

GoodNEWS **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

March 2015

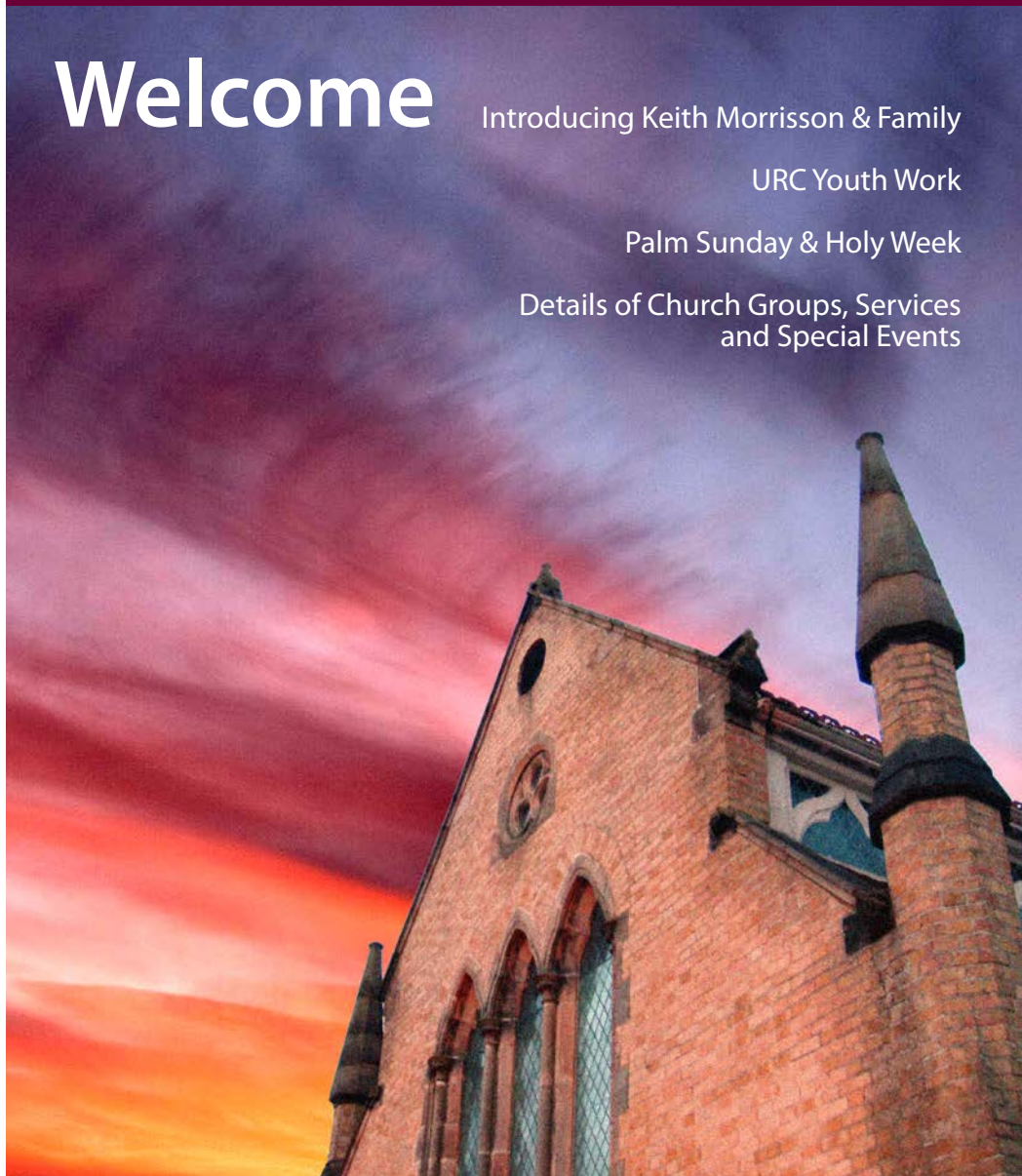
Welcome

Introducing Keith Morrisson & Family

URC Youth Work

Palm Sunday & Holy Week

Details of Church Groups, Services
and Special Events



Bible verse of the month

“ *But I trust in your
unfailing love; my
heart rejoices in your
salvation. I will sing the
Lord's praise, for he has
been good to me.* ”

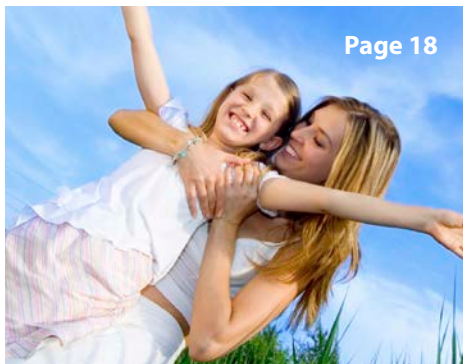
Psalm 13 : 5-6
NIV



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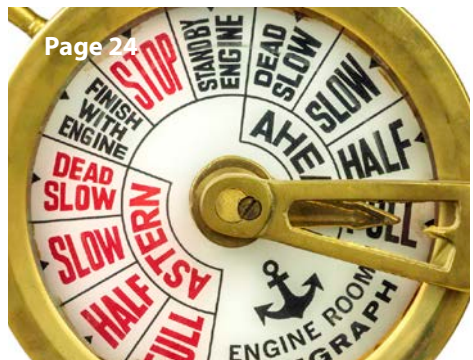
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Our verse this month is
chosen by Zoe McQuillin
see page 25 for more
information

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



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Editorial

This month's magazine is one of Welcome and Introduction. We welcome Keith and family, introducing them to you and the village; and in return our village and the church to them. Finally we especially want to introduce Keith and the church to all who don't really know us very well yet. Who are we? What do we do? What do we believe?

I hope you will find some answers in this month's edition. We have asked many different groups to 'explain' themselves summarising in few words why they are a group and what they do. We hope it is useful to you.

As we are also heading up to Easter Dan McQuillin looks at the welcome Jesus received on Palm Sunday and the momentous, history changing and life changing events of Holy Week.

There is also information about regular and special activities going on this month within the church so you may want to update your diaries.

Whether you are new to the church, have just moved to the village or been here for decades; it is a bumper edition so do enjoy it over a cup of coffee.

I know you will experience a warm welcome!

God Bless,

Val Cookney

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Dear friends

As I write this I'm still in Northampton, but by the time you are holding "Good News" in your hand my family and I will be living in Ryecroft.

The past three months have kind of flown. Almost from the day I announced my call to Lindfield there have been occasions when I have done things for the last time. Now the children have left their school and Emmeline has had her last day at work. I officially finish in my "old" pastorate on 1st March when I will be having a joint service for two of my churches; though having moved house before that we will already be with you.

For the moment I feel as if I'm in that awkward position when there is a boat at a jetty but they are not tied together; stepping from one to the other I am hoping that there is not too much movement, so that I will not end up doing the splits.

I wonder, as I put that image in your head, whether you see your church (my new church) as the boat or the jetty, and why that is? Is the church the jetty – a place of safety and security that is firm underfoot, that we can become strongly attached to? Or is your church the boat going on a voyage of discovery, an adventure, or perhaps fishing for new people?



As we get to know each other over the month of March I may be able to learn something of what you understand the church to be, and how you feel a part of it.

The concept of church as a boat is reflected in symbols of the ecumenical movement, nationally (Churches Together in England) and internationally (the World Council of Churches). One of the things I am looking forward to is working together with the other churches in Lindfield so that those around us may have a fresh encounter with God's love in word and deed. I therefore hope to be able to spend some time this month looking outside our church to gain a wider picture of our village's mission field, and discover how, with others, we may further the growth of His kingdom.

Finally I bring us back to my worry of falling in the drink twixt jetty and boat. The Lord would remind us that there is no need to worry; he has had his hand on things keeping it steady. He showed that Peter could easily step out of the boat on to the water and be well; or at least all was well while the disciple focused on Jesus. As I find my way among you, and as we together enter the next part of our church's life we must trust in Jesus, look upon him and know that in him all will be well.

Your minister

Keith

Induction Service

Saturday 28th March
2:00pm

The induction Service for Revd Keith Morrison, our new minister, takes place at the Church on Saturday 28th March at 2.00pm.

This service will be followed by tea.

The Induction Service is not only an opportunity for the Minister to renew their sense of calling as they are called to minister in a new Pastorate and for the family to be welcomed into the fellowship, but for the congregation to re-affirm their faith and to commit to pray for the minister and each other as they move on together.

See you there

Family News

Condolences

Many of you will be aware that Sarah Smith, wife of one of our much loved former Ministers, Norman, has been very ill with terminal cancer. Sarah journeyed home to her Lord and Saviour on February 22nd in Compton House. Throughout her illness Sarah has shown tremendous courage, and her firm faith has been a testimony to many.

For the four and a half years Sarah was here in Lindfield, she quickly became a much loved and highly respected member of our Church Family, playing a full part in the life of the Church. Amongst other tasks, Sarah headed up the Lunch Fellowship, and she supported Norman in every area of his ministry. Sarah will be very sadly missed, both here and in Storrington where Norman and Sarah lived in retirement.

Our thoughts, prayers and heartfelt sympathy are with Norman, Clare, Debbie and all the family.

Once again we have to send our love and sincere sympathy to the Blake Family. Following John's death in January, Anne passed away in St Peter and St James Hospice. Anne has been unwell and in residential care for a number of years, but as sad as it is for the family to have a double bereavement, it is wonderful to know that John and Anne are together again, both safely home with their Lord and Saviour.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Judith, Martin, Sandra and the Family.

As mentioned in the February magazine, Roy Billins (a very dear friend of John Blake's, and indeed of many of us) has also journeyed on to Glory. Since marrying Betty in 1991, Roy has served the Lord in various ways here at LURC. He was a very practical member of the Managers for a while, and was at one stage Chairman of The Fellowship. He attended a House Group regularly, took care of the Stewards Rota and was often seen serving coffee at the hatch on a Sunday morning, not to mention his faithful help over many years at the Wednesday Lunches.

We will also remember Roy for his lovely sense of humour and his caring concern for others. As much as we will miss him, we rejoice that Roy is at peace with his Lord, free from the increasing debilities of the last few years. Please continue to uphold Betty and the Family in your prayers.

There are a number of folk in our Church Family who are up against various struggles at this time. One or two are caring for very sick members of their family, and several waiting for operations, as well as those unwell themselves or finding the ageing process to be something of a trial. You may or may not know their names, but God does, so please pray for them.

Fiona

Thank You

I have received so much support from our church Family and many others who read the 'Good News', not only since Roy passed away on January 19th but during the ups and downs in recent years. He is no longer with us but will be remembered by so many people. Thanks to all who helped make his service of thanksgiving a time of 'celebration of his life'. He is now at peace with his Lord.

The cards, letters, flowers and help I have received have been overwhelming.

Thanks and bless you all

Betty and family

In Touch

We started the New Year by joining the All Saints Ladies group "Women Together" when we listened to a talk entitled "Colour me Beautiful" This involved having advice on how we can choose colours to wear that help us look and feel our best, so that our best features are enhanced and ultimately we can look "more vibrant and younger!"

It proved to be a very enjoyable and informative evening and it was good to share the occasion with All Saints ladies and get to know them.

At the end of January we held our "Christmas" meal in the church and it was good just to sit and relax and catch up with one another while enjoying a lovely meal.

On 14th February we were again invited to join All Saints Women Together for a delicious Brunch, followed by a talk entitled "Body and Soul" by one of our local G.P.s Dr Katie Spensley. It was both interesting and challenging and left us feeling inspired to encourage each other to stay physically and spiritually healthy. (See Fo Tingley's article on page 13)

There are two future dates to put in your Diaries; on 24th March Carol Marsh will be leading a "Hat Evening" when we will be invited to put forward topics for discussion on paper which will be drawn out of a hat (one at a time !)

Everyone is welcome to come even if you don't want to take part in the discussion.

On 28th April Martin Hall is going to talk about 'Insect evidence from Crime Scene to Court' Again everyone is very welcome to join us starting ,as usual with coffee at 7.45pm ready for the meeting at 8.00pm.

Janet Wade

Boys' Brigade

Our annual Awards Evening is being held on Monday 23rd March, starting at 6.30 p.m. All friends of the Company are welcome to come and see the Boys receive their awards, and something of the Company's work.

Geoffrey Cocksedge

Food Bank

Volunteer Party

Fifty Six volunteers drawn from about ten churches sat down to a “thank you” meal on Monday 26th January organised by the steering group of the Haywards Heath Foodbank, part of the Trussell Trust organisation.

Development Worker for the Foodbank Sally Martin said that “the Steering Group are hugely appreciative of all that nearly 100 loyal volunteers do to keep the show on the road.

In less than three years we have received, packed and distributed over 26 tonnes of food to almost 3,500 people experiencing a period of hardship. Furthermore, the clients have all received the blessings of a listening ear, an understanding friend, prayer and encouragement.”

For further information email:
info@haywardsheath.foodbank.org.uk

Sally Martin



The Fellowship

The Fellowship is a social event, meeting once a month on a Wednesday afternoon. It is an occasion to meet up with old friends, make new friends and to generally relax for an hour or so in pleasant surroundings and good company.

A varied programme of speakers is arranged and we close The Fellowship's year in July with tea in the garden.

These meetings are open to men and women of all ages.

We next meet on Wednesday 25th March at 2:30 pm. Our speaker will be Nick Goddard, and his talk is entitled 'Embrace the Middle East'

There will be the usual Bring and Buy stall together with a cup of tea after the talk.

All who come may be sure of a warm welcome

Pat Phillips

In Touch

Many years ago 'In Touch' was called 'The Young Wives' but as the years rolled on many of the original wives became 'older', and it was considered necessary to change the name to something more appropriate!! The aims of our Ladies group however have not changed, and they are that we meet once a month (usually the 4th Tuesday) for coffee/tea at 7.45pm in the church lounge followed by a talk/discussion at 8.0pm given by a visiting speaker or someone 'In house'

During the year we aim to have a varied programme including thought provoking more spiritual talks, with "lighter" themes in between.

Our annual programme always includes a 'Quiet Day' when we have worship, prayer, and Bible Study with a lunch;

A local walk in the summer followed by supper; and a Christmas meal usually in January!!

Our meetings are normally much enjoyed and they enable everyone to meet together in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere. It should be emphasised that all ladies are welcome, young and old, so you don't have to have grey hair or a hip replacement (like me) to qualify !

It has been encouraging to welcome some new faces at some of our recent meetings and we hope more ladies will continue to come in the future.

If you have any questions about In Touch please contact Sue Waller.

Janet Wade

Sunday Services

I remember a few years back sitting in church and the person at the front asked if any of us had ever been in a betting shop?

I looked around and saw a few hands pop up, but not many. All eyes turned back to the person at the front and he said "A betting shop is as much of an alien environment to most people here as a church is to people who don't come on a Sunday. Where do I stand? What do I do? How long will it go on for? Will I have to sing? A church can be a baffling and confusing place if you don't come often."

That little illustration has stayed with me and I hope that if you are reading this and church seems a bewildering uncomfortable place to you then the next few lines might help.

We meet three times on a Sunday; 9:30, 11:15 in the morning and 6:30 in the evening. Don't worry if you are late, we won't make you sit at the front. We start things with someone at the front explaining the theme for the service, who is preaching and perhaps some other relevant notices. There is a notice sheet which you can collect on the way in that has more details.



9:30 Service

Most Sundays we gather from about 9:20 for the service to start fairly promptly at 9:30. We then normally sing a few informal worship songs, led by a group with guitars, drums, piano and others. There is a screen with the words on and hymn books are also available for those who prefer them.

Don't worry if you don't know the songs, sometimes it is good just to reflect on the words instead. Most Sundays we will have a short 'all age item' as an address particularly for children up to teenage years before they go out to their own groups for the rest of the service. We have groups to cater for ages 0-16 on a Sunday morning. These are run by a dedicated team of 'CRB'd' volunteers. The rest of the service will usually contain a prayer time, some more sung worship and some teaching.

We normally finish sometime between 10:30 and 10:45. You are most welcome to stay afterwards to join us for coffee or tea and to ask about anything that went on in the service. If you have any specific things you want to find out about, ask whoever preached (usually our Minister, Keith) or whoever introduced the service, or one of the elders (wearing a blue name badge).

11:15 Service

At around 10:30 we all meet for coffee and then those who have arrived for the 11:15 service go into the church whilst those who had been at the 9:30 either stay and chat or head off home.

In this service the worship songs are usually hymns accompanied by the organ. The words for the songs are in the hymn books which will be given to you as you come into church.

The service will usually start with a song and then songs will intersperse times of prayer, listening to a reading from the Bible being and some teaching on the Bible passage. The service will finish around 12:15.

As with the 9:30 service, if you have any specific things you want to find out about, ask whoever preached (usually our Minister, Keith) or whoever introduced the service, or one of the elders (wearing a blue name badge).

You can listen to our 9:30 and 11:15 services live in full on our website www.lindfieldurc.org.uk, where you will also find recordings of recent sermons to listen to again and information about upcoming services & events



6:30 Service

This service is held in the Church lounge which is at the back of the church. (This is easily found if you go through the double doors on the left of the church and then walk round the side of the church).

It is quite informal and often starts with a time to sing worship songs accompanied by piano or guitar. As it is a smaller group of people together it is often easier for more people to contribute and talk about what they have been learning about God in their past week.

This may lead onto some time being spent praying for different people and situations. Either our minister Keith Morrison or an invited speaker will then talk about a passage from the Bible to help us understand more about God.

We normally cover quite a variety of subjects, hymns and songs so if you would like to come along one Sunday and join one of our services and see what happens for yourself, you will be most welcome.

David Goodchild

Body & Soul

Ladies from the URC have been invited to join the ladies of All Saints at a couple of 'Women Together' meetings recently. I for one am very grateful for the opportunity, as the speakers at both were well worth hearing!

In January it was quite light hearted but fascinating. We were given an interesting insight into the colours that we wear that suit us best, depending on the colour of our hair, our skin type, etc. Shall I ever buy clothes again just because I like the colour? Well probably! I'll let my friends tell me whether it is the right shade for me, or not!

Then in February we were treated to a delicious 'brunch' of pancakes, yogurt, fruit, muffins and a smoothy! A super start to a Saturday morning!

The talk, given by Dr Katie Spensley who is a member of All Saints, was entitled 'Body and Soul'. Having answered openly questions about her own life journey and her faith, she then went on to give us her tips for healthy living, physically and spiritually. These included a healthy diet, maintaining a good healthy weight, physical exercise (2.5 hours of moderate exercise a week – a challenge to many of us!).

We were encouraged to have regularly check-ups for blood pressure, cholesterol, mammograms, etc. as prevention is better than cure.

On the Spiritual side, Katie urged us to enjoy fellowship with others, getting 'stuck in' and using the gifts that God has given us. Having a daily focus and communication with God is essential for our Spiritual health. However, we do need to be compassionate and kind to ourselves, and not feel guilty when we are not busy every moment of the day! In fact if we are to experience a true sense of Peace, it is up to us to avoid stress as much as we can, keeping our focus on God in all our activities and goals.

At the conclusion of her most helpful talk, Katie left us with this thought, one for all of us to remember:

“No God, no peace – know God, know peace.”

It was great to share in fellowship with ladies from the other Lindfield Churches. Thank you 'Ladies Together' for inviting us to enjoy such an encouraging time with you.

Fiona Tingley

Welcome Morrisons

A new family has recently taken up residence in Lindfield, because as from March 2015 Keith Morrison will be the new Minister of Lindfield United Reformed Church. We therefore thought that you may like to know a little more about Keith.

Keith is married to Emmeline, who is a GP and they have two children Noah and Faith. Keith loves to spend time with his family. They enjoy walks together with their dog so you may see them around the village.

So how has Keith got to this point of coming to Lindfield?

He grew up in a small town in Dumfriesshire. After he had got his degree in Physics, he headed south to Berkshire where he worked for the Atomic Weapons Establishment for 8 years.

Keith had a good job, and was doing well, but he had a feeling that there was something missing from his life. He had been brought up to go to church but he had not been able to relate to it in his teens and so had stopped going. Over a period of time Keith came to understand that it was not something missing but rather someone, and that was Jesus Christ. Keith chose to become a follower of the Lord, and made a life long commitment when he was baptised in 1995.

Keith continued in his job and also got involved in his local church. He then began

to get the sense that God was wanting him to change his career and become a full time Minister, so in 2000 he went to Manchester to train for the Ministry.

Whilst Keith was still training he and Emmeline got married. As a married couple they wanted to serve God together wherever He wanted them to be. This turned out to be Northampton, where they have lived and worked for the past ten years. Their children were born there, and grown to primary school age. With the family he enjoys geocaching. Keith is a member of two Scout Active Support Units and, until moving, was an assistant at a Beaver Scout colony. He has even gained an amateur radio licence, but doesn't get much time to use it!.

As a Minister, Keith sees his job as having many roles. One of the most important parts of his job is to help people hear God's Word and discover what He is saying to us today. The Bible shows us how we can get to know Him better. Keith sees another part of his job is to try and make church welcoming and accessible to all from the oldest to the youngest. He also wants to spend time with people chatting about life's ups and downs and how knowing the Lord Jesus makes a difference.

On Saturday 28th March 2015 at 2:00pm there will be a special service to formally welcome Keith as the minister of Lindfield URChurch and to welcome Emmeline, Noah and Faith too.

Val Cookney

Welcome Change

We have the pleasure and excitement of welcoming Keith, his wife Emmeline, Noah and Faith to join us here in Lindfield. Indeed by the time this gets to print they will be well settled in and raring to go!

Are you raring to go? Ready to face the challenges that lie ahead? A difference in thought comes when a 'new' person takes the helm, without a doubt some things will change and we will need to be ready.

What has God been saying to you during this vacancy period that we have been through? Hopefully you have been challenged by the teaching material so admirably put together by others. Have you encouraged each other, just a little more? Have you read your Bibles that bit more? Have you tried to get along side that someone that you are "not too sure of"?

I guess a vacancy period or not should not mean major differences, and we don't put these things on hold until!! It is great that we welcome a new Minister here but I am sure I speak for the Elders and certainly for myself saying I hope sincerely that you haven't stood still until..... !!!

The Lord our God never seems to keep me still, he is always challenging me and moving me out of my comfort zone – particularly through the vacancy period. All Elders have had to step up and do that bit more and I have felt very supported by Fellowship and Elders alike. I thank God for all of you and the way you have encouraged and supported us.

Keep it up for me and my fellow Elders and each other. Don't leave it all to the new man, continue to support and encourage each other.

Sadly, since September we have seen several of our folk leave us to be with their Lord and inevitably that leaves holes in families left behind. So let us continue to support the families of Ted Sparks, Audrey McKee, John and Anne Blake and Roy Billins to help them over a difficult period of time.

By now we will be some way through the Joint Lent Groups and again I hope they are being a source of challenge and thought for you, and an opportunity to share with our friends from the other two churches in the Village.

I too am preparing myself for 'change' as I hand over the reins to Keith and again I say 'thank you' to you all for helping, supporting and encouraging me through this vacancy period, I pray that you are raring to go, and as excited as I am as we meet Keith and the challenges he will no doubt bring to us.

This verse from Proverbs 3 has helped me considerably ***"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."***

With my love to you all

Sue Waller
Church Secretary

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.

March Church diary

1st Sunday	9:30am	Family Worship	18th Wednesday	9:30am	Lent Groups
	11:15am	Morning Worship David Goodenough		7:30pm	Lent Groups
	6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Peter McIntosh			
			21st Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints
4th Wednesday	9:30am	Joint Lent Groups	22nd Sunday	9:30am	Communion
	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship		11:15am	Communion Dr Graham Campling
	7:30pm	Joint Lent Groups		6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Robert Bushby
7th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints			
8th Sunday	9:30am	Family Worship	24th Tuesday	7:45pm	In Touch
	11:15am	Morning Worship Rev Alex Mabbs			
	6:30pm	Evening Worship Communion David Walters	25th Wednesday	9:30am	Lent Groups
				2:30pm	The Fellowship
11th Wednesday	9:30am	Joint Lent Groups		8:00pm	Lent Groups
	7:30pm	Joint Lent Groups			
12th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Meeting	26th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting
14th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints	28th Saturday	8:45am	3 Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free
	3:00pm	ROC on Saturday		2:00pm	Service of Induction of Rev Keith Morrison
15th Sunday	9:30am	Mothering Sunday David Goodchild	29th Sunday	9:30am	Palm Sunday
	11:15am	Morning Worship Rev Mike Gardiner		11:15am	Morning Worship Rev Keith Morrison
	6:30pm	Evening Worship David Lowries Sussex Gospel Partnership		6:30pm	No Evening Service

Full details of Lindfield URC Easter Services can be found on Page 23

YOUTH

Hello!

I am pleased to inform you all that all aspects of the youth are progressing well. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some updates since last month.



I want to start by touching on the First Aid course we had in January. The day went very well and overall, I had very positive feedback. Many people have also shown a high interest in the top up course they provide, so I will be looking into doing that at the beginning of next year.

Moving on to Boys' Brigade, all three sections are running well. I have begun a Christian Living course with the boys in Company Section. I hope that, through this, I will be able to teach them about the Christian faith and reason why the church run boys brigade.

Stepping-stones on Tuesdays is growing rapidly. Last Tuesday we reached 40 children and we also had the toy library visit, with shaving foam fun in the corner of the hall!

In a few weeks time we are planning an all age, interactive Mothering Sunday Service. This service will be an amazing opportunity to invite families who don't go to church, or haven't been in a while. And the families from Stepping Stones will get specific invitations to come along.

The Christian Unions in Oathall and Warden Park are going very well. This past week we have even had some members sharing their testimonies with the other pupils.

I also had the opportunity to go into Great Walstead School recently to talk at their Christian Union called Revelation. I spoke on Jesus' teaching about us being salt and light and how this applies to us today. It was a successful visit and they have asked me to return in the future.

P.U.L.S.E. and P.U.L.S.E. Jr. numbers are slowly beginning to increase. Pulse had a trip to Horsham last Friday to go bowling and I have even had a request to look into go karting in Crawley!

This past week I have been able to give out a total of 350 P.U.L.S.E. Jr. flyers and 300 boys brigade flyers into the local schools. I have already had interest because of the flyers and so I hope this will make a big difference in the attendance of these groups.

Sunday mornings Lighthouse is running well. LED leaders met last week to plan the sessions up until July. We have finished the overview of the Bible and we will now be focusing on Old Testament characters.

Finally, since last month, P.U.L.S.E. Plus has started a Youth Alpha course with Haywards Heath Baptist Church. We have had three sessions and about 24 young people attend each week.

I have had one boy from Boys' Brigade come along, and we have already seen one young person give their life to Christ.

The course will be running through until Easter, so please pray that lives will be changed through hearing the message of Jesus.

Thank you for all your prayers!

Danny

PAGES

Mothering Sunday

*Sunday March 15th
9:30am*

An Interactive, All Age Service

Sharing God's love in word
and action



Hello!

If you are between the ages of 0-18, know someone who is between the ages of 0-18 or have a child between the ages of 0-18, then read on!

Lindfield United Reformed Church has many groups running throughout the week for all ages, and if you are interested in joining one then please get in touch, we would love to hear from you!

Sunday



Sunday mornings during the 9.30 family service, our Lighthouse programme has many different Junior Church groups for children and youth up to the age of 16. Our Sunday morning activities are called Lighthouse after Matthew 5 vs 14 and 15 where Jesus calls us to be a light to the world and that is our vision for both the teachers and the children that are part of Lighthouse, 'to give light to everyone' and share the amazing love and power of God.

On most weeks the children and young people divide into age groups, all of which have light related names;

Glowworms

is for children aged 3 years – Reception,

Stars

is for children for school years Reception – year 2,

Lasers

caters for children in school years 3 – 6

LED's

is for young people in school years 7 – 11.

In this way we cover the whole age spectrum from 3 – 16 years. Glowworms, Stars and Lasers use Scripture Union material so that each group is considering the same story or theme but the material and activities are targeted at different age ranges and the LEDs follow their own syllabus which is determined by the leaders. We also offer a crèche for children under 3 years in a safe space with toys and games to play with.

Once a month we have Jigsaw, this is a totally different session when the Stars, Lasers and LED's groups all meet together. Then we have lights and music, worship, puppets and a lot of fun!

There is also opportunity for the children to play together in the hall after the service, as well as refreshments for the adults!

Monday



On Mondays we have Boys' Brigade that is for ages 6 to 18. Here the boys can play games, hear Bible stories, and do all kinds of craft! The older Boys' also have the opportunity to learn important skills as well as learning drumming and marching!

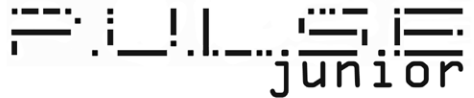
Tuesday



Tuesday morning is the Parents and Toddlers group called Stepping Stones. This runs from 10-11.30am and includes craft for the children as well as a song time at the end of each session.

Feel free to come and go as you please throughout the morning!

Friday



Friday evenings we have P.U.L.S.E. Jr. for those aged 7 to 11. Here we play games, learn about the Bible, get creative with craft and we also enjoy dinner together.

The evening runs once every two weeks from 5-6.30pm.



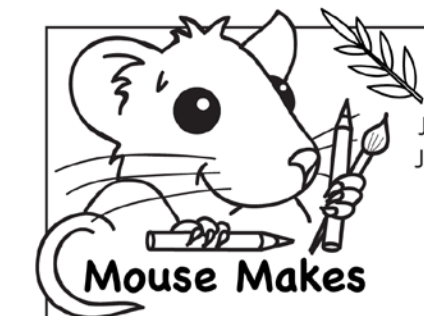
P.U.L.S.E. runs every Friday from 7.30-9pm. This is for those aged 11 to 18. Each week we have a 15 minute focus talk about the Bible, then most weeks the youth can choose what they want to do out of video games, pool, table tennis, sports in the hall, crafts or cooking!

We also have socials such as bowling or laser quest once every term!

If you are interested you can contact Danny Goodall, our Youth Pastor, using his email address: dgoodall@lindfielddurc.org.uk

We hope to see you soon!

Danny



Mouse Makes

Some believed Jesus was
God's Saviour, the
Messiah, but some did not.

What do you believe?

Read these stories from
Mark's Gospel - 1:40-45,
4:35-41, 5:1-43 and 6:30-56

JESUS COMES TO JERUSALEM AS KING

As Jesus and his disciples approached
Jerusalem they came to the Mount of Olives.
Jesus sent two disciples ahead of him and said
*"You will find a donkey and her colt,
untie them and bring them to me."*

A large crowd spread their coats
and branches cut from the trees onto the
road in front of Jesus and shouted:

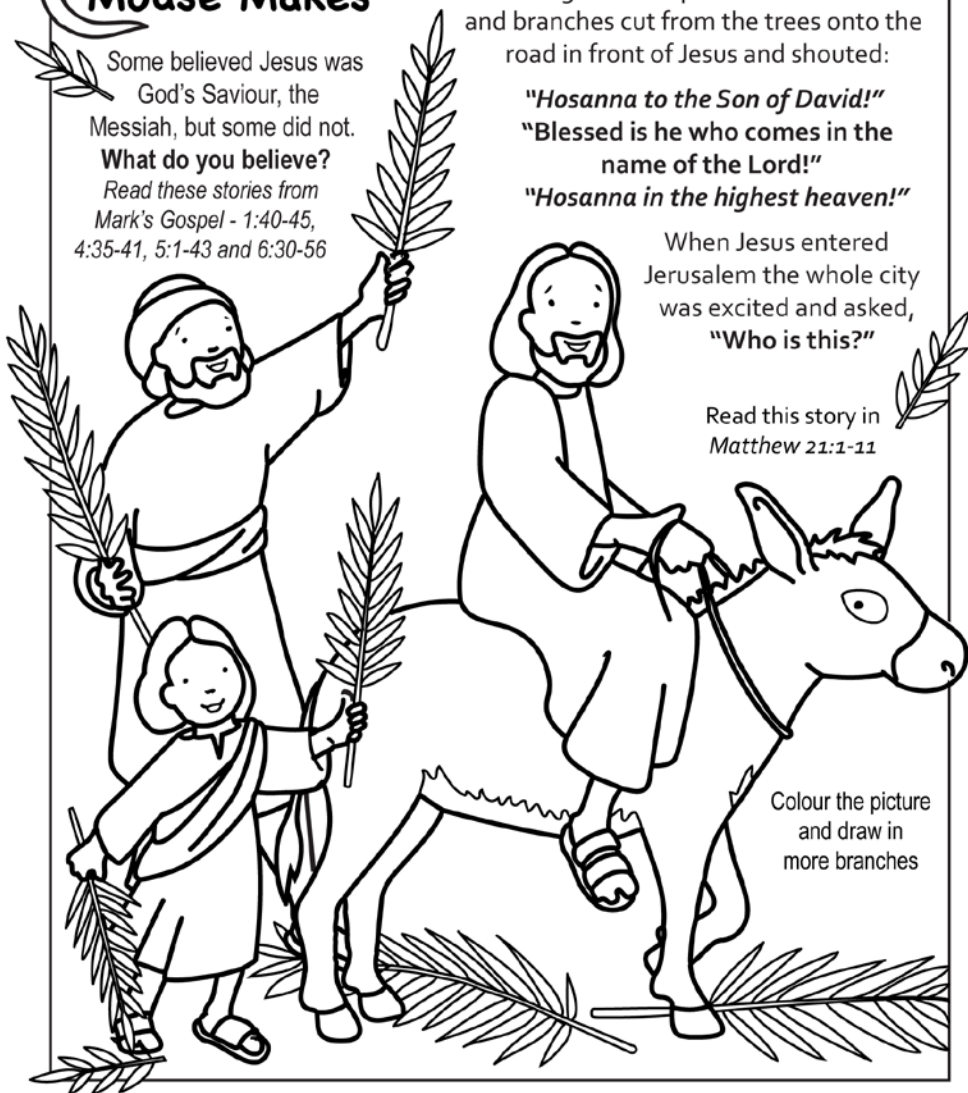
"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

***"Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord!"***

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When Jesus entered
Jerusalem the whole city
was excited and asked,
"Who is this?"

Read this story in
Matthew 21:1-11



Colour the picture
and draw in
more branches

Easter Services

29th March Palm Sunday

9.30am & 11.15am Morning Services
Led by Rev Keith Morrison

2nd April Maundy Thursday

7.30pm for 8.00pm start Maundy
Thursday Service led by Rev Michael
Davies

3rd April Good Friday

10.00am Walk of Witness from
Evangelical Free Church Car park

10.30am Good Friday Service at
Lindfield URC, coffee afterwards

5th April Easter Sunday

10.30am Easter Sunday Service led by
Rev Keith Morrison

Pastoral Group

Here at Lindfield URC we have a Pastoral Group, which basically does just that, caring for members of our Church Family who are unwell, elderly, bereaved or going through a difficult time, for whatever reason.

Without doubt, it is a real privilege to visit people in their home, care home or hospital as and when the need arises. There are currently nine people on this group, but there are quite a few others who visit folk regularly, something that is much appreciated by those on the receiving end of the love and care offered in Jesus' name.

The Pastoral Group are also responsible for organising the gifts that are given to various Church family members and friends at Christmas time. Another happy occasion to which many look forward is the annual car outing and tea. This is also for the not so young and those on their own. It is such a joy to take folk out into the beautiful Sussex countryside for a ride, returning them to the Church hall for tea before we deliver them home.

So all in all, a wonderful side of Church life in which to be involved!

Fo Tingley

Engine Room

The Engine Room Working Party has been meeting for a year now at 9.30 am on a Monday.

Over the year there have been some special moments in the prayer life of the church.

1 The week of prayer in July, Discipleship "Living the Jesus way", which I think was a very special week for a number of people. The resulting thoughts were put together in the meditation for New Year's Day entitled "Conformers or Transformers". Copies are still available if you would like one.

2 Answers to Prayer. God really answered our prayers in an amazing way over the autumn period.

- We had been praying about a Youth Worker but seemed to be getting nowhere when suddenly Danny's name popped up and in a very short time he had joined us and is now very much part of our church family.
- Just a few weeks later our prayers for a minister were answered in a way beyond our expectations. We look forward to Keith's induction on the 28th March. We must continue to pray for Keith and family as they settle into Lindfield and we seek God's will for our future together.
- We give thanks that all the work in Ryecroft has been completed, including an early delivery of goods which were not due until after Keith had moved in.



Bible Verse

Why not join us?

Feel inadequate?

*Find it hard to voice
your prayers?*

Feel like a learner?



We are all LEARNERS when we come to pray but we come with open hearts, seeking God's will for our church and a willingness to share with each other. If you are free on a Monday morning why not join us and contribute to the power and smooth running of our engine.

We also meet on the 4th Thursday of each month at 8.00 pm when we usually follow a set topic.

Carol Walters

Psalm 13 v 5-6

“But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing the Lord's praise, for he has been good to me.”

This is my favourite verse. The verses preceding these in Psalm 13, read like this:

“How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me? Look on me and answer, Lord my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death, and my enemy will say, “I have overcome him,” and my foes will rejoice when I fall.”

There have been many times in my adult life, that as a depression and anxiety sufferer, I have asked God, how long? And I am always drawn to this passage, as a reminder to trust him, and focus on him, and not dwell on how I am feeling.

It is so relevant to me, as I find listening to worship songs, singing and playing in church a constant source of distraction and allow me to remind myself about all the good things in my life.

Zoe McQuillin

Holy Week

It is Harold Wilson who is first said to have reflected that 'a week is a long time in politics'. As the general election approaches weeks can certainly seem a long time as the campaigning (which officially started on December 19th last year) drags on.

As Lent finishes we come to the celebration of the events of Holy Week, demonstrating just what an immense and lasting difference seven days can make. Holy week starts on Palm Sunday with huge crowds hailing Jesus triumphantly as King, and yet the very same crowds, just days later call out for him to be killed. By Friday afternoon Jesus has been crucified and his disciples scattered.

Yet on the following Sunday morning news of the resurrection transforms our understanding of the weeks events and indeed all of human history. From the rule and reign of kings and empires, understanding ancient religious texts and prophecies to our personal relationship with God; the momentous events of that one week change everything.

It is amazing just how much of Jesus three year ministry, how many well known biblical events and how much of Jesus' teaching is crammed into that single, final, Passover week in Jerusalem. You can feel the passion and hear the urgency in Jesus words as he knows he has just days, hours even, left to teach his disciples.



Passover provides not just a tense religious and political backdrop to the week but Jesus weaves a new story of salvation into the well known narrative, traditions and rituals of the Jewish festival.

The crowd and Jesus' disciples however do not yet fully understand his teaching. The people want a king to save them from the rule of the Romans, the religious rigour of the Sanhedrin and the righteousness of the Pharisees. When Jesus does not give them the Messiah they expect and the immediate political salvation they demand they turn against him.

A week after all, is a long time in politics.

Jesus is betrayed, sold out to the authorities by one of his own disciples. A week is a long time in politics.

In a late night trumped up courtroom the Sanhedrin who have been plotting for months to catch Jesus out finally get their opportunity. A week is a long time in politics.

When brought before Pilate and the authorities they can find no fault in him, but they also cannot muster the courage to go against the wishes of the crowd and the influence of the religious leaders. A week is a long time in politics, and Passover is not the week to rock the boat.

Within hours of his arrest Jesus' disciples are disbanded, confused and afraid. Jesus is whipped, humiliated and crucified.

Even by political standards, this has been a long week. But it was another Harold, Harold Macmillan who when asked about the greatest challenge of leadership remarked 'Events dear boy, events'

The crowd missed it, so did the authorities, the religious leaders and even the disciples. Because the greatest event in the greatest week in human history is yet to come.

Early on Sunday morning the women go to the tomb and find the stone rolled away. Jesus is alive! A week may be a long time in politics, but it is nothing in the light of the events of eternity.

While the seemingly endless weeks leading up to the election may drag by, it is only the events of one single week which matter. Depending on our response and our perspective it is a week that has the power to not just define history but affect our own eternity.

I hope this Holy Week you enter again into the presence, passion, peace and grace of the Easter Story. From Palm Sunday, all the way to Easter Sunday.

A week is a long time in politics, but one week really can make all the difference.

Dan McQuillin

Wider World

There are many countries where Christians are living in fear of their lives because of their faith. This month I have picked out a few of the places mentioned in the 2015 Open Doors "World Watch" booklet "A Guide to Global Persecution". These countries do not feature in the news headlines very much, but the Christians there still need our prayers for a strengthening of their faith in times of trouble.

Colombia

At first sight you may not realise that there is Christian persecution in this country - yet it is No 35 on the 'Open Doors' list of the world's most persecuted countries.

The reasons are very different from those in Islamic-ruled countries for example, or where it is officially or unofficially forbidden to worship the God of the Bible.

Civil war has caused this to happen, as for over 40 years now many factions have been fighting each other - guerilla, military, paramilitia and the drugs mafia. Each one is trying to get a hold over the country and there are daily attacks on the civil population.

Christians are a sort of 'disturbing factor' to all these groups. They are often prepared to speak out against the drug trade and the payment of protection money which the mafia demands. They are regarded as the enemy and are persecuted for this.

Pastors are being killed and churches burned with numerous Christians displaced from their lands. Many Christian women are vulnerable as attacks on them are greatly on the increase.

Malaysia

There are 2.9 million Christians in Malaysia out of a population of 30.6 million. The main religion is Islam and this is greatly supported at a national level by the Prime Minister, Najib Razak. Families uphold loyalty to Islam and it is almost impossible for a Malay Muslim to convert to Christianity. Potential converts experience isolation and pressure to recant their Christian faith, which can result in them being sent to a re-education centre.

Believers from a Muslim background risk being divorced from their spouses as well as losing custody of their children and their inheritance rights.

In November last year, plans were implemented to put Sharia law courts on an equal footing with civil courts which could cause great difficulties for Christians.

Sri Lanka

Although Sri Lanka is a secular state, its constitution puts Buddhism first, strengthening the Buddhist radicals' power over religious minorities. Led by Buddhist monks these groups are widely perceived to be tacitly supported by the government. They monitor, threaten and stir up mobs to attack Christians. At least 60 incidents were reported across the country last year where Christian services and prayer meetings were disturbed and disrupted in both church buildings and private homes.

In 2009, there was a Civil War which led to the defeat of the militant Tamil minority. Tamil Christians are treated as second-class citizens, but Singhalese Christians are also looked upon with suspicion and are frequently slandered and attacked.

Christians in rural areas are the most at risk with many meeting in house churches and are forced to keep a low profile.

As one pastor in the central highlands said, "If I had put a cross on the building, they would have killed me."

Carol Marsh

In March/April last year Lindfield URC raised over £3,000 for the work of Open Doors through the Missions Group. In March/April this year, as in 2013, we will be supporting the persecuted church through Release International. See the Mission Group articles in Good News to keep up to date on these activities.

Missions

When you sit down to read the newspaper or listen to the news does it ever make you consider for a while these different places and situations. Some so very different from our own here in Lindfield, others nearer 'home' maybe not so different. We also see and hear of people whose lives are so very difficult and hard because of all kinds of different reasons. There are many organisations which have been set up to provide practical help, education, money for schemes etc. Most of us can't go to these different places and help, but we can help by supporting the organisations who do send people to go and offer their time and energies in these different situations. This is one of the reasons why we have a 'Missions' group in our church, to help us as a group of people to be organised and committed in our support of others in different places and countries.

There is another reason too why we support Mission organisations and that is because we all have something in common; each and every person wherever they are should have the opportunity to hear about the difference knowing Jesus Christ can make in their lives, so that they can then make their own choice as to whether or not they want to become a follower of His. So we encourage and support organisations that help practically but who also talk about and share with those they are with the stories of Jesus Christ, and how Jesus has made a difference to them.

Missions Group

House Groups

I don't know about you but sometimes going to new places, like church, can feel a bit intimidating? So many people who you don't really know and yet who all seem to know each other. Sometimes too, listening to people talk about being a Christian can lead to questions but you are unsure of who to ask or discuss things with.

You are not alone in thinking like this and that is why we divide up into smaller groups and meet in each other's homes so that over a cup of coffee and even a biscuit or two, we can talk together, about what is said in the Bible.

Primarily because that is how we get to know more about Jesus and what it means to, and how we can follow Him each day of our lives. We also talk about how we are doing; what is hard and what is really good in our lives so we can pray for each other, our friends and families.

Most of our groups meet every other Thursday evening during term time but we do have some groups that meet at different times and on different days.

Val Cookney



Phonebook

Keith Morrison (Minister)

Telephone 01444 484791
Email kmorrison@lindfielddurc.org.uk

Danny Goodall (Youth Pastor)

Youth Office 01444 487607
Mobile 07443 438970
Email dgoodall@lindfielddurc.org.uk

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

March

1st	Janet Wade	Sue Tester
8th	Betty Billins	Barbara Shepherd
15th	Carol Walters	Jo Bloxham
22nd	Mies Campling	Iris Bingham
29th	Zoe McQuillin	Heather Swann

April

5th	Easter Flowers	Janet Sanderson
12th	Ann Parker	Fo Tingley
19th	Heather Swann	Nick Bingham
26th	Carol Marsh	Sue Tester

Around Lindfield

Wednesday 11th March

12.15 pm Tiger Arts - Lunch in Lindfield URC

1.00 pm Concert : Charlotte Buchanan - Trumpet (URC)

8.00 pm Horticultural Society in KEH :

"Rapkyns Nursery"

Saturday 14th March

3.00 pm ROC on Saturday - Lindfield URC

Tuesday 17th March

2.30pm Preservation Society in KEH :

"A Sussex Farm in the 1950's"

Thursday 19th March

7.30 pm Village Film Night in KEH - "Mr. Turner"

Starring Timothy Spall

Saturday 21st March

7.45pm Hayward Heath Music Society - St Wilfrids Church, Haywards Heath
Ensemble Reza (string sextet)

Tickets: £12 non-members, with reductions for concessions & members

Further information from Christine Colbourne 456227

www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk

Saturday 28th March

3.00pm ROC on Saturday - Evangelical Free Church

