

GoodNEWS

LINDFIELD URC'S VILLAGE MAGAZINE

OCTOBER 2008



Autumn in the Garden

PLUS...

- Jez heath writes about Being a Christian at Work
- Look out for information about Celebr8
- Enjoy sitting down to a Crossword Puzzle

FREE
PLEASE HELP YOURSELF

Lindfield United Reformed Church

presents a

ADMISSION
FREE

MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA

7.30pm

Saturday 1st November 2008

featuring:

Copthorne Silver Band

(Bandmaster: Mervyn Tarrant)

Perdido Players Swing Band

(Leader: Peter Swann)

Dawn Walters

John Barling

A retiring collection will be taken at the end of the concert in aid of the Lindfield United Reformed Church Bursary Fund to help some of Uganda's disadvantaged children.

All enquiries to Peter Swann (Tel: 01444 450335)
or Tom Burford (Tel: 01444 483841)

Dear Friends...



If we are honest, we have to admit that family life is never easy. It's wonderful to know that you are important to other people, but family life inevitably brings strains and tensions.

Which is the worst part of the day? Is it the frantic rush to get yourselves and the children up in time to get everyone washed, dressed and fed before haring off to school and work? Or perhaps it's home time, when the little dears return, drop their coats in the hall for Mum to pick up and head straight for the television or computer? There is home-work to be done and maybe music practice and you dread the coming battle, so you go back to the kitchen to get the supper ready and then the 'phone rings. Your husband is stuck in traffic and he's going to be late again, so you will have to put the kids to bed yourself. You know that they will moan..... "But I want Daddy to read me a story!"

Being a Mum is just about the most difficult job in the world. It's not easy being a Dad either and my heart goes out to those Dads who for one reason or another are separated from their children. The tragedy of family breakdown cannot be overstated, but it's part of life and we have to cope with it.

If you are part of a family, spare a thought for those folk who have to live alone, especially those who either by age or circumstance have no relatives. While having to cope with the demands of spouse and children can sometimes drive you to distraction, there are many who long for someone else to share the long hours they have to spend on their own.

There is so much rejection in today's society. The young are rejected because they are accused of vandalising the neighbourhood and stand around in gangs threatening old ladies. Single people are rejected because

they are considered a threat to other people's relationships, or made to feel marginalised because they can't talk about their children or grand-children's latest exam success. The newly married want to be on their own and the middle-aged are too busy. The old - well the old are either too demanding or else cantankerous and impossible to please. What a fractured society we have become! Oh for somewhere where no one is judged and rejected!

If there's one thing I want our church to be, it's a place where everyone can know that they are genuinely valued and loved. We won't get it right all the time, but we can do our best and the most important thing, is to make sure that folk know we welcome all-comers. It doesn't matter if you are living with a "partner" instead of a husband or wife. If you find a home with a set of "Jesus people", you might discover that being totally committed in marriage is much better, but even if you don't, we'll still love you. It doesn't matter if you are attracted to people of the same sex. We don't believe that physical same-sex relationships are what God has in mind for human beings and while He loves us, He doesn't love everything we do. He wants us to change by finding new life in His Son, but Jesus said He had come to call sinners to repentance and we are all sinners who need His forgiveness and grace.

The best thing that anyone ever said about church life, was the explanation offered by a young lad from a New York gang, when his fellow gang-members asked why he had started to go to church. He said "Those folks just love a guy, that's all." Wouldn't it be fantastic if he had said that about us!

*With love from your pastor and friend,
Charles Martin*

GoodNEWS

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

Editorial



The Magazine may be a little thinner than usual but it is none the less packed with goodies. May I make a suggestion to do something a bit different when you get your magazine, read it and enjoy it but also to use it to lead you to pray.

For you – as you read Jez Heath's article on Living the Christian Life Every Day, that if you need encouraging you will be encouraged, if you need challenging you will be challenged. Jez writes as he preaches, so you are in for a good read, full of gems.

For Others – The articles on the Samaritan's purse and Angel Tree remind us of those who are in great physical and spiritual need. There are also those within the Church Family who need your support through prayer.

For Our Country – Carol Marsh has written a really helpful piece on Halloween. Please pray for those around you especially children, that they will not be drawn into the events of this evening.

For Our Church - As we get close to Celebra8 will you pray that each one of us in the church will have our Faith refreshed.

Great things happen when you pray!!

Val, Editor



EVERYTHING to God in Prayer

The old hymn tells us that we have the privilege to take everything to our loving Father, in prayer through the work of Jesus. To state the obvious, “Everything” includes all things, and excludes nothing! This is a lesson I need to learn constantly. How easy it is to think we can cope with some things ourselves, and only pray when at the end of our own resources. Or forget to thank God for His blessings and provision for us.

The fact is, God made us, sustains us, and knows everything about us. So when we talk to Him in prayer, we are responding to His loving care for us. Like anyone that we are in close relationship with, He loves to hear what makes us happy, to be thanked for all He gives us and does for us, and to be asked for that help and provision – “Which of you fathers will give his son a stone when he asks for bread.....how much more will your Heavenly Father give good things to those who ask”? (Matthew 7 vv 9 – 11; Luke 11 vv 9 – 13). “Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer, with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God”. (Philippians 4 v 6).

So, as we go through the coming weeks, let us share EVERYTHING daily with God:

- Monday** – Consider some characteristics of the Creator God, and praise Him for who He is.
- Tuesday** – Thank God for His blessings to you. Ask Him how you can be a blessing to one other person today.
- Wednesday** – Remember that we are all sinners, and ask God for forgiveness for your failures, and the power to change.
- Thursday** – Consider whether someone has offended you, and ask God for His help to forgive them (then do it!)
- Friday** – Are you facing a challenge? If so, ask God for help in overcoming this.
- Saturday** – Pray for Christians everywhere, and especially those experiencing opposition or persecution.
- Sunday** – Thank God that all this is possible through Jesus, His Son, our Lord and Saviour, who died and rose again, and who is coming back for all who put their trust in Him.

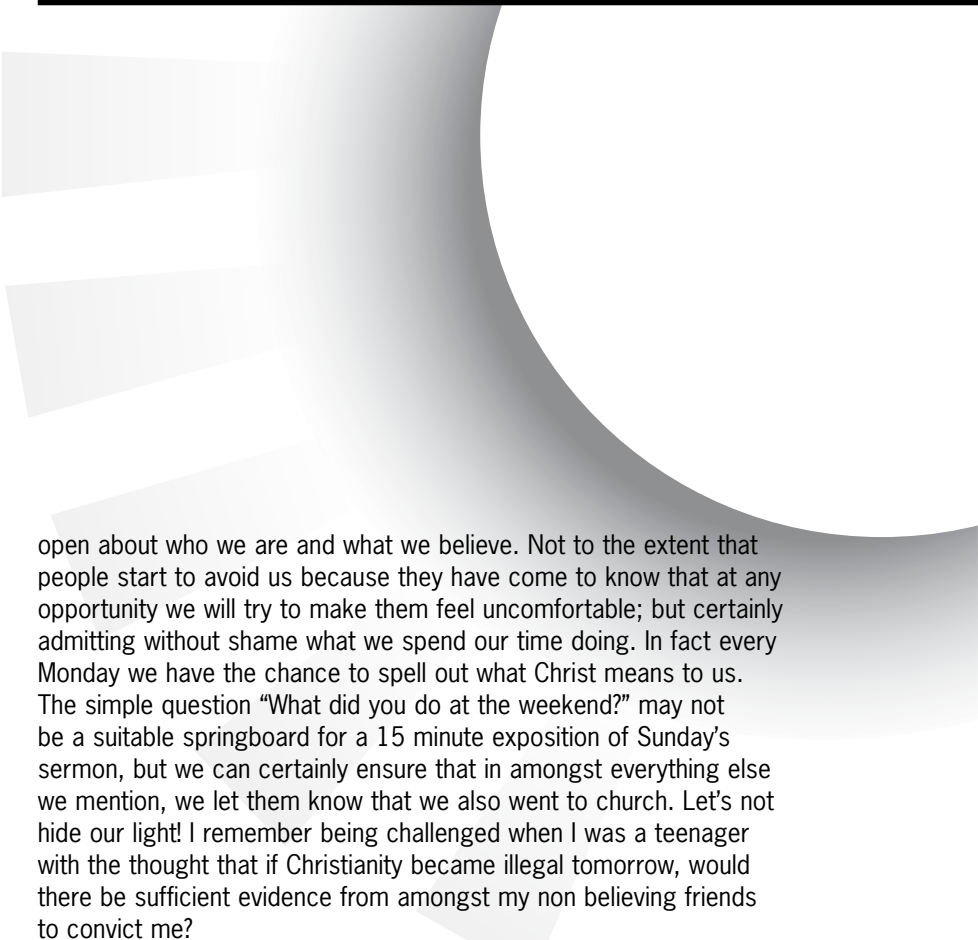
Tim Sanderson

Jeremy Heath is a Mechanical Engineer for a small water company based in Surrey. He grew up in Lindfield where he attended the Boys Brigade and now lives up in Caterham with his wife and two young children.

In the world but not of it...

Some years ago, I was surprised to learn that my Manager at work had been censoring my emails. This was back in the days when emailing around the latest jokes was still acceptable, and I regularly received a text file with half a dozen on it. One day I heard someone comment on a particular joke which I obviously hadn't received, and when pressed, my Manager admitted that before forwarding on the jokes to me, he would remove from the file any that he thought may cause me offense. I was very impressed with his thoughtfulness, firstly that he didn't want to offend me, knowing that I was a Christian; and secondly that he also wanted to ensure that I was still included. It also summed up very simply the situation that Christians often face in the workplace – how to be in the world but not be a part of the world.

With the exception of our home life, probably nowhere else is our Christian life under such scrutiny as it is at work. Being known for being a Christian can invite all sorts of criticism and disapproval. In fact, in many ways it would seem easier to simply hide the fact, and to blend into the crowd. However, as we learn so frequently in the Bible, being a Christian does not often mean taking the easiest path. Jesus tells his disciples in Matthew chapter 5 that they are called to be both salt and light, and he reminds them that no one lights a lamp and then puts it under a bowl. One of the first tests that we face on becoming a Christian is that public declaration of the inner change that has happened, and in our place of work we should be



open about who we are and what we believe. Not to the extent that people start to avoid us because they have come to know that at any opportunity we will try to make them feel uncomfortable; but certainly admitting without shame what we spend our time doing. In fact every Monday we have the chance to spell out what Christ means to us. The simple question “What did you do at the weekend?” may not be a suitable springboard for a 15 minute exposition of Sunday’s sermon, but we can certainly ensure that in amongst everything else we mention, we let them know that we also went to church. Let’s not hide our light! I remember being challenged when I was a teenager with the thought that if Christianity became illegal tomorrow, would there be sufficient evidence from amongst my non believing friends to convict me?

Of course, Jesus also says that we should be salt as well as light, and that applies equally into our work situation. Unfortunately all too often Christians are seen as being like chilli pepper rather than salt – as aggravating society rather than adding to it. The complete opposite should be true. Being a Christian in the workplace is putting into practice every day that which James writes about in his letter, when he challenges Christians to show their faith in the deeds that they do. Christians should be known in their workplace for the way that they care about others, their thoughtfulness and their concern. We should be beyond gossip, aloof from malicious behaviour and above reproach in how we live. We should be the first one to listen to people and the last one to withdraw from those in need. We should be known for our honest professionalism. Richard Dawkins in his

Series: Living every Day as a Christian _____

recent book asks his readers to imagine a world without religion, and paints a rosy picture of what that may be like. If we are truly serving God properly then society should listen to such a challenge and respond by defending the Christians with a voice that says “We may not agree with them, but we would hate to imagine a world without them. These people add so much to our lives, that without them the world would lose its flavour”. As Peter puts it so aptly in his letter “Live such good lives amongst the pagans that, though they may accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God” (1 Peter 2 v12). A good test for ourselves may be this. Based upon my witness, would my manager view it as a good thing if he found out that a potential applicant for a job was a Christian?

So then, is the challenge for Christians in the workplace simply to display decent behaviour? When you view it like that, then it would appear that being a Christian is merely a code of ethics that employers would be glad to see their staff sign up to. However Christianity has always been more than that. In recent years I've returned again and again to the book of Romans and in particular chapter 12, where Paul sums up our motivation in this way. “Therefore, I urge you brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices”. When we offer ourselves to God, when we become living sacrifices, when we submit to his will; it is not to gain a relationship with God. It is because, thanks to God’s great mercy, we already have a relationship with God. The reason we live the lives that we live, the reason we act the way we act, the reason we do the things that we do, all this stems from our gratitude for the gift that we have already received.

And that means that on the Monday morning when we walk into the office as ambassadors of Christ, what we need to do is to remind ourselves what we have already received from God. That is the spur for us, the motivation to make us view others as Christ would see them, to treat others as Christ would treat them. As Jesus himself said “Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your father in heaven”.



An Unforgettable Breakfast

James, son of Alphaeus, offered us some cooked fish, it was tasty! Then he stopped to chat and told us how he became involved in acting in 'The Life of Christ' at Wintershall. 'James' and many others had been rehearsing for four to six weeks and now he was taking a week's holiday from work to enjoy his participation in the greatest story ever told.

On a beautiful day in June, Mike and I with our friend Jenny, had treated ourselves to a day at Wintershall in Surrey. It was an unforgettable day! How we loved seeing the flock of sheep being guarded by two sheepdogs whilst the joyful shepherds ran to the stable to see the baby Jesus. And we smiled and tapped our feet as we saw all the dancing at the Wedding at Cana and Mary's imperious command to the servants 'Do whatever He tells you'. We laughed at the miraculous feeding of the 5,000; children around us were eating bread as if they had never been fed! Oh, there was so much joy as we followed Jesus in His loving ministry here on earth.

We felt the sadness as opposition

to Jesus grew and even the energetic disciples fell asleep when Jesus needed their comfort and support. We sat at the foot of the Cross, silent, deeply aware once more that the Holy One, the Son of God, carried our sins on His shoulders. Then lovingly and gently the women and the disciples took the body of Jesus from the Cross and bore Him to the tomb, we were moved to tears.

Oh, what a morning! Jesus rose from the dead! Amazement, joy, incredulity shook the disciples, it surely couldn't have happened – but, yes, their dearly loved Lord and Master was alive again. We all rejoiced!

The performance ended at the Sea of Galilee with the disciples sharing breakfast with Jesus. What a breakfast and that is when we all joined in! Jesus returned to His Father in heaven, His work was complete. He left us, His followers, to continue His work, to love and to serve one another, to make known 'The Life of Christ' wherever we are.

Do try and visit Wintershall at Christmas or in 2009. You will not be disappointed.

Jean Gardiner

Hallowe'en

– Then and Now

The end of October sees Hallowe'en approaching and Christian parents' hearts sink each year as the shops fill up with pumpkins, witches hats and ever more ghoulish and grisly masks etc. They also dread the increasingly popular American custom of "trick or treat" which can also spread the fear of violence in many towns and cities.

Why do people celebrate Hallowe'en, why do many Christians feel a deep sense of unease in all that is going on around them at this time and what is the alternative for the children? In this article we will try to answer some of those questions.

Hallowe'en falls on October 31st each year and its origins date back to over 2000 years ago to Celtic times in Britain with the festival of Samhain (pronounced Sowan). The Celts were celebrating the end of harvest and the beginning of their new year on November 1st. It was believed that the transition of light to darkness blurred the boundaries between the worlds of the living and the dead, and the Celts feared the return to earth of wandering spirits who would try to possess living bodies. To avoid being recognised, people would wear masks when they left home so that any ghosts would mistake them for fellow spirits. They would build bonfires and light candles in pumpkins to keep their houses safe and they would also leave bowls of food outside to appease spirits.

By 43 AD the Romans had conquered most of the Celtic regions and over the next four hundred years incorporated two festivals of their own with Samhain.

By the 800's the Roman influence had gone and Christianity had spread into Celtic lands. It was around this time that the church declared that there should be a day when all the saints should be honoured. November 1st was chosen, a date which coincided with Samhain, maybe in an effort to supplant the pagan holiday with a Christian observance. The day became known as All Saints Day or All Hallows Day and October 31st as All Hallows Eve or Hallowe'en. In

early Christian tradition souls were released from purgatory on All Hallows Eve. Some of the celebrations used in the Samhain festival were incorporated into the All Saints Day festival such as; bonfires, parades and people dressing up, so over the centuries the Christian and pagan beliefs have become somewhat blurred!

It is claimed that modern Halloween traditions started in America in the 1800's when immigrants from Ireland and Scotland brought with them their Celtic traditions.

As Christians we should be concerned that Hallowe'en flirts with the powers of darkness and may even encourage some to explore the occult. Demons, spirits and witchcraft are not things that can be turned into harmless things to have fun with. Jesus came into the world to bring light into our darkness and we should celebrate this.

As the popularity of Halloween increases many churches have started to offer positive alternatives. Some have pumpkin parties where they carve letters instead of ghoulish faces, so the pumpkins spell out a Bible verse, thereby letting children have fun whilst dropping the dark side of the festival. Other churches and families celebrate with a light party with fun for all the family with crafts, songs, hot dogs, candles and fireworks. This can be an ideal way to reach out to our non-Christian neighbours and friends.

A vicar from Cheshire wrote in his local paper a few years ago, "We have held a light party for the last twelve years. It is good to see other churches holding them too. Hallowe'en is a celebration of everything surrounding death and it's great to think that those of us who believe in Jesus' words, "I have come that they might have life, and life in all its fullness", can find a way of sharing His life and love with those in our surrounding communities in these dark days in which we find ourselves. Let's stand up, church! He that is in us is greater than he who is in the world."

Hallelujah Party

The **good news** is that our children in Lindfield can join in one of these celebrations! **All Saints Church** is holding a party with the theme: "**Light as opposed to Darkness**" on **Friday October 31st from 6pm to 8pm** in the **Tiger hall and lounge** for children aged 5 years and over. There will be games, a video, supper, fireworks and the evening will finish with all the children singing "Shine, Jesus, shine" in the dark whilst waving light wands! All are welcome.



October church diary

2nd

Thursday House Groups

4th

Saturday 8.45am Prayer Meeting
-9.30am at URC

5th

Sunday 9.30am Communion
Charles Martin
11.00 Charles Martin
6.30pm Charles Martin

8th

Wednesday 12.30pm Lunch Fellowship

9th

Thursday 8.00pm Church Meeting

10th

Friday 12.30pm Lunch Fellowship

11th

Saturday 8.45am Prayer Meeting
-9.30am at URC

12th

Sunday 9.30am Charles Martin
11.00am Charles Martin
6.30pm Communion
David Jones

16th

Thursday House Groups

18th

Saturday 8.45am Prayer Meeting
-9.30am at URC
9.30am Elders Training Day
- 4.30pm

19th

Sunday 9.30am Stuart Dew
11.00am Stuart Dew
6.30pm Charles Martin

21st

Tuesday In Touch – Away Day at
Ashburnham - no meeting in
the lounge

22nd

Wednesday 2.45pm The Fellowship
7.30 pm Elders meeting

23rd

Thursday 8.00pm Church Prayer
Meeting in the
Lounge

25th

Saturday 8.45am Prayer Meeting
-9.30am at URC

26th

Sunday 10.30am Joint Morning
Service with
Communion –
David Jones
6.30pm Mike Gardiner

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS LISTED ON BACK COVER

Balcombe United Reformed Church



Bramble Hill, Balcombe, RH17 6HR.

Contact: Mrs Leonie Wren (01444 811253)

Our services are held weekly at 10.30am. Visitors are always welcome to join us.

Speakers for this month are as follows:-

5th David Walters

12th Philip Wren

19th Charles Martin – **Communion Service**

26th Philip Wren

Flower Rota

Arranging

Distributing

October

5th Zoe McQuillin

12th Jessie Green

17th Serena Nathan

26th Audrey McKee

Jacqueline Wood

Barbara Shepherd

Margaret Gomme

Kay Phillpot

November

2nd Barbara Shepherd

9th Betty Billins

16th Sue Waller

23rd Celebr8 Weekend

30th Winifrid Scopes

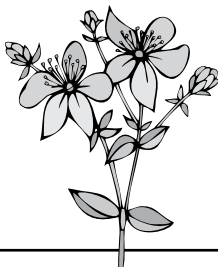
Jo Bloxham

Iris Bingham

Heather Swann

Sue Tester

Jacqueline Wood



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.

Family News

Congratulations

It is great to be able to congratulate several of our young people who have been very successful in various exams.

Helen Merrett, Alex Hall & Sam Griffiths all achieved **excellent results** in their **A Levels**. **Katie Cookney** took her **International Baccalaureate** and was **equally successful**. Very well done to you all! Please pray for these youngsters as they step out into higher education or the challenges of a gap year.

We also want to congratulate **Simon Merrett** on achieving a **2:1 in History** from Lancaster University. One slightly more mature student who should also be congratulated is **Stuart Dew**. He is part way through a challenging **Lay Preacher's Course**, and we congratulate him on his very good results at the end of the first year. Stuart would also appreciate our prayers.

Bereavements

Les Anderson will be much missed by us all. He died quite suddenly in the end, but Les has been such an example to us all; his courage and faith in God sustained him through his terminal illness. His cheerfulness and gratitude were remarkable. We remember his dear wife Elsie at this time, as she and her family come to terms with their loss.

We are also sad to report the death of Alan Smith who has been

a real character in the life of this Church in recent years, and in the past, worked tirelessly for our village. The number of folk who gathered at his Funeral service was a testimony to the respect and regard with which Alan was held. Please uphold Alan's Family and friends in your prayers.

Our thoughts and sympathy are also with Bridget O'Sullivan following her Father's death.

May the God of all comfort enfold these friends, and indeed, all who mourn, in His loving arms.

Change of Address

Clifford Cook has now moved to Hilgay Residential Home, Keymer Road, Burgess Hill. RH15 0AL. Phone 01444 244756. We remember Clifford at this time of change and pray that he will know God's help and peace as he settles into his new surroundings.

Fellowship Lunch

– Sunday, 5th October

We will meet for lunch after the second morning service – 12.15ish! It is an excellent opportunity to have more time with other members of our Church Family. The idea is that you bring along enough food for you (and your family, if you have one), and then it is pooled together and you'll be amazed at the spread we can all enjoy. Whatever your age, from the youngest to the not-so-young, you will be most welcome.

Thursday, 23rd October

Half Day Of Prayer

We, the Lindfield United Reformed Church, are being called to a **Half Day of Prayer, from 9am to 9pm on the 23rd October (the 4th Thursday, when we normally have the Church Prayer evening). It will take place in Room 1 during the daytime, transferring into the Church at 6pm. You are free to come for as short or as long a period of time as you are able.**

There are two main topics for our prayers: **(1) “Celebr8” our Church weekend away in November, and (2) the Children’s and Youth Work of the Church, including the need for a Youth Pastor.** Both of these matters need to be ‘covered in prayer’ if we are truly seeking God’s guidance, direction and help. Please do take the opportunity of joining us in prayer on this day – all are welcome.

There will be a rota of people to be responsible for just an hour of the day – not necessarily to lead prayers out loud, but just to facilitate. If you can help with this, or for more information, please speak to Fiona Tingley (Tel. 483419).

The Fellowship

Our Meeting this month is on Wednesday 22nd October at 2:45pm. The speaker is Joan Dew and the subject of her talk is; ‘The Canals of Britain.’

We extend a very warm welcome to all, and are always pleased to see new members.

There will be a Bring and Buy Stall.

In Touch

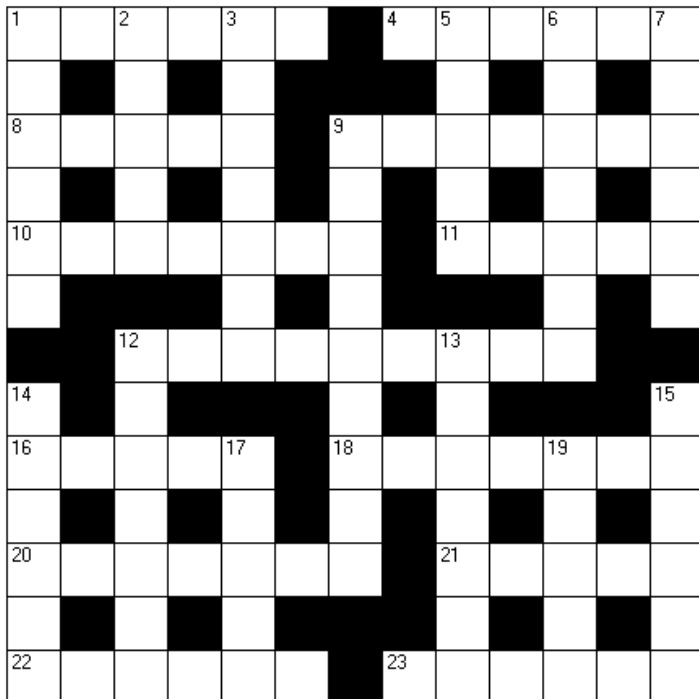
The In Touch Ladies are looking forward to our Away Day at Ashburnham on Tuesday, October 21st.

We are so pleased that Rev Jenny Martin has agreed to be our speaker for the day.

Details of transport arrangements will be advised nearer the date.

Barbara Shepherd

T word



Across

- 1 Unexpectedly sudden (6)
- 4 Location of St Basil's 12 across (6)
- 8 ..which _____ throughout the earth (Zech 4.10)
- 9 Grazing described by Psalm 37 as safe (7)
- 10 Sea to which the land of Judah stretched in Deuteronomy ch. 34 (7)
- 11 Japanese rice dish (5)
- 12 Church containing the bishop's throne (9)
- 16 Body part preserved as worthy of veneration (5)
- 18 OT book and prophet (7)
- 20 Most like those who will inherit the earth, according to the sermon on the mount (7)
- 21 His servants discovered a well of fresh water in Genesis ch. 26 (5)
- 22 I will _____ them in their homes (Hos 11.11) (6)
- 23 Way out (6)

Down

- 1 Flaming missiles in Psalm 7 (6)
- 2 Sounds the church bells (5)
- 3 I will _____ pests from devouring your crops (Mal 3.11) (7)
- 5 Fertile spot in a desert (5)
- 6 Plans fail for lack of it, says Proverbs ch. 15 (7)
- 7 Type of beetle (6)
- 9 Whitsun (9)
- 12 Brief formal prayer that varies with the day (7)
- 13 Delivering a lesson at a service (7)
- 14 Food fragments eaten by dogs in Mark ch. 7 (6)
- 15 Gathered under the hen's wings in Luke ch. 13 (6)
- 17 Angler's basket (5)
- 19 ..or an _____ that teaches lies (Hab 2.18) (5)

Answers on Page 20



Our Church Weekend Away 21st-23rd November

I don't know about you, but we on the Celebr8 Team are getting quite excited about our Family Weekend next month. The take-up has been fantastic – we are full almost to overflowing, but we have been able to allocate rooms to everyone without utilising the broom cupboard! Several of you are planning to attend as Day Visitors, and at the time of writing, we have still not reached the upper limit for Pilgrim Hall's dining room. But don't delay – if you want to make sure of meals on your visit, do fill in a booking form – indicating which day(s) you'd like to attend – and leave it with your gift in the offertory.

For our spiritual sustenance, our speaker, Alex Jacob, will be taking us into John's Gospel, whilst the youngsters will have their own programme. There will be games, both quiet and lively, indoor and outdoor (weather permitting). And on the Saturday evening, we are planning a Family Ball, when we can look super and have fun at the same time (don't tell Hello magazine).

Two things:

1. Please keep on praying each day for God to richly bless our Church through this event.
2. If you haven't given as much as you feel God wants you to, there's still time to use those Celebr8 envelopes.



Samaritan's Purse

I N T E R N A T I O N A L R E L I E F

Is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organisation engaged in crisis relief and community development. It was founded in 1970 and is active around the world. Samaritan's Purse offers aid to the victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease and famine in response to an evangelical interpretation of the teachings of Jesus Christ. The organisation is based in North Carolina U.S.A. and is headed by Franklin Graham, son of Christian Evangelist Billy Graham, with a UK Office contact in Essex, England.

Operation Christian Child

Well done everyone!, Samaritan's Purse broke all records yet again! An amazing 1.3 million shoeboxes were sent last year to Eastern Europe,

the Former Soviet Union and Africa. There is a selection of stories available to read from the website which is amazing. Indeed we have a lovely story from Iris and Bill Green in Australia which we will share with you.

www.samaritanspurse.uk.com

Please take a leaflet, pass one on to your friends, families and colleagues - any one you know. Men and women can make one up for a boy or a girl with lots of ideas for gifts! Last year we sent about 180 boxes. Let's see how well we can do this year. The shoeboxes must be with us by Sunday 9th November.

Turn on the Tap Challenge 2008

This is a campaign for safe accessible water for people in the developing world through a range of solutions from hand dug wells, water filters and boreholes to health and hygiene education,

which provide safe clean water and helps break the grip of poverty on local communities. Turn on the Tap Campaign has already raised hundreds of thousands of pounds to help communities' access safe water, but STILL 1.1 billion people live without access to safe water. It's an outrage! Go to the website for more information about the campaign to go the extra mile or four miles to be precise.



Prescription for Hope

Has delivered an ongoing effort to strengthen the International Christian response to HIV and AIDS programmes.

Some Churches in communities in Africa provide sustainable programmes which are enabling communities to tackle the impact HIV and AIDS. In Kenya Samaritan's Purse supports the Centre for Urban Mission which works in several Nairobi settlements or slums, collectively to about 1.5 million people. One area includes the Kibera district where virtually everyone knows someone who is HIV positive. The goal is for various aspects of the effort to positively impact on more than 2 million people by 2010. Prescription for Hope effort is active in Africa, Asia and Oceania, Europe and The Middle East, Central and South America.

Autumn Gardening Tips

October is the first month of the “season of mists and mellow fruitfulness” as Keats wrote in his famous sonnet - my favourite time of the year too, but, there again, I've always been an optimist!

Time to start picking apples, pears, and to harvest the results of your previous hard labours. Down on your vegetable plot or allotment, if you have one, you may still be picking runner beans, and other vegetables should be maturing so that you can feed yourself and family, and save a lot of money: broccoli, leeks, onions and spinach are all worth trying and will grow in the smallest spaces.

Berries are really Autumn's “flowers”, and by October they should be colouring up - there's a host of shrubs and climbers for you to clothe with nature's magic jewels.

Most people are familiar with Cotoneaster, Holly and Pyracantha with their red berries. Go for red if you want to feed the birds before Christmas (or you may want to distract

them with suet balls, peanuts or specialist foods for different species). Attractive orange or yellow berried forms stand out more against a red brick wall and are lower down in popularity on the birds' menu. More bizarrely, there are shrubs with different colour berries - try the lesser known *Callicarpa* with its berries of a strange purple hue or *Viburnum Davidii* with its almost metallic blue berries, but



the latter needs a partner.

Finally, a shrub or two with colourful Autumn leaves is always worthwhile, especially if it flowers in the Winter as does Hamamelis Mollis(Wych Hazel) or Prunus Kojo Nomai, an ornamental cherry bush that flowers in the Spring.

There's no need to have a dull garden in the autumn- go for colourful berries and leaves to keep your spirits up as the days shorten!

Stuart Marsh

Whose Job?

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry that, because it was Everybody's job, Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done!

Who do you identify with?

Tell everyone about it!

If you run a club or group in the local community that you would like to talk more about, submit an article/information to the editor – it would be great to see more of what is going on in/around the village.

Contact details on page 2.



A Ministry of Prison Fellowship

Angel Tree and HMP Lewes this Christmas

The Prison Fellowship Angel Tree programme provides presents at Christmas for children whose parents are in prison. Requests, giving the name and age of the child and preferred type of gift, and accompanied by a hand written message, are collected from the prisoners by the prison chaplains and passed to us at Prison Fellowship. We buy the presents, include a Christmas book and the father's message, and wrap and deliver them.

Last year was the first time at Lewes and, although it is a lot of work both for a very overworked chaplaincy and our local group, the joy of the children and the thanks of the caring relatives and fathers mean that we are committed to repeat the

programme for this Christmas. Two more wings added to the prison in the past year mean more potential requests this time. Children really suffer when a parent is in prison and anything we can do to help maintain and build family relationships is of real value.

Angel Tree is not just about the gift.... It is about helping families keep in touch... It is about demonstrating the unconditional love of God... It is about remembering the children.

Last year the £330 raised by Lindfield URC's congregation paid about a quarter of the costs. If you would like to help this year to provide real joy to some very vulnerable and disadvantaged children please contact either of us.

Joan Bailey and Mary Comber

Down
1 Arrows 2 Rings 3 Prevent 5 Oasis 6 Counsel 7 Weevil 9 Pentecost
12 Collect 13 Reading 14 Crumbs 15 Chicks 17 Creel 19 Image

Across
1 Abrupt 4 Moscow 8 Range 9 Pasture 10 Western 11 Sush! 12 Cathedral
16 Relic 18 Obadiah 20 Meekest 21 Isaac 22 Settle 23 Egress

Answers to Crossword on page 8

Church activities

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

- 9.30am Service for all the family, including crèche and Powersource (Most weeks, children leave after 20 minutes for their own activities)
Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
- 11.00am Morning Worship
Holy Communion (4th Sunday)
- 6.30pm Evening Service
Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)
- Healing services as announced*

PRAYER MEETINGS:

- Mon 9.30am An Hour of Prayer
- Wed 9.45am Short Service of Intercession
- Thur 8.00pm Church Prayer Evening
(As announced)
- Sat 8.45 Three Churches Prayer Meeting.
– 9.30am Venue rotates between the three churches.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Mon 10.00am Art Group
- 6.30pm Boys' Brigade – Junior Section (8–11 years)
- 7.45pm Boys' Brigade – Company Section (11+ years)
- Tue 10.00am Stepping Stones (Parents and toddlers)
- 7.45pm In Touch (4th Tuesday)
- Wed 2.45pm The Fellowship (4th Wed.)
- 5:30pm Zest 1:2:3
- 6:45pm Zest 4:5:6
- 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 Zest Plus (Years 7–10)

House Groups normally meet 1st and 3rd Thursday

**The church is open Monday to Saturday
from 10.00am to 12.30pm**

Phonebook



Church (payphone):

01444 484620

Boys' Brigade:

Geoffrey Cocksedge
01444 474007

Cradle Roll:

Sue Tester 01444 482810

Flowers:

Betty Billins 01444 484494

Hall Booking Secretary:

Carol Walters 01444 457938

In Touch:

Sue Waller 01444 455047

Lunch Fellowship:

Wednesday:
Janet Drayton 01444 483621

Friday:

Gwen Hillman 01444 456963
Anne Parker 01444 473519

Magazine: Editor:

Val Cookney 01444 440029

The Fellowship:

Jessie Green 01444 452708
Roy Billins 01444 484494

Stepping Stones:

Janet Goodenough
01444 417002

Transport:

Tina Elphick 01444 484440

Zest Co-ordinator:

Clare Nibloe 01444 484683

Powersource Co-ordinator:

Dawn Walters 01444 441601

Local events



For more information on activities going on in Lindfield,
Lindfield Times is also available from around the village.

LINDFIELD PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Present talk by

Brian Prichard on

Building bridges to keep the traffic moving

Wednesday 15th October, 8pm

King Edward Hall, Lindfield

The talk will be preceded by an update from the Acting Chairman of the Society, **Andrew Fox**, at the start of the meeting.

HAYWARDS HEATH MUSIC SOCIETY

presents

Young-Choon Park (piano)

Saturday 4th October, 7.45pm

St Wilfrid's Church

'Young Singers Of The Future'

(Ardingly International Music School prizewinners)

Saturday 25th October, 7.45pm

St Wilfrid's Church

LINDFIELD CHRISTIAN CARE HOME

16th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service

Sunday 2nd November, 3pm

Lindfield United Reformed Church

Next month is the 16th anniversary of the purchase of Compton House Christian Nursing Home by the L.C.C.H. charity. A Thanksgiving Service will be held to thank God for his faithful provision and care throughout the years.

The Speaker at this Service will be the Rev Charles Martin. The Service will be followed by tea and cake. The Trustees would be delighted if you joined in this celebration.

To publicise your community event here see contact details on page 2. Diary entries included at the editor's discretion.