FREE MONTHLY

GoodNEWS MAGAZINE

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

November 2014

In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below.. John McCrae, May 1915

Bible verse of the month

And the God of all Grace, who called you to His eternal glory, in Christ after you have suffered a little while will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

To Him be the power forever and ever. Amen.??

1 Peter 5:10 NIV







Our verse this month is chosen by Jill O'Mant see page 9 for more information

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

goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk





Editorial

We are very excited with all that our Youth Worker, Danny is doing. His enthusiastic approach is really wonderful; see how he is involving himself in so many differing projects to help our children know the love of Jesus Christ.

How blessed we are to have Martin to explain about Metamorphosis and how it is linked to our Christian Life. The wonder of this process is amazing, do read about this fascinating process and follow the pictures.

Chris Comber has some more very interesting information for us, how important it is that we all remember! Fo in the Elders' Letter relays how we must try to understand what the word REMEMBER really can mean. Brian and Sue Tester share all their 'Good News' with us, how delighted they must be. The Boys Brigade had their 'Enrolment Meeting' see how the boys are enjoying themselves. We have had the Barn Dance and Harvest Supper, the photographs of that evening show how much it was enjoyed by everyone. We have the' Shoe Box' appeal information which will bring smiles to so many children.

We do thank Henderson McEwan as he has given us so many photographs to enhance many of the articles, there is some very 'Good News' regarding 'The Vacancy'. It is only a small article but holds very exciting news. The best things come in small parcels!

Do enjoy our 'Good News' this month.

God's Blessings to everyone.

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Please include your contact details in case of query

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Dear friends

When I think of the month of November, the word 'Remember' instantly comes to mind!

C They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old.

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,

We will remember them.

As we celebrate Armistice Day every year, we have the opportunity to remember all those who gave their lives for their country in the two world wars, and perhaps, even more poignantly, those currently serving in our Armed Forces. Very sadly so many have lost their young lives in recent conflicts, and others face danger day after day as they seek to bring peace and justice in various parts of the world. People have lost husbands, wives, parents, sons and daughters.

Do we really care? Do we truly give thanks for what has been achieved on our behalf in the past? Do we think of those who are suffering right now? So as we approach November 11th this year, let us all remember, be thankful, and pray for those who have been bereaved or who are suffering as a result of wars and civil unrest. And on a lighter note:

Remember, remember the 5th of November,

Gunpowder, treason and plot....,

Without Guy Fawkes' attempts to blow up the Houses of Parliament in 1605, we'd have no reason to have such a 'jolly' each year on November 5th here in Lindfield (and of course in many other places up and down the land).

The Bonfire Society do a stalwart job in providing an enjoyable evening for villagers and visitors alike. Many other organizations within the village provide support, entertainment and education, catering for every age group and a variety of interests. Not to mention our local Parish Council and all that they seek to do on our behalf. Whether or not you are out celebrating on Guy Fawkes Night this year, let us remember and give thanks for all the blessings we have living here in Lindfield, and indeed the surrounding area.

Another 'Remember' for me this month are a number of birthdays of family and friends. Those of us who have families are so blessed, and friendships, too, are equally important. This is another reason to give thanks.

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My own birthday falls in November a good time to give thanks for my own parents. In the book of Proverbs we read these words: "Listen, my child, to what your father teaches you. Don't neglect your mother's teaching. What you learn from them will crown you with grace and clothe you with honour." I always remember them instilling into me these words from Ephesians 4: Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry." It always saddens me when there is discord, whether it be in a family situation or between friends. l ife is too short to hold a grudge, so if you are struggling to get on with someone to whom you were once close, please think again. You and they will feel so much better if you put things right! Then, like me, you will have to remember to send them a birthday card!!

So my conclusion on the subject of 'Remembrance' – we have so much for which to give thanks. Each one of us should take every opportunity we have to do so, and to show understanding and give encouragement to those we love and those we meet day by day.

God bless you.

Fiona Tingley

Fiona Tingley Elder

Family News

Condolences

We extend our sympathy, love and prayers to Jenny Bowen following the death of her husband Nicholas. Our thoughts go out to her and her family.

A much-loved friend – Ted Sparks

s reported in the October "Good News", Ted Sparks died in St Peter and St James Hospice in September, following a period of ill health with which he coped very bravely. Ted served the Lord very faithfully here in Lindfield URC, first becoming a member in 1971. Among his various roles he counted the collection on a Monday morning for many years. He valued prayer meetings and attended whenever he could. Ted enjoyed the Lunch Fellowship where he was a regular helper until quite recently. Just a couple of weeks before he became ill Ted was entertaining us at a Church social evening, always happy to enjoy a laugh. Also, he had always appreciated being part of a House Group, and he was very supportive and concerned for other people's needs. Ted's faithful attendance at Sunday worship and his gentle friendship will be very much missed by us all. But for Ted, he has 'gone home' to his Saviour and Lord.

Please continue to uphold Lesley in your thoughts and prayers.

Fiona Tingley

Vacancy Update

We give thanks that things have moved on since last month and are encouraged that a minister and his family will be meeting with us over the weekend of November 22nd/23rd.

Full details will follow but please continue to pray that the Lord will make His plan clear in the calling of a new minister for our fellowship.

Elders

The Fellowship

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th November at 2.30pm.

As we do not meet in December, this will be another "Christmas Comes Early This Year" miscellany.

There will be the usual Bring and Buy Stall, together with a cup of tea and mince pies after the entertainment.

All who come may be sure of a warm welcome.

Pat Phillips

In Touch

For our September meeting we had a visit from Fiona Fuhrman who told us about her recently published book "Renewing".

It is an autobiographical account of how God inspired and encouraged her, and it is well worth reading. Fiona was an entertaining speaker and she told us of so many examples in her life when God guided her in her decision making, often against her "better" judgement!

On November 25th we have a speaker from the Worthing Churches homeless projects coming to tell us about the help that is given to the homeless and disadvantaged people living in the area. This should be a fascinating insight into this work and everyone is welcome to join us for the evening.

A couple of advanced dates worth putting in your 2015 diaries are our combined meeting with All Saints" Cameo" group on 9th January for a talk and demonstration on " Colour me beautiful" while later in the month on 27th January we will have our "Christmas Meal". Details of both meetings will be published nearer the time.

Janet Wade

Ministry Training

Brian and Sue Tester's son-in-law Dr Mark Lavender has commenced a two year degree course at Ridley Hall, Cambridge for ministry in the Church of England.

Mark and their daughter Alison were married at Lindfield URC in 1997 by Rev. Norman Smith. They live near Tunbridge Wells and have two children

Also with Mark at Ridley Hall is Sam Carter and Tim Gage from All Saints Church, Lindfield. Tim is the grandson of Barbara Tickner who regularly attended Intercessions on Wednesdays

Ridley Hall is part of the ecumenical partnership of the Cambridge Theological Federation which also includes Westminster College where students receive ministerial training for the United Reformed Church.

Josh Thomas who was the Youth Pastor at Lindfield URC for the past four years has commenced training at Westminster College

Stuart Dew well known to many at Lindfield URC is the Convenor of the Students Committee at Westminster College. Mark is looking forward to meeting Sam, Tim, Josh and Stuart whilst at Cambridge.

Lindfield Royal British Legions-Remembrance Service

The Remembrance Service will take place in the Lindfield Parish Church, All Saints at 3.00pm on Sunday 9th November.

Laying of wreaths and 2 minutes silence at the War Memorial is at 2.45pm.

All are welcome to come and join with us, to remember the fallen from both World Wars and in all the conflicts since.

We remember fondly all those that are still suffering both mentally and physically. After the service refreshments will be offered in the King Edward Hall.

If you would like to know more about the British Legion Branch please call Jane Harding on 01444 454846.

If you have interest in the Women's Section Work, please call myself, Betty Billins on 01444 484494.



Brian and Sue Tester

Barn Dance

t is some years since we held a Barn Dance in the Church, so it was great to enjoy doing so at the Harvest Supper on October 4th. There was a good mix of ages from primary school age up to 90! Much laughter and fun was had by those able to participate in the dancing, and for those looking on – well I think they had loads of laughs too as they watched us tripping the light(ish) fantastic! We were blessed by a superb caller and her technical whizz of a husband who sorted the music for us.

Jenny Machell and her band of helpers did an amazing job with the Ploughman's Supper which included a variety of delicious apple pies! There were a number of visitors who all said how much they had enjoyed their evening, as indeed did we all. So, many thanks to all who contributed in any way to a very happy evening together.

If any of you fancy doing folk dancing more frequently, a number of us from the Church belong to the Lindfield and District Folk Dance Club. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 8pm at the Ashenground Community Centre in Haywards Heath. Heather, who took our Harvest Dance, is our 'Caller' so you can be sure we have lots of fun in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

To find out more please speak to any of the following: Betty Billins, Jo or Paul Bloxham, Brenda Johnson or me,

Fiona Tingley



Christmas Concert

The Lindfield United Reformed Church will be hosting a Traditional Christmas Concert on Thursday 18th December at 7:30pm.

The Copthorne Silver band has agreed to come and join the singers for the above concert. It is a popular village event where admission is free but there is a collection in aid of St Peter and St James Hospice.

Our singing group is reducing in numbers and if there are any singers out there who could help then your assistance would be welcomed.

Why not come and share in the celebration of the "Wonder of Christmas"?

For more information contact **Peter Swann**



Bible Verse

CAnd the God of all Grace, who called you to His eternal glory, in Christ after you have suffered a little while will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

To Him be the power forever and ever.

Amen.9 1 Peter 5 v10

discovered this text recently and it brought such a sense of wonder, peace and calm I thought it needed to be shared!

Having had recently a very stressful and sad family situation, this text enabled me to just rest in the comforting words that we have been promised and hope this may be of help to anyone who feels in need.

Jill O'Mant

Metamorphosis

fond childhood memory for me is listening with my brothers to the weekend radio show that played all the children's favourite songs - the "Laughing policeman" and "There was an old lady who swallowed a fly" are just two that I recall. One which many will remember was the tale of the "Ugly duckling", sung by Danny Kaye and based on the tale by Hans Christian Andersen. The ugly duckling turns, of course, into a beautiful swan, a gradual metamorphosis leading to a complete change of appearance. More dramatic forms of metamorphosis are those of insects, described in the tale of "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" (Eric Carle, 1969): too late for me and my brothers, I enjoyed reading it with my own children. As well as illustrating the prodigious appetite of developing insects, it showed the transformation from ugly caterpillar to beautiful butterfly.

While most are familiar with the change from caterpillar to butterfly, few know about, or are interested in, the no less dramatic metamorphosis from humble maggot to adult fly. Anglers are probably most aware of the change, when hundreds of green or blue flies emerge from the old maggot box they forgot to clean out.

As someone who has spent their whole life studying flies I still find the change from blind, legless maggot to a sighted, winged and acrobatic fly something of a wonder.



I have been fortunate to study it in more depth than most and recently used an x-ray machine to look even deeper.

One of the challenges with observing fly metamorphosis is that it all goes on within a hard and dark pupal case and you see nothing until the adult emerges.

However, on a visit to the Millennium seed bank at nearby Wakehurst Place, I saw an x-ray being used to check out the inside of seeds to determine if they would germinate or not. Some of the bigger seeds were of similar size to fly pupae so I thought it would be interesting to see what an x-ray of a pupa would reveal.

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For me it was a real "Eureka!" moment. One day I x-rayed a pupa at 5p.m. and saw that the contents were just amorphous tissues surrounding a large air bubble.

I went off for a cup of tea and returned at 8p.m. to x-ray the same pupa again. I was amazed to see that it had completely transformed. What had been a shapeless mass of tissue now had a distinct head, thorax and abdomen with legs and folded wings.

That metamorphosis had happened within just three hours, only 1% of the pupal period of ten days! This month I hope to make an x-ray video of the process to put on the internet, so that I can share the wonder of metamorphosis more widely.

As well as being a wonderful part of the natural world, metamorphosis is an integral aspect of the Christian story too. Firstly, there is the change in appearance of Jesus himself, His metamorphosis, more commonly referred to as the Transfiguration. Secondly, for every Christian our growth in faith is our own spiritual metamorphosis, as our character is transformed by the power of the Gospel.



Jesus' metamorphosis is reported in Matthew 17 v 1-2: "After six days Jesus took with Him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There He was transfigured before them.

His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light." How amazing must it have been for the disciples to see that change and afterwards their Lord chatting with Moses and Elijah too!

They were privileged witnesses to the glory of Christ, to the meeting of human nature and God, something to give them strength for the testing time ahead. St Thomas Aquinas, one of the most influential medieval philosophers and theologians, considered the Transfiguration to be the greatest miracle, complementing baptism and showing the perfection of Christ.

Our own metamorphosis might not be so outwardly dramatic but there are many stories of humans undergoing dramatic changes inwardly - from Saul onwards. The power of the Holy Spirit to effect change is revealed as Samuel anoints Saul in 1 Samuel 10 v. 6: "The Spirit of the Lord will come upon you in power, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person". Ultimately, all believers will be changed as Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 15 v 51-52: "Listen, I tell you a mystery: we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed – in a flash, in a twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet". Even before then, if called upon Jesus can work a powerful change in our lives: 2 Corinthians 5 v 17: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!".

Next time you are feeling that your own metamorphosis is not going as rapidly as you would like, just remember and be inspired by the humble fly, whose own metamorphosis can seem slow yet always moves forwards and, punctuated by moments of intense change, results in a very different creature at the end from that at the beginning.

Martin Hall





Merry Christmas

Post Early!

At the beginning of Advent, Sunday 30th November, a giant fluffy red and white post box will appear in the concourse.

This is for church members and regular worshippers to post Christmas cards to other friends in the church. We hope that you will use this facility as stamps are more expensive than ever this year. We just ask that you give a donation which will go to Tear Fund to assist in the work they are doing on the Ebola front line.



The latest posting date will be Friday, 19th December and we will have the cards sorted for final collection from the concourse on Sunday, 21st December.

Tips for successful delivery...

- Please put the full surname as we have several Davids, Janets, Jennies etc!
- Please write the full first line of the address in case we have to deliver them by hand.
- Please put your cards in alphabetical order secured by an elastic band as this cuts down the sorting time considerably.
- Please confine addresses to Lindfield, Haywards Heath and Cuckfield and to people you know who worship regularly with us.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

And, if it's not too early - "Merry Christmas"!

The Post Box Team

Sunday Services

The **9.30am** service is an opportunity for all age groups to join in a relaxed informal time. Most weeks, children leave after 20 minutes for their own activities (including crèche). Lighthouse (Junior church) is for children and young people up to age 14. Holy Communion (4th Sunday)

Coffee is served between the morning services.

The **11:15am** service is a more traditional service than at 9:30. Holy Communion (4th Sunday)

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

Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)

Personal prayer is available after every service. We can also offer personal prayer ministry at home or in hospital.

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

Recordings of services can be borrowed free from the church.

Prayer Meetings

Mon	9.30am	An Hour of Prayer
Thur	8.00pm	Church Prayer Evening 'Engine Room' (4th Thursday)
Sat	8.45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting. Venue rotates between the three churches

Prayer requests and brief statements of praise for answered prayer can be put in the blue book on the concourse table.

Regular Activities

Mon	10.00am	Art Group
	6.00pm	Boys' Brigade - Anchor Boys (5-7 years)
	6.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Junior Section
	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade – Company Section (11+ years)
Tue	10.00am	Stepping Stones (Parents and toddlers - term time)
	7.45pm	In Touch (4th Tues) for women of all ages
Wed	2.30pm	The Fellowship (4th Wed) for men and women of all ages
Wed Thur	2.30pm 10.00am	
		(4th Wed) for men and women of all ages Pop-In
	10.00am	(4th Wed) for men and women of all ages Pop–In Coffee and a chat Church Meeting (2ndThur) P.U.L.S.E Junior
Thur	10.00am 8.00pm	(4th Wed) for men and women of all ages Pop–In Coffee and a chat Church Meeting (2ndThur)

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

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November Church diary

1st Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free	16th Sunday	9:30am 11:15am	Family Worship Morning Service Mark Ventham
2nd	10:30am	Mission Sunday		6:30pm	Evening Worship Darryl Sinclair
Sunday	6:30pm	Evening Worship No evening service	20th Engine Room Special Prayer Tim Thursday 2:30-4:00pm & 8:00pm-9:30p		
5th Wednesday		Bonfire Night Church Open	22nd	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer
6th Thursday		House Groups	Saturday	4:00pm	Meeting, Evan Free Fellowship Tea + Q&A with Prospective minister
8th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free	23rd Sunday	9:30am 11:15am	Communion
9th Sunday	9:30am 10:55am 11:15am	Remembrance Morning Worship Rev Peter McIntosh Evening Worship		6:30pm	Visiting Minister Evening Worship Cavan Wood
	6:30pm		25th Tuesday	7:45pm	In Touch
			26th Wednesday	•	The Fellowship Elders' Meeting
12th Wednesday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	27th Thursday	8:00pm	Special Church Meeting
13th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Annual General Meeting	29th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free
14th Friday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	30th Sunday	9:30am 11:15am	
15th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free		6:30pm	John Fernandez Evening Worship Mervyn Weeks



Time flies when you're having fun! It also goes quite fast when you are busy. I find it amazing that I have been at Lindfield URC for two months now!

I want to take this opportunity to fill you in with what has happened over the past two months, and a few things that are happening in the near future.

All the youth groups are now in full swing, having had at least six sessions. Pulse Jr. is the exception to this as it is fortnightly, but we have had three sessions and a fourth coming soon!

The numbers for the Pulse and Pulse Jr. are good, but I would like them to increase. I am getting the word out through advertising where I can and I will possibly be getting leaflets into the nearby schools. My aim is to reach about 30 regular youth for Pulse by Christmas, and similar numbers in Pulse Jr.

Pulse Plus is taking shape now, getting around eight youth each week. We have been looking at many different areas of the Bible together, studying it and learning from it. We also enjoy playing games throughout the Sunday evenings, building strong friendships.

Boys' Brigade is running well with regular numbers. We recently had the annual enrolment service for the boys. This was a great opportunity to teach them and their

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parents about the bigger picture and that Boys' Brigade has a purpose much bigger than football!

A couple of weeks ago I had the opportunity to go into Lindfield Nursery who meets in King Edward hall. I was invited by one of the workers to do a small talk on Harvest, which the children enjoyed. I think it is a great opportunity to start building relationships and I hope this is just the beginning.

In mid October, I went away for a weekend with a few of the youth to the Southern Synod Youth Executive (SSYE) weekend away. This was my first SSYE, but the current Children and Youth Development Officer is leaving and so I have taken on leadership of these weekends.

Something that I have been working on over the last couple of weeks has been to redo the boards in the hall; the Boys' Brigade, Stepping Stones and Pulse boards. I have begun work on the Boys ' Brigade and Stepping Stones boards, and I aim to replace the Pulse board with a 'what happens in the church' board. I also plan to have leaflets available in small pockets attached to the boards so that people can take them home and pass them on to others.

Thank you all for your support over the past two months,







Danny

Boys' Brigade

At the start of the session in September, Wesley Heyward and Tom Hewitt were discharged as Boys, although we hope they will return on the staff when their university education is over.

Our annual Enrolment Service took place in mid-October. Danny was due to take the service, and no doubt would have done a good job, but an infection resulting in the loss of his voice meant that the BB staff had to make other arrangements at short notice. All the same, it was a successful evening, with an almost full turnout of Boys and their parents on a rainy evening. David Walters stepped into the breach to give the address.

We said goodbye to Noah Pymble, an Anchor who has been a most enthusiastic member for the relatively short time he has been with us; Noah's father Adam, curate at All Saints, is taking the family to his new parish in central London. We are holding our own numerically, but would certainly welcome more Boys. We are also very much in need of skilled people to work with our older age group, the Company Section. I visited my old Company in Croydon recently, and was astonished to hear that their Company Section has 15 adult workers! We have just three, although we are grateful to Danny, who is helping us with this age group, and also with the Anchors. Youth work has become more and more sophisticated as time has gone on, reflecting the complex world we live in, and working with teenagers in particular is not simply a question of child/staff ratios, but training them in activities which challenge and stretch them.

The Boys' Brigade is more needed than ever, but as so often in Church and youth work, "the harvest is great, but the labourers are few".

Geoffrey Cocksedge





Nov14 ©deborah noble parishpump.co.uk

November/December Mission

he Mission support for November and December is The Worthing Churches Homeless Projects (WCHP).



WCHP started in 1991 as a direct response to the needs of those who were homeless and vulnerable by provision of a soup run. Its vision is that no person needs to sleep out, and everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential. WCHP is a Christian charity with three residential hostels and a day centre, working with insecurely housed or homeless individuals offering them opportunities to regain independence.

WCHP believes everyone has the right to a home and in showing those who need their help the wider community are there to support them and to offer hope for a better future.



WCHP Newsletter reports:

WCHP are considering a different model as a way of providing accommodation. They are considering The Housing First Model where the client has their own accommodation and so they are able to choose which support services they wish to access, rather than it being prescribed to them. They then can feel more in control and therefore hopefully more engaged with their process of change.

In the Recovery project they now have 25 beds providing different levels of accommodation. The aim of the Recovery project is to bring people through effective engagement in and offer: opportunities for positive change achieved through stopping or reducing using, building resilience, building new relations, finding joy and passion in new life activities, giving back to others. This is done through sessions which enable clients to help one another, learning new skills, and personal training. They have also started working closely with MIND.

At the St Clare's Day Centre the kitchen is running 365 days. There are also opportunities for hairdressing, foot care, life coaching, counselling. The Short Term Assessment Hostel has had changes in the way they support their clients. Previously if a client was tested positive on a breathalyser they were asked to leave for a period of time in the day until they could come back and get a negative reading.

Now, so clients do not have to leave they are given a 14 day amnesty when they first arrive. This means that for the first two weeks of being in the Hostel clients have time to adjust to not being homeless etc.

If you would like to give please use one of the special envelopes and place your gift in the offertory at any Sunday Service. Please also complete a gift aid form if appropriate. Cheques should be made payable to Lindfield URC.

The Missions Group thanks you for your much appreciated support as always.

The Missions Group

Roll of Honour

2014 has witnessed an explosion of interest in the names on village and town war memorials. Local Societies and Town Councils are working very hard with their researches, helped significantly by the vast resources available on the Internet.

The Roll of Honour Group has been thus engaged for nearly 20 years researching memorials in the Home Counties. My task has been East and West Sussex, for which areas I have been the main coordinator.

We follow the same format:-

Name, Rank, Number, Regiment or Ship, division, age, date of death, next of kin, place of birth, place of enlistment, burial location.

If no known grave, which of the big memorials to the missing (Thiepval, Tyne Cot, Loos Royal Naval Memorial, Southsea etc.) the name of the individual has been recorded.

References for WW2 for the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force are very detailed. It is possible by referring to "Bomber Command Losses" to identify aircraft and crew and all the circumstances of the loss, location, date etc. An amazing resource. Royal Naval casualities are listed by ship. For example, the whole crew of the Battlecruiser "Hood" are recorded.

In conclusion, our group is pleased to see that our efforts are being used to help set up and assist the efforts of others.

Chris Comber



Faith or Law? Galatians Ch 2 - 3

At the recent church meeting, we were reminded of David Bedford's words to us on June 22nd: "Stop your pre-occupation with church, and be the Kingdom people." This was picked up during our week of prayer, and in the recent Elders' morning together.

In my daily bible study during October, I have been directed to Paul's letter to the Galatians. I have précised a particular passage below, to save space (a dangerous practice for a bible student, but bear with me!) Starting at Galatians 2v15:

Weknow that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified. ... For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!

Continuing in Galations 3

You foolish (Lindfield URC)! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? Have you suffered so much for nothing--if it really was for nothing? **Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you** because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?

It may appear that Paul is being offensive in verse one of chapter three; however, it is clear elsewhere that Paul has a deep love for the churches for which he has responsibility. Therefore, I have taken the liberty of addressing the passage to me and to you. Paul is keen that his readers, and that includes us, should not return to empty traditions of the Jewish law; similarly, we may start by faith, but turn to tradition, or codes of behaviour.

Paul's clear expectation, repeated in various ways throughout his letters, is that we receive the Holy Spirit, and that He is at work in us as individuals, and a church. The guestions I have highlighted in bold should be considered by each of us. At the church meeting, I wrote down a key lesson, mentioned from the Elders' morning -"Why are we doing this? And who is it for?" I trust that we do everything because we have faith in Jesus that our actions are worthwhile, and that we do them for Him. by the strength of his Spirit within us. If you have never received the filling of the Spirit, speak to an Elder, house group leader, or to me or anyone else you know who understands this

Tim Sanderson

Model Railways

What is it about a model railway that sparks the imagination for children of all ages? That it does can be seen by the reactions of visitors to any model railway exhibition. This was the case during the exhibition a couple of years ago in the Lindfield URC hall where model railways of a variety of shapes and size were in operation.

School children wanted to see plenty of action and take a train set home, dads were in agreement and mums were hoping this was simply a phase soon to be forgotten or in the event of the arrival of a train set actually in the house, not to interfere with its smooth running.



Dads know smooth running requires a track that is stable and secure while mums will tell you it will have to be removed before meals. This impasse could be resolved with a model railway in a small scale.

During 1972 model train manufacturer Märklin introduced Z scale with a scale ratio of 1:220 the then smallest commercially available model railway with a track gauge of 6.5 mm/ 0.256 in. When on a business trip to Köln and visiting a store with a colleague who like me had a young son I purchased a Z scale train set that was not much bigger than a box of chocolates. While a box of chocolates does not last 48 hours in our house this model railway with its siblings and sidings still sparks the imagination after 40 years.

A child discovers the movement in a model railway is a big attraction. However for an enthusiast their knowledge and skills from the real world are applied to this miniature environment. As a hobby the model railway provides scope for engineers, designers, collectors, historians and others with a tangible model. For the casual interested onlooker it can all seem impossible for them to achieve. The layout and scenery looking so realistic, locomotives with their mechanical complications, sophisticated technology to run the trains and so it goes on.

BUT as with many aspects of life the model railway is built one step at a time with the trains doing the rushing around or switched to a meander in the sidings. The model railway is a work in progress.

Stepping Stones

Stepping Stones is a group run by our church for parents/carers to bring their babies and toddlers (up to the age of 3).

We average about 20-30 families each week, Stepping Stones takes place every Tuesday morning during term time, from 10am to 11.30am, in the Church Hall.

We aim to provide a happy and safe environment where parents/carers and children will make new friends and enjoy the session together.

During the morning, we serve drinks and biscuits for the children and hot drinks for the adults. There is also an opportunity for the older children to do a simple craft activity. Each session ends with songs and a prayer.

If you require further information regarding Stepping Stones, please contact:

Jo Bloxham on 01444 483672



Henderson McEwan

Poetry Corner

Two fantastic poems to complete this months magazine, both from the pen of our very own (and very talented) Dorothy Brown.

Where are you?

We are needing a Pastor at Lindfield. We've waited a very long time. We know that you'r there, so show us you care and sit down and drop us a line!

We have quite a lot here to offer. Nice Church, lovely manse here beside, A good congregation. (All perfect, of course;) So help us and work by our side.

We hope you'll be quite understanding to teach us - we'll hear what you say! If you feel the call You can count on us all, we pray God will guide you this way.

Church Thoughts

What is a Church? If we all can agree, is it a building for people to see? Should there be carvings and pictures so bright and beautiful windows to let in the light?

Let's have some flowers, what else can compare? then send them to people to show that we care. Music to cheer us and words to inspire people with talent to sing in the choir.

Perhaps we'll find comfort and challenges too. Maybe there's a duty or task we could do? although it's quite small, just a link in the chain. By pulling together, we all take the strain.

What is a Church? Not a building to see it's made of believers, it's you and it's me. It's grace and compassion, of this we're assured, it's worship and praise and the love of the Lord.

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Phonebook

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Mobile	07443 438970	Tra	ansport			
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Treasurer		P.U	J.L.S.E. Co-ordinato	r		
Terry Ward	01444 482986	Da	nny Goodall	07443 438970		
Boys' Brigade: Geoffrey Cocksedge	Lighthouse (Junior Church) Co-ordinator Dawn Walters 01444 441601					
Cradle Roll Mel Campling	01444 484140	Da		0144441001		
Flowers Betty Billins	01444 484494	F		Rota		
Hall Booking Secretar	У	Nover				
Shirley Anton	01444 482819	2nd	Heather Swann	Jo Bloxham		
In Touch		9th	Betty Billins	Iris Bingham		
Sue Waller	01444 455047	16th	Sue Waller	Heather Swann		
Lunch Fellowship		23rd	Carol Marsh Zoe McQuillin	Janet Sanderson Janet Sanderson		
Wednesday:		30th		Janet Sanderson		
Sue Waller <i>Friday:</i>	01444 455047	Decen	nber			
Anne Parker	01444 473519	7th	Serena Nathan	FoTingley		
		14th	Christmas	Nick Bingham		
Pastoral Group		21st	Christmas	No Delivery		
Fiona Tingley	01444 483419	28th	Christmas	No Delivery		

Around Lindfield

Saturday 8th November

3.00 pm ROC on Saturday - Lindfield URC

7.45pm Anne Applin and Geoffrey Pratley (Piano duet) HHMS Concert - St Wilfred's Church HH Further information Christine Colbourne: HH 456227 www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk

Tuesday 11th November

2.30 pm Preservation Society in KEH : Sussex Wildlife Trust

Wednesday 12th November

- 12.15 pm Tiger Arts : Lunch in Tiger
- 1.00 pm Concert : Musicians from St Paul's College, Burgess Hill
- 7.30 pm Horticultural Society, King Edward Hall AGM Followed by 'A celebration of Wild Flowers'

Thursday 20th November

7.45 pm Film Evening at KEH 'The Love Punch' Tickets (£6) available fro Tufnells

Saturday 22th November

3.00pm ROC on Saturday - Evangelical Free Church



www.lindfieldurc.org.uk