

# *GoodNEWS* **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

April 2015



## He is Risen!

Easter Hope

Risen Hallelujah

The Sixteen

Never Far - Road to Emmaus

# Bible verse of the month

“ *Trust in the Lord  
with all your heart and  
lean not on your own  
understanding; in all  
your ways acknowledge  
him, and he will make  
your paths straight* ”

Proverbs 3 : 5-6  
NIV

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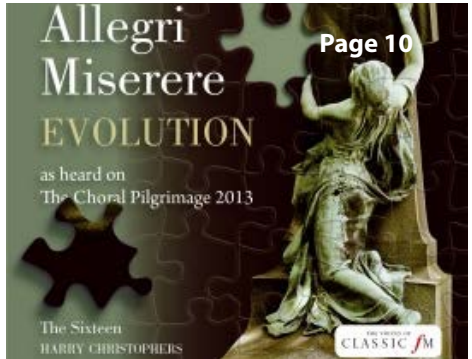


Allegri  
Miserere  
EVOLUTION

as heard on  
The Choral Pilgrimage 2013

The Sixteen  
HARRY CHRISTOPHERS

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Our verse this month is  
chosen by the Harfield family  
see page 6 for more  
information

If you have a verse or article  
you would like to share in  
GoodNEWS email:  
[goodnews@lindfielddurc.org.uk](mailto:goodnews@lindfielddurc.org.uk)

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# Editorial

Here we are again! This month we celebrate Easter. Keith writes about that first Easter Day how it must have been for the women and then disciples as their sadness was turned to joy when they began to grasp fully the reality of Jesus risen from the dead. He then goes on to help us see what the impact is knowing the risen Lord Jesus Christ not just for ourselves but for the whole of mankind past, present and future.

We are also introducing a new occasional regular slot called - Who am I? Periodically one of the editorial team will surreptitiously talk with an individual from the church asking them particular questions, the answers to which the 'Sherlock Holmes minded' among you, should be able to deduce the identity of the person being questioned!

We also have an article from Rosieta on not just the accumulation of stuff but the attitude of generosity. A good read and challenging too!

We have all the regular items including; Missions, In Touch, the Fellowship and Children's activities as well as the regular Minister's letter with its new regular writer.

So sit back, relax and enjoy

*Val Cookney*

May Edition Copy Date :  
**Sun April 12th 2015**

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*Please include your contact  
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*Produced for  
Lindfield United Reformed  
Church,  
50 High Street, Lindfield, West  
Sussex, RH16 2HL  
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# Dear friends

Well, here I am, no longer in Northampton, but a resident of Lindfield, and what a delightful reception my family, and I, have experienced. This warm welcome has been not only from the church but from others in the village too, and even from God's wonderful creation; to pull up outside Ryecroft on the day we moved and see the crocus flowers in full bloom on the verge outside our new home gave an extra sign of blessing that I was not expecting. I give thanks for all the work, and the prayers that prepared for our coming, and I ask you to continue to pray for us in our time here, and to pray for the church and village that we may together see the further blessing of God being out poured.

We arrived during Lent. This time is traditionally one of fasting, remembering Christ in the wilderness and how He resisted the temptation of the evil one; but I fear that this year for me, and my family, it has been one of the discovery of yummy treats in the shops, cafes and restaurants along the High Street. However I feel I must repent and restrain myself as neither my waist line, nor my bank manager, would be too happy were I to get carried away in this endeavour; even if it were in the name of meeting those who live and work nearby.

Lent has also brought the churches together to discover how we may view things "looking through the cross". I understand that some have found the

content quite hard going, but were it easy would it be a suitable challenge for Lent? Can thinking of the Cross and how it changes things ever not be a struggle? We might occasionally ask a question... "Why Heavenly Father do you love me so much that Your only beloved son must suffer and die that way?" or "Why, although I have done nothing that deserves this gift, and never could do anything to deserve it, does Your compassion embrace me, and offers new life?"... These are part of the mystery of faith and life, but yet are answered by the fact God is Love, and although He is all powerful He cannot stop Himself from being love, and His wanting us to know it.

As we now travel on from Lent, and through the joy of Easter, the new challenge for us is whether we have grown from the time of trial, to live as people who know themselves as living a new life, able to turn from wrong, forgiven of their sins, who will love their neighbours and reach out to them sharing the good news that Jesus is alive! Will we be Easter people who take God's Love and pour it out through our own hearts in to our community? I pray that we will.

Finally, may I wish you a Happy Easter, a joyful spring, and a blessed sense of the presence of God who offers all people the chance of new life through Jesus.

Your minister

*Keith*



# Family News

## *Thank You*

Dear new friends at Lindfield URC, I would like to thank you all for the wonderful warm welcome you have given to our family.

We have been overwhelmed with the very kind wishes, cards and generous gift. Thank you all so much. We are also aware how much hard work has been put into preparing Ryecroft for us, it is a wonderful home, and we realise what a blessing it is to live in such a special house. Most of all I am looking forward to a time of spiritual growth and refreshment as I worship with you, I have felt very at home so far at Lindfield URC, and pray that God will equip me and the rest of my family for the challenges that lie ahead. So, thank you all for the warm welcome, and I look forward to our future together, but please keep reminding me of your names, as I struggle to remember them!

With love

**Emmeline**

## *Moving House*

Best wishes to Natalie and Will Porter as they move house. Michael and Rosemary Davies are moving to, 17 Linden Grove, Lindfield, RH16 2EE.

We wish them both God's blessing in their new homes.

## *The Fellowship*

We next meet on Wednesday 22 April, at 2:30pm. This will be our Charity Tea and the Speaker will be telling us about the young people at Holyrood (the Disabilities Trust).

There will be the usual Bring and Buy stall

All who come may be sure of a warm welcome.

## *In Touch*

Unfortunately our speaker for the February meeting was ill, so we had an evening discussing how people had inspired us at certain periods of our life. Despite the short notice a number of our members contributed to the discussion and we also referred to some articles written by Steve Chalke on who had inspired him during his life.

On the 28th April Martin Hall is coming to talk about "Insect evidence from crime scene to court" and looking even further ahead don't forget to put our In Touch "Quiet Day" on Saturday 18th July in your diaries. Naomi Mc Bain will be leading us and we look forward to an interesting and challenging day.

As usual everyone is welcome to join us for Tea/Coffee at 7.45pm in the lounge before we start our evening at 8.00pm.

# Family News

## Mothering Sunday

How good it was to see our young people and children take part in the Special Mothering Day Service.

They quite obviously all enjoyed taking part in their Noah's Arc Spectacular. Needless to say so did the congregation. The joy on the faces of the children as they took part certainly showed and I feel sure it is a story that they all will all remember.

The quiet way Melanie was able to guide every child into doing exactly what they should be doing was remarkable.

Well done to all who took part in a memorable service.

**Anne Elvin**



# Bible Verse

## Proverbs 3 v 5-6

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight”

This verse has been a tower of strength during the past few weeks when Alex was going through a tough time with the RAF.

His appeal was upheld and he is through the first interview.

## The Harfield Family

# Tearfund

Tearfund are launching their latest campaign in April around the UK. All Saints Church will be hosting one of these events on Thursday 30th April at 7.30pm which will include prayer, worship, as well as talks by Sam Barker, Head of Policy at Tearfund, and Ruth Valerio, Director of A Rocha, a Christian environmental charity. It will be followed by refreshments and a chance to mix with other Tearfund supporters from the local area.

More details after Easter.

# Risen Hallelujah

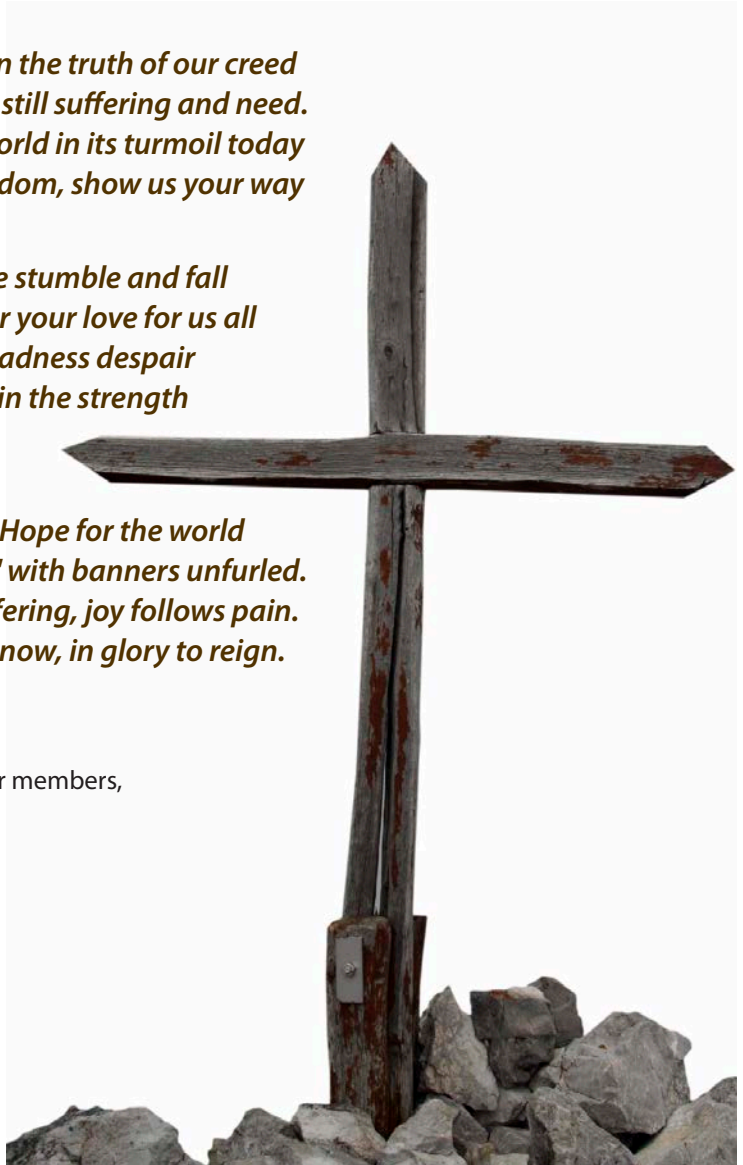
*'Easter' we call it, Life without end  
Blessed Redeemer, Saviour and Friend  
Hope for the world in the darkest of days  
End of the suffering - wonder and praise*

*While we rejoice in the truth of our creed  
Sadly, around us, still suffering and need.  
Lord, help your world in its turmoil today  
Grant us your wisdom, show us your way*

*If at our lowest we stumble and fall  
Help us remember your love for us all  
Age or infirmity, sadness despair  
May we still trust in the strength  
of your care.*

*'Easter' we call it - Hope for the world  
Shout 'Hallelujah' with banners unfurled.  
Grace follows suffering, joy follows pain.  
Lord of the world now, in glory to reign.*

Written by one of our members,  
**Dorothy Brown.**

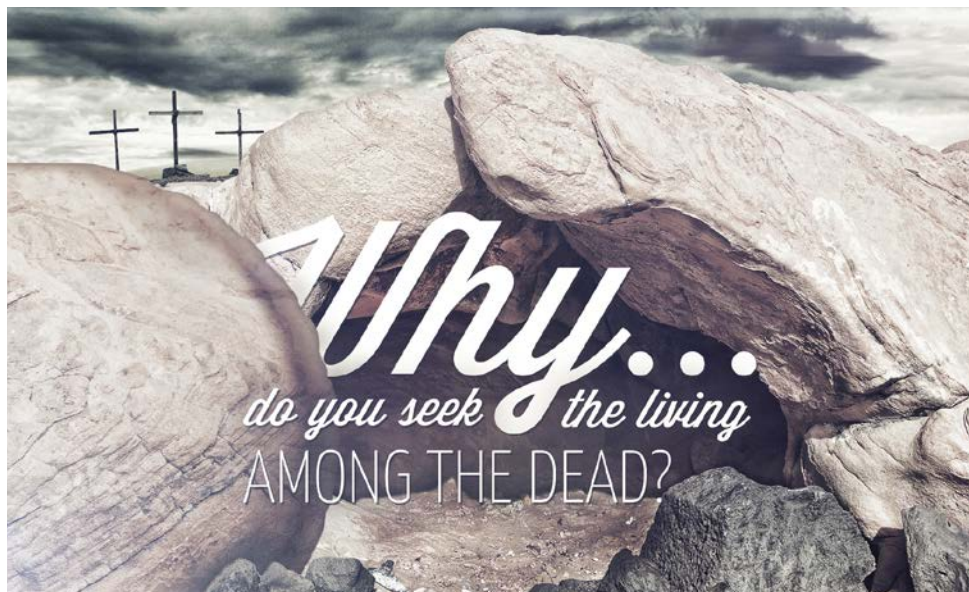


# Easter Hope

There are some things in life that we desire to do, and other things that our heart simply tells us that we must do even though we might not want to. There are also some times family obligations that force us to do something even though it is unpleasant. My first visit on a Tuesday morning to Stepping Stones reminded me of the joy of taking my children, first Noah and then later Faith, to a similar, church run parent and baby/toddler group in Northampton. The fun of craft, of play, of singing songs all came flooding back to me, and I remembered how I looked forward to going to such a group. But then the other side of being a parent of a very young child also came back to me, a familiar smell was in the air and I could see each mum starting to wonder... was it their child? Did they have to do what a parent has to do?

Parents go to such a meeting equipped for almost every eventuality, it is not a delightful experience but is a task which has been done before, and is usually performed quickly and efficiently, but also done with love and care.

Following His death on the cross, and His quick internment in a grave, three of the women who loved Jesus knew what had to be done; it was something they would do, but take no delight in, other than the fact they would do it properly. Late on the Saturday they had bought the spices for anointing and they set off early on the Sunday morning to perform a task that they would not want to do, the touching of the dead as considered "unclean" but they would do it with love and care.





Somehow they would get into the grave that been sealed with a massive rock, though that part of the plan had not been properly sorted. They would then unwrap, anoint, ensure everything appropriate was complete, before leaving; saying goodbye forever to the one they had seen suffer and die a criminal's death though he had done no wrong.

Puzzlement came as they approached the grave, not sealed but open. Not guarded by soldiers, but inside the presence of angels. No dead body, but empty grave clothes. Confusion and mystery, yet each of these can be seen as a sign of the coming kingdom. The way to heaven was now open and the way had come for the prisoners of sin and death to be released. The day will come when war is over, soldiers are not needed and God's peace will be known by all. Sickness, death and its sorrow will be no more, and life will be eternal. Such joy is the Easter story.

Even though the angels spoke to the women and told of the Good News of the resurrection, it was not fully understood. What they did comprehend they tried to share, but the male disciples could not believe them, and it took time and encounters with the risen Lord for the true hope of life to come to their hearts. There was a slumber that morning because not even those closest to Christ had understood what He had meant when speaking of how the son of man would die but then be resurrected. But as the risen Jesus met them there came an awakening, moving from fear into a desire to grab hold of the Lord, never to let Him go.

The sorrow of the early morning walk becomes a dance of delight. The followers who had trudged away from Jerusalem for Emmaus go from being so downcast to having their heart burning within, and racing to tell their friends. Those who were so full of doubt have their mind opened and are called to be witnesses. But what of us, how does the Easter story change us and our relationship with Jesus?

At Easter we discover, or remember, that Jesus is truly the Son of God – no dead person can raise themselves, but life comes from God, and in the resurrection we see new life and also see that Jesus' promises of new life was true. Further, because Jesus is risen, not dead, we can know Him not just as someone from a story of two thousand years ago but as a friend living with us today, a friend who has done something incredible for us; suffering death in our place, redeeming our sins, so we may be forgiven.

Let your heart burn with the desire to tell the story of death and new life to others, not as a chore that you feel you have to, but because you really want others to know of the hope they too may find. Don't worry about what's in your "change bag" of equipment but invite the Holy Spirit to give you the right words, for the right person, that hope may come alive whatever sorrow has been faced.

Let us all, as a church of His people, tell the story with joy; for new life, eternal life, is freely available thanks to that first Easter and His wonderful love.

**Keith Morrison**

# The Sixteen

## *Miserere and Holy Week*

On the evening of 7th June 2013 I shut my eyes and felt like I might have arrived in heaven. I was actually sitting on a wooden seat in Ardingly College Chapel, listening to a truly wonderful rendition of Gregorio Allegri's *Miserere* by one of the world's greatest ensembles, The Sixteen ([www.thesixteen.com](http://www.thesixteen.com)).

The Sixteen, founded and conducted by Harry Christophers, have a special reputation for performing choral masterpieces of the Renaissance, Baroque and early Classical periods and early English polyphony, the style of simultaneously combining a number of parts, each forming an individual melody and harmonising with one another.

The music of their 2013 Choral Pilgrimage, which had so captivated me in Ardingly College, was titled "The Queen of Heaven".

*Miserere*, a setting of Psalm 51, is one of the most famous pieces of sacred music and an example of Renaissance polyphony. It was composed by Allegri around 1630 in the reign of Pope Urban VIII for performance only in the Sistine Chapel and just twice a year, on Wednesday and Good Friday of Holy Week in the *Tenebrae* services that started around dusk.

*Tenebrae* is Latin for shadows or darkness and, during the service, candles would be gradually extinguished until only one remained which was then hidden, leaving the chapel in darkness but with the choir, in which Allegri was a tenor, still singing. With the heightened senses engendered by the dark it must have sounded really divine. A BBCFOUR video on You Tube gives you a sense of what it must have been like\*.

It was forbidden by the papacy to transcribe the music of the *Tenebrae* services, but popular story has it that Mozart attended a service in the Sistine Chapel when just 14 years old and wrote the music down from memory. The music was published in London in 1771, whereafter the papal ban was lifted. It was later transcribed by Mendelssohn, Liszt and others and gradually evolved into the renditions we are familiar with.

The full title is *Miserere mei Deus*, from the opening verses of Psalm 51, David's humble prayer for forgiveness and cleansing:

***“Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.”***



Psalm 51 was written after David was confronted by the prophet Nathan for not only committing adultery with Bathsheba but then also arranging for her husband, Uriah (one of his military generals), to be killed (read the full story in 2 Samuel 11-12). Our sins might not be as blatant as David's, but the prayer for forgiveness is just as relevant today as it was when David wrote it some 3,000 years ago.

The Miserere is not quite so old, nevertheless it is astonishing to think that it was written nearly 400 years ago yet still has the power to make the hairs on the back of your neck stand up and your spine tingle with its beauty and message – especially when sung in the acoustically wonderful Ardingly chapel.

You might wonder why it has taken me almost two years to write a review of the Ardingly performance of The Sixteen! The reason is to encourage you also to experience their wonderful music, because they return to Ardingly College on Tuesday 30th June in their 2015 Choral Pilgrimage, titled "Flight of Angels".

This year they will perform works by two great Renaissance composers of 16th Century Spain, Francisco Guerrero and Alonso Lobo, who were both for many years in the service of Seville Cathedral. I am not at all familiar with these composers' music, but if The Sixteen sing it anything like their previous Choral Pilgrimages it will be wonderful and, on the strength of that, I have just ordered the CD!

**Martin Hall**

\*[www.youtube.com/watch?v=fcWo1hKHu40](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fcWo1hKHu40)

# March/April Mission

**release**  
international  
**voice of persecuted christians**

***'Thank You for helping me visit my husband in prison.'***

**T**hrough the compassionate work of RELEASE INTERNATIONAL, Huong, a woman in Vietnam, is able to make a gruelling journey of ten hours to visit her husband Minh in prison. Minh is serving a nine year sentence for speaking out for religious freedom in the communist state of Vietnam. He is a sick man but he still has faith in his faithful God. The Vietnamese authorities often make sure that prisoners carry out their sentence a long way from their homes; a deliberate policy to separate and put pressure on Christian families. Release helps wives such as Huong by paying for transport costs, as well as providing basic foods and medicines for Christians imprisoned because of their faith in Jesus.

Mission support for March and April is for the work of Release International.

The organisation seeks to help countries around the world where Christians face discrimination and persecution. Harassment, intimidation, false accusations, imprisonment, torture and

violent attacks on Christians happen in many places but the key locations are Iraq, India, E.Africa, China, Vietnam and Pakistan. Within these areas Release International is supporting and helping Churches. In India conferences are organised to encourage and support persecuted pastors and Church leaders. Legal support is offered to accused pastors.

The ministry of Release International involves showing God's compassion, serving God's Church, sharing God's love, spreading God's Word and speaking as God's advocates in as many places as possible. The staff need our prayer support as they engage in this demanding ministry.

Prayer support is vital but monetary support is needed too if the ministry of Release International is to be effective. Please read their magazine to gain a bigger picture of their work.

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

Our persecuted brothers and sisters would thank you if they could but we, as your Missions Group, thank you warmly on their behalf.

**The Missions Group**

# Who am I?

**A**re there members of the congregation who you don't really know? Here is an opportunity to learn more about each other and to find out who is with you in church.

If you cannot guess who is being featured here then ask each other some questions.... and if you still don't know then look up the answer in next month's Good News!

We asked our first mystery person ten questions, but we'd like to make it up to a dozen. If you would like to suggest a question we could ask, please let one of the editorial team know and we'll choose two extra to ask next time!

Where were you born?

*Northampton*

What was your favourite subject at school?

*History*

What was your first church?

*Abington Avenue URC, Northampton*  
(<http://www.aaurc.co.uk/>)

What is your job?

*Insurance Underwriter*

([http://www.prospects.ac.uk/insurance\\_underwriter\\_job\\_description.htm](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/insurance_underwriter_job_description.htm))

What's your favourite sport?

*Football*

What is your favourite hymn/worship song?

*One more step along the world I go*  
(<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00vkyn2>)

Are you a half-full or half-empty sort of person?

*Half-full!*

What's your favourite food?

*Pizza*

If you could go anywhere on holiday where would it be?

*Queensland, Australia*

What makes you laugh?

*My Children*

**The Editorial 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 (8-11 years)
	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 (2nd Thur)
Fri	5:00pm	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 message (term time)
Sun	7.30pm	P.U.L.S.E +

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

# April Church diary

1st Wednesday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	18th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, URC
2nd Thursday	8:00pm	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> Service with Communion	19th Sunday	9:30am	Family Worship
				11:15am	Morning Worship Rev Keith Morrison
3rd Friday	10:00am	<b>Good Friday</b> Walk of Witness Start from Evan Free		6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Keith Morrison
	10:30am	Service URC Stuart Silk	22nd Wednesday	2:30pm	Afternoon Fellowship
4th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, URC		7:45pm	Elders' Meeting
5th Sunday	10:30am	<b>Easter Sunday</b> Morning Worship Rev Keith Morrison	23rd Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting
			25th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints
11th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, URC		3:00pm	ROC on Saturday
	3:00pm	ROC on Saturday	26th Sunday	9:30am	Communion
				11:15am	Communion Rev Keith Morrison
12th Sunday	9:30am	Family Worship		6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Keith Morrison
	11:15am	Morning Worship Stuart Dew	28th Tuesday	7:45pm	Ladies In Touch
	6:30pm	Evening Worship Communion David Walters			
16th Thursday		House Groups			

The wedding of

*Danny Goodall & Ruth Cooper*

Saturday April 18th

12:30pm Goring United Reformed Church  
Barrington Road, Worthing, BN12 4EA

# YOUTH

*Hello!*

This past month there has been a lot of planning bubbling away for future events. P.U.L.S.E. have a weekend away coming up in May, when we will be joining many other people at the Big Church Day Out event held on the Wiston estate.



I have also been planning a summer camp that I have been running for the past three years. The camp is called History Makers; it is for anyone aged 11 to 15 and is held at the Dalesdown conference centre.

Moving onto Sundays, LED's is going well and they are a great group to teach. The new material is being received well and we have been focusing on creation for the past few weeks.

Lighthouse groups are all running smoothly. We had a lighthouse meeting and the feedback received was positive. One of the groups has grown from one or two to as big as ten if they all turn up.

P.U.L.S.E. Plus have now finished the Youth Alpha course at Haywards Heath Baptist Church. The course finished on March 22nd, and we will now be meeting at LURC once again. I believe all those who attended have been able to deepen their relationships with God, which has been amazing to see. Please pray that they would be able to continue to grow a deeper relationship with God now that the course has finished.

Anchor Boys, which is the youngest section in Boys' Brigade has grown in number. We had reached a maximum of thirteen boys before we stopped for Easter. It is great to have so many, but they can be a handful at times! We have not had such an increase in number for the other sections, but those who attend do so regularly.

# PAGES

Moving onto Stepping Stones on a Tuesday morning. We continue to get new parents arrive. It is great to be able to welcome the parents and their children onto the church premises.

A few weeks ago the Christian Unions had a visiting speaker to share their testimony. This was something that they have asked for in the past and it was a great opportunity for them to invite their friends along to hear a bit more about Christianity and how it affects people's lives. Sam, the visiting speaker, shared his story about how he had a passion to spread the Gospel to everyone in his school, and at one point 100 pupils became Christians in one week!

My involvement with assemblies has been continuing. This term we have been looking at the life of Jesus and we finished by looking at Jesus' death and resurrection as we reached the Easter holidays. It is difficult to go into much detail in an assembly, but please pray that the Biblical stories that are shared are done so clearly and the children can understand a bit more about the importance of Christianity.

P.U.L.S.E. Jr. and P.U.L.S.E. are both running well. Numbers are increasing in P.U.L.S.E. Jr. and we continue to look at different people in the Bible and how they gave their loves to God.

In P.U.L.S.E. we are now looking at other worship events locally that we can go along to. Recently, we attended a youth night in Franklands Village Hall, where guest speaker John Lawson shared his story of how he met Jesus.

Finally, we recently had an interactive, all age service on Mothering Sunday and we will have another interactive service on July 5th. Please pray that God would show you people that you can invite to that service. It would be amazing to be able to fill the church with visitors!

Thank you for your continued prayers and support,

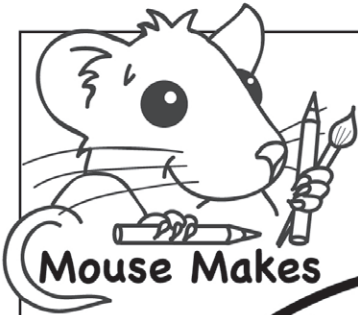
*Danny*

## *Southern Synod Youth Executive*

Off the Wall and in the hall



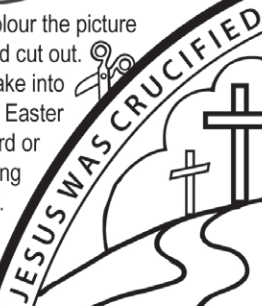




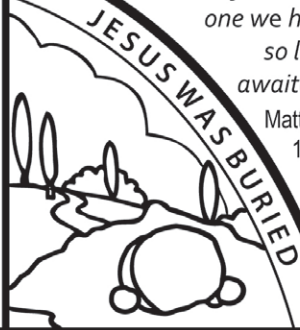
Colour the picture and cut out. Make into an Easter card or hang up.

Jesus said to Martha,  
*"I am the one who raises the dead and gives them life again. Anyone who believes in me, even though he dies like anyone else, shall live again. He is given eternal life for believing in me and shall never perish. Do you believe this Martha?"*

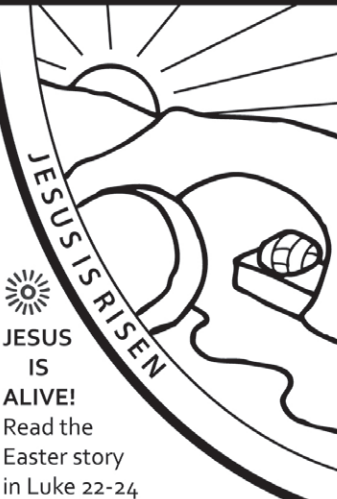
*"Yes, Lord," she said "I believe you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one we have so long awaited."*  
 Matthew 11:25



**JESUS**  
**SON OF GOD**  
 Matthew 3:16-17  
**SAVIOUR**  
 John 3:16-17  
**LORD**  
 1 Corinthians 1:9  
**SHEPHERD**  
 John 10:11

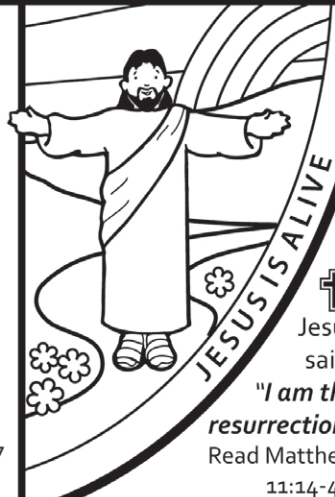


**JESUS IS WITH US**



Read the Easter story in Luke 22-24

**THE WORD**  
 John 1:1-50  
**THE WAY**  
 John 14:6  
**THE LIGHT**  
 John 8:12  
**THE BREAD**  
 John 6:35  
**THE LAMB**  
 John 1:29  
**THE DOOR**  
 John 10:9  
**THE LIFE**  
 John 11:25-27



Jesus said:

*"I am the resurrection"*  
 Read Matthew 11:14-44

# Weighed Down

*by Stuff*

The past weeks provided several occasions on which to reflect Jesus' sayings regarding entry into the Kingdom of God. An encounter which is recorded in Luke's gospel comes to mind while putting some things together for the donation to Syria. Refugees are camping on the edges of Turkey and Iran in the bitter cold without food and shelter.



**“Sell everything you have and give to the poor”**

Luke 18:22

**“It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God”**

Luke 18:25

Jesus would explain or elaborate using practical examples to get His message home. In the encounter with the rich ruler who asked “Good Teacher what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus’ answer in summary was, love God and love your neighbours. I have done all these and more the ruler replied, well! Do more! Give all you have! Give it all away and in that way you will have truly followed the commandments. You are to feed the poor, clothe the naked, give shelter to the homeless, yes give them room in your home and in your heart. Show that you love God and love your neighbours.

Sorting clothes, shoes, bedding, and the above thoughts kept invading the efforts to find, sort and pack. They are not easy; we all love to hold onto things. As each item is picked up a dress, a skirt, a blouse or whatever, the memories associated with the acquisition of things came flooding back. It was a gift from a loved one.

An item bought for a special occasion that never got used and very expensive; maybe it could be used next summer.

So why do we hesitate to give things away? Not the things we do not want or cannot use, but the things we like and hold dear, and that which others are in need of, but cannot obtain for themselves? A voice from childhood would act as a reminder; never give anything to anyone that you would not like for yourself. All too often we behave like the rich ruler. We give of our excess unless there is some immediate benefit thus missing the opportunity for a much longer lasting gift.

Just imagine what it would be like, to give away everything in order to have a peaceful, contented life watching others around you smile in the knowledge that you have saved and come to share their lives. We are called to sacrifice, we are called to oneness, and we are called to love one another. We are commanded to Love GOD with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our mind. Jesus suggests that we should not allow ourselves to be weighed down by stuff. Stuff blocks the way to eternal life. We are called to sacrificial living and sacrificial loving of God and all creation.

**Rosietta Burton**



# Never Far



**W**e can only imagine how the two travellers to Emmaus felt knowing that Jesus had died. Gone were their hopes for a bright future. They thought God had let them down. They had suffered a cruel blow and were bewildered and upset.

In their grief, the risen Jesus came alongside them and spoke with them at length but somehow they didn't recognise Him.

Why was this, and why did Jesus intend to leave them at Emmaus without first revealing who He was?

The answers may be found by looking back at the encounters Jesus had with people. He never forced His true nature onto anyone. Every individual had to make up their own mind as to who He was, and to decide if the things He said were true.

Today, Jesus does not 'gate-crash' into our lives. In a number of ways He gently and persuasively reveals Himself.

So, the story of the walk to Emmaus should encourage us each time we feel His absence; at those times when we thought He would step in and immediately solve our problems! On our journey of life, we can have times of sadness and it can seem as though God is far away.

But while we are thinking that Jesus has left us alone, He is actually with us. He knows where we are and what we are feeling. He can quietly draw alongside us. Surprisingly, it can sometimes be in situations of sadness and solitude that Jesus 'speaks' to us more clearly.

We don't have to go off in search of some 'religious experience' or to a special 'holy place'. He is present in the here and now. Jesus is the unseen companion on every journey and the unseen guest at every meal. In His way and in His time, our Lord reveals Himself to us in different situations. We may be aware of His presence in surprising circumstances and on unexpected occasions. How important it is that we stay alert.

There will be times when we will be like those two men on the Emmaus Road, searching for answers.

We will earnestly desire clear and direct answers to our questions and the knowledge, understanding or revelation may be slow to come. But, with Jesus, there are many lessons to be learnt along our Emmaus Road than would have been discovered any other way.

**“Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.**

***As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So He went in to stay with them.***

***When He was at the table with them, He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?’”***

Luke 24:27-32

**Lester Amann**  
Parish Pump



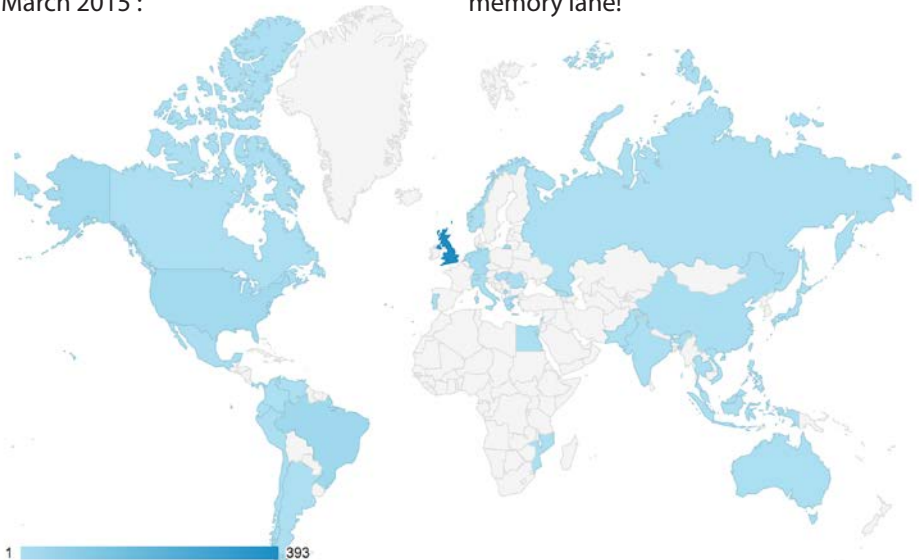
# Church Online

[www.lindfieldurc.org.uk](http://www.lindfieldurc.org.uk)

We are fortunate to enjoy a wonderful location at the heart of the village, right on the high street. Our presence, notice boards and open doors during all major village events provides information and witnesses to the community about who we are, what we do and what we believe.

Lindfield URC also exists online at our website : [www.lindfieldurc.org.uk](http://www.lindfieldurc.org.uk). We see a good number of visitors to the website with more than 350 different people visiting each month, with an average of 60 visitors every day. Although the majority come from the UK in the last month we have seen visits from 42 different countries across all 5 continents.

This world map shows visits by country for March 2015 :



Over the next 6 months we will be making some further improvements to the website and the systems used to manage it. This will enable even more dynamic content to be made available.

For the moment however, here some facts and figures about 5 of the most popular pages on our website.



## GoodNEWS Online

Each month around 125 people read this magazine in full on the website (where every page is available in colour). Not only this months edition but every GoodNEWS from since 2001 is archived, have a browse and take a trip down memory lane!



## Sermon Audio

We now have the audio from around 200 sermons available. Almost every sermon from the last 5 years and some as far back as 2007. Each week these are listened to on average 20 times and in total audio from the sermon library has been listened to an incredible 5,150 times (and counting).

## Live Services

We have recently added the ability to listen to both Sunday morning services in their entirety live from a Computer, tablet, phone or from an internet radio. This is also being made available in local care homes.



## Notice Sheets

Don't worry if you have mislaid your notice sheet, you are in good company! Around 35 people every week check the notices using the website.

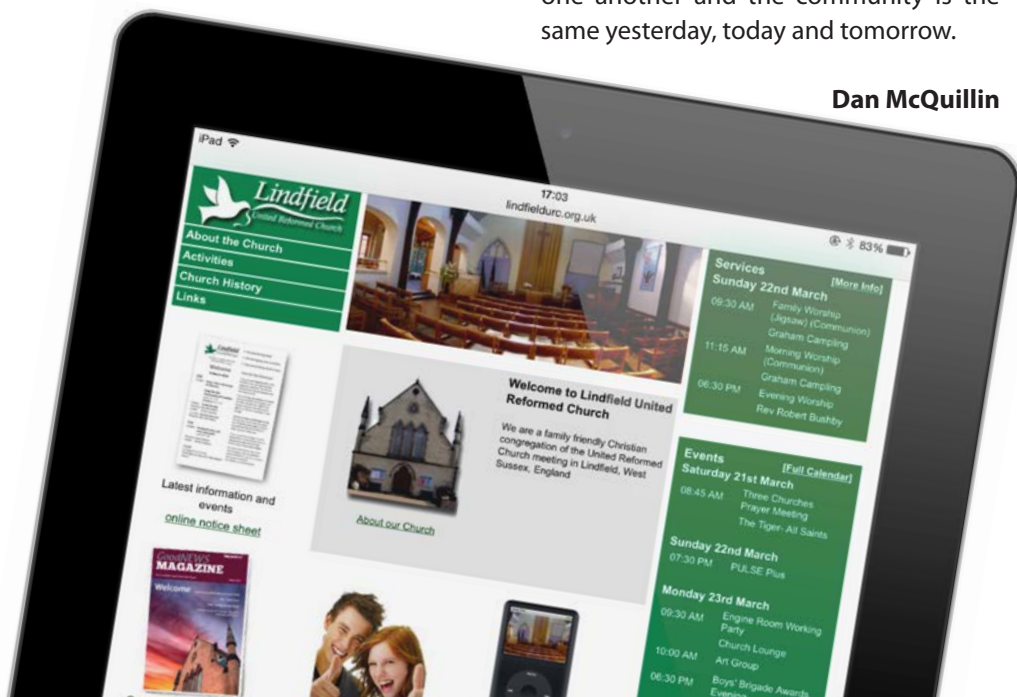


## Church Diary

Not sure what is on this week? or what time something starts? 22 people every day view this weeks events and services on our homepage. There is also a copy of the full Church Diary (referenced by 25 people a month) containing all upcoming events for the next 6 months.

The tools we use may change, but the story we tell and the love we share with one another and the community is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow.

**Dan McQuillin**



# ROC on Saturday



**W**hen browsing through the Church diary page, have you ever wondered what “ROC on Saturday” is all about! What does the ROC stand for and why is it held at URC? Let us try and explain.

Redeeming our Communities’ (ROC) vision is for social transformation – taking God’s love into the heart of our community, and seeking to build a safer and kinder society. The desire to do something in this way in Lindfield grew out of the three churches weekly Saturday morning prayer meeting and our contact with Paul Wilson (a former British Transport Police Officer and member of All Saints). Paul is Partner Development Director for ROC.

So what happens on a Saturday afternoon? We meet twice a month at the URC in the heart of the village, between 3 and 4.30pm. The doors are open to all, but primarily the over 55’s.

There is always tea, coffee, and homemade cakes, lots of chat and laughter; music and singing on most occasions; and board games such as Scrabble and Rummikub. We occasionally have a speaker on a subject relevant to our visitors. Last month Erica Baxter our local Community Support Police Officer came to encourage us all as to how we can keep ourselves and our homes safe and free from scams and unwelcome visitors.!

We look forward to our next speaker who will be Ian Masters, on Saturday April 11th when he will be sharing more about how to cope with times of the loss of loved ones.

Do come and join us – bring a friend or two – meet the regulars and enjoy friendship together. We meet on second and fourth Saturday of each month – we look forward to seeing you!

**Peter and Jennifer Diack**  
HH 482428

# Phonebook

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Telephone 01444 484791  
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**Danny Goodall (Youth Pastor)**

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**Church Secretary**

Sue Waller 01444 455047  
Email waller.s@sky.com

**Treasurer**

Terry Ward 01444 482986

**Boys’ Brigade:**

Geoffrey Cocksedge 01444 474007

**Cradle Roll**

Mel Campling 01444 484140

**Flowers**

Betty Billins 01444 484494

**Hall Booking Secretary**

Shirley Anton 01444 482819

**In Touch**

Sue Waller 01444 455047

**Lunch Fellowship**

*Wednesday:*  
Sue Waller 01444 455047

**Pastoral Group**

Fiona Tingley 01444 483419

**The Fellowship**

Chris Comber 01444 482641

**Stepping Stones**

Jo Bloxham 01444 483672

**Transport**

Janet Drayton 01444 483621

**Lighthouse (Junior Church)**

**Co-ordinator**  
Dawn Walters 01444 441601

Flower Rota		
	Arranging	Distributing
April		
5th	Easter Flowers	Janet Sanderson
12th	Ann Parker	Fo Tingley
19th	Heather Swann	Nick Bingham
26th	Carol Marsh	Sue Tester
May		
3rd	Fiona Tingley	Barbara Shepherd
10th	Boys Brigade	Jo Bloxham
17th	Barbara Shepherd	Iris Bingham
24th	Winifred Scopes	Heather Swann
31st	Audrey Saunders	Janet Sanderson

# Around Lindfield

## Wednesday 8th April

12.15pm Tiger Arts - Lunch in Lindfield URC

1.00pm Concert : Katherine Smith - Flute (URC)

8.00pm Horticultural Society in KEH :  
"Preparing for your Show"

## Saturday 11th April

3.00pm ROC on Saturday - Lindfield URC

7.45pm Haywards Heath Music Society - St Wilfreds Church HH  
Concert : Alessandro Ruisi (violin) and Dina Disen (piano)  
[www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk](http://www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk)

## Wednesday 15th April

8.00pm Preservation Society in KEH  
AGM followed by "Different Perspectives"

## Thursday 23rd April

7.30pm Village Film Night in KEH  
"The Imitation Game" Cert 12A

## Saturday 25th April

3.00pm ROC on Saturday - Lindfield URC

