

# GoodNEWS

LINDFIELD URC'S VILLAGE MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 2004

## All Saints' Day revealed



PLUS...

- The de-brief on Samuel Muhumuza's visit
- Lindfield Life: The Bonfire Society
- Philip & Leonie tune in to Revelation TV!



- Rev'd Samuel Muhumuza visited our church over the Harvest Weekend in October.



- Chris Comber is the speaker at Lindfield Remembers on 10th November, to remember those who failed to return to Lindfield after the Great War.

**Dear Friends...**



# Wake Up and Live

**The beginning of November marks the centenary of the 1904 Welsh Revival. No doubt we shall hear in the media exciting stories of the Revival. Let us hope such stories will inspire us because revival is life at its best, life in all its fullness, life abundant, life overflowing with the grace and power of God.**

Revivals have to be sustained through a dependence on the living God. If we look at the Bible we see that there were times when God's people were lifted to the heights of spiritual blessing and power, only to plunge later into spiritual apathy and despair. It is sad but not surprising to see that the fire of revival died out in Wales perhaps only one generation later.

Revival always begins, not with conversions, but with the reanimation of the people of God. As we look back at the Welsh revival we need to be stirred to seek that overwhelming flood of God's power upon a community of God's people.



Christmas Evans, the great Welsh preacher once said, "Revival is God bending down to the dying embers of a fire that is just about to go out, and breathing into it until it bursts again into flame".

To this end I have been impressed by 'Your Kingdom Come – lighting the flame of hope for Sussex'. This has made 2004 a joint churches year of prayer for Sussex. Prayer gatherings in Chichester, Lewes, Worth and Burgess Hill have had a sense of unity and life about them. The number of Churches Together groups that have prayed 24-7 throughout a whole week for their community has been impressive.

These are real signs of encouragement.

Our God has reserves of power which we, the Church of this generation, have not fully experienced. Revival has happened at various times in various places throughout history, and as sure as night follows day it will happen again.

*Colin Bones, minister*

# GoodNEWS

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*A list of serving Elders can be found in Who's Who?*

## Editorial



**Break the exciting news this month that GoodNEWS magazine is now run collectively by a small team. See page 6 for details of this change.**

One great benefit of this new arrangement should mean a little less for me to do, as I prepare for a new arrival in my family at the end of this year!! In a spirit of embracing this change, I will sign off here!

Happy reading.  
*David Tingley, editor*



### Email change:

We love magazine articles emailed to GoodNEWS, because it means we don't have to type it! But, beware computer users: the email address for the magazine has now changed to:

[goodnews@happyseason.co.uk](mailto:goodnews@happyseason.co.uk)

If you are a regular contributor, please add this to your address book.

Thanks.

## Prayer Diary



<b>SUN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remember Samuel Muhumuza and his family.</li> <li>• Thank God for the opportunity to support his work in Uganda.</li> <li>• Pray for the children that we are sponsoring.</li> </ul>
<b>MON</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uphold Brenda Johnson on her return from Malawi.</li> <li>• Please pray for &amp; support Samaritans Purse (our Mission focus) &amp; The Shoebox Appeal.</li> </ul>
<b>TUE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank God for our new church members.</li> <li>• Pray for them &amp; also for new folk who are worshipping with us.</li> <li>• Pray for church friends whose surnames begin with S &amp; T.</li> </ul>
<b>WED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uphold Kenneth Bigley's family following his murder.</li> <li>• Remember all those killed and injured by acts of terrorism.</li> <li>• Pray against the evil that motivates such atrocities.</li> </ul>
<b>THUR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pray for the Annual Church Meeting on 11th November.</li> <li>• Uphold our minister and elders, especially any newly or re-elected.</li> <li>• Please support prayerfully the new church officers.</li> </ul>
<b>FRI</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please pray about the many 'vacancies' in the life of LURC.</li> <li>• Review prayerfully what you are doing as an individual.</li> <li>• Consider whether God is asking you to help in any way.</li> </ul>
<b>SAT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our Sussex East District – Provincial Council meeting 16th November.</li> <li>• District Council Meeting – 3rd December.</li> <li>• Churches in Hastings Area Group, Lewes &amp; St Luke's, Silverhill.</li> </ul>



# Dull and Cold?

Derek Heath, a worshipper at Danehill Parish Church and a familiar preacher to us at Lindfield URC, gets to grips with winter's dull and grey days of November – telling us there is more to the first day of this month...

**What's so great about 1st November? 5th November is worth waiting for, especially in Lindfield ! And there's also Remembrance Sunday which falls this year on 14th November. But otherwise there's surely nothing very exciting about this rather dull, cold and damp month of the year, is there?**

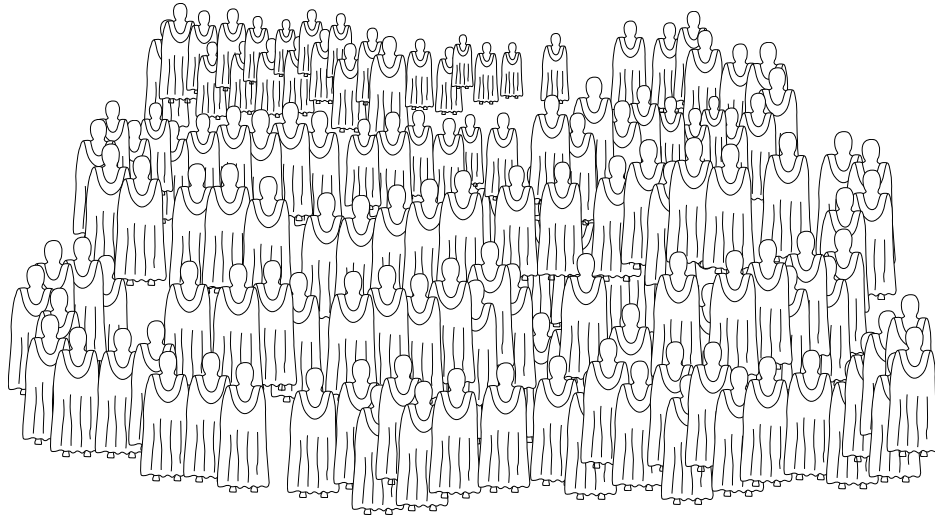
Well, we may be amazed to learn that 1st November is intended to be a great day of celebration – surprise! surprise!

It's **the** day in the year when we are encouraged to think about John the Apostle's remarkable vision (recorded in the Biblical book of Revelation at chapter 7) where he sees **all** God's people in Heaven – not just the great and the good but also millions of ordinary men

and woman and boys and girls. There they are with God – too many to count, from every nation, and all wearing white robes! It's the greatest family gathering ever – and every member of the family is present.

What's the significance of the white robes? It's symbolic of the perfection which those who wear them never attained on Earth but which they now have in Heaven. They are, at last, clean in mind and spirit – like Jesus Christ Himself. Each one has eventually become the person he or she always longed to be. Each one is a saint in God's eyes! And this has come about because "their robes have been made white in the blood of the Lamb" – Christ the Saviour. So, 1st November is appropriately called **All Saints Day.**

Blood doesn't usually make



things white, does it? But the spilling of blood to produce whiteness in the robes conveys the truth that perfection of character (which we need to have if we are to live with God in His actual presence) comes only through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross and not through our own self-effort.

That is why John, in his vision, hears this vast number of saints singing a song in which they ascribe salvation to God alone.

Is it worth being among that company of saints? Well, says John, God will “spread His tent over them” (that seems nice and homely!). They will never hunger or thirst again. And the Lamb in the centre of God’s throne will be their shepherd. “He will lead them to streams of life-giving water, and God will wipe all tears from their eyes”.

If that’s the kind of scene we are to think about on 1st November, perhaps it’s not such a miserable month after all!

*Derek Heath*

**Before moving to Chelwood Gate fifteen years ago, Derek and his wife Heather were members of All Saints’, Lindfield and their four children were in our Girls’ and Boys’ Brigades.**

# New horizons



**A**t GoodNEWS things are changing, and, as editor, I am very excited to be able to introduce to you our new editorial team. Steven, Annabel, Martin, Tina and myself will now be steering and guiding the magazine together.

This new arrangement is partly to take some pressure off me as editor, and partly to open up GoodNEWS to new horizons and fresh points-of-views. As a team we will work together to create a dynamic and insightful magazine every month. We will also be more proactive too, so be prepared to be approached to write something one month!

Practically, copy and deadlines will work in the same way for the foreseeable future, (although copy should if possible, now be to [goodnews@happyseason.co.uk](mailto:goodnews@happyseason.co.uk)) and we still very much have Hilary Shepherd and Tom Burford in their essential roles behind the scenes. However, below is a brief insight into the lives of our new team by way of introduction...

## **Annabel Goody**

James and I have lived in Lindfield since 1998. We have two sons, Oliver and Tim. By training I am a paediatric nurse but I am a full-time mum at the moment. I have recently joined the church music group and we generally attend the 9.30am service.

## **Martin Hall**

Martin has authored more than 80 scientific articles, including research publications, reviews and book chapters. He is on the editorial board of two entomology journals. Quite how this experience will relate to "Good News" he is not sure, but he is looking forward to finding out in this new and exciting challenge.

## **Tina Elphick**

I have been worshipping at LURC for about 8 years, been an elder for 5 and just finished 6 years teaching junior church. I'm really excited about how God has directed me to this new adventure.

## **Steven Farley**

I live and work as a designer in Burgess Hill. I have found Lindfield United Reformed Church and its members to be very welcoming and a wonderful place to worship since being introduced 5 years ago. You'll often find me behind a camera and I have a passion for collecting and listening to CD's from all genres of music.



## **Family News**

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### **Congratulations**

Margaret & Alan Gomme are very pleased that they are grandparents again. Piers Alexander Smith was born on Friday 24th September to their daughter Jacqui and her husband David and is a brother to Cameron. Mother and baby are home and both doing well.

### **A note from Gordon & Iris Bingham**

Dear friends,

We are delighted to announce that Nick has now attained a BA(Hons) in English.

For those of you who don't know, Nick suffers from Tourettes Syndrome, a neurological disorder which manifests (for him) severe involuntary motor and vocal tics, and the condition is aggravated under pressure. Nick meets with a great deal of prejudice and life isn't easy for him. However, he has managed to overcome it, thus far, and we thank God for His grace and blessings to us as a family.

Nick plans to take a Post Graduate Certificate of Education next year which will enable him to teach; probably, in the area of special needs. Please pray for him as he seeks employment in today's current climate, that he will be guided into the right job for him, and one which he is able to sustain. His address

is still: 159 Maplehurst Rd,  
Summersdale, Chichester, PO19  
6XR:

Thank you for all your prayers  
down the years.

Yours in Christ  
Gordon & Iris Bingham

### **New Members.**

A number of folk have been welcomed into membership over the past few weeks. They are:- Amanda Ellis, Cliff Griffiths, Dorothy Harvie, John and Carol Merrett, Jan Foreman, Pat Waller, Jim Johnson, H Hedges, Rhoda Patterson, Doreen Copus and Vera Dorton.

### **New Address**

Elsie and Wally Plimmer have moved to:- 17, Jobes, Balcombe, Haywards Heath RH17 6HZ  
Tel. 811748

### **Tearfund giving...**

We supported Tearfund through July and August but, as the help for the people of Darfur in the Sudan was urgent, we sent a cheque for £1000 immediately. We are VERY pleased to announce that the total giving to Tearfund for the months of July and August is £9645.43. £5292.39 has been sent for the Sudan appeal and the remainder has been sent for the Cambodia - Join the Family - appeal. More news from Tearfund next month.

**WELL DONE LINDFIELD URC.**

## A note from Brian Stone

**Dear friends,**

On behalf of Brenda and myself, thank you so much for the many prayers, cards, phone calls and visits we received from a number of churches during my recent surgery and recuperation. They were deeply appreciated and made such a difference – especially when things did not go quite to plan on the operating table! If present progress continues and the boss allows me, I hope to be back in circulation by the end of November!

*Brian Stone*

## The Fellowship

**We meet next Wednesday 24th November at 2.45pm when Peter Swann will present “A Touch of Brass”.**

At the end of the meeting tea and biscuits will be served and there will be a Produce and Bring and Buy stall.

Our meetings are open to all; when you come you will receive a very warm welcome.

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## Church gears up to remember

The **Lindfield History Project Group** will be remembering those men who served in the Great War of 1914/19, failed to return, and have their names recorded on the Parish Church Memorial. The main object of the evening will be to find out what actually happened to these men of the village, where they fought, and where they are buried or commemorated.

The Programme will be held at Lindfield URC at 7.30pm. on Wednesday the 10th of November, and will be presented by the Chairman Mr Richard Bryant.

The speaker will be one of our members, Chris Comber. Other Church members taking part will be John Barling, in charge of graphics and music, and Brian Tester, who will be reading selected verse.

Coffee & biscuits will be served at the end of the presentation by Mary Comber, Sue Tester and Brenda Johnson.

## LINDFIELD CHRISTIAN CARE HOME

Compton House Christian Nursing Home  
40 Compton Road, Lindfield

We are looking for a  
**MAINTENANCE/JANITOR ASSISTANT**  
Part time – 5 mornings per week (20 hours)  
To provide support to the Health and Safety Officer

Must be flexible in their attitude to work and have D.I.Y. skills

To discuss this position and receive an application form please  
telephone Janis Daw, House Manager on 01444 482662

### **Balcombe United Reformed Church**

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**Bramble Hill, Balcombe, RH17 6HR**  
**Contact: Mrs Leonie Wren (01444 81125)**

Our main services are held at 11am on the first and third Sunday of each month and the children usually go out to Sunday School during the second part of the service.  
Speakers for this month are as follows:-

November 7th      Philip Wren  
November 21st    Sue Chapman



Also this month, there is a joint service at St. Mary's Balcombe, on Remembrance Sunday, 14th November at 10.50am. Colin Bones will be preaching at this service.

# Co-incidence or

**Bono speaks out for Africa at the Labour party conference in Brighton; Tony Blair visits Africa with Bob Geldof; The Daily Telegraph publishes a report on - Uganda; Kenyan woman, Mrs Wangari Maathai is awarded Nobel peace prize for fighting for democracy and peace; All these things happened in the week that Rev'd Samuel Muhumuza visited our church on the first weekend in October.**

**Many may not know what a busy week Samuel had and so here is a resume of his time:-**

The first meeting Samuel attended was the Tearfund Area Prayer meeting at our church where he met many people interested in Mission, including the Rev Ian Roberts, the Tearfund area representative. The Tearcraft stall was full of wonderful Christmas present type items and maybe Samuel will go home with some ideas for things that his parishioners could make for Tearfund?

On Friday Samuel spent a day with Colin and Catherine who helped Samuel fulfil one of his ambitions. He had never seen an ocean and so a trip to Brighton was a must, but as he lives by Lake Victoria, which covers 32,000 square miles, it may have not have looked very different!

On Saturday, a typical English rainy day, Samuel visited the Autumn Show at Ardingly. He was fascinated by all the animals and spotted a white chicken which looked just like the one on the Ugandan flag, but he thought the best stall was the one that sold hand-made chocolate. It was tested and found to be very enjoyable! After cleaning the rain and mud off his shoes Samuel went on to speak at the harvest supper where over 80 people gathered for a meal of Shepherds Pie. He showed a very moving and informative video on the work of Romans 1-11 Trust and introduced us to his "Jesus Cares Programme" which looks for support for children orphaned by AIDS. Many people showed an interest in this.

On Sunday Colin and Samuel spoke on Southern Counties radio and then drove carefully back from Brighton to preach

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# God incidence?

at the 9.30 and 11am services, where Samuel explained that the first church he had was made of reeds. His second church was made of 200,000 hand-made bricks but there is still more to do at the spiritual life centre. Further funds are needed to complete the work under the guidance of the Romans 1-11 trust. At the end of each service many people were again interested in the child sponsorship programme and there were many conversations with people about this. The day ended with a visit to the Triangle Centre at Burgess Hill for the area prayer event. Samuel enjoyed the worship, particularly the giant flags that were waved with great gusto.

During the week Samuel visited 11 homes for meals and fellowship and led two house groups. He also visited FEBA in Worthing who communicate the Gospel through the use of radio in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. Samuel was shown a recording studio that fits inside a suit case. He was prepared to take one back to Uganda but this was not possible as they are still being developed.

Samuel's last visit was to London and, as he wanted to take home two small presents for his boys, Shammah and Shafick, he was taken to Hamleys where he enjoyed playing with the radio controlled cars and helicopters! He reluctantly left clutching two lion hand puppets. He then went on to the British Museum, which was running an event entitled "Celebrating Africa 2004". Another God-incidence?? He was pleased to see, some articles from Uganda and could have spent a week going round the exhibits, but he had to get back to Lindfield to lead a house group!!

A very full diary as you can see, but through it all Samuel smiled and kept saying "He cares". We have had just a glimpse of life in Uganda and it was a privilege having Samuel visit us. We pray for him and his family and in doing so send him our love.

*Bill Green*

'It was a pleasure to entertain Samuel to lunch on the Sunday of his visit and be able to talk 'Africa' again and reminisce. Samuel's enthusiasm and vision was inspiring and the time passed all too quickly before he was whisked off to Burgess Hill!'

*Norna & Aubrey Derham*

## November church diary

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**4th**

Thursday House Groups

**7th**

Sunday

9.30am **Communion**  
- David Nibloe  
& Colin Bones  
11.00am **Healing Service**  
- Colin Bones  
6.30pm Prayer &  
Praise - David  
Goodchild  
& Colin Bones

**10th**

Wednesday 12.30pm Lunch Fellowship

**11th**

Thursday 8.00pm Church  
Meeting (AGM)

**12th**

Friday 12.30pm Lunch Fellowship

**13th**

Saturday Boys' Brigade  
Coffee Morning

**14th**

Sunday

9.30am Adrian Cookney  
& Tim Griffiths  
11.00am Tim Griffiths  
6.30am **Communion** -  
David Goodchild  
& Colin Bones

**18th**

Thursday House Groups

**21st**

Sunday

9.30am David Nibloe  
& Alan Wharton

**FAIRTRADE STALL BETWEEN SERVICES**

11.00am Ron  
Goodenough  
& Alan Wharton  
6.30pm Adrian Cookney  
& Stuart Dew

**23rd**

Tuesday 7.45pm In Touch

**24th**

Wednesday 2.45pm The Fellowship  
7.45pm Elders' Meeting

**25th**

Thursday 8.00pm Monthly Prayer  
Meeting

**28th**

Sunday

9.30am David Nibloe  
& Colin Bones  
11.00am **Communion**  
- Colin Bones  
6.30pm David Goodchild  
& Colin Bones

**OTHER LOCAL EVENTS  
LISTED ON BACK COVER**

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# Come to the cabaret

**C**ome to the evening service on Sunday 21st November and expect something a little different! It is the Sunday of Prisons Week and we will be looking at the shortcomings of our criminal justice system, and why churches should be concerned. We will be able to celebrate the ways in which Christians are helping to make things better.

The theme for Prisons Week is Justice that Restores. We will hear from a man who was restored by his Christian experience in prison. We will also be invited to share in national Prisons Week prayers. And there will be worship songs on this theme.

There will be an opportunity for discussion and small group Bible study. The chairs will be arranged cabaret-style to facilitate this.

*So....come to the cabaret.*

## Sunday services explained...

The **9.30am service** is an opportunity for all age groups to join in a relaxed informal time. There is a crèche, and after about 20 minutes children and young people up to age 14 go out to their own groups on most Sundays.

**Coffee** is normally served between the morning services and after the evening one.

The **11.00am service** is usually more set and formal.

At **6.30pm** it is sometimes a celebration, sometimes a quieter ministry time and sometimes an open communion service or something quite different!

**Personal prayer** is available after every service. Prayer requests and brief statements of praise for answered prayer can be put in the red book on the concourse table. We can also offer personal prayer ministry at home or in hospital.

We **do not take up an offering** during the services, but all those wishing to give are invited to place a gift in one of the bowls at the doors before or after the service. Thank you.

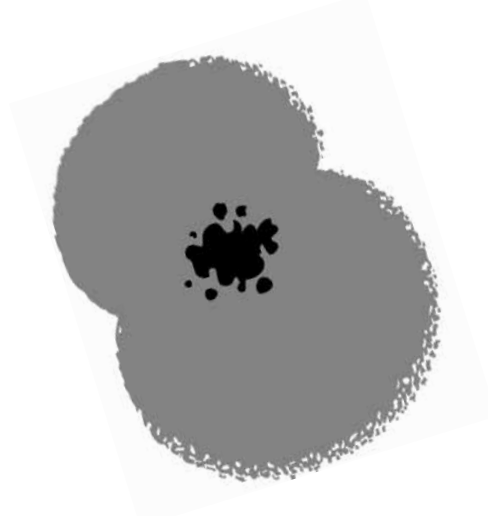
Cassette **recordings of services** can be borrowed free from the church.

**Sermon notes...** 

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## What's the 'preach'?

Colin Bones reviews what themes are coming up during November. Use them as a preparation for worship, or a personal study afterwards.



**This month we are able to push on with teaching from Ephesians – freedom, love and unity – in morning services on three Sundays. I will take two passages and Tim Griffiths will look at Ephesians 3: 14-21 when I will be preaching at Balcombe's Remembrance Service. On 21 November Rev Alan Wharton from URC Cell Ministry will be our guest preacher (I am at Dunamis Leaders Retreat).**

In the evenings we shall take two more Steps to Freedom in Christ and continue with Praise and Prayer on the first Sunday. On 21 November we shall be trying a new format for an evening service, the first of a number that will look at topical issues facing us today. Stuart Dew will draw from his experience to lead on 'Justice that restores'. The approach will be different, innovative, challenging and, we trust, rewarding. If you have not tried the evening services lately please give this one your time.



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**7th NOVEMBER**  
**- HOLY COMMUNION**  
**AND HEALING**  
**9.30 am** – Holy Communion  
**11.00 am** – Service for Healing

**Ephesians 3: 7-13**  
**- Freedom & Confidence**  
The Gospel – its message;  
its acceptance; its implications.  
Preacher – Colin Bones

**6.30 pm** – Praise & Prayer  
– local community focus.  
Leader – Colin Bones

**14th NOVEMBER**  
**- REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**  
**9.30 am** – Jigsaw for children  
& Morning Worship  
**11.00 am** – Morning Worship

**Ephesians 3: 14-21**  
**- Rooted & Established in Love**  
The revelation of God's love  
into our hearts  
Preacher – Tim Griffiths

**6.30 pm** – Holy Communion.  
5th Step to Freedom in Christ  
Pride vs. Humility

**James 4: 6-10 &**  
**1 Peter 5: 1-11**  
Preacher – Colin Bones

**21st NOVEMBER**  
**- GUEST SPEAKER & NEW**  
**EVENING FORMAT (PRISONER**  
**SUNDAY)**  
**9.30 am and 11.00 am**  
**- Morning Worship**  
Preacher – Rev. Alan Wharton

**6.30 pm** – **“Justice That Restores”**  
A look at the issue of Criminal Justice  
lead by Stuart Dew

See details on page 13

**28th NOVEMBER – HOLY**  
**COMMUNION & ANOTHER STEP**  
**TO FREEDOM**  
**9.30 am** – Morning Worship  
**11.00 am** – Holy Communion

**Ephesians 4: 1-6**  
**- Unity in the Spirit**  
The qualities of Jesus worked out in  
our daily lives.  
Preacher – Colin Bones

**6.30 pm** – 6th Step to  
Freedom in Christ  
Bondage vs. Freedom

**1 John 1: 1-10**  
Preacher – Colin Bones



# Samaritans Purse International

**It's that time of year again when we fill our shoeboxes for children around the world. If you haven't picked up a leaflet please get one from the missions table and bring your filled shoebox to church by 21st November.**

During November we are supporting Samaritan's Purse International. Their work is often highlighted at Christmas through the Operation Christmas Child Appeal but they do so much more throughout the year. They are working in Azerbaijan building play-parks and running football coaching sessions for local and displaced children. During these times they have opportunities to share their faith and make a real difference to these people's lives.

They have become deeply involved in a range of programmes worldwide to halt the spread of HIV/AIDS. Currently they are working in Honduras, Mozambique, Kenya, Sudan and El Salvador and they are hoping to start work soon in Ethiopia, Eritrea and Cambodia. They have extensive links across the world with churches, pastors, governments and UN organisations, which enables them to help in times of devastation. For example, after the recent hurricanes in Jamaica and Grenada they were immediately able to offer help, food, shelter etc.

In 1992 they began sponsoring 18 families through their Child and Family Support Scheme in Romania. Today they are supporting over 500 families. Also in Romania they are working with the gypsies who live in total poverty, by building homes and working with them to help them gain access to education, medical services and benefits.

These are just a few of the many projects that Samaritan's Purse is involved in. To support the work this month please take a Missions envelope and put your gift in the offering.

To find out more about the work of Samaritan's Purse International please see their website [www.samaritanspurse.uk.com](http://www.samaritanspurse.uk.com)



 **Samaritan's Purse**  
INTERNATIONAL RELIEF



# Lindfield Bonfire Society

**Lindfield Bonfire Society was formed in 1894 with many villagers taking part in the November 5th celebrations. The costs of today's celebrations are much greater than for years gone by with increased safety and insurance considerations. The cost is now in the region of £4500. The money needed to stage the event is raised throughout the year by holding bric-a-bracs, coffee mornings, tractor rides on village day and some private firework displays for weddings, parties etc..**

November 5th starts with a fancy dress competition starting at 6:30pm in the King Edward Hall followed by a procession around the village. The procession starts at 7:30pm and is led by the very large guy which is normally at least 12 feet tall! The procession is followed by the Firework display on the Common which usually starts at about 8:15pm. We always hold a street collection on the night and all the money raised goes to local children's charities.

The Society is run by a small committee of long standing members and we would welcome any new helpers!! We hold "open" monthly meetings

on the third Thursday of every month in the old Library of the King Edward Hall at 8:00pm. All are welcome!

We are desperately short of help on Bonfire Night, help with shaking collecting tins etc. and always need help throughout the year with fundraising. Please do come and help and have fun with this local community event.

*Martin Durrant*

Membership Secretary Mrs.J.Denyer 27 Woodride Haywards Heath West Sussex Tel: 01444 459487
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## Tell everyone about it.

If you run a club or group in the local community that you would like to talk more about, submit an article/information to editor – it would be great to see more of what is going on in/around the village.

Contact details on page 2.

# 40 years with HHOS

**B**y the time you read this I hope that many of you will have been to see “Broadway Pirates” at Clair Hall. This was Haywards Heath Operatic Society’s 40th Anniversary modern production of that old Gilbert and Sullivan favourite, “The Pirates of Penzance”. Being one of the founder members of the society, I thought I would recollect a few memories, particularly those concerning members of LURC who have been involved with HHOS over the years.

In 1964 Don Smith and John Fernee called an inaugural meeting of any folk interested in forming an operatic society in Haywards Heath. My parents (Bert and Eve Sarsons) and I went along and my dear Mum became the society’s main accompanist, a voluntary post which she held for many years. Dad and I joined the Chorus where we had lots of fun. Our first show, “Pirates”, was performed in Haywards Heath Grammar School (now the Sixth Form College), and until Clair Hall was built in the early 1970s we alternated between the Grammar School and Warden Park.



My only claim to fame in HHOS was in 1967 when I was an understudy in “No No Nannette” and had to take over the leading role at only 24 hours notice.

Thanks to the wonderful support of the rest of the cast we got through. It was a very exciting if somewhat scary experience, but one which

I will never forget. I knew my family and Christian friends were praying for me and God answered their prayers.

In those early years I dragged my then boyfriend Brian along to help with scenery shifting.

He soon found himself taking the society’s photographs, and eventually became part of the Lighting team, along with Don Whitehead from Haywards

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Heath URC. A bit later Doug Eastman joined and headed up the Lighting and Sound crew. Doug's Wife, Christine, (both members of LURC at that time), threw herself into the life of the Society, playing a prominent role on the committee and frequently doing 'Assistant Producer' and 'Prompt'. I have also enjoyed being Prompt for a number of shows, the first one when I was expecting Charles! No surprise, then, that some years later Charles was keen to follow in his Dad's footsteps and soon found himself helping with the Lighting. David, however, first tried his hand at treading the boards, before also joining the Lighting crew.

Apart from the Eastmans, others who were part of LURC also joined HHOS. Chris Comber and Elise Burden are both Honorary Life members of the Society. Chris served as Orchestra Secretary for many years, and Elise did a grand job as Social Secretary and, of course, she and Sidney took part in numerous productions. Brenda Johnson was in the chorus for a while, and dear old George Hart was a stalwart of the men's chorus year after year. Then there were the Orchins, Meta, Ivan and their two

daughters who all played their part in the life of the Society over the decades. Our good friend Janet Marlow joined the Operatic Society following one of the Christian Musicals we put on at the Church, and she has never looked back, playing supporting roles as well as Chorus and being Production Assistant. Peggy Bennett was active on the stage for a long time, and has been a very faithful 'make-up' assistant more recently. Hilary Shepherd, Kay Phillipott, Julia Wood (Graham's Daughter) and Nigel Fuller have all been involved in various shows. (I guess I've left somebody out – if so my apologies!)

The Society puts on some first class productions and if you have never been along to support them you have missed out on some excellent local entertainment and talent. Well done, Hayward Heath Operatic Society, and congratulations on 40 years of entertaining the public in this area!



# ISRAEL FEAST OF TABERNACLES TOUR

**27th September – 7th October 2004**

**Philip and I have just returned from the trip of a lifetime. I just had to write and tell you all about it.**

We heard about the tour, through Revelation T.V., a Christian Broadcasting Company, which we often tune into 9–10 pm, weekday evenings, on Sky 676.

Our flight was from Gatwick, on Israeli Airline and security was very strict, taking an hour before we were through to the departure lounge. What a mixed group we were, English, Caribbean, African; people from all walks of life.

Conspicuous on the flight were the Orthodox Jewish men, with their black hats and suits, and their families, each man carrying their palm branch carefully wrapped up for celebration of Tabernacles. So there was such an air of excitement and apprehension amongst us all.

Seated next to us on the flight was another member of our group, a tall Jamaican man, so

we chatted a bit, only to discover that he had been a drug addict, before his conversion. Now he is a Christian and pastoring a church. (There were other amazing testimonies from people on the tour, we later discovered.) We began to realise that this was no ordinary tour, but something very special, to which we had the privilege of being a part.

We landed in the dark at Ben Gurion airport, Tel Aviv and eventually boarded our coach for a full day's tour before checking in at our hotel in Tiberias. Joppa at 6am in the morning, breakfast at 8am in a small shopping arcade, and then off to Caesarea to see the Roman ruins and aqueduct.

Then we headed north across the plain of Sharon up to Mount Carmel and the place where Elijah faced the prophets of Baal. What a strategic place high up overlooking the vast plain of Jezreel. At each place Samuel, our Ghanaian coach



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leader organised a Bible reading and we would often have prayer and worship too. Nearly half our coach were West Indian, so the worship together was really good. Some of the sites were very meaningful and this was one of those places. People were encouraged to take part if they would like to or if they had something to share with the group.

**W**e then headed east to Galilee. Capernaum was our next and final stop this day. Now only an area of ruins, this site was preserved by the Franciscans. Again this was a special place because Jesus lived here. We gathered in the fourth century synagogue ruins, built over the original synagogue where Jesus would have gone, for a time of worship. Finally we arrived at our hotel in Tiberias by the Sea of Galilee, and had a most welcome shower and snooze, before dinner was served.

There were 330 people on our tour. We were each assigned a coach for the whole tour, so that meant we were able to get to know the people on our coach well. Each coach had a driver and an Israeli tour guide. Our driver was named Isaac, and our tour guide, Gabriel. He led us round the sites and gave us a lot of helpful background information.

Next morning we looked out on the hills of Tiberias covered in white houses, glistening in the early morning sun and the wonder of actually being in Israel. After breakfast we were all taken on a large boat on the Sea of Galilee. It was so beautiful in the hazy sunshine and so calm. Out in the middle of the Lake with the hills in the distance all around us we had a wonderful time of praising the Lord. Tim Vince the tour organiser also spoke and Howard Conder, the instigator of Revelation TV, interviewed some people and also shared about his work. It was then that we discovered that this event was being filmed and that Howard was going to be broadcasting some evenings and we were invited to go along.

After two hours on the Lake we were taken to the River Jordan and some people were baptised here. In the afternoon we were driven all around the east side of the Lake after which we visited the site of the feeding of the five thousand and later the mount of Beatitudes. This latter was a perfect place to sit and listen to Jesus teaching.

Each day we would set out at 8am for a full day's tour visiting the sites of Meggido and Armageddon, Caeserea Philippi and the springs of Mount Hermon, the Golan Heights and Zafed, the capital of

## **The back pages**

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Galilee. Usually we would arrive back at the hotel for time to refresh ourselves with a much appreciated shower and rest before dinner. Every day was blue sky and sun, no rain, with the temperature soaring to 38 – 40 degrees some days.

After four days in Galilee, we headed south to Jerusalem. It only took us two hours from Tiberias to Qumran, where the Dead Sea scrolls were found. The scenery was very interesting, changing to desert as we neared the Dead Sea. Here we had a bathe and experienced the strange sensation of floating in the salty waters. From 1,200 feet below sea level it was a very steep climb up and up through arid mountains next to the 'Good Samaritan' route to reach Jerusalem at 3,000 feet.

Here we stayed five nights, visiting the Old City twice, the Palm Sunday route from the Mount of Olives to the Garden of Gethsemane, Bethlehem, and the valley of Elah, where David fought Goliath. Most special of all was our visit to the Garden Tomb. Here in this beautiful garden sanctuary and convincing setting, we all gathered together for a service and communion. The speaker was an Arab pastor from Galilee who gave a very profound message on the raising of Lazarus from the dead. The worship was special, led by

members of our group.

If anyone is interested in finding out more may I refer you to the following web sites:-  
[www.landandlife.co.uk](http://www.landandlife.co.uk) for Land and Life tours to Israel  
[www.revelationtv.com](http://www.revelationtv.com) for the TV station

*Leonie Wren*



### **Flower Rota**

	<b>Arranging</b>	<b>Distributing</b>
Nov 7	Lucy Thom	Fiona Tingley
14	Betty Billins	Heather Swann
21	Sue Waller	Sue Tester
28	Lyn Tucker	Dorothy Forster
Dec 5	Janet Wade	Betty Peter
12	Hilda Donegan	Jacqueline Wood
19	Christmas Dec.	Iris Bingham
26	Christmas Dec.	No delivery

My grateful thanks to all those who helped with decorating the church for Harvest; so many people came and said how beautiful it all looked.

Thanks also for donations, greenery, vegetables and flowers.

Many thanks for everything,  
*Betty Billins*

## Church activities

### SUNDAY WORSHIP:

- 9.30am Service for all the family, including crèche and Junior Church  
(Most weeks, children leave after 20 minutes for their own activities)  
Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
- 11.0am Morning Worship  
Holy Communion (4th Sunday)
- 6.30pm Evening Service  
Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)
- Healing services as announced

### PRAYER MEETINGS:

- Mon 9.30am An Hour of Prayer
- Wed 9.45am Short Service of Intercession
- Thur 8.00pm Church Prayer Evening  
(4th Thursday)
- Fri 7.30am Prayer Meeting in the Lounge

### REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Sun 6.30pm Sunday Evening Youth Group
- Mon 6.30pm Boys' Brigade – Junior Section  
(8–11 years)
- Tue 10.00am Stepping Stones  
(Parents and toddlers)
- 6.15pm Girls' Brigade – Juniors,  
Seniors & Brigaders
- 7.45pm In Touch (4th Tuesday)
- Wed 2.45pm The Fellowship (4th Wed.)
- Thur 10.00am Pop-In (for coffee and a chat)
- 8.00pm Church Meeting (2nd Thur.)
- Fri 5.30pm Boys' Brigade – Anchor Boys  
(5–7 years)

House Groups normally meet 1st and 3rd Thursday

**The church is open Monday to Saturday  
from 10.00am to 1.00pm**

## Phonebook



### Church (payphone):

01444 484620

### Minister's office number:

01444 487607

### Boys' Brigade:

Geoffrey Cocksedge  
01444 474007

### Cradle Roll:

Sue Tester 01444 482810

### Flowers:

Betty Billins 01444 484494

### Girls' Brigade:

Margaret Luscombe  
01444 412156

### Hall Letting Secretary:

Audrey McKee 01444 415031

### In Touch:

Sue Waller 01444 455047

### Lunch Fellowship:

Wednesday:  
Iris Green 01444 484117

Friday: Gwen and  
Derrick Hillman 01444 456963

### Magazine: Editor:

David Tingley 01444 451024

### The Fellowship:

Jessie Green 01444 452708

Roy Billins 01444 484494

### Stepping Stones:

Janet Goodenough  
01444 417002

### Transport:

Tina Elphick 01444 484440

### Youth and Children's Work

#### Co-ordinator:

Rob Biersteker 01444 440835

#### Junior Church Co-ordinator:

Clare Nibloe 01444 484683

## Local events



### **Ardingly College Choral Society St Cecilia Mass Remembrance Concert**

in aid of Royal British Legion  
Sunday 14th November  
7.30pm in College Chapel,  
Ardingly College  
Tickets £8, Concessions £6  
Tel: 01444 893271

**Christmas Cake Sale**  
at Compton House  
Saturday November 20th  
2.30pm – 4pm  
Your support will be greatly  
appreciated.


### **Music for pleasure Lunch time concerts**

King Edward Hall, Lindfield  
**Fiona Fawsett (Piano)**  
Thursday 18th November  
1pm – 1.50pm  
Admission free but  
donations welcome. Tea  
and Coffee provided.

**Lindfield Bonfire Night  
Friday 5th November**  
Procession (starting at 7.30pm)  
with traditional bonfire and  
firework display held on  
Lindfield Common.

### **FAIRTRADE**

**Craft/Grocery stall**  
21st November

Held between the morning  
services (10.30am)   
at Lindfield URC

### **AGM of The Society for the Preservation of Lindfield**

**King Edward Hall**  
Wednesday 17th November, 8pm

### **BB Coffee Morning:**

Saturday 13th November,  
10am – 12noon. in aid of  
Boys' Brigade funds.  
All are welcome.

If anybody has small items  
(bric-a-brac, books, CDs,  
cassettes, toys etc.) they  
could donate for a table-  
top sale, it would be much  
appreciated.

Any enquiries to Geoffrey  
Cocksedge 474007.

### **Lindfield History Project Group**

**Wartime Memories:  
Lindfield and Beyond**

Saturday and Sunday  
20 – 21 November  
11am – 4pm King Edward  
Hall, Lindfield. Admission £1.  
Children Free. *Find out what  
life was like in wartime.*

To publicise your community event here see contact details on  
page 2. Diary entries included at the editor's discretion.