


# *Good***NEWS** **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

June 2019



**The Lord is  
my Shepherd,  
I shall not want.**

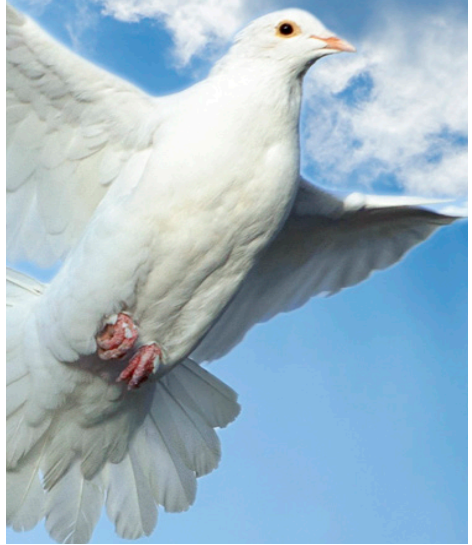
Psalm 23 NIV

# *Bible* *verse* of the month

“The Lord is my  
Shepherd, I shall  
not want,”

Psalm 23 NIV

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Our verse this month is from  
Norna Derham.

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

[goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk](mailto:goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk)

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# Editorial

This month we can share in the travels of one of our Church members when she visited New Zealand. We have part one in this edition, but we can look forward to part two in our summer edition, which will be for July and August.

Our text of the month is written and shared with us, by Norna one of our Church members. Norna is a lady who always finds the right words of encouragement to help us all and is so enthusiastic about life. What a wonderful example she is to us all. Do read the message she shares with us.

There is an account of one of our members who has been associated with our Church for such a long time. Betty has had such a privilege to have so many friends able to share her life's journey.

Our Church has just had a special award! Danny has good news, which is the result of his great leadership and care of the children at our church. See his Youth pages to see what has been awarded to our Church.

I hope you enjoy reading everything in this month's Good News,

May God Bless everyone,

*Anne*

Summer Edition (July/August) Copy Date :  
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# Dear friends

Here we are in June, the start of summer, and perhaps some bright long sunny days, just right for heading outside. In the middle of the month it will be Father's Day when, of course, we will see the many Lycra clad cyclists, and also quite a few in more conventional clothing, fly past the door of the church on the annual London to Brighton bike ride. However, I wonder if you can imagine a heavy old bicycle, the tyres are flat and the chain needs fresh oil. It lies against the wall of a garage with a fine layer of dust on the saddle and some hay stuck among the spokes. I don't need too much imagination, any time I pop some recycling in the manse's blue topped wheelie bin, or get out the roof box to carry kit for a camping holiday, I see such a bike.

I however am not thinking of my real bicycle but am using it metaphorically to represent how a Church is without the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is represented in the Bible at different times by oil and by air; indeed the Greek for Spirit is *pneuma*, from which we get the word *pneumatic* meaning filled with air. A bike with a rusty chain and dusty frame still looks like a bike, but one which does not serve the purpose for which it was bought many years ago. If it is not seized up completely, and functions at all, it will take considerable effort to get the wheels to turn. Without air in the tyres it will be a bumpy boneshaker of a ride, assuming that is the brake blocks are not now rubbing on the tyre wall instead of facing

the wheel rim. Without the Spirit a church does not function as it should. There will be disagreement among members, it will fail to engage in mission, and simply not move forward.

At Pentecost, which we will celebrate on the 9th of June, Jesus sent God's Holy Spirit to empower and equip the disciples, enabling them to be his presence, the body of Christ in the world. We often think of this event in terms of the spiritual gifts received, such as speaking in tongues, but it is better understood as Christ marking the believers as his, and they taking on something of his nature, which is super-natural. Are we, I wonder, Spirit filled? If so then we will know, and others will see, the character of Christ growing in our life. Paul records this as the fruit of the spirit in Galatians 5, "love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." Are these characteristics not just present but growing in you? Like an athlete who strengthens muscles through exercise so that they have endurance, we must work on becoming more Christ like.

In the sunshine of summer you might be a bit rusty, and not feel up for a 54 mile cycle but, however physically fit you are, become more spiritually fit with the fruit of the spirit growing and maturing in your life.

Your minister

*Keith*



# Family News

## *The Fellowship*

Our last meeting in April was our "Charity Tea" when we were told about the work of 'St Peter and St James Hospice, a truly amazing place. Thanks to the generosity of members of The Fellowship we were able to send a donation of £100.00 to the hospice.

Have you heard of the local charity 'Comber's Trust? The concept of which started in 1602 to alleviate poverty and deprivation in Lindfield. Our speaker will tell us the interesting history of this charity, which is still "alive and well" today. This meeting will be on Wednesday 26th June at the usual time of 2.30pm.

There will be the usual Bring and Buy stall and a cup of tea and time for a chat at the end of the meeting. All who come will be made very welcome.

**Pat Phillips**

## *Thank you*

I would like to thank everyone who came to my 60th Birthday Party back in March, and for the lovely presents that you gave me. It was a wonderful evening celebrating with family and friends, that I will look back on and treasure.

**Jane Harfield**

## *Thank You*

Dear Friends at Lindfield United Reformed Church, thank you all for helping to make my 80th Birthday such a special celebration! What memories I shall have!

Now thank you too for the beautiful (unscented) flowering plant you have given me via Carol and Stuart for lasting memories. God Bless you ALL.

With love and prayers and thanks for Christian fellowship and encouragement.

**Pauline Scales**

## *Congratulations*

Our warm congratulations to Peggy Bennett, who celebrated her 90th Birthday in May. (Some of you will remember Peggy who was part of our Church Family for a good many years, and a much valued member of the Sunday Morning Singers.)

80 seems to be a very popular birthday! Over the past few weeks no less than four of our folk have celebrated this landmark birthday, so congratulations to them all.

# Family News

## *Happy 85th Birthday to Audrey*



Out of sight but definitely not out of mind! Audrey Saunders celebrating her 85th Birthday in Ashton House Nursing Home, surrounded by three of her friends from LURC.

**Fo Tingley**

## *Wednesday Worship*

You are warmly invited to attend the Wednesday Worship service on the 5th June at 11.30am led by our Minister Keith Morrison. This is a short informal service with a short sermon, hymns and prayers. All are welcome to join us.

## *Lunch Fellowship*

We meet for the Fellowship Lunch at 12.30pm. All are very welcome to attend but if you have not signed up already please phone Sue Gooch on 01444 455047 to book your place.

Look forward to seeing you.

**Sue Gooch**

## *Church Readers*

A big thank you to all those of you who put their name down to read the lesson in Church Sunday by Sunday. It is encouraging to see the list fill up only a week or so after I have put it up. It is much appreciated and saves me a lot of time. If there are any budding readers out there that would like to be put on the list please come and see me.

With love  
**Terry Ward**

## ***In Touch***

Our meeting in April was led by our minister Keith who gave us an insight into some events from his life as depicted by badges sewn onto his camping blanket. This proved to be a very interesting evening and we are grateful to Keith for giving up his time to come and talk to us.

Our next meeting will be on the 25th June when we will be visiting Ham Garden. Please look out for notices giving further details about this visit nearer the time.

As usual everyone is welcome to join us.

**Janet Wade**

## ***Lindfield Open Gardens Sunday 23 June***

Fifteen gardens in Lindfield are opening to raise funds for St Peter and St James' Hospice. From the tropical delights of 'Lindfield Jungle', prize winner of National Gardeners World 'Garden of the Year' 2018, to a formal one-acre garden featured in Sussex Life magazine last August.

These special spaces in the heart of beautiful Lindfield are not to be missed. You'll be able to buy plants, tea & cake as well as getting inspiration for your own garden. Admission £5. Start at 47 Denmans Lane or other participating gardens. For map and full list of gardens see website [www.lindfield-gardens.co.uk](http://www.lindfield-gardens.co.uk)

## ***Tunes and Tea 27th April***

It was a joy to see so many people at the event. They were very receptive and also generous.

The donations amounted to £326. £100 was passed to the church for the use of the premises and facilities and the balance handed to St Peter and St James Hospice. A spin off to the event was that many people took away Good News which we hope they read and enjoyed. The magazine was an opportunity to promote the Perdido's Centenary Peace Dance on Saturday 20th July.

Talking of which, I have acquired two pictures which illustrate Lindfield in war and peace. One of which shows a group of revellers outside the church on Peace Day. The pictures will form part of our advertising.

Thank you again for your support and the opportunity to play in such a fine building.

**Peter Swann**

Perdido Players Swing Band.



# Holy Week Prayers

I would like to say a sincere thank you to our Minister, Keith, for all the work he put into preparing the prayer leaflets for each day of Holy Week. Every day had a different emphasis, and contained short Bible texts, suggestions for prayer and some challenging questions. Each day also had an appropriate visual aid on which to focus our thoughts.

On the Monday the title was “A fruitful season for God”, and followed on from the celebrations of Palm Sunday. It covered questions like ‘What are we hungry for – wealth, what we want rather than what we need, or a hunger for Christ to fill our lives?’ ‘Do we come with the right attitude to worship?’ and seriously thinking and praying for anyone we need to forgive, or from whom we feel the need to receive forgiveness ourselves.

Tuesday’s theme was “An offering to God”. Here we sought forgiveness for times when we had let God down, to consider the right price being paid to farmers, the poor working conditions that some folk suffer, and for us the consumers, where possible, to make choices that can bring about a fairer society. We gave thanks for all that God has given us. We were challenged to prayerfully consider how we use the money we have in our purse, wallet or bank; remembering too, the need within our own Church to have the resources required (finance, skills and

Spiritual gifts) to continue the work God has for us here, that the glory may be given to Him.

Wednesday was a special blessing to me! Entitled “An Anointing”, we reflected on the events of Holy Week for Jesus Himself, and His need to rest. It was an opportunity to sit quietly in Our Lord’s presence, knowing that He holds each of us in the palm of His hands.

We were encouraged to remember God’s presence with us as we share our home and meals with family and friends, praying that He might use these opportunities to bless others. Then praying for the integrity of the Church in its teaching, caring and support for those in need; that all that we are and do will delight our Heavenly Father. On the table in the centre of the prayer circle was a dish containing fragrant oil, there for us to anoint ourselves or to ask Keith to anoint us, as an act of dedicating our lives to God’s Service. It was indeed special!

“Ready for the feast” was the heading for Maundy Thursday. Another challenge, to pray for God’s Will in our own lives, to put Him first in all that we do and say. To pray for His guidance and to listen for His response, that we may be obedient to our Lord’s call upon our lives.

# Bible verse of the month

Our need to acknowledge before Him our own weakness and failings, and to seek forgiveness for times when we have hurt or mistreated others, asking that those relationships may be strengthened and restored by the Holy Spirit. The conclusion of these four days of prayer and reflection was to give thanks for all God's blessings, including the love within our fellowship. To praise Him for Christ's blood shed on the Cross for the forgiveness of our sins. To pray that God's Kingdom may grow, and that hearts and minds would turn to Christ, within our community, this nation and throughout the world. Finally, to praise God's name and give thanks. (An aside, the Maundy Thursday Communion Service in the evening was a very blessed time, too!)

My only regret about these opportunities for thought and prayer was that very few people came to participate in them! There was no expectation for folk to pray aloud, just a special space of peace and solitude to reflect on the events of Holy Week and how they relate to our lives today. If you were unable to attend, do please pick up the leaflets (which I hope will still be available by the time you read this). They will bless you!

**Fiona Tingley**

“*The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want*”

Psalm 23

**I**n my life I have worked with sheep and become familiar with their errant ways and the care they need to thrive and be understood by a good shepherd. Sheep are a constant reminder to me that we are very blessed in having a Good Shepherd who knows us, cares for us and guides our lives.

Sitting in my room in Crossways, I look out on a small roof garden, and among other creatures is my little flock of sheep, and in that little flock is one which has a solar pack on its back which is powered in daylight and produces a range of colours, yellow, red, blue ,green etc at night when it is dark

So, whether the sun is shining, or it is pitch black at night, I am reminded my Shepherd, and yours, is beside me, always in the ups and downs of life, happy times and sad times. What Blessing.

**Norna Derham**

# Love Lindfield

## *Community Collage*



We are inviting the local community to be part of the 'Love Lindfield Community Collage' project for this year's Lindfield Arts Festival. The collage is being facilitated by Lindfield United Reformed Church with individuals of any age, groups and local business invited to contribute to this community collage celebrating everything positive about Lindfield, past and present.

The collage will be made up of the letters spelling LOVE LINDFIELD. The contributions will be set in the letters and can be a photograph, a poem, a piece of artwork, a newspaper clipping, written words, a cartoon strip, a menu from a favourite eating place, a badge etc. that depicts a person, group, team or club linked to Lindfield who have brought you great joy. It may represent a place, shop, business or cafe in Lindfield where you've experienced happiness. It could be a memory of an event or celebration that has taken place in Lindfield over the years that has provoked a positive memory.

There are a few criteria to meet. Only one contribution per person or group please, no bigger than 10cm wide and 15cm high. This will become part of the display and can't be returned later. Anything you wish to be seen, your name for example, ensure it is on the front as the reverse will be hidden.

Contributions can be delivered by hand into Lindfield United Reformed Church on Monday or Friday afternoons between 2pm and 3pm or on Tuesday or Sunday mornings. Alternatively they can be placed in the church letter box or sent by post to Lindfield United Reformed Church High Street Lindfield RH16 2HL for the attention of Jacquie Odell.

The final date for submissions is Sunday 11th August to allow time for the display to be completed and available for viewing in the church lounge on Saturday 21st September during LAF2019.

For this to be a success, by which we mean bringing the community closer, we need to build the collage and develop a better understanding with the wider community so Love Lindfield goes beyond a community collage.

You can be a part of this over the coming months so please talk with Jacquie Odell or Henderson McEwan from the Outreach group so we can all contribute to make a lasting impression with this project for the 2019 Lindfield Arts Festival.



# Pentecost



I wonder what has so far been the happiest day of your life? Maybe it was passing exams, or a driving test. It could be on getting the job of your dreams, or promotion at work. For many people it is the day they got married, or when their first child was born, but I wonder if there was something even greater in your life – like hearing the Good News of Jesus the Christ for the first time, and knowing you must give your life to Him. The account of Pentecost that we have in Acts 2 tells us of people, from many different backgrounds, and speakers of all sorts of different languages hearing the gospel proclaimed in such an exciting and powerful way that 3000 committed their lives to the Lord that day.

Pentecost marks the transition from a group of followers of Jesus, to the people of God becoming the Church, which is the body of Christ in the world today. We see in the Gospels that the Lord had already trained, trusted and equipped the disciples to journey in faith to villages, gathering the lost sheep of Israel. During the time of his earthly ministry Jesus had sent out the twelve, and later the seventy two.

After Jesus' resurrection John tells us that Christ had breathed the Holy Spirit upon the disciples, yet we also know that at the time of His ascension He told them to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit to come. It is with disciples gathered in prayer on the 50th day after Passover, which is the festival of weeks, which is known as Shavuot. This is a time that Jewish people remember God in His provision of the wheat harvest, and His gift of the Law to Moses on Sinai, it is therefore a great celebration of God's relationship with humanity – love and authority.

God's Spirit moved on the waters at Creation, and blessed individuals at various times in the scriptures to do a particular work, however the events at Pentecost starts something different. The Spirit is now marking each and every believer as belonging to Jesus, and is equipping them for action. The Spirit shows us how to live, and gives us the ability to live incredible lives, which serve God and glorify His precious name.

This Pentecost may we gather and celebrate God's goodness, and delight that He does not leave us alone to serve Him, but has given us His very presence in our heart so that we can do immeasurably more than we could trusting only in our human ability.

**Keith Morrison**

# A trip to New Zealand



Hobbiton, NZ Image courtesy of Brian Dearth

**M**y daughter, son-in-law and I flew out of Heathrow Airport on the morning of 4 April. It was the beginning of an amazing trip to New Zealand. We wanted to visit my granddaughter, Abi who has been living in Auckland since January 2018 and we also wished to see as much of the country as we could in just two weeks. My daughter is a teacher and could only be away for the period of the Easter school holiday.

My son-in-law had put together a busy and exciting itinerary, starting in Auckland where Abi and her boyfriend Jack were at the airport to meet us at 6.30am. We picked up a rental car which was to carry us on a journey of 4,500 kms and then went to the hotel where we were to stay for one night.

After a cup of coffee we walked down to Auckland marina where we had lunch watching the boats coming and going. I forgot to say that it was raining when we arrived in Auckland but in the afternoon the sun came out and everything looked so much better.

On Sunday morning we said goodbye to Abi and Jack and set off for Hobbiton. For those of you who are not fans of Lord of the Rings Hobbiton is the film set that was created for the film and also for the film The Hobbit. It is a fascinating place and we were taken round in a group of 20 with a most informative guide from Norway!! After that we travelled on to Rotourua where we spent two nights in an Air B&B.

My daughter and son-in-law's friends Simon and Ann arrived after breakfast. They go to the same church and have been friends for years. Amazingly enough they were taking a month's holiday in New Zealand to meet up with friends they had made years ago when working on the Mercy Ships. These friends had returned to live in New Zealand after their time with Mercy Ships. The five of us set off for Te Puia. We saw the Pohutu geyser, the bubbling mud pools, a Maori village and Maori craftsmen at work. In the afternoon we went to the mud baths at Hell's Gate. A very unusual experience!!

The next day we travelled to Lake Taupo and the Tongariro National Park. There were some lovely walks and we decided to take the Waitonga Falls walk. The weather was just perfect. Back in the car and on our way we passed Mount Ngauruhoe and then drove on to Wellington where we stayed one night.

Wednesday morning we took the car ferry over to the South Island. The trip took about three and half hours and the scenery was magnificent because we came through the Queen Charlotte Sound where there are many small islands. We were very blessed because again the sun was shining and the sky was blue.

Once on the South Island we drove down the coast road to Christchurch. We saw seals in the sea and sunning themselves on the rocks. At Christchurch we stayed in an old Victorian house for B&B. Many New Zealanders seem to like to collect things and this house was full of ornaments and pictures.

Thursday we picked Abi up from Christchurch airport early and then set off for Queenstown a seven hour journey. We passed lakes Taupo and Pukaki. The scenery was amazing so many mountains. Miles and miles of open roads and many grazing sheep and cattle. When we arrived just outside Queenstown we found the house we were to stay in for four nights had the most terrific views of the lake and mountains. The whole of one wall was floor to ceiling windows and you could have sat there for hours just soaking up the view.

The next day we took a boat trip on Lake Wakotipu in the morning and then in the evening we picked Jack up from Queenstown airport. He and Abi had not had the chance to visit the South Island so they joined us there for a few days. From the windows in the house we could see the planes flying in and out of the airport between the mountains!!

To be continued  
**Anne Parker**



# 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.

Coffee is served after the morning service.

Holy Communion (4th Sunday)

At **6:30pm** Something Different. 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. <small>Venue rotates between the three churches</small>

## 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)
	7:30pm	In Touch (4th Tues) for women of all ages
Wed	11:30am	Wednesday Worship (1st Wed) a midweek service
	2:30pm	The Fellowship (4th Wed) for men and women of all ages
Thur	8:00pm	Church Meeting (2nd Thursday, Alternate Months)
Fri	5:00pm	Rooted (Years 2-5)
	7:00pm	Pulse (Years 6-9) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)

The church regularly opens midweek on  
 Monday Afternoon 2:00-3:00pm  
 Tuesday 10:00am - Noon  
 Friday Afternoon 2:00-3:00pm

# June Church diary

May 27th Monday		Bank Holiday	<b>16th</b> Sunday	10:00am 6:30pm	Family Worship Something Different Rev Keith Morrison
May 28th Tuesday	1:30pm -4:30pm 7:30pm	Holiday Club (to May 31st) In Touch	20th Thursday		House Groups
1st Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints <b>VillageDay</b>	21st Friday	4:00pm	Messy Church
<b>2nd</b> Sunday	10:00am 6:30pm	Family Worship Rev Keith Morrison Something Different Peter McIntosh	22th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints
5th Wednesday	11:30am 12:30pm	Wednesday Worship Lunch Fellowship	<b>23rd</b> Sunday	10:00am 6:30pm	Communion Something Different Rev Keith Morrison
6th Thursday		House Groups	25th Tuesday	6:00pm	Ladies In Touch Group visit to Town Place Garderns
8th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints	26th Wednesday	2:30pm 7:30pm	The Fellowship Elders' Meeting
<b>9th</b> Sunday	10:00am 6:30pm 7:00pm	Family Worship No Evening Service Pentecost Service Kings Church Burgess Hill	27th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting
15th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints	29th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, All Saints
			<b>30th</b> Sunday	10:00am 6:30pm	Morning Worship Tim Griffiths United Service at URC

# YOUTH



*Hello!*

**L**indfield United Reformed Church have recently received the Child Friendly Church Award! But what does that mean?

The United Reformed Church has a child friendly church award that it gives to churches when they meet a set of criteria. This is to show and recognise that the church works hard to consider all aspects of its life and work in relation to children and young people.

A Child Friendly Church award means that a local congregation:

- *Has a comprehensive and shared vision for Children's and Youth Work*
- *Provides good opportunities for the voices of children and young people to be heard*
- *Takes seriously and responds to feedback from children and young people*
- *Provides opportunities for children and young people to be involved in planning, organising and delivering child friendly church services*
- *Makes suitable provision for under 5's in church*
- *Provides groups and organisations to help nurture children and young people*
- *Takes Safeguarding, Health & Safety and First Aid seriously*





Over the past year, Tom Hackett, our Children and Youth Development Officer, has been visiting our church to discuss the work we currently do for young people. Tom has visited our Sunday morning services as well as a couple of the groups that run during the week. Tom has been in discussion with those involved in children and youth work at the church and has produced a report on the work that we do.

Lindfield United Reformed Church officially received the Child Friendly Church Award at Synod Together in March, but Tom visited our Church on May 12th to present it to our congregation.

However, the work does not stop now that we have received the award! In agreement with Tom, we now have 7 goals to reach within the next 1-5 years.

These are to increase how well we work with children and young people, and to make what we do more efficient. If you would like to know more about the goals, feel free to talk to me.

The Child Friendly Church Award is given to the whole church, so I would like to thank you all for the work you do in making our church a friendly and safe place for all ages.

*Danny*

**PAGES**

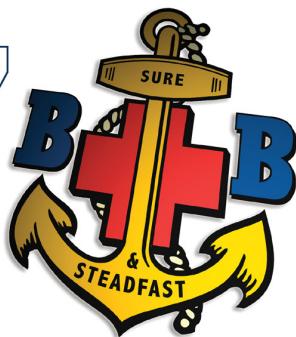
# Boys' Brigade

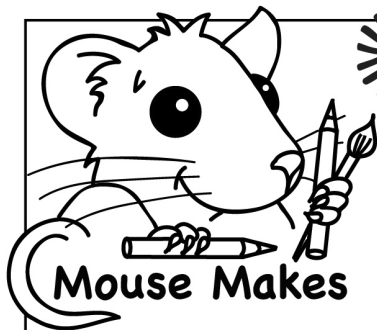
Most of you will probably know that the weekly church flowers are prepared by different people each week. At the beginning of May each year the flowers are done by the Boys Brigade so I thought I would let you know why the BB does the arrangement at this time of the year. The arrangement is done in memory of a young man who was a member of our company for a good number of years. He left the company when he was 18 and joined the armed forces. After his training he was posted to Germany to be with his unit. When he was just 19 years old he sadly lost his life in a freak accident while serving with his unit. This year marked the 40th anniversary of his death in 1979.

His name is Alan Leeney and those of us that knew him will have many fond memories of him and his service to the Boys Brigade. He was a good leader and a great encourager to those younger boys in the company, including his brother. (his sister served in the Girls Brigade). On Saturday 4th May Alan's mother Pauline came to the church with greenery from her garden to accompany the flowers as she has done for the last 40 years. We do continue to pray for Pauline and her family especially at the beginning of May each year.

**Terry Ward**

THE BOYS'   
 BRIGADE   
 >the adventure begins here





"May the *grace* of  
the Lord **JESUS CHRIST**  
and the *love* of **GOD**  
and the fellowship of the  
**HOLY SPIRIT** be with you."



2 Corinthians 13:13

A Trinity window  
for you to colour



The Bible teaches us that God is three persons in one:  
**GOD = FATHER and SON and HOLY SPIRIT**



# Eighty years and counting

*Betty Billins*

My reflections on being part of Lindfield United Reformed Church (previously the Congregational Church) for 80 years. I was dedicated here on the 18th June, 1939 by the Rev. Nicholson.



N.S.S.U. London

Copyright

## Cradle Roll Certificate

*Elizabeth Ann. Billins*

born \_\_\_\_\_ has been enrolled

at *Lindfield Congregational Church* Sunday School

Date *June 18<sup>th</sup> 39* Signature *Dorothy Nicholson*

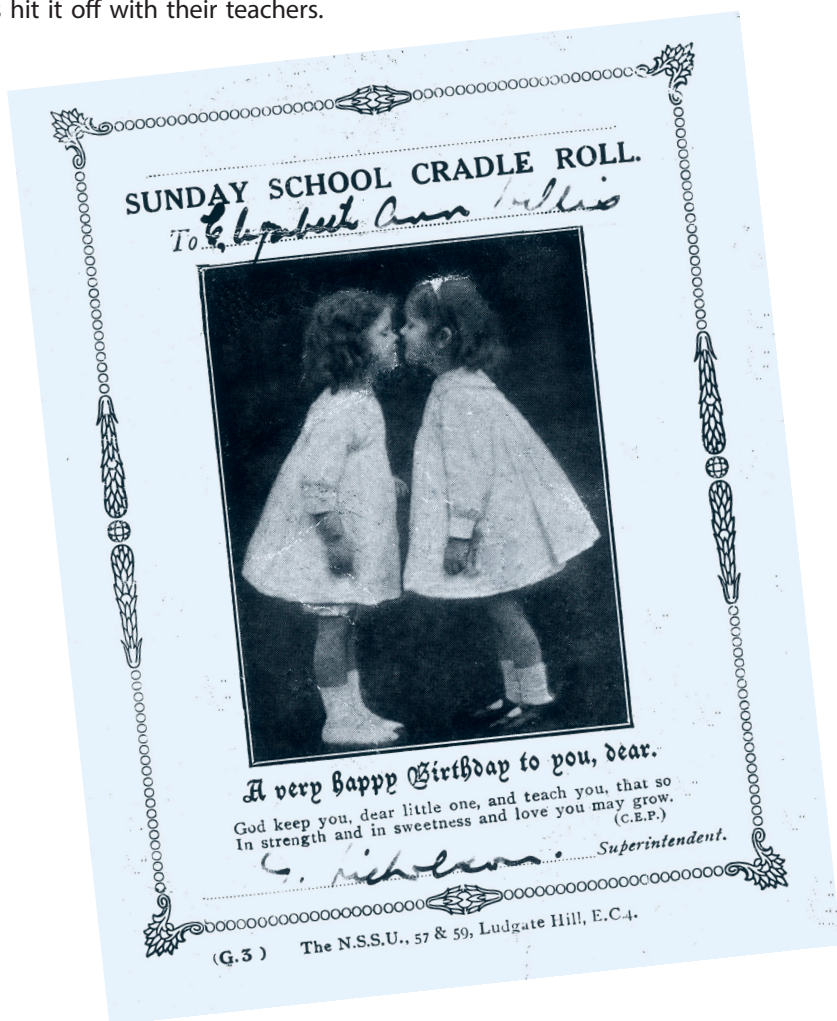
"For of Such is the Kingdom  
of Heaven"

I feel I must mention a few names that have really influenced me on my Christian journey – Rev. Albert Trinder, my Uncle Rob, Miss Wakeham and Rev. Richard Tucker.

I started Sunday School here and attended for a few years, but, like most children they don't always hit it off with their teachers.

So I went to the Sewell Mission (now the Evangelical Church) with my friend. There a Miss Wakeham saw me through those important childhood years.

Mr. Trinder came to Lindfield and started a Youth Group. This appealed to me so I went along.





That's where my life really changed! What an encourager he was; he had the gift of getting alongside us with his gentle teaching, and he involved us in Church life – even decorating the old Church hall.

In the late 1950s and 1960s the Church was really growing. Our Young People's Fellowship (as we were called) got so big we decided to divide into age groups. The older ones, who didn't leave home, formed our own committee to plan our evenings, which gave us responsibility. This was done alongside Mr Trinder and a Mr Stenning who had joined us. Some of us used to help with the younger group. We mostly came to Sunday evening services, and sometimes took an evening service. Afterwards we met at people's homes. Mr Trinder held Membership classes, and in March 1956 I committed my life to Jesus, along with a group of young people. I remember the hymn we sang, "Take my life and let it be consecrated all to Thee".

These words have stayed with me during my ups and downs of life.

I enjoyed singing in our Church choir. Mr Wood (Graham Wood's Father) was the organist. I must say, even then there were certain hymns that I couldn't get on with. Perhaps God was testing me!

When I married and moved to Wales I struggled, but God was always there. I attended a Presbyterian Church with just a handful of members. But I knew during each year that I would be back for 16 weeks. I had my beloved Church to come back to, plus friends.

Dear Mr Trinder was always there to welcome us. I can't help mentioning a special time – it will stay in my memory always! After a long journey home from Wales by train with our tiny baby Keith David, there was a knock at the door and Mr Trinder's beaming face appeared. He took our son and held him in his arms. (David was Mr Trinder's second name.) That's what a God given servant of God did for me!

On my return to Lindfield, with my husband in Singapore, life wasn't easy with two small children, but it does help if you have faith and trust in the Lord. I was able to help once again with youth work – I wanted to put back in what I had got out. After my younger son was born, the break up of my marriage and the loss of my Father, I couldn't continue this work. By this time Rev. Richard Tucker was here. He became my rock, along with some real Christian friends, and the weekly meetings of the Wives Fellowship helped me through those very dark days, and God never failed me. We did two Christian musicals in the late 1970s.



Greetings

To wish you  
A Merry Christmas.

From  
G. M. How

Why am I mentioning them? Because they strengthened me when I could have slipped away! With all that I had gone through during recent years, God kept me on solid ground. Even then there were times when I couldn't pray, but I knew, through sharing it with my Church Family, God said 'Don't worry!'

During the 1980s new variations of worship with modern hymns and choruses were introduced. To start with I found this difficult, but glad I persevered with it, as the changes gave me inspiration and enjoyment. What wonderful words there are in our hymns and choruses today! They just lift me up!

I had lived with my three children as a single parent for 16 years. Then dear Roy came into my life in 1990. It was a big step to take for us both; he was older than me and for him to leave his beloved Wales of 40 years. We certainly needed prayers of encouragement to go forward. God did have His plan and we were married in 1991 by Rev. Richard Tucker. When we visited Wales for our holidays, we both liked to find isolation. Was it time to find peace with God? I believe it was. Many a time it brought me to tears, but also a time for reflection. At Church we both shared a love for the modern style of worship, so there was no problem when we had two morning services.

Between 1994 and 2014 Pilgrimage walks were arranged for folk from Methodist and URC Churches in this area. As Roy and I enjoyed walking we went along. These walks became very meaningful to me, and really strengthened my prayer life as we wandered through the Sussex countryside, and had short services in many Churches. I still find it easier to pray outside, enjoying God's creation.

Our moving to '72' – I had been wanting to move from Luxford Road for years, but again God had a plan. No. 72 belonged to Richard and Lyn Tucker, and we'd spent many happy hours with them here. Sadly, Richard died suddenly and the house was put up for sale. Say no more! It has a very special feeling within it, perhaps because it has always been owned by a Christian family. It's shared by many, particularly our House Group. We feel the freedom to share joys and sadness, and learning more of God's Word.

I love helping with Messy Church and Stepping Stones. It's good to get alongside children and their families. After all, my journey as a child started here in this place.

This is just an insight of 80 years in 'my' Church. We all have our ups and downs in life, but God is in the midst of us. However old we are God still has plans for us. The Holy Spirit tests us and moves us in many different ways, (but that's another story!) Let's continue to encourage one another to work as one body in Christ, and see our Church grow once again.

# Around the World

The UK now has more churches than pubs, according to new data published by the National Churches Trust. There are around 39,000 pubs in the UK, according to the latest figures from the Office of National Statistics, with more than 11,000 pubs having closed in the UK in the last decade – a fall of almost a quarter (23%). However, there are around 40,300 church buildings in the UK open to the public and being used for worship, according to research carried out for the National Churches Trust. The number of church buildings is also substantially higher than other key public buildings in the UK.

There are currently around 14,300 supermarkets operated by grocery retailers, 11,500 post office branches, 7,500 bank branches and 3,600 public libraries.

An increasing number of churches in the UK are also becoming local 'community hubs', hosting children's nurseries, senior citizen lunch clubs, concerts and exhibition venues. Some even house post-offices, GP surgeries and farmer's markets. Around 6,000 of the UK's approximately 32,000 polling places are located in church buildings.

## Parish Pump

## Prison FELLOWSHIP

- I was in prison and you came to visit me

• Matthew 25:35



## This Month's Mission: Crawley Prison Fellowship

Volunteers from Churches across Central Sussex, show Christ's love to prisoners at HMP Lewes, by **praying** for, and with, them and their families, supporting **Chaplains**, and providing fellowship, at **Chapel** services. Christmas presents are provided for prisoners' children (**Angel Tree**) and **Sycamore Tree** Victim Awareness courses run.

For those who wish to **pray** there is a monthly prayer meeting and weekly prayer requests from prisoners. Volunteers can **engage** with the work of the group, in prison and through writing letters to prisoners. **Mission giving** goes towards Angel Tree presents and funding Sycamore Tree courses.

*(To give, use special mission-giving envelopes and place your gift in the offertory at any of the Sunday services. Complete a Gift Aid slip if appropriate. Cheques should be made payable to Lindfield URC)*

# Stranger on the shore

The other day Rosemary and I were listening to Classic FM on the radio when Acker Bilk, a well known clarinettist from the sixties came on playing 'Stranger on the shore'. At once I felt the Holy Spirit reminding me that I had always believed in God with a head knowledge right from being a youngster, but Jesus I had a job to understand. At the time He seemed like a stranger on the shore. Millions of others had found this Jesus as their personal saviour, good for them but to me he was just a stranger. There are so many people in this situation today with Jesus just being a stranger.

Through some of my sinful days it seemed I heard that wee soft voice of someone speaking into my heart, just like being in the wilderness (1 John 1.7). Often I tried to turn away and do my own thing.

The sounds of the world, attractions of pleasure seeking continued, not peace but heaviness and frustrations and sometimes guilt. With the hustle and bustle of a busy life that quiet wee small voice of the stranger on the shore kept coming back. The voice tried guiding me into the good path, calling me to go His way (John 3.3) which is a way of love and faith, giving my heart to Him to love and care for me. Jesus reminded me of Bible reading and church life, leading a worthwhile life by making that commitment to Him.

Through nearly drowning on holiday at Woolacombe, I finally realised the time had come to accept Christ. That night in St Peter and St James' Church on the seafront at Ilfracombe. I gave my life to Christ in 1973. The text under the Church clock reads, 'It is time to seek the Lord'.

Jesus stopped being that stranger on the shore and now 'I have a spiritual relationship with Him. He became my best friend as well as the mighty awesome God, the creator of the universe He is. As the time went by He brought me into Baptism by immersion and baptised me with His Holy Spirit. Jesus has so many spiritual gifts to give us.

So many things I could not understand that were foreign to me, I can now understand better, because, Jesus has given me a new life and a good Christian wife as well as a lovely Cocker Spaniel dog called 'Lucy'! Recently we moved home to a bungalow in Lindfield just ten minutes from our Church, which is a miracle indeed, as bungalows in Lindfield do not often come on the market. It is no secret what God can do, what he has done for others He will do for you. Commit your life to Him while there is still time. Jesus loves you this I know and has a plan for your life. Jesus will no longer be a stranger but a friend to you.

**Ray Tijou**



# Phonebook

## Keith Morrison (Minister)

Telephone 01444 484791  
Email kmorrison@lindfielddurc.org.uk  
Normal day off Friday

## Danny Goodall (Youth Pastor)

Youth Office 01444 487607  
Mobile 07443 438970  
Email dgoodall@lindfielddurc.org.uk  
Normal day off Saturday

## Church Secretary

Sue Gooch 01444 455047  
Email spgooch48@gmail.com

## Treasurer

Paul Bloxham 01444 483672

## Boys' Brigade:

Keith Morrison (Chaplain) 01444 484791

## Flowers

Betty Billins 01444 484494

## Hall Booking Secretary

Shirley Anton 01444 482819

## In Touch

Sue Gooch 01444 455047

## Lunch Fellowship

Sue Gooch 01444 455047

## Pastoral Group

Fiona Tingley 01444 483419

## The Fellowship

Pat Phillips 01444 484507

## Stepping Stones

Zoe McQuillin 01444 484364

## Lighthouse (Junior Church)

### Co-ordinator

Dawn Walters 01444 441601

# Flower Rota

## Arranging

## Distributing

### June

2nd	Jenny Machel	Fo Tingley
9th	Brian Tuppen	Carol Marsh
16th	Zoe McQuillin	Jo Bloxham
23rd	Zoe McQuillin	Meta Orchin
30th	Lunch Fellowship	Iris Bingham

### July

7th	Winifred Scopes	Anne Elvin
14th	Betty Billins	Heather Swann
21st	Heather Swann	Fiona Tingley
28th	Fiona Tingley	Carol Marsh

If anyone would like to be involved with distributing the church flowers on Monday morning at 10.30am please contact Heather Swann 01444 450335

# Around Lindfield

## Saturday 1st June

Lindfield Village Day - Lindfield Common

## Thursday 6th June - Saturday 8th June

South of England Show - Ardingly Showground

## Wednesday 12th June

12:15pm Tiger Arts – Lunch in the Tiger  
1:00pm Concert in All Saints  
Sussex Harmonisers – Male Voice Choir

## Sunday 23rd June

1:00pm Lindfield Open Gardens  
-5:00pm Start at 47 Denmans Lane or other participating gardens.  
For map and full list of gardens see website  
[www.lindfield-gardens.co.uk](http://www.lindfield-gardens.co.uk)



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*United Reformed Church*

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