means of contact with people in the Middle East. "We get roughly 5 emails a day and about 8 people using the chat line link" explains Fadel who runs the website. "Most are searching the web to find out about the Christian faith".

As an effective means of communicating with an audience largely accustomed to an oral tradition in areas of Afghanistan, FEBA has also broadcast an audio version of the Jesus Film. The responses from listeners have encouraged the team to continue the good work.

Please pray for FEBA. Come into the church and spend a few moments looking at the special display in the church concourse area.



Why shortwave?

by Tony Ford at FEBA. www.feba.org.uk

Strolling round the shopping areas of Thailand in 1999, I discovered it was impossible to hire films on videotape. DVD had superseded VHS.

Home entertainment technology in Thailand had leapfrogged the UK. Thai people might think VHS tape is unavailable in UK right now, but they'd be wrong. We don't use shortwave radio in the UK but shortwave is not dead. It is used elsewhere. Most of us in this compact country can hear high quality FM radio, with a wide choice of stations. A few listen to foreign radio stations, either on medium wave (remember Radio Luxemburg?) or shortwave.

The story is different in Africa and the Middle East where millions listen to shortwave radio every day. Feba got hold of some survey results from Afghanistan this year. Almost exclusively Afghans use "foreign radio" – that means shortwave – to meet their need for news. In Feba we are delighted to hear that. Our focus has been to reach countries that are difficult to enter with the gospel. Don't be fooled by the short in shortwave. This type of broadcasting makes giant strides from transmitter to

receiver. So, even though it might be hard for real people to enter some countries, their voices can be heard talking about the Lord Jesus.

This kind of international radio is still hugely important for African and Asian audiences. Shortwave radio is still widely used by listeners where it provides services that are otherwise not available. What about the future? Will shortwave continue to be useful? There are some helpful and interesting indicators.

Recently China has been investing huge resources in shortwave transmitters for domestic use; all their transmitters are being upgraded ready for digital radio. Listeners with new digital receivers will get audio quality much better than good medium wave – still keeping the same long distance potential for broadcasters – and all for a few dollars more on the cost of their radio set. When digital quality arrives, international broadcasting will get a new lease of life, especially when listeners find something they cannot get on local radio. Feba's world is changing and the opportunity to share the Gospel with our listeners will continue for a long time yet.

A view on Roman life

Well, England's summer still hasn't really got going yet, but it's the time of year for holidays at home and abroad and that means time to scour the local bookstore for a 'good read'.

I don't know about you, but lazing by the pool in the sunshine, I don't tend to be reaching for my copy of "How to read the Bible for all it's worth".

That doesn't mean, however, that you can't read something that will more quietly expand your understanding of God.

I'd like to recommend a trilogy of novels, based on the life of a Jewish-Christian

girl, growing up in the early church. If you can make it past the first few pages of rather too descriptive scenes of a ravaged Jerusalem, I guarantee an absolute treat!

The first of the three books, which are written by Francine Rivers, is "A Voice in the Wind". This tells of the life of Hadassah

and all those she touches as a young Christian under Roman authority. It is both a love story and a gentle encouragement to all who read it to live more for Christ and less selfishly.

The second, "An Echo in the Darkness", is the sequel and if you are a fast reader, or are going on a long holiday, I heartily

recommend taking this book with you too – the first book ending on such a cliff-hanger!

The third book, "As Sure as the Dawn", picks up on the life of one of the characters from "A Voice in the Wind" – a gladiator, who learns about true love and the strange God of

the Christians, who share with him the Roman arenas.

You can buy these books at the Haywards Heath Christian Bookshop – I'm sure you won't be disappointed.

Thanks Heather, for recommending these books to me in the first place!

Suzy Jacques

"It is both a love story and a gentle encouragement to all who read it to live more for Christ and less selfishly."



Busy in the B.B.

Although our Editor has kindly filled in some of the gaps, the hectic pace of life in our BB Company has prevented me from submitting a report on our activities until now.

Some of the most important activities in BB are those which are not seen by parents or church folk. One such is Duke of Edinburgh's Award, which the majority of our Boys have joined. Our five Seniors, James, Matthew, Daffyd, Jim, and Ollie, tackled a very demanding expedition in the New Forest in early May, to qualify for their Silver Award. They camped out three nights, and completed the 30 mile trek without serious problems: what a happy group of lads they were when they reached the finishing point! They were comparative veterans, however, and it was a somewhat different story a couple of weeks later, when four 14 year olds, William, Jonathan, Cameron, and Edward, tackled a Bronze level training expedition, walking between Plumpton and Henfield, and did very well – until nearly the end, when they lost themselves! However, they survived to tell the tale (see page 18),

and realise that some things are best learned the hard way.

We have taken part in a number of Battalion competitions, the results of some of which have already been reported. In sporting events, we are not equal at present to the front runners in the Battalion, but our swimming, and 5-a-side football teams enjoyed taking part, despite not getting anywhere. Jim Johnson was presented with his well-earned Queens Badge at the May church parade, and more major awards are in the pipeline.

Like most people in the church, we have been involved in Jubilee celebrations. Terry Ward, Jim Johnson, and Daffyd Wagstaff represented the BB at a Thanksgiving Service held by both Sussex Counties in Chichester Cathedral, and the following day, the band led the village procession to the Common, watched by a crowd which was probably numbered in the thousands: a valuable piece of witness for church and BB.

Geoffrey Cocksedge

**Check out the new BB minisite
(designed by Jim Johnson)
at www.lindfieldurc.org.uk**

"We got lost... a bit!"

At 9.00am on Saturday 18th May we set off from Plumpton Station heading for Henfield common. The team undertaking the expedition was: Jonathan Dew, Edward Johnson, Will Mills and me Cameron Sharpe.

We were carrying packs on our backs supposedly one quarter of our body weight, though mine was about three quarters! So here we were walking past Plumpton racecourse when we had our first crisis, it rained. You would think raining is no big hurdle but we had to cover our bags to stop our equipment from soaking. Everyone else's bag had a plastic sheet, which could wrap over the bag to protect it but mine didn't. So my bag got drenched and we were only fifteen minutes into the expedition!

From then on it seemed to go quite smoothly, we met our targets easily and we were within a quarter of a mile from our last meet up point before lunch when we came across a farm. We were just leaving the farm when a female goose started to chase us around the small yard we were in. Unfortunately just next to the wild goose was the gate we needed to go through. So after a long debate we decided

to run for it and pray we wouldn't get hit. So we ran like stink and got ourselves across. HOORAY!! We were just congratulating ourselves and laughing when we came upon our greatest adversary yet, a horse. I just wished Johnny had told us he was scared of horses before we began but regardless the rest of us tried to woo Johnny across the field of horses. One horse running after us and forcing us back over the stile we had just crossed didn't help our task. We decided it might be unsafe to try again so we phoned for an escort across the field.

We walked and walked and walked from then on and at about 3.30pm when we were only 45 minutes from our camp for the night we had a distraction. Will being helpful told a family of 10 walkers to follow us if they wanted to get to Pycombe as our next stop was very close to there. So we walked on and passed a group of

"down the road a strong smell of gas erupted from my bag... lucky I don't smoke!"

20 horses, Will had been counting horses and one of these was his hundredth, so he was just raising his bat to the imaginary crowd when one horse bolted. The rider was a little girl and the horse had taken one look at our faces and had a heart attack. The little girl fell off and as she got up the horse stood on her. This provoked a riot and we slipped off quietly unnoticed.

The ten travellers were still following us and when we ended up at Wolstonbury Hill we realised we had gone at least two miles off track. We smiled, apologised to the travellers and made a hasty retreat.

The next morning had a bad feeling the minute we woke up. To be woken up by some quote from Blackadder was bad enough but when quoted by Ed it is a living nightmare!

We had breakfast and left swiftly. A mile down the road a

strong smell of gas erupted from my bag. A closer inspection showed that I had left my gas canister on, lucky I don't smoke!

We got lost a bit, due to my awful map reading! But even so we were within half an hour from home when it happened. We came into a big field with very long grass. We started to wade through the grass but when we found a big abandoned truck we started to wonder about our map reading and we eventually spent an hour in that stupid field.

There was still enough time to end up on a golf course and have tea and biscuits at someone's house when we unintentionally ended up in their garden! The last time we got lost was in a lay-by next to a Ford Fiesta. We eventually arrived home at 4.30pm, four hours late and with double maths homework and revision still to do!

Report by Pte Cameron Sharpe

WE can make a difference

An evening with Tony Campolo 11th July in Brighton

Tony Campolo has spent his life serving and communicating about God's love. In his unique style that is vivid, passionate, witty and full of God's grace, he will be sharing some of the lessons he has learned on the journey. It will be an evening to inspire, challenge, encourage but above all, make us realise the potential that we have in God.

Music with Mal Pope, drama from Going Public Theatre Co and worship led by Bill & Rachel Taylor Beales
7.30pm, Clarendon Centre, 47 New England St, Brighton. Ticket info: 029 2033 7880

Show me love

Words are often not enough, people want to see that God loves them.

That is why Rebuild, a Christian coalition of 70 national church groups, started the National Community Week initiative. This year the dedicated period is between 28 September and 12 October and is a way for churches to get involved with social action locally, and an opportunity to do something positive in the community. It is just one part of the Evangelical Alliance's "facevalues" mission which also runs during September.

It was back in November at UNITE that we, as a church here in Lindfield began talking about how we might get involved in community projects. Rebuild has been established to help, resource and advise churches like Lindfield URC! Alicia Meijer Diamond, Project Manager for the week last year, said "Many [churches] felt encouraged to start with community action, even though some had never done anything in the community before. Others were amazed by the appreciation they got from local groups."

Last year's event included many projects of differing scales. Bedworth Baptist Church in

Warwickshire staged a week of prayer with local schools, the Mayor and the Police asked for prayer points. "We felt encouraged that our little first step [into community work] actually made a difference" commented the church. Similarly, Emmanuel Church in Fleetwood, Lancashire established an ongoing volunteer relationship, through the Police and Council, cleaning up the park and helping older people with gardening jobs in the locality.

Those who have been involved indicate that it not only raised the profile of church action in the community but also helped to build confidence within the church itself. "Community Week has helped some church members here to understand that our involvement with the community is part of God's agenda" comments St Bartholomew's Anglican church in Coventry.

According to Rebuild, those interested in doing something for this year's event should consider what is most appropriate within the community they are placed. Maybe we could consider: making our church more accessible to those with a

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My ‘dog-collar’ tour

By Fiona Tingley

It is seldom that you would want to hear about my holiday, but just maybe this one would interest you? (Unless you are very new to LURC, that is!)

In my good friend's red Micra I was comfortably taxied to Cirencester in the Cotswolds, where I spent a few days with the Rev and Mrs Goodchild, Harry and Diana to most of us (even dad and mum to some)! As background information here, perhaps – a number of years ago Harry left his secular employment as he felt called to the URC Ministry. After overcoming a number of obstacles, he trained for four years in Bristol and Oxford, while Diana was a fulltime Warden in flats for the elderly in Bristol. A hard and sacrificial time for them both. He was ordained and inducted in a United Methodist/URC ministry in Gloucestershire two and a half years ago. These dear friends made me so welcome in their lovely home, and we chatted as though we might have seen each other yesterday! There were many questions about the church, the people and the village, where they had lived amongst us for quite a few years.

Apart from visiting some

delightful Cotswold villages, the highlight of the weekend for me was attending one of Harry's churches on Pentecost Sunday morning. Harry led the worship, spoke to the children and preached a challenging and inspiring sermon on the Holy Spirit, with such warmth and confidence. I was so encouraged and heartened – I felt like leaping up from my seat at the end of the service and proclaiming “Yes, Lord!!!” (I managed to restrain myself, but it was a real joy and privilege to see him serving the Lord so faithfully in his own church!) Well done, Harry! I praise God for his determination and the selfless service that he and Diana are now giving, (Diana also nursing in the local hospital, which she loves).

Then came the exchange of hostage, so to speak! Harry and Diana took me part way to meet Norman and Sarah Smith, where I was to spend the second part of my “ministerial tour”. We enjoyed lunch together in Leominster, the two Rev's talking non-stop about whatever ‘Rev's off duty’ talk about! The Goodchilds bade us farewell and we journeyed on to Church

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Stretton in Shropshire, Norman and Sarah's new home after their move from Lindfield in January.

Of course, our semi-retired ex-Minister and his wife made me so welcome too; transporting me to various attractive towns in Shropshire in an attempt to miss the heavy showers that accompanied me to that beautiful

part of the country. They are settling down in their new surroundings, but I know they would very much value our continued prayers for what is proving to be a challenging move to a church so different from our own. I felt as though I spent all week answering questions from one or the other, but I didn't mind

that one bit! (It is always a pleasure for me to share about the church family here at Lindfield, because I am so grateful for it and

the love and support extended to me over many years.)

I so appreciated the kindness of my friends in giving me a really relaxing holiday, which was a blessing to me in body, mind and

spirit. Both the Goodchilds and the Smiths sent their love and greetings to all who know them. These two families have blessed us here in the past in many ways; please pray for them now as they continue to serve their Lord in ministering to others in the family of God.

Fo Tingley

*"I felt like leaping
up from my seat
at the end
of the service
and proclaiming
"Yes, Lord!!!"*

Show me love ...continued from page 20

disability; fundraising for a local good cause; promote recycling, little or no car use and litter collections locally; provide respite care for carers by offering to sit with someone or do cooking for a week; give local young people something to do in the evenings.

Anyone interested? Maybe there

is something that you really feel passionate about here, let's get involved and provide practical help to our friends and neighbours! For more information visit www.rebuild.org.uk or write to them c/o: 16 Kingston Road, London SW19 1JZ. What about getting a small group together to organise LURC's effort this year?!

STOP PRESS: 'Churches Together in Haywards Heath & District' with NCH, formally launch a detached Youth Work Project on 11th July, at HH Methodist Church.

Take me back in time

I recently had the pleasure of 'thumbing through' the pages of local history after acquiring a copy of "Lindfield Remembered", of which one of our own members is co-author.

The book is a pictorial guide through time, digging out snap shots of a previous people and the way they lived. Those of you who know how much I revelled in the joy of researching our own church history for our website, will guess that I was looking forward to the publication of this particular tome.

You see, I have an insatiable desire to step back in time. When I visit ancient National Trust properties or am nosily looking for clues at medieval castles there are times when I would truly love to actually see these people living their, often hard-going, lives.

I ought to say that this is not the same sort of time travel that I, and I dare say others, would dearly like to perform with their loved ones. To go back and learn more about my father while he was alive, to care about the intricacies of his warm character and to try and extract just an ounce of his superb DIY wisdom – sometimes seem so important to me. But no, the type of 'Back to the Future' transportation to

which I am referring would be more out of morbid and idle curiosity than anything else!

Just to imagine being at the first 'service' at All Saints Church in 1230 blows my mind. To witness first-hand the fun and frolics of the Lindfield Swimming Club in the stream in 1906, to have experienced Victorian school life in the 'new school' on Lewes Road in 1881 or to have felt the national pride and tremendous sense of loss at the Service by the War Memorial in 1923 would all be unique experiences of history in the making.

Of course, the same is true for our brothers and sisters who lived in biblical times. These people were the very formation of the Christian tradition, varied as it now is. They lived colourful and hazardous lives. They mixed with Jesus on a personal level and watched his laughter-soaked stories and the bitter betrayal by his enemies. This same Jesus is the one who longs to know us, and spend more time in conversation with us privately.

The Bible is our history book. The surroundings and society may have changed but God has not. Maybe, one day, Jesus himself will explain time travel to me.

David Tingley

Catch a dream

Father God,

Set a dream in my heart.

Help me trace its detail
from small beginnings,
Colour it with bold
brush strokes.

Engrave it on my heart
in times of doubt.

Strengthen its design against
the winds of impossibility.

Give me arms outstretched
to catch the dreams of others,

Help us sketch hope in
the aftermath of pain.

Stand together in the
shadows of disappointment,
Share in celebration
as dreams become reality.

Creator God, set a dream
in my heart ...

A dream of hope,
a dream that will change
a moment,
a day,
a life.

For eternity.

Prayer by Wendy Bray

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Flower Rota

		Arranging	Distributing
July	7	Carol Walters	Fiona Tingley
	14	Jean Baxter	Heather Swann
	21	Anne Blake	Sue Tester
	28	Fiona Tingley	Dorothy Forster
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	11	Dorothy Forster	Jacqueline Wood
	18	Margaret Goodare	Iris Bingham
	25	Iris Green	Fiona Tingley
Sept	1	Joan Durrant	Heather Swann
	8	Carol Marsh	Sue Tester
	15	Ann Lay	Dorothy Forster
	22	Zoe McQuillin	Betty Peter
	29	Harvest Festival	Jacqueline Wood

Betty Billins

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**If, for whatever reason, you
wish to listen to this magazine,
rather than read it – YOU CAN!**

**Copies of it are available to
borrow on CD and Tape at the
rear of the church, by the
Sunday Service tapes.**