

Newsletter May 2018

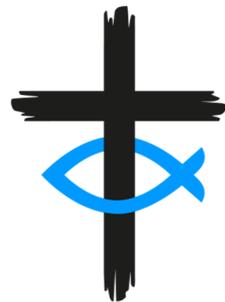
**St. Andrew's
United Reformed
Church**

www.standrewsurc.co.uk



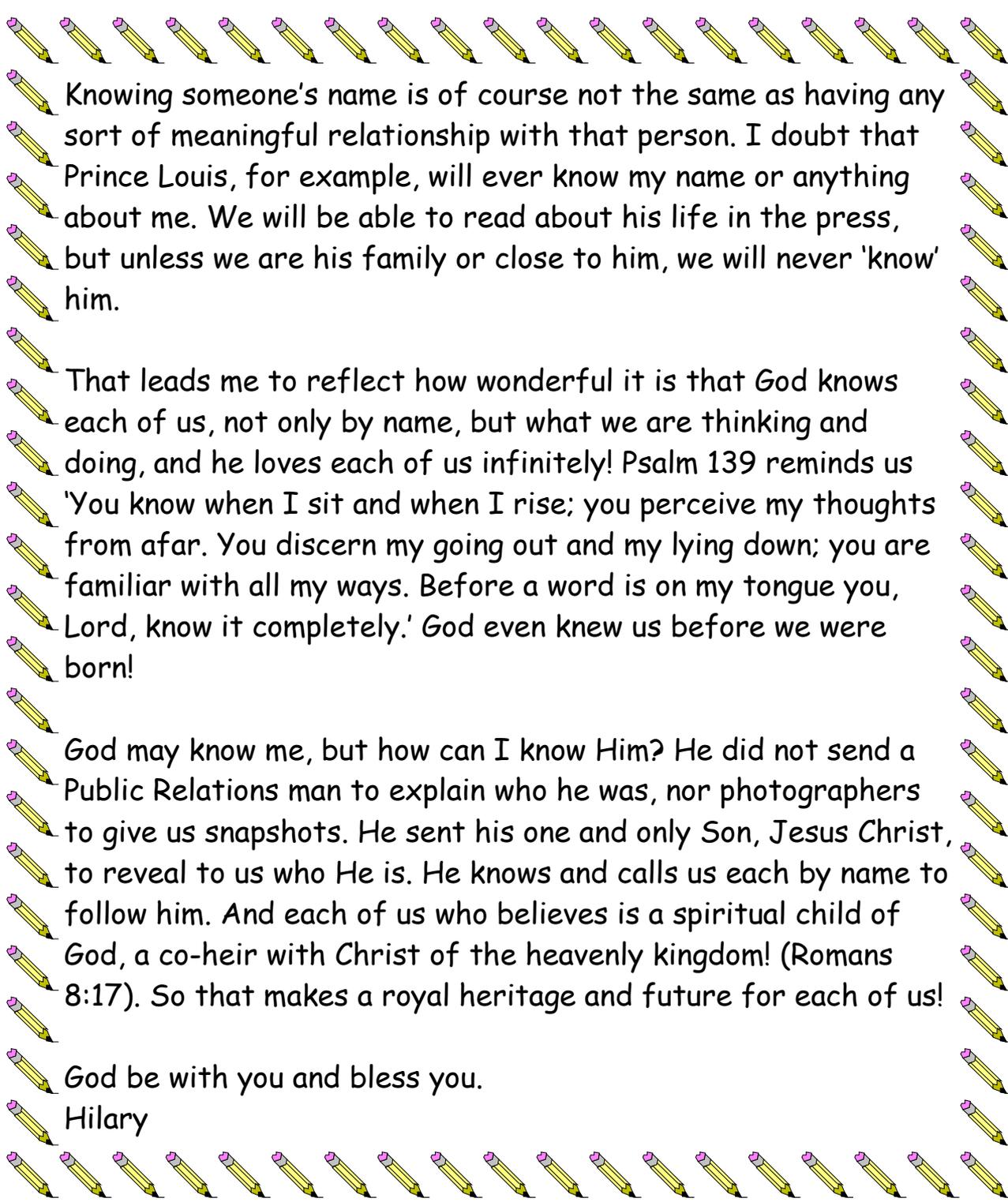
Preachers in May

6th Miss Hilary McClintock
13th Miss Hilary McClintock
20th Miss Hilary McClintock
27th Miss Hilary McClintock



Dear Friends,

'What's in a royal name? We have just heard that the third child of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge will be named 'Louis Arthur Charles'. I wonder how many names of people in the royal family you can remember, and how many of their 'middle' names? I looked up on the internet what was the maximum number of names a person can remember. One answer, according to a psychologist called Susan Blackmore, is that there is no known limit! If you ask a mnemonist or memory savant to learn a list of names they may remember thousands, tens of thousands or even hundreds of thousands with no trouble, just as they can learn lists of thousands of digits (www.sciencefocus.com 29th January 2014).



Knowing someone's name is of course not the same as having any sort of meaningful relationship with that person. I doubt that Prince Louis, for example, will ever know my name or anything about me. We will be able to read about his life in the press, but unless we are his family or close to him, we will never 'know' him.

That leads me to reflect how wonderful it is that God knows each of us, not only by name, but what we are thinking and doing, and he loves each of us infinitely! Psalm 139 reminds us 'You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely.' God even knew us before we were born!

God may know me, but how can I know Him? He did not send a Public Relations man to explain who he was, nor photographers to give us snapshots. He sent his one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to reveal to us who He is. He knows and calls us each by name to follow him. And each of us who believes is a spiritual child of God, a co-heir with Christ of the heavenly kingdom! (Romans 8:17). So that makes a royal heritage and future for each of us!

God be with you and bless you.

Hilary

Cheques

If you are writing a cheque to the church, or receiving one on behalf of the church could you please make sure it is made out to

St. Andrew's URC Gerrards Cross

It is proving increasingly difficult to pay in cheques made out differently. Any amendments need to be signed, not just initialled.

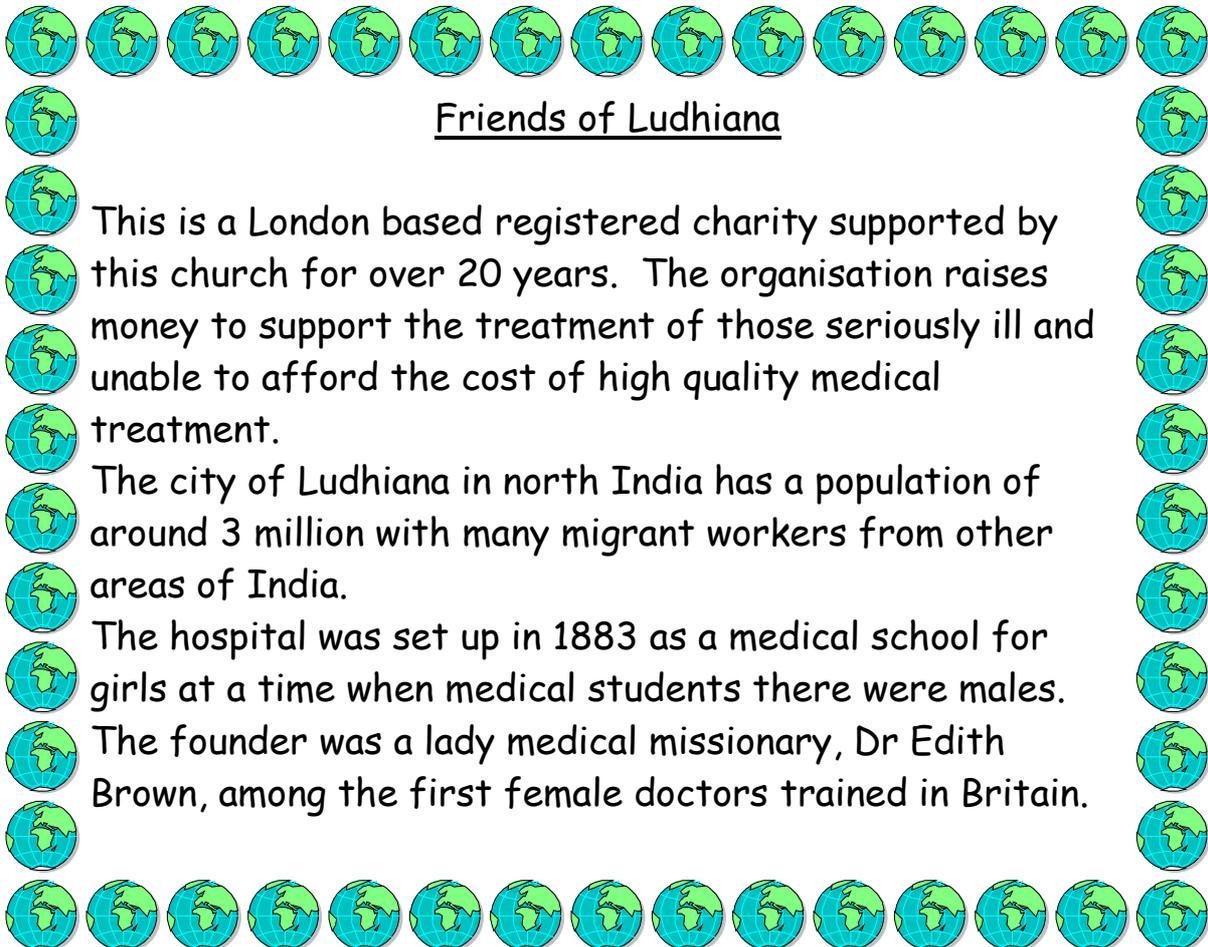
Thank you

Chiltern Local Area Group
Thames North Synod

invite everyone connected with the church
to lunch and an afternoon of activities

On Saturday 12May
At Amersham Free Church

Please see the notice in the church room for more details
including how to book a place.



Friends of Ludhiana

This is a London based registered charity supported by this church for over 20 years. The organisation raises money to support the treatment of those seriously ill and unable to afford the cost of high quality medical treatment.

The city of Ludhiana in north India has a population of around 3 million with many migrant workers from other areas of India.

The hospital was set up in 1883 as a medical school for girls at a time when medical students there were males.

The founder was a lady medical missionary, Dr Edith Brown, among the first female doctors trained in Britain.



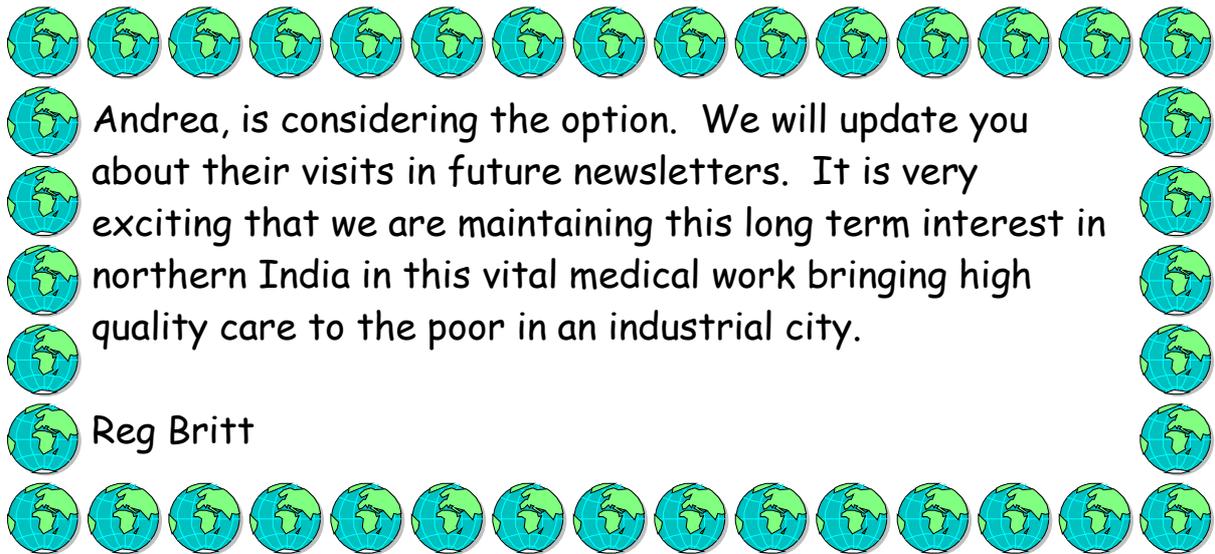
She had seen the situation that existed at the time when a large proportion of women lived in Purdah and were not allowed to be seen by male doctors when ill—this meant the maternal and new born death rates were very high.

Over the years the hospital expanded into all specialities and became renowned throughout India for its high standards of teaching, care and research. In the 1950s the student intake was extended to men and today 100 students are admitted annually. Many of the newly qualified spend time working in remote rural areas of India for a few years and some go overseas. There are many qualified Ludhiana medics and nurses who work in the NHS including our local hospitals.

In the early days the staff were all missionaries from abroad but today, apart from short term visitors from various countries, all the staff are from the subcontinent. In the late 1990s a number of members and friends of St Andrew's, including Catherine and Guy Gorton and David and Irene Witts, visited the hospital and toured India. For many years Catherine and Guy made generous contributions from the plant sales for the work of the Friends. Hilary, our minister, made a brief visit to the hospital some years ago and Reg went out to assist in Haematology for several months each year in retirement from 1993 until 2006.

In the near future Chloe Britt, a trainee nurse in London and grand daughter of Reg and Dorothy, is planning to spend her student elective at the hospital. Michael Vanner, a medical student at Imperial college and son of





Andrea, is considering the option. We will update you about their visits in future newsletters. It is very exciting that we are maintaining this long term interest in northern India in this vital medical work bringing high quality care to the poor in an industrial city.

Reg Britt

Hilary would like to hold a service with an international theme one Sunday at St Andrew's.

If you have family members or friends who live, work or volunteer abroad please let Hilary know their names and situations so that they can be included.



shutterstock 77183257

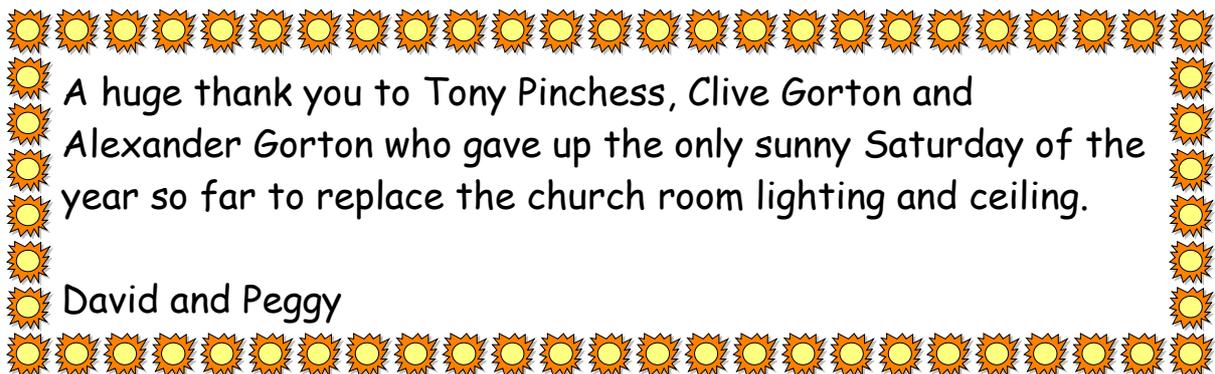
Water Aid, Easter Collections



shutterstock 77183257

£155 has been sent to WaterAid from the Easter collections.

Thank you to everyone who donated.



A huge thank you to Tony Pinchess, Clive Gorton and Alexander Gorton who gave up the only sunny Saturday of the year so far to replace the church room lighting and ceiling.

David and Peggy

What are you doing in May?

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Duty Elder</u> | <u>Stewards</u> | <u>Reader</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 6th | A.M. Campbell | F. Fraser, D. Gorton | A.M. Campbell |
| 13th | F. Smith | J. Pinchess, D. Gorton | J. Pinchess |
| 20th | D. McMullan | M. Holloway, F. Smith | D. McMullan |
| 27th | C. Gooding | H. McMullan, A. Vanner | C. Gooding |

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Flowers</u> |
|-------------|----------------|
| 6th | |
| 13th | |
| 20th | J. Pinchess |
| 27th | V. Gormley |



Serving Elders: A. M. Campbell, P. Gorton

Communion Table: P. Gorton

Christian author Jo Swinney will be talking about her book
"Home: The Quest to Belong"
at St Andrew's at 2pm on Friday 18th May

Tickets cost £5 and can be purchased from the book shop
who are organising the event.

The June Newsletter is due to be distributed on Sunday 27th
May 2018. Any items for inclusion should be with Peggy Gorton
on or before Thursday 24th May please.
peggy@officeit.co.uk