


GoodNEWS **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

November 2019



**They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them.**

Robert Laurence Binyon : For the Fallen

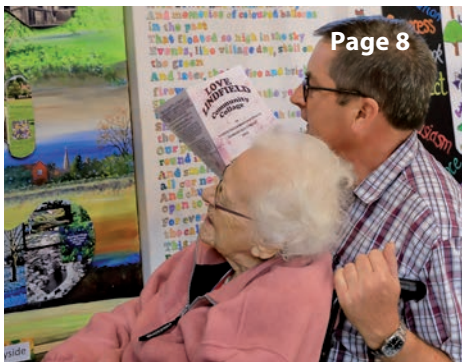
Bible verse of the month

“I pray that
Christ will make
his home in your
hearts through
faith”,

Ephesians 3:17 GNB



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**This months Bible verse
is from Lesley Sparks, see
page 11 for more details.**

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

goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk



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Editorial

What a very full and interesting month October was. This month you can read of how all the events were so well supported and many people enjoying The Arts Festival. November is proving to be a busy month which you can follow by reading all the interesting events that will be taking place in our Church.

See how 'Love Lindfield' is featured in this Good News, which shows the day when our Church was delighted to receive sixteen residents from Compton House. See the Art Group that showed their expertise in completing their special decorative board. Help celebrate Remembrance Day as Chris Comber has written about the sacrifice of men in the two world wars, 'Lest we forget'.

We have details of the next two 'Messy Church' days, young people see Danny's page for information so you do not miss them. Would you like to join our Art Group? They held their 'Coffee Morning', see what they have been doing this last year.

Village Night is coming very soon, read what arrangements have to be made, see if you can help!

As a Church, Turning Tides is our focus for the Mission in November and December. A wonderful way to help folk in need. See the Family News, Congratulations to our Peter McCleery for winning the Young Achievers Award from Mid Sussex. Please enjoy our Good News which is again really good news!

God Bless you all,

Anne

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Dear friends

I have been pondering lately how different Christians can sometimes have opposing views on the most important issues of the day. Sometimes we consider this is down to where on the huge theological spectrum we might sit, but it may be the reality that it is more likely to be down to our own vested interests and the world views which have formed through our personal life experiences.

One such example of the conundrum is the topic of climate change. This is one that has been hard to escape over the last few weeks with the young Scandinavian Greta Thunberg sailing the Atlantic to the United Nations, and Extinction Rebellion protesters causing disruption in cities such as London. To some these people are like prophets speaking to the kings of the Old Testament, to others these are misguided trouble makers, the prophets of Baal whose words are empty because they are founded on a falsehood.

Science is used to argue the case on both sides, with some rightly claiming that there have always been fluctuations in overall temperature, yet the body of evidence shows that since the industrial revolution there has been a dramatic rise in the temperature of the planet, which “almost certainly” is caused by human behaviour (scientists sometimes struggle to say something is 100% - the Met Office app on my phone tells me that there is, at the time of writing, a greater than 95%

chance of rain, and it is chucking it down, but the app never says 100%).

One theological response to this rise in temperature is to proclaim that we are blessed by the resources God has given us, He is in charge, and the world will persist until the time of Christ’s return. This view might be underlined by the Lord’s response to Noah’s worship in Genesis 8, “As long as the earth endures, seed-time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.” But isn’t this a rather simple response to what we see happening? Just because the earth will remain does that mean we shouldn’t do anything about the current episode of climate change? If we look a few chapters earlier we see, in Eden, an account of the first sin. Adam and Eve tasked with stewardship choose to plunder a resource that they knew they shouldn’t. The very first sin of our bible is in some way ecological; humanity’s gain of knowledge is at the cost of God’s Garden. Among the things we learn from Genesis 3 is that greed damages Creation, and it is not really in our best interest, even if we try to convince ourselves it is at the time.

The danger with any topic is we choose isolated texts which seem to defend our argument, but really we need to take a broader look at what God teaches us throughout the bible. What is the overarching view of scripture?

For me the answer on this topic (and others) is that humanity is sinful in nature, that we abuse creation, we must repent of our greed, and seek the coming of the kingdom of righteousness, joy, love and peace; that is the kingdom of God. Let us each consider what we can best do to show Love towards God's Earth, and then act accordingly.

Your minister

Keith

Family News

The Fellowship

The Fellowship will be meeting on Wednesday 27th November at 2.30pm.

As we do not meet in December this will be our Christmas Miscellany Meeting, Christmas starts Here!

There will be the usual Bring and Buy stall and at the end of the meeting, a cup of tea, mince pies and time for a chat!

All those who come will be made very welcome.

Pat Phillips

Thank You

Norna Derham would like to thank everyone involved with the provision of flowers in church each week and a special 'thank you' to all who give their time on Mondays to deliver these flowers to those unable to attend church.

Norna comments that these flowers are often admired by staff, residents and visitors which gives her the chance to proudly say they are from her church.

Congratulations

We offer our congratulations to the Rev. Michael Davies who received a certificate at a recent meeting of the Southern Synod of the URC, marking 60 years in the Ministry. Well done, Michael, and 'Thank you'!

Another happy event to mention is the birth of a Son, Joel Andrew, to Josh & Hannah, and a Sister for Isla. (Josh was our previous Youth Pastor, now Himself in Ministry.) We rejoice with them all.

Sympathy

We are very sad to hear of the death of Will Balicki after a short illness. Our prayers and deepest sympathy are with Barbara, Gina, Alex and Stella at this time of shock and sadness. Please uphold the whole family in your prayers.

Fiona Tingley

Family News *Contd.*

Wednesday Worship

Wednesday November 6th
Morning Service at 11.30am

A short service of prayer, hymns and reflection, led by our Minister Keith Morrison.

This service is open to everyone please do join us.

Lunch Fellowship

The first Wednesday of the month, 6th November is our Lunch Fellowship, all are welcome to join us if over the age of 55 years young.

If you are a newcomer please contact Sue Gooch on 455047 to book your place otherwise you will have signed the book if you are a regular.

A warm welcome awaits you all.

Look forward to seeing you.

Sue Gooch

Sunday Morning Singers

We are not going into hibernation just yet and, as you can see, we have a busy time in front of us.

Our agent Heather has worked hard and we have the "gigs" as listed below.

October

21st @ 2:00pm
Rookwood residential home Burgess Hill

28th @ 3:00pm
Oakwood residential home

November

22nd @ 2:30pm
Summerlands residential home

December

4th @ 1:30pm
Fellowship Christmas lunch

19th @ 7:30pm
Traditional Christmas Concert

We welcome singers who would like to sing with us at the Christmas concert. We will be singing a variety of well-known music. We would be pleased to hear from you.

Peter Swann

PS: we have a gig in January 2020

Art Group

The Art group established as part of the church some sixteen years ago continues to thrive. Open to all to start the week with friends on a Monday morning (except bank holidays) in the church hall. Paintings, sketching, drawing and a wide range of crafts are part of the agenda in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Always with time to chat and enjoy a hot drink, maybe some cake and a thought shared for the week ahead.

Then there is the annual trip to the flower festival and the Art Groups annual exhibition.

The photograph taken at this year's exhibition shows some of the artists with their work. You would be very welcome to join them whatever your interest in art or craft.

The group is led by Doreen Fowler who would be delighted to welcome you and introduce you to the group next Monday.

Doreen Fowler



Love Lindfield

Compton House Residents visit the Arts Festival

During the week of this years Lindfield Arts Festival hundreds of people viewed the collage, reliving memories, telling stories and enjoying the many photographs and artwork on display. It was a particular joy to welcome many residents from Lindfield Christian Care Home (Compton House) who were able to share special memories of living in Lindfield.

Each art board in the collage carried a single letter which together spelled LOVE LINDFIELD. The Lindfield Christian Care Home Art group, led by Sue Ephraim, contributed to the collage with their artwork on the board for the letter F.

When their art board was completed we visited Compton House to meet the artists to thank them for their work, enjoy their company and of course to take a photo as a camera had travelled with us.



Lindfield Christian Care Home Art group with their Artwork



The Completed Board

The letter F was later attached to complete the board. This was covered in old and new photographs showing events, memories and experiences around the theme 'the pond', a feature of the village that all can enjoy a conversation about.

As you passed along the collage each board had a different subject matter on display, thereby giving a reason to talk freely and have a conversation about what could be seen.

The more we share personal reflections and experiences the more others know who we are and what and who we care about - even the parts of us that are not so easy to love! It is hard to start a conversation about love, but not so hard to have a conversation which starts with what both parties love about Lindfield, so establishing connections and ongoing relationships.



Some of the Compton House Residents who visited the Love Lindfield Community Collage

Each of the thirteen letters of collage provide something to talk about and discuss. However the more we share personal reflections and experiences the danger is others know who we are and what and who we care about.

Sixteen Compton House residents with their carers visited the LURC on the Friday of the Arts Festival. After a warm welcome and short explanation two groups were created to avoid a traffic jam, enabling all to enjoy the collage and all it represents as well as some tea and cake.



The Power of Prayer

**“ I pray that Christ will
make his home in your
hearts through faith ”**

Ephesians 3:17 GNB

Just recently I have had several situations involving my family and friends that were worrying, and it seemed the only way to deal with them was to pray. I remember saying “Nothing is impossible with you God”, but I certainly could not see how these problems would be solved.

I had an immediate answer to the first situation. I thought, “This could be coincidence!”

I then had immediate answer to the second, and I thought, “This surely can’t be coincidence again.”

The third was immediate!

I was reading some little Christian cards and this one jumped out at me. It was written by William Temple who was a bishop in the Church of England, born in the 19th century, and served as Bishop of Manchester, Archbishop of York and Archbishop of Canterbury. He said, ‘When I pray, coincidences begin to happen. When I stop praying, the coincidences stop happening’.

I believe this was God’s answer to my doubts.

The fourth situation has taken a little time to unfold, but that is because of the nature of the problem, but I know and can see how God has been working in it from the beginning.

I know that God doesn’t always answer prayer the way we’d like Him to, but I believe and take comfort from His promise that ‘I am with you always, even to the end of the age’ Matthew 28:20.

Wherever you are, and whatever you’re doing, let prayer be your constant communion with God.

Lesley Sparks



Wet Boots!

Boots full of water, cold clammy socks and chilly feet and toes! Mike and I on the 1st day of October were crossing the Pilgrims' Way to Holy Island on Lindisfarne in Northumberland. This crossing can be dangerous as the tides swirl in quickly but we had a good guide, Patrick, who saw us safely across the three miles of sand and mud. In the bright blue sky overhead we saw skeins of Brent geese and nearby on the mudflats were flocks of whooper swans and plenty of grey seals. It was an exhilarating walk.



On the mudflats there are two refuge boxes on stilts that are there for those who misjudge the tides. They have to wait for 6-8 hours before the tide goes out. Patrick told us of a couple spending their first Wedding Anniversary in one of these boxes! On the road causeway 11 cars this year have been almost submerged by the incoming tide!

We were following in the steps of St. Aidan and St. Cuthbert who brought Christianity into the North East of England. St. Aidan arrived from Iona to live on Holy Island in 635AD. He had been asked by King Oswald of Northumbria to bring Christianity to the North East. St. Aidan set up a monastic community. In 687 AD St. Cuthbert, a man famous for his piety and with gifts of healing, continued working throughout Northumbria. The Lindisfarne Gospels, those wonderful illuminated manuscripts were created on the island. The originals are now in the British Library. As we walked we gave thanks to God for these two dedicated men who brought the good news of Jesus to many people.

Slipping and sliding we eventually arrived on Holy Island. Oh, the bliss of drying our feet and putting on warm socks and shoes. Then we headed for a hot cup of coffee! The island is beautiful. We wished that we could have spent longer there but there was that rising tide to consider . . .

Village Night

Tuesday, December 3rd

Please place December 3rd in your diary and consider volunteering as a helper as many people are needed to help to make the village night festival a special one this year. Hundreds of people come onto the church premises, many to come and see Father Christmas. It is a happy warming event so volunteering is a joy not a chore.

We need:

- *People to help set up and put away*
- *Helpers in the kitchen as we serve refreshments*
- *Santa's elves to lead the children to Father Christmas*
- *People willing to dress up as Mary and Joseph*

- *People to talk about the community collage*
- *People to help children with crafts*
- *Greeters for the Knitivity display*

Please consider signing up on the board in the lobby, your help will be very much appreciated.

This year we would also love to have a photo booth where people visiting the festival could come and dress up in nativity clothes and have their photograph taken. We need someone, or a group of people, to volunteer to set up and run this attraction in order for it to go ahead. Please speak to Jacquie Odell if you are interested.

Jacquie Odell



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 <small>(5-7 years)</small>
	6:00pm	Boys' Brigade - Junior Section <small>(8-11 years)</small>
	7:00pm	Boys' Brigade - Company Section <small>(11+ years)</small>
Tue	10:00am	Stepping Stones <small>(Parents and toddlers - term time)</small>
	7:30pm	In Touch <small>(4th Tues) for women of all ages</small>
Wed	11:30am	Wednesday Worship <small>(1st Wed) a midweek service</small>
	2:30pm	The Fellowship <small>(4th Wed) for men and women of all ages</small>
Thur	8:00pm	Church Meeting <small>(2nd Thursday, Alternate Months)</small>
Fri	5:00pm	Rooted <small>(Years 2-5)</small>
	7:00pm	Pulse <small>(Years 6-9) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)</small>

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

November Church diary

2nd Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free Church	17th Sunday	10:00am	Family Worship Rev Keith Morrison
3rd Sunday	10:00am	Family Worship Rev Simon Franklin	21st Thursday	11:30am	Annual Meeting
	3:00pm	Compton House 27th Anniversary Service		6:30pm	Something Different Rev Keith Morrison
	6:30pm	Something Different Rev Peter McIntosh			
5th Tuesday	6:30pm	Bonfire Celebrations	22nd Friday	4:30pm	Messy Church
6th Wednesday	11:30am	Wednesday Worship Rev Keith Morrison	23rd Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free Church
	13:30am	Fellowship Lunch	24th Sunday	10:00am	Communion Rev Keith Morrison
7th Thursday		House Groups		6:30pm	Something Different Rev Keith Morrison
9th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free Church	27th Wednesday	2:30pm	The Fellowship
10th Sunday	10:00am	Morning Worship		7:30pm	Elders' Meeting
	11:00am	Act of Remembrance Rev Keith Morrison	28th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting
	6:30pm	Communion Dan McQuillin	30th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free Church
14th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Meeting	1st December Sunday	10:00am	Advent 1 Dan McQuillin
16th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free Church		6:30pm	Something Different Rev Keith Morrison

YOUTH PAGES

Hello!

A few weeks ago, we had our Harvest Weekend! The weekend began on Friday with our Harvest themed Messy Church. We had 43 young people, plus parents, come along to get messy with a wide variety of crafts!

Our Messy Church begins at 4pm with board games in our Upper Room, followed by about 45 minutes of craft time. This gives the young people time to go around the church and have a go at all the different crafts and activities on offer that month. At 5pm we all head into the main church to share what we have created and hear a bible story on our theme.

We then say grace before returning to the church hall for dinner!

The Harvest Weekend continued on Saturday evening with a Challenge and Quiz evening. The evening included 10 rounds of either quiz questions or challenge activities that teams had to complete!

One round saw people of all ages running through the church as they found out what they had to make out of Play-doh! Another round saw the teams making something 'useful' out of newspaper. These items ended up including: a tree, a handbag, a fan and a roll of toilet paper!

The weekend finished off with an All Age service on the Sunday morning and a United Service in the evening at the Evangelical Free Church.

The morning service was based on 'We are blessed, and we want to bless others!'. God gives us so much, He blesses us each day, and we can bless others around us. As it was our Harvest service, we brought food gifts that went to Crawley Homeless Charity.

I hope all those who attended any part of our Harvest Weekend enjoyed themselves!

We have Messy Church once a month, all ages welcome so do come along! The next one is on November 22nd, and then we will have a Christmas themed Messy Church on December 13th! It'll be great to see you there!



BIBLE JOURNEYS

Where did Noah's ark
come to rest after
it's journey?

Genesis 8:4

Where did God tell
Samuel to travel to to
find a new king?

1 Samuel 16:1-4

To which city did
God send Jonah?

Jonah 1:1-2

Which town did Joseph
take Mary to
before Jesus was born?

Luke 2:4

Where did Mary
and Joseph flee to to
get away from Herod?

Matthew 2:13

Where was Saul (Paul)
going to when Jesus
spoke to him?

Acts 9:1-18



"Lord,
If I go east where the
sun rises or go to live
west beyond the sea,
even there you
will take my hand
and **lead** me.
Your strong right
hand will **protect** me."
Psalm 139:9:10

GOD'S WAY

"God is our God
for ever and ever, He will
be our guide even to the end."
from Psalm 48:14

"People can plan what they
want to do, but it is the Lord
who guides their steps."
Proverbs 16:9



What kind of
transport
goes with
each bible
character?



NOAH DONKEY
BAALAM CHARIOT
MOSES SHIP
JONAH ARK
ELIJAH BIG FISH
PHILIP BASKET
PAUL WHIRLWIND

Find the travel
words in the
word search



JOURNEY

FLEE • LEAVE • TRAVEL
• GOD WITH US •
DONKEY • CAMEL
HORSE • CHARIOT
BOAT • RIDE • WALK
PATH • ROAD
• DIRECTION •
GUIDE • MAP • SIGN
VILLAGE • TOWN • CITY



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

Christmas Postbox

Where has this year gone? Yes, it's almost time to think about Christmas cards!

We are bringing out the red Christmas Post Box once again for those of you who wish to send cards to their friends at Lindfield URC. The box will be on the Concourse on Sundays 1st and 8th December until Friday 13th December for you to use. Cards may be collected on Sundays 15th and 22nd.

All you have to do is just pop your cards into the box and we will do the rest. We do ask that you give a donation to charity, which this year will be "Turning Tides" who are a very worthwhile cause. There will be a box for you to place your donations in.



The Post Box team would be very grateful if you could follow a few simple steps to make life a little easier when we are sorting the cards.

- *Please write the full name of the person you are sending to.*
- *Please add the first line of the address in case they have to be delivered by hand.*
- *Please confine addresses to the local area.*
- *Please sort your cards into alphabetical order and secure them with an elastic band.*

Thank you in advance for your co-operation, and may we be the first to wish you all a very Happy and Blessed Christmas!

The Post Box Team



Young Achiever Award

Hello All, I have some exciting news to share having recently been awarded the "Young Achiever Award 2019" at the Mid Sussex Applauds Ceremony on Sunday 13th October 2019.

I was awarded this award because of several criteria, I had managed to overcome the obstacles of finding meaningful and fulfilling work, I have also had the opportunity to deliver a beneficial contribution to the community through some implementation and close liaison with various figures in Central Government (Sir Nicholas Soames MP) and also Chichester College Group where I have been working hard to try and make a case for reopening Haywards Sixth Form College. This work not only includes the petition on Change.org, which reached nearly 3,000 signatures, but it also includes the series of documentation and further discussions about the various practicalities, concepts and designs/plans involved.

I had also had a massive milestone in my life and that was passing my Theory Test on my third attempt, through a series of perseverance and commitment, I managed to achieve my ambitious goal of being able to drive and now that I am one step closer to driving, I have moved on to driving lessons as we speak.

The award was presented by Chairman of Mid Sussex District Council, Colin Turnbull and the High Sheriff who institutes law and order across the whole County and is specifically selected by the Queen to give service to their county.

I was nominated for this Award by Anne Elvin who wrote a brief description on the reasons behind the nomination of the award and it specifically explained why I deserved to win under this specific category. There were eight categories in the end, celebrating different types of organisations and individuals making a positive contribution towards their local communities and to wider society further afield.

Despite the weather we managed to have a lovely afternoon tea, followed by generous helpings of refreshments. The winners all got a chance to have a photo taken outside, where there was a lovely rainbow on display. Unfortunately the rain grew worse and we all had to make a dash for it and take the photo inside.

It was a great opportunity to get to know one another and discuss with the various other participants and their guests about their lives and their remarkable achievements. One woman who helped people with sight loss by organising various activities had been doing it for thirty eight years and was nearly ninety years old.

Another young man creates playlists of songs and loads them into a headset for people with dementia, quite extraordinary remarkable stuff.

I personally believe that God had his hand in the whole thing and has managed to play a huge part in how my life is shaped around others, making a positive difference towards the local community. How he can work things out, so that we have the opportunities to tell others more about him, and to glorify him in our praise, worship, prayer, gifts, talents and above all our relationship and service to him, so that we can build and contribute positively and constructively towards his heavenly Kingdom.

Love and God Bless

Peter McCleery

P.S. If you wish to know more about this Award in general please don't hesitate to contact me, I am more than willing to help.

We will remember them

Once again we gather to honour the sacrifice of the men of the two World Wars.

In Towns villages and cities, dedicated groups have in the last two decades identified and brought to life the otherwise anonymous names on their local memorials. Much work has been done but the task is still ongoing.

There are two groups of men who are often forgotten, the wounded, and the Prisoners of War.

There were 1,660,000 wounded in WW1, one third of these classified as severely wounded.



By 1918 the hospitals, country houses and local units (The King Edward Hall etc.) were struggling to deal with these colossal numbers. Nursing staff were desperate for voluntary help and the surgeons and doctors were often overwhelmed by the horrific injuries. Men who suffered chest and stomach wounds often found full recovery difficult and those who had encountered mustard gas were never the same again.

During my childhood in Ardingly during WW2 every other veteran of WW1 seemed to be carrying the scars of that earlier conflict. In WW2 the wounded numbered 150,000, which was a merciful reduction for the medical units at least.

More than 180,000 men were taken prisoner in WW1, mainly on the Western Front. One of these was Ralph Walder of our Church (Graham Wood's Uncle). He was captured during his first attack, Ralph soon recovered and was recorded in the Middy as taking wickets on the Common soon after his release.

More than 180,000 also became POWs in WW2. Many of these surrendered to the Japanese and about one third of them died. My Uncle, Bernard Upton, was taken prisoner by the Italians. He was serving on the Tribal Class Destroyer HMS Bedouin when it was disabled in action with Italian Cruisers in the Mediterranean. Later that day it was torpedoed by an Italian aircraft, which was in turn shot down by the Bedouin's A.A.

The 215 survivors were taken to Italy until 1943, when the Italians surrendered. They were then taken by the Germans to Stalag VIIIb near Breslau.

After an epic long march into Southern Germany where the Bedouin's CO. Commander Scurfield was killed by strafing American Thunderbolts, they were eventually flown home.

My work colleague Ron had a very different experience.

During the Dunkirk evacuations in May 1940 his Light Anti Aircraft Gun unit was unloaded on the Quayside at Calais, sadly much too late.

After a short pause a German officer appeared, thanked them sarcastically for 'delivering some nice new guns' and told them 'for you the war is over.'

Ron and two of his mates ended up on a farm in the Bavarian Alps where the food was good, the farmer had three daughters, and it was very rare to have contact with the outside world. They were finally 'liberated' in May 1945.

Who was it who said 'chance is the ruler of life' ???

Chris Comber
November 2019

Mission Update



The focus for the Mission during November/December 2019 is Turning Tides - whose strapline is 'Ending Local Homelessness'.

About Turning Tides:

Turning Tides is a community led homelessness charity that puts clients and local people at the heart of our mission to end homelessness. The charity has been providing help and support to the homeless community since its establishment in 1991. Help is available to anyone aged 18 or over in the local area who is homeless or insecurely housed. Help can take the form of housing, advice, counselling, emotional support and social engagement. Turning Tides works in Worthing, Littlehampton, Horsham, Mid Sussex and surrounding areas.

These are some selected quotes from The Guardian Newspaper article - (Wednesday 25th September 2019) - How Can You Best Help Rough Sleepers?

"Britain's homelessness crisis is out of control, with the numbers of homeless people and rough sleepers at their highest levels since 2010."

"If you are worried that a homeless person is in immediate danger, perhaps suffering from hypothermia or the effects of drugs, then you should call 999 for an ambulance or contact the police."

"... homeless people are just that - people. One thing that irritates homeless people is if you talk to them as if they are children. There is nothing more humiliating than having someone stooping over you, literally talking down to you. Sit down, share a drink... or a bar of chocolate with them. Tell them about your day and ask them about theirs: whether they're getting enough help and if there's anything else you can do."

"... you can always offer to buy them some food or drink. Don't buy them in advance, though. Ask the person what they want."

Christmas is a time when loneliness, hunger, poverty and bitter-cold temperatures can be particularly threatening to quality of life, especially for vulnerable people who have no choice but to make the street their home. However, this is a year-round emergency; a little help will go a long way.

Remember Remember

Hot Chocolate this November!

You will be welcome on Bonfire Night as in previous years to enjoy a free HOT CHOCOLATE as a gift from Lindfield United Reformed Church. It has continued to be popular with everyone including the emergency services and has become part of the evening events as we await the procession on route to the common. Around 1,000 cups of the warming drink were dispensed last year. Although the cups are biodegradable please bring your own medium size reusable cups if possible to avoid wasting paper cups and straws. Every little helps as has been said before.

More volunteers are needed to transport and serve the hot chocolate on the night.



If you are willing to help please sign up on the sheet on the notice board or come to the church from 6.30pm on 5th November.

This year during the evening of 5th November the LOVE LINDFIELD community collage will be in the church concourse complete with the letter D, which includes art work by our own Pat Waller and fireworks painted by children during Messy Church.

The thirteen art boards cover a wide range of art and photographs that reflect what our community loves about Lindfield. The response from those who have seen it has been constantly positive. If you missed seeing the collage during the Arts Festival then here is further opportunity to enjoy. Should you be willing to share with others what you love about our community then you are welcome to talk with others by the collage on the 5th November.

For more information about the LOVE LINDFIELD Community Collage visit www.lovelindfield.co.uk

Jacquie & Henderson

CSUA Area Meeting

2nd October 2019

The Central Sussex United Area (CSUA) holds a quarterly Area meeting. You may remember that the CSUA comprises 24 churches, about one third Methodist, one third URC and one third some sort of ecumenical combination, usually URC/Methodist. The Area runs from Crowborough and Lindfield in the north to Seaford and Eastbourne in the south. The Area meeting is an open meeting which all members of all the churches are welcome to attend. Usually, and this meeting was no exception, the majority of those attending are Methodist and so, not surprisingly, the majority (but certainly not all) the business has a Methodist flavour. I think this is unfortunate but URC folk have a poor attendance record.

Enough of the moan! – what about that particular meeting? The chair was taken by the Revd Irena Byron (Methodist Superintendent) who welcomed everyone present (approximately 50), in particular two new ministers, the Revd Will Fletcher (Haywards Heath Methodist Church) and the Revd Memona Shahbaz a URC minister joining the Eastbourne team. You may like to know that Memona is from Pakistan and this is her first pastorate; she exudes pastoral skills!

The first few items were Methodist appointments then the announcement that a programme of LMMRs is to take place shortly. These Local Ministry and Mission Reviews are a URC idea where churches (all 24 in the CSUA!) will be helped to review their mission progress. It was said that a detailed timetable will be presented at the next meeting. (It will be interesting to see when Lindfield is scheduled!)

Some discussion took place on finance (Methodist, of course, because that is far more involved at local level than URC finance which, as far as the CSUA is concerned, is really only a question of when and how much each local church gives to the URC Ministry and Mission Fund). Recently a CSUA group tried unsuccessfully to create a combined URC/Methodist financial system; I have said frequently that if one attended a church service without observing the outside notice-board, it is likely one would not know if it was URC or Methodist, but if you asked about the financial set up or how they call or appoint a minister, boy, the differences really come to light!

There are major differences between CSUA churches, not just whether they are URC or Methodist - little Methodist chapels, medium-sized URC churches, and, in the case of Emmanuel at Eastbourne, I have watched the church start filling up 45 minutes before the start of the Sunday service because folk want a seat!

No, not all churches are like LURC and going to an Area meeting helps to emphasise this. Anyway, back to this meeting!

One of the exciting CSUA developments is the way the new Emmanuel Church is gradually coming together – at last, some might say! The Revd Paul Tabraham, Methodist minister in Eastbourne, now joined by Memonas as mentioned above, gave an interesting description of progress. In short, the new building will be on the site of Upperton URC, the demolition of which was completed recently. Construction of the new building is expected to start around next Easter. Paul described some of the worship and community plans taking shape and some of the “consents” still required.

In terms of time, the major item on the meeting agenda was a discussion about marriage and relationships. This was required by the Methodist Conference to prepare for their Conference discussion and decision next summer. However, I was disappointed when our meeting discussion turned out to be about when and how churches should discuss the issue, not about the issue itself! To me the most interesting part was when someone asked whether URC members should be allowed to take part, as the URC had already decided that local churches may register to offer same sex marriages if they wish. The Methodists were caught out on this and so we await an answer with baited breath!

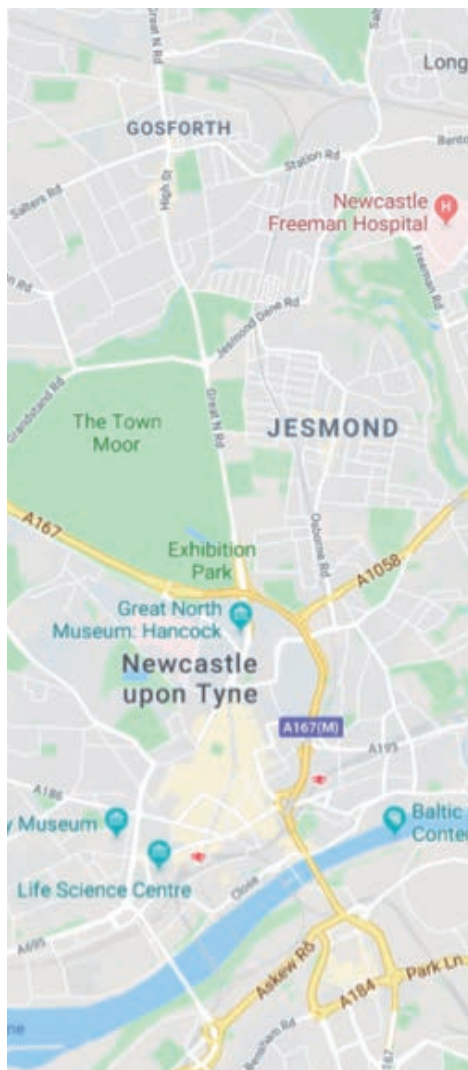
A few “good news” stories were shared, for example that The Haven Church in Eastbourne recently baptised a number of people in the sea! - a witness to all who were gathered on the beach.

Do come to the next Area meeting at 7.30pm on Thursday 10th December at Christ Church, Lewes. I would love to see them having to put out more chairs to accommodate all the URC folk who had turned up!

Graham Campling

Who am I?

Once again we have a set of answers from a member of our congregation to our regular questions. See if you can work out who this rhubarb loving person might be before next month!



Where were you born?

Gosforth in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne

What was your favourite subject at school?

Art

What was your first Church?

St Oswins in Wylam, Northumberland

What is/was your job?

Medical Records Clerk

What's your favourite sport?

Swimming

What is your favourite hymn/worship song?

"Hold me closer to you each day"

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

Half-full

What's your favourite food?

Rhubarb crumble

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

The Canadian Rockies

What makes you laugh?

My grandchildren

What would be your best round of questions in a pub quiz?!

Pop music

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

November

3rd	Betty Billins	Carol Marsh
10th	Armistice Sunday	Jo Bloxham
17th	Sue Gooch	Iris Bingham
24th	Jenny Machell	Anne Elvin

December

1st	Winifred Scopes	Heather Swann
8th	Plant	Fiona Tingley
15th	Plant	No Delivery
22nd	Christmas Flowers	No Delivery
29th	Christmas Flowers	No Delivery

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

Tuesday 5th November

6:30pm Lindfield Bonfire Night
Free Hot Chocolate served in United Reformed Church

Tuesday 12th November

2:30pm Lindfield Preservation Society in King Edward Hall
Talk: "The Gilbert & Sullivan Story" – Ian Gledhill

Wednesday 13th November

12:15pm Tiger Arts – Lunch in the Tiger
1:00pm Concert in All Saints
Jo Kimber and her Jazz Band
7:30pm Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall
Annual General Meeting followed by :-
Talk "Nymans" by Joe Whelan

Thursday 28th November

7:30pm Village Film Night in King Edward Hall
"Mrs Lowry and Son" starring Timothy Spall
Tickets available from Tufnells from October 28th



www.lindfieldurc.org.uk