

GoodNEWS

LINDFIELD URC'S VILLAGE MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 2005

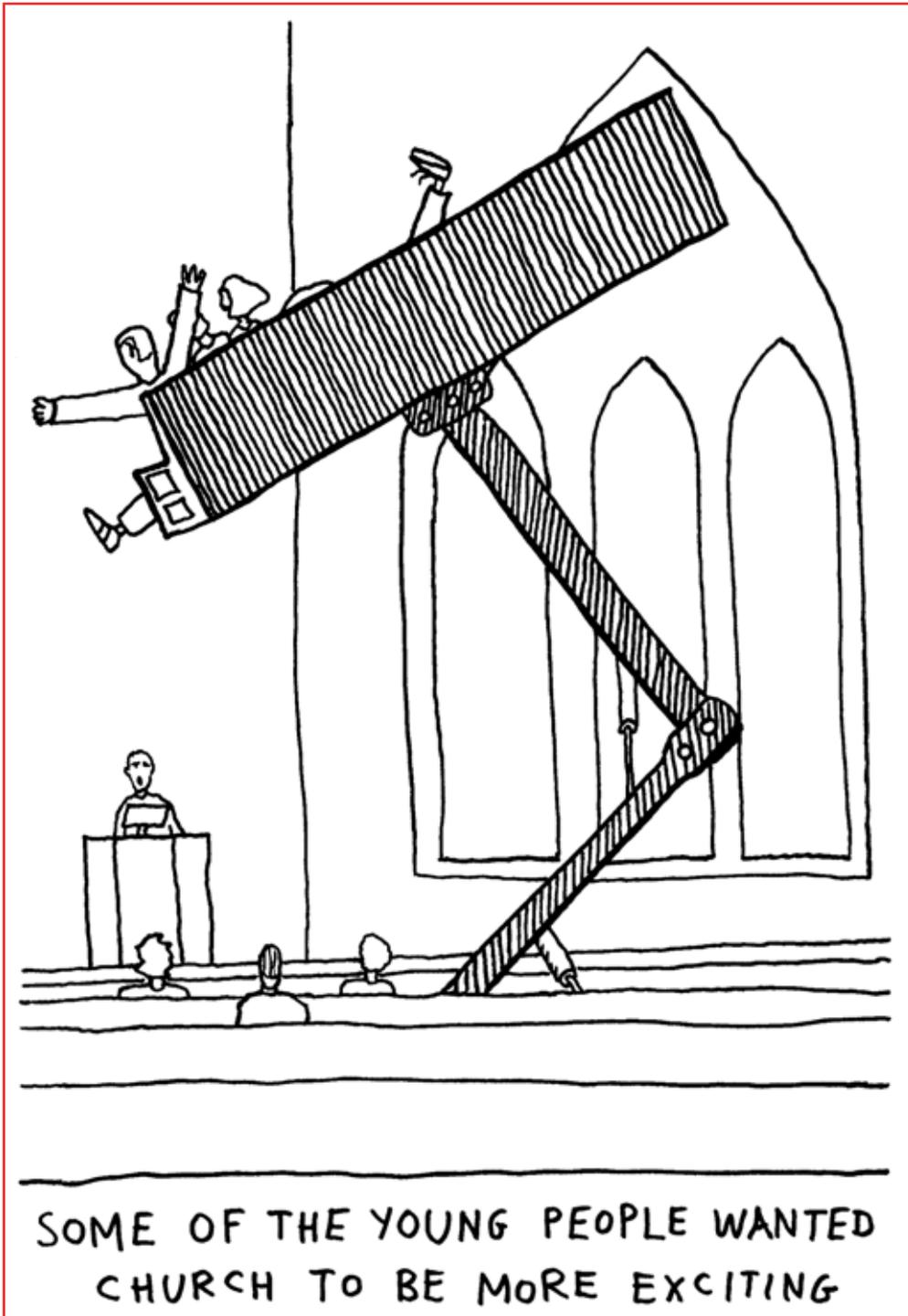


"I REMEMBER..."
Holland 60 years ago

PLUS...

- Local youth event, N:Vision, reviewed
- The annual shoe-box appeal is back!
- Lindfield Life looks at the new Village Plan





SOME OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE WANTED
CHURCH TO BE MORE EXCITING

Dear Friends...



Looking towards Advent

As we continue with the “nine before Christmas” series we move towards the season of Advent with Advent Sunday falling on 27th November. Barry Piper and John Goodway (Home Evangelism) come as visiting preachers.

Advent begins on the 4th Sunday before Christmas and lasts until Christmas Eve and is the season during which we anticipate the coming of Jesus Christ.

Advent originated as a period of penance and of preparation for baptisms at Epiphany (Jan. 6). In the 6th century Advent was moved to the four weeks before Christmas Day. Special worship was added in the 9th and 10th centuries, Advent's meaning was broadened to include the expectation of the Second Coming of Jesus.

(See Matthew 24,25; Mark 13; Luke 12,17,21; John 14,16).

Advent is important because it is a time of:

Preparation for the coming of the Messiah – Advent is a time to look forward to Christmas day, the joyful celebration of Jesus'

birth on earth. It is also a time of reflect on and remember Christ's presence in everyday life.

Spiritual Renewal – Advent is a time to reflect on our lives, to deepen spiritual commitment to follow Jesus and to live in expectation of His return.

Family Togetherness – Advent is a time for families to join together by sharing special activities of the season; thoughts and insights; prayers of praise and thanksgiving; faith, hope and love.

The Lindfield Remembrance Service is at All Saints' at 3.00 pm on 13th November.

Evening Services continue looking at the messages to the Churches found in the first three chapters of Revelation. Rev. Steve Fisher comes as preacher for one of these. We also include a Praise & Prayer when we shall have a guest from Uganda with us – Rev. Patrick Genza.

Colin Bones, minister

GoodNEWS

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Editorial



It is always amazing to hear real stories of those who have lived through war. This month we are privileged that Mies Campling has shared with us about her childhood years, growing up in Holland. We thank her for that contribution, especially as we all remember 60 years since the end of the war. Story starts on page 4.

Elsewhere we can read how to help children whose lives are broken by war around the world; Samaritan's Purse is this month's mission our church is supporting. See page 14.

Hot news for Balcombe URC – our sister church – is that they are going to be having a service every week! Read more on page 9.

My last request is that we need YOU for our Christmas feature this year. Please read page 18 to see what's up!

Your suggestions, articles and opinions always welcome! Thanks.

*David Tingley,
editor*

Prayer Diary



SUN

Pray that the Holy Spirit may touch and enliven our worship – remember our minister, preachers and worship leaders.

MON

Ask God for more staff for the concourse ministry, and a blessing on all those who come onto our premises during the week.

TUE

Pray for Christians working in the NHS and education.

WED

Please pray for the Pastoral group and those to whom they minister.

THUR

Uphold before the Lord our Annual Church Meeting on 10th November/Election of Elders and Officers.

FRI

Remember our mission focus this month; Samaritans Purse.

SAT

Uphold other United Reformed churches in this area, and All Saints' and the Evangelical Free Church in Lindfield.

Prayer FOCUS

May I suggest that this month we pray together into and around our church's Mission Statement. Take each statement and really ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in prayer.

Lindfield United Reformed Church – worshipping God, sharing the good news of Jesus and seeing lives changed by his love.

We are committed to:

- encountering God through daily praise, prayer and bible reading.
- encouraging one another to discover and fulfil God's plan for our lives.
- demonstrating God's love by meeting physical and spiritual needs, local and worldwide.

Feature – Holland 60 years ago

Church member, Mies Campling moved to Britain in 1945 from Bloemendaal, Holland. In celebration of 60 years since the end of World War II, GoodNEWS goes back to hear one Dutch girl's story of living through the German occupation.

“I remember” ...

On May 4th 1945 at 8.00 pm the Germans laid down their arms and the Underground surfaced to take control: **HOLLAND WAS FREE**. At that particular moment, I was fast asleep! My brother, aged 10, had stayed awake, because everyone knew something was about to happen. The next day I felt quite jealous that he had been out in the village, with my father, at the time the Germans had capitulated. That was just over 60 years ago... My children asked me a long time ago to start writing down what happened during those five years of German Occupation, so here I am finally writing “I remember”...

May 1940: The German troops came into our village in the Northwest of Holland without opposition, after the bombing of Rotterdam. I was 3 years and 11 months old, sitting on the back of my father's bicycle and he said, “They won't stay long, the Allied Forces will come to the rescue.”. At first, there seemed to be little to worry about for a 4 year old child, but soon my father had to close his clothing factory because he refused to make sweaters for the Germans. Then a letter

arrived ordering him to report to the local German Commandant because all able bodied men had to go to work in Germany.. The Underground provided him with a false ID card stating his age over 40 which meant he did not have to report.

The summer of 1942: I was 6 years old. Neighbours of ours, who were Jews and had to wear the yellow star on their coats, disappeared one night, taken from their beds and put on the transport to a concentration



camp in Germany. The family had two children, a boy and a girl, Connie, who was my friend. My father found the backdoor to the neighbour's now empty house was unlocked and that the electricity had not been cut off. Listening to the BBC saw strictly forbidden and all radios had been confiscated by the Germans. However, father hid his radio there undetected. The daily news from London was passed on to the Underground by word of mouth as anything in writing was too dangerous, but I do remember taking a newsletter in my pocket to a friend of my father sometime later - children weren't stopped or searched by the Germans. By then, my brother and I knew what would

happen if father was caught, so we learned very quickly what we could talk about at home, but not outside, even to friends. One night my father was caught, but the next morning he was sitting at the breakfast table telling us how he and his friend squeezed through a small window in the garage he was held in and had run away dodging the patrols!

1943: I remember mostly because my grandfather, who lived with us, died at 90 years old; that was the first time I saw my father cry. Then in the school holidays a new baby arrived, so there were four of us, my older brother (9), myself (7), a little sister (4), and our new baby sister. My mother was

Feature – Holland 60 years ago

always busy at home, so the older two were expected to help at times. We had an allotment to grow our own potatoes and vegetables, and my father taught me how to grow salad cress and radishes. Father could only be out and about with his false ID when the coast was clear, riding his bicycle with its wooden tyres, so my brother and I had to be the 'look-out'. German troops seemed to be forever on the move and we learned the difference between German soldiers and the SS by their uniforms. The SS was feared most, so as soon as they appeared we would go home and report. Father had a few narrow escapes - his false ID worked well – and there was always the fear of being arrested. Mother coped with all this in her own quiet way, praying that we would come home safely when father, my brother and I were out, and she was alone at home with the little ones.

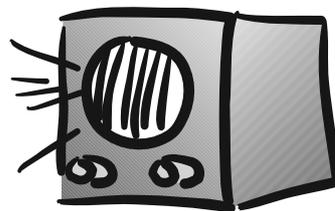
1944 "THE ALLIES ARE COMING!!"

Father's radio kept us informed and the excitement

6 – November Good**NEWS**

became intense after D-DAY, but it was to be another 11 months before we were liberated. Now the Occupiers became more strict and the whole village had to move out because it lay inside the Coastal defence area. We moved to a nearby town, where an old friend of my grandfather lived with his equally aged wife in a large house. We made our home in their empty boarded loft, but father soon investigated how we could go back to our own house and live there clandestinely. In the middle of one night we walked back without being seen by German patrols: God had brought us safely home!

The Battle of ARNHEM had the same effect on everyone as D-DAY, but it made the Germans furious and they closed everything down. Father was stuck indoors during the day, apart from his trip next door to listen secretly to the BBC. Going out during curfew was very unsafe, but





necessary to keep in touch with 'friends'. Mother did not go out with the little ones, but ventured to the garden shed, where we kept a goat, which gave the much needed milk: fresh full cream goat's milk was sheer luxury!

In the local Youth Centre where we went to Sunday school, a soup kitchen was opened and I queued daily to collect vegetable water, called soup, and some grey looking water, called milk, using the rationing coupons. To get home again had to be a detour, so as not to give away where we lived.

The Hunger Winter, 1944-1945

It became a battle for survival in the north of Holland although the Southern provinces had been liberated. There was no food, apart from the soup kitchen, no running water, no fuel for heating or cooking. Things became desperate and many did not survive, especially in the towns and cities. In the village, we were fortunate to have a well in the garden and, at that time, we tried eating tulip bulbs, fried like onions; quite tasty! My father knew a farmer in the Polder (reclaimed land) and he sent my brother and

me there to see if we could get food. It was many miles away, about three hours walk pushing our pram-sized cart. We took a parcel with knitted baby clothes to barter for food. The farmer's wife sat us at her kitchen table giving us lovely fresh bread and cheese, and milk to drink. Then we would leave with our cart laden with grain, potatoes, sugarbeets, and cheese for the family at home. Fuel was a major problem, but my brother suggested that he and I would go out one night, after the start of the curfew, sneak into the woods, cut down a tree and bring it home. Eventually we did many trips like that and I was my brother's 'Mate' - I was 8 years old and he was 10. My father suffered the frustration of not being able to provide for his family, but my mother tried to keep him busy in the house. When mother baked the bread, she gave my father the kneading to do, pretending that it was too hard work for her. We made our own candles, with a few pre-war candles kept for special occasions, like Christmas and Birthdays. We also had a dynamo torch, very small, but very useful when out at night.

Feature – Holland 60 years ago

February 1945: a new member arrives in the family. My father risked capture to fetch the doctor and, in the pitch-dark, she followed him on her bicycle, the fourth miles to our house. My brother and I sat on the stairs listening to our new baby brother crying and we wondered if the soldiers in the street could hear it too.

One week later, the baby was very ill, the doctor came to bring the last and only medicine left in her surgery: one Sulphonamide tablet. I can remember the tablet being crushed between two little spoons, every grain being caught on a piece of greaseproof paper, and then a few grains were mixed with warm goat's milk and spoon-fed to the baby. Our little brother was very ill for many weeks, but survived with the help of that one tablet, and the many prayers of many people.

In April 1945: the Allies were coming closer, and, one beautiful sunny afternoon, the bombers came to bomb the German HQ but, being a small village, the bombs fell on a peaceful cul-de-sac killing women and children.



The daughter of friends of my parents, a little girl aged 7, was alone in their house and died. The whole family came to stay with us immediately, bringing with them their little girl in a coffin. At her funeral, all the Sunday school children in the village came to sing at the graveside.

Just a few weeks later we were liberated: flags everywhere, singing in the streets, Thanksgiving Services in all churches. Schools were opened immediately and we did not have to wear our Red Cross ID cards on a bit of string round our necks anymore!

Mies Campling

News

EA chief's challenge over the Bible

"Why is there such a paucity of knowledge of the Scriptures in churches?" was the question posed by Evangelical Alliance general director Joel Edwards, speaking out at the recent launch of CWR's new range of Bible reading notes, Cover to Cover Every Day. He stressed the importance of systematic Bible reading, noting that regularity without application was "useless", and admitting "I struggle with 'daily' reading". The bi-monthly notes will cover every book of the Bible over a five-year period – find out more at www.cwr.org.uk

Source: Christian Herald

The Scripture Gift Mission has launched a Bible project where subscribers can receive daily texts by email. Users can also send invitation cards from **www.ic-words.com**, which is a free service.

Source: Church Times 16/9/2005

Balcombe United Reformed Church

Bramble Hill, Balcombe, RH17 6HR

Contact: Mrs Leonie Wren (01444 811253)

Our main services are held at 10.30am on the third Sunday of each month and the children usually out to Sunday School during the second part of the service.



Speakers for this month are as follows:-

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|---|
| November | 6th | Communion Service
– Michael Davies with Patrick Genza from Uganda |
| November | 13th | 10.50am Service of Remembrance
at St. Mary's led by Colin Bones |
| November | 20th | David Jones |
| November | 27th | Philip Wren |

As you will see, we are endeavoring to provide services on a weekly basis, with the first and third Sundays continuing as usual. Commencing on the 27th of this month, Philip Wren will be leading an informal service on the other Sundays, with Bible teaching, and Catherine Bones will be supervising the children during that time. Any support from Lindfield URC will be greatly appreciated, but please note that we are reverting to a 10.30am start.

Family News

Congratulations

Derrick Hillman who won the Ferguson Tractor and Plough class at the 100th ploughing match held at Hurstpierpoint recently.

How do we start to say thank you for so much kindness?

The warmth and love of all the Church family has truly surrounded us over the past weeks since health problems unfortunately overcame us. We have been upheld by your prayers.

Thank you, thank you and God bless you all.

Dorothy and Arthur Brown.

Off to new pastures

Andrew Cookney is on a gap year with Abernethy Trust, a Christian organisation, taking an Outdoor Leadership course. Please pray for Andrew as he begins this new ventures.

Bereavement

We extend our love and sympathy to **Gladys and Paul Porter** who's son-in-law, Stuart, died recently. Our thoughts and prayers are with the whole family, especially Sarah, at this sad time for them all.

Gladys and Paul Porter

and their daughter **Sarah** thank all our friends for their prayers, cards and letters of sympathy following the death of their son-in-law Stuart on Sunday 18th September at the Princess Royal Hospital.

Also thanks for all the support and help given at the thanksgiving for Stuart's life at Sheffield Green.

The Fellowship

We shall meet on Wednesday 23rd November at 2.45pm when our speaker will be Michael Stratford, who will talk about 'Body Language'.

Tea and biscuits will be served at the end of the meeting. All are welcome.

We made Maggies Day

This was the theme of the Harvest Dance at Cuckfield. Maggie Sawney is an aromatherapist at St Peter and St. James and to enable her to extend her work at the hospice and in the community we held the dance. We had a lot of fun and the outcome was that we raised well over £750 for the Charity. We would like to acknowledge the support we received from Barling Caterers, our resident sound man Richard Walters and all the Perdido Players Swing Band. Also, some who were unable to attend gave donations which were greatly appreciated.

Our next event is to play for St.Catherine's Hospice at the King Edward Hall on Saturday 3rd December.

On 11th December we will be playing carols at the Holy Trinity, Cuckfield for their Christmas Tree appeal

On 17th December at 10-00am outside Lindfield URC for the last event of the season, two hours of Christmas carols, rain or shine. Wonderful!

Thank you for your support.

Peter Swann

Don't look back, Derek!

When some people get an idea into their heads, they really go for it! One example of such keenness is Derek Hillman.

Derek spent two years lovingly restoring a classic grey Ferguson 20 tractor, back to its as-new state in its former glory days. Not content with this, Derek has been keen to put it to work, and we can happily report, he won his class at the Hurstpierpoint Ploughing Match on 1st October. Derek is well-pleased with the result but says drive just to get there was a feat in itself at the tractors 12mph top speed!

Well done, Derek.

November church diary

3rd

Thursday

House Groups

5th

Saturday

8.45 – Sat a.m. Prayer
9.30am Meeting @ LURC

6th

Sunday

(6th before Christmas)

**The Promise of
Redemption: Moses**

Exodus 6: 2-8,
Hebrews 11:17-31
& Mark 13: 5-13

9.30am **Communion**
– David Nibloe
& Colin Bones

11.00am Colin Bones

6.30pm **Prayer & Praise**
David Goodchild
& Colin Bones

Colin Bones with guest
Rev Patrick Genza from
Uganda.

9th

Wednesday

12.30pm Lunch
Fellowship

10th

Thursday

8.00pm Annual General
Church Meeting

12th

Saturday

8.45 – Sat a.m. Prayer
9.30am Meeting @ LURC

**OTHER LOCAL EVENTS
LISTED ON BACK COVER**

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13th

Sunday

(5th before Christmas)

**Remembrance & Jigsaw
Sunday**

9.30am Adrian Cookney
& Barry Piper

The Remnant of Israel

Isaiah 10: 20-23,
Romans 9: 19-28
& Mark 13: 14-33

11.00am Barry Piper

3.00pm **Service of**

Remembrance at

All Saints – Colin Bones

6.30pm **Communion**
– Colin Bones

**The letter to the church
in Sardis**

Revelation 3: 1-6

17th

Thursday

House Groups

19th

Saturday

8.45 – Sat a.m. Prayer
9.30am Meeting @ EFC

20th

Sunday

(4th before Christmas)

The Advent Hope

Isaiah 51: 4-11;
Romans 13: 8-14;
Matthew 25: 31-46

9.30am David Nibloe &
John Goodway

11.00am John Goodway

Fair Trade Stall

6.30pm **Healing**

– Steve Fisher

**The letter to the church
in Philadelphia**

Revelation 3: 7-13

22ndTuesday 7.45pm In Touch
– Ladies Meeting**23rd**Wednesday 2.45pm Afternoon Fellowship
7.45pm Elders' Meeting**24th**Thursday 8.00pm Church Prayer
Meeting**26th**Saturday 8.45 – Sat a.m. Prayer
9.30am Meeting @ EFC**27th**

Sunday

(3rd before Christmas)

Advent Sunday

The Drama of the Bible

9.30am **Boys' Brigade****Enrolment**

David Nibloe &

Colin Bones

**The Word of God in the
Old Testament**

Isaiah 64: 1-7,

Romans 15: 4-13

& Luke 4: 14-21

11.00am **Communion**

– Colin Bones

6.30pm Colin Bones

**The letter to the church
in Laodicea**

Revelation 3: 14-21

30thWednesday 8.00pm Three Churches
Prayer Meeting
Lounge URC

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.



Samaritan's Purse

Since 1990, Operation Christmas Child has brought the joy of Christmas to more than 38 million boys and girls. Last year Samaritan's Purse in the UK sent out over one million gifts to children across Eastern and Central Europe. This annual project enables caring individuals, families, schools, churches, businesses and other organisations to fill ordinary shoe boxes with small toys, school supplies, sweets and other gifts for needing children around the world.



Operation Christmas Child sends a message of hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and offering booklets of Bible stories. It focuses on the true meaning of Christmas – Jesus Christ, God's greatest gift. With the help of thousands of volunteers, Samaritan's Purse collects and processes these gift-filled shoe boxes in its warehouses across the UK. Then, working with national churches and charities, Samaritan's Purse delivers the gifts to children in hospitals, orphanages, refugee camps, homeless shelters and impoverished neighbourhoods. Last year these boxes went to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia, Croatia, Hungary, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Mozambique, Romania, Russia, Serbia and Ukraine. If you are able to provide a gift-filled shoe box please pick up a leaflet from the mission board and bring your filled

box to church on 20th November.

Samaritan's Purse does not only work at Christmas. Their aim is "to meet critical needs of victims of war, poverty, famine, disease and natural disaster while sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ". Throughout the year teams of volunteers are working all over the world bringing relief to people in difficult situations. Child and family support is helping in Romania, summer and football camps are being run in eastern Europe, water filters are being installed in Mozambique, aid programmes in Africa and many other projects around the world. For up-to-date information please see the mission board in the concourse.

Samaritan's Purse also have a Christmas Gift Catalogue with a difference so look out for that too.

Please visit their website at www.samaritanpurse.uk.com



They were not 'square' at the Triangle

Adore was a live rock/pop worship concert put on at the Triangle in Burgess Hill on Sunday 2nd October by n:vision, an organisation that is trying to promote Christianity to young people across Sussex.

I believe the total number of people attending the event topped 1000 which was a much larger number than I expected. The band playing was headed up by Matt Redman, a popular Christian song writer who plays guitar. The event was good fun running through the early evening with a great atmosphere that was relaxed so you could just stand and watch or dance and sing along to the songs.

During the event there was also a talk by Stef Liston that lasted for a short time and had a strong message about having a sense of Christian community and making a difference.

The talk was thought-provoking, but not overly deep. The music was played really well and sounded great with the band playing some really

uplifting tracks. A good time was had by all who went and I would definitely recommend anyone who enjoys music to go along to one of their events in the future.

If anyone is interested there is an event called Eliv8 on 1st June next year at the 'Event II' nightclub in Brighton running from 7-10pm and it looks to be just as great.

If you would like more information go to www.nvision.uk.net

Alex Hall



Love is...

The fruit of the Spirit is love. Galatians 5:22

Everybody, it seems, is searching for love – longing to be loved, longing to find someone to love. But what a muddle we get into when we try to pin down what we mean by love. It all springs out of our human need for relationship – for acceptance, for affection, for companionship, as well as for that most elusive thing, the experience of being “in love”.

C.S.Lewis, in his useful book *The Four Loves*, distinguishes affection, friendship and eros (romantic sexual love) from the love that is the essence of the character of God (1 John 4:8). This is the love that Paul describes as patient and kind, not envious, boastful, proud, rude or self-seeking, not easily angered and keeping no record of wrongs (1 Cor.13: 4-5).

Sadly, in our increasingly fragmented society, there are many Christians who miss out on eros – the love that will ideally lead to marriage. It is deeply unhelpful to tell single members of our churches that all they need is Jesus. The whole Bible

speaks of the importance of living, human community, and, for those who cannot find, or cannot fulfil, eros, the need for affection and friendship is crucial. In fact, we all yearn for the helping hand, the friendly hug, the eye to eye communication, the shared joke, the sociable meal.

But somehow we just don't have it in us to love everyone equally, either in our churches or in our workplaces. We have such different personalities, backgrounds and ways of doing things. The love that is the fruit of the Spirit, however, transcends our human likes and dislikes, and also transcends the affection and friendship we have



for particular people: it both embraces these and goes far beyond them. For, Jesus said, this love can extend even to our enemies.

So in the Church there is no excuse for some people feeling excluded and unloved. We must plead with the Holy Spirit – who lives in us – to give us Jesus’ love for everyone. This includes our colleagues at work and everyone else we meet in our everyday lives. Some people may seem to us unlovely, but nobody is unlovable.

Helen Parry

Source: Reprinted by kind permission of the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity 2005

God is love

My beloved friends, let us continue to love each other since love comes from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and experiences a relationship with God. The person who refuses to love doesn’t know the first thing about God, because God is love – so you can’t know him if you don’t love.

1 John 4:7

The Message – Contemporary language Bible



Coming up in GoodNEWS... _____

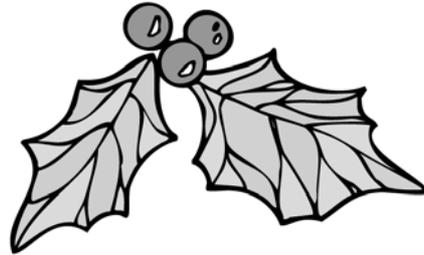
How was your Christmas?

**The GoodNEWS editorial team has a vision
- and we need your help to realise it!**

We'd like to hear your stories of Christmas' past. Something remarkable, a poignant spiritual moment or perhaps the traditions you enjoy with your family annually.

Make your contribution between 100 – 200 words please and email it to us at goodnews@happyseason.co.uk or pop it in the GoodNEWS pigeon hole.

Thank you.



Make GoodNEWS your card to the church!

As part of our Christmas feature in December's magazine, we are encouraging you to send your Christmas greetings to the whole church.

Simply write your message in the box here, place it in the GoodNEWS pigeon hole by 12th November. Don't forget your name! We will scan and print your exact message in GoodNEWS, which comes out on 27th November.

The money you save, we hope you can give to charity via the church Christmas post box scheme.

Meanwhile we can share in your Christmas message to our whole church family.

St James-the-Least of All

Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St James-the-Least in the county of C- for example. Here the elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained...

Letter from St James the Least of All – On working with young people

My dear Nephew Darren

It is quite natural for you curates to enjoy working with young people in your parishes; church youth clubs were created in order to keep the newly ordained off the streets in the evenings. But be assured you will grow out of it. I consent to baptise babies and prepare teenagers for confirmation, but beyond that my contact with this alien life form is kept to an absolute minimum.

Dear Miss Thrush runs our weekly Pram Service - although at her age I am rather surprised she doesn't call it a Bassinette Service. Its sole purpose seems to be to give young mothers an opportunity to discuss the ever-changing liaisons within the village, while their offspring shred hymn books and destroy the flower arrangements. I drop in from time to time in order to check that the more mobile haven't found where we hide the matches. An infant equipped with that knowledge can so easily develop into a teenage pyromaniac.

I can give you little advice on your youth group. When I was a curate, the major activity seemed to be to teach them how to wear gas masks, although today I imagine there is more concern about protecting them from other sorts of exotic chemicals. Also, I suspect you are kept busy keeping the young out of the darker corners of the churchyard as they develop their anatomical knowledge – a past-time still enthusiastically pursued by each new generation.

You clearly find your monthly Youth Service a deeply enriching experience. As far as I am concerned, if such a liturgy had been necessary, then Cranmer would have provided us with one. Endlessly repeated choruses accompanied by a guitar would make me warm to the Quakers. I am sure St. Paul's services would have been much enriched with Hymns Ancient and Modern. The disciples in hiding in Jerusalem were not even able to sing accompanied by an organ, which must have greatly dispirited them. I also feel that our Verger would be unable to cope with organising the strobe lighting and dry ice effects. It takes him all his time to remember to light the candles on the altar.

On this matter we must differ. You must worship God in your way, and I in his.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Source: Parish Pump 2005

The Back Pages

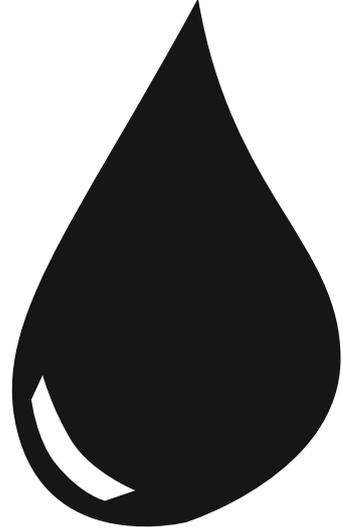
Church member, Fiona Tingley, considers the changes in our church building.

A few thoughts on the Baptistry

How exciting – we’ve got the new Baptistry at last! Now let me see, how many years is it since the idea was first muted by our good friend Ken Walden (now gone to glory)? “Too many”, some of you may cry! Others of you may not be so sure! If you are in that category, please read on. Here are one or two simple thoughts on the matter.

I felt the Lord laying on my heart an analogy concerning our legendary Baptistry. Many of us are fortunate enough to own our own homes in these days, and for most there is a longing to make that home, bigger, better, more comfortable, often so that we can offer hospitality to others outside our own family. So we save up or take out another mortgage and put on an extension, or have a new kitchen or bathroom. OK, I can hear you saying, yes we did all that in 1996, but spending money on what is a small swimming pool in our best room!? Is this really the best use of our resources? I do understand folk’s questioning on this matter, particularly if, like me, you have not been brought up with the idea of ‘Believer’s Baptism’. But let’s go back to the analogy of our homes for a minute: years ago people didn’t entertain in their homes like they do today. Families usually remained living in the same area. There wasn’t any need to have a spare room, let alone an en suite! A kitchen with all the convenience gadgets we have today couldn’t even have been imagined by two or more generations back. Yes, times have changed; we think so differently today.

Surely that is true in our Christian lives, too. Many of the young families in our congregation are no longer having their children baptised, but dedicated. This is in order that when they are grown up they can make the choice for themselves; to go through the waters



of Baptism as a sign of total commitment to the living Lord Jesus in their lives. If we don't make provision for this to happen in their own spiritual home (the church where they have been brought up), we will see them go elsewhere. And if that were to keep on happening our church would eventually die – there will be no young people coming up to take our place! Also, take a look at our Church's Mission Statement (see Prayer Focus on Page 3) and endeavour to see the Baptistery as a practical provision for those we are praying into God's kingdom. PLEASE, LET US TRY TO SEE THE BAPTISTRY AS A WISE INVESTMENT FOR THE FUTURE OF Lindfield URC.

Fiona Tingley

Lindfield Village Plan

Every village needs to have a plan, drawn up by a cross-section of members of the community - a vision of how you would like your village to be. It is supposed to: *"...set out a vision of what is important, how new development can best be fitted in the design and quality standards it should meet, how to preserve valued local features, which the community needs to safeguard for the future".*

So plans should: "identify key facilities and services, set out the problems that need to be tackled and demonstrate how distinctive character and features can be preserved".

It is a means by which everyone can voice their opinions and express their visions on how the area should develop in the future. It seeks to identify priorities and then shape them into a succinct, readable document – the "Village Plan" – which will be used to influence decision-makers in local councils, service providers, businesses and community organisations.

A PLAN FOR LINDFIELD. After a lengthy gestation period a Lindfield Village Plan Steering Committee has been set up, comprising representatives of the two Parish Councils, the leaders of five Working Groups (below) and other local residents. It so happens that our member, Rev Michael Davies, is chairman. The Working Groups are for:

- Housing & Environment (two sub-groups)
- Village facilities & attractions
- Sports & Leisure
- Safety & Security
- Traffic & Transport

With the October edition of "Lindfield Times" every home in Lindfield received a copy of the Lindfield Village Plan Questionnaire 2005, to be returned to the Parish Office, 6 Denmans Lane, Lindfield RH16 2LB by 19th November.

Then, on Saturday morning, 5th November, everyone in the community is invited to visit the King Edward Hall between 10am and noon to see a display of the work in hand and the issues before the five Working Groups, to share their ideas with those involved and to hear what is going on over a nice (free!) cup of coffee.



BASIS FOR THE EXHIBITION. The questions people are being asked are:

- Do you want to help shape the future of our beautiful village?
- Do you have ideas to share about the good of our community?
- Have you views on what should (or should not) be provided here?
- Do you have a “vision for Lindfield”?
- Are you disappointed that no one seems to listen to your point of view?
- Do you want to take part in forming opinions and policies?

Well - YOU CAN – THROUGH THE PLAN! You can help make your village a better place for everyone – yes you can, through the Village Plan.

All this is happening, but the question is – do the churches have ideas, a vision, some input into the plan for the future of our village? Though several individual members are involved, the churches themselves have not contributed in any way to the process. Come on – “Alive 05” churches – what about it!

Hope to see you all at the King Edward Hall, 10am to noon on 5th November. Let's have some fireworks in the morning as well as at night!

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 the editor – it would be great to see more of what is going on in/around the village.

Contact details on page 2.

*“Seven prayer-less
days makes
one weak!”*



Flower Rota

	Arranging	Distributing
November		
6	Wedding Flowers	Sue Tester
13	Betty Billins	Dorothy Forster
20	Sue Waller	Betty Peter
27	Anne Blake	Jacqueline Wood
December		
4	Dorothy Forster	Barbara Shepherd
11	Iris Green	Iris Bingham
18	Mies Campling	Fiona Tingley
25	Christmas Decorations	(No delivery)

Many thanks for donations given for Harvest flowers.



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)
	7.45pm	Boys' Brigade – Company Section (11+ years)
Tue	10.00am	Stepping Stones (Parents and toddlers)
	7.45pm	In Touch (4th Tuesday)
Wed	2.45pm	The Fellowship (4th Wed.)
	5.30pm	Zest 1:2, 3:4
	6.45pm	Zest 5:6:7
	7.15pm	Zest 8+
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 12.30pm**

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

Hall Booking Secretary:

Audrey McKee 01444 415031

In Touch:

Sue Waller 01444 455047

Lunch Fellowship:

Wednesday:
Janet Drayton 01444 456161

Friday:
Gwen Hillman 01444 456963
Anne Parker 01444 473519

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:

Iris Green 01444 484117

Junior Church

& Zest Co-ordinator:

Clare Nibloe 01444 484683



Local events

Lindfield Preservation Society has an open meeting on

Lindfield & the South East Regional Plan

Wednesday 16th November

8pm, King Edward Hall

Royal British Legion

Women's Section

Coffee morning in the lounge

Saturday 26th November

10am – noon,
Lindfield URC

Books and gifts.

MUSIC FOR PLEASURE

King Edward Hall

A lunchtime concert

Thursday 17th November

1pm – 1.50pm

Keith Allen – Piano

Admission free.

Tea/coffee available.

Tel: 452697

Tiger Cubs Pre School

A Potpourri of Stalls

Saturday 12th November

11.30am – 2.30pm,
Lindfield URC

Come along and browse around a variety of stalls for **Christmas ideas** and enjoy a spot of lunch.

Jacket potatoes with a selection of fillings will be available alongside **refreshments**. (Subject to availability). *This event is sponsored by Forget-me-not and Heart & Soul*

Ardingly College

Choral Society

Remembrance Concert

Sunday 13th November

7.30, In the College Chapel. Details from 01444 89327

Lindfield Times

is now available and delivered free to over 3000 homes in Lindfield.

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