

The CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

January - December 2006

Volume 63

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Goring United Reformed Church
Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex.

The CHRONICLE

February 2006

The magazine of Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

— *A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington* —



in fellowship, closer to God, as a community and as churches

We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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Sundays

8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

Mid-week

10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 63 - No. 601

February 2006

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March Chronicle: Closing Date - Sunday 12 February

E-mail to:- chronicle@gurc.org.uk

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or Submit via the website — www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

Dear Friends,

Church can be so complicated; we have so many details to consider. The Church is made up of so many different opinions and traditions. There's always a new theory being discussed, the latest being- 'was Judas as evil as we assume or was he just fulfilling God's plan ... hmmm?' Each denomination has major issues to address; each local church regularly needs to assess its purpose and resources. Change, development and review therefore seem to be integral parts of the churches function.

As we begin 2006 may we take the opportunity of entering in to this process. Not just as a token effort but as a real initiative for development and if needed change. The Elders and I are considering a programme for the coming year entitled 'Growing Together 2006'. It will lay before us a structure and strategy for this church to move up a gear and become a more effective missionary church.

The title Growing Together 2006 provides a real sense of unity and strength for the church. All who are connected with the church will in some way be aware of the programme, and will hopefully find something that will benefit. We want to put our church back on the map, in the community and further a field. Before going any further it must be stated that all we do will not be for our own satisfaction but for the glory of God.

Here are just a few of the issues that the Growing together report addresses:-

- Lent study material – Rick Warren's Purpose driven life.
- Social, Fellowship and Outreach activities.
- Enhancing the presentation and content of worship.
- Review of structures and resources.
- Developing and enriching an individuals spiritual journey.
- Trying to provide answers to the questions of faith that challenge many of us.

How can we do all these things you may ask, we have done similar things before but now we are even more limited in our resources? Well there are two answers; [1.] It is our duty. [2.] God gives us the strength. Just remember the passage in John 15:1-8.

15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the

branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. ⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

I started off with the potential complexities of the church but when you get back to the teaching of Jesus it suddenly becomes clear.

GROWING TOGETHER in fellowship,
GROWING TOGETHER closer to God,
GROWING TOGETHER as community,
GROWING TOGETHER as churches.

The phrase **GROWING TOGETHER** expresses feelings of strength and unity.

As you come to know the of ideas for consideration; I hope they provide encouragement and discussion.

Be encouraged, be excited '*ponder anew all the almighty can do!*'

Yours in His service Andrew

Peggy Croydon

Mrs Peggy Croydon died peacefully in Newhaven Nursing Home on Saturday 14 January. Peggy who worshipped at Goring for many years became a member 1997. She worshipped regularly with the evening congregation before she moved into a nursing home.

She often said, "I love coming here so much".

We offer our prayers for her family and friends, especially her daughter Janice Byerley and her husband Chris.

As this Chronicle goes to print, we are sad to hear of the death of Mrs Joan Chambers on Monday 16 January.

Jesus said, "Blessed are all those who mourn for they shall be comforted".



I wish to express my sincere gratitude for the help and support I have received from members of the church following the loss of my dear wife Patricia. The church service was a wonderful tribute to her life and to see so many of her friends there was a great comfort to all our family.

George Bailey



Thank you for the beautiful flowers brought to me from the church by Audrey - thank you Audrey. I will try to stand on my own two feet in the future.

Grace Hope

(Grace fell over)



I would like to thank all those involved in planning and printing the Christmas Leaflets we distributed locally. They were most attractive, and I'm sure good publicity for our church. Thank you too for the weekly leaflet and the Chronicle which keep us up to date with all the activities. Thanks too for all the smaller tasks done by so many in our church.

You are on my New Year's Honours List.

God bless you, from *Bobby Hitchin*

Prayer

May God bless us in this New Year
As we try to serve Him in many ways.
And for all the blessings He gives us.
We give Him all honour and glory



Ailsa Blackwood thanks all her friends at the church for the lovely plant which she received at Christmas. This has given her so much pleasure - and she wishes everyone a very Happy New Year.

Barbara Popplestone



Ron and I wish to thank you all for your Christmas gift of a lovely white African Violet. I also owe you thanks for last year's purple violet, which I believe went without thanks due to my illness at that time. That purple violet bloomed continuously (and I mean continuously) all the year until this Christmas week, when it finally flopped.

Especially this January, Ron and I have much to thank God for. We remember that in 1936 when we were teenagers aged 17 and 18 years we, independently, joined the Congregational Church in Reading. We realise that makes 70 years of church Membership. Twenty five of these were in Goring.

At the end of the month, after I have quietly passed my 87th birthday, we will (hopefully) celebrate our 65th wedding anniversary. We remember that on the nearest Sunday in 2001 the choir sang the anthem "Lead me Lord". We still need the Lord's leading and upholding as we face the future in old age, which brings its own problems.

We have many precious memories of uplifting spiritual fellowship with so many Christian friends over these 70 years.

Now we spend our Sundays quietly at home with the help of TV and Radio. Its not the same but we do think of you and join you in spirit.

Eileen Jordan



8 a.m. Prayer & Praise

"Where two or three are gathered together....."

We are, I am glad to say, a few more than two or three and I am so very happy to be one of those few who gather at 8 am every Sunday morning.

For some time I have been asking the Lord for 'just a small job' and He answered me back in the summer when I turned up for 8 am Communion to find myself being asked to 'help out'.

Since then, with the exception of once a month communion, I have been privileged to lead this special ½ hour on a Sunday, taking turns to do so with Lily Collison. We are all 'getting on a bit' and maybe not all that active within the church, but we can pray and care and love and we do so using the entries that are made in the prayer book in the

Little Chapel so that we can continue to care in our own small way... and why not come and join us sometimes? That would be wonderful and you can be sure of a very warm welcome.

We are after all, a branch (or even a twig?) of the main tree (our church) and we would be glad of your prayers for our continued well-being and growth. Perhaps even a mention in the prayer diary sometime?

Since 1996 I have received so many blessings through our church and now, in the autumn of my days, my cup runneth over to know that the dear Lord still has something for me to do.

Come and join us sometime and let us break bread together.

Bless you all, Jean Webb



Bible Society

Thank you to all who contributed to the total of £37.00 collected in December for the work of Bible Society. We are assured that our gifts make a real difference to so many people around the world, as they gain access to the scriptures.

Margaret Butcher

New Year Prayer Vigil

A Pastoral note for those unable to be in church on Sunday 15 January

With Rev Andrew Sellwood leading the worship this was to become a special New Year opportunity.

We were encouraged by the prospect of exciting things happening in this fellowship in the coming months, and invited to join together in a Covenant Prayer.

COVENANT PRAYER

I am no longer my own but yours.
Put me to do what you will,
rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing, put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you or laid aside for you,
exalted for you or brought low for you;
let me be full, let me be empty,
let me have all things, let me have nothing;
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your
pleasure and disposal.

And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.
So be it.

And the covenant made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen

The children stayed with us for a short time but after joining in the prayer and before they left Andrew suggested that in Junior church they might consider what it means to 'belong'.

The adult congregation also shared in a special prayer time during which every church member and every church friend was prayed for - that is all those whose names appear in the church handbook. People sitting close together shared in prayers for those whose names were on the paper they were given, and in this way no-one was omitted.

I hope that those who read this, but were unable to be in the church on 15th January will know that they were remembered by the Body worshipping together. Whether you live far away, or whether you were poorly, stuck at home, or away with family or friends your name will have been brought to the Lord in prayer.

Let us continue to pray for one another as we look to the future with excitement, as the Holy Spirit makes His will known to us here. God is working His purpose out, let us be ready to go forward with Him.

Hilary Redman, Pastoral Secretary



FEBRUARY

Thu	2	9.15am-11.30am 10.30am 2.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Holy Communion Prayers in Little Chapel
Sun	5	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Vic Sumner Evening Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
Mon	6	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	9	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Elders Meeting
Sun	12	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Family Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	13	5.15-6.30pm 2.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company Tuesday Fellowship: Gideons International
Thu	16	2.30pm	Prayers in Little Chapel
Sun	19	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick Evening Worship: Mr Wilfred Rhodes
Mon	20	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	23	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting
Sun	26	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	27	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	28	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Womens' World Day of Prayer



Thu	2	9.15am-11.30am 10.30am 2.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Holy Communion Prayers in Little Chapel
Sun	5	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mr Alec Ralph Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	6	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	9	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Elders Meeting
Sun	12	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Family Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	13	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	14	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Guildcare
Thu	16	9.15am-11.30am 2.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Prayers in Little Chapel
Sun	19	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Margaret Ashby Churches Together in Goring at St Laurence, Sea Place
Mon	20	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	23	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting
Sun	26	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	<u>Mothering Sunday</u> Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: TBA Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	27	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	28	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Telling Tales

LENT COURSE – 2006

Over the last few years Lent courses have been arranged by CTG (Christians Together in Goring) but this year nothing is forthcoming.

Andrew and the Elders have decided to hold our own Lent course and we propose giving to each person in the church a copy of the book by Rick Warren called 'The Purpose Driven Life'. The book is divided into 6 sections and each section has a different number of chapters in it.

It is proposed that we shall meet weekly (somewhere on the premises) starting on Tuesday the 28th February at 7.30 pm for about 1 hour, having read the first chapter in the book, when Andrew will expand on the subject and answer any questions.

'The Purpose Driven Life' is a very challenging book and we shall all need to be disciplined to complete the course, but we hope as many (if not all) of you will be able to come, as this course gives us a greater insight into the God we worship and will increase our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and encourage us as we continue in our Christian life.

Andrew and the Elders

Tuesday Fellowship Meetings - Spring 2006

Jan-17	'Fun Time'	Members
Jan-31	Adventures of a Parlourmaid	Nancy Howard
Feb-14	Gideons International	Robert Hutchings
Feb-28	Women's World Day of Prayer	Eileen Rhodes
Mar-14	Guildcare	Jenny Musgrove
Mar-28	Telling Tales	Rev David Helyar
Apr-11	Easter Time	Rev Tony Trevithick
Apr-25	'Number One' - Spring Fashion	Sue Boulter



Han

Amendments to the December and November issues:-

Page 10. BAILEY Mrs Pat. Delete entry.

Page 12. CHAMBERS, Mrs Joan. Delete entry

Page 14. CROYDON, Mrs Peggy. Delete entry.

Page 17. HENNELL, Mr Ian. Change telephone number to read 210503

Page 23. PULLEN, Mrs Audrey. Delete entry.

Page 23. RALPH, Mr Alec & Mrs Grace. Change email address to -
gralec10@btinternet.com [this is a further change indicated in last magazine]

Christmas offerings

Our Christmas donations, which were given to Worthing Churches Homeless Projects, totalled £366.41

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



FRIDAY, 3RD MARCH

The Christian Women of South Africa invite you to join them in prayer on the theme *'Signs of the Times'*.

South Africa - the Rainbow Nation - has enjoyed a decade of liberation, integration and healing following apartheid.

However it has real problems, including the spread of HIV/AIDS. The 2006 worship material was prepared by women from fifteen different Christian denominations, and over 3 million people worldwide will be taking part in the Day of Prayer Service. Will you join with the women, men, children and young people praying and worshipping in over 5,000 separate services in the United Kingdom? Services in this area are as follows:-

3pm Bury Drive Methodist Church
Speaker: Miss Olive McCarten

8pm St Andrew's Church, Tarring
Speaker: Mrs Brenda McCurdie

All are warmly welcome - by learning more about the needs of South Africa our prayers really can make a difference.

Eileen Rhodes & Daphne Eames

NOTES FROM DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETINGS

27th. October 2005

Pastoral

Rev. Peter McIntosh appointed to serve as convenor Pastoral Care Committee, to serve until July 2007

Rev. Simon Franklin appointed Interim Moderator at Emmanuel, Worthing.

Rev. Norman Croft to serve as Minister of Sompting URC for a five year term from July 15th 2006.

Rev. Graeme Allen will serve as District President until end of March 2007.

Evangelism

The concept of a Christian Comedy Week was approved in principle, to match Brighton Comedy Week 7-12 October 2006, subject to firm costings. To encourage the use of comedy in worship services, outreach and children's programmes in evangelistic events

19th. January 2006

Pastoral

Rev. George Gibson (Medway District) called as Minister for Christchurch Chichester

Main Item

Resolution 40 of General Assembly 2005

There shall be one level of council between General Assembly and the local church. Resolution 41 As from General Assembly 2007 there shall be one level of council between General Assembly and the local church, the thirteen new synods VOTE 17 for 8 against 4 abstentions. There was discussion proceeding the voting, mainly concerned with the working of the Southern Synod and which was the preferred Model of organisation. The general feeling was that we should look to an ecumenical solution in the long term; a final appraisal of the preferred Model will take place at the next Synod. Doubts were expressed as to the proposed National Area Groupings, although something would be needed at local level, District Councils should cease to exist.

Notice

District Council will next be convened on Tuesday 7th. February 2006 at Littlehampton United Church

Alec Ralph

Είναι ελληνικά για μενα !

Locusts and Wild Honey. [Part 1.]

[For honey, see 'A Taste of Honey']

When I first went to the old barn, (which now is Helen's main house in Crete) and wandered around the untended and overgrown grounds, I found plants and trees I had only seen or heard of in books, or seen the fruit in a fruiterer's shop. There were numerous olive trees; four walnut trees; several orange and lemon trees; some gigantic cacti, which I discovered to be prickly pears; some globe artichokes and several small pomegranate trees. "What treasures!" I thought. Then, I came across two or three big evergreen trees that had compound, shiny leaves and flat-sided, curved green pods hanging in bunches from the boughs. Some of the pods were turning brown as they ripened. They looked somehow familiar. I pulled one off and tasted it.

Memories came flooding back, memories of the little shop in the little village of Carnkie, Wendron, Cornwall, when I was a girl. The year would be about 1945,6,7,8... Rationing still existed in Britain and chocolate was in short supply. We would get a very small amount of chocolate in our sweet ration and have to savour every lick of the two or three squares we were allowed. However, after the war, sacks of alien, but edible brown pods appeared in the shop, and to

our deprived taste buds were sweet and flavourful. We chewed them as a substitute for the absent sweets and chocolate, probably doing ourselves a lot more good than if we had eaten processed confectionery. These pods were locust, or carob beans. The memory of those 'chews' still lingers, sweet and attractive.

Many years on from that first carob taste, in a health food shop, I found a bag of special flour – carob flour and some 'chew' bars, carob bars. The information on the packet told me about the nutritional value: "Naturally sweet, carob is a popular substitute for chocolate or cocoa powder in cakes, biscuits and sweets. Each 100g of the flour contains 228 calories, 4.7g protein, 91.5g carbohydrate, total fat 0.67g, and 41g fibre. It is also an excellent source of calcium (358mg,) potassium (852mg) and riboflavin (0.47mg). Carob is also efficacious in the treatment of digestive upsets. It also told me that the carob, or locust bean was also known as 'St. John's bread.'

St. John? Which John? St. John the Baptist. But does not Matthew say (Matt. 3.v.4) that in the wilderness, "his meat was locusts and wild honey."? Locusts? Surely that means the locusts we know as insects - the locusts that swarm as a plague? Were the Jews allowed to eat locusts? Were they not forbidden food?

In the laws of purification and atonement in Leviticus 11, verses 20, 21,22. which gave Moses and Aaron the instructions on what animals may or may not be eaten, we read "All teeming winged creatures that go on four legs shall be vermin to you, except those which have legs jointed above their feet for leaping on the ground. Of these you may eat every kind of great locust, every kind of long-headed locust, every kind of green locust, and every kind of desert locust."

There would be many times when the Children of Israel were glad to eat the locust insects, which are high in fat and protein, and packed with calories. No doubt, then, as now, the most unlikely but nourishing ingredients could be made into a welcome sustenance.

All over the world people make use of wild food and insects are no exception. *'Entomophagy'* – (the Greeks always have a word for it) *'insect eating'* is likely to have provided and be providing a large part of nutritional requirements for a large part of the human race. In various regions of the world, caterpillars, ants, termites, grubs, grasshoppers, cicadas, crickets and locusts are caught and eaten. They are sometimes dried or smoked to be kept for future use. The common methods of preparing insects are boiling and frying. Fresh or dried, they can be included in soups or stews. To stir-fry cicadas or locusts, the wings and the legs are first removed and they are rinsed in cold water, then put into boiling water and cooked until

tender – approximately 20 minutes – strained, then fried in butter or oil for several minutes, crisp and savoury. With appropriate sauces and seasoning I am sure they are delicious! Or would you prefer a recipe for 'Caterpillars in Groundnut sauce' or 'Mopane worms in Tomato Sauce'?

David Livingstone, in his book 'Missionary Travels and Researches in South Africa' (London: J. Murray, 1857), found people eating roast caterpillars for a treat. "A large caterpillar, called 'Nato,' feeds by night on the leaves of these (acacia) trees, and comes down by day to bury itself at the root in the sand in order to escape the piercing rays of the sun. The people dig for it there, and are fond of it when roasted, on account of its pleasant vegetable taste." (Across the Kalahari Desert)

What recipe did John the Baptist use? His food was the food of the very poor, such as locusts, boiled in salt water and dried, and wild honey which he found. What might he have written in his (unwritten) book 'Wild Food in the Wilderness.'? Did he collect his own food, or did someone else do it for him? Did he vary his diet? Was he a gatherer as well as a hunter and spend time like the people I have seen in Crete, along a road, beating some trees with sticks, knocking down and gathering bunches of locust bean pods, they to feed their sheep and pigs, he to eat with his honey? Next month: St John's Bread – the locust bean.

Mary Connelly.

Am I rich ?

"They huddled inside the storm door; two children in ragged over-sized coats. "Any old papers lady?" I was busy. I wanted to say 'no' until I saw their feet. Little sandals sopped with sleet. "Come in and I will make you some hot cocoa." There was no conversation.

Their soggy sandals left marks on the hearthstone. I served them cocoa with toast and jam to fortify themselves against the chill outside. Then I went back to the kitchen to work on my household budget. The silence in the front room struck through me. I looked in, the little girl held up the empty cup in her hands looking at it. The boy asked, "Lady are you rich" I looked at my shabby slipcovers. "Am I rich? Mercy, no!" The girl put the cup in its saucer - carefully. "Your cup match your saucers." Her voice was old, with a hunger not of the stomach.

Then they left holding their bundles of papers against the wind. They had not said 'thank you'. They did not need to; they had done more than that. Much more. Plain blue pottery cups and saucers, but they matched. Potatoes and brown gravy; a roof over our heads; my man with a good steady job - these things matched too.

I moved the chairs back from the fire and tidied the living room.

The muddy prints of small sandals were still wet upon my hearth. I let them be. I want them there in case I ever forget how rich I am!"

The above is reproduced with kind permission from the United Christian Broadcasters.

Free issues of the daily devotional, "The Word for Today", are available for the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland from www.ucb.co.uk

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Thursday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.
www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

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The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

WELCOME Editors

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February	Hilary & Graham Redman	260568
March	Eileen & Wilfred Rhodes	248263



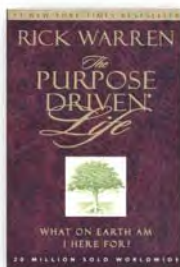
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March 2006

The magazine of Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —



Lent Course starting Tuesday 28 February 06

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

Mid-week

10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

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Insert

A report via Ruth Raharimanantsoa on the New Testament dedication which was celebrated in Pointe Noire on the 4th February. It's good to see the New Testament is finally being sold and used!

April Chronicle: Closing Date - Sunday 12 March

E-mail to:- chronicle@gurc.org.uk

Tel:- 01903 260568

or Submit via the website — www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

PSALM 121

God Is Our Keeper A Song of Ascents.

I will lift up my eyes to the hills —
From whence comes my help?

- 2 My help comes from the LORD,
 Who made heaven and earth.
3. He will not allow your foot to be moved;
 He who keeps you will not slumber.
4. Behold, He who keeps Israel
 Shall neither slumber nor sleep.
5. The LORD is your keeper;
 The LORD is your shade at your right hand.
6. The sun shall not strike you by day,
 Nor the moon by night.
7. The LORD shall preserve you from all evil;
 He shall preserve your soul.
8. The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in
 From this time forth, and even forevermore.

Taken from the New King James version



We have received thank you messages from Glen and Geoffrey Dean and Grace Ralph for the gifts of flowers delivered to them whilst they have been poorly.

We have also received a thank you message from Jane Allan - Thank you for all the love and support I have received following the death of my husband Jim. What would we do without our friends and our faith? God bless you all,

Editor's note. My apologies for not including an asterisk against Jane Allan's name in the Handbook - she has been a member since 1986 ! GER

Social Events and Outreach Activities

The Elders have given me the responsibility of heading a group to oversee the Social and Outreach activities, events, affairs, etc. This is a small group which will be guided by the programme Andrew has been led to develop for this Church – ‘Growing Together 2006’

The first occasion will be Lent, when you are invited to a Pancake Evening to be held on Tuesday 28th February from 7.30 – 9.00 p.m.

We will then be given the opportunity to study the book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, and the following Tuesdays during Lent will be a time for discussion about the study led by Andrew. [*More details below under LENT COURSE*]

The following months will unfold a diary of other events, both Social and Outreach. There is so much experience amongst the congregation and we feel that everyone will be able to give valuable input, supported through prayer in groups or pairs.

We intend to offer something for everyone but appreciate that everything will not appeal to all, please support events in person where possible and in prayer at all times. We look forward to the future together,

Sue Mitchell and the Outreach Group

Lent Course – 2006

Over the last few years Lent courses have been arranged by CTG (Christians Together in Goring) but this year nothing is forthcoming.

Andrew and the Elders have decided to hold our own Lent course and we propose giving to each person in the church a copy of the book by Rick Warren called ‘*The Purpose Driven Life*’. The book is divided into 6 sections and each section has a different number of chapters in it.

It is proposed that we shall meet weekly (somewhere on the premises) starting on Tuesday the 28th February at 7.30 pm for about 1 hour, having read the first chapter in the book, when Andrew will expand on the subject and answer any questions.

‘*The Purpose Driven Life*’ is a very challenging book and we shall all need to be disciplined to complete the course, but we hope as many (if not all) of you will be able to come, as this course gives us a greater insight into the God we worship and will increase our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and encourage us as we continue in our Christian life.

Andrew and the Elders

Tuesday Fellowship Meetings

17th January 2006.

I say, I say, I say - What do elephants have that no other animal in the jungle has - baby elephants.

Our programme had listed a 'Member's fun afternoon' and our President, Peggy had certainly arranged one for us. We were all given two strips of cardboard, on the longer one was a question, such as the one I commenced with, on the shorter piece was an answer but not the answer to your question. When a question was read out by one of our members, another person had the answer. It was hilarious, particularly the comebacks!

After this we had a musical quiz which I am afraid we failed at miserably. Joan played a few notes of music from famous old songs - probably the younger members did not know the songs and we older ones had forgotten the titles!

I thought, maybe, if we had heard hymn tunes we would have fared better.

Then we had the usual quiz, not one of us knew what a Yaffle was - do you?

It is a green Woodpecker. Rounds always go down well and we sang to 'London's burning and Three Blind Mice.

We were able to gustily keep them going. Our President then told us two very funny riddles which ended our frivolity.

Joan Finlay brought us greetings from two former members, who now live in the West Country. Sheila and Bryony McPherson. It is nice to know that we are not forgotten and also greetings and love from Eileen Jordan.

After singing our Vesper which sends us home with joy, love and peace in our hearts we enjoyed a cup of tea and on this occasion plates of delicious cakes, not the usual biccies! I tasted a piece of Christmas cake which had been made by Peggy's daughter-in-law. It was delicious but I realise it is no good ordering one for the coming Christmas, she is a very busy lady with two lively youngsters.

Joan Burrage

31st January.
Adventures of a Parlourmaid.

Having read the title of our Fellowship meeting, I was all keyed up to hear about the 'goings on' of an upstairs - downstairs establishment. How wrong I was! After our devotions Peggy Mott, our President, introduced us to such a charmino little lady- Mrs. Nancy Howard. After the war she moved from Nottingham, with her husband and children, to London. She very much wanted to work, so with a friend or two, they commenced cooking for small wedding parties, luncheons, cocktail evenings etc. From a small beginning Mrs. Howard was often called upon to help caterers at much larger functions at some of our beautiful British ancestral homes, the Mansion House, 10 Downing Street, Hampton Court and many other places of interest. She had waited on our Queen, whom she said always looked so elegant, Prince Philip, who was so gentlemanly and humorous, the Prince of Wales, Duke and Duchess of Kent and the late Princess Marina, who was the Mother of the present duke of Kent,

Princess Alexandra and Prince Michael of Kent. Their Father was killed in a plane disaster in Scotland during the war.

We were intrigued at the many incidents she relayed to us and we all thoroughly enjoyed her talk. Peggy discovered that the next day was her birthday so we sang our usual 'Happy Birthday Song'.

After singing our Vesper, the welcome cup of tea arrived and for the second time plates of cakes were offered, we will surely return to biscuits at the next meeting which will be 14th February's- Gideons international , then 28th February when our own Eileen Rhodes will tell us about 'Women's Day of Prayer' .

As this article will be printed in the March issue of 'The Chronicle' the above two meetings will have taken place so here are the titles of the March meetings:- Guildcare - Jenny Musgrove and Telling Tales - Rev. David Helyar — 14th March and 28th March respectively.

Greetings and Blessings to all who read this.

Joan Burrage

Looking ahead a month or two -

14 Mar	Guildcare	Jenny Musgrove
28 Mar	Telling Tales	Rev David Helyar
11 Apr	Easter Time	Rev Tony Trevithick
25 Apr	'Number One' - Spring Fashion Show	Sue Boulter

Belonging to Church

On Sunday 15th January Junior Church left the morning service early to discuss "belonging". We talked about what "belonging" and belonging to a Church means to different people.

We created a mind-map, which is on the Junior Church notice-board, encompassing various ideas - commitment, listening to God and each other, respect, being positive, open to change, loving, caring, having the Church as our second/

special family.

Junior Church felt that they would like to take more part in some services which would contribute to their belonging to the Church. Suggestions included performing sketches, leading prayers or Bible readings.

Please pray for the children and young people and their enthusiastic involvement in the future of our Church.

Susanna Gauntlett

DECLARATION OF A SAFE CHURCH

Last year the Church Family Group produced a statement with regard to the protection of children in our care in the Church. We have now been asked to agree a Declaration of a Safe Church relating to the sexual harassment and abuse to all people in the church. This is a very sensitive subject but in today's climate we need to be aware that these things do happen - even in the Christian Church.

We need to make sure that the people who are leaders of organisations and groups and those of us who are involved in pastoral care, which means the Minister, Elders and pastoral visitors, are fully aware of their responsibilities to ensure a Safe Church.

We have already had to come to terms with this difficult subject in relation to work with children - but we have to recognise that the risks of abuse go far wider than this, and can and does affect adults too. We need to be constantly alert to possible situations, to protect both those at risk and those in positions of authority and leadership, especially those in pastoral relationships with vulnerable people, and we need to know how to deal with situations that may arise, recognising the sensitivity of coping with accusations which may be directed at respected members of our community.

We would ask that you, the Church Meeting, affirms and accepts the Declaration of a Safe Church for Goring United Reformed Church.

Earlier this year, we were given five questions to consider - they are reprinted here to remind us of those things we need to be asking ourselves.

SUSSEX WEST DISTRICT PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

This document is the result of a residential meeting of church secretaries and ministers held in September 2005

FIVE QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Is God asking our congregation, us, to unite with another United Reformed Church in this area?
If not, why not? #
- Is God asking us to unite with another denomination in this area?
If not, why not? #
- Is God asking us to move out of our buildings and worship Him in a less costly place to upkeep?
If not, why not? #
- Is God asking us to open our doors to others in new ways?
If not, why not? #
- Is God telling us our mission here is now completed?
Is it time for us to close and move on?
If not, why not? #

*What is the Spirit saying to our churches in this time ?*

— Consider Agree Pray Read —



MARCH

Thu	2	9.15am-11.15am 10.30am 2.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Holy Communion Prayers in Little Chapel
Sun	5	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mr Alec Ralph Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	6	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	9	9.15am-11.15am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Elders Meeting
Sun	12	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Family Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	13	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	14	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Guildcare
Thu	16	9.15am-11.15am 2.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Prayers in Little Chapel
Sun	19	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Margaret Ashby Churches Together in Goring at St Laurence, Sea Place
Mon	20	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	23	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	26	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	<u>Mothering Sunday</u> Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Margaret Ashby Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	27	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	28	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Telling Tales
Thu	30	9.15am-11.15am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting



Sun	2	8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mr Alec Ralph
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Anthony Trevithick
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	3	Working Party Week Mon 3 - Sat 8 April	
		5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	6	10.30am	Holy Communion
		2.30pm	Prayers in Little Chapel
		7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Sun	9	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Family Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	10	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	11	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Easter Time
Thu	13	2.30pm	Prayers in Little Chapel
		7.30pm	Maundy Thursday: Rev William Connelly
Fri	14	10.30am	Good Friday Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Sun	16	Easter Sunday	
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	17	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	20	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	23	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
Mon	24	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	25	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: 'Number One' - Spring Fashion Show
Thu	27	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Church Meeting
Sun	30	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

Saturday 20 May - Away Day at Home - details to follow next month

Away Day at Home

Saturday 20 May 2006

Goring United Reformed Church

Details about the day - next month

Please make a note now, of the day in your diary

Other dates for your Diary

Monday 3 April - Working Party Week - Day 1

Monday 4 April - Working Party Week - Day 2

Monday 5 April - Working Party Week - Day 3

Monday 6 April - Working Party Week - Day 4

Monday 7 April - Working Party Week - Day 5

Monday 8 April - Working Party Week - Day 6

More about the week in next month's Chronicle

**THE OTHER SIDE OF
EMMANUEL** AN EXHIBITION
OF TALENTS HOBBIES
AND INTERESTS.

**SATURDAY
18TH MARCH at
EMMANUEL UNITED REFORMED
CHURCH & HALL**

ST.MICHAELS' ROAD WORTHING

10.30 to 4.30

Refreshments served all day

**Opening by THE MAYOR NICK JOHN
11am. -12noon**

“Morning Melodies”

Guest Artist - Helen Smith

Presented by - Marcus Martin

In aid of The Mayors' Charities

News from Sussex West District Council

A District within the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church

- Rev. Elizabeth Caswell, Moderator Elect of General Assembly, will be visiting our District for two days Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th FEBRUARY 2007, during her time in Office. The overall aim is for Elizabeth to meet as many people as possible. The plan drafted includes a rally in the Brighton/Hove area on Saturday, and a Sunday service in the Chichester area.
- Rev. Dr. Sas Conradie has accepted an appointment with the World Alliance Mission Commission as leader of the Joint Management Initiative; his work with us is at an end, and he will "always be moving" as his involvement is global.
- Property Matters. It is expected that Sompting URC will sell the manse at Sompting in view of it no longer being required for the new ministerial arrangements proposed. The sale funds would be allocated to the Synod Manse Fund.
- Anti-Terrorist Legislation.-The URC welcomes a decision by the Home Office to drop provisions from the proposed legislation, which would have allowed police to apply for places of worship to be closed if they felt "extremist behaviour" was taking place on the premises. The Church had said it was particularly sensitive to any suggestion that freedom of worship might be curtailed.

Alec Ralph

Είναι ελληνικά για μενα !

Locusts and Wild Honey. (Part 2)

This month we leave the flying insects, delicious though they may be, and turn to the other 'locusts', the beans, known as locust beans or carob beans or pods. The Carob trees were in and around the Holy Lands long before either John the Baptist or Jesus. Charred wood and seeds have been found and dated to before 4000 B.C. in Israel. The seeds and pods have also been found in Egyptian pyramids and tombs, being dated to approximately 3500 B.C., showing a knowledge and use of the Carob's special attributes, which are many. The Egyptian embalmers had discovered the

thickening quality of the seeds and used the gum to seal the bindings of mummies.

There is no specific reference in the Gospels to link St. John to the Carob, or Locust tree, though it seems reasonable to think that desert-dwellers would make use of the nutritious and high-energy fruit of the carob tree. The belief that John made good use of them is so well established that it is known as St. John's Bread.

We are never told that John, until his untimely death by beheading, was in anything except the best of health; fresh air, exercise and excellent nutrition in the form of savoury locust

insects, followed by honey and sweet carob pods may have served to keep him active in his chosen calling.

So why is it called 'Locust Bean'? Some species of the tree have pods like the curved body of a locust. Indeed, the younger pods of any Carob tree, in their smaller state, are very locust-like.

Jesus is thought to be referring to the fruit of the carob when he told the story of the Prodigal Son. The young man had squandered his inheritance and had no money left for food, getting so hungry that he ate the food given to the animals. And what was the animal fodder? "And he fain would have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him." (Luke 15, v.16.) The Greek word used by Luke for husks was 'keration', which means 'little horn'. Yes, the bean pods also look like little horns! The Modern Greek word for carob is the word 'to keratio'.

Following linguistic development, ever heard of a 'carat'? Some seeds, being of consistent weight, were used as weights for precious stones and gold dust. Carob seeds, wheat grains and liquorice seeds were commonly used. Carob, 'keration' became 'carat' and 'karat'. We still hear of 'grains' as weight reference. The smallest fraction of a pound is a 'grain' - 1/7000 of a pound in avoirdupois, Troy, and apothecaries' systems.

Carob seeds are all of the same size, each weighing about 200 milligrams, this being today's standardised weight. Think diamond rings!

For gold, the carat is no longer a weight, but the amount of gold in an artefact – the purity of gold measured on a scale of 1-24 – pure gold being 24 carat gold.

Back to Saint John's Bread. Many people regard carob as directly interchangeable with chocolate and substitute it in recipes. However, carob has the advantage over chocolate in that it does not need added sugar to make it sweet, that it does not contain caffeine, and is an alkaline food, so that it does not stimulate the production of gastric acid in the digestive system. The seeds can be roasted as a coffee substitute without the caffeine; the seeds and pods can be fermented and distilled into alcoholic beverages; it is used in making preserves, juices and liqueurs. It is some times used as a flavouring agent in confectionery, beverages and baked goods. It is also used as a colouring and darkening agent.

The pods are processed and the seeds removed – any thing from five to fifteen seeds in each pod. The pods are 'kibbled' that is, chopped or ground, to various grades of fineness for animal feed and even more finely to make the flour so like chocolate flour which is used in many preparations, such as cakes, biscuits, breakfast cereals, pancakes, puddings and milk shakes.

The seeds are extremely hard and have to be broken and ground before they can be digested. They can be made into a kind of porridge, but in commercial use, with factory machinery, the seeds are processed to separate the tiny plant embryo from the rest of the seed. The embryos are ground to make a high protein carob germ. The endosperm, or food bank portion of the carob seed are processed to extract Carob Bean Gum (CBG) or Locust Bean Gum (LBG) known as Galactomannan, {again, the Greeks have another word for it - Galacto – milky, mannan – manna, a sweet edible gum, exuded from a tree} - a substitute for Gum Tragacanth (called in the trade 'Tragasol'), which is a thickener and stabiliser for many everyday foods, pharmaceutical and cosmetic preparations. It is used in toothpaste, shaving foam, cosmetics, detergents, paint, ink, shoe polish, adhesives, photographic items, insecticides, match heads, baby food, cat and dog food, syrups, cheeses, ice-cream, jams, marmalades, yoghurts and dessert fruit fillings, soups and sauces, salami and bakery products. After gum extraction, the seed residue is made into a starch- and sugar-free flour of 60% protein content for diabetics.

The Locust Bean Gum is used to stiffen threads so they can be woven on machines without breaking. It thickens dyes used to print patterns on cloth, ensuring bright colours and sharp outlines.

The gum is used for many purposes in the paper and mining

industry, concrete, explosive and petroleum industry.

Various parts and preparations of the tree are used to treat constipation, diarrhoea, stomach upsets and coughs.

There are still more uses to come from all parts of the tree:

- a) Tannin from the bark, used for curing leather and setting dyes,
- b) Molasses.
- c) Carob pomace, a by-product of the molasses industry, which can be used as a substitute for peat-based potting compost.
- d) Industrial alcohol.
- e) The possibility of a renewable fuel source in the production of ethyl alcohol.
- f) Timber used for turning and carving to make bowls, vases and sculptures.

- g) Timber used for fuel and for making slow burning charcoal.

The carob is disease and pest resistant. It is also fire resistant, so in Spain the trees are planted close to their homes to slow down the progress of grass fires. I think I must alert my family in Crete and California that Carob trees should be planted among the olive trees and in areas of flammable vegetation, so that there is some protection against fires. They can also provide windbreaks and shelter for animals and buildings, aid in land reclamation and prevent soil erosion.

The Carob tree: St. John's Bread? Bread of Heaven? Bread of life?

Mary Connelly

None of us will ever know the true results of our prayers this side of heaven, but we know this: God's kingdom on earth is established by those who pray.

Through prayer we are invited into a relationship with God - a relationship that involves both talking and listening. Prayer is talking with God about what we are doing together. In addition to all the other work that gets done by prayer, the greatest work of all is the knitting together of our hearts with the heart of God. Many a person on their deathbed has regretted their obsession with work, money pleasure and power. But have you ever heard of anyone who regretted spending too much time in prayer? No. Where there is much prayer there's much love.

Worthing Philharmonic Choir

Good Friday 14 April 2006 at 7.30pm

at the Assembly Hall, Worthing

to Celebrate Mozart's 250th Anniversarywith **Mozart: *Laudate Dominum*****Allegri: *Miserere*.. etc. etc**

Sopranos: Sarah Corp & Ashley Barrington

Alto: Cathy Harris, Tenor: Nathan Vale, Bass: Anthony Smith

and the Sinfonia of Arun

conducted by Donovan Brown.

Tickets: £8, £10, £12 incl. programme: available from the Call Centre
01903-206206, Pavilion or Connaught Theatre Box Offices or at the door

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Thursday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.
www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

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The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

WELCOME Editors

welcome@gurc.org.uk

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April	Ken	505177



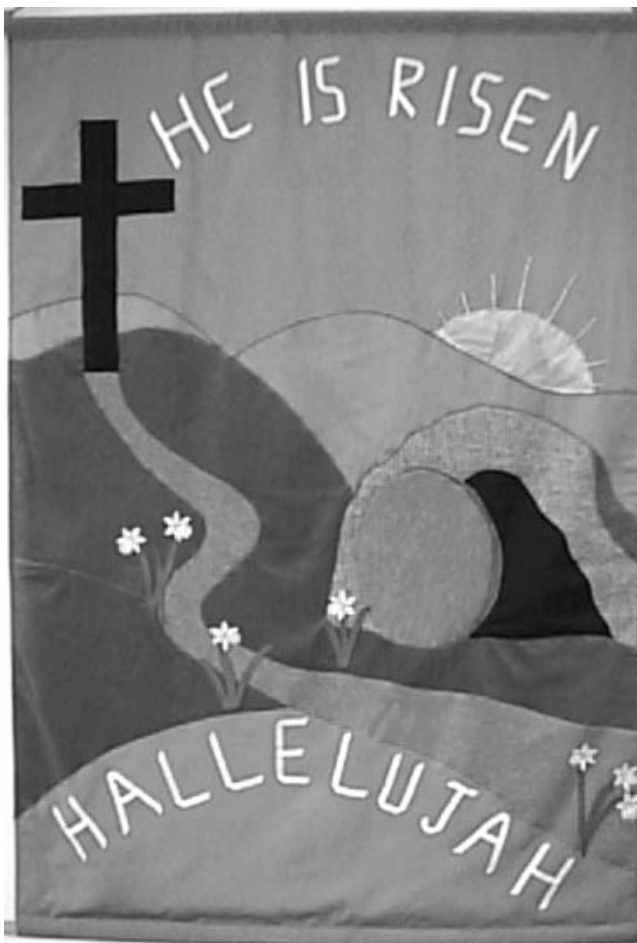
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www.gurc.org.uk

The CHRONICLE

April 2006

The magazine of Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

— *A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington* —



We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

Mid-week

10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol.63 - No. 603

April 2006

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May Chronicle: Closing Date - Sunday 9 April

E-mail to:- chronicle@gurc.org.uk

Tel:- 01903 260568

or Submit via the website — www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

Now there were some Greeks among those who were going up to worship at the feast; these then came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and began to ask him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." John 12:20-21

Who were these Greeks? Gentile converts to Judaism, they had heard of Jesus from others in their travels towards Jerusalem: This is highly possible as we find as many as ten to fifteen thousand people congregating around Jesus at times. They may have even witnessed Jesus' cleansing action in the temple. As Gentiles, the Greeks would only have been allowed into the very outer courts of the Jewish Temple (the Court of the Gentiles). This was also where the moneychangers set up their trade. For years, the only experience a Gentile would have of Jewish temple worship would be the shouting and bartering of the outer courtyard, which was as far as they were allowed to go. All they would witness of Judaism was the shady dealing of traders taking advantage of the Jewish faithful who had walked days, weeks, or even months to worship in Jerusalem. Imagine the view they received of God's people.

What is the image that we, as church, present to visitors or enquirers? Are they invited past our rituals and into our relationships? Do they see more than the disagreements and politics? I have heard, all too many times, from people that I have spoken to about the church; "No thanks, I already know how messed up I am. I don't need their ideas to make me even more confused." Others say; "Are you kidding? Church is just a bunch of hypocrites playing control games." Often, I think the reason that most people turn away from Christianity is because of Christians. Church, religion, tradition sometimes becomes a barrier that keeps us safe and others out. This is what I see in so many ways happening generally in the church today. *"Sir, I want to see Jesus! Please don't sell me ritual, don't burden me with denominatilism, give me a God who breaks through ritual to love me!"* Wouldn't it be wonderful if some one did come up to us and say, *"we wish to see Jesus"*, and we could say yes certainly come this way.

Yours in His service Andrew

Church Growing Together Day!

20th May 2006



The Growing Together day will begin at 9:45am for a 10:00am start, ending at 4:00pm.

There will be plenty of interesting things to do and think about. Including: A presentation of the 'catch the vision' initiative *(a chance to come up to speed as to the state of the denomination)*. A time for study, a time for quiet, a time for prayer, a time of fellowship, a time to look forward, in fact, something for every one! Oh! - and a guest speaker too! More details later. There will also be plenty of refreshments of the tea and coffee kind and a rather good lunch provided by outside caterers.

The Church is underwriting the cost *(as part of the Growing Together initiative)* but if you were able to contribute financially a guide price would be £12.50 per person.

Please add your name to the list (at the back of the church) so we can get an idea of numbers for catering.



What a lovely surprise, Grace and Alec arrived with a bouquet of flowers from our friends from the church. We appreciate it very much, many, many thanks.

This gives us the opportunity to say thank you to Matthew and Wilma Smith who regularly pick us up and take us home now that we no longer drive.

Ken & Vera Irving

Tuesday Fellowship Meetings

14th February 2006 'Gideons International'

As typed on the programme, Mr. Robert Hatchings was unable to visit us, so in his stead Mr. Harvey Ward came to give us a talk on Gideons International.

We were inspired by the many men and women who had turned to our Lord after reading the Bible or Testament which they had found in various places - hospital wards, schools, colleges, prisons etc, which had been placed there by one of the Gideons.

All monies donated to the Gideons International is used for the buying of Bibles. Administrative expenses are

met by the Gideons themselves with the subscriptions that they pay.

Worthing was the third branch to be opened in the United Kingdom - I wonder how many lives have been saved during that opening!

I have been a friend of the Gideons for sometime and I am amazed, when I read their quarterly magazine, of the number of lives that have been overturned through the reading of these small testaments or Bibles, which can be found in so many places worldwide which are open to the Gideons to place the Lord's Book for people to read.

Our Treasurer gave Mr. Harvey-Ward a donation for the valuable work the Gideons are undertaking.



28th February 2006

Women’s World Day of Prayer

Mrs. Eileen Rhodes, a member of our Church, has been elected to join the National committee of the Women's Day of Prayer organisation and she came along at the above dated afternoon to tell us about the movement.

This started in New York in 1887, when a day of prayer was organised to pray for under-privileged women in America. It has since grown to a world wide prayer day arranged each year by a different country. This year it was South Africa where the women still take on many responsibilities, particularly the older generation or young girls looking after families where parents have died mostly of Aids, which is so prevalent in South Africa - the life span is about forty eight years.

The first Women's Day of Prayer in England was in 1932 and this year there were 5,000 Services in our Country taking part on the 3rd March.

Eileen showed us slides of South Africa and we certainly saw the reality of the suffering that has taken place, and is still happening in that country.

Women of the world need our prayers so that Love, Hope, Care and Joy can abound world wide.

The Hymn, 'The day Though gavest Lord is ended' always reminds me of the Women's Day of Prayer when on that day, all round the world at different times of day and night, praise and glory are being offered to our Heavenly Father.

I never sing this hymn without tears in my eyes when I think of my family in Australia - "The sun that bids us rest is waking our Brethren 'neath the Western sky, and hour by hour fresh lips are making Thy wondrous doings heard on high'.

Peggy, our President, thanked Eileen for such an inspirational afternoon.

A collection for expenses incurred for the Women's Day of Prayer was taken.

Joan Burrage

Looking ahead -

11 Apr	Easter Time	Rev Tony Trevithick
25 Apr	'Number One' - Spring Fashion Show	Sue Boulter
9 May	AGM & Accordion band	
23 May	Antarctica & The Falklands	Carol Bevan

The Ark

The Ark wall board in the hall invites us to "look forward to spring, and signs of new life". Spring seems to have been 'waiting round the corner' for a long time this year!

But however chilly it may have been outside, we have enjoyed warmth and friendship inside The Ark.



We have fourteen adults regularly attending bringing between them up to twenty-two children. Mums, grandmothers, and carers meeting together to chat about this and that, discovering that experiences are often common, and difficulties which are shared can be more easily overcome.

Since Christmas we have made pictures of nursery rhymes to decorate our hall board. This was so successful that it was with reluctance that we took them down! The best have been taken home by some of the children to share with the family.

After Easter we shall have a new theme "transport". Each theme lasts for the six weeks of the half term so keep your eye on the board.

This term we had a visit from The Little Clothes Horse, trading in second hand children's clothes. There were some useful purchases made, even though some of our children suddenly became shy about trying things on !!

We continue to be very conscious of the continued prayerful support of our friends in the church. Thank you and don't forget, you are most welcome to 'drop in' and talk with us, and mingle with those who come seeking the warmth of friendship.

Refreshments are served at about 10 o'clock, and everyone is welcome.

As we look forward to signs of new life we wish you all a very blessed Easter time,

Hilary, Margaret, Susanna, Joan, Beryl, Les, and Graham

Rev Margaret Ashby to retire



Ruth and Donna presenting Margaret with a basket of flowers

On Sunday morning, 19th March we welcomed Rev Margaret Ashby to preach for the last time at Goring before her retirement on the 30 April.

Margaret joined the Worthing Area Team Ministry in 1999 and regularly preached here at Goring. She was also involved in our pastoral care.

She became a full-time stipendiary minister of the United Reformed Church later in life and will retire after eleven years of service.

We thank God for her work amongst us.



Sun	2	8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mr Alec Ralph
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Anthony Trevithick
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	3	Working Party Week Mon 3 - Sat 8 April	
		5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	6	10.30am	Holy Communion
		2.30pm	Prayers in Little Chapel
		7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Sun	9	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Family Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	10	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	11	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Easter Time
Thu	13	2.30pm	Prayers in Little Chapel
		7.30pm	Maundy Thursday: Rev William Connelly
Fri	14	10.30am	Good Friday Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Sun	16	Easter Sunday	
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	17	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	20	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	23	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
Mon	24	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	25	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: 'Number One' - Spring Fashion Show
Thu	27	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Church Meeting
Sun	30	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

Working Party Week Mon 3 - Sat 8 April List of jobs on Vestibule Notice Board



Mon	1		Spring Bank Holiday
Thu	4	9.15am-11.15am 10.30am 2.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Holy Communion Prayers in Little Chapel
Sun	7	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Tue	9	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: AGM & Accordion band
Thu	11	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	14	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	18	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sat	20	9.45am	Church Growing Together Day
Sun	21	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Christians Together in Goring at 'New Life'
Tue	23	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Antarctica & Falklands: Carol Bevan
Thu	25	9.15am-11.15am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting
Sun	28	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	29		Spring Bank Holiday

Church Growing Together Day!

20th May 2006

See Page 3



FINANCE: How much should I give?

It is that time again, when we need to consider prayerfully how much we should give, to support the work of our Church. Our giving is beginning to fall short of the levels necessary to break even, and we need to reverse this trend now. Otherwise we will be storing up problems for the future.

It may help if I give you some facts in Question and Answer format. If you have other questions please let me know.

Q - How much does it cost to run our Church ?

Our budget for 2006 puts our expenses at £68,122.

Q – How much is that per person ?

At 31 December 2005 our membership totalled 104, which means our expenses amount to £12.60 per person per week.

Q – What are the main expenses we incur ?

Our Ministry and Mission Contributions accounts for £7.98 per person per week (this pays the stipend and related costs of our own minister, with a significant extra contribution to help make up the shortfall in contributions by poorer Churches). Other costs include:

Utilities and Church maintenance	£1.96pppw
Ministerial costs and Pulpit Supply	£1.20pppw
Loan Repayments	£0.61pppw
Mission Fund	£0.30pppw

Q – How will we meet this expense ?

We have budgeted for some £23,650 income from other sources, e.g. Hall rentals, Interest from bank reserves, Tax Refunds. Therefore £46,472 needs to be raised from personal giving. This year we propose to hold a Gift Day, with a target of £6,472 (that's £62.23 per person), leaving £40,000 to be raised through weekly giving.

Q – How much should I give per week ?

£40,000 translates to £7.40 per person per week. However, the level of individual giving rests between you and the Lord. Some will be able to give more and others less.

Q – How much did we give last year ?

Last year's weekly donations totalled £37,310 or £6.90 per person per week.

Our giving range was between 60p and £30 per week.

16% gave less than £5 per week

24% gave £5 per week

24% gave between £6 and £10 per week

26% gave between £11 and £15 per week

10% gave more than £15 per week

Q – How much are we giving this year ?

Our giving for January and February is averaging only £6.25 per person per week

Please give this matter your prayerful consideration.

Matthew Smith Treasurer

The Budget for 2006 is shown on the following page

The Budget for 2006

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
	2005	2006		2005	2006
Offertory	£48,275	£40,000	Ministry	£39,766	£40,567
Rents	£6,000	£7,000	Pulpit Supply	£1,000	£1,000
Interest	£4,000	£6,000	Minister/Manse	£5,500	£5,500
Tax refund	£6,000	£6,000	Cleaning	£2,000	£2,000
Donations	£1,000	£1,000	Utilities	£2,500	£3,000
Team		£1,650	Insurance	£1,600	£1,600
Gift Day		£6,472	Maintenance	£4,000	£4,000
			Church Music	£600	£600
			Junior Church	£500	£500
			Printing	£800	£800
			Sundries	£1,000	£1,000
			Mission	£2,534	£2,585
			10% Fund	£1,645	£1,645
			Loan Repayments	£3,475	£3,325
Totals	£65,275	£68,122		£66,920	£68,122

Είναι ελληνικά για μενα !

Preparing for Lent – ‘Apokries’

More than a year has passed since I started writing about Greek/Cretan topics, and almost a year since I wrote about the Greek Orthodox Lent period and the Easter celebrations. (This year, Orthodox Easter is only one week later than the English Easter). As I usually go to Crete just in time for the Easter celebrations, I have missed the three-week period before the beginning of Lent, called ‘Apokries’ which I have discovered to be the traditional carnival time.

Our Shrove tide, and Shrove Tuesday, when we eat the last of the oil and fat with the eggs, milk and flour of our pancakes – a last eating indulgence, before the rigours of fasting for Lent begins - pales into insignificance beside French ‘Mardi Gras’, or ‘Fat Tuesday’, marked ‘by carnivals, masquerade balls, and parades of costumed merry-makers’, which is, to some extent, rivalled, even equalled in ‘some Roman Catholic countries by processions, dancing, merry-making, and feasting.’

The Venetian Carnival period is enjoying a massive revival with the old customs of plays and entertainment in the streets and carnivals and masquerades, attracting thousands of tourists to the area to mingle with the thousands of residents enjoying this time of celebration.

The meaning of ‘carnival’ in Latin – ‘carne’ - meat, and ‘val or vale’ –

goodbye – goodbye to meat, is the same as the Greek ‘Apokries’ – ‘Apoxi apo kreas’ – ‘apo kreas’ – ‘abstinence from meat’.

As with many traditions, its roots are older than Christianity, going back into ancient times, believed to be connected with the worship of Dionysus, the god of feast, wine and ‘divine’ intoxication. Ancient ceremonies honouring him and other gods and goddesses are seen in the costumes, processions, and feasting. It is thought that the carrying of models of ships in processions has origins in similar rites in Ancient Egypt.

In the Orthodox tradition, Apokries is the preparation period before Lent, lasting three weeks. It starts in the churches on the first Sunday, the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, with the opening of the book of the Triodion, including in the services hymns from this book of the three holy sacraments. This first week is relatively quiet.

The Sunday of the Prodigal Son is the second Sunday of Apokries.

The second week is called ‘meat week’, officially the last week of eating meat until after Lent. The Greeks don’t have ‘Mardi Gras’ – ‘Fat Tuesday’, or ‘Pancake Day’, Thursday of that week is the important day, known as ‘Tsikopempti’ – ‘Burnt Thursday’. ‘Tsikna’ is the smell of burning meat or hair. It was the custom for everyone, however poor

they might be, to grill meat over charcoal, melting fat over it, to make the smell of 'burning' meat permeate the villages. (Burnt Offering?) It is still traditional to eat meat on Tsiknopempti, but many go to a local taverna for a meat feast. It is also the custom to give a share of food to friends and family in remembrance of loved ones. Helen and Christos will be giving a plate of food to 'Auntie', who lives alone with a goat and some hens, in memory of Christos's parents.

The third week is Cheese, or White week, as mostly dairy products and eggs are eaten. Meat was forbidden from Monday of Cheese week until after Lent. This is still strongly observed. So the day before – a good Sunday roast?

They say women never washed their hair during this week for fear that it might turn white.

The Saturday has a special service for the dead in Orthodox churches, and part of the rites includes the making of grain dishes, possibly a survival of the ancient rites of Demeter. At memorial services I have attended in Crete, all the mourners are given Holy Bread, cheese, and a bag of boiled wheat, sweetened with sugar grains, and mixed with nuts and sometimes pomegranate seeds.

The Sunday of the Last Judgement and 'Cheese-eating Sunday' - 'Tyrofagos' – is the last day of Apokries. Macaroni is often served on this day.

During the three weeks of Apokries people of all ages dress up in disguises and masks and visit the

houses of friends and neighbours, who try to guess who the masqueraders are. They will not speak, but merely mime until the identity has been guessed. Men and boys often dress as women and girls and vice-versa. (There were similar customs in Cornwall in the Mummerys' plays and the 'Guise dancing'. (This would be an interesting comparative study for me - had I the time to spare! Further words on this subject if I ever do find the time!)

Wherever Carnival is celebrated, this Friday, Saturday and Sunday are usually busy with parties, parades and traditional events. Weekends, and, in particular, this final weekend, are the most popular time for dressing up. Grand Carnival parades as the culmination of Apokries are held all over Crete on this final Sunday. The biggest carnival in Crete takes place in Rethymnon, and has a slightly Venetian flavour, being influenced by the periods that the island was under the control of Venice.

It is the last day until after Easter that weddings are allowed to take place. The Orthodox Church does not allow weddings or celebrations to take place during the forty days of Lent. However, it is not thought wise to get married on this day, as unhappiness will spoil the marriage!

The day following Tyrofagias Sunday is known as 'Kathara Deftera' – 'Clean Monday', 'Sarakosti' – the beginning of the forty days of Lent. On this day the housewives clean their cooking utensils to get rid of any lingering meat, oil, and dairy products. It is a day for families, who have

Lenten picnics and fly kites.

Clean Monday is the start of 'Kathara Evdomas' – 'Clean week' – the first week in Lent. Fasting starts today and traditionally no meat, eggs, dairy products or oil are allowed to be eaten for the forty days up to Easter.

Foods are to be pure without the shedding of blood. Cuttlefish and squid, fish roe and shellfish are allowed to be eaten during this period, except for the feast day of Evangelios and Evangelia, which always falls in Lent and you are allowed to eat fish. Olives may be eaten, but not Olive oil. The Bishop told Natasha in her preparation for baptism into the Orthodox Church that it was because you should have no processed foods. Could this be linked to the breaking and pressing of the olive to make the oil flow, as blood would flow from a broken body? (For the Olive oil article, see Chronicle, March 2005)

Please refer to last year's May 2005 for Lent and Easter.

Christos Anesti! Happy Easter!

The day following Easter Day is one for recovery and getting ready for work, if not working. This year, however, St. George's day, April 23rd, is on Easter Day, so, as this is the day of the patron saint of Greece, the Saint's day is moved to the following day, April 24th, giving them another day to feast and celebrate. The usual Church services are held, with the partaking of Holy Bread, often distributed outside the church after the service, due to lack of space inside! On St George's day, the priest

has the task of Blessing the Animals, St George being the patron saint of soldiers, peasants, working animals and the poor. People bring animals of all kinds: ailing animals; those they wish to breed from, that they may be fertile; those who need strength and pets. The priest has to gather them under his vestments while he pronounces his blessing. If there are not too many, he may manage it in one or two goes, otherwise, there is a procession down the aisle.

In the next village to Helen', Exopolis, the priest goes down to the field next to the church where the shepherds and goatherds have assembled their herds of sheep and goats. There is a lot of noise as they are all put in together. Imagine what they might be saying: "Baah! Who are you? You're not my family! Where do you come from? Oh, was it you I heard making all that noise the other day? Waah! My sister was one of the sacrificial lambs, too! I suppose it's an honour really. And our people do enjoy their Easter celebrations! Look at those silly goats! Oh, that one is bold, he's climbing up the hedge to eat the leaves off that tree!" "Oh, good for him, I saaaay! I could do with a nibble, myself. Not much left underfoot naooow!"

I have not heard of any particularly unruly behaviour on the part of these Supplicants! They probably know they might miss being fed some of the food and drink on offer in the churchyard, and later celebratory food at home.

In a village called Asi-Gonia, some miles from Helen's village, the

shepherds ask for their own protection, and that the sheep are kept from harm. Whole flocks of sheep are brought to the village square, sheep in hundreds surrounding the statues of the local heroes one of whom is George Psychoundakis, who died at Chania on January 29th aged 85. [Obituary, Daily Telegraph, Feb. 18th, 2006.] He was the writer of the "Cretan Runner" a book about the Resistance in WW 2. Born into a shepherding family of that village, he was 21 when the Germans occupied Crete. He was one of many who guided straggling Allied soldiers over the mountains to the South coast, from where they could be evacuated. He became a 'runner' carrying messages across the bleak mountain ranges, negotiating rocky and precipitous paths, avoiding capture and certain death on many occasions.

A witty man, after the war, then poor and destitute, looked after the German Cemetery in Chania. A German War Graves Commissioner came to see it one day, and was impressed by how well it was cared for, and more surprised that Psychoundakis could speak no German. "Well, there's not much opportunity to learn it here," he replied. "All the Germans I look after are dead!"

He wrote a book on Crete's legends and customs, 'Eagle's nest in Crete' and translated Hesiod's Georgic 'Works and Days'. He also translated Homer's 'Odyssey' into Cretan verse, for which he was honoured by the Academy of Athens. He now looks down impassively upon

the noisy, restless sheep.

The sheep are all milked in turn, until late afternoon. The sheep are blessed and the milk then offered to everybody present. The shepherds, whose flocks are too far into the mountains to bring them to church, milk them and take the milk to church instead.

The spectacle of hundreds of sheep crowded into that village square must give a whole new meaning to the command, "Feed my sheep," and "My sheep hear my voice and follow me." I wonder if the sheep, hearing the shepherd's voice, will turn and follow their own particular shepherds when the milking is done? Helen's husband Christos had a little ram, which would follow him up the road, into the drive, and even into the house, keeping close at heel. The sheep know his voice. If they have been put out to forage in the nearby field during the day, they will come at Christos's call and follow him down the road to the safety of the fold for milking and to be fed. If the sheep are enclosed in the fold for certain reasons during the day, when they want to be fed, start to call, "We're hungry!" And Christos calls back, and answers, "Yes, I'm coming in a little while." or, "Yes, in twenty minutes!" They will keep reminding him until he goes to them, feeds them and milks them, then all is peaceful and serene under the olive trees.

Oh! Hear the Shepherd's voice and follow Him to be protected from danger, to be loved and cared for. "Shepherd, we're hungry!"

Mary Connelly.

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Thursday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.
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The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

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Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.
www.gurc.org.uk

The CHRONICLE

May 2006

The magazine of Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

— *A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington* —



Church Growing Together Day!

Saturday 20th May 2006



Book your place now on the table at the back of the Church

We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

Mid-week

10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 63 - No. 604

May 2006

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June Chronicle:

Closing Date - Sunday 14 May

E-mail to:- chronicle@gurc.org.uk

Tel:- 01903 260568

or Submit via the website — www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

“Peace be with you” was a typical form of greeting in Jesus’ time. During his post resurrection appearances these were some of Jesus’ first words to his disciples *“Shalom ata”*. But despite this greeting to the disciples, the weeks following his resurrection were anything but peaceful for the struggling and bewildered remnant of followers. For now the disciples are confronted with the task of holding things together without Jesus, coping with the amazing fact of his resurrection, and the potential fear of holding such powerful knowledge. The only scrap of teaching they probably hung on to at the time was the simplest: Jesus’ greatest commandment, to “love one another as I have loved you” (John 15:12).

Then, as the small gathering of followers grows and develops it soon becomes “Church”. Things then begin to get a little more complicated. Questions like; who are the right kind of people to join us, or who would be disruptive? What do we really understand about who Jesus was? Paul adds another element to Jesus’ command, a plea to “love not in word or speech but in deed and truth” (1 John 3:18). The simple prototype worshipping community develops and changes and as one generation passes so new leaders with new emphasis on specific areas of teaching emerge. Doctrine is devised, written down and approved by councils of the church in order to protect tradition, teaching and discipline.

But let us not hold on too rigidly to any one particular model of being church. Let us learn from and respect the past, have a realistic understanding of the present and be open to God’s vision for the future. We are constantly invited to look at our lives and worshipping communities with new vision, and to welcome the Spirit that “renews the face of the earth” into the dusty corners of our churches (Psalm 104: 30). This season (between Easter and Pentecost) we are invited to walk in the footsteps of the early community, to let their questions be ours, and to find ourselves more ready to accept the risen Jesus’ first and most important words: **“Peace be with you.”**

Yours in His service Andrew

Remember May 20th a chance to meet as part of the Growing Together initiative and to share in some potentially exciting developments for the future of this worshipping community.

Elders Election July 2006

Every year at the beginning of May we seek the names of Church members who may be willing to respond to the call to Eldership, to elect new Elders and to re-elect those who have had a break in service and are willing to stand for a further period of three years.

This year, two Elders stand down after 3 years and are eligible for re-election; they are Mr. Alec Ralph and Mr. Graham Redman, although there are more than two vacancies.

Nominees must have been Church Members for at least two years on the 1st September in the year of

their election, and can only be nominated by church members. Nomination forms will be available from Sunday 30th April and the last date for handing them in is Sunday 28th May 2006. The permission of the nominee must be obtained, and the nomination form must be signed by the nominee, the proposer and seconder. The forms are available in the vestibule.

If you have any questions about the Election of Elders, if you believe that you are being called, or if you are approached by someone who would like to nominate you and you would like to talk to someone, please speak to the Minister or one of the Elders.

Jane Bond

Painting and Decorating of the Church Halls

I am sure that all of us will agree that as we walk round the church halls, adjoining rooms, and passages we notice how well they have been re-decorated. For this we give thanks to the Sussex Probation Office which offered to come and work here on this project. Not only have the probationers been painting, but they have also cleared the overgrown bank - that is why the church car park is so much lighter !!

They provided the manpower, dust sheets, paint-brushes, rollers etc - we were asked to provide the paint and some encouragement. The completion of the project means that the work of the Fabric Group has been greatly reduced. We thank God for this wonderful opportunity to work with the community; they helping us as we help them. A thank you card has been sent to those concerned at the West Sussex Office.

We also thank those members of the Church who have come and given of their time to make tea and coffee, and to encourage the team of workers. I am glad to have had the opportunity of meeting with these people, and I hope that they can say the same of us. *Graham Redman*

Tuesday Fellowship Meetings

14th March 2006
Guild Care

WORTHING IS A VERY LUCKY TOWN TO HAVE GUILD CARE. I COULD FILL THE WHOLE CHRONICLE WRITING ABOUT IT. That was my abiding impression after listening to Jennie Musgrove, Public Relations Development Manager, who gave us such an informative and interesting talk about the organisation. I am sure we are all familiar with the Guild Care's distinctive logo and colour scheme on mini-buses and charity shops throughout the town - but that is only a very small part of the dedicated Guild Care service as Jennie explained.

She told us about the Residential Care Homes, Ashmount, Caer Gwent, and Irene House. Sheltered housing at Dolphin Court and the newest care home Linfield, without doubt the "Jewel in the Crown" an attractive development on the site of the old Frazer Lodge which most of you will have seen being built as you travel to and from the town centre by way of Wykeham Road. We heard about the Community Retirement Clubs - Lovett Court in Maybridge and Durrington over 55's Club at the Tesco complex, where members can go each day to enjoy fellowship, activities of all kinds, social events and outings - and very important, a cooked lunch!

Lovett in particular is thriving with a membership of 115, ages ranging from 64 - 97 and is fast running out of space.

Of very great interest is the Healthy Living Centre at Methold House. Similar activities are available as at the other clubs but more emphasis placed on health and well-being. An N.H.S. advisor is on hand to help with

(Continued on page 10)

Amendment to Mrs. Joan Burrage's report in April's Chronicle on the Women's World Day of Prayer presentation.

The offering was added to the Day of Prayer offering, and sent to the Women's World Day of Prayer office, to be used towards the annual grants for Christian	education and literature organisations. Some of the proceeds from the local coffee morning were used to defray expenses.
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18th March 2006**Telling Tales**

Our very good friend and former Moderator Rev David Helyar entertained us well when he gave us his talk to the fellowship which was ambiguously entitled "Telling Tales".

We had no idea what to expect!

Children tell tales - usually about their siblings naughty deeds. Adults also tell tales - or is that gossip?

Some tales are handed down through the generations, as folk-lore.

During His ministry on earth Jesus told tales. They were the Parables we have all known and loved to hear as we have grown up - and grown into our Faith. Tales with a spiritual meaning. As well as these examples David had an incredible fund of funny stories and jokes. He hails from Norfolk so some of them (the jokes, that is) were rendered in a rich East Anglian dialect which had us in fits of laughter, as did the amazing Irish

accent which accompanied the "Irish" jokes. You know the sort!

Poetry can also tell a tale and David read a moving poem written by George Studdert-Kennedy better known as "Woodbine Willie" about life in the trenches during World War I. He also read a comical poem by Peter Tongeman about a difference of opinion at a Church Meeting. Good job we don't have to vote on what colour to paint our pulpit!

However, the most poignant tale was one by David and Mary's son printed in an issue of Woman's Weekly. It told of a visit to India when he spent Christmas at an orphanage. As their Christmas gift each child was given two sweets and a banana for which they were really grateful and delighted. How very different from the expectations of children in the West.

What a wonderful mix of Tales. We laughed, we were moved, and we were inspired. Altogether a most enjoyable afternoon.

Doreen Norris

Working Party Week early in April

We thank all those members and friends who came along to the church during the week 3—8 April to lend a hand with working through our list of jobs. Cleaning crockery and cutlery, decorating the vestibule, re-staining vestibule shelves and shelves in the sanctuary, spring cleaning the kitchen cupboards, vacuuming and shampooing carpets and outside painting of East Hall. Thank you also in advance to those who have promised to fit in the other painting jobs later in the year.

We thank God that we are well supplied with buildings and so it is right that we should do what we can to keep them in good order for His purpose.

Graham Redman



Mon	1		Spring Bank Holiday
Thu	4	9.15am-11.15am 10.30am 2.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Holy Communion Prayers in Little Chapel
Sun	7	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Tue	9	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: AGM & Accordion band
Thu	11	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	14	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	18	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sat	20	9.45am	Church Growing Together Day
Sun	21	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Christians Together in Goring at 'New Life'
Tue	23	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Antarctica & Falklands: Carol Bevan
Thu	25	9.15am-11.15am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting
Sun	28	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	29		Spring Bank Holiday

Church Growing Together Day!

20th May 2006

See Page 8





Sun	4		<u>Whit Sunday</u>
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mr. Wilfred Rhodes
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Dr Eric Rogers
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Tue	6	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Garden Party
Thu	8	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	11		
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	15	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	18		
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
		6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	22	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	25		
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	29	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group

A message from Janet - I sent a note to say thank you for the flowers that were given to me in January after my spell in hospital. It probably got lost. However I want to do so now. Also what a lovely surprise to find that Barbara and Hilary had delivered another bunch on the day I went and had the Endioscopy. I was not with it very much that day but I was with it enough to really appreciate that gesture and to remember that clearly.

All appears to be well with that and the call back I can safely say was an error. So we can thank God for that. Please pray that that side of things is now sorted and that the iron tablets and regular blood tests is all that we need to do now. Thank you for your prayers for me. At the time it was a shock to discover these things. I do appreciate the support of friends and family. Above all it is clear that God is with me especially when I have to have the heart operation. Thank you again for your love and support.

- It means a lot to me. God bless you all.

Church Growing Together Day!

20th May 2006



The Growing Together day will begin at 9:45am for a 10:00am start, ending at 4:00pm.

This is for everyone in our Church.
Members and Friends – Everyone!!

The last time we came together in such a way was many years ago, when 80 gathered in the church to hear our speaker from the Bible Society talk about “Church Growth”. Do you remember?

This time our Minister Andrew, with a Special Guest Speaker will show us how we might “Grow together” and how to “Catch the Vision” of our United Reformed Church”. Andrew has produced a great program – the Elders are working through it – now it’s everyone’s turn !!

A hot lunch will be provided by special (outside) caterers – so no washing up!! All provided by the church.

Please commit yourselves to come on this special day, by putting your name on the list on the table at the back of the church.

THIS IS FOR ALL OF US — WE ARE ALL NEEDED

Ian Alexander Hennell

1918 – 2006

We are very sorry to record the death of Ian Hennell, a member of our church for a number of years, and recently living in a care home in Broadwater. He had been unable to attend our services for some 2 years, but was able to worship at St Stephen's Church there.

His funeral was held on 27th March, and the presiding minister, Rector of St Stephen's, read a short 'history' of Ian's life. The following is a précis of his words.

Ian was born in the final year of World War I, the eldest of 3 brothers; he was brought up with a strong Free Church background, attending a Congregational Church in southwest London.

He was educated at King's College School, Wimbledon, where in his final year he was Head of House and leader of the Christian Union. He was at Emmanuel College Cambridge for 3 years where he gained an honours degree in Maths and Economics.

It was now 1939, and having joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Wireless Reserve, Ian was called up at the outbreak of WWII and served first as a telegraphist in the Royal Navy. He was commissioned as Sub-Lieutenant and served on Destroyers on convoy duty in the North Atlantic. Later he was appointed Force Radar Officer, and helped to spearhead the invasion of the French

Normandy coast in June 1944. One of his ships was hit, but he went on to serve on the staff of naval Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean. He was released from full time service in April 1946, having attained the rank of Lieutenant Commander and received the Volunteer reserve Decoration.

In civilian life he qualified, like his father, as a Chartered Accountant, in 1950, but preferred to work in industry and commerce. He retired from active business life in 1979, as Group Chief Accountant to the Advanced group of companies, specialising in linen hire and health and hygiene.

In 1951 Ian married Thelma, a wartime WREN, whom he met during a shore appointment. They were married for almost forty happy years, until sadly she died of cancer in 1990. They had two daughters and later five grandchildren.

(Continued on page 12)

Tuesday Fellowship - Continued from page 4

any medical worry and beauty therapists also provide expert hair dressing and beauty culture for the all-over feel-good factor. Children with special needs are catered for under Care's umbrella. Ashdown which is in the town centre is a wonderful facility where 5 - 12 year olds can enjoy closely supervised play suitable to their particular abilities.

The Carers Liaison Service fulfils a great need for those who care for a loved one in their own home by offering support, counselling and respite, giving a carer precious time to enable him/her to recharge their batteries.

The environment is not forgotten either in the Guild Care scheme of things. Recycling is important these days as we all know and to this end there are four charity shops raising funds and the latest innovation - The Greenhouse in East Worthing where all manner of recycling and refurbishment is carried out, and where items of all kinds can be purchased. I understand it is well worth a visit and I hope that by the time you read this I will have been to see for myself!

One of the fund raising projects at the moment is for a new mini-bus. There are several in the transport fleet but with so many people to take from place to place they (the buses) get a great deal of use as do the vans used for the removal of all the furniture and household items which are donated and sold at the Greenhouse.

The Management of Guild Care are mindful of the fact (and are the first to say) that none of what is done could possibly be achieved without the wonderful input of their volunteers. There are 180 of them working in every sector of the organisation, and of course room for more. It could be YOU!

As you will see I have only been able to touch very briefly on some of what Guild Care is about. There is a great deal more to be learned and marvelled at.

Should you wish to know more the Head Office would be happy to have a call from you, at Methold House, North Street, or by 'phone 01903 528600 or through their website www.guildcare.org

Try it. You might be glad you did.

Doreen Norris

Είναι ελληνικά για μενα !

The Bells of Armeni.

No, not the bells of St. Mary's, either here in Goring or elsewhere – but the village of Armeni in the Northwest of Crete, slightly inland from Kalives.

I first heard the bells, not in Armeni, but when staying in some rooms on the mountain road down to Georgioupoli. We had gone to bed fairly early that night, quite tired, as we had been swimming and walking a great deal during the day. There was not a great lot of traffic on the road that night and we soon settled down and went to sleep.

Some time during the night, I was awoken by some sound. I lay in bed, wondering what it could have been. As I lay there, I thought I could hear running water, not water from a tap, but the sound of a running stream, gently gurgling and tinkling down the mountainside. This gently tinkling water, however, did not run as consistently as one would expect. Why would the sound of a mountain stream be at the back of the house and then, ten minutes later, be at the front of the house, and moving away from it, getting more indistinct? Later still, it seemed to have reversed its flow, and be coming *up* the mountain past the house again.

Sleep, by now, had long gone. Intrigued, I got up out of bed and looked out of the window, as the sun was just trying to peep over the mountain, and there was a pre-dawn twilight.

There *was* a stream, not of water, but of woolly backs slowly moving up the mountain past the house. The woolly stream paused as the sheep grazed among the rocks and boulders, then moved on, the bells round their necks tinkling in different tones, all together a mountain stream. It was a gentle sound, as musical and peaceful as gently running water. The stream widened, narrowed, flowing slowly upwards until it was out of sight, the music fading into the distance.

Who were the music-makers, the sheep or the bells? Neither. The bells, those musical instruments, were made by the instrument makers, using sheet steel, hammers and anvil. The old man and his son were sitting in their dark workshop, surrounded by a variety of hammers, drills and vices. They do not use a foundry; they work as smiths, with sheet metal, and hammer out sheep and goat bells in one piece. The bells come in different forms, sizes and sounds. Each bell also has its own distinct tone.

(Continued from page 11)

There are more than two million sheep and goats on Crete, but they don't all wear a bell. An old Venetian law of 1349 required one animal in twenty-five to wear a bell to allow flocks to be easily regulated. These days, the ratio is a little lower, because of cost.

Large bells are for rams and Billy goats, the leading males. The smaller bells are for lead sheep. Every bell is unique with its own individual sound.

Each piece of metal is hammered into a rounded shape, checked all the time to ensure the desired tone, then folded gently and the sides connected with a small metal clamp. Holes are punched in the top and the hanger inserted from which the 'striker' is hung. Once the sound and tone are right, it is up to the shepherd to allocate the instruments to the players in the open-air orchestra – the sheep and the goats! It is said that the animals themselves take pleasure from the sound of the bells, as well as the human audience.

What music do we make in this world with what gifts we are given?

Mary Connelly

(Ian Hennell — Continued from page 9)

In 1962 the family moved from London to Worthing, where their daughters married and settled down locally. On their retirement in 1979 Ian and Thelma moved to Southwold in Suffolk, where both became members of the URC, and Ian ordained as Elder. After his wife's death, Ian moved back to Worthing where he lived with his daughter in a 'grandpa annexe'. He transferred his Church membership to our Goring church, and for a time was Secretary of the Men's Fellowship and was representative for Christian Aid.

Last year Ian became a Great

Grandfather, and the three surviving generations gathered at his funeral.

One of his lesser known activities was to work for the Talking Book Service of the RNIB. He carried out this for some 50 years after the War, visiting blind and partially sighted people in their homes, making recordings, and even repairing the tape playing machines where necessary. This was something that he always really enjoyed.

To all of us who knew him he was an English Gentleman, an honourable man, and most of all a Man of God.

All is well with his soul.

We send our prayers and sympathy to all his family. *Wilfred Rhodes.*

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings

The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.

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The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

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June

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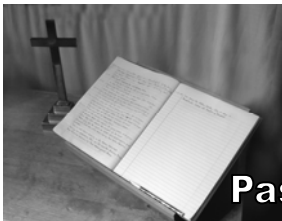
Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.
www.gurc.org.uk

The CHRONICLE

June 2006

The magazine of Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —



Pastoral Care



Annual Appointments

Tuesday Fellowship Meetings



Growing Together



How much am I giving ?

Spreading the Banner



We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

Mid-week

10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 63 - No. 605

June 2006

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July Chronicle: Closing Date - Sunday 11 June

E-mail to:- chronicle@gurc.org.uk

Tel:- 01903 260568

or Submit via the website — www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle



Church Growing Together Day !

Saturday 20 May 2006 10.00am - 4.00pm

Beginning with a Bible study from Philippians 2, a passage that is centred on the recipients being like-minded. It seems despite our many obvious differences we hold more in common than we think. Like-minded is not the same as being brain washed, pre-programmed, but being **one in Christ**, ever and always mindful of Him.

The three main components of the day were:-

- Catch the vision presentation
- Identifying mission opportunities.
- Being a purpose driven church.

The gathering was divided into four smaller discussion groups feeding in to an open session at the end of the day.

The catch the vision presentation (as used by our moderator Nigel Uden) was a challenging insight to the future of the denomination. There were some startling figures illustrating the decline of membership but the dramatic increase in financial demand to maintain the ministry of our churches.



Rev Andrew Sellwood: Catch the Vision



Rev. Richard Alford. London Borough of Newham experience

Resulting from these findings, the question was asked; are there more effective ways of using stipendiary ministry? That is to say reducing the numbers of ministers of word and sacrament replacing them with strategic ministries; project management, community work, youth work, specialist and fairly narrow ministries contracted for specific periods of time. So you can see there are some pretty radical changes to be made in how we perceive ministry.

If we look to scripture rather than the direction of the committees of man, we will see that each of us has a ministry, each of us will have or been given a gift or gifts, each of us will bear fruit if we are in Jesus.

We were very blessed by our guest speaker Revd. Richard Alford's practical insights into how we can more effectively engage with the community in mission. Depending on resource and need there are many simple projects we can begin. It's all a question of looking and seeing, listening and hearing.

Richard also shared with us more insights into being 'purpose driven' as individuals and as a church. Through prayer, much prayer we will find renewal and regeneration within the life of the church. That dynamic process will have the inevitable effect of producing growth of all kinds. We were reminded this is not about building our church with more members, but of building Gods Kingdom and that Kingdom is out there too.

The day began with worship and prayer it ended with Communion marking our primary purpose for being church; to worship God and then to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all.

I will share something that perhaps people had not realised. It must have been a God incident (not a coincidence) that I was led to use the same mnemonic - Worship Witness Works Wonders on our programme for the day that Richard used in his presentation; interesting.

I think this was a very valuable day in the life of Goring United Reformed Church, a line was metaphorically drawn in the sand, which we have crossed, we are entering into a new and exciting landscape. Those who were present covenanted into an agreement to go forward in mission to build God's Kingdom.

We can so easily become trapped in cycles of endless meetings with numerous committees formed and nothing achieved, but together we have committed to 'get busy for Jesus'. I know there were those who would have liked to be there with us but had prior arrangements or health problems which prevented attendance, be encouraged there is a ministry for every one.

Thanks to all who made the day run so well.

Yours in His service Andrew.

DA VINCI CODE

The Da Vinci Code, by Dan Brown, achieved the status of the best selling novel for many months after its release in March of 2004. It is the story of the history-changing secret that Jesus was not divine, was married to Mary Magdalene, had children, that the Christian church altered the Bible, that it invented Jesus' divinity as it demonised the sacred-feminine in order to gain power and influence, and that the secret is held by a sect of the Catholic Church that goes to extreme lengths to preserve the secret, lest it lose its power and influence.

Well that saves you reading the book but what about the film? There has been so much fuss over how it will bring down the church! Many church leaders and theologians have said this is a dangerous film. (Perhaps more dangerous are those celebrity Christian speakers who promote a confusing universalist gospel). Back to the film; we must be confident that any issues it brings out can be used to our advantage.

So don't see it as a threat but an opportunity. Too often the church just runs away and hides from such secular challenges.

Following is a brief and partial list of some of the many errors (in bold type) found in the Da Vinci Code book and film:

The Bible is the product of "countless translations, additions, and revisions". The Biblical documents are static, unchanging, and we have multitudinous copies of them from the first, second, and third centuries.

The Bible was assembled by Emperor Constantine. The Bible was assembled before Constantine.

There were 80 additional gospels. Though there were a few gospels circulating which claimed to be authentic, (but which the early Christians knew were not), there were nowhere close to 80 gospels.

Opus Dei members have monks. They do not.

The deity of Christ was invented by the Council of Nicea. The deity of Christ is found through the Scriptures [Matt. 2:2,11](#); [14:33](#); [28:9](#); [John 9:35-38](#); and [Heb. 1:6](#).

Jesus was married to Mary Magdalene, who is to be worshipped as a goddess. There is absolutely no historical evidence for this.

Early "Christians" practiced goddess worship. There is absolutely no historical evidence for this.

YHWH is derived from two Hebrew words, one masculine and the other feminine. No, it is derived from the single Hebrew word, "to be".

The Dead Sea Scrolls contained the earliest Christian writings. This cannot be true since the Dead Sea Scrolls were written before Christianity existed.

Christianity borrowed its ideas from pagan sources. Similarities between Christianity and other religions does not mean Christianity borrowed from them or they borrowed from Christianity. Similarities exist in all religions. The assertion is a common one that has no basis.

There just a few of the flawed arguments, there are dozens. If we know the issues and have answers to deal with them the truth of the gospel will prevail. Our God is more powerful than any heresy against Him; we are his agents to speak out on His behalf. In North London a church put on a monthly discussion meeting publicised by a poster outside the church. The first few were entitled '*lets talk about the gospel*' they were getting a dozen or so people coming to listen. One month they advertised '*lets talk about the DaVinci Code*' they had 80 come to the meeting. Let us take up the challenge and enter into the dialogue.

Andrew Sellwood

- Thank you for the beautiful flowers you sent me recently and for your love and friendship. *Joan Eley*
- I really must thank all of you who sent cards, brought flowers and telephoned me after I had my accident at the end of February. I was only playing table tennis and keeping fit after all! We received some flowers at the end of April, because neither Roy nor I were in Church, this time because Roy was unwell and I was suffering because I decided not to take my painkillers any more - when will I learn! We both thank you for your love and care towards us. It is good to be part of a caring fellowship. — I am now ready to make more marmalade. *Sheila & Roy Gooderham.*
- Bill West thanks everybody for their good wishes, flowers and cards that he received on his 102nd birthday. He is sorry that he cannot write himself but he says that the people here are wonderful and the Pastoral care is marvellous

HOW DO WE CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER HERE AT GORING URC ?

“ By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. ”

John 13 v35

A Team of Elders

We are blessed with a team of pastoral elders and visitors who in conjunction with the Minister, carry out our pastoral care. Everyone who is part of the fellowship has a named pastoral elder with whom news and needs of all sorts may be shared.

It is good to know that there is always someone in whom we can confide. It is also good to know that we can

share our concerns for others, in confidence, with someone who will be understanding. Please make a note of your pastoral elder's telephone number - you'll find it in the Handbook, (see below). Let the minister or your elder know when you need their help or if you are unwell and, of course, let them know when you have good news to share.

The Prayer Book in the Little Chapel

The greatest resource the church can offer is the power of prayer through Jesus Christ. There is a book in the Little Chapel, just next to the pulpit, in which we can record our prayers. Here is an opportunity to join our prayers with those of others and so receive God's richest blessings.

(Continued on page 8)

Congratulations to Ryan and Susie Thomas



- on the birth of their second son, Joe Nathaniel, a brother for Charlie.

7lb 8oz

On 21st April 2006

[Susie says that he was 10 days early - she hadn't even packed her hospital bag !]

Susie thanks the Church for the flowers also for the lovely Ark card that they received. She said what a lovely surprise as she rarely has flowers given to her. I may be outnumbered by boys in the house, she says, but as you can see from the photo, Ryan is outnumbered by Scots !



We thought you may like to know about our day out to Pulborough Brooks Nature Reserve. —



Photo by Ruth Cooper

We met at the church at 10 am on Saturday 22nd April for a trip to finish our bird project that we did for the first half of the term after Christmas. When we arrived we hired a couple of rucksacks which contained

(Continued on page 9)

(Pastoral Care - Continued from page 6)

Book of Remembrance

Also in the Little Chapel you will find the Book of Remembrance. This book contains the names of loved ones who have died. These are not only the names of people who have worshipped here, but names of relatives and friends too. If you would like a name recorded in the book, please let me know.

Holy Communion

If you would like the Minister to visit you at home with Holy Communion please ask him.

For those unable to attend a full act of worship at 10.30 or at 6.00 pm on a Sunday there are occasional opportunities to celebrate the Lord's Supper at 3.00 pm on Sunday afternoon. Recently numbers have been very low and it is only possible to arrange this if several people can attend together. Please let your Pastoral Elder know if this is something which would suit you.

Confidential Forms

These slips of paper are available to anyone who would like the Minister to know about their preferences concerning the conduct of their funeral arrangements. The forms are kept confidentially to be opened only in case of need. Whether you live alone or not these forms can give peace of mind and avoid possible confusion at a later date.

Flowers

The flowers which are prepared each week to enhance our worship are usually shared between members and friends at the beginning of the following week. If you know of someone who would appreciate a bunch of flowers and a message to tell them that their church friends are mindful of them, both in joy and in sadness, then please let me or your elder know.

The Handbook

This little book is a directory of names of all who are associated with the church. It also gives the names of elders and lists resources, with other 'useful' information. If you would like your name to be added to this publication please let me know. Ask if you would like a copy - it is also available in large print.

For more information about pastoral care please do not hesitate to contact me either on Sunday, by telephone: 260568, or by e-mail: pastoral@gurc.org.uk

Hilary Redman, Pastoral Care Secretary

(*Pilots* - Continued from page 7)

a pencil case, a leaflet on paw prints of animals that roam the place, the animals themselves, insect identification, trees and birds.

Also, and to my horror as I am not too fond of creepy crawlies, an insect catcher which you look through a little magnifier and it will enlarge them for you. The following is what we saw on the outing, birds by the score such as blue tits, swans, Canada geese, woodpeckers and ducks.

Insects included beetles, red ants, earwigs, spiders, a fly, bees, caterpillars, a yellow butterfly, and a white butterfly.

We saw a lizard and an adder and an adder's skin. Water creatures include swimming beetles, tadpoles, newts, water skater and algae.

We saw animal prints. The flowers we saw included primroses, violets, mallow, and hawthorn blossom.

Animals we saw were a rabbit, cows and highland cattle. We saw a church, a mole hill and a combine harvester. We all agreed that it was a fun day and it was an exciting day and everyone enjoyed themselves and the weather could not have been better. It was warm and sunny.

I was very impressed with the way the children behaved themselves and it made me realize that the children do know how to behave.

They are great kids and a pleasure to take out like that and I enjoyed the day. God bless you all.



Pilots and officers

Pilots Coffee Morning for Christian Aid

Raised - £185.35 Thank you to all who supported us on the morning. Thank you for all the financial donations and a special thanks to those who made the cards and helped on the day.

Bett Swierk.



Sun	4		<u>Whit Sunday</u>
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mr. Wilfred Rhodes
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Dr Eric Rogers
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Tue	6	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Garden Party
Thu	8	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Elders Meeting
<hr/>			
Sun	11	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	15	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
<hr/>			
Sun	18	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
		6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	22	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
<hr/>			
Sun	25	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	29	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Church Meeting

Many of us, I am sure would like to thank Geoffrey for the music he chooses and plays so efficiently, Sunday by Sunday. The anthems the choir sings fit in with the service so well and are much appreciated.

Thank you for sharing your gift of music with us Geoffrey. *Lily Collison*

We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all



Sun	2	8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	6	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	9	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Family Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Mr Alec Ralph
Tue	11	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Cream Tea
Thu	13	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Elders Meeting
Sun	16	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: CTG at St Richard's
Sun	23	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	27	7.30pm	Church Meeting

NB. Remember that there will be no separate issue of the Chronicle for the month of August.

The closing date for July's magazine is Sunday 11 June.

We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

Tuesday Fellowship Meetings

11th April 2006 Easter Time

I feel very sorry for those of you reading this who were not fortunate enough to be at this Tuesday Fellowship meeting, because believe me, you missed something truly wonderful.

Our very good friend Tony Trevithick told us of the life of Jesus Christ – the story we have known and loved all of our lives – but told it in a way which held us spellbound from the first word to the last.

We learned of these two ladies, Elsie and Maude: who were great friends and who loved going to the theatre. It was a pleasant ritual for

them, a meal out – coffee in the interval, you know the sort of thing! The theatre was one of the good old-fashioned kind with a balcony (or two) and the coin in the slot opera glasses.

The ladies soon settled happily into their seats. (all this detail set the scene as only Tony can), and as he was recounting it the whole thing was coming alive. We could SEE Elsie and Maude, we could HEAR the bustling of the other theatre-goers, we were THERE! For the “THE FINAL ACT”. When the curtain went up it was to show an inn – and a stable – and a baby, born in that stable. The Nativity Story was being told in its entirety. As Act one finished so the stage revolved to show the

next part of the life of Jesus: His growing –up and coming to Manhood, the stories and the people involved in His life so familiar to us. That was Act two and the stage revolvedagain.....Act three. Palm Sunday and the entry into Jerusalem. Each day of that week was featured leading us up to Maundy Thursday and then Good Friday with all that transpired on that oh! so black day, followed by Easter Sunday and the rejoicing of the Lord’s resurrection.

The final act, from which ‘our’ play was named was but so poignant, we hardly dared breath, it was the act of people – apostles, disciples, call

(Continued on page 13)

them what you will, being called to be followers of Jesus – just as we have been. The curtain came down – Elsie and Maude went home!

I have only been able to touch briefly on the content of Tony's talk. There was so much detail in his 'play' so many facets in the story of our Lord's lie.

It was all so real. I wish I could make it come alive as he did.

All I can do is give grateful thanks on behalf of those who were privileged to hear him. I can assure you there was hardly a dry eye in the hall. I wish you could all have been there.

P.S. I understand that Tony wrote the story which he re-enacted as the play "The Final Act", which makes it even more special!

25th April 2006

Spring Fashions

The ladies of the Fellowship (no gentlemen this week!) had a most enjoyable afternoon at one of the all-time favourite occupations – clothes watching! Our friend Sue Boulter from "Number One" the lovely shop in South Ferring came to show us her new Spring fashions. With her came two of her shop helpers, Connie who also models the clothes and Mandy who works very hard as the 'dresser' during the show. Two of our own ladies Bobby Hitchin and Peggy Mott also modelled some of the outfits – and very well they did it too.

We saw a huge range of lovely garments plus all the right accessories – bags, scarves jewellery etc. and at very reasonable prices.

Sue compèred the show describing the items as they were modelled most of which could be mixed and matched so showing how versatile the clothes were and what lovely colours are 'in' for the coming season. "Number One" is a veritable Aladdin's cave and a visit is highly recommended.

Doreen Norris

The Banners are spreading

Some while ago I was in correspondence with a lady called Auriol in Hinckley. She attends the same church as Jill Sellwood's father. He had been here and was so taken with the banner here at Goring that he took photos and showed them to Auriol who immediately went into action to make one for their church. She contacted me at the time and I gave her all the information I could and this is the result. Gorgeous isn't it! This is the letter I had from her.

Dear Caroline

I enclose a picture of our completed banner which will be dedicated on Easter Day. Thank you for your help in getting us started. I feel our banner is like yours but not identical. Everyone in the church has been enthusiastic and we have received crosses from the Cubs and Guides, a local group called 'Work link' which includes mentally handicapped people and some from the men in the church. We promised to include them all although the standard is very variable and some of the pieces which were stuck rather than sewn have fallen off! We completed the banner and fastened the bits back on! So thank you very much.

Wishing you a happy Easter, Auriol Summers





FINANCE update: How much am I giving?

In the April issue of *The Chronicle* I reported that we need to increase our giving to £7.40 per person per week, compared to £6.90 last year.

Giving for January/February was only £6.25.

Those who have responded to the challenge already, have brought our average weekly giving up to £6.61 – but this is still below our average weekly giving during 2005.

So, can I urge you, if you have not already done so, to bring your giving before the Lord, in prayer.

A few practical points for you to consider —

- Decide on the level of your giving and give that amount every week or month – Giving through **Freewill Offering Envelope Scheme** will help you in that discipline if you do not presently give on a weekly basis. Please speak to me if you would like to use FWO envelopes – I still have a few spare sets.
- An alternative means of ensuring regular giving is by **Bank Standing Order**. Please speak to me if you would like to use this method of giving.
- **Gift Aiding** your donations enables me to reclaim from your friendly tax man an additional 28p for every pound you give. So, if you pay tax (remember you pay tax on Bank interest and other investments) please have a word with me, so we can optimise your giving – don't let the tax man keep what the Church can use!
- Sadly our numbers are reducing and this affects our giving. Please consider whether you should be making provision in your **Will** to support the Church after you have gone to be with our Lord. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to those who have blessed the Church with bequests in the past

I will keep you informed of progress in future issues of *Chronicle*. If you have other questions, you think I should be addressing, please let me know.

Matthew Smith
Treasurer

Annual Appointments

At our July Church Meeting we will confirm or make appointments to our Administrative Groups and also to the various responsibilities taken by many members in the Church, (see pages 4, 5 and 8 in the Handbook)

Please prayerfully consider your own role and confirm with me if you are able to continue. However if you feel called to a new task, wish to change or stand down at this time, let me know so that we can ensure continuity in our service in the life of the church. It is with great appreciation that we acknowledge the contributions of so many in the life and witness of our church each year.

Thank you. *Jane Bond*

Junior Church

have been busy over the last few months.

On Mothering Sunday we gave a short presentation on the poem "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein which was well received. The children and young people then gave out the plants and the coupon holders which were the culmination of several weeks of hard work going back to February. We have been given several letters of thanks for

these and hope they are serving their purpose! Junior Church members have also contributed postcards decorated on the theme "the things I love most about God" which were requested by the Revd. Neil Thorogood to be used at the General Assembly in July. The postcards will be given out as gifts to people at the Assembly.

Please continue to pray for the members and staff of Junior Church. Thank you.

Table Tennis

Just over a year ago, the idea to form a table tennis club for people within the church fellowship became a fact and now have a membership of about 18. We meet on Tuesday and Friday mornings in the East Hall, from 9.30 until about 12noon. It proved a great way of getting to know other people who, under normal circumstances, we might only have a passing acquaintance with. As you can imagine there is a lot of chat, especially over coffee, but the game still goes on. Sometimes the 'chat' becomes quite serious, perhaps after a church

meeting or latterly following a session on the Lent course (The purpose driven life). During holiday times, or when family is with us, we are pleased to have with us the younger generation. We did hear one of the youngsters say that for oldies, they are not bad'. How's that for a compliment.

Unfortunately we have had to close the register for people wishing to play on a Tuesday morning as we are over-subscribed, but on Friday mornings you will be warmly welcomed. If you would like to make enquiries, or have further information, please get in touch with Sheila Gooderham [506452] or Peggy Mott [241813]

The Rowland Singers are holding an Open Evening in the Large Hall on Wednesday 21st June at 7.45pm. We have a short rehearsal of the music we are practicing for our July concert followed by refreshments and an invitation to any who would like to join us to start in September. You are not expected to read music, but it would be an advantage - the only ability we do ask for is that of being able to sing in tune!!!!

It would be nice to see some of you there to see what we do get up to on a Wednesday evening.

Sheila Gooderham

A few tips to remember when submitting articles
by electronic means for entry in

The CHRONICLE

1. E-mail: Please only use chronicle@gurc.org.uk. Do not use the 'Welcome' address as this is usually only seen by the Welcome Editor for the current month.
2. Form: Alternatively, you can use the form on our website www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

I am aware that some articles have gone astray because the wrong address has been used.

When your Chronicle e-mail has been received you will get a reply confirming that it has arrived :-

"Your message has been received in time for inclusion

in themonth..... Chronicle"

3. You can also continue sending typed or handwritten items as before.

Είναι ελληνικά για μένα !

Charcoal Burner of Agioi Pantes.

Jesus was in the garden of Gethsemane, when he was surrounded by police and soldiers and taken to the High Priest's house. A couple of the disciples followed behind. He was afterwards interrogated by Caiaphas, the High Priest, while the soldiers, servants, and police stood around outside in the courtyard. It is thought that one of the disciples was John, who was an acquaintance of Caiaphas. He went straight into the courtyard, while the other disciple, Peter, stayed outside the door. He got Peter the permission to come into the courtyard, where there was a charcoal fire lit in a brazier for warmth, because it was a cold evening. Peter joined the various men warming themselves during the hours of the interrogation. (John 18, v18, 25.)

After the Crucifixion and Resurrection, Jesus showed himself three times to the disciples at different places. The third time was when some of them went fishing, fished all night and caught nothing. Jesus showed himself to them on the beach and called to them, advising them how to get a good catch by casting the net over the other side of the boat. He had set up a charcoal fire and was grilling fish. They caught

so much fish they couldn't pull the net aboard. He asked them to bring more fish for the meal, and served it to them with bread. (John 21, v 9, 13.)

I wonder where the charcoal came from? Who made it? Was there a local charcoal kiln?

Wood charcoal has been in use for many hundreds of years for fuel, then also as a filter and adsorbent (attracting and holding thin layer of gas or liquid on its surface); also for some years as a non-conductor of heat, for packing round cold storage rooms and refrigerators.

Charcoal burning took place on a large scale in the areas where charcoal was used in the manufacture of iron, particularly in the Weald of Kent and Sussex, and the Forest of Dean. Until the 17th C, Sussex was the principal source of British iron.

Charcoal was also used for hop drying and for the making of gunpowder.

In these modern days, charcoal is produced by industrial methods with many by-products and the use of other sources of energy has almost killed off the quiet traditional art of making charcoal. It is almost forgotten in Northern Europe, though some of you may know of or remember the making of charcoal in

(Continued from page 18)

Sussex not *so* long ago. I have been told of one group of charcoal burners, itinerant workers, who worked the wooded area from Petersfield in Hampshire across to Blackdown in the north part of West Sussex. They made clay-covered kilns, and kept an adder in a box as a talisman. This snake was representative of the fiery nature of the kiln, quiet and slow, but liable to quick and dangerous darting bites in the same way that the smouldering wood was liable to erupt in spurts of flame if not kept under control.

However, the traditional way still lives on in some places in the Mediterranean, where charcoal kilns can still be seen in operation. In Crete, on the old road from Vrisses to Kalives, at the cross roads which leads to the village of Fres, you will find the charcoal burner Mathios Giamouniakis, who, when he is not too busy, is very willing to welcome you to sit under the huge plane tree in his outdoor 'living room' and have a chat.

Mathios fells the wood he needs all by himself, using mainly olive and carob trees – and also the roots. The roots are cheaper than the trunk and branches, but more difficult to harvest; a lot of heavy digging is required, or the use of a friend's bulldozer.

The wood is stacked as vertically as possible around a central pole in a circle, fitting all sizes and shapes together with precision into a huge dome, with smaller, more uniform poles forming the outer layer. The whole construction is then covered with earth. Vent pipes are inserted every metre or so around the circumference of the kiln. Dropping glowing charcoal embers down the centre before the last shovel of earth is thrown on top fires the stack.

The aim is for the wood to smoulder, but never to burst into flame, so that little or no air is allowed into the stack during the c o m b u s t i o n process, or the wood would end up in ashes.

(Continued on page 20)



(Continued from page 19)

Mathios has to be at hand for the three or four days of the burn, day and night, to repair any cracks or holes that appear, inspecting at two hourly intervals. The shovel is always at the ready to throw more earth over the hole. Three or four kilns may be smouldering at the same time, set at three-day intervals, so there is not much rest. An old bus provides 'caravan' shelter for the working period.

The kilns these days are built with ten to twenty tonnes of wood, not the three hundred tonnes he used to cope with as a younger man, when the kiln burnt for forty days and needed six or seven helpers working day and night. Now he employs two or three helpers. These smaller amounts take three or four days to burn.

When the smoke issuing from the vents changes from white to blue, the burn is complete, and the vent pipes are pulled out, the holes blocked, and the kiln left four or five days to cool down.

As well as during combustion, when the kiln is opened up, care has to be taken that the stack does not re-ignite. As well as all his work going for nothing, the surrounding countryside will have dried out during the summer and accidental fires can spread extremely quickly. Olive groves can be wiped out in a very short time due to their oily

nature and damage to villages can be immense. As recently as last autumn, a fire swept up the mountain from a careless smoker and was stopped just short of the village of Exopoli and Christos's and Helen's property by the Fire helicopter, which scooped up huge bags of water from Lake Kournas and dumped it over the area. Prayers were made in Worthing and Cornwall for their safety. God certainly helped the helicopter do its work.

The cooled charcoal is then bagged up and most of it sold to the local tavernas and restaurants whose owners buy many sacks of charcoal for their famous grilled souvlakis, meats and fish.



The first rain of autumn brings the charcoal burning to a halt, and Mathios sets about finding and felling trees for the next season. When he is asked how he learned his craft, he shrugs and smiles, "Well, if you want to do something, you will find a way!"

Mary Connelly

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings

The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.

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The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

WELCOME Editors

welcome@gurc.org.uk

June	Hilary & Graham Redman	260568
July	Eileen & Wilfred Rhodes	248263



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.
www.gurc.org.uk

The CHRONICLE

July/August 2006

The magazine of Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington



From The Manse

You've got to laugh?

I took a family service recently, and one of the visitors (a confessed non church goer) said to me after *"That was interesting, I actually understood the meaning of the parable and it was, dare I say it, fun you seemed to be really enjoying what you were doing."* He went on to say; *"I remember being dragged to church as a kid; it was dull, gloomy and solemn, I left when I was old enough, never went back again."*

(Continued on page 3)

We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

- 8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.
- 10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.
- Family service monthly as announced
- Junior Church with Crèche
- 6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

Mid-week

- 10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month
- 2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 603 - No. 606

July/August 2006

From The Manse

You've got to laugh?

I took a family service recently, and one of the visitors (a confessed non church goer) said to me after *"That was interesting, I actually understood the meaning of the parable and it was, dare I say it, fun you seemed to be really enjoying what you were doing."* He went on to say, *"I remember being dragged to church as a kid; it was dull, gloomy and solemn, I left when I was old enough, never went back again."* As I came to write today, the thought just occurred to me that this is how we as Christians generally are seen as being – serious, solemn and even gloomy! That must mean the joy of the Lord is not apparent on our faces, nor seen in our behaviour or worship. Oh dear!

As a general rule, the more 'religious' we become the more serious we get! Who would want to join us? Yes, seriousness and solemnity is what society sees the 'religious thing' as being. Now I come to think of it, I had a bad experience of church in my early twenties'.

I was invited by a friend from work to visit his place of worship, it was known as 'Zion Holiness Church', a huge red

brick Victorian chapel. These people had the wonderful desire to be holy, as God is holy, no problem there. Unfortunately though, they try and achieve it through being holy on the outside - no makeup or jewellery, a strict dress code (hats for ladies), a set behaviour code etc, to which the congregation were expected to adhere 100%.

It seemed they were always rebuking or disciplining one another. When you think about it, it is simply bondage to law. The very thing that Jesus came to overthrow, for it did not, nor ever will, work.

Jesus liked a good party! In fact, His very first miracle involved making a party go with a swing; don't worry I'm not suggesting our church needs to invest in the local brewery as part of our mission!

The Pharisees accused Jesus of not being 'religious' enough! Of eating and drinking and mixing with common people who were enjoying themselves, not fasting nor acting superior and serious, as they did.

Religion, by its nature, can create an air of false seriousness and superiority, of vestments and artefacts, of position and exclusion. We must qualify, in order to join the club. That may be fine for a few but not for many, a spiritual niche market, I suppose that's OK, we need the variety.

Pastoral News

Eric Popplestone Our friend Eric Popplestone died peacefully at his home late on Sunday 4th June; he had been unwell for some years. A member and elder of this Church, Eric served on a number of committees, was at one time Junior Church Superintendent and, with Barbara, edited and printed the Chronicle during the 1980s.

His funeral was on Monday 12 June at the Crematorium and a service of thanksgiving for his life was held in this Church later in the day, to which about 70 attended. We thank the Lord for his witness to the Christian faith and for all that he has done in service to His Church. We pray for Barbara and the family at this time.

Barbara Popplestone wishes to thank all her friends in the Church for their kind messages of sympathy on the recent death of Eric.

These have been much appreciated.

Joan Burrage thanks all the members of the congregation who sent cards, telephoned and above all offered prayers for me during the weeks of my absence from Church. I was delighted when Caroline brought the Church flowers to me the day before my birthday.

They were beautiful. I still have to be on the Zimmer for part of the day and transferring to sticks for a while each day. Blessings and love to you all.

Gladys Smith writes:- please accept my sincere thanks for all the kind messages sent to me after my recent car accident. They all helped my recovery — My kindest wishes.

Grace & Jim Hope give thanks for the beautiful flowers they received from the Church with a special thank you to Eileen & Wilf who delivered them.

Congratulations to Suzy Webber on her engagement to Gavin

Christian Aid

Our best year yet !

Thank you to all those who helped in any way with Christian Aid Week.

Our total raised -
£1305.98

Junior Church

As the holiday season begins, we will be looking for volunteers to help out during the latter part of July and August.

The rota is on the Junior Church notice board if you would like to sign up; you might enjoy it so much that you want to join us on a regular basis!

If you have any questions please see Paul or Susanna.



Sun	2	8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	6	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	9	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Family Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Mr Alec Ralph
Tue	11	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Cream Tea
Thu	13	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Elders Meeting
Sun	16	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: CTG at St Richard's
Sun	23	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	24	5.30pm-7.00pm	An invitation from Pilots. The 4P Challenge. See below.
Thu	27	7.30pm	Church Meeting

ARE YOU READY FOR THE 4P CHALLENGE?

Pilots invite you to **Pray**, **Praise** and **Play**.

Starting in the church at 5:30pm on Monday 24th July,
ending at 7.00pm after refreshments.

Join us for the 4p challenge
Pilots Pray Praise Play



Thu	3	10.30am 2.30pm	Mid-week Holy Communion Prayer & Praise
Sun	6	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mr Alec Ralph Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Canon David Helyar Evening Worship: Mr Wilfred Rhodes
Sun	13	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise. Family Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	17	2.30pm	Prayer & Praise
Sun	20	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Mr Wilfred Rhodes Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Sun	27	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

**Closing date
September Chronicle**

Slugs and snails - What do you think of them ? - A tasty dish ? - Slimy creatures ? - Garden predators ? - or just a part of God's wonderful creation ? - Read what Mary Connelly has to say about them in the September Chronicle.

September Chronicle: Closing Date - Sunday 13 August
E-mail to:- chronicle@gurc.org.uk Tel:- 01903 260568
or Submit via the website — www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings

The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.

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The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

WELCOME Editors

welcome@gurc.org.uk

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695817

August

Ken Woods

505177



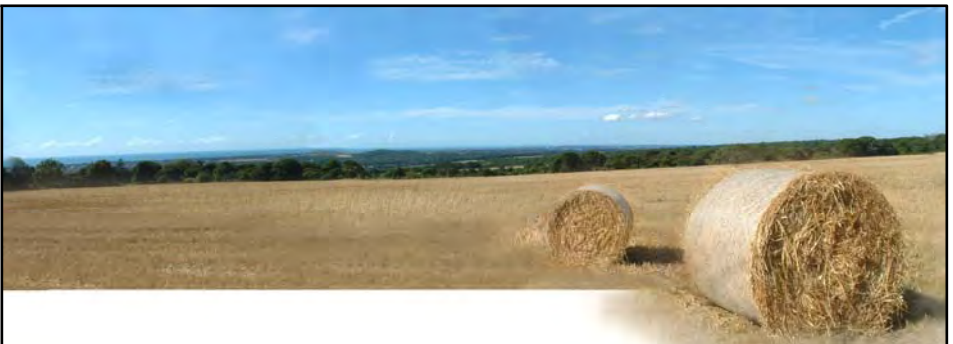
Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.
www.gurc.org.uk

The CHRONICLE

September 2006

The magazine of Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

————— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —————



In this September issue:

- Minister's Letter and Pastoral News
- Kestro Club News
 - Tuesday Fellowship
 - September & October Diary Pages
 - A Tasty Treat
 - Insert: Ruth & Mamy's Newsletter



We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

Mid-week

10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 63 - No. 607

September 2006

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Front cover: Harvest time on High Salvington

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The Ark in the Park: 22 adults with 24 children met together with Ark leaders and Rev Andrew Sellwood on the final day of the summer term. One of those hot July days in which to relax, chat and enjoy the fresh air.

See you all again in September ? !

Hilary Redman

Dear Friends

WHAT IS GOD'S FAVOURITE KIND OF WORSHIP?

I have a picture of many people reading the title 'WHAT IS GOD'S FAVOURITE KIND OF WORSHIP?' and knowingly nodding, "MINE, of course!"

Worship style is the biggest area of disagreement in many churches and often, between churches. Yes, we all know what God likes best! Or we think we do! For, of course, God is just like me! Isn't He? Oh, I thought He was!

So, if we are into loud music and lots of clapping, then God is too! If we prefer a more laid back, reflective style, then that too, is God's favorite! If we disliked last weeks service, then so did God! Let's be honest about it - that's right, isn't it! But I have good - or bad - news for all of us! God enjoys all our types of worship... IF! And it's a BIG IF! But only IF our worship comes from our heart, from the depths within. A sacrifice overflowing in thanks, praise and worship to our Lord for all that He has done for us.

Wonderful though it is, our heart felt worship is still not God's favourite! For there is a single, superior type of worship that God is searching for amongst His followers, the worship that brings a satisfied smile to His face and joy to His being. [Metaphorically speaking, that is, for He is Spirit!]. And it is, THE WORSHIP THAT COMES FROM OUR CHARACTER. For fine words and uplifting songs are relatively easy to produce! But our character, well that reveals our true heart, our nature and our devotion, offering deep worship to our God.

Yes, God smiles appreciatively as we love the unlovely and help the helpless. For it is in our daily actions, that we reveal - or don't reveal - the nature and character of Jesus. True worship then, is shown in our modeling of Jesus to a world that needs Him more than it ever has. With this worship shown in and through our lifestyle, God is truly pleased - as He was with Jesus.

May our worship life not be just 'a 20 minute sermon, 3 fast choruses followed by 3 slow hymns, but an ongoing, developing pattern of worship, one of being molded into the image of Jesus.

Yours in His service Andrew

On behalf of Lizzie and the rest of my family I would like to thank you all for your prayers, good wishes and the lovely flowers following her appendix operation. It was quite a shock to find what we thought was a tummy bug was so serious!

She is now fit and well again with three small scars!
The Lord is good his mercy endures forever.

Caroline Hibbs

A big "thank you" to everyone who sponsored me to take part in the Race For Life on 1st. July. Despite the heat, my friend Ali and I completed the 5K course, and between us raised just over three hundred pounds for Cancer Research. I have to confess we didn't manage to run all the way; in fact we walked most of the course, as it was too hot to do anything else! Any way, thanks again for your support, it is much appreciated.

Jill Sellwood

Pastoral News

Dear friends,
We would like you to share in the joy our two grandsons have given us. Firstly, Daniel the elder one achieved his Law Degree (LLB) in July 2005, and for a gap year has been in Rome for 12 months, teaching Company Personnel Basic English. In September he has been accepted for the Middle Temple to be trained as a Barrister. He has been granted accommodation in their own building overlooking the Thames.

Secondly, Jonathan the younger one has achieved a 1st Class Honours Degree in Mathematics and with that excellent result he has been accepted by Cambridge to achieve a certificate of an advanced study in Mathematics, (CASM), at the end of which he will have a degree equivalent to a "Masters".
As you can imagine we are very proud.

Ken & Vera Irving

Some District News

There are three Inductions to pastorates in our District in the next few weeks. These are joyful occasions and a cause to give thanks to God.

- Rev Alex Mabbs is coming to the Hove Pastorate at Hove Central URC. 12 noon Saturday 9 September.
- Rev David Littlejohns to Emmanuel URC Worthing. 2.00pm Sat 16 September
- Rev Graeme Allan to Lewes Road/St Martins at Lewes Road URC. 3.00pm Saturday 30 September

TURNED OUT NICE AGAIN

The Stroke Club meets on a Friday afternoon when those who have suffered a stroke have the opportunity to have a chat, be entertained, have a cup of tea, etc., etc.

Last Friday, the esteemed organizer arranged a trip out to Wiston Tea Rooms. It was a glorious summer afternoon when I collected the mini bus from Lancing and proceeded to trundle it around to the various houses welcoming the members who are used to myself or Jim Jacks picking them up. Jim or I are always ably assisted, and on this occasion I had the services of Maureen (my wife) and Denise (transport co-ordinator).

I duly set sail for the rendezvous, up the A 24. As I turned off at the Washington roundabout there was a loud noise of bumping and banging issuing from the rear nearside of the bus. I stopped and looked. My non expert knowledge told me nothing except that the suspension was low. As we were within a short distance of our intended destination I drove at a very slow speed and we arrived safely. A call to Tony, the maintenance man for the bus, told us that the R.A.C. was our only salvation. In no time our hero arrived, looking like a male model. He was pristine, and courteous and helpful. He was soon setting about trying to solve our problem. He was, however, not terribly hopeful of remedial activity

and so the worry of how to return ten people back to their various homes loomed large.

Help was at hand. I recalled seeing a Guild Care Mini Bus pull into the Tea Rooms shortly after we arrived. I am uncertain about how the two carers on that bus came to be aware of our predicament, but before one could say 'Jack Whatshisname' our members were being boarded onto their bus, almost whether they wanted to do so or otherwise. The two carers were kindness personified. Five of our number were safely delivered home in no time.

Just to conclude a good day at the office, the R.A.C. man fixed the suspension ten minutes after the others had left and I was able to take the remaining members home.

The R.A.C. man was no longer pristine, in fact, he was filthy from rolling around under a dirty bus in the dust, but he had performed an heroic repair.

The two Guild Care ladies are a living proof that goodness and kindness is alive and well and, living in Worthing !!!!!

Our thanks also go to Tony who has always provided a reliable vehicle for us and, according to the R.A.C. man, was in no way able to envisage the sort of difficulty in which we found ourselves.

Vic Joy

SO WHAT'S NEW?

It is six years since we moved to Goring from the 'smoke' and we continue to be amazed at what we find. In addition to that, we ask ourselves the question 'would we have moved to ? ?' had we known about the latest discovery. The illustrious, exalted post of 'number two driver for the Kestro Mini Bus' brought about our most recent find. I am sure those of you who have known and loved the location for years past will wonder what on earth I am waffling on about, but our first visit to Mewsbrook Park, Rustington was extremely pleasant and enjoyable. It is able to boast all the things that an ideal park should have to satisfy the needs of all age groups and interests.

Most amazingly to me was the sight of a man cutting the grass with a mower which was sporting a grass box, thus leaving a pristine shiny park free of miscellaneous grass and weeds. Then there was the patriotic Red, White and Blue flower bed. Swings, et al for

children's entertainment, plus a train at £1.60 a go. For those who are really into conservation there is a 'wild' garden { one in which there are flowers and grasses uncultivated, not a garden in which to 'go wild'}. A nicely maintained five-a-side football pitch is open to the energetic, but the piece de resistance was a coot who was sitting on her nest of eggs in the boating lake. She appeared unperturbed by the comings and goings of numerous humankind, and on our second visit proudly displayed one chick, thus beating the first as she only managed to display her eggs and turn them over for our entertainment. The paths are level and well maintained which makes pushing our members in wheel chairs comparatively easy and I think they all enjoyed the glorious weather of the day.

A splendid strawberry tea at the adjacent United Reformed Church earned several bonus points to a well organized pleasing trip. Our thanks go to all concerned.

Vic Joy



A Garden Party was held in Matthew's & Wilma's garden in Findon Valley, early in August.

After an unpromising morning [weather wise], the afternoon turned out to be very promising with about 70 friends meeting for a chat and something to eat. Thank you to all concerned.

Tuesday Fellowship

I was not able to be at the meetings on 9th and 25th May so cannot write a report from a first hand viewpoint. However our friend and President Peggy Mott kindly supplied me with the necessary information.

The AGM was on the 9th May when, after a shortened business meeting the members were entertained by Val Gill and her Accordion Band which is always an enjoyable time especially when folk can join together in a cheerful "sing along" – one of the Fellowships favourite things!

For the meeting on the 25th May, a very well travelled lady, Carol Bevan, came to talk about and show slides of her holiday in Antarctica and the Falkland Islands. This must have been an amazing experience because, according to Peggy, the pictures she had taken were superb, as was the description of life aboard a rather smaller than usual Cruise ship. I was very sorry to have missed that meeting and do hope that we will have the privilege of another visit from Carol sometime. She has amazing holidays!

On 6th June we were all invited to a garden party given by our friend Bobby Hitchin. It was a lovely day and Bobby had arranged lots of things to do – (even a trampoline for those brave enough) and provided nice things to eat: and of course the very welcome cups of tea. It really was a happy afternoon, very much enjoyed by all.

The final meeting of the session was the annual cream tea on 11th July, again a most successful event thanks to some welcome publicity in the Worthing Herald's "Parish Pump". Our "Talented Two" Bobby and Peggy pulled all the stops out to entertain us with their songs, sketches and drama. Plus, of course the delicious scones and cream and other goodies to eat.

Altogether it has been a very informative, interesting and happy session. Our thanks must go to Carol Webber for finding the speakers and thanks also to those who work hard behind the scenes organising the meetings in order that Tuesday Fellowship can keep going. We would give a very warm welcome to any lady or gentleman who would like to join us. As I've said before - you may be glad you did!

Our next session starts on Tuesday 12th September – programmes available now.

Doreen Norris

Fellowship Finance

At the end of our Fellowship year the members were happy to agree that the money raised for our 2005/06 Project should be donated to the family of our late friend Joe Amissah, in Assin Nsuta.

I am pleased to report that a cheque for £200 was handed to Monika Leal to be sent with a cheque from the Church to Joe's wife Agnes. I have already received a very grateful letter of thanks from the family.

Audrey Gerlach [Treasurer]

Fellowship Group Meetings

The Autumn session of the Fellowship begins on Tuesday September 12th with 'Telling tales' – if you want to know more speak to Peggy, Audrey, Barbara or Bobby.

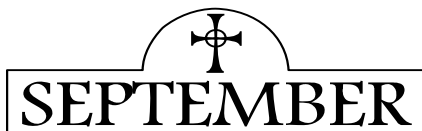
Meetings begin at 2.15 for a 2,30pm start and are open to men and ladies, young, old and anywhere in between ! Support this Church organisation or we may have to close.

You've heard the expression – 'Use it or Lose it'!

Meetings for the Autumn are:-

12 September	Telling Tales
25 September	The Emmaus Project
10 October	Slide show
24 October	Autumn Fashion Show
7 November	Anniversary Service & Tea
21 November	Hand Bells
5 December	Little Fishes Nativity
10 December	Christmas Celebration

Closing date for October Chronicle 10 September



Sun 3	8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
	10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Anthony Trevithick
	6.00pm	Evening Worship: Mr Alec Ralph
Thu 7	10.30am	Mid-week Holy Communion
	2.30pm	Prayer & Praise
Sun 10	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
	10.30am	Family Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
	6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Tue 12	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Start new session Telling Tales
Thu 14	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Sun 17	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
	10.30am	Morning Worship: Mr Alec Ralph
	6.00pm	Evening Worship: CTG at Maybridge Community
Thu 21	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
	2.30pm	Prayer & Praise
Sun 24	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
	10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
	6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Tue 26	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: The Emmaus Project
Thu 28	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
	7.30pm	Church Meeting
Sat 30	6.30 for 7.00pm	Barn dance and Supper at Emmanuel URC. See back page

Christian Comedy Week in Sussex

Please look out for the posters regarding this Sussex URC initiative. This is an outreach event with shows, and a workshop on Saturday 14 October at Brighthelm. 3.00 - 5.30pm

Please consider supporting these events and certainly pray for their success in spreading the Gospel. *Jane Bond*



Sun 1 Harvest Festival and Gift Day

8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mr Alec Ralph
10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood - followed by a Harvest Lunch: see page 16 for details.
6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

Thu	5	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
		10.30am	Mid-week Holy Communion
		2.30pm	Prayer & Praise

Sun	8	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Family Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

Tue 10 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship: Slide show

Thu 12	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting

Sat 14 3.00 - 5.30pm Christian Comedy Week in Sussex. See bottom of page 8

Sun 15 8.00am Prayer & Praise
 10.30am Family Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
 6.00pm Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

Thu 17	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
	2.30pm	Prayer & Praise

Sun 22 8.00am Prayer & Praise
 10.30am Morning Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick
 6.00pm Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

Tue 24 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship: Autumn fashion show

Thu 26	7.30pm Church Meeting	No meeting of The Ark - half Term
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[illegible]



WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

"CONTINUING TO HOLD FAST IN PRAYER"

You are invited to join a special service celebrating the

**75th anniversary of the first service held in England,
on Saturday, 28th April 2007, 2pm in the London City Temple.**

The church, which is easily accessible by Thames Link trains, only seats 900 people and early application for tickets (£5) is advisable.

Jennifer Rees Larcombe will be the speaker, and the soloist will be the 2005 Choir girl of the Year, Laura Wright.

Please contact Eileen Rhodes (soon!) if you would like to apply for tickets, Tel 248263



Were we ready for the 4P challenge ?

On Monday 24th July, Pilots invited us to
Pray, Praise and Play.

We started in the Church for worship, praise and prayer, followed by a challenging time playing games in the warm sunshine, and then in the hall for refreshments.

4P

CHALLENGE



GIFT DAY

1 October 2006

I provided a budget update at July Church Meeting. You may recall that our budget included an offertory target of £40,000 for 2006, and a Gift Day target of £6,472.

The combined achievement of these targets would enable us to balance our income and expenditure account. Unfortunately projected figures, based on the offertory to June, show that our Gift Day target needs to be raised to £10,000 to achieve the desired balance!

We also learned of some outline plans, emerging from the Fabric Group, for improvements in the Church Halls area, which involve re-roofing the area Cornwall Room and surrounding areas. Detailed plans and costs have yet to be worked up, but Church Meeting agreed the need to start raising funds for this project, and approved raising the Gift Day target by a further £5,000. We have therefore set the overall Gift Day target to £15,000. (More details on the project will follow from the Fabric in due course.)

We invite you to embrace this new Gift Day target and to prayerfully consider your response. The figure may be large but we trust the Lord's guidance in arriving at this figure, and more so his prompting of our individual responses.

With just over 100 members an average gift of £150 will enable us to achieve the target. If you are a taxpayer and have signed a Gift Aid declaration please ensure that you pay by cheque – this will enable me to reclaim the relevant tax.

Also, please remember to review your weekly giving, if you have not already done so. The more we give week by week the less we need rely on Gift Day giving.

May the Lord bless us all as we respond to the privilege of meeting the needs of his Church here in Goring.

Matthew Smith
Treasurer

Closing date for October Chronicle 10 September

A Tasty Treat!

When we had some rain, and growth really got going in the garden, the birds started to sing early and late and became busy collecting food for their young. Then, too, in the darkness and dampness, silent robbers of the night emerged from their hiding places and stealthily and systematically stole newly emerged succulent shoots and leaves of precious plants, leaving behind a trail of silvery destruction.

Hate is not a common word in my vocabulary, but perhaps it is one I get nearer to using when viewing those slimy perpetrators of crime, particularly the ones with no shells, who have few friends! However, I do try to keep in mind that they are also God's creatures that have a shapely form, beautiful markings, and leave lovely silver trails.

The garden has hiding places for slugs and snails of all sizes. It is quite frightening what damage a 'slathering' of slugs and a 'snoop' of snails can do overnight! (These collective nouns are my personal invention – 'snoop' from the Dutch 'snoepen' – eats on the sly.) However, I feel a pang of guilt as I walk around the garden planning my counter-attack on these creatures and their destruction. If I were in Crete, I would be uttering cries of delight as I gathered up the big fat snails, and louder cries of delight as I found an even bigger and juicier one hiding out of sight. Why? Why would I have delight in gathering as many

snails as possible? For what reason?

When Helen and Christos used to keep the kafenion they had a variety of things to put on a plate for a snack. The rule in the bars is never to drink without something to eat. Sometimes, if they had nothing else to offer, it had to be something as simple as a cut-up carrot or cucumber or a small plate of sunflower seeds, known as 'time passers', as they were not shelled, so by the time the kernel was pulled out, a fair length of time had passed! Seasonal fruits and veg. were used, and nuts - almonds and walnuts.

Sometimes one of the men would bring in provisions to share with his friends – to eat raw, or to be cooked. Perhaps it would be a carrier bag of broad beans, picked and brought in straight from the field. The beans they would pull out of the pods and slip off the seed skin and eat them raw.

Often, too, they would bring in a carrier bag of globe artichokes, which grow well in that area. They would ask for a dish of vinaigrette – olive oil and wine vinegar and then would start to demolish the artichokes, first pulling out the furry centre, then peeling off the bracts one by one, dipping the end into the sauce, then catching it between the teeth to pull off the fleshy bottom.

I like artichokes - cooked! Eaten raw, they leave a strange astringent taste in the mouth, in the same way as raw, unsweetened rhubarb! The men, however, seemed to have a very

enjoyable time and soon both table and floor were littered with the debris. I had to refuse the invitation to join in, as I did not like a screwed-up mouth!

There is a really special treat that most of them look forward to, which is - ? SNAILS! - 'Sallingaria,' or in Crete, 'chochli' the ancient name for snails. Think cochlea.

Well, the Romans are said to have liked them so much that they bred them to an exceptional size to satisfy their appetites!

The Cretans love them and prepare them in many ways, sometimes simply, with a vinaigrette, or combined with vegetables, fennel leaves, fresh broad beans, wild greens and herbs; courgettes, okra, aubergines, spinach, according to the season, often eaten with rice or ground wheat.

A very popular dish is Snails 'boubouristi' with a drink of 'raki'. The snails are fried on a layer of salt in the frying pan for a few minutes, olive oil added, and fried for another ten minutes. Then 3-4 tablespoons of vinegar and a tablespoon of rosemary are added and all served with the juice from the pan.

Mrs Beeton's cookery book has two recipes for snails - one for baked, the other, boiled, with maitre d'hotel butter. The initial preparation she suggests makes me think that she never did try it for herself!



Another book on English food, published in 1954, talks of "collecting large garden snails into a covered tub, or onto some grass plot, and fatten them for a week on lettuce, onion and soft oatmeal porridge. Fruit peels, savoury herbs and fresh water should be provided daily, and the snail pasture should be shaded from the direct sun (and, of course, from thrushes). The washed snails are then thrown singly into fast boiling salted water and simmered for twenty minutes, and allowed to get cold in the broth." These snails are taken out of the shells and a garlic butter made and the snails put back in the shells, and sprinkled with finely chopped herbs. The remaining butter is made into a sauce with a little of the cooking broth in a side dish, and with a long two-pronged fork or a fine skewer you sit at table to enjoy the snails!

In a book on cookery questions,

I found a paragraph on the possibility of eating garden snails. They say, yes, you can prepare snails for eating, but the period of starvation required to rid them of impurities, requires some expertise and plenty of preparation time. They conclude that it is "better and easier to buy snails in cans already cooked, often with shells included in the pack, so that you can stuff them back inside with plenty of garlic and parsley butter, then heat them through and serve with good bread to mop up the buttery juices."

The average country-living Cretan would be horrified by the thought of buying snails when the family could gather them for nothing, or, if necessary, buy them from the travelling greengrocer, who carries sacks of torpid snails during his spring and summer season, and sells them by the kilo.

The benefits of snail eating are in good health – they are fat-free, have plenty of vitamins A, C and D and contain a large number of essential amino acids. Scientific studies done fairly recently have shown that Cretan snails, having grown on the various herbs and greens of the countryside, contain significant amounts of α -linolenic acid, which reduces the risk of heart diseases considerably. However, this is not true with all snails, especially the 'battery' farmed snails that are not fed the wild greens and herbs.

So, if I were in Crete, instead of killing the snails in my garden, I'd be gathering them, leaving no stone unturned, and putting them into a

covered basket or box with air holes. I would then put in some oats, flour, or pasta, for them to feed on. They feed and excrete, necessitating frequent cleaning out. When the snails have eaten their fill and cleansed themselves, after approximately eight days, they will go into a torpid state and seal themselves into their shells to stop drying out.

The snails can be kept for some time in this state, but if left too long, they become thin and lose taste. Some die. So it is important to check that they are still alive before cooking them. Putting them in water for a while wakes them up and they emerge from their shells. Those that don't come out of their shells, or react when poked with a pin, should be discarded.

Snails that are picked straight off the mountain, feeding off the thyme and sage, don't need much cleansing and no feeding and can be cooked the next day. I was staying up in a little village called Mathes, up in the mountains above Georgiopolis, and my old friend Pantelis and his friend Andreas went out across the mountain for a couple of hours snail-hunting and came back with half a carrier bag of snails each. They sat and sorted them: single snails were kept, but doubles – those in the act of copulation – are thrown back out on to the mountain to carry on their good work, lay eggs, and maintain and increase the snail population for the next picking.

Next morning, they were well washed and scraped around the 'lip'

and tipped into boiling salted water and boiled for twenty minutes, the scum (from their saliva) being skimmed off every few minutes.

Vinaigrette was made with oil and lemon juice – the lemons straight from the tree – and the snails were lifted out of the pan with a perforated spoon on to the plates. At this time I looked at the snails and wondered what to do next. "Come on, Maria," they said, "eat!"

There is a special way of getting the snail out of the shell with a couple of prongs of a fork, which I have mastered to a degree, but not with 100% success. The best fork to use is the old-fashioned two-pronged one. The experienced snail eater can stick a fork in at an angle, swirl it, and have the snail out, whole, in a couple of seconds.

If you cannot get the body twirled out whole, you have to drive a prong into the apex of the shell's spiral, (or, in desperation, smash it with the side of your fork), creating a hole. You then work the prong into the snail and move it in a spiral motion towards the opening until it pops out. Now you can dip it in the sauce and eat! What fun!!!!

Pantelis went out one day when I was staying there and gathered some small light coloured banded snails, from the stems of the tall plants down near the river in Vrisses. They were considered a real delicacy and could only be extricated from their shell with a pin. Pantelis took a bag full out to the kafenion and sat down with a couple of friends to consume

them, washing them down with a couple of bottles of beer. He provided his friends with pins, and they set to, picking and 'winkling' the snails out of their shells.

Various friends who were passing by, walking, or on motorcycles, pedal cycles, or even in cars, were eagle-eyed enough to know what was going on, and stopped to get themselves a (very small) snack. Back at the house, the elderly grandmother was delighted to sit for an hour picking away with her pin!

Perhaps, instead of a coffee morning, or a strawberry tea, we could have a snail party with a competition for the fastest snail-sheller, and perhaps a cookery competition, or compile a church recipe book to sell for church funds - 'New Recipes for Snails.'

Whether the snails and slugs are Cretan or English (or should that be British?), look more closely, as did the poet John Clare –

.... note on hedgerow baulks, in
moisture sprent,

The jetty snail creeps from the mossy
thorn. With earnest heed and
tremulous intent, Frail brother of the
morn, That from the tiny bents and
misted leaves Withdraws his timid
horn, And fearful vision weaves.

Oh Lord, how manifold are thy
works! In wisdom hast thou made
them all: the earth is full of thy riches.
Psalm 104, v24.

Mary (Maria in Crete) Connelly.

HARVEST SUNDAY LUNCH

1st OCTOBER

12:15ish

Come and join us for a fellowship meal.
A selection of cold meats, salads and deserts,
something for everyone!

Following our Harvest celebration there will be
coffee (no biscuits - don't want to spoil your
appetite) and something to keep you busy before
lunch.

Tickets £2.00 each or £8.00 for a family ticket.
Available from Valerie Cooper, Sue Mitchell,
Sheila Gooderham, Val Gill and Mary Redman.
or from the coffee hatch from today.

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings

The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.

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The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

WELCOME Editors

welcome@gurc.org.uk

September

Hilary & Graham Redman

260568

October

Eileen & Wilfred Rhodes

248263

**EMMANUEL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
ST. MICHAEL'S ROAD**

**ARE HOLDING A
BARN DANCE
AND
SUPPER
ON
SATURDAY
30 SEPTEMBER 2006
IN THE
CHURCH HALL
6.30PM FOR 7.00PM**

TICKETS:- ADULT £5.00 CHILD UNDER 12 FREE

**AVAILABLE FROM JENNY PHILLIPS 233013
ANN HUNT 264678
LESLEY HEWS 267193**

*also from
Graham Redman
260568*

**COME AND HAVE A FUN EVENING
YOU CAN WATCH IF YOU CANNOT DANCE
EVERYBODY WELCOME**



*Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.
www.gurc.org.uk*

No Chronicle issued for
October due to lack of material

The CHRONICLE

November 2006

The magazine of Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —



Inside this month : —

Harvest Festival Celebrations

Changes to The Chronicle magazine

Mission is Alive !

We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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Telephone: 01903 776226 E-Mail: pat@pathomson.fsnet.co.uk

Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

Mid-week

10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 63 - No. 608

November 2006

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Front cover: The Church on a wet November morning



We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

Don't Panic ... at least not yet!

"Polar bears are drowning and receding Arctic glaciers have uncovered previously unknown islands in a drastic 2006 summer thaw widely blamed on global warming". OSLO (Reuters).

This was the latest headline on my Prophecy Today email posting. It then led into the Bible text from Luke 21:25 *"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth the distress of nations, with great perplexity, over the sea and the roaring of the waves."*

Later that evening I saw the Tony Robinson's documentary on the Doomsday Code, an exposition on the book of Revelation and the wave of End Time prophets.

It bothers me greatly that some of my colleagues take such liberties with scripture. There is emerging a sensational and disturbing aspect of evangelism focusing on some of the more bizarre visions of St. John. It begs the question; are we commissioned to frighten people into the kingdom with these visions of hell and destruction? Yes, even Jesus gives us grave warnings of what will happen to people if they refuse to acknowledge Him as Lord and saviour. But maybe we are to temper all our words with the compassion and love of Jesus. After all isn't love a more durable and desirable attribute than fear?

I question the motives of those well-educated wealthy end time evangelists preying on vulnerable communities in the developing world; they need to remember Matthew 28. *18Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* That sounds very reassuring to me. We know Jesus will return one day to restore all things to himself, but we are not to concern ourselves with the time or place; what we need to be is prepared. In the mean time we as Christians can demonstrate some of that good fruit of the Spirit rather than sour grapes of wrath.

Andrew Sellwood



Thank you

Bill West passes on his thanks for the flowers he recently received.

Pheniah Taylor Change of Address

3 Abbeyfield House
98 Sloan Street
Lurgan
Craigavon
Northern Ireland
BT66 8NT

Tel: 0283 831 6507

A Request

Cakes would be appreciated for the Tuesday Fellowship stall at our Christmas Fayre to be held on the 25 November. If you would like to bring along a cake or two, please can you do so on the morning of the Fayre from 9.30am. Thank you.

Barbara Popplestone

A Message from Eileen and Ron Jordan

As old members of Goring URC in more ways than one, we would like to "give thanks with a grateful heart" to you all for your remembrance of us which comes in various ways.

Our thanks come especially to those who have brought us some delightful flowers to brighten our room, to friends who have 'phoned us and those who have personally visited, not forgetting those who have willingly provided us with transport in a moment of need.

Some friends will know that Ron and I had much needed respite care and rest in the Victoria Grand Rest Home, on the corner of Mill Road and Grand Avenue. The happy atmosphere and wonderful food there refreshed us. It is a care home we can recommend.

We think of you all every Sunday morning. All those there in church and other friends who like us are now only able to be with you in spirit. May the love of God bless you all.

Eileen Jordan

Harvest and Lunch - 1st October

As a relatively new member of Goring United Reformed Church, I haven't contributed to The Chronicle before, but I must say something about the Harvest Festival service.

Andrew conducted an inspiring morning service on the theme of Harvest and using outstanding [in more ways than one] visual aids. The service included an anthem by the choir; a setting of 'All things bright and beautiful', which was new to me and was sung beautifully. As usual the anthem was received in silence - I thought it warranted a round of applause.

Andrew also included a dialogue performed by Eileen and Wilf Rhodes designed to reinforce the message that the fruits of the harvest should be shared by all. After the celebration of Holy Communion, Andrew closed the service and harvest lunch was prepared.

Over 70 people had booked, which was too many for the hall so the Church Sanctuary was used, I believe this was the first time it had been so used. Anyway two long lines of tables were laid with white cloths, cutlery and glasses and cartons of drinks. We all queued up to help ourselves to a magnificent salad prepared by the ladies of the Church. We were seated in blocks of five because that is the way the church chairs are linked together. Gentlemen pushers then 'pushed' the blocks forward so that we could sit down together.

The repast continued with a selection of desserts and tea or coffee. We were then regaled by some music on the organ by Geoffrey.

And all this for the modest sum of £2.00 each !

Hearty congratulations and thanks to all who arranged this wonderful event.

Don Jenkin

Q. What do you do after a harvest service?

A. Have a harvest lunch.

That's exactly what we did. Like a well-oiled machine willing helpers began to set up tables and chairs and within minutes the church was transformed. The serving table was resplendent with a wonderful selection of food. So many people have commented what an excellent time of fellowship was shared. The ambience was enhanced with the autumn afternoon sunshine flooding the church.

Thanks to Val and Alan and all who provided the food, and all who served (and cleared up). The day was a real blessing and witness to the fact we are growing together as God's people. *Andrew Sellwood*

A Million J. Arfurs

I bubble for my chinas what went to the 'arvest munch
 We wanna give our 'earty fanks to all who gid us lunch
 We see'd the best of all appear at this years 'arvest bash,
 T'was better by a mile than any grub like 'pie & mash,
 All our good chinas there to have a right ole jolly spree
 From spuds and meat and puds so sweet, right down to Rosie Lee
 So fanks it is to all what dunus very proud, the dears,
 Them what went there enjoyed themselves and want to say 'free cheers'

Vic Jay

A big thank-you to everyone who came to the Harvest meal, it wouldn't have been such a good event if you hadn't come! The thanks continue, thanks to the rest of the Outreach Group for their hard work, to everyone who provided a "dessert", I wish that I could have had a taste of each one, they all looked so yummy! Many thanks to all those who put the tables up and down again, it all happened so smoothly. A big thank-you must go to my Alan and the kids who support me in all my activities and put up with a lot from me.

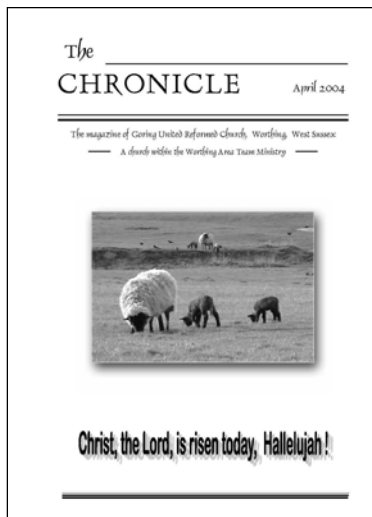
Valerie Cooper

Changes to The CHRONICLE

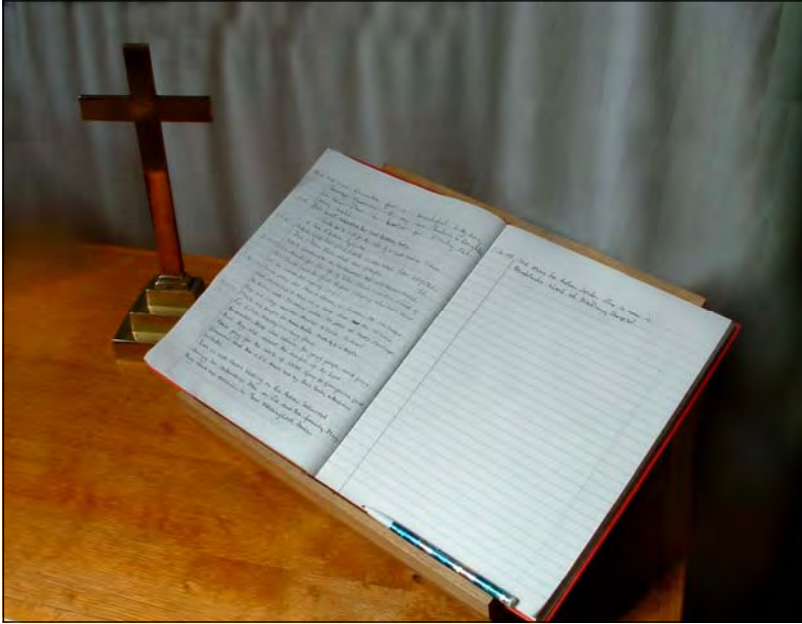
As agreed at our September Church meeting there will be significant changes taking place next month to the design, layout and content of The CHRONICLE; – and, significantly – it will become a quarterly magazine.

Why do we need to do this ?

1. We need to bring the magazine into the 21st Century and try to make it appeal to a wider circulation; a good read for congregation, church friends, those who use our facilities and for those who are not yet not connected with the Church at all.
2. Contributions to the existing monthly magazine have fallen to an extent where it has become difficult to produce a worthwhile document. It was for this reason alone that there could be no October Chronicle.
3. Some of the organisations using our premises may wish to write for the magazine, sharing their interests with others; likewise they may also become more interested in other activities themselves. It is hoped that those who make a contribution will be drawn to reading other people's articles.



There are about 180 words on this page



The Prayer Book in the Little Chapel

So, what are the changes ?

- Quarterly magazine issued December [Christmas], March [Easter] June [summertime] and September [Harvest].
- Include Services, times and preachers for the quarter.
- Print meeting dates and programmes for the quarter for all of our organisations.
- No centre Diary pages.
[— these are in Welcome]
- Articles from all groups and organisations using the premises, both church and non-church.
- All 'Thank you' notes and other current information will move to Welcome.
- Include secular as well as Christian material.

There are just over 100 words in this box, and about 280 on this double page spread.

Continues next page —

How can I help ?

1. Could you write a prayer, or comment on a Bible reading ?
2. Have you been inspired by a particular sermon either here or whilst you have been away, perhaps on holiday. ? Would you like to write about it ?
3. If you are writing on behalf of an organisation, you might like to try giving a general picture of events which have happened during the last few months, or perhaps you would like to write about a particular event that you have all especially enjoyed.
4. Also, it is good to include one or two photographs - they make the pages more attractive and break up the text too.
5. You could include some secular items as well if you think they would be interesting to others. Remember that we hope that other people not connected with the Church will be reading it - and contributing to it.
6. People ask, "How long should my article be ?" I believe that for this magazine the preferred maximum number of words is between 300 and 400. However, this can only be a guide. Be concise. As an example you can see from the previous pages how 100 - 300 words might look.
7. Contributions from young people would be very welcome please :
 - Can you write about events in Pilots, Junior Church, school, or your favourite pastime ? Do you have an interesting hobby ?
 - Would you like to produce a "Young Persons Page" ? You can edit it yourselves if you like !!

There are 266 words in the above piece

In all our writings and contributions, please remember our Mission Statement : —

We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all



KESTRO (Worthing and District Stroke Club)

The members and helpers of KESTRO have been enjoying the Autumn weekly sessions. We have added four new members and total weekly numbers have averaged 28-30. We are grateful to all those who help with driving, teas, exercises, and many other duties, and we are especially grateful to have received two legacies during the year. Members and helpers have benefited from this with outings, and a portable P.A. system, and still to come are a New Year tea party and an anniversary lunch next March.

On 24th November at 3pm. we shall be holding a small Christmas sale. This is our only fund-raising activity, and friends and Church friends are warmly invited.

Our pianist, Joyce Sutton will be retiring at Christmas, and we would be pleased to hear from anyone who could play for us for our 20 minute exercise sessions.

Eileen Rhodes



NOVEMBER

Thu	2	9.15am-11.15am 10.30am 2.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Mid-week Holy Communion Prayer & Praise
Sat	4	7.00pm	Review Night. Compère — Andrew Sellwood
Sun	5	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Led by the Elders Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Tue	7	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Anniversary Service & tea
Thu	9	9.15am-11.15am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Elders' Meeting
Sun	12	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Family Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	16	9.15am-11.15am 2.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Prayer & Praise
Sun	19	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship: CTG at Bury Drive Methodist Church
Tue	21	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Hand bells
Thu	23	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sat	25	10.00am-12.00n	Church Christmas Fayre
Sun	26	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	30	9.15am-11.15am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting



DECEMBER

Sun	3		<u>Bible Sunday</u>
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev John Gordon
Tue	5	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Little Fishes nativity
Thu	7	9.15am-11.15am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
		10.30am	Mid-week Holy Communion
		2.30pm	Prayer & Praise
Sun	10		<u>Gift Service in aid of the Worthing Churches Homeless Projects</u>
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Family Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Tue	12	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Christmas Celebration
Sun	17	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Carol Service
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Sun	24	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Mr Wilfred Rhodes
		5.30pm	Children's Service
		11.30pm-	Watchnight Service
Mon	25	10.30am	<u>Christmas Day Worship</u> : The Elders
Sun	31	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Margaret Ashby
		—	No Evening Service

A date for next year's diary - 13 January 2007 - Church Family New Year Party

IMPORTANT NOTICE

As this is the last monthly Chronicle to show Diary pages as above, could secretaries/leaders of organisations and groups please let me have, if at all possible, a programme of events planned for the months January to March inclusive.

Thank you, Graham Redman

TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

We started our new session on 12th September. It was good to be back!

Some of the members were prevailed upon to share their personal stories – new beginnings, happy endings, holidays – you know the kind of thing. Bill West, who has an amazing memory for someone who is 102 years young, regaled us all with a wonderful story of a cruise to South Africa which he and Clarice had taken in the days when ocean-going liners were the normal form of transport for overseas travel. - Ah! Happy Days! How Bill remembered the details and names of the places they visited on that holiday was really mind-boggling. We all enjoyed that afternoon and so looked forward to the second meeting of the session which will be on the 26th September.

Unfortunately, however, our speaker for the meeting did not turn up. So – left to our own devices, we carried on from where we were the last time.

Peggy, who had just returned from a short trip “oop North” told a most amusing/spooky story of a place she, with her sister and brother-in-law had visited on an overnight stop in Yorkshire.

Barbara too, had holidayed in Yorkshire, visiting friends and we heard about her journey – the first she had made alone for many years – and how she had enjoyed the experience.

Joan (Eley) had spent time in the WAAF during the war and amused us all with the tale of trying to get a lift from the camp into the nearest town. They could only wear ‘proper’ uniform when out which meant narrow skirts, and as the only vehicles in which lifts could be had were large, high, trucks – the efforts involved in getting into said trucks in a ‘lady-like’ way she decided to leave to our imaginations!

For my piece, I took many of the members down memory lane when I shared reminiscences of how I became a Girls’ Brigade Officer. Those of the fellowship who belonged at that time then got talking: recalling their own thoughts of those years, especially the very sad Sunday morning when our beloved G.B. colour had to be ‘laid-up’. Hardly a dry eye in the house – as they say! I still thank the Lord for the privilege of having served Him in 5th Worthing for those 13 years.

Doreen Norris

Review Night

Saturday 4 November from 7.00pm until 9.00

Andrew will be compère during this spectacular evening of home grown talent. Some acts have already been booked; and would like some more. Dig deep in your memory at what you are good at; Sue will be on the warpath with a clipboard.

We also need an audience to witness these amazing talents, so book some tickets (free - there will be an opportunity to make donations during the evening) for yourselves and friends. Light refreshments will be served.

We are looking forward to a really great evening together.

The Outreach Group

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 25 November 2006

10.00am — 12.00 noon

This year we are encouraging each Group or Organisation meeting at the Church to have a stall and join together for one grand sale. Monies raised can be retained by the group or donated to the Church.

If you would like ideas for your attraction speak to Sue Mitchell who will have a list of suggestions.

This is an opportunity to promote your group and meet others.

To book your space please see Sue or telephone her on -

01903 531551 [evenings] or
07803 001018 [8.15-4.15 weekdays]

MISSION IS ALIVE

Of this year's allocation of £1,300 approx:

£1,000 is dedicated to Ruth's support in the Congo, of its balance £100 was sent to help one of Ruth's special translation publications.

There remains a balance of approx. £200 to be allocated.

Thanks to generosity of Pilots and the Tuesday Fellowship Monica was able to send a gift to help with an immediate need in Ghana; we are however, not in a position to help with day to day expenditures.

Our thanks to Bett for organising Christian Aid this year, gifting totalled £1305.98 for Christian Aid Week.

Over the past years we have regularly supported MAF, FEBA, Living Hope ministries, The Bible Society and Leprosy Mission; as well as helping our brethren in Ghana, in addition to our Wycliffe Funding. We also have links with the Church in Southern India; however, perhaps we need to have a fresh look at our commitments.

There is a concern that there is criticism of FEBA for undertaking 'social programmes' dealing with HIV, Drug addiction. FEBA aims not only to preach the gospel over the radio, but also broadcast programmes aimed at the needs of non Christian listeners; for God is not only concerned with spiritual welfare but with physical well being-fitting into Feba's ministry-that individuals and families may be reconciled to God, and become followers of Jesus Christ, transforming their lives, just as Jesus did.

Alec Ralph

Closing date for December Chronicle 15 November

Then 15th day of the month for every quarter - see back page

News from Ghana

As many of you know, for many years we have now been in contact with the Rev. Samuel Gyan Nkrumah in Ghana. About ten years ago, our Youth Group sent him a bike, which he appreciated very much since it helped him to get to his parishioners more quickly, and since then he has regularly been writing letters telling us about the changing circumstances in his life and the life of his parish. On several occasions, he has also received financial support from GURC when he faced unexpected, big financial problems, like the death of his first wife, and he has always been very grateful for the help given.

For a number of years, the Presbyterian Church of Ghana posted him in a very poor village where life was extremely hard for everybody - no running water and no electricity! More recently, after the death of his wife Georgina, with whom he had been married for many, many years, he was called to work in a town called Bodada where he was responsible for six churches in the neighbourhood. It was at this stage that he got married to his second wife Mercy. Within their first year of marriage they had a little son called Emmanuel. Now this is where the "news" come in: in a letter that arrived at the beginning of October, he writes that little

Emmanuel, who in daily life is called "Nana Kwame" - Nana, meaning "Senior" or "Chief" after his grandfather who died many years ago at the age of 120 and Kwame, meaning Saturday, because he was born on a Saturday - has been joined by a little sister called Abigail Abena Korantemaa. The two African names mean: one will ask why - it is not man's doing, but God's own doing.

The family appear to be fine. The Rev. Samuel has very recently been moved again to another parish, a town called Tefle, but he has so far given no details about his new job. Unfortunately, my two last aerogrammes/air letters to him have not arrived, while I received two letters from him asking whether everything in Goring was alright. Therefore I hope that the letter congratulating him and his wife on the birth of their little daughter which I posted only a few days ago, will arrive safely. Whenever he writes, he makes a point of sending his best regards to everybody in our church and he also mentions that he is praying regularly for all of us at GURC.

In the next Chronicle I have more news from Ghana - not a baby, this time! The news concerns the family of Jo K. Amisah, the church secretary of Assin Nsuta who sadly died so suddenly a few months ago. This time it is good news!

Monika Leal

Einai Ellhnika gia mena! Kalh antamwsh. [Au revoir.]

New every morning.

The poultry pen was large - half a field – with rocks and bushes and hidey-holes among the orange and lemon saplings recently planted. It was also sheltered at one end by two large Carob (locust bean) trees. The hens had a shed, roosts and laying boxes, but preferred to lay their eggs around the field or escape and lay them in hidden places around the garden. Occasionally they were found too late with a broody hen sitting on them. Some time later there would then be the cheep of chicks!

The flock had not always been this contented and healthy. Before the enclosure and the shed were made, the first batch of hens had been bought from a lorry selling battery hens. Not producing as many eggs as would satisfy the producer, they were cheap to clear. The lorry went round the villages with cage upon cage piled on and beside each other, filled with these outcasts, terrified and shrieking with fear. Cheap to clear? Thirty hens were off loaded from the lorry. If they didn't lay many eggs, they could eat, fatten up and be eaten.

From the confines of cages and sheds among thousands of others, jostling for space and food and water, pecking and being pecked, losing feathers from neck and back and bottom, they were unloaded out of their cages into the field. Looking like a crowd of tired, ragged refugees, nervous, stressed, thrown into completely alien territory, they suffered from severe agoraphobia.

They did not know how to eat or drink unless the food and water was put in front of them. From eggs into chicks they had not known the shelter of a mother's wing.

They did not know how to roost on the perches, but huddled together among the droppings on the shed floor.

They were fed corn and leftover vegetables from the kitchen and gradually started to fatten up and re-grow their feathers. Eggs were laid, but very few. Some weeks later, Christos was advised to get a cockerel. He got a white speckled one from a friend in the next village. He was named Fabian after Fabian Barthez, the French national goalkeeper.

He was large, muscular and lean - in human terms, 'built like a brick outhouse'. When he was introduced to the coterie, there was a flutter of panic. Who was this with fine feathers and a loud voice? A lot of panicky clucking filled the air. "Who's that? What's he doing here? Why's he here with us?" For the first few days they ignored or avoided him, but he soon won them over.

He took good care of his hens. He would make sure they didn't stay out too long in the rain; that they were back in the hut before dark, and he would sleep at the entrance to protect them. Egg laying improved.

The following spring Christos bought some newly hatched chicks to add to

the numbers. When they were grown big enough to go into the 'adult' field, Fabian took care of them like the others.

There were a lot of buxom young hens now, which Fabes appreciated, but he preferred the company of the older ones, who had learned flying skills and followed him on exciting excursions to the other side of the fence.

One set of chicks from home-laid eggs, produced a cockerel, which looked like a miniature Fabian. He was named Santiago. He learnt how to 'keep his head down' and not challenge Fabian's authority as he grew into adulthood, all the time learning by observation and a quiet practising of crowing.

One morning the dawn was different, and the hours crept slowly into the day. It was strangely quiet. There was no extra early clarion call, no ear-shattering reveille. The early morning cockerel chorus of calls and responses from round the villages and from mountain to mountain was somewhat subdued.

There was no purposeful figure leading the crowd running to the gate as the food was brought. Fabian was sick. He was also old. He didn't want to eat, he didn't want to drink. He had no energy to move. He squatted on the earth, eyes closed, oblivious to the fussing and clucking – "What's up? What's up?" No answer.

The day passed slowly, the hens from habit carrying on as usual around the field, coming close and clucking to Fabian when the next lot of food was brought. That night there was no call to roost, and Fabian stayed where he was. Deputy Santiago was unsure what to do, afraid to take command.

The next day also had a silent dawn. Fabian was dead and was removed from the pen. The girls wandered around, listlessly pecking here and there, lost without their leader. Bedtime came, but without their guardian they felt abandoned and vulnerable. However, the night passed without incident.

As the sun rose next day, a rather tentative, hesitant, and hoarse "Er, er, er, er, er!" was heard from the poultry pen. Santiago was testing his voice. The girls perked up. He tried again with more confidence, stretching his neck as he crowed louder and yet louder. Within a few days, the girls were completely won over as Santiago took charge.

He never quite reached Fabian's high standards, nor did he become an international T.V. star eating corn out of outstretched hands before the camera, as Fabian did in "A Place in Crete" (Ch 4, 2004). Fabe was fab.

'New every morning is the love
Our wakening and uprising prove;
Through sleep and darkness safely brought,
Restored to life and power and thought.'

John Keble, 1792-1866

Mary Connelly.

Publications for 2007

The time for ordering Bible readings and literature for 2006 is fast approaching, therefore I should be obliged if you would let me know your requirements from the following list by the end of October.

IBRA - International Bible Reading Association

Words for Today 2007	£7.00
Light for our Path [also as large print version]	£7.00
Finding our way together (Books 1, 2 and 3]	£20.00

*All of the above are last year's figures as prices
for this year are not currently available*

URC Publications

Prayer Handbook Advent 2006-2007	
A New Heaven on a New Earth	£3.95 + p&p
The URC Pocket Diary - 2006 Red, Brown, Green, Blue	£5.00
Insert for standard Personal Organiser	£5.00 + p&p
Leather-bound Organiser Cover	£5.50

Other Publications

A Knock at the Door (Forty miscellaneous meditations)	£8.95
A Road to the Garden: Poems and Pictures for Lent.	£20.00

PLEASE REFER TO NOTICE BOARD IN CHURCH VESTIBULE FOR DETAILS
WHICH YOU MAY FIND HELPFUL.

Beryl Richardson

Creation

The God of day and night

In the beginning there was darkness over all the earth, and God said , "Let there be light"

God made dry land He made the seas
The roaring wind the gentle breeze
He made all trees and plants to grow
He made the mighty rivers flow
He made all beasts of earth and sky
To crawl and swim and leap and fly.
God made man from earth and clay
To praise and bless Him every day.

God said, "And now I give to man
All a loving father can
Every beast and every tree
Every river flowing free
Every star that shines at night
I placed them there for his delight
I only ask that he should praise
The one who made his nights and days"

But man looked out upon the earth
And said, "What can all this be worth ?
Like beasts upon the earth we crawl
Unless we are Lord of all."
So man built towers upon the ground
And spread his mighty cities round.
He built his gods of wood and stone
And said, "Look now on all I own
How great is man the lord of all.
How can these mighty cities fall?"

And God, the God of day and night
To answer him, put out the light.

Author unknown

Weekday Activities

<i>Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds</i>	<i>Monday Afternoon/Evening</i>
<i>Tuesday Fellowship</i>	<i>Alternate Tuesday Afternoons</i>
<i>The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers</i>	<i>Thursday Mornings. School Term times</i>
<i>Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion</i>	<i>1st Thursday in month 10.30am</i>
<i>Monthly Prayer & Praise</i>	<i>1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm</i>
<i>Kestro (Stroke Club)</i>	<i>Friday Afternoons</i>
<i>Choir Practice</i>	<i>Thursday Evenings</i>
<i>Little Fishes Play Group</i>	<i>Monday-Friday. School Term times</i>
<i>Bible Study Groups</i>	<i>Various times & days</i>

WELCOME Editors

welcome@gurc.org.uk

<i>November</i>	<i>Eileen & Wilfred Rhodes</i>	<i>248263</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>Ken Woods</i>	<i>505177</i>
<i>January</i>	<i>Hilary & Graham Redman</i>	<i>260568</i>

The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.
www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

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Editor: Graham Redman.
Telephone 01903 260568

5 Salvington Hill, Worthing. BN13 3AT
chronicle@gurc.org.uk

The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

The CHRONICLE future closing dates

15 November, 15 February, 15 May, 15 August

E-mail: chronicle@gurc.org.uk

— Notice —

The CHRONICLE

Change from a monthly magazine To a quarterly magazine

Due to an insufficient number of articles to produce a sensible monthly magazine, it was decided to introduce a quarterly Chronicle as from December 2006.

It was also considered that the magazine should include articles from organisations using the premises. In this way we hoped to produce a magazine suitable for a wider distribution within the community.

The new issues would be produced for 'Spring' 'Summer' 'Autumn' and 'Winter', beginning with 'Winter' issued in December 2006.

Graham Redman

The new **CHRONICLE**



Winter 2006/07

Jesus the Light
of the World
is come



Pauline Smith

The magazine of Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— We share a minister with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

Mid-week

10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month



The new CHRONICLE

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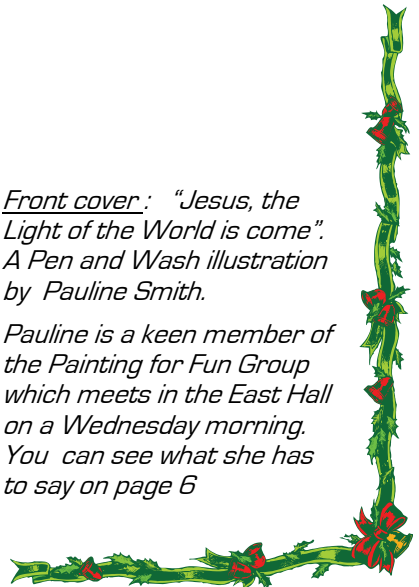
Southern Office of the URC

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*Front cover : "Jesus, the Light of the World is come".
A Pen and Wash illustration
by Pauline Smith.*

*Pauline is a keen member of
the Painting for Fun Group
which meets in the East Hall
on a Wednesday morning.
You can see what she has
to say on page 6*



Christmas is coming

In the church we traditionally have a theme for the four Sundays in advent leading up to Christmas. There is often an Advent wreath as a focal point, or reminder. Martin Luther had a number of ideas for things that people could do at home to teach the catechism to their children.

It is said he invented the Advent wreath, or at least encouraged it.

Most Advent wreaths were originally used in the home, they didn't become popular in churches until the middle of the twentieth century. Now they are nearly universal.

Historically, the candles have no more meaning than a countdown. That is, they originally stood for 4, 3, 2, and 1. However, people like for things in the church to have symbolic meanings, so the candles have gradually acquired a meaning.



If someone in the church tells you that the candles have some other meaning than Hope, Love, Joy, or Peace, they aren't wrong, they are just different. The meanings are so relatively new that they aren't completely standardized, that would take several hundred years in Church time.



We may have four or five candles arranged in the advent wreath and lit according to the day. Now there is a difference of opinion as how we should light the candles. Some say you should keep the lighting order of the candles, this means the first one burns down very low as we get close to Christmas. Others say we must try to light them so they all burn down roughly the same amount.

In one Church, I heard that people had fallen out over this lighting debate, and some refused to attend church during advent. So those people who fell out over the method of lighting the candles really need to take notice of the four themes as listed below. Hopefully they will have peace about their situation, love one another and come to know the joy of the season.

May God grant you and yours these gifts in the coming weeks.

1. The Kingdom of God Is Near (Peace) Luke 21: vs 25-36
2. Speak the Hope (Hope) Luke 1: vs 68-79
3. Love Is Coming (Love) Luke 3: vs 7-18
4. My Spirit Rejoices (Joy) Luke 1: vs 47-55



*Yours in His service
Andrew Sellwood*

Services in this Church at Christmas-time

Sunday 17 December
10.30am

Carol service
Tea & Coffee after

Sunday Morning 24 December
10.30am

Morning Worship

Christmas Eve
5.30pm

Carols for Children
Mince Pies after

Christmas Eve
11.30pm

Midnight Service

Christmas Day
10.30am

Family Worship

Sunday 31 December
10.30am

Morning Worship

Come and join the celebration !

Other Service times and a full diary of events can be seen on
www.gurc.org.uk/diary



Picture by Irene Kitto



A Prayer for the 12 days of Christmas

On the first day of Christmas we give thanks for the birth of your Son, Our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

On the second day of Christmas we Glorify your Holy Name as the Angels did that first Christmas day.

On the third day of Christmas we praise that after 2000 years we worship You.

On the forth day of Christmas we pray for those who cannot worship you openly.

On the fifth day of Christmas – Our Lord Reigns, Our Lord Reigns!

On the sixth day of Christmas we offer you our lives to serve in the year to come.

On the seventh day of Christmas be with those not so fortunate, the sick and the lonely.

On the eighth day of Christmas as the New Year dawns we praise you O Lord.

On the ninth day of Christmas we give thanks for this time of recreation and renewal.

On the tenth day of Christmas we offer our families to you and know you will care for them.

On the eleventh day of Christmas may the Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ surround us each day.

On the twelfth day of Christmas Our Lord Reigns, Our Lord Reigns!

Amen.

I love painting, especially in watercolour, and my favourite subject is flowers. They are so delicate and the colours are beautiful - a real joy to paint in translucent watercolour.

I also like to try my hand at pastels, oils, gouache and other mediums. Every so often I also 'have a go' at Chinese painting and the results can be very pleasing.

Every Wednesday during Term Time I hurry along to the Church Hall where our club 'Painting for Fun' meets. Each week we have a set subject and it is challenging to think how to portray this. At coffee time we chat to each other and have a chance to see how everyone is getting on with their painting. It is amazing how, with one subject, each picture is so different. At least once during each term an Art Tutor visits our club. We have a demonstration then we all try to put into practice what we have been learning. It is great fun and inspires us to produce good results. At the end of each session we have a gallery and we all stand back and admire our morning's work!

Pauline Smith

Painting For Fun





President:- His Worship the Mayor of Worthing,
Cllr. Major Tom Wye MBE

Vice- Eric Mardell Esq.
Presidents:- Nick John Esq.



CAROL CONCERT

with

Jacqueline Emery - Conductor

Helen Emery - Accompanist

and

Helen's

PIANO



PUPILS

PARTYTIME

PARADE

Thursday 14th December 2006, 7.30pm

Tickets £7 (Child £3)

Available from 01903 238792 or 01903 206206

Assembly Hall, Worthing

www.rowlandsingers.co.uk



"COOL CLASSICS FOR CHRISTMAS"

Saturday, 9th December at 2.30pm

Goring URC

This is a first for

WORTHING PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

- an afternoon concert with an Advent theme. Music will include
- extracts from Handel's *Messiah*,
- extracts from Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*,
- Rutter's *Magnificat* and other Advent/Christmas music.

The organist is Noel Charles, and Donovan Brown is the conductor.

Tickets, including programme and mince pie are £10 and may be obtained from choir members, Les and Beryl Richardson, Rosemary Terry and Eileen Rhodes.

Outreach in song and music! Please come!



A RECIPE FOR CHRISTMAS

And Jacob gave Esau bread and the dish of lentils: and he ate and drank and rose up and went away and Esau despised the birthright.

Genesis 25 v 34 – from the New Translation by J N Derby.

LENTIL PATE

12oz Red Lentils
1 large onion, chopped
2 tsp mixed herbs
2 tbsp tomato puree
1 tsp brown sugar
1 clove garlic, optional
1 oz butter
Salt and pepper to taste
1 pt beef or vegetable stock
4 oz butter
1 sliced tomato to decorate

Fry onions and garlic to soften them then add lentils, onion, herbs, puree, sugar, the 1 oz butter, seasoning and hot stock into saucepan and simmer for 30 minutes with lid on, stirring several times and adding more stock if necessary until the lentils are soft. Mix in the 4 oz butter and check seasoning. Press into a serving dish and decorate with the tomato slices.

Serve as an appetizer warm or cold with snack biscuit or dry toast. It also makes great soup if diluted with more stock.



Twinkle Tots

" The Music Club for 0-5 yr olds "

"You are my sunshine my only sunshine, you make me happy when sky's are grey." One of the many songs you can sing to your baby to soothe her. What a fantastic way to express your love to your baby, and an intimate time for you both to bond. The spiritual and emotional closeness between you and baby is just as important as the lullaby. Baby doesn't mind if you are in tune or not, it's your voice and that's great as far as she is concerned. You will naturally, gently sway or rock when you sing too, which is an introduction for baby to rhythm.

Music and learning go hand in hand; from the moment babies are born they may turn their heads in the direction of a voice, looking to see where it came from. By the end of their very first week they will be able to distinguish their own mother's voice from a group of other female voices. By three months, baby will actively respond to music by rocking, swaying, waving hands and feet, and turning towards the sound. They might even start to join in with their own vocals using vowels ooo's, eee's, and aaa's.

Music is also a great distraction for baby, if they are distressed for any reason, just by instinctively rocking back and forth in a rhythmic pattern, along with the sound of your

reassuring voice will help to soothe her.

You are no doubt the best toy your baby can have, but apart from you, most toys given to baby have a musical component, such as rattles, bells, rainbow shakers, mobiles, cot toys etc. By hanging bells on a mobile you can encourage your baby to reach up with her hands or feet and make the bells ring. She will begin to learn that it is **her** that is making them ring. Patting on your baby's feet to favourite nursery rhymes is another great way for baby to learn rhythm.

If baby is regularly stimulated by music, they will soon start to recognise certain songs and get excited when they hear the familiar tunes. Experts say the more frequently baby is sung to, the more utterances and verbal sounds she will make.

Try to include music as much as you can, in the bath, at bedtime, changing time and in the car. You do not need to have nursery songs in the car that will drive you mad, listening to it over and over again, try your favourite CD. Try to see what it is that baby likes, and how she expresses her preferences.

Daily tasks can be livened up by music for example by singing "This is



the way we brush our hair" (You can make up the words yourself to fit in with what you are doing. Repetition has to be the key for babies learning anything, they love hearing the same thing over and over again. It can be comforting to baby when she hears a familiar song in unfamiliar surroundings and can make her feel safe.

Experts say that early communication between parent and

child is extremely important in developing the child's capacity of communication and awareness of others. This encourages social behaviour and interest in other people.

Baby is at the beginning of a very exciting journey with music and she still has so much more to look forward to.

.....

Hi my name is
Nessie, I started up
Twinkle Tots music
club for 0-5yrs in
January 2005.

The first classes
were in Worthing and
Lancing with just one
class at each venue,
there are now
10 classes running
over every day of the
week, including our
latest venture here at



Goring United Reformed Church on a Wednesday morning. Twinkle Tots will also be opening another two classes in Rustington in January.

Music and children make a wonderful combination and Twinkle Tots classes are great for helping with their development in many ways. The classes are friendly and relaxed and bursting with fun. Come along and see for yourselves you are more than welcome.

Please call me on 01903 859171 www.twinkle-tots.co.uk

Vanessa Gillen
Twinkle Tots West Sussex



Fellowship Meetings

10th October Mrs Carol Webber gave notices and birthday cards were handed out to members who had celebrated another year, our President, Peggy Mott, opened the meeting and we sang our first hymn. Peggy then read a passage from the Bible and after a prayer she introduced us to Mr. Paul West, from the National Trust, who had kindly joined us to show slides of Sussex.

The photography was superb, viewing slides was something we could all do and enjoy. Peggy gave Mr. West a vote of thanks and then we had our 'cuppa' and biscuits, and, of course, the usual chat amongst ourselves.

We would like to welcome anyone (men or ladies) who could join us at our fortnightly meetings.

Our motto is:- 'TO HAVE A FRIEND IS TO BE ONE'.

Forthcoming Meetings 2.30pm in the Church Hall

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| 5 December | - Little Fishes Nativity afternoon |
| 19 December | - Celebrating Christmas |
| 9 January 2007 | - The Angmering Hand bell Ringers |

Other meeting dates in 2007 :—

23 January, 6 & 20 February and 6 & 20 March.

Come & join us for these afternoons.

Visitors, friends etc are always made welcome.

Please contact me Carol Webber. Tel. 690334 or 07806 471025
crwebber@btconnect.com or Peggy Mott 241813 for details.



24th October was our "twice-a-year-day" when our friends from Sue Boulters 'NUMBER ONE' dress shop in Ferring came to show us their new Autumn fashion range. Unfortunately Sue was undergoing an operation and couldn't be with us but Barbara, her deputy did a sterling job as stand-in compère.

As always, there was a lovely selection for all occasions, especially the 'glitzy' garments - just right for the festive season ! Our own Peggy Mott once again showed her modelling skill by taking to the cat-walk as to the manner born. Connie and Mary, the shop's regular models also showed the clothes to their best advantage. We had a real bonus this time as two rails of various items were brought along to be purchased by those of us who wished to - LOVELY !

Altogether a super afternoon, every woman's favourite pastime.

7th November was the Fellowship's Anniversary service and a lovely celebration it was too ! We were joined by a number of good friends from other churches in the town, which of course makes for a very enjoyable occasion. Our President, Mrs Peggy Mott opened the proceedings by welcoming everyone. Birthday cards were given to those of our membership with imminent birthdays - after which, we sang to them !!

The service began with prayers, led by Peggy, and a hymn. Bobby Hitchin read an inspirational poem by Helen Steiner Rice which led so well into the theme of the address given by our dear friend Eileen Rhodes. Eileen spoke movingly about the power of prayer. Her words touched the heart of all of us, encouraging us, as it did, to give thanks for all our blessings. Another hymn and closing prayers brought to an end what was a truly wonderful; hour of worship.

Then it was time for tea ! Thanks must surely go to all of the ladies who had worked so hard to provide such an amazing selection of 'goodies'. Sandwiches, home-made cakes and of course, the welcome cup of tea.

Thanks too for the music from Joan Finlay and last, but by no means least, to Peggy, Carol and Bobby for all the organising they do in preparation for the meetings.

ACTION FOR DYSPHASIC ADULTS

Worthing Group

It is a very long time since I wrote a piece about Action for Dysphasic Adults [ADA].

We are still meeting regularly each month and enjoying the space the premises affords us. This year we have had an extra meeting in the months when we haven't had an outing or a luncheon party, but that hasn't been quite the success we'd hoped, so in the New Year we are reverting to just the one - the fourth Wednesday .

Joyce Taylor, our chairperson hasn't been at all well during 2006 but I am pleased to say she is improving greatly, although sadly now needs to be in a wheel-chair.

We are so grateful to Barbara Tate who is not only our hard-working secretary, transport organiser and all round 'Girl Friday', she is Joyce's full-time carer and as such is the Lynch-pin of the group.

Like most organisations of this kind our numbers fluctuate. A few dear friends have died during the last year or two but we get new referrals from Doctors, the Hospital and Speech and Language Therapists. Our wonderful group of volunteers, led by Jill Pharoah work very hard

with the members - according to the various needs and abilities. The afternoons of the meetings are busy, happy times. It is good for those with a speech-impairment to be with others who have the same problems in order not to feel isolated.

If any of you would like to know more about ADA I am always happy to put on my 'ADA hat' and tell you about us. As one of the only two founder members still in the group (Joyce is the other) I feel privileged to be part of it. We celebrate 14 years in January, 13 years of those on these premises.

My final words are by way of an appeal. The members - (and volunteers) - are not as young and fit as we once were and there are times when we have the need of a few extra wheel-chair 'pushers' or strong arms to hold when having a trip out. If any of you out there reading this feel that this is something you could or would like to do, on a VERY occasional basis, then please speak to me about it, or even come to see us one 4th Wednesday afternoon in the Main Hall

Doreen Norris - Tel: 503783



Civil Service Retirement Fellowship - Worthing Group

The Group meets in the Church Hall from 0945 to 1130 on the third Tuesday of every month. Membership is open to serving and retired civil servants and their partners. CSRF Membership subscriptions start from £8.50 per annum and there is also a small charge (currently 60p - which includes tea/coffee and biscuits) for admission to the monthly Worthing Group meetings. .

The objects of the Fellowship are to enable retired civil servants to keep in touch and to offer visits, help and guidance to members. The monthly meetings, which are run by volunteers, provide opportunities for members to get together, join in, have fun and make new friends. Activities include speakers, light entertainments and occasional lunches.

The current year ends with a Christmas Lunch (fully booked) on the 19th December. The 2007 Programme of Events will be issued nearer the end of the year and details will be published when available. In the meantime inquiries may be addressed to the persons named below.

Anyone interested in joining the Fellowship, or existing members who wish to attend the Group meetings, are invited to contact the Group Secretary (Bill Marshall) on 245224 or the Group Treasurer (David Butcher) on 505953.



A few Puzzles to amuse you -

Can you find the following words ?

ANGELS										
CHRISTMAS	J	Y	F	J	X	Y	V	N	C	T
JOSEPH	E	B	P	U	O	E	R	H	F	S
SHEPHERDS	S	A	H	R	L	S	R	A	V	I
BABY	U	B	A	B	S	I	E	U	M	R
HEROD	S	T	A	G	S	L	I	P	P	H
STABLE	S	T	G	T	Y	J	E	E	H	C
CHRIST	S	Q	M	X	M	A	N	G	E	R
STAR	N	A	D	O	R	E	H	W	N	F
MARY	S	D	R	E	H	P	E	H	S	A
JESUS	I	Y	V	Z	K	W	W	R	X	W
MANGER										

Unscramble the tiles to reveal a message

OME	E W	TH	THE	JES	LI	OF	S C
D I	GHT	US	ORL				



NUMBER TEASER

If you are happier with numbers, then give this one a go ! -
Fill in the missing numbers.

Use the numbers 1 through 9 to complete the equations.

	-		-		6
-		-		+	
	+		-		3
-		X		X	
	-		+		0
0		-40		25	

- Each number is only used once.
- Each row is a maths equation. Each column is a maths equation.

Multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.

TRACKWORD

Can you find the 9 letter word ?
- also how many other words can you find ?

L	H	T
E	E	M
B	H	E

Merry
Christmas

Review

Saturday 4th November

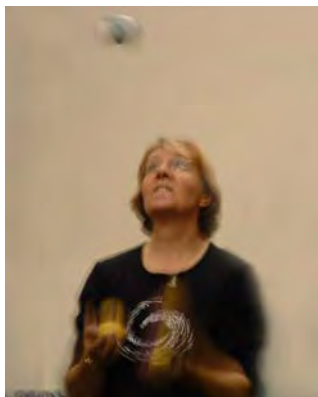
Andrew was the compère for the evening introducing a wealth of talent within the Church membership. If it were not for the dress you may have been forgiven in thinking that it was from "The Good Old Days"





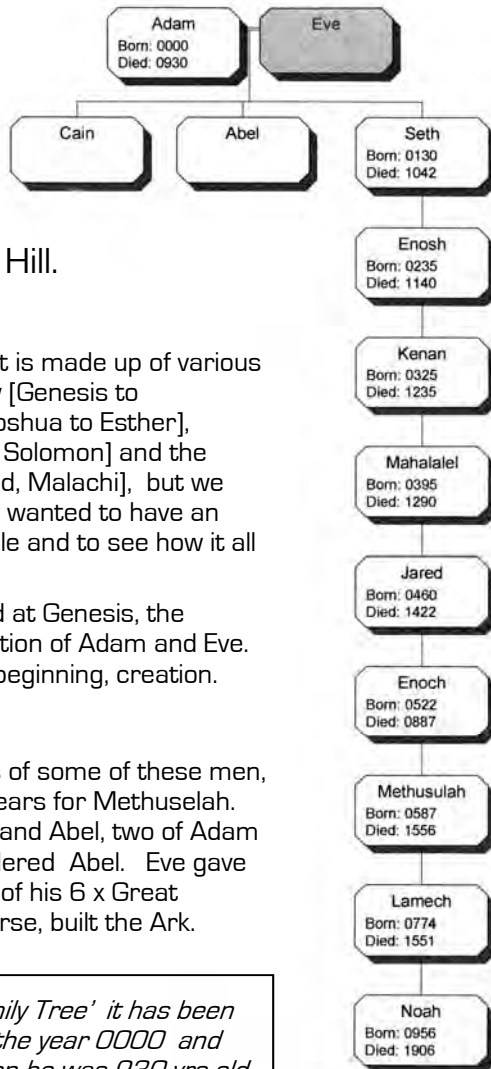
We were entertained with musical items, monologues and sketches, poetry and verse, juggling, and even a puppet show.

Many thanks to all who organised the evening and to those who took part.



What's the Old Testament all about ?

That's exactly the question we set out to answer in our group, which generally meets fortnightly on a Monday afternoon at 5 Salvington Hill.



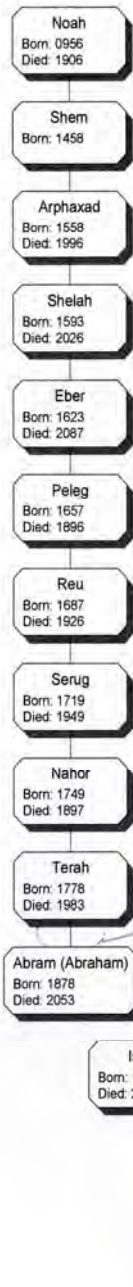
We knew, that the Old Testament is made up of various sets of books: i.e. books of the law [Genesis to Deuteronomy], historical books [Joshua to Esther], poetical books [Job to the Song of Solomon] and the prophets [Isaiah through to the end, Malachi], but we wanted to know more. We really wanted to have an overview of the history of the people and to see how it all fitted together.

So far this Autumn we have looked at Genesis, the creation of the world and the creation of Adam and Eve. The word GENESIS means origin, beginning, creation.

From Adam to Noah

We were amazed at the life spans of some of these men, 777 years for Lamech and 969 years for Methuselah. We read about the brothers Cain and Abel, two of Adam and Eves sons and how Cain murdered Abel. Eve gave birth to a third son Seth, and one of his 6 x Great Grandsons was Noah who, of course, built the Ark.

NB. For the purposes of this 'Family Tree' it has been assumed that Adam was born in the year 0000 and died in the year 0930. ie when he was 930 yrs old.



The Flood, Noah and his sons

The account of Noah who built the Ark is familiar to most of us. Noah had three sons Shem, Ham and Japheth, from whom we are all descended, and so on

It has been very difficult to know just what to leave out, after all, our main intention was to get an overall picture - but we have said that we can always come back and study the accounts of Genesis in more detail.

One of our group has produced a "Family Tree" showing the descendants of Adam and Eve and Noah.

Quite a task, but with modern computers and programmes available we have reproduced it here - only Genesis at the moment, but we hope more will follow later.

Did you know that Shem is the 8 x Great Grandson of Adam?

The call of Abram [Abraham]

God calls Abram to leave home and travel from Ur to Canaan. Famine drives him into Egypt, but many amazing things happen on Abram's journey. Abram becomes Abraham and his wife Sarai becomes Sarah - and she gives birth to Isaac.

We have read about God requiring Abraham to sacrifice his son and gone on to read about the birth of Joseph, his dreams and how his brothers sold him into slavery in Egypt.

What have we learned?

God has a plan. He is in control. Although His people forget Him, he never forgets His people.

Above all we have realised that the Old Testament is a fascinating document.

Next on the agenda - Exodus.

Hilary & Graham Redman

Mission Group

This group is responsible for allocating funds from the Church Budget to chosen organisations that teach and preach the basics of Christian belief in various parts of the world; either directly or by shortwave broadcasts; also these organisations give aid and support communities in Third World countries, providing facilities for drinking water, assistance in agricultural projects, medical aid and counselling.

Among the organisations we regularly support in a three year cycle are:-

Far Eastern Broadcasting Association [FEBA] whose headquarters are in Worthing

Mission Aviation Fellowship [MAF] who provide an air taxi service to many parts of the world, flying missionaries, medical staff, and often patients from outlying settlements in a few hours, that would take many days on foot.

Christian Aid Tear Fund The Wycliffe Trust Bible Translators, an organisation that sends missionaries to parts of the world where groups of indigenous people have no written languages. Here teams of Christians first work among the people to create

a written language, so that in due course, these people will be able to read the Bible in their own language, and learn about the message of Jesus Christ. Over half the world's languages do not have a script.

We also support the Leprosy Mission The Bible Society and have a personal contact with two local ministers in Ghana.

This year we have provided funds for Wycliffe Translators, to enable a translation of the New Testament in an African dialect to be printed.

Tear Fund, Christian Aid whose Christmas Gift will be a herd of goats for farmers in Bolivia. Training for a carpenter in Honduras, and 18 hours of computer training for an orphaned teenager in the Congo to find work.

Other groups within the church have provided funds to support a minister's widow and her children to be able to continue their education.

For all this we give thanks to God, that we are able to have fellowship around the world.

Alec Ralph



News from the family of Joe K. Amissah - Ghana

As many of you will remember, Joe K. Amissah, in his honorary job as Church Secretary of one of our two friendship churches in Ghana, had been in written contact with our church for over 10 years, when in March of this year he suddenly and unexpectedly died. This was a total tragedy for his family: His wife Agnes not only lost her husband, but also all the family income since Joe was the only breadwinner in the family, all their seven children still being at school or in further education. What made matters worse was that in Ghana going to school is not free, but there are school fees to pay. With no money coming in, the children were not able to continue going to school. (In fact, paying school fees had already been a very difficult financial juggling act even while Joe was still alive and earning money as a school teacher)

Since Agnes cannot write in English, it was one of the older sons, called Bright, who wrote to us about his father's death and since then he has been the correspondent in the family. Thanks to the generosity of three groups in our church - the sum of £ 700 was sent to the family, and it was Bright, who responded in his mother's name and for all his brothers and sisters. One of his sentences read: No amount of words will be adequate to express our heartfelt thanks, this help is going to relieve my mother from unbearable burdens.

Since then another letter arrived giving details of how the money was and still is being used: the children were sent back to school immediately and this includes Bernice, the only little girl in the family. The oldest son Frederick has taken a year off his course to help the mother looking after the younger children, and Bright himself has been able to go back to the Cape Coast Polytechnic where he is training to become an accountant. The money sent allowed him to buy a computer, which was necessary for his studies, but for which the family did not have the money in the past. Bright successfully finished his exams at the end of his first year studies and is now in his second year.

This is where the story ends for the time being. It is very, very sad for a family to lose the father, but the good news is that thanks to the help that came from GURC all the children are back at school again and the family felt that there were people faraway, in a church in Worthing, in England, who cared enough to pray for them and to help them in their time of need. As Bright wrote:

God bless you all!

Christmas greetings:

A very happy Christmas and a peaceful, happy and healthy new year to everybody at GURC! With very best wishes from Rev. Samuel Nkrumah and family and their church and from the Joe K. Amissah family and their church.

Apologies for the inconvenience whilst the Hall Toilets are being refurbished

The toilets off the Main Hall are undergoing major refurbishment and work will last until the early part of 2007, during which time some will be out of use.

You may have noticed that the toilet to the north of the hall entrance lobby has been decorated, complete with new wall tiling, accessories including a new door lock and has now been put back into full service.

Similar work is being carried out to the toilets on the other side of the lobby.

Would wheelchair users kindly use the toilet at the front of the church [off the Vestibule] whilst work is being done in the Cornwall room disabled toilet. Work is due to start here sometime in January.

The House & Fabric Group apologise for the inconvenience, but we are sure that you will benefit from the new facilities when the work is complete.

*Graham Redman
House & Fabric Group*



The new **CHRONICLE** *magazine*

The new magazine

We hope that you are enjoying reading the first of the quarterly CHRONICLE magazine.

As well as articles concerning the life of the Church, Services and prayers etc, contributions are included from Groups of people using the halls - some connected with the church here in Goring - some not.

We have also printed one or two puzzles, recipes and a poem.

We look forward to receiving your contributions for our next magazine due to be issued in March 2007. It is always good if you can, include a photo or two to make the article more appealing to read.

However, articles to be considered for inclusion must reach the editor by the 15 February, but please do not leave it until the closing date.

Future CHRONICLES

For your information the Chronicle will be available in March [Spring], June [Summer], September [Autumn] and December [Winter].

Closing dates:- 15 February, 15 May, 15 August and 15 November



Jigsaws are a popular pastime as the nights draw in and the following piece was printed earlier this year in my former church [Chessington Methodist] newsletter. I found it interesting and have asked Graham to include it in Chronicle in the hope that you enjoy it too.

Susanna Gauntlett

- Don't force a fit. If something is meant to be, it will come together naturally
- When things aren't going so well, take a break. Everything will look different when you return
- Be sure to look at the big picture. Getting hung up on the little pieces only leads to frustration
- Perseverance pays off. Every important puzzle went together bit by bit, piece by piece
- When one spot stops working, move to another, but be sure to come back later
- The creator of the puzzle gave you the picture as a guidebook
- Variety is the spice of life. It's the different colours and patterns that make the puzzle interesting
- Establish the border first. Boundaries give a sense of security and order.
- Don't be afraid to try different combinations. Some matches are surprising — Take time to celebrate your successes (even little ones)
- Anything worth doing takes time and effort. A great puzzle can't be rushed.

The minister of the Church, Rev Peter Catford, adds: - As we celebrate together and do a bit of puzzling may we know the presence of God and be aware of the lessons he seeks us to learn as we work together for Jesus.



World-wide Web ??

The following is reproduced with kind permission of United Christian Broadcast

A spider dropped a single strand down from the rafter of an old barn and began to weave his web. Months went by and the web grew. Its elaborate maze caught flies, mosquitoes and other small insects, providing the spider with a rich diet. Eventually it became the envy of all the other spiders. Then one day the spider noticed a single strand stretching up into the rafters 'I wonder why it's there? It doesn't catch me any dinner.' Concluding it was unnecessary he climbed as high as he could and severed it. In that moment the entire web began to fall in upon itself, tumbling to the floor, taking the spider with it.

Could we as a people make that same mistake? Can a country spin a great web, then sever it? Can we grow so successful, so smug, so self-sufficient that we forget the strong strand that supports us? Could we look at our prosperity and respond not with gratitude, but with arrogance? Recent actions make us wonder. A movement to remove God from all public life is gaining momentum. An emboldened portion of our population stares at the strand of faith upon which our country hangs and asks: 'Why is that there?' Are we forgetting the hand that holds us? We're not the first nation to suffer from amnesia. Israel did it too, and Moses warned them: "

Beware that in your plenty you do not forget the Lord your God and disobey His commands.

Thank you Mrs Ailsa Blackwood thanks her friend at the church for the lovely flowers she received

Christmas delivery guaranteed

I'm counting up the days to Christmas -
I've *got* to get the shopping done!
I can't afford to miss the bargains,
Like buying two for price of one!
For cards and presents, decorations,
For Christmas trees and fairy lights
We're rushing off for late-night shopping
And while in town we'll see the sights!

See - Bargains! Bargains! Special Offers!
Just think what money we can save -
Fantastic gifts, a Special Purchase!
And look, there's Santa in his cave!
We listen to the jolly music,
We listen to the children's cries
For toys and games and sweets and chocolate;
Then cakes and pudding and mince pies.

Surrounded now by scented candles,
And aerosol of spicy wine,
With pot-pourri and floral perfumes,
Oh! What a fragrance now is mine!
We've gold and silver stars and baubles
To deck the artificial tree,
With colour-changing globes and berries -
And wow! The fairy doll is free!

The batteries are not included
To work the toys that we have bought.
So off we go to buy the power
Or joyful time will come to nought!
We'll need some wrapping - and some ribbon
To make the big and shiny bow
To stick on top. That looks much better!
Now, if we've finished, let us go.

Come; let us leave the noisy pavements,
And leave behind the bright-lit town,
So we can look up to the heavens
And see the twinkling stars shine down.
Where is the bargain? What's the offer?
And where's the gift that can be mine?
There - can't you see, above all others,
The brightest star that gives the sign?

This cannot be the place we're seeking
For we can hardly see the way!
A smoky oil lamp gives a glimmer -
To show a baby on the hay!
Surrounded by the sheep and oxen
With patient donkey standing by,
This gift is God's Exclusive Offer -
His heralds shout it from the sky!

There is no wrap of gold and silver;
A strip of blanket, piece of shawl,
Which, taken from his mother's shoulders
Is swathed around him; that is all.
No need for costly celebration
No need of cake and vintage wine,
For Bread of Life and Living Water
Is given with this gift divine.

This One and Only Gift Collection
Has built-in power that will increase
And grow in strength the more you
share it,
So take and share Love, Joy and Peace.
It could be yours, this Christmas Special
That's guaranteed, and will allow
Rejoicing that will last forever.
Will you accept your present now?

Mary Connolly, November 2006.





WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST SERVICE
HELD IN ENGLAND

London City Temple United Reformed Church

Saturday, 28th April 2007 at 2pm



"HOLDING FAST IN PRAYER"

You are invited to join in the service of celebration, and to give thanks to God for the growth of the Prayer Movement in England, Wales and Northern Ireland over the past 75 years. The speaker will be Jennifer Rees Larcombe, and the service will include video clips, narration, dance and song, and prayer for our sisters across the world.

The City Temple is easily accessible by train from Farringdon station on the Thames Link service. Tickets at £5 are still available. Please speak to Eileen Rhodes if you would like more details. Tel: 248263

NOTE: Date for your new diary: The local Goring annual service will be on Friday, 2nd March 2007

A HARVEST TALK

by Wilfred Rhodes

Our Harvest Festival Service was held on October 1st, and I spoke to the children on the following Sunday about harvest, again. It's great to sing those special hymns, but it's a pity only to sing them only once a year, so I talked about Harvest again, so that we could sing some more of those hymns.

Of course different parts of the world have harvest at different times, and especially in these modern times with winter wheat and spring flowers, and different countries have their summers at different times.

I told the young people about a country I visited by ship in my summer holiday this year. It was a group of islands called Svalbard, and the biggest island is called Spitzbergen. The whole group of islands is a bit bigger than Southern Ireland, and it's nearly as far north as the North Pole.





Look them up on a good atlas, on a page that shows the North Pole.

They have a very short summer and a very long winter. Very very cold, and dark all day in the winter, but light all night in the summer. Right then, when I was speaking on 8th October, it was - 1°C that's 30°F. in Spitzbergen. At the time of writing - 1st November, it is - 13°C

When I was there in July it looked like nothing grew there, no trees or bushes anywhere. Apparently completely barren.

But even there they have a Harvest, and just to show that God's beauty is everywhere I took photos of wild flowers. Only small, but very beautiful. There were Svalbard poppies, and saxifrage.

So we can thank the Lord for all his good gifts, and especially for all the food on our tables provided by so many Harvests from so many parts of the world.



Svalbard poppies



Saxifrage

Letter from The Moderator Rev Nigel Uden United Reformed Church Southern Synod

Love, joy and peace to you at Christmas

'If it ain't broke, don't fix it.' This saying is commonly used as an argument for maintaining the status quo.

Sometimes the saying is used with justification - why waste resources on altering something which is functioning perfectly well as it is?



At other times, 'if it ain't broke, don't fix it' is what we say when feeling complacent or lazy: we'd rather not see the brokenness so that we don't need to go to the trouble of the fixing.

Rev Nigel Uden



Sadly, the world can't ignore its current brokenness. Our generation, as much as any other, is marred by many brokenness, of which our inhumanity to each other is the most awful, demonstrated in war, poverty and environmental selfishness. A 'fixing it' is needed.

Few would deny that the United Reformed Church needs fixing, too. Despite many excitingly good things about us, our numerical decline and seriously unbalanced age profile make it clear that there's a brokenness to be addressed. The Catch the Vision process is our attempt to do so; it's about fixing our brokenness. Its attention to finance and structures is appropriate, but it is not the heart of the matter. We all know that something more profound and fundamental is also required.

One contemporary theologian has reflected upon Easter as something that needs to happen to us. Tet us be Eastered,' prays Walter Brueggemann. 'Easter us in joy and strength.... turn our life toward your life.'¹ The same is surely true of Christmas.

We tend to celebrate the incarnation as something that happened two millennia ago to

Mary, the Magi and the shepherds. But it has to happen to us. We need Christmassing.

In other words, we need not just to have a good time because God once came amongst us, but to be changed by the fact that God is amongst us now - renewing, calling, using us as we receive 'grace upon grace.'² The Catch the Vision prayer commits us to make a difference in the name of Christ. Christmas, however, is the unavoidable prerequisite: Christmas is what makes it possible for a difference first to be made to us, in order that we might then become difference makers.

Instead of 'doing' Christmas, let it happen to you. May God Christmas us, so that the world (and within it the United Reformed Church), in all its brokenness, might be fixed. And then a bit of Eastering and Pentecosting wouldn't go amiss either.

On a personal note, Bethan and Jess join me in expressing immense appreciation for your prayers, friendship and care over the past year, it means a great deal to us.

Nigel Uden

SOUTHERN SYNOD

Report of Meeting held at Folkestone - 14th October 06

This is my fourth Synod report, and they don't get any easier – or shorter. The day was held in Radnor Park URC in Folkestone, and church was built in 1897 – very Anglican in style on the outside, with stained glass windows and a large apse in the front of the church. The inside of the roof was cruck-barn like, and a sort of upper floor or gallery had been constructed in the days when Rev Roy Parkington was minister, with seats donated by the J.Arthur Rank organisation.

The Meeting opened at 10.30 am with devotions and address by the Moderator, Rev Nigel Uden. He reckoned that the church is anxious and worried – we desperately try not to upset each other, and try to be nice to everyone. He thought that this can make things worse, and we should try not so much to be nice, as to tell the truth to each other.

I guess some of this may be so, but I hope we are not “worried or anxious” at Goring.

The Moderator told us there had been 22 Inductions since July in the Southern Synod. Our friend Peter Newell had celebrated 50 years in the ministry, Geoffrey Beck of Hailsham celebrated 60 years, and Kathleen Hendry 75 years! She was presented to the Moderator and the Meeting later in the day, as she was 100 years of age.

There was a presentation by Mrs. Karen Bulley, the Pilots' Development Officer. She spoke very well, and was full of enthusiasm for Pilots, which started in 1936 and was not solely Congregational, but is found in 7 different denominations, though mainly URC. The first Development Officer was appointed in 1998. The Methodists will also be having her presentation at their next District Meeting. Pilots is doing well, and is a good news story.

Rev Peter Southcombe spoke to the Meeting about 'Church and Society'. A year ago a questionnaire and survey was sent to each church to ask 'what they did' as far as local work and national interests were concerned. Only 67% of churches responded, which he felt was very poor. 45% had parent/toddler groups. 43% had uniformed youth organisation. 32% had Churches together lunches. 30% had a hall hiring system. 25% worked with older people. On average there were 5 activities in our churches per week. URC halls are used by outside groups more than any other



denomination (so we were told!); but only 24% of churches support Fairtrade.

The Synod Clerk, Graham Campling, spoke on "Catch the Vision". That includes the disbanding of Districts, a possible London Synod, and General Assemblies only every two years. Mr Campling said that we should get on and fix it quick! He talked about the six "teams" to be set up for the geographical areas of Synod. (But this could match the old Districts, so I'm not sure what difference there will be.) Then just before 1 pm the Church Secretary of the Folkestone church welcomed us all to the Synod, and to lunch. Phew!

At 2 pm the meeting resumed and special visitors to the Synod were introduced to the Moderator. There was one very special visitor, but as this was carried out alphabetically she came in last! And that was my wife Eileen, introduced as URC representative on the National Committee of the Women's World Day of Prayer. Of course there was much applause!

Two members said that our Synods were too long, and the Synod Committees should sort out some of the business.

Maureen Lawrence then spoke about a "Declaration of a Safe Church". She asked if those with expertise in dealing with abuse of

any kind-physical, spiritual, financial, bullying etc., could get in touch with the Synod office, to offer their help.

By this time it was 3.10 pm, the day was due to end at 4.30, and I've still got 4 pages of scribbled notes to give you; so you will see that I agreed with those who said that Synod tried to cover too much!

Peter Southcombe spoke about the 'Regeneration Agency' that he and others have set up to give advice on how large run down and dying churches might be rebuilt so that they can be used much more efficiently during the week.

I mentioned this in the last Synod Report, and we at Goring are using the expertise of the Agency to give us ideas on how we might improve our premises. The new Agency has the 'motto': one church 100 uses. It has some very good ideas.

M&S, and that means "Mission & Strategy" not the other!! John Waller has resigned as Synod Treasurer, and Robert Caffyn of Bournemouth will fill the vacancy for a year provisionally.

Then half an hour before home time Rev Michael Davies presented the accounts. I have summaries and would be glad to show them to anyone interested.

We spent £2½ million buying manse, and £1½ million selling them. We received £2 million by

selling church property.

Mr Nick White, recently appointed as Synod Youth Worker, talked very enthusiastically about his work and a Child Friendly Church Award. He said that 25% of our churches have more than 20 children; 25% 10-20 children; 20% have zero children. So there is lots of work to do. The award is the idea of the Liverpool Diocese, now adopted by the URC and launched at the 2006 Assembly. It was a scheme to encourage churches and help evaluate their life and work. It covers child protection and possibilities for the disabled.

AND THEN:- St Andrew's Canterbury disagreed with URC

policy on 'same sex blessings'.

This had not been fully discussed in the churches before Synod had agreed that individual churches could do as they wished. Guidelines had been given, but that was all. One speaker said his church thought the guidelines acceptable, but felt they should be more fully discussed.

The day closed with worship and prayer led by the Moderator at 4.36pm.

PHEW!!

Wilfred Rhodes.

JOY
TO THE
WORLD

Closing date for March Chronicle 15 February 2007

The Chronicle on line at www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings

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The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

The CHRONICLE

Printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.
www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle



We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.
www.gurc.org.uk