

*150 Years of Worship and Outreach*

# Central United Reformed Church Hove



November 2013

# **CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

*Sunday Youth Ministry*

Mrs. A. Austen

Mrs C. Vaughan

*Boys' Brigade*  
(Mondays)

Mr. C. Jukes

*Girls' Club*  
(Tuesday)

Mrs. S. Hill

*Tuesday Fellowship*  
(Alternate Tuesdays)

Mrs Celia Baines – Holmes

*Men's Fellowship*  
(Third Wednesday)

Mr. P. Gear

*Welcome Break*  
(Wednesdays)

Mrs. P. Macaulay

*Bluebird Parent & under 3s Group*

Mrs K. Hancox

Church Web Site

Mr John Brewster

**Church Hall Tel: 01273 734162**

**Email: [info@centralurchove.com](mailto:info@centralurchove.com)**

# Dear Friends,

We are approaching a time of change in our church - in our three churches - as we face a new future. We live in fast-changing times in our society, and the Church at large is faced with new challenges. Generally we don't like change, but there can be positive outcomes, which mean that we don't 'rest on our laurels' and become complacent. It's how we adapt and face the challenge of a new situation that is important. We need to remember that God doesn't change - He is faithful, generous, and completely dependable. *"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows"* (James 1 v. 17). However, as Church in particular, I think we need to be ready for change, and ready to change.

We need to rise to the challenge of new circumstances in the life of our own church. The power of God's Spirit is always available to us, especially through times of uncertainty. We all have a part to play in the Church as Paul reminded the churches in his letters. When we gather together, we experience the presence of Christ as part of His body. It's then that we are *"prepared as God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God"* (Ephesians 4 v. 12, 13). The Church is the

God-chosen, God-inspired, God-lived-in plan for the world.

The Church is not like any other organisation - we don't simply make 'democratic' decisions in any given situation. We need wisdom in our church as we look to be guided by God, now, and in the days ahead. We look to the Lord to do 'a new thing' amongst us, as we face the future with expectation. This means that we need to be prayerful, and to know the mind of Christ in all that we do at this time of change, challenge, and opportunity.

May the Lord continue to bless us.

***Roger***

## **Jenny Davies, Pakistan**

*Those who attended Alex & Louise's Curry Night and met Jenny may be interested in the following:*

Jenny has asked for prayer regarding running the school in Pakistan. Due to all the different ages and nationalities of the children, they do now need an extra teacher to what they were hoping to get by on.

Also please pray for the Christian community in Pakistan and other Islamic states. There has been a big increase in attacks on churches and individuals resulting in many injuries and deaths just for holding a different faith.

If any one missed Jenny's talk but would like more information about Operation Mobilisation or Jenny's work including information that can't be published in public places in order to protect people from future attacks, please ask Alex or Louise

**BEAUTY IS IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER!**

But

Jill Humphrey urgently needs cosmetics and toiletries  
for

The Toiletries Stall at the Christmas Fair.

Please give them to Jill or leave them in the office  
for her by the end of November. (Jill is around the  
building on Monday & Tuesday mornings and  
Wednesday lunchtime.) OR phone 882656.

## **FAMILY NEWS FROM CENTRAL**

It was good to learn that **Martha Sacrée** and **Abigail Sargudeen** had a great time at St James' Palace when they received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award Certificates. The event was extra memorable because it was the Duke of Edinburgh's 500<sup>th</sup> such ceremony and Martha spoke with him about her Residential Service at a school in Ghana.

During October we received confirmation that **Hazel Childs** and **Abigail Smith** have also earned their Gold Awards. We congratulate them and hope to arrange a badge presentation, when they are home from university at the end of the year.

The new Girls' Club has begun with a solid core of girls from the Girls' Brigade and a feasible membership. We pray for its success.

Both **Jenny Flint** and **Celia Baines-Holmes** are undergoing treatments, which we hope will prove successful and improve their health. We shall hold them steadfastly in prayer and as for God's comfort and healing powers while they receive their treatment. It was good to see Celia at church last Sunday.

**Peggy McMillen** has made steady progress and is learning to be sensible. She now has more movement in her arm and her wound has been healing nicely.

**Molly Fraser** and **Ann Beach** have been the ones who have given us sudden cause for concern during the past month. Molly had a very bad fall, which broke her collar bone and some ribs., We hear that she is now back home, convinced that she will recover more quickly there. Ann Beach was rushed into hospital, had a spell in the HDU ward but, we understand, is back home, although it may be a few weeks before we see her once more.

Also in need of our prayerful concern are **John** and **Elsie Flack**. Elsie's health took a turn for the worse when she suffered a mild stroke, John is valiantly and lovingly doing his best to care for her, although his own health is not too good. Please pray that an appropriate and helpful care system may be arranged for them.

Along with all these friends whom we surround with prayer we continue to hold in prayer the **Elliott/ Marteau** families who are trying to adapt to a life without Kevin and Thierry as well as Sally's continued ill health. We assure Peter, Celia, Pascal, Sally, Sondrine and Niki of our love and

concern.

The **Boys' Brigade** have a very busy month ahead of them with Boys' Brigade Week, a Coffee Morning and, increasingly, preparations for their Old Time Music Hall, as well as following the BB programme and allowing for some fun time too. Please show your support for the Company not only by your prayers, which are appreciated, but also by supporting these events both financially and with your presence.

We have heard about Alex's proposed move to Brighthelm, so we ask you to hold in prayer, not only the Mabbs family as they make this move but also Roger and Kim Wood as they face holding the pastorate together and leading it in the months to come. We also need to pray for our churches at Central, Hounsom and Portslade. May each congregation work, pray and worship together in a spirit of mutual support. May every member be prepared to help a extra bit more as we face the coming months and continue to reach out to our communities.

*Fellowship of Prayer: Doreen Fookes, Tebello Sibanda, Clive and Shirley Hamblin, and John Gilson.*

## **NEWS FROM BENIDORM**

The new minister and his wife, Roger & Marion Robertson, have been inducted into the English Church in Benidorm by Lynda Hulcoop. June Whittle and Adrian & Hilary Ball were also there





**The Boys &  
Staff**

**of**

**10th Brighton (Hove)  
Boys' Brigade Company**

**Invite you all to our**

**COFFEE MORNING**

**On**

**Saturday 23rd November**

**10.30—Noon**

**(Donations of homemade cakes will be very welcome)**

**BB WEEK**

**18<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

## CALLING CHRISTMAS SINGERS

Practices for this year's Carol Service will start after the morning service on 1<sup>st</sup> December and continue each Sunday thereafter. A mid-week rehearsal may also be scheduled, if enough people are available.

Everyone welcome to come along.

If you are interested, please speak to Alan Ireland,



## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Once again the large Christmas Card with its stickers will be available in the Upper Vestibule, so that we can send greetings to our friends in the church instead of buying individual Christmas cards.

The money donated will go to charity.

This year the chosen charity is The Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team.

Earlier this year one of their volunteers came to the Tuesday Fellowship to tell us about their work. We were all so impressed by their wonderful dedication to their task. The volunteers are all committed Christians from churches in the local area. They man the cliff top 24hours-7days a week to help desperate folk, who come from all over the world intent on committing suicide.

This year has been their busiest – they have saved 252 people since January.

Please give generously to help their vital work.

The card will be on display from Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

*Pam Macaulay*

## **Alex and his move to Brighthelm**

I expect that you have all heard by now that I am moving on to a new ministry post after Christmas. I would like to tell you more about it.

Brighthelm Church and Community Centre, in North Road, Brighton, has undergone a process of review and change over the past few years. It is now a charitable trust with three overlapping emphases: church, community and sustainability. The day to day operation of the trust's work is in the hands of a director, Rik Child, and a staff team. The café has been refurbished, as has the room used by Brighthelm's pre-school. All sorts of groups and businesses (and churches) rent space in the centre, either permanently or for occasional meetings and conferences. Some of these groups are working on environmental issues, as ecology is now a major emphasis of Brighthelm's work. The URC agreed earlier this year to fund a special category ministry post at Brighthelm: a minister to work alongside the director; provide a spiritual focus for the project; give pastoral care to the URC congregation and all the users of the centre; and explore 'green' theology more deeply and spread the insights in the wider church and beyond. That's the post to which I've been called.

Those of you who read my blog will know that I have an interest in ecology. One of the things that first attracted me to the post at Brighthelm was the opportunity to spend more time doing theology around 'green' issues and be part of the development of Christian ecology. Ministry at Brighthelm will also give me the opportunity to pick up and develop some of the chaplaincy-type ministry I've enjoyed in the past. I will enjoy developing some creative creation-centered worship and seeing what fresh expression of church might emerge.

I believe that this is God's call. I am not moving on because of any dissatisfaction with the situation in the Hove and Portslade pastorate, and it would be a mistake to interpret my move in that way. I will be sad to leave you, but when God calls, it's best to pay attention. I believe that this is of God and so I feel confident to leave you in Roger's pastoral care and, more importantly, in God's hands.

Alex Mabbs.

## **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SKITTLES EVENING**

The Skittles Evening is a keenly anticipated item on the programme of the Men's Fellowship.

It is noisy, keenly contested, challenging (just finding Barcombe can test driving and navigational skills, especially when husband and wife are in the same car!), and very partisan. It is also hugely enjoyable. The objective of the "sport", as far as one may establish it, is to knock down all nine skittles with a heavy ball. Contestants have three attempts at this. Never be lulled into a false sense of achievement by knocking over five or six the first time you throw the ball. Even if you manage "sevEN!" or even eight, that one last skittle will remain upright and the ball will invariably go in every direction but the one intended.

There is no reason to fear even the seasoned veterans of this game or even bowlers – the ball goes where it wants and the skittles are staunchly unmoving. Peter Gear had the right idea of starting slowly and improving in each successive round. It was obvious that the "Strictly" season had started, when the score of seven was roared out with Len-like fervour.

Not an inch was given between the teams and husband Vs. wife rivalry was often intense. As the ball thundered down the alley and the wooden skittles fell, roars of exultation or derision echoed around the room.

After two rounds, there was a most enjoyable interval in which we were able to enjoy a delicious repast of casserole, cottage pie and deep dish apple pie with cream. No rabbit food here! Definitely the men's hearts were satisfied. The conversation, laughter and teasing over performances flowed, until Tony Clark chivvied everyone once more to the skittles. Two more rounds were packed in – we were improving at recognising when it was our turn, although there was always one or two who.....!

This was exciting, keenly fought contest between the four teams. As we embarked on that last round, there were only five points between first and last. It was obviously the supper, which scuppered the Spades' chances, as they had been in the lead for the first two rounds. However, not even Pam Macaulay's flag waving could save them from a miserable third place.

The Diamonds, despite having Tony Clark score a poor two, (to be fair he was kept very busy organising everyone else and keeping score) managed to turn a poor last place in round one into a win in round four.

Individually, Graham Smith had the top score with 40; four points behind in second place were Keren Hancox and Adam Gill; while the lowest score of 20 was made by Jinny Smith and Tony Clark.

Altogether it was a hugely enjoyable evening of great fun and friendship: an evening which gave fresh insight into some people's characters, as they achieved that elusive NINE. The quiet ones are really not so quiet at all!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the evening a success: those who reset the skittles and risked life and limb by standing at that end of the alley; everyone who participated and especially Tony Clark who organised the event and us so efficiently and apparently calmly while paddling furiously below the surface!!!



Diamonds - The winning team.

# CHURCH CALENDAR

## NOVEMBER

SUN 3	Family Service – Holy Communion Rev Roger Wood Evening Worship – The Junction	10.30 am  6.30 pm
Mon 4	Ladies Prayer Group	8.00 pm
SUN 10	<b>Remembrance Day</b>  Family Service  Rev Peter Elliott Evening Worship Holy Living – Colossians Ch 3 – Ch 4 v1 Rev Roger Wood	10.30 am   6.30 pm
Tue 12	Tuesday Fellowship – Trevor Povey The Royal Escape	2.30 pm
Wed 13	Elders' Meeting	7.30 pm
SUN 17	Family Service Rev Alex Mabbs Church Meeting Evening Worship Prayer & Fellowship – Colossians Ch 4 vv2-18 Rev Alex Mabbs	10.30 am   6.30 pm
Mon 18	<b>BB WEEK 18<sup>TH</sup> – 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	
Wed 20	Men's Fellowship – Members' Memories	7.45 pm
Sat 23	BB Coffee Morning	10.30 am
SUN 24	Family Service – Parade Carl Jukes Evening Worship Rev Peter Elliott	10.30 am  6.30 pm
Mon 25	Christian Book Club – Micah & Matthew Ch 1-4	8.00 pm

Tue 26	Tuesday Fellowship Craft Afternoon with Sylvia	2.30 pm
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## **DECEMBER**

SUN 1	Family Service – Holy Communion Gifts Around the Christmas Tree Rev Alex Mabbs Evening Worship – The Junction	10.30 am   6.30 pm
Sat 7	<b>Christmas Fair</b>	10.00 am

- All contributions for the **DECEMBER-JANUARY** edition of the magazine must be handed in no later than **SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER.**
- Please inform Mrs Sheena Ireland by Wednesday of the preceding week of any calendar changes so that the calendar on the Order of Service may be altered.



## **FLOWERS FOR NOVEMBER**

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Available
10 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day – Pam Macaulay
17 <sup>th</sup>	Pam Moody

<b>So far Joshua has raised approximately:</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct 20th</b>	<b>Total</b>
Odd jobs	£127	£31	£158
Paper-round	£182	£63	£246
Pocket money (less hamster costs)	£25	£23	£48
Birthday / Xmas money/ -	£63	£63	
Donations organisations (Rotary Club)	£250	-	£250
Donations private individuals	£538	£70	£608
Tanzania Mania Quilt* (should raise £1000)	£13	£39	£52
Sales - household items	£31	-	£31
<b>Total needed £4,000</b>	<b>£1166</b>	<b>£289</b>	<b>£1455</b>

### Reminder of the quilt project

#### **Tanzania Mania Quilt – a chance to win a King Size designer quilt!**

A donation of £1 per patch (you can buy as many as you like for different family members)

This first £1 for each patch will be the £1,000 for Joshua's trip

Plus a 6" square of patterned cotton fabric per patch or another £1 donation to cover the cost of the material if Louise provides it, (any surplus in money will also be donated to Joshua's fund)

50p or SAE if outside of the local area, so we can send you your copy of the postcard, which will be printed of the finished quilt.

One contributor will win the final king size quilt, which is likely to be based loosely on the Tanzanian flag design.

I (Louise) am donating my time to design & make a quilt with 1,000 patches in it.

We are setting up a blog to record progress and hopefully get contributors from all over the world

Please look out for posters on the church noticeboards and Louise or Josh for more information

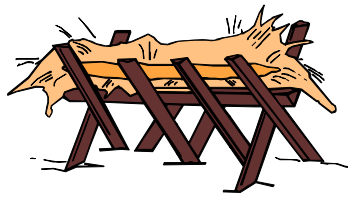
Thank you

## **FUEL CRISIS**

With the onset of winter and the recent news that the Big Six energy companies are raising their prices by up to 10% many people will have to make a stark choice of food or fuel.

The Brighton and Hove City Mission have come up with the suggestion that people who can afford to should donate all or part of their Winter Fuel Allowance to help those in need.

If you feel you may be able to help in this way there are forms explaining how to do so on the table in the Upper Vestibule or please speak to Sheena Ireland.



Men's Fellowship - Skittles Evening

CENTRAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HOVE

# Christmas fayre

Saturday, 7th December

10.00 a.m.—1.00 p.m.

Ventnor Hall

Books, Bric-a-Brac, Cakes,  
Cards & Crafts, Groceries,  
Toys, Toiletries,  
FairTrade & Books Alive Stalls  
Morning Coffee & Tea  
Light Lunches from 12 noon



## GIFTS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER

Please remember to bring your gifts to place under the Christmas Tree in church on 1st December, so that they may be taken to Brighton & Hove City Mission in time to be sorted, allocated and distributed for Christmas.

Imagine a child whose bedroom is uncarpeted, lit by a single light bulb with peeling wallpaper and no furniture other than a mattress with dirty bed linen. Now imagine the joy that an unexpected present can bring.

Or imagine an elderly person living alone with no family to support them or give them joy over Christmas and the pleasure that an unexpected gift can bring, showing that someone does care.

These are real examples of the way in which the true Christmas spirit is shared when the gifts you donate are distributed by the Brighton and Hove City Mission.

The following are examples of some of the items the Mission finds most helpful:

**Children's Toys and Gifts** – These are required for all ages from 1 to 14. All items are appreciated including educational toys, games, cuddly toys, painting and drawing sets including felt tips etc.

**Seasonal Gifts for Elderly Folk** – In addition to smellies, writing sets, purses, wallets, men's socks ladies scarves etc are welcome.

**Toiletries** - At Christmas, seasonal smellies of all kinds including gift packs for both male and females, deodorants and shaving foam are particularly helpful.

**Food** - The Mission likes to be able to make up some hampers that include "Christmas Goodies". Just imagine what goes into a Christmas hamper.

Christmas Paper for wrapping is always acceptable BUT

Please remember that the Mission's policy is to only give out new toys to children. Also, please do not wrap your gifts. The Mission will wrap them but first needs to know what they are in order to allocate them properly.

## **THE CHRISTIAN BOOK CLUB**

The meeting took place on a dark & stormy night. After some chit-chat about the difficulties members had experienced in getting hold of the book, and the need to have two months' notice of what we were going to read instead of just one, we got down to discussing "The Robe" by Lloyd. C. Douglas, which all those present had enjoyed either reading or re-reading and rediscovering.

We found it well-written and an easy read, with a wide vocabulary. Although written seventy years ago, and about events of two thousand years ago, it had remarkable similarities to the situation in the Middle East today. People felt they got inside the time and place, and had a real feeling for how life was in Palestine with the Romans running it, how life was in Rome, how frightening it was to be a Christian and hiding in the catacombs. It showed the last days of Jesus' ministry and the early days of the Christian Church from a different perspective. As well as making the Bible feel more real and alive, it demonstrated the links between and the importance to each other of the Old and New Testaments.

Several members had made their apologies. Tony Clark produced the most "poetic:"

### **Greetings to the CBC**

I cannot be in two places at once  
So which one should I choose?  
To go and discuss a book I don't like  
Or watch the Albion lose?  
  
My chances of adding to the debate  
Are, I must admit, thin.  
And who knows, this might be the night  
When they go and surprise me and win.  
  
So it's off to the Amex I'm heading right now  
In my coat and my cap and my scarf.  
And if it turns out the Seagulls get stuffed  
You all can have a jolly good larf.

His excuse for the poor scanning was lack of time to correct it. It may be noted that the result of the game was a draw.

The next meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> November, at the home of Clare Popley. The Book of Micah has been chosen, along with Chapters 1-4 of Matthew's Gospel. Suggestions for the January and February books will be welcome then.

*Sheena Ireland*

***Ladies ,***

*We appreciate how hard you have  
worked this year*

*So*

*You are invited to a*

***Ladies Night***

*A night of glitter & glam*

*On*

*13th December in the New Hall*

*Keep this date free*

*And await developments*



## **FAIRTRADE**

**New catalogues** – Please pick your Traidcraft and Created catalogue up. Even if you don't think you can buy anything yourself could you pass it round friends and work colleagues? I'm also happy to keep a **wish list** of things you'd like for yourself, which friends or family could buy discreetly from me, so it's a surprise on the day!

**Stock** – Due to our forthcoming change in circumstances I will have to be cautious about getting a lot of new stock in so will be relying on preorders and sales at the fair. However I hope we can find someone in each church who could act as an intermediary through which you can continue to order items. All this of course needs to be negotiated with each church, but please consider if you could be a link.

The annual **Fairtrade Christmas Fair** at Hounsom is 11th - 16th November. Please see posters on the noticeboards coming soon and flyers on the catalogues. It's a great opportunity to quietly see all our stock, taste some of the products & engage with the local community in Hangleton.

**Offers of help** (mostly just keeping me company & making the odd coffee) will be greatly appreciated. Help in delivering invitations to the Fair & Christmas services is also needed in the Hangleton/Goldstone area

This years theme is **Three Wise Men** (they're not called 'Kings' in Bible translations) so if you have any pictures or decorations on this theme, please can we borrow them. I hope to invite 3 wise men from our communities and a surprise guest to have a question & answer session on issues of life & faith one of the evenings (serious & humorous questions invited)... I will post information as soon as I can

*Louise Mabbs*

### **Points to Ponder**

- *If quitters never win and winners never quit, what fool came up with, "Quit while your ahead"?*
- *How much deeper would oceans be if sponges didn't live there?*
- *If a man says something in the woods and there are no women there, is he still wrong?*
- *How is it possible to have a civil war?*

# MADE 4 U CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2013  
10AM - 4PM

CENTRAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
BLATCHINGTON ROAD, HOVE, BN3 3YF

## FREE ENTRY



For more details :  
[www.made4ucraftfair.co.uk](http://www.made4ucraftfair.co.uk)



# Ventnor Old Time Music Hall

**Friday 24th January  
7:30pm**

**Saturday 25th January  
2:30pm & 7:30pm**

Tickets available from  
Sarah 01903 526036  
or  
thetenthbb@hotmail.com  
Adults £5 Child £3



**10th Brighton (Hove)  
Boys Brigade**

[www.centralurchove.com](http://www.centralurchove.com)



## CENTRAL'S COPYRIGHT LICENCES

This is key standard information, like telephone numbers - don't forget what you have to do if you're:

(a) ....reproducing (by typing) song words (eg in notices, separate song sheets or for the overhead projector) you need to include at the foot of each song the following details:

*Author, © Year, © Owner, CCL licence number 12011*

...and **inform** Chris Hill for the records. If you don't have some of the information, try Chris or Sheena, they may be able to help !

(b).....photocopying words out of a book then you have to acknowledge at the foot of the photocopy the following details:

*Photocopied By Permission. MRL Licence No 806540*

No further action required for photocopying !

# Christmas Trees

## Sponsors Needed

We would like to have two Christmas Trees outside the main Doors of the Church again this year.



To do so we need sponsors towards the cost.

If you are able to donate, no matter how small an amount, please speak to Keren Hancox.



# CENTRAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HOVE

Corner of Ventnor Villas and Blatchington Road, Hove

Church Hall Telephone: 01273 734162

[www.centralurchove.com](http://www.centralurchove.com)

## *MINISTER*

Rev. Alex Mabbs

(Day off: Friday)

## *ASSOCIATE MINISTER*

Rev. Roger Wood

(Day off: Thursday)

## *SECRETARY*

Mrs. S. Ireland

## *TREASURER*

Mr. C. Hill

## *COVENANT & FREEWILL OFFERING SECRETARY*

Refer: Secretary/Treasurer

## *ORGANIST & CHOIR MASTER*

Dr. A. Ireland

## *BUILDING HALL(S) HIRE*

Mrs Celia Elliott

## *MAGAZINE EDITOR*

Mrs. R. Brice

## *SUNDAY SERVICES*

10.30 a.m.

MORNING WORSHIP

with Youth and Children's Ministry

6.30 p.m.

EVENING WORSHIP

HOLY COMMUNION

First Sunday of the month at 10.30 a.m.

Third Sunday of the month at 6.30 p.m.