#### **FREE MONTHLY**

GoodNEWS MAGAZINE

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

Summer 2014

# The Great War Centenary

Bible verse of the month

# God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Psalm 46:1 NIV

This month's verse chosen by Anne Elvin, see page 7







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

goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk





# Editorial

We look forward to a busy summer, many of us will be enjoying holidays and spending time with family. One joyous family reunion will be for Carol and Stuart Marsh when their daughter and family return from America in August.

Several articles help commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the start of World War I. An article written by Chris Comber is certainly a highlight, remembering the role played by the Navy and Martin has written about the Church during that WW1 period. We have a very important week of prayer that will happen beginning Monday 28th July until Saturday 2nd August. There is an open invitation with dates and times to enable everyone to attend.

John Blake has won a prestigious award; we congratulate him sincerely. Jonathan and Martin Hall have taken part in a Triathlon; see how well both have done, both succeeding in their separate fields. We must also congratulate the Boys Brigade on yet another set of triumphs! Well done Boys!

As Josh comes to the end of his time at Lindfield, it is exciting to read all the things he has achieved whilst with us at Lindfield URC. We wish Josh and Hannah well in their new life in Cambridge. Our young people have gained much from his teaching and he will be missed by many. It is a long road to becoming a minister and needs perseverance and dedication, which both Hannah and Josh have proved to have!

We hope you enjoy reading our Good News Magazine and a wonderful summer.

Every Blessing to you all,

Anne Copy Date for September Edition : Sun Aug 10th

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Contributions should be emailed to goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk or hard copy placed in the "GoodNEWS" pigeon hole at the rear of the church

Please include your contact details in case of query

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# **Dear friends**

**S** ummer is upon us and as I write this the temperatures are soaring. Will it last? Whatever you are doing this summer, I hope and pray that you are blessed of the Lord, whatever the weather. The church tends to take a rest during the summer months, but I notice that Lindfield URC has a week of prayer coming up at the end of July with the theme of 'Discipleship – Living the Jesus Way'.

It is good to come to God in prayer and seek His will for our lives as individuals and as a church, especially as we search for a new Pastor.

Jesus said, 'Ask and it will be given you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you' (Matthew 7:7). There's an increasing intensity in Jesus' words here – ask, seek, knock – from simply telling God our problems to hammering on the door of the throne room!

We may feel we cannot pray, but we read in the Bible, in Paul's letter to the Romans that the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness and that the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. May God bless you as you come to Him in prayer this summer, whether it is in your own home or at the organised prayer meetings at the church. Gracious father, how grateful we are that we are not left alone in our weaknesses; we can be linked to Your everlasting strength. Flow into our lives in a new way this summer so that we are blessed by Your life-giving Spirit as we seek You in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Have a great and blessed summer

Robert Bud

Revd. Robert Bushby

## Please Remember

From: 13th July 10.30am to September 7th 10.30am

# There will be one service on a Sunday at 10.30am only.

Normal Service times: 9.30am 11.15am and 6.30pm will resume from the 13th September 2014

Sue Waller Church Secretary

# **Family News**

Once again may I ask you to uphold in prayer those of our Church Family who are unwell or who are house bound. When you no longer have the opportunity to meet with friends who can offer you love and support, it can feel a bit like bereavement, whether that is in the short or long term. So a phone call or a card through the letterbox can be a real encouragement. Several folk are awaiting surgery, others are recovering. Please pray for them, and for others that you are aware of who are laid aside at this time.

There are a few 'Special' birthdays being celebrated amongst our Church friends.(I won't risk naming them because I am sure to miss someone out.) Congratulations to you all!

No doubt a number of folk are anticipating a holiday during the summer months. May those holidays be a time of refreshment in body, mind and spirit. If you are not going away, may you know a special blessing and our Lord ministering to you here at home.

Fiona

# Thank You

Roy and Betty would like to thank you for your prayers and support we have had since Roy's stroke and which are still continuing.

We are pleased to say Roy is doing well and looking forward to celebrating his 90th Birthday. May we thank you for all the flowers.

We are so pleased to have Jesus as our Saviour and that we belong to such a caring Church. We have certainly needed this over the years.

May God be close to you all like he has been to us.

# The Fellowship

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd July at 2.30pm.

Once again it is the time of our Garden Tea with Quizzes.

There will be no bring and buy stall at this meeting.

# Please note that we do not meet in August.

All who come to our Fellowship meetings maybe sure of a warm welcome.

#### **Pat Phillips**

#### **Betty and Roy Billins**

## The band plays on!

The Boys Brigade heard that a group of young people in Uganda were desperate to start a band but did not have any trumpets.

We searched through the cupboard and found some spare bugles and a bell lyre so we spent an evening cleaning them up getting them in good order and they were taken out to the group by Rob and Jen Morris, from All Saints at Easter.

They are still looking for some more instruments and we are seeing what we can do.

# Vacancy Update

There has been some interest in our profile recently but nothing has resulted in any positive action.

July and August are usually quiet months but we need to keep praying that the right person will respond.

It may well be that during this quieter period ministers will have time to reflect on their ministry and that may result in them being prompted to seek out something new!

#### **David Walters**

#### **David Walters**

## An apology!!



n last month's magazine in the article 'Welcome Rosieta', I would like to apologise to Rosieta for spelling Rosieta's surname incorrectly! At the end of the article I spelt it Rosieta 'Burtron'!! It should have read Rosieta Burton!

Her correct title is Rev. Dr. Rosieta Burton! Again I omitted the Dr. after the Rev.!!

I got the first name correct and remembered that ' i comes before the e except after c'. Rosieta was very generous and simply laughed and said 'Not to worry'. I felt I must apologise and say 'Sorry'!

We still continue to be good friends so that is all important!

#### **Anne Elvin**



ACREATE AND

the 2014 Award of Honour is made t

John Blake

ear macessmean in promoting tool traditional courts of Staddaeding and for his works. Chairman of the National Hedgelaying Society. His influence in successfully introducing this wild conservation tool to the Velorhandu is particularly noteworthy During a lifetime of service to the countraside.

he has also been an active leader of several Young Farmers Clubs

## No man is an island

A few folks are now aware, that I have been awarded a medal and a citation - This is for services to farming and hedge laying in particular. I am anxious that folks understand this was not achieved on my own, I had backup from some wonderful people. It is a message to me in Christian living, with our Lord Jesus Christ as a supreme leader, without whom we do very little.

#### John Blake

# Car outing and tea

On Wednesday, 27th August the Pastoral Group are organising the annual car outing, followed by tea in the Church hall. We would be most grateful for offers of cakes, scones etc.

Also we'd be glad to hear from you if you are able to help with the tea on the day.

Please speak to Fiona Tingley (483419) or Heather Swann (450335).

Thank you!

## **Bible Verse**

**6God** is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.**9** 

Psalm 46 :1 NIV

This is always helpful when any crisis comes and it does help to give the extra strength you need to cope with difficult situations. This through the years has helped me so much when things have been very difficult.

#### Anne Elvin

Fo & Heather

# Harmony

H.A.R.M.O.N.Y.

Romans 14

old back judgement on disputable matters 14:1

A void looking down on those who don't share your convictions 14:2-4

Realise that you must live for the Lord alone 14:5-12

Make sure you don't put obstacles in the way of others 14:13-18

Only do what leads to peace and mutual education 14:19-21

N ever publicise your personal convictions 14:22-23

Vield personal preferences for the common good 15:1-7

H.A.R.M.O.N.Y

**Iris Bingham** 

### able This month was a little different for the In Touch group, our speaker Naomi McBain led us through a paper called -

In Touch

**Bridging the Gap** 

McBain led us through a paper called – Bridging the Gap, which she had produced. The paper contained many bible passages and was challenging us in our ability and willingness to share our faith with others.

How much do you share your faith? How much would you like to share your faith? These were just two of the challenging questions she gave us to think about and at the end of the evening we were asked to share with each other on a one to one, what a difference our faith made to us and how we would share that with others. There was a very heart warming buzz about the room as we shared with each other, and then we left; hopefully challenged by what we had heard, and slightly better equipped to speak with others about the faith that we all share.

Our next event will have been our walk and supper and on July 12th we will meet for our Quiet Day in the Church Lounge in the morning, and after lunch – cooked for us by the Garden Chef we will continue in the Church and finish with Communion. The day will begin at 10.00am with coffee and finish at around 3.30pm at a cost of £16.50

Do join with us for the day, led by Alison Weeks, the wife of the Evangelical Free Church Minister Mervyn Weeks. To book your lunch please speak to **Sue Waller** on 455047

GoodNEWS MAGAZINE

# **Engine Room**

re you interested in finding out where God is leading Lindfield URC? If so, why not book the dates of the week of prayer and come along to help us to discern God's answer.

# Discipleship Living the Jesus way

Join us for a week of prayer July 28th – August 2nd

Monday 28th July

9.30 am - 11.30 am

Tuesday 29th July 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Ghandi said

**▲***LI***f** *Christians* would really live according to the teachings of Christ, all of India would be Christian today. **9** 

Wednesday	30th July	7.30 pm - 9	.30 pm

Thursday 31st July 2.00pm - 4.00 pm

Friday 1st August 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm

Saturday 2nd August 9.30 am - 11.30 am 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

(to close with communion)



# World War I

## Lindfield Losses

Current coverage of the Great War in the Media appears to be mesmerised by the mud and trenches of the Western Front in France and Flanders, when it is often forgotten that this was a world war, with major operations in Africa, Egypt, Gallipoli, Mesopotamia, Salonika, China, Italy and the far flung islands of the South Pacific. To give one example, the British Corps sent to aid the Italians in 1917 numbered nearly 150,00 men, far exceeding our miniscule standing army of today.

There is little mention of the Royal Navy,(personnel numbered four hundred thousand in 1918)which was at the time, a colossal force, controlling the global trade of the Empire and its enormous merchant fleet and maintaining the Grand Fleet, based at Scapa Flow and bases overseas. Five Lindfield men lost their lives whilst serving in the Royal Navy. They were, 17 year old Harold Spiers who was serving on the Cruiser HMS "Hawke". when she was torpedoed by U9 in the North Sea on 15.10.1914.

He was just one of 524 men lost out of a crew of 544. Imagine the outcry in today's news if this was reported!!

John Francis Newnham from Compton Road was killed at the Battle of Jutland 31.5.1916 aged 19 when the turret in which he was the sight setter, received a direct hit. The turret survived and John was the only casualty. His brother Noel was a 16 year old boy bugler on HMS"Vanguard", which blew up at Scapa Flow in 1917 with great loss of life.

Both brothers were in the Royal Marine Artillery.



Our local coal merchant's son 21 year old Harold Charles Scutt, was serving in HMS "Barham" in Portsmouth, when he sustained a severe injury to his hand; sadly, blood poisoning set in, and he died in R.N. Hospital, Haslar. 31. 1.17. He was aboard Barham during Jutland and before he enlisted in 1915 was employed as a gardener at Borde Hill

Lieutenant Guy Kemble Twiss aged 28 was killed in a fierce destroyer action in the Straits of Dover 17. 6.17 His destroyer HMS"Tartar "was mined defending the Dover Barrage, vital to our cross channel communications. His body was recovered and brought home for burial in Walstead Cemetery.

Four of our men were among the 250,000 casualties suffered in the bungled Gallipoli campaign in 1915.

William Baldock drowned by falling overboard on his way to Hospital in Egypt .21.8.15 Ernest Townshend was killed in action on Gallipoli 2. 5.15 with the ANZACS. Both men had emigrated to Australia pre war.

Thomas Pranklin 23 of the shoe shop in the High Street and Joseph Whall aged 19,also of the High Street, went ashore at Suvla Bay with the 1/4th.Batt. The Royal Sussex Regiment. Thomas was lost on the first day 10.8.15 and Joseph a few days later 26.8.15

Frederick Hillman, Royal Artillery from Lyoth Lane died of disease in Egypt aged 25 The long campaign in Mesopotamia cost the Empire 40,000 dead, the majority being from the Indian Army, but it also claimed the lives of Capt Edward Fawcett of the 92nd.Punjabis who was killed leading his men during the Kut relief operations 22. 4.16. He was a well known local cricketer

Arthur Springham RASC.also died near Bagdhad 4.11.17. aged 39. He was the gardener at the Manor House, and lived in the cottage.

Malcolm Hill, RAMC, from Sunte Avenue died of wounds in Salonika Greece 27.2.17. aged 27

Another medic Capt. Alexander Fitzmaurice of the Colonial Medical Service Att. to the Camel Corps, died of disease in British Somaliland aged 28 in 1914

His father was Dr Fitzmaurice formerly of "Everyndens" in the High Street.

Luther Wilmshurst was taken prisoner and died of tuberculosis in a German POW camp.18. 7.17 aged 21 His home was 1 Fountain Cottage on the Ardingly Road.

No sign of the trenches for these lads of the village.

This year, we remember them all. May they rest in peace.

#### **Chris Comber**

# Triathlon



## Mid Sussex Triathlon – 8th June 2014

At 07:18 am. on Sunday 8th June in the Triangle Leisure Centre pool, I took the plunge in my first ever Triathlon. Well, for me it was actually an "Aquabike" because, much as I would love to "...run with perseverance the race marked out..." (Hebrews 12: 1), my dodgy knees – a product of football/rugby - will not allow me to run.

Instead, I was able to just swim and bike which suited me fine - it was a beautiful morning, blue skies, warm and sunny and the country cycle route was lovely. I managed to finish in the top 10, 10th to be accurate and yes, there were only 14 doing the Aquabike, but it was still "top 10"!





Jonathan, having recovered from a twisted ankle earlier in the year, swam, biked and ran, "...like a champion rejoicing to run his course..." (Psalm 19:5) and finished 1st in his 20-29 age-group and 2nd overall, out of a field of 352!!

An excellent result that will certainly give him confidence for 20th June, when the family will be in Kitzbühel, Austria, to cheer him on in Team GB colours as he competes in the European Triathlon agegroup championships. We certainly hope while he is there that he will, "...Run in such a way as to get the prize..." (I Corinthians 9:24), but we are just thrilled that he has been given this wonderful opportunity to race at all and we delight that he runs with a Christians in Sport wrist band with the logo "Audience of One", symbolic that what really matters in sport, and life, is to play for an audience of One, God, so that eventually we will "...get a crown that will last for ever..." (I Corinthians 9:25).

#### **Martin Hall**

# Pilgrimages



Agroup of pilgrims experienced a mixture of thankfulness and sadness on Saturday June 7th when they applauded Brenda Stone. She has organised forty-five pilgrimages within Sussex during the past twenty years, and now feels the urge to retire from this responsibility and step down from their leadership.

We have all benefitted from her quiet efficiency as we rambled between interesting church buildings through God's delightful countryside, worshipping as we went along.

It is the plan that future pilgrimages may be developed by a group of folk who will run with this baton of pilgrimage celebrating God's faithfulness.

#### **Janet Drayton**

# Sunday Services

From July 13th until September 7th we meet for a joint morning service at **10.30am**. A mix of traditional and modern elements the children will have their own activities and a creche is available.

**Regular 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). Holy Communion (1st 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
Wed	9.45am	Short Service of Intercession
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	Boy's 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
Thur	10.00am	Pop–In Coffee and a chat
	8.00pm	Church Meeting
Fri	4:30pm	P.U.L.S.E Junior (1st and 3rd week, term time)
	7.30pm	P.U.L.S.E (Years 6-9) games, craft, tuck and a bible mes- sage (term time)
Sun	7.30pm	P.U.L.S.E +

The church is open most mornings from 10.00am to 12.30pm

# **July Church diary**

<b>July</b> 3rd Thursday		House Groups URC General Assembly Cardiff	<b>13th</b> Sunday	10:30am 12:00am	Joint Worship Rev Chris Vivian Romans 1:11 Trust Mission Lunch
4th Friday		URC General Assembly Cardiff	- 19th	0.45 a.m	2 Church os Drouer
5th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, LURC	Saturday	0.454111	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, LURC
		URC General Assembly Cardiff	rdiff <b>20th</b> Sunday		Joint Worship John Fernandez
<b>6th</b> Sunday	9:30am 11:15am	Family Worship Morning worship	Sunday		Sussex Gospel Partnership
6:30pm	Josh Thomas Youth Pastor URC General Assembly Cardiff Communion David Walters	23th Wednesday	•	Afternoon Fellowship Elders Meeting	
		24th Thursday	8:00pm	Engine Room Church Prayer Meeting	
7th Monday		URC General Assembly Cardiff	26th Saturday		3 Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints ROC on Saturday
8th Tuesday		URC General Assembly Cardiff	<b>27th</b> Sunday	10:30am	Joint Communion Maria Grainger
Saturday 9:45ar		3 Churches Prayer Meeting, LURC Ladies in Touch day ROC on Saturday	28th Monday		Discipleship Week of Prayer
			29th Tuesday	•	Discipleship Week of Prayer



30th Wednesday	•	Discipleship Week of Prayer	16th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free
31st Thursday		Discipleship Week of Prayer	<b>17th</b> Sunday	10:30am	Joint Worship Stuart Dew Hassocks URC
<b>August</b> 1st Thursday	•	Discipleship Week of Prayer	23rd Saturday		3 Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free ROC on Saturday
2nd Saturday	9:30am- 11:30am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free Discipleship Week of Prayer	<b>24th</b> Sunday	10:30am	Joint Communion John Goodway Evangelist
3rd	4:00pm 10:30am	Communion Joint worship Rev Michael Davies Lindfield URC	26th Tuesday	6:30pm	In Touch - To be advised
Sunday			27th Wednesday	7:45pm	Elders Meeting
9th Saturday		3 Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free ROC on Saturday	30th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free
<b>10th</b> Sunday	10:30am	Joint worship David Walters Elder	<b>31st</b> Sunday	10:30am	Joint Worship Rev Dr Rosieta Burton Lindfield URC

t is hard to believe that four years has almost passed since we first arrived in Lindfield. The next stage of our journey is nearly here and as we find ourselves preparing for the move to Cambridge and the commencement of Josh's studies, there is so much to look forward to. However, at the same time we are both apprehensive as certain details are yet to be confirmed.

Josh Thomas Writes..

We have grown so much during our time here at Lindfield URC, and we feel that God has been equipping us for this next step and showing us that through him, we can do anything. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for bearing with us when we have lacked confidence, for supporting us when we have been struggling and for celebrating with us in the countless highlights we have shared with you.

We want to take this opportunity to share with you some of our 'best bits'

Josh

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Back in 2011, we came up with the crazy idea of running a radio station over the Christmas period to explore the true meaning of the season and to share our faith with the wider community. We weren't sure how this was all going to work out, but Dan McQuillin put his trust in us to ensure that it could go ahead.

The week was a huge success and every single young person involved amazed and astounded us both in many ways. It gave them a great opportunity to learn a new skill, but also share their faith with school friends and family, and in 2013 we decided to give it another go! Again, we were taken aback by the young people and their dedication and enthusiasm for the project.

In 2013, Hannah led a group of young people from All Saints. This built links between the churches in the village, and she was impressed by their abilities to interact with our young people. Friendships were built up between different groups of young people, and this was a particularly special thing to see. We also had the chance to work in partnership with Oathall Community College, and each one of those young people involved through the project excelled and built a good relationship between us and the school. Thank you for listening to us and supporting your amazing young people!



n July 2013, we took Alex Jeffs, Alex Harfield and Johanna Harfield to take part in Cascaid's summer camp in Romania. We spent a fantastic week with Dickie Twort and the team in the Romanian mountains thinking about Democracy and how we as Christians should respond to politics. Our young people were once again a credit to us, by taking part in everything and making good friends despite there sometimes being a language barrier.

The trip had a positive impact on us, and we know our three travellers also benefitted positively from this experience.



We have taken our Friday night group on a few summer camps over the four years. Each year has been different; we have had rain and shine, zip wire and kayaking, worship and Bible study.

These occasions have always been great fun, and we have enjoyed taking different young people each year. These weekends were an opportunity for the young people to engage with God in a friendly and dedicated environment.

We hope that the young people will remember these summer camps and look back on them with a smile on their face. Hannah, however, would quite like to forget the rather large moth in the toilets at 11pm!



There have been a variety of away weekends which we have run for the young people, including a Youth Alpha weekend, a Gift FM weekend and a young leadership weekend. These have been a great time for fellowship and fun, as well as learning and worshipping together. We always come away very proud of the young people and encouraged by how God is working in their lives.

In truth there are so many things we could write about as there have been so many highlights during our time in Lindfield, however, we hope this will give you a flavour of some of the things we have enjoyed the most and seen God really at work in the lives of our young people.

The major highlight for both of us has been to see how each of the young people has grown over the years, we arrived when each of the young people were in their early to mid teens and we leave with Tom McQuillin heading off to university (I've joked that as he is off to Oxford and I'm off to Cambridge, we should have an unofficial boat race – I fear I may lose however!) and Gina Balicki and Alex Harfield leaving college and either starting or looking for work.

Each one of them has grown hugely not just physically but spiritually as well, they are a credit to the Church and we will be praying for them as we leave Josh's role here in this place and want to encourage you to do the same, they are a wonderful bunch really!

Being in Lindfield has prepared us for the next step and we thank you for all that you have done to welcome us and support us in this place, but we praise God for equipping us and giving us this experience and for being there with us every day of our lives!

It's not a goodbye but a see you later as I'm sure we will be back at some point in the not too distant future!

God Bless,

Josh & Hannah

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July14 @deborahnoble@parishpump.co.uk

# **Boys' Brigade**

Two Queen's Badges were awarded at the Company's annual awards evening. They were presented to Sergeants Wesley Heyward and Tom Hewitt. The Queen's Badge is the Brigade's highest award, and is awarded to young men of 16 and above who have an excellent record of service, and reached proficiency in several branches of activity; among other requirements they had to attend a weekend completion course at the national Brigade Training Centre at Felden Lodge in Hertfordshire.

In addition, Wesley was presented with the prestigious Ernest Beal VC Watch, named in honour of a World War 1 hero, and awarded annually by the Brighton Battalion to a young man who demonstrates outstanding qualities of leadership. To cap it all, he has served in the BB for 13 years without missing a single meeting! Praise from me is superfluous: such an exceptional record speaks for itself. These awards were the highlight of a well attended evening, which saw nearly 30 Boys presented with their awards by Rev. Adam Pymble, Curate of All Saints, and parent of an Anchor Boy. All in all, a climax to a successful year.

At the end of April, three Juniors, Gabriel, Ben, and Matthias, went with Terry Ward to a Battalion holiday weekend at Carroty Wood, Tonbridge.

More recently, a team of Company Section lads played in the Battalion 5 a side football tournament at Oathall School, gaining a creditable second place - it was good to see how well Tom Hewitt as captain led his team of relatively young Boys (average age two years less than their opponents) and the enthusiasm and good sportsmanship displayed by all.





The younger Company Section Boys also competed in the Athletics Championships at Withdean Stadium. All did well in the various track and field events, and we put in a team consisting of Hayden, Ben, Ryan, and Scott for the Junior Relay.

It was neck and neck at first, but two thirds of the way round our boys were outpaced by a team from Brighton; then Hayden took the baton, raced away, and, in a thrilling finish, overtook his opponent almost inches before the finishing line, to make us the winners.

We almost danced for joy, and It was a very happy bunch of boys that travelled back to Lindfield with the trophy!

#### **Geoffrey Cocksedge**

You are warmly invited to the



# being held at 12.00 noon

# on Sunday, 13 July 2014

## at Lindfield United Reformed Church

to find out more about the work of

## ROMANS ONE ELEVEN TRUST

**Speaker:** Rev Chris Vivian – Administrator of Romans One Eleven Trust and Minister of Lymington United Reformed Church

# All Welcome!

The event will take place after the 10.30am Morning Service

## Lunch – Talk – Ugandan Craft Stall

For further details and  ${f free}~tickets$  please contact a member of the LURC

Missions Group – Val Cookney, Jean Gardiner, Alex Hall, Helen Hall and Terry Oliver. For more background information please see:

www.romansoneeleventrust.org.uk www.lymurc.org.uk

July/August Mission Romans One Eleven Trust - Mutually encouraged

**F** or July and August the mission focus will be the Romans One Eleven Trust.

▲ I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you, that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith >>

#### Romans 1:11-12

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

It is now almost ten years since we were introduced to Samuel Muhumuza who is an ordained minister in the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Uganda. During that time it has been our privilege to support the work of the Ssanje Modern School that he established in the Kibaale District, including sponsorship of several children and young people. We are delighted that the Rev Chris Vivian, the Trust's Administrator, will be visiting Lindfield URC on Sunday 13 July. Chris will be preaching at the Sunday Morning Service and giving a talk about the Trust's work at a Mission Lunch being held immediately after the Service. As well as obtaining an overall picture of the work of Romans One Eleven, we look forward to hearing about Chris' recent visits to some of the projects which the Trust supports in Uganda.

Please see the mission display for more details. You can also find out more details and/or obtain free tickets to the lunch by contacting one of the Missions Group team – Jean Gardiner, Val Cookney, Terry Oliver, Alex Hall and Helen Hall.

As always, if you would like to give please use the special envelopes and place your donation in the offertory at any Sunday Service.

We thank you for your wonderful support and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on 13 July.

#### **Missions Group**

# World War I

# The Church and the Bible in the First World War

With all the poignant reminders in the media of the 100th anniversary of WW1, I wondered what the position of the Church was at that time. What do I know about this – well, precisely nothing as I write this sentence so, in a way perhaps, this is an example of the blind (me) leading the sighted or at least partially sighted (you). So, please excuse my impertinence, but it is such a blessing to be able to sit down and learn about history and I hope that I am able to pass on some of that enthusiasm.

I regret that I am a late convert to history - at school in the 60's/70's I had to choose between science and history at the age of just 13. Why did I give up history? Well, for me back then it was just boring old "history" - I was interested in the advances of the present and looking to an exciting future! With passing years comes a realisation that history really is fascinating and so important if we are not to repeat mistakes – as well as just to know our ancestry. Our House Group has just finished studying Acts in which Luke's historically accurate writing, even detailing techniques for boatmanship, really adds an extra layer of authenticity.



The Church in WW1 is a huge and complex subject and my article can only reveal just a few selected facets of a topic which others have written extensively on. In his book "The Church of England and the First World War" (1978) Alan Wilkinson, an Anglican priest, portrays the pastoral problems and challenges to faith presented by WW1, including views of the Free Churches and Roman Catholics. Interestinaly, the specific reliaious needs of Catholics (e.g. "last rites") meant that Catholic priests were much more likely to stay close to the front line where, because they were often in danger, they were more respected by the men than were Anglicans.

It is sometimes difficult to remember that at the outbreak of WW1 women still had no vote and only a marginal role in the Church of England. In an interview that you can listen to online1, bestselling author Kate Adie tells how, before the outbreak of war, women were not allowed to take the collection in churches. She talks about how that had to change as a generation of men went off to fight and congregations decreased. During the First World War, some women were appointed as lay readers, known as "Bishop's messengers", who also led missions and ran churches in the absence of men. Yet after the war, no more women lav readers were appointed until 1969!

At the start of his MA thesis (2005) entitled "The Church of England in the First World War", Kevin Fielden says, "The Church of England was at a crossroads in 1914. Attendance declined for reasons including class distinctions between pastors and parishioners, urbanization, an apparent lack of concern for the working poor, and questions of an intellectual or scientific nature concerning the truth presented by the Bible and the Church. The war was seen as an opportunity to revitalize it and return it to its role of prominence in society." While he concluded that the war did not accomplish the latter, at least the Church "was not forced into irrelevancy by the events of the war. During such a cataclysmic time, that left empires crumbled and millions dead, perhaps maintaining relevancy is all that can be expected".

Whatever the feeling for the Church, at the start of WW1 the Bible itself was a defining influence on British culture across class divides (Dr Michael Snape, Birmingham University). All servicemen were issued with a New Testament in addition to their uniform, boots and gun. Made with a khaki cover, most were small enough to fit into the uniform's left-breast pocket. For most soldiers the Bible represented something familiar and reliable, giving hope and consolation during times of extreme suffering.

# **▲** There is no other book that was as widely owned or read in the trenches **> >**

Dr Snape said.

The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge distributed over 40 million Bibles, hymn books, prayer books and tracts during the first two years of the war. The Bible Society was also active, distributing about nine million Bibles in 80 different languages to combatants and prisoners of war on all sides between 1914 and 1918.

The Bible Society has produced an illustrated collection of psalms, poetry, hymns, prayers and personal stories in a book called "Hear My Cry" (2014).



The book can be ordered (£5.94 incl. p&p) and many stories of the Bible Society's work can be read on their website2.

I'll end with the words of General the Lord Dannatt (Chief of the General Staff 2006-2009), who in his foreword to the book writes:

Some may choose to argue in the coming months about on whose side was God in the First World War, but that is an arid argument. God does not take sides between countries, however he is passionately concerned for the people who live in those countries and get caught up in war.

He made us, He loves us and he wants us to love him in return. To make sense of war we can do nothing better than place our hope and faith in God and in his Son, Jesus Christ.

**Martin Hall** 

# Wider World(Cup) Brazil

N early everyone knows by now that football is a religion in Brazil, but religion itself finds its expression in the game, and the behaviour of the players both on and off the pitch says much about the way the religious scene is changing in that country. Some players still make Catholic gestures such as the sign of the cross, but recently one can see more evangelical expressions of Christianity.

After their World Cup victory in 2002, the whole Brazilian team knelt down in a big circle to pray and some players stripped off their shirts to reveal t-shirts underneath bearing the slogan

"I belong to Jesus" (in English).

When the Portuguese colonised Brazil in the 16th century, the country became almost completely Catholic. Even in the 1940s, 99% of Brazilians were Catholics. Today, that figure is around 63%.

The proportion of Brazilians belonging to mainstream Protestant churches has been rising, as has the number adhering to Islam, Buddhism and Afro-Brazilian religions such as Candombe and Ubanda.

One of the biggest changes is the rise of neo-Pentecostalism religion. Pentecostalism, with its brand of spirit-filled Christianity, faith-healing and exorcisms, was brought to Brazil in the late 1970s from the USA.



# FIFA WORLD CUP Brasil

Brazil, at that time, was undergoing massive changes in urban industrialisation leaving displaced people with choices about their lifestyle and religion that they had never had before, and the neo-Pentecostalism churches met the need of the moment.

Back to football - the Brazilian footballers used to have a bad-boy image, but with many of their most famous players being neo-Pentecostalist their behaviour is changing as they start to respect discipline and obey the laws of both God and their managers! As FIFA, football's world governing body, does not approve of overt displays of Christianity on the pitch, we may not see many demonstrations of their faith. But if they were to win this year's World Cup - then expect some very explicit celebrations indeed!

#### **Carol Marsh**

# **Stuart Dew**

## The Peace of the Lord be with you

What do we mean when we say that? What did Jesus mean when he said: Peace be with you? I invited people to consider those questions at the evening service on 8 June.

Sometimes we may say: Give me a bit of peace. Perhaps if the phone rings when we're watching England's progress towards certain World Cup victory (Please note: This piece is being written before the opening matches are played!).

Or perhaps peace is the opposite of conflict. Some of you may remember a John Lennon song with the words: All we are saying is give peace a chance. All we are praying is give peace a chance.

But Jesus said (John 14.27): My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.

So, it's not a worldly peace.

Jesus' offer of God's peace was made within the context of the early believers living in real fear. Jesus had warned them (John 16.2) they will put you out of the synagogue. In fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering a service to God.

That was how bad it would get. They surely needed God's peace.

Paul picks this up when he writes to the church at Philippi (Phil.4.7). The peace of

GoodNEWS MAGAZINE

God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds.

A peace which transcends all understanding. So perhaps we can go only so far in understanding God's peace.

There is no guarantee against suffering, but the God who revealed himself in Jesus does offer us the promise of peace – a deep peace in the middle of life's problems and storms – a peace will keep guard around our hearts and minds.

#### **Stuart Dew**



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**Fiona Tingley** 

ower Rota Distributing **Barbara Shepherd Gladys** Porter Jo Bloxham Carol Marsh **Iris Bingham** 

Heather Swann

August

July 6th

13th

20th

27nd

- Serena Nathan Janet Sanderson 3rd Anne Parker 10th **Fo Tingley** 17th **Barbara Shepherd** Nick Bingham 24th Winnifred Scopes Sue Tester **Barbara Shepherd**
- 31st Jean Baxter
- 7th Audrey Saunders 14th Heather Swann Jean Baxter 21st 28th Janet Wade

Jo Bloxham Iris Bingham Heather Swann Janet Sanderson

# **Around Lindfield**

# Wednesday 9th July

12.15pm Tiger Arts : Lunch in the Tiger 1.00pm Concert : The Laplace Quartet

# Saturday 12th July

2.00pm Horticultural Summer Show of flowers and produce in KEH3.00pm ROC on Saturday - Lindfield URC

## Saturday 26th July 3.00pm ROC on Saturday - Lindfield URC

# Saturday 9th August

3.00pm ROC on Saturday - Lindfield URC

# Wednesday 13th August

12.15pm Tiger Arts : Lunch in the Tiger 1.00pm Concert : Organ recital

# Saturday 23rd August

3.00pm ROC on Saturday - Lindfield URC



www.lindfieldurc.org.uk