

GoodNEWS MAGAZINE

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

Summer 2017



Bible verse of the month

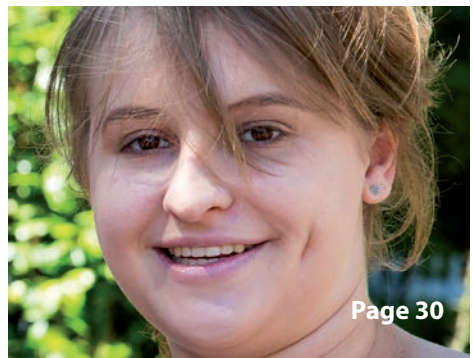
“The Angel of
the Lord encamps
around those who
fear Him,
and He delivers
them.”

Psalm 34:7 NIV



Our verse this month comes
from Rosemary McCleery.
For more information see
page 25

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



Editorial

At the time of writing, I can say summer has come! Our Church family was blessed in so many ways, in this past Weekend Away, at Pilgrim Hall. There are so many thoughts and feelings expressed in our Good News Summer Edition magazine.

The Leaders of our Weekend Away were The Rev. David and Mrs Lorna Bedford had specific prayerful messages for us all. There are reflections on the teaching we received, please read it and all being well as a Church family, we can try to take on all that was prayerfully put forward to us all.

Our children, young people, and many adults took advantage of Pilgrim Hall's swimming pool with the added incentive of ice creams for everyone. We have still got different events going ahead, do see if you would like to join in. There are two for you to think about joining, the ladies In Touch meeting, and The Fellowship Lunch details. Danny has reports of the holiday club which was so successful.

I hope you all will find inspiration, from reading our Good News for the summer. Enjoy all your holidays whether at home or away, and I hope the young people and the children, will be pleased with their exam results and thankfully they can now enjoy the summer.

I feel that new bonds have been made over the Away Weekend in our love for one another; we all have so much to be thankful for.

God Bless everyone.

Anne

September Copy Date :
Sunday August 13th 2017

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*Produced for
Lindfield United Reformed
Church,
50 High Street, Lindfield, West
Sussex, RH16 2HL
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Dear friends



This bumper issue of Good News, combined with the very hot weather in mid-June, reminds us that it is summertime. That word often makes me think of Gershwin's jazzy lullaby from the musical "Porgy and Bess" perhaps made best known by Billie Holliday, though Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald also deserve a mention.

The opening line of the song says "the livin' is easy" though of course for many of the central characters of the story that is far from true. Written in the 1930s the show was rejected by many theatres and audiences for it included black actors, and then by the rise of the civil rights movement in the 1960s it was being rejected by African Americans for portraying an old stereotype of their community.

In more recent times there has been a fresh discovery of the story by reimagining it in Soweto amidst the pain of the South African apartheid regime, which existed pre1990. Finding language, images, and music that allow different social groups to communicate without exclusion has always been hard and it is sometimes far easier to turn inwards rather than outwards at times of difficulty, as God's people we must ensure we remain people of hope who can express His love in ways that are understood by those outside of the church as well as within.

Our land does seem to be in a time of difficulty at the moment. The general election has not given a clear mandate for a government and we wait to see what happens. A year on from the Brexit referendum negotiations have started in Brussels, but we do not know how these will impact our lives or those of future generations. The devastation of the Grenfell tower fire, has left many stunned; the suffering and loss of life, the loss of home and all possessions by so many people, and the difficult matter of where they will now live. Terror attacks in Manchester, and in London, each upon innocent people going about their peaceful, daily life, have added to the grief and, as the Queen said at her official birthday, there is "a very sombre national mood".

Family News

However, despite the national gloom, our weekend away made us think of hope.

David and Lorna Bedford asked that we might each be disciples, and serve as kingdom people. They spoke of how in times of adversity we can make a difference. They wanted us to be able to point to the “champion of the world” and be able to speak of the difference He makes in our life.

They challenged us to pray for our communities; in particular to meet in small groups and pray regularly for individuals, that they may come to know the love of Christ our Saviour, and so give their lives to Him. We can be the earthly embodiment of God’s love; standing, waiting, with outstretched arms ready to welcome and embrace.

May we this summertime recognise those in our fellowship, and outside of it, for whom the livin’ is not easy. May we uphold them in prayer, and seek to serve in Jesus’ name.

Your Minister

Keith

Congratulations

We offer our warm Congratulations to Jane and Tim Harfield who have celebrated their Silver Wedding recently.

Also, after some years of writing, Mac Turner is to have his book published, and will be at the launch in Scotland. Very well done, Mac!

Fo Tingley

DVD

At Spring Harvest in April (2017) Miriam Swaffield of Fusion (an outreach to students) spoke about the importance of relationships and mentoring between generations.

It is an entertaining and challenging talk which could be watched at home, in Home Groups or any small or large group. If you would like to borrow the DVD please let Lydia Goodchild know.

Lydia Goodchild

Family News

Thank You!

I have been absolutely overwhelmed by the love shown me in the Church, since Hilary passed away in April. I have received flowers and so many cards, I wouldn't have had room for any more.

It has helped our family so much, that Hilary was ready to go - he really had enough.

As promised, we did not leave him day or night, for over a week and the end was so peaceful.

There have been many comments on his witness and assurances of his faith, until he entered into heaven. I only trust that I will be the same.

Barbara Shepherd

Wednesday Lunch Fellowship

July will be the outing to Snowhill Garden Centre, and in August we shall take a break and meet again on the 6th September at 12.30.

Please contact Sue Waller on 455047 for any further information.

Sue Waller

In Touch

In May Anne Parker led a very interesting evening describing the plight of many women in Ethiopia who suffer terrible injuries during childbirth and who live with the consequences for the rest of their lives.

We were shown several films about the work by Hamlin Fistula UK who support the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital and the Hamlin College of midwives in Ethiopia.

Their wholehearted commitment to the women through surgery and emotional support and with God's love and compassion results in many of these women's lives being transformed, and they are able to return to their communities healthy and accepted, in contrast to having been treated as outcasts.

Our In Touch members made a very generous donation at the end of the evening which Anne was able to pass on to the Hamlin Fistula Society.

Our next meeting will be on 25th July when we will be visiting a garden in Denmans Lane. Please look out for notices regarding details of the visit nearer the time. As usual everyone is very welcome to join us.

Janet Wade

Baptism

The Sunday evening services in July will be focused on baptism! We will be spending four sessions looking at Identity, what is baptism? Difference between water and spirit baptism, and answering questions like 'why do we get baptized?' and 'why do we share a testimony?'

If you are interested in baptism, interested in the topic of baptism, have questions about baptism, been baptized and want to be reminded about what it is about... etc! then come along, these sessions are for you!

There will be talks, groups discussions, feedback, times of prayer within the services, each one aiming to be interactive.

Services will be at the usual time of 6.30 lasting about an hour – refreshments will be provided!

See you there!

Keith Morrison



Pilgrim Hall

Away Weekend June 16-18th 2017



We so enjoyed being with you for the weekend: you are a precious bunch of saints (with feet of clay)!

Before the weekend began we sensed that the Lord wanted to do a new thing in your midst, for the sake of Lindfield; we are encouraged that the signs of that new growth are already starting to show themselves.

Over the weekend, we encouraged you to raise the bar of faith and catch the vision God is giving you (I have a dream), put your whole trust in Jesus (take a chance on me), and treasure your brothers and sisters in Christ (Knowing me, Knowing you). Being sure, of who you are in Jesus, we encouraged you to take the offensive and put on the whole armour of God (Supernatural Trooper), and hear the cry of the multitudes, as the harvest is ripe (Save Our Souls). (The Name of the Game) is Discipleship and Mission: and those are the holy tasks ahead of us now as we seek to reach out (SOS prayer triplets) as a missionary people and be/make disciples. Finally, the word the Lord gave me for you on early Sunday morning: will you have the attitude of a Hezekiah or a David? Will you make 'extensive and prayerful preparations' for a new generation of believers in Lindfield to further the work of the Kingdom?

Our practical response (words are cheap) to this will be the measure of whether this weekend proves to be a line in the sand for Lindfield congregation, and we look forward to hearing about that new chapter being written!!

Oh, and Abba Father is cheering you on!

Be assured of our love and prayers as a you journey.

Pastor David & Lorna



We are back from a wonderful church weekend away at Pilgrim Hall. We have enjoyed a time of God filled fellowship, teaching and inspiration.

This is a selection of comments made:

"Thank you to everyone involved – what an amazing blessing for our church"

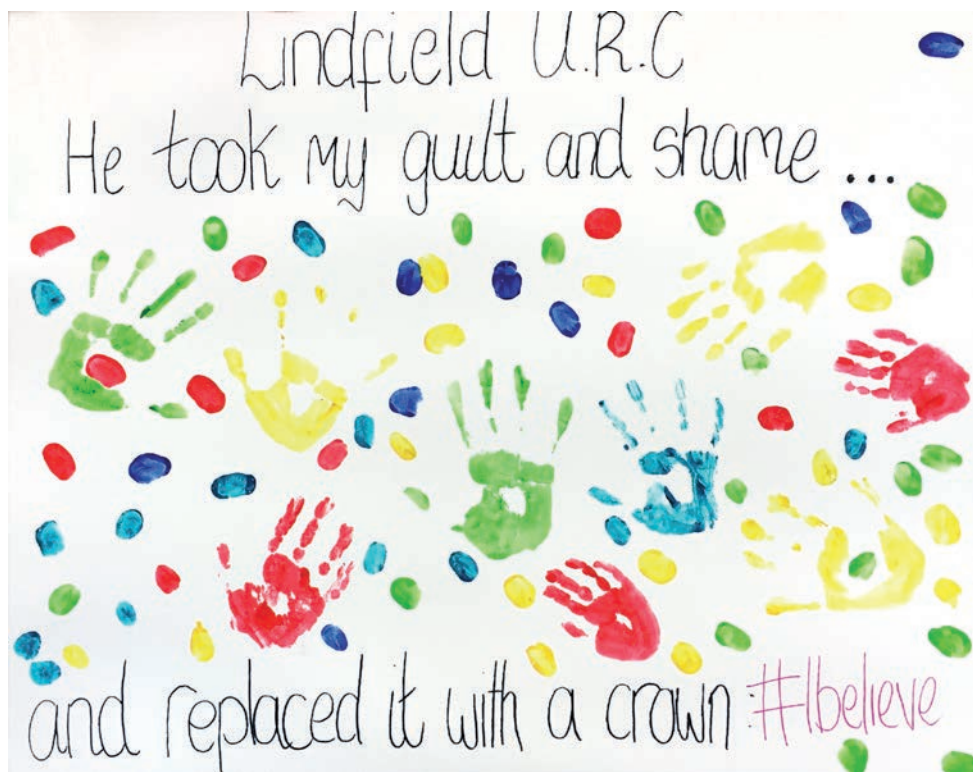
"Thankful for a new season for our church – may we go forward together refreshed and revived to do what God has planned for us to do!"

"An inspiring and God led weekend. Many things to remember and put into action. Thanks to so many"

"Amazing time of fellowship and good teaching from Lorna and David. We must go forward with his words".

"I enjoyed the family fun and learned that you should be thankful for what you get".

"Lovely food!"



We were invited to “dream” for a God vision for our church. The following are just a flavour of some of those dreams:

LURC to bring Christ to those outside our doors.

To bring more of God’s love to people in Lindfield who haven’t experienced it yet.

For the baptistry to be in regular use especially for young converts!

For God’s spirit and the kingdom of God to flow freely in and out of the doors.

The youth will grow in number and faith

To be ready and open to discipleship.

To reach out to young families.

Preach with fire and authority, love one another.

People will come into church and meet with God, finding salvation in him. We will have spirit led worship. Deeper relationships with each other.

A full to bursting church. A fellowship where all feel welcome and not judged.

Passion.

Freedom in worship and use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit for the common good.

Known as people who love – every day is village day!

Renewed enthusiasm and confidence in the position and purpose and future of Lindfield URC.

LURC meeting needs of the village.

A beacon of joy and hope.

To see the evening service full of people worshipping in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We can find ways of spreading the message to the local community.

To become a praying people.

For every single young person that comes to LURC to encounter Jesus and make him their Lord.

LURC to grow in width and depth.

Build each other in love and grace.

Youth growing, and stepping out boldly in faith.

Peace, partnership, participation.

Longing hearts, fearless actions.

Heal relationships within the church so we are a true example.

For the church to be at the centre of the community.

Revival.

Emmeline Morrison

I was encouraged and challenged so much over this very special weekend at Pilgrim Hall. The teaching by David and Lorna Bedford was Bible based and very easy to follow, and it was an added blessing to hear some personal stories and have humour thrown in! This makes it hard to pick out a particular highlight. However, the final session was based on the ABBA song "The name of the game" and focused around the subject of Discipleship. It is God who makes new disciples not us, but He uses us in the process. We are all 'Disciples' (not just Christians)! We are a 'Kingdom People' (not just a Church)! These points challenged me to rethink who I am in Christ. Also, David Bedford encouraged us to consider finding a trusted Christian friend who would disciple us, and to be willing to get alongside someone ourselves, to encourage and support them regularly.

May God help us to put into practice all we've learnt, that it will indeed be the turning of a new page in the life of Lindfield URC.

Fo Tingley





The Goodchildren were ready for a holiday after a half term week travelling to Cheltenham, Yorkshire, Macclesfield (for Big Church Day Out North) and then Derbyshire so we set off to Pilgrim Hall after a busy day at work, school and visiting Lydia's Dad in his Nursing Home in Brighton. We were met with a lovely welcome and our cases carried to our light and comfortable room. A super start!

The ABBA themed teaching was profound, practical interactive and challenging. The mix of David and Lorna's leading was a breath of fresh air - the holiday had truly begun.

During Saturday afternoon some chose to play croquet, thank you Rob for explaining the rules! Others swam in the warm outside pool. With the glorious sunshine and ice creams it was like being in the Med!

The Saturday night Family Fun brought out the competitive spirit as we played games with apples, potatoes, bananas, maltesers and balloons!

We are left with a challenge to disciple each other to equip us to disciple others.

So many thanks go to so many people.

Lydia Goodchild

This weekend in the kids team we have been looking at the story of the prodigal son.

Each session we have looked at a different character's perspectives of the story with a Finding Nemo theme throughout the weekend, Nemo the little fish got curious and didn't listen to his dad which resulted in him being lost. Nemo's dad searched relentlessly and sacrificially until he found him, greeting him with the embrace only a Father can give.

Each session has ended with us looking at 'He took my guilt and shame and replaced it with a crown. We spent our final session in a prayer workshop exploring more about who God is and Who we are in Him. We all had a great time....

Thanks for having us Lindfield friends!
Laura, Simon and Joshua



As the parent house martins tirelessly fed the fledglings in their nests under the eaves of Pilgrim Hall, so did ABBA God feed the church during our 'Away Weekend'. Approximately one hundred pilgrims sat absorbed as God taught us through His minister the Rev. David Bedford and his wife Lorna.

We were challenged to invite God to send us dreams for His Kingdom's sake. They urged us to take the bold chance of welcoming Jesus into our lives as we diligently learn to love one another as He loves us. The repetitive S.O.S. rhythm (played by our percussionist) called us to save our souls by being ready to answer folk who ask us "Why is it that Christians are such hopeful people?"



We were taught that our ABBA God lavishes grace on us through our saviour Jesus Christ and we live in the sure hope of His second coming.

We were challenged to dream about our church's future. These aspirations were stuck on a wooden cross and then offered to ABBA in prayer. Soon they will be available to us all to contemplate in printed form.

We left Pilgrim Hall with encouraged hearts after one of the hottest weekends in living memory!

Janet Drayton

I had a fantastic time at Pilgrim Hall, with great worship, fellowship and fun!

Ranging from great bible study sessions to swimming in the heated outside pool!

Overall a great experience, had by all.

Peter McCleery

Praise God for a weekend bright with the sunshine of His love, when we drew closer to one another and to Him. We have dreamed our dreams, now let us push out into deeper water.

Mike Gardiner



Do you ever wake up and wonder whether its Sunday and then reflect on how long it will be till you are with your family in Christ at Lindfield URC again? I occasionally do, believe it or not! Our visit to Pilgrim Hall was an opportunity to build new relationships, dare I say, heal broken relationships, have fun, and take time to remember that love it, or hate it, we are all in this living for Christ thing together. Sounds a bit like being at home.

The teaching was encouraging and inspirational; challenging whilst full of grace. I enjoyed weeping in prayer with Jean Gardiner and Alex Hall as we prayed for those people in our lives that we would love to see invite Jesus into their lives. There is no greater blessing than heads bent, hearts united at the throne of Grace, pleading for intercession.

I enjoyed shared intimacy with my Christian family in discussing the heartaches of life. I loved reading Psalm 51. Close the curtains and read it alone. It is a blessed release for the soul. It dares to mention the word sin.

Last week I went to a training event. I hadn't met some of the people for at least eleven years. One woman was still ready to pick holes in everything at the drop of a hat; another man had fire coming out of his ears in rage over some minor matter of opinion; one lady appeared beautifully still and calm as when I first met her twenty years ago. I think the preacher David Bedford has invited us to turn a page in the history of Lindfield URC. I had this thought before the weekend away and so I pass it on to you now. Are you willing to take a chance on something different?

Are you willing to be moved by God's Spirit in a world that might change? Can you find space in your heart for people you would rather repel?

Jesus said, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

If you are not a Christian and you are reading this, can I ask you the same question. Are you ready for a change? Former SAS soldier Bear Grylls calls it his greatest challenge. Try Jesus Christ.

May God richly bless you in the name of Jesus Christ forever.

Harry McCleery

Sunday Services

The **10.00am** 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 after the morning service.

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.

July

1st Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC
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2nd Sunday	10:00am	Family Service Rev Keith Morrison
	6:30pm	Something Different Rev Keith Morrison

5th Wednesday	2:00pm	Lunch Fellowship Outing to Haskins Garden Centre Snowhill
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8th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC
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9th Sunday	10:00am	Family Service Rev Keith Morrison
	6:30pm	Communion Rev Keith Morrison

15th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC
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16th Sunday	10:00am	Family Service Rev Keith Morrison
	6:30pm	Something Different Rev Keith Morrison

22nd Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC
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23rd Sunday	10:00am	Communion Rev Keith Morrison
	6:30pm	Something Different Rev Keith Morrison

Church diary

25th
Tuesday
7:00pm In Touch at 47 Den-
mans Lane £5.00
followed by
Refreshments at
URC

13th
Sunday

10:00am Family Service
David Walters
6:30pm Communion
Rev Robert Bushby

26th
Wednesday
2:30pm Afternoon
Fellowship
7:45pm Elders Meeting

16th
Wednesday
Car Outing/Tea back
at URC

27th
Thursday
8:00pm Church Prayer
Meeting

19th
Saturday
8:45am Three Churches
Prayer Meeting,
Evangelical Free

29th
Saturday
8:45am Three Churches
Prayer Meeting, URC

20th
Sunday

10:00am Family Service
Rev Keith Morrison
6:30pm Something
Different
Rev Keith Morrison

30th
Sunday

10:00am Family Service
David Walters
6:30pm Joint Service at
Evangelical Free
Church

22nd
Tuesday
6:30pm In Touch - In the
Garden TBC

August

5th
Saturday
8:45am Three Churches
Prayer Meeting,
Evangelical Free

23rd
Wednesday
7:45pm Elders' Meeting

24th
Thursday
8:00pm Church Prayer
Meeting

6th
Sunday

10:00am Family Service
Rev Keith Morrison
6:30pm HH Methodist area
service

26th
Saturday
8:45am Three Churches
Prayer Meeting,
Evangelical Free

27th
Sunday

10:00am Communion
Rev Keith Morrison
6:30pm Something
Different
Rev Keith Morrison

12th
Saturday
8:45am Three Churches
Prayer Meeting, URC

YOUTH

Hello!



This month, I want to fill you in on the fun we had and activities we had aboard HMS Adventure for our Holiday Club!

Our cruise began on Tuesday 30th May and sailed through until Friday 2nd June, and we also met on Sunday 4th June. Each day we had between 23 and 28 crew members with us.

During the week, we learnt stories from the Bible that included boats! These stories were Noah's Ark, Jonah and the big fish, Paul being shipwrecked, and Jesus calming the Storm.

The days included many games, crafts, quizzes, team activities and prayerful responses.



Captain Bible kept our voyage on course

We finished the week off on the Sunday, by looking at the story of the Rich Young Ruler and the story of Zacchaeus. Both men met Jesus and were given the choice to give up what they had and to follow Jesus, or not. As we know, The Rich Young Ruler could not part from his wealth and so walked away from Jesus, whereas Zacchaeus chose to give his money away and start his life anew following Jesus.

We all are given the same choice. Do we choose Jesus?

Much more happened during the week, and lots of fun was had! Do ask Richard, Dawn or myself if you would like to know more!

Danny

PAGES



Ages **ALL** *

*Under 14s please bring an adult

Friday 4pm

Creative fun, short time of all
age worship and a meal.

**Summer &
Autumn 2017**

21 July

15 September

20 October

17 November

15 December



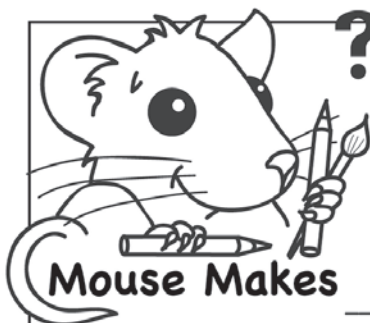
Lindfield

United Reformed Church

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lindfieldurc.org.uk/youth



What should not
be hidden under
a bowl?



Matthew 5:14-15



Who was
welcomed back?



DID YOU KNOW?

Jesus often used
simple stories
called **parables** to
teach people about
God, His Kingdom
and about how God
would like us to live.

In His parables Jesus
used objects and
pictures of the
world around Him
to help people to
understand.



**MIXED UP
PARABLES**



Which parable picture
word goes with which?

NARROW	GOATS
SHEEP	GATE
WHEAT	BRANCHES
MUSTARD	COIN
LOST	TREASURE
GOOD	WEEDS
VINE	SON
HIDDEN	SAMARITAN
PRODIGAL	SHEEP
LOST	SEED



Luke 15: 11-32



What ate the seeds
that fell on the path?

Matthew 13:3-23



What was lost?

Matthew 18:12-13



What did the wise man
build his house on?



Matthew 7:24-27



What is the
kingdom of
heaven like?



Matthew 13:45-46



DID YOU KNOW?

You can read
Jesus' parable stories in the
Gospels of Matthew, Mark and
Luke but only Luke records the
parables of *The Lost Coin*, *The
Good Samaritan*, *The Prodigal
Son*, *The Friend in Need*
and *The Rich Fool*.



Find the
parable pictures
in the word search

PARABLE • WHEAT • WEEDS
SEED • TREASURE • GATE
HOUSE • ROCK • SAND
PEARL • COIN • FIG • TREE
SHEEP • GOATS • WINE
TAX COLLECTOR
LAMP • PHARISÉE
SHEPHERD • SAMARITAN



S A M A R I T A N T S P S W
U P L A M P G A T E L H H H W
E S R O C K S A N D A E E I
T A X C O L L E C T O R P A N
T R E A S U R E F I G I H T E
R L C O I N D F H O U S E E D
E S H E E P A R A B L E R A X
E G O A T S H O D W E E D S R

Summer of sports

Just when you thought the football season was finally over, with England's capitulation to 10-man France on 13th June, barely 11 hours later the 2017-2018 Premiership fixture list came out! For the first time ever, this required a detailed scan to see which Brighton and Hove Albion matches we need to highlight as a "must see". Kicking off with a home match against Manchester City is definitely a mouth-watering prospect but, for me, I fancy some of the away games. There should be enough tickets for us to watch the Seagulls at some famous venues relatively nearby, for example, Wembley Stadium against homeless Spurs and at the London Stadium, in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, against West Ham, my first love! However, before then, and while the West Ham players are sunning themselves on a beach somewhere, the London Stadium returns to its original purpose and we have a great summer of Athletics to look forward to, starting with the warm-up Müller Anniversary Games on 9th July, swiftly followed by the World Para Athletics Championships from 14th-23rd July and then the IAAF World Championships in Athletics from 4th-13th August, probably the last chance to see Mo Farah and Usain Bolt running in such events.

I sometimes wonder how the athletes manage to drag themselves to the training track each day, to run in circles yet again. I have especially been thinking of this as I prepared myself for the Mid Sussex Aquabike held on 11th June.

My swimming preparation left a lot to be desired, just three evenings in the local pools proving to myself that I could keep going for the 400 metres required! This was also confirmed by the "Smart Tag" tracker that the Dolphin and Triangle pools can provide you with – by the time you get home the data on your swim (speed, distance, calories burned) has already been uploaded to your computer. Suddenly a boring "up-and-down" pool session is transformed into a statistical heaven that really appeals to nerds like me.

This is even more so with cycle practice, which I really enjoy now I have replaced my "not-so-smart" phone with one that actually works. I downloaded an App called "Strava" which gives more information than you would have thought possible on any bike ride you make. My test ride was a gentle 0.6 mile pedal to the shops and, when I returned home, I found out that I could instantly compare my performances, side-by-side, with other cyclists. I found that my 1 ride of 0.6 miles looked rather pathetic against son Jonathan's 194 rides of 3,543.9 miles. Clearly to succeed I needed to increase my monthly training schedule of 1 minute per week to something approaching Jonathan's average of 2 hours 27 minutes per week! However, "Strava" doesn't record my daily cycle from home to the station and back so the training picture wasn't quite so bleak. With a bit more training effort I soon found that Strava gave me all sorts of "useful" feedback - my personal record of 10 min 23 secs on the "Slugwash Lane Up" sector (2.2

miles and a 166 feet rise if you are interested) was ranked 457th fastest this year (out of 688 other mad/sad people who have bothered to record it). The number one ranked person cycled it in 6 min and 9 secs – how is that humanly possible?!

Without this modern technology I probably would not even have achieved my final result of 19th out of 26 competitors in the Aquabike (well, at least I was faster than the other “oldie” in the veteran 60+ age category)!! Spare a thought then for the athletes of the Bible era who, despite the lack of data feedback - not even a simple stop-watch in sight - still went “...into strict training...” before competing (1 Corinthians 9:25). The biblical advice on training is as relevant now as it was then: “No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees.” (Hebrews 12: 11-12). The last verse seems to be written for me, as it is my weak knees (a product of rugby/football in my youth) that limit me to the Aquabike rather than the full Triathlon. Of course, the Biblical encouragement for training can be extended to much more spiritual things than sport, to training in prayer, worship and scriptural knowledge for example. I pray that your discipline and faith will enable you to succeed in whatever you are training for right now and that the long, warm summer months will be a blessing to you, whether you enjoy sport or not!

Martin Hall



Wider World

Sudan

Sudanese pastor Hassan Abduraheen has finally been released after being falsely imprisoned for his faith.

Abduraheen faced a possible death sentence after speaking at a Christian conference in Ethiopia where he showed the crowd a picture of a young man who was assaulted for attending a protest.

The pastor explained that he was helping to pay for the man's medical expenses. However, instead of seeing Abduraheen's Christian act of charity as a generous gesture, the Sudanese government claimed the money was going to support rebel forces.

In 2015 the Sudanese National Intelligence Security Service arrested Abduraheen and charged him with espionage along with several other false charges. He was convicted and sentenced to more than a decade in prison.

Human rights activists and lawyers from America advocated strongly for his release. More than 200,000 people from many parts of the world signed a petition, which finally resulted with the pastor receiving a presidential pardon in May.

Carol Marsh

Help!

for flowers in the Church

I wonder, when you come into Church on a Sunday, if you look at the flowers?



Thank you to all those who provide them week by week, and a special word of thanks to those who have done so for many years. However, sadly our band of helpers that supply and arrange them is getting smaller! So we are looking for volunteers. You don't have to do an arrangement; just put flowers in a vase and place it on the pedestal. On a Monday the flowers are taken to those in our Church family who are going through difficult times, and they are so much appreciated. (May be you've even been the recipient of Church flowers in the past.) Please talk to me or give me a call if you feel you could help.

Betty Billins
01444 484494

Bible Verse

“ *The Angel of the Lord encamps
around those who fear Him,
and he delivers them.* ”

Psalms 34 v 7

I hate driving! Recently I found myself in a stressful driving situation on the way back from Bognor Regis. I was on a minor road, approaching an enormous roundabout (without traffic lights), where I needed to turn right, to join the A27.

The roundabout was choked with juggernauts; either sailing merrily round, or lined up chugging impatiently along the intersecting road to my right, waiting to pounce on any opportunity to join the proceedings... 'How on earth am I going to ever get onto this roundabout, let alone turn right at it?' I thought to myself, as I sat there, downcast.

I was also painfully aware of the contrast between my (relatively) little Golf, and these behemoths of the road.

I remembered the verse above, and prayed. A few moments later, I could hardly believe my eyes!

Suddenly, in the midst of all the lorries, one tiny car appeared out of nowhere, and, amazingly, it was indicating to turn down 'my' road! Hooray! Thanks be to God! I had a few seconds to shoot out to join the roundabout whilst the traffic to my right was effectively debarred from entering it!

As I journeyed thankfully home, I wondered how many times a day the Angel of the Lord intervenes in our lives, whether we acknowledge him or not?

Rosemary McCleery

Mission

Our July/August mission focus will be on MERCY SHIPS. Again we will have the pleasure of hearing Paul Hellyer talk to us on July 16th about the amazing work performed by volunteers on their hospital ship, African Mercy.

Imagine a ship staffed by surgeons, doctors, nurses, engineers and other specialists. Now imagine their services offered free of charge to the world's poorest people.

That is Mercy Ships.

Discover more information from the Mission's display on the concourse. If you would like to give, there are special envelopes, and gift aid forms if appropriate, which can be placed in the offering at any Sunday service. Thank you for your faithful support of Missions.

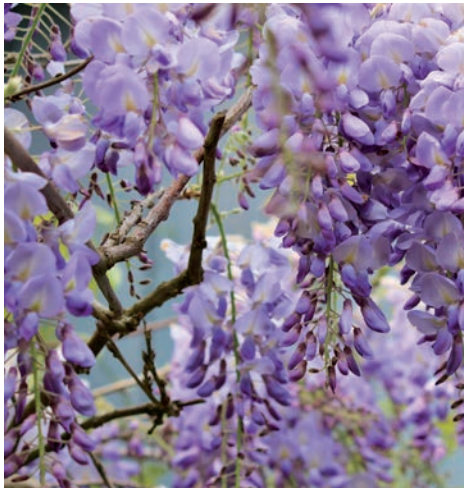
Missions Group

Hot Favourites

As I sit down to write about plants for drought conditions it is hot dry and sunny, but by the time you read it, it could well be pouring in torrents!

Never mind, here goes:- Many plants survive quite happily in near drought conditions. They need little water and so are real labour-savers. Ideal if you don't have time, energy or are often away on business or holidays. They all appreciate hot, dry and sunny conditions and will thrive if planted in a suitable position.

Low-growing, sometimes ground-cover or rockery plants more or less look after themselves. These include Arabis and Aubretia with their carpets of white or mauve flowers in the Spring or early Summer.



Wisteria

Cerastium ('Snow in Summer') is also drought tolerant and enjoys some of space to become a bit rampant. Three well-known plants need little attention : Mesembryanthemum (Livingstone Daisy), Nasturtium and Portulaca.

Taller plants for the herbaceous border include Achillea (Yarrow), Helianthus (Sunflower) and Verbascum (Mullein).

Going on up the height scale, many shrubs and grasses are ideal for dry conditions and often enjoy being planted near larger plants who soak up the moisture. These include Berberis, Cistus (Sunrose), Cotoneaster, Heathers, Lavenders, Tamarix and Ulex (Gorse).

Some drought tolerants which climb and survive include : Ceanothus, Ivy (be careful!), Leptospermum and Wisteria which can grow to become large. These are the easy-to-look-after guys but, when you plant them, they need to be well-watered for the first few weeks in their new position.

Our wonderful God has given us an amazing variety of plants, so let us enjoy their beauty.

Stuart Marsh

Finding God in the storm

“*Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.*”

1 Peter 5.7

This word and other encouraging scriptures over the past 45 years as a Christian have helped me enormously to cope with life and enjoy the riches of God's grace, to carry on and not give up, to persevere (or press on). It is more about finding God's grace in our time of need.

I met my dear wife Rosemary back in 1983 when I went to rewire her house. The Lord drew us together and we have loved and supported one another over the years through good days and tough days. We've seen answers to our prayers at times and God's guidance.

She had her first total knee replacement of the right knee in 2015 at Nuffield Hospital. After a year it was the best it had been for 20 years. Recently she had her left total knee replacement and it is gradually settling down. It was by God's grace how He worked things out for us and she was able to have it done by the same surgeon at Nuffield. By this time next year she will be running the London Marathon!!

We feel God still cares and is helping us and supplying our needs and know some people in the church and community are praying for us.

I was saying to a lady in the church recently that I don't wish to sound irresponsible or not caring, but I am at complete peace about the whole situation. I would dearly love to see Rosemary delivered from all the pain but I know the time will come when this will be the case and she will have comfort. Things are slowly improving all the time and she can even walk home from church now, a distance of a mile!

I have learnt (and am still learning) that we really can take God at His word, what He says He will do. He longs to be kind to each one of us. I have learnt to do things through His spirit rather than in my own strength. John 8.32 "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Jesus gives me love for people I might not otherwise feel love for and helps me to reach out to them at times.

Never, never, never ever give up while Jesus is working with you. He promised He would never leave you or forsake you but will be with you even until the end of the world. We follow a living God who is with us, who loves us and has an exciting plan for us. Jeremiah 29.11.

This applies to all us whoever we are as we have faith in Christ Jesus our Saviour. P.T.L!

Love in Christ,
Ray Tijou

A Memorable Visit

“ Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let My love be shown, will you let My Name
be known, will you let My life be grown in you,
and you in Me? ”



The song opposite was written by Graham Maule and John L. Bell from the Iona Community. It is a beautiful song and challenging too. I love the music!

I have always had a longing to visit the Isle of Iona. Many of you have had the wonderful experience of travelling to Iona but not me! Iona is a tiny island off the southwest coast of Mull, it is 1.5 miles wide and 3 miles long. In 563AD St. Columba and his 12 followers landed on the sandy beaches of Iona.

This Irish monk then set about converting most of pagan Scotland and northern England to the Christian faith. St. Columba built his first Celtic Church and established a monastic community on Iona.

The present Iona Community was founded in 1938 by the Rev. George MacLeod. It is a Christian Community of men and women from different walks of life and from different traditions in the Christian Church. On a recent visit to Scotland Mike and I had the opportunity of taking the ferry to Iona.

We were staying in Oban so firstly we had to take an hour long boat trip to the Isle of Mull, the scenery was breathtaking. Then an hour in the coach across the island to catch the ferry to Iona.

When we landed I took a deep breath and said 'wow'!

I was disappointed that we only had two hours on the island but the coach driver had warned us that if we were not back at 2.45 then he would go without us!

Mike and I hurried up to the Abbey and then slowed our pace. The first view of the island compels one to slow down and marvel, and worship, at God's splendid creation.

Entering the Abbey our hearts were thrilled with the awe inspiring sense of God's presence. Iona is known as a 'thin place'. A place where the space between earth and heaven is 'tissue thin'. What a privilege to be there, every moment was precious.

Too soon we had to return to the ferry but as the song continues it says, "Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show; Thus I'll move and live and grow in You and You in me." May this be our prayer.

We caught the coach!

Jean Gardiner

Who am I?

Revealed - Gina Balicki

Well done to those of you who managed to work out that the chocolate-loving subject of last month's "Who am I" was Gina Balicki. Perhaps the biggest give away, at least to Gina's age, was the fact that she was not born in the old Cuckfield Hospital off Ardingly Road, which closed in 1991. Instead, Gina was born in the Princess Royal Hospital in Haywards Heath and, 22 years on, she is back there working as a Health Care Assistant in A&E.

Gina has been at the Lindfield URC for over 20 years. Starting as a toddler in the crèche, she worked her way up through the various age groups at Junior Church. However, she has gone full circle and has now returned to the younger groups, Glow Worms and Stars, helping out there and being a "star" herself. Gina's favourite book in the Bible is Esther and her favourite song is the wonderful "Blessed be your name", by Matt Redman.

Gina grew up with two sisters, Alex and Stella. Alex is now married and Gina is a proud auntie to a young nephew, Teddy. Gina used to go horse riding as a child and loved it, but had to give it up due to other commitments. The last time Gina went riding was on a horse trek in Ireland and, coincidentally, the horse's name was Guinness! However, horse riding is still close to her heart as she named it last month as her favourite sport and would like to return to it in the future.

Gina is always doing something in her free time, from catching up with friends to going on day trips to places like Highclere Castle in Hampshire, the place where Downton Abbey was filmed. She also loves going on longer holidays and, "...being a proper tourist, visiting all the sites and buying some very cheesy gifts...!". She is flying off to New York for a week in late summer with Stella which she is very excited about. Do make a point to catch up with Gina when she is back and find out more about her, how she got on in New York and what cheesy gifts she brought home!

Martin Hall



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Stepping Stones

Zoe McQuillin 01444 484364

Transport

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Lighthouse (Junior Church)

Co-ordinator

Dawn Walters 01444 441601

Flower Rota

Arranging

Distributing

July

2nd	Winifred Scopes	Sue Tester
9th	Carol Walters	Janet Sanderson
16th	Betty Billins	Meta Orchin
23rd	Fo Tingley	Lesley Sparks
30th	Heather Swann	Jo Bloxham

August

6th	Anne Parker	Iris Bingham
13th	Audrey Saunders	Heather Swann
20th	Janet Wade	Fo Tingley
27th	A Vase of Flowers	Sue Tester

September

3rd	Carol Marsh	Janet Sanderson
10th	Zoe McQuillin	Meta Orchin
17th	Mac Turner	Lesley Sparks
24th	Meta Orchin	Jo Bloxham

Around Lindfield

Saturday 8th July

2.00pm Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall
Summer Show of Flowers and Produce

Wednesday 12th July

12.00 noon Tiger Arts - Lunch in The Tiger

1.00pm Concert in All Saints Church :
Jane Haughton and The Singing Allsorts

Wednesday 9th August

12.00 noon Tiger Arts - Lunch in The Tiger

1.00pm Concert in All Saints Church :
Amanda Buckland (Soprano) & Brian Stanborough (Piano)



www.lindfieldurc.org.uk