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# THE OUTLOOK

Portslade United Reformed Church Magazine  
Part of the Hove and Portslade Pastorate

Price 25p



September 2011  
Issue No. 711



Welcome  
Friend

## Minister's Letter

Dear Friends

There was an admission by the Prime Minister not that long ago that 'we live in a broken society'. I guess that is an improvement on a previous Prime Minister who said that 'there is no such thing as society'. However, in recent weeks, David Cameron has said that "parts of our society are not just broken, but sick". This was in the wake of the riots that rocked our nation, and rocked the world! Apparently in many parts of the world the image of Britain as a genteel, civilised country, has been shattered.

The cause of the riots has been explained as being due to dysfunctional family situations, too many single-parent families, and a 50% unemployment rate amongst black youth in many of our cities. These facts are certainly serious and contribute to the problems that we are now facing in our communities. But perhaps that word 'community' is at the root of the problem – too many young people do not feel part of the community. They may be part of a gang, but they have little recognition of 'society' – of living together in harmony with others, and having a sense of right and wrong.

This may not be surprising when they see rich people getting richer, at the same time as they see opportunities for themselves evaporate. But more than that, they, and we, have seen the press using illegal means to pry into the private lives of famous people and victims of crime; members of parliament cheating with their expenses; and police officers accepting bribes for confidential information. So with the police, parliament and the press showing that they are corruptible, is there any wonder that disadvantaged people in society are turning to anarchy!

This all adds up to make the role of the church in the community even more important for the health of our society. Jesus said that we are to be “the salt of the earth” and “the light of the world”. What that means in practice is the challenge that faces us as churches and individuals.

May the Lord continue to challenge, bless, and use us.

*Roger*

## September Lectionary Readings

### Ordinary Time

#### *Kingdom Tales*

4 September	<b>Turn my heart</b>	Matthew 18.15-20
11 September	<b>Forgive</b>	Matthew 18.21-35
18 September	<b>Don't sulk</b>	Matthew 20.1-16
25 September	<b>Get on with it</b>	Matthew 21.23-32

The *Revised Common Lectionary* (RCL), used by many denominations across the world, is a common framework from which to read the Bible on Sundays. The RCL provides a three-year cycle offering a reading from the Old Testament, a psalm, a reading from a Gospel and a reading from one of the letters or Acts each week.

The ROOTS resources usually focus on one of the readings, exploring a common theme across the two magazines.

We offer alternative resources on the website when the readings in the Church of England's *Common Worship Lectionary* differ from the RCL.

This resource is taken from [www.rootsontheweb.com](http://www.rootsontheweb.com) and is copyright © Roots for Churches Ltd 2011

## Church Front Garden

The RMG, on behalf of the church, wish to thank Martin Cranfield for the work he has done re-coping the bricked flower areas.

Whilst we will reimburse Martin for materials, this is the second job he has done giving his time freely. In his words it enables him to “give something back” in thanks for his formative and many happy years involved in the church and Boys' Brigade.

Thank you again.

God Bless

## Back To Church Sunday - Who Will You Bring?

Back To Church Sunday will take place on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September**. Start thinking now who you could bring to church on that date!

Come for a continental style breakfast at 10am, followed by table top activities and All Age Worship.

Jayne



## September Prayer Diary

Sunday	Pray for those who, for some reason, just feel unable to pray.
Monday	Pray for God's blessing on the residents and staff of Bon Accord Care Home and the pupils and staff of Eastbrook Primary School
Tuesday	Give thanks that you can call yourself a Christian and confess that your flaws may be all too obvious.
Wednesday	Pray for those who feel there is no purpose in life. Pray also that they may be lead to know the Lord and that their outlook will change.
Thursday	Rejoice with those young people who have had success in their exams and pray that those who were disappointed will take heart and re-examine their future.
Friday	Pray for the people who suffer in conflicts around the world and pray also that the recent troubles in our own cities are over.
Saturday	"The Earth is the Lord's and all that is therein". Pray that the world's leaders will respect this as populations continue to increase.

Is there any area of general concern you would like included in future Prayer Diaries? If so, please contact Pauline May

## Talents

It does not seem that it was four months ago that Talents was launched and in just under three months, we will have the Ingathering.

Whatever your talent – whether it is shopping for a housebound neighbour, helping in other ways, giving lifts, holding a coffee morning or saving your small change – it enables us all to be in this place serving a Loving and Gracious Lord. Please keep saving and watch the pot grow.



God Bless

Pauline

## Churches Together in Portslade

Come and join us for a Walk and Fish and Chip Supper

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September**

**6pm** Meet at Hove Lagoon (South Side)

**7.30pm** Fish and Chips at Bankers, Norfolk Sq, Brighton  
Everyone welcome.



Please let Jean know by Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> if you would like to attend.

## Race For Life

Thank you to all those who sponsored me for the Race For Life again this year. I was able to send a cheque for £207 for this very worthwhile cause.

Thanks again.

Lynda

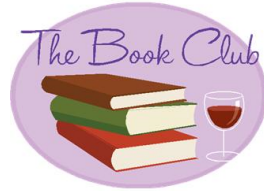


<http://www.raceforlife.org/>

## Portslade United Reformed Church Book Club

We are flourishing!! We are now 7, being especially pleased to have Hilda Brown join us, especially after such a long time away from the Church due to her operation(s) on her knee.

We last met on Wednesday 24th August, in "52", when we discussed the "Book of the Month" *The Long Island*, by Andrea Levy. What a book! What a discussion we had! It was the general consensus that this was perhaps a book that most of us would not have chosen to read but were all really pleased that we had. That is what we are all about, choosing literature for one another, broadening our horizons, and discussing our findings and feelings.



It has been decided that we will meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month and the book we are reading for discussion on **28th September** is "The Summer of the Bear" by Bella Pollen. This book was chosen by Pauline, who admits she might not even have chosen this one herself. Interesting!

Our **books** for the **26th October** are "One Day" by David Nichols (which has been made into a film and is currently being shown in Cinemas locally), the book chosen by Carol, and the book of Ecclesiastes, suggested by Lesley before she went on holiday!!

(Two small books)

We are currently in the process of registering with Brighton & Hove Library Services, but must have chosen a registration name for ourselves first. That is top of our Agenda for our next meeting.

If you would like to know more about us please come and talk to me.

Take care, God Blesss Mary Wigdor.

## News of the Church Family

It is with sadness that we learnt of the death of Ida Golesworthy. Ida died at home on 31<sup>st</sup> August where Harry was looking after her. She had recently had a spell in hospital where she learnt of additional problems on top of her MS. We give thanks to God that we were able to know Ida well and that she is at peace now and suffering no more. Please remember Harry, Jenny, Mary and Roger and their families in your prayers.

## News of the Church Family (cont.)

Lin Burgess has had her operation and is recovering at home under the watchful eye of Peter. She still has a long way to go but we give thanks to God that her prognosis is good. Please continue to pray for healing for Lin, and strength for Peter and the family as they continue to support and care for her.

Walter has now had to give up driving. He continues to care for Ethel despite his own health problems. Please pray for the both.

Richard has now started a different treatment for his skin problems and we pray that this brings some relief for him. We pray for healing for him and patience and strength for Clare as she supports him.

Hilda Brown has been able to attend church again recently. We give thanks for healing and we ask that she will go from strength to strength and continue in good health.

It is good to see Louise back with us after her visit to Ghana. We give thanks to God for her safe return. I am sure she will have lots of stories to share with us about her trip.

Congratulations to the young people in our church family who achieved in their recent GCSE examinations. We pray that you will continue to work hard and achieve in your chosen path.

There are other friends who need our prayers – those confined to their homes through age or ill health, those who are feeling low, those just afraid to venture outside. We pray for God's loving arms to surround them at this time.

Please remember in your prayers the work of the Brigades, Breakfast Club and Tuesday Fellowship as they restart after the summer break. We pray that they will grow in number and that we take the opportunity to spread the Good News of God's love to those who attend.



## URC Prayer Handbook 2012 - Common Prayers

Every year the URC publish a Prayer Handbook. It is a collection of unique prayers and meditations which over the years has attracted a wide and dedicated readership within the URC and elsewhere. It is for the individual as well as churches and several of our church folk obtain a copy each year and use its contents regularly. If you would like a copy they cost £5 and can be ordered through me.

Please give some prayerful thought to this and let me know if you would like a copy by Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

*Jayne*

## Church Meeting

The  
Church Meeting planned for Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September has been postponed. Please check the Sunday service sheet, noticeboards and listen to the notices for a new date.

## Fellowship - Summer

Our Summer programme finished with a Garden Party, shared with fifteen members. The weather was great we could here the planes at the air show and a squirrel graced us with his presence as there are quite a lot of food holders for the birds there.

Our 2011-2012 programme opens on Tuesday Sept.13th with Rev. Debbie Gaston.

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Tricia Tyler Gentle Exercises. Heres to a good year and hopefully seeing some new faces.  
Jean C Fellowship Correspondent.

Jean C.



## The Boys' Brigade



### **25<sup>th</sup> Brighton Company**

(Part of Portslade United Reformed Church)

We start our new session on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September and hope to see all our regular members back with us. We are hoping that with encouragement from the staff that we may see some new faces in the coming weeks. For the BB we are looking to recruit some new Anchor Boys as five of them are promoted to the Juniors.

It has been hard work building up the 25<sup>th</sup> again and it would be great to see the sections grow so that we have to try and find additional help! We are planning to do some fundraising – the first project is compiling a book of peoples favourite recipes and selling it (it would be good if the GB were part of this to) with the proceeds being split between the company (or companies) and the Eczema Society. If you have a favourite recipe and would like it included please either write it out or email it to me by the end of September.

Finally please remember the work of the company in your prayers.

## Table Top Sale

After much consideration there will be a table top sale for Charities on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October from 10am – 12noon. It helps if there is a variety of goods on sale not just bric a brac! There will be a charge of £10 per table that will go into church funds. If you would like to book a table please speak to Jayne or Pauline.

Can you display a poster to help publicise it? If so again speak to Jayne or Pauline.

If you have nothing to sell why not come along and have a browse you never know what bargains you might pick up.

## Regular Weekly Activities

<b>SUNDAY</b>	9:30am – 12:00noon	Children’s Breakfast Club
<b>Monday</b>	10am - 10:30am	Pop in for Prayer
<b>Tuesday (alternate)</b>	2:30pm	Tuesday Fellowship
<b>Wednesday (every 4th)</b>		Book Club
<b>Thursday</b>	5:45pm – 7pm 6:30pm – 8pm	Girls’ Brigade Explorers Juniors, Seniors and Brigaders
<b>Thursday</b>	5:45pm – 7pm 6:30pm – 8pm	Boys’ Brigade Anchors Boys’ Brigade Juniors
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 am - 10:30am 10:00am – 12pm	Saturday Prayer Group meeting in 52 Come to the hall for tea or coffee and chat

## The Outlook October Edition

**18th September:** Date for articles for inclusion in the October edition.

## October Dates for your Diary

**Sunday 2nd** Rev Alex Mabbs: Worship including Holy Communion

# Monthly Diary

*The Elders look forward to welcoming you, your family and friends to the worship planned here at Portslade.*

## SEPTEMBER DIARY

4th SUNDAY	10:30am	Worship including Holy Communion led by Maureen Lawrence. Friends from Hounsom join us for worship
8th THURSDAY		Brigades re-start
11th SUNDAY	9:30am 10:30am	Breakfast Club Rev Alex Mabbs
12th MONDAY	7:30pm	Elders Meeting
13th TUESDAY	2:30pm	Fellowship Meeting: Rev Debbie Gaston: A faith journey and a blessing for the new session
14th WEDNESDAY	7:30pm	'Dolly Mixture' meeting in 52
18th SUNDAY	10:30am	Worship with our friends from Hounsom
24th SATURDAY	10:00am	Macmillan coffee morning
25th SUNDAY	10:00am	<b>Back to Church Sunday - who will you be bringing?</b>
27th TUESDAY	2:30pm	Fellowship Meeting: Tricia Tyler - Gentle Exercises
28th WEDNESDAY		Book Club