

# *The* CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

Spring, Summer, Autumn & Winter 2019  
Volume 76

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*Goring United Reformed Church*

# The Chronicle

Spring 2019

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The Magazine of Goring United Reformed Church



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

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## **GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

- We share a minister with Sompting United Reformed Church -

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## **Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary**

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 Creche

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

# The Chronicle



Spring 2019

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# Easter Reflection

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter morning; I consider that this is the most important weekend of the entire Christian calendar.

A time for us to celebrate and consider the implications of Jesus' Resurrection.

Luke 24:1-12

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. 5 In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told

you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " 8 Then they remembered his words. 9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. 10 It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. 11 But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. 12 Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

We could handle this information from Luke in several ways. We could assess the authenticity of this account word by word. We could argue for the evidence of the Resurrection.

We could even look at the myths used by Jesus' opponents to explain the empty tomb. You know the kind of things, Jesus didn't die he just lost consciousness, the disciples stole the

body, he had a twin brother (yes that really is a theory) etc, etc. No, what I want to look at is maybe the most pressing question of our faith: Why did Jesus have to rise from the dead? Every other religious leader died and was buried somewhere. Many have tombs and monuments that are venerated and worshipped. The standard Christian version of the Resurrection story is that by rising from the dead, Jesus proved, once and for all, that He was divine and that He held power over death. Therefore, we should put our faith and our confidence in Him because He is more powerful than anything in all creation. He "conquered" sin and death, so He is worthy of our praise. All of this is definitely true, but it is only part of the story.

The early gospel accounts certainly go to show that Jesus was an amazing man. If we trust these accounts, it is possible to believe Jesus is the son of God.

His earthly ministry shows He had nothing left to prove. Beginning with a virgin birth that's pretty amazing by itself. Then, through His ministry we

can see that His kingdom authority was real. He controls the weather. He raises people from the dead. He casts out demons. He heals the sick and the blind. If we believe that Luke's story is true, we don't really need the Resurrection to prove that Jesus is who He said He is. He has already shown us that He is divine.

So, why is the Resurrection so important? One word...Hope. The Resurrection is the ultimate symbol of hope.

Death is the one thing that is true for everyone and everything. Nobody escapes it. It is a certainty. Jesus' entire ministry was spent debunking everything that we thought was a certainty.

The Resurrection is the final example... the ultimate shunning of the patterns of this world. Jesus took death, the most certain thing for every single human being, and showed that it is no longer true for us. We see that death is not the end but a new beginning. However, this is going to sound a bit odd; eternal life is not something that will happen to us in the future, it starts now.

We can get a taste of a new kingdom if we start to live like Jesus now. It's not just about Jesus dying and rising from the dead. It is about us dying to this world and being resurrected into something new, now. The Apostle Paul uses this imagery all through his writing. In Colossians 3:5, he tells us that we have been raised with Christ and should, therefore, think differently than the world. In Romans 8:13 he tells us that if we live like the world we will die, but if we put to death our worldly desires, we will live.

If we reduce the Resurrection to something that happens to us someday, we miss the whole point of Jesus' ministry. Every day that we live, we have an opportunity to put the ways of Christ into action and defeat the patterns of this world.

We are called to live as symbols of Jesus' kingdom every single day.

To live out the kingdom in the here and now. We are to love our enemy, forgive those who wrong us, to live a life of service. The first shall be last, the humble lifted high, all these things are the opposite of worldly ways.

So, the Resurrection gives us hope that there is good on the other side of evil and peace on the other side of pain. This is what is so great ... it doesn't make sense in human terms. It is opposite of everything that the world teaches. But that is how we will experience resurrection.

The Resurrection is the final example of this upside-down kingdom. Just like everything else about Him, it is completely backwards. Life ends with death. We all know this. We all expect this. But Jesus calls us to so many other things that don't make sense in our own understanding of reality. The Resurrection is Jesus' final statement. If we live like Him, love wins over hate, service wins over power, submission wins over authority, and life wins over death. Hallelujah he has risen!

*Andrew Sellwood*

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# Fellowship

The New Year started with a party and informal chat and the next meeting Val Gill was guest. She played her accordion and we had a sing song. On our last meeting we had as our speaker Rev Gary Sugram. He started by reading from Luke's Gospel when Mary and Joseph presented the baby Jesus for purification in the Temple. He spoke about Simeon and Anna and the prophecy of Simeon that Jesus was destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel.

He went on to elaborate with the miracles but also the rejection by the Pharisees and Sanhedrin, also by some of the people around him who could not accept the high price needed to follow Jesus.

Gary brings to life all he says with his enthusiasm and humour.

On our last meeting February we saw the fibrant , facinating slides shown by Val and Alan of their holiday in Canada.

*Carole Culliss*



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## Kestro Stroke Club

It seems like a lifetime since I last made a contribution to Chronicle , and it probably is, so in my illustrious position as the secretary of KESTRO, I thought I should rectify my lack of effort and bring up to date any new readers, especially any who are not aware of who we are or what we do.

KESTRO (an anagram of the word stroke)was formed in 1982 group of church members, led by Robin Bradley who, like many of the group was a former nurse and their aim was to provide a service through friendship to those in Worthing and District who had suffered a stroke. The first meeting was held in the hall at Heene Road.

An influential member was Rev. William Connelly so it is easy to understand how a move to G. U.R.C. came about.

Moving on, we now meet each Friday between 2.00pm and 4.00pm.

The afternoons start with informality and much chattering together with some arm twisting to ease cash out of wallets/purses to cover membership /transport/raffle tickets. No screaming allowed!

Peggy kicks the afternoon off with sedentary exercises aimed at helping to keep those parts of the body not adversely affected by stroke in best working order.

Nothing is compulsory!

Those who do not wish to take part can abstain, but it is fun and obviously enjoyable as all participate. Soft balls or tennis balls are introduced after 20 minutes or so and we do have football sized soft balls which are kicked around. To conclude the sessions Peggy introduces a CD player and a routine to ABBA music.

It is time for tea and biscuits or maybe cake, a birthday celebrant wishes to share his or her day with the assembled company.

My turn now to keep us all up to date, report on those who are not so well, provide any info such as 'scams' in our area. Any criminal activity or items of interest.

After tea it is entertainment time. We could have a speaker, a choir, a games afternoon, a quiz, a sing song and/or 'boccia' (indoor bowls to you and me but it is very very competitive).

So another KESTRO afternoon passes and they all go home, either on the bus (which we hire from Guildcare and driven by volunteer drivers-John, Steve, Charlie, Chris and Keith, all organised into a rota by Carole.

Our entertainment event is organised by Carol who has taken over from Tania. Tea is the province of Jane.

Our Chairman is Steve who also supervises all of our website and modern technology matters.

Money is managed by my good lady wife and she tells me we still have some! We are very fortunate to have people like Ray who will pick up those who otherwise would be unable to come. David, a guitar player, who is always ready to fill in for us and keep us entertained. I have been lucky enough to maintain a link with Worthing College.

Cont'd over page

We have been blessed with volunteers to help us out and receive an Invitation to their Christmas Party.

Shirley, Val, Denise, fill the holes in our system which creeps along and manages to keep about 25 members interested. Each week about 18 turn up. If you wish to help us out please feel free to pop along and see how we go, after all we aim to be a friendship club. *Vic Joy*

## HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday Worship: 10.30am Rev Andrew Sellwood

Maundy Thursday: 7.00pm Rev Andrew Sellwood

Good Friday Service: 10.30am Rev Andrew Sellwood

## EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Morning Breakfast: Main Hall at 9.00am

Morning Worship: 10.30am Rev Andrew Sellwood

Junior Church Puppet Club: 10.30am

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# There's a hole in your bu...

A conversation between the Church Treasurer and the Finance Meeting minutes secretary

There's a hole in your budget, dear Treasurer, dear treasurer,  
There's a hole in your budget, dear treasurer, a hole.

Then mend it dear Secretary, dear Secretary, dear Secretary,  
Then mend it dear Secretary, dear Secretary, mend it.

But how shall I mend it dear Treasurer, dear Treasurer,  
Then how shall I mend it dear Treasurer, dear Treasurer, then how.

Have a gift day, dear Matthew, dear Matthew, dear Matthew,  
Have a gift day dear Matthew, dear Matthew, a Gift Day!

That will go towards the guttering, dear Wilfred, dear Wilfred,  
and will go towards the heating dear Wilfred, dear Wilfred, towards the heating.

We will find a solution, dear Matthew, dear Matthew,  
We will find a solution, we'll solve it somehow.

We could charge admission dear Wilfred, dear Wilfred,  
We could charge admission dear Wilfred, to come in.

The congregation will leave us, dear Matthew, dear Matthew,  
The congregation will leave us, dear Matthew, they'll GO

Then where's the money to come from dear Treasurer, dear Treasurer,  
Then where's the money to come from dear Treasurer, dear treasurer, to come from.

Why out of our budget dear Secretary, dear Secretary,  
Why out of our budget dear Secretary, dear Secretary, our budget.

But there's a hole in the budget dear Treasurer !

*Wilfred Rhodes*

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## Denise Rosemary Woods

I enjoyed very much visiting Denise and sitting in her comfortable 'front room' surrounded by family photographs. She and Ken have three daughters and one son; 13 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren! So as some live at a distance the photographs are very important.

Denise was born on 30th November 1931, and so will be 88 in November this year. She had a brother just two years older, and her father was an Actuary in London. She remembers him travelling there each day very properly dressed, as they were in those days, in tie and trilby hat.

Her father used to take Denise swimming in the local pool, when she was very young, before going off to work.

She went to secondary school in Cheam, and the family attended a local Baptist church, where she was baptised when she was about 13. After leaving school she attended college to learn shorthand and typing. (I asked Denise if she can still do shorthand "Oh yes, but not too fast". So might that be useful for Church Meeting Minutes??) After college she worked in a local office, and then later worked for the B.B.C. in one of their offices. This was before her marriage.

Before they were married each year they used to go for a week's camping in the New Forest with their church's Young People's Fellowship.

A truck would take the bikes, belongings and tents of everyone who went camping, but Ken had a motor-bike and went on his own. On one occasion another boy borrowed Ken's motor bike and with Denise on the pillion went for a ride. But a van crashed into them.

They weren't badly hurt but Ken's bike was badly damaged and he was not pleased! Of course no crash helmets in those days! Denise remembers giving the address at a Youth Fellowship Service when she was 14. (Can she go on our preaching plan?)

Denise married Ken Woods on the 21<sup>st</sup>



March 1953, leaving the B.B.C. at that time.

I asked Denise when they met.

"I met Ken as soon as we were born!" as both families attended the same Baptist church. Denise had a feeling that in their wedding service Ken said "I take thee as my awful wedded wife". Mmm! She was 21 and had "known Ken for ever".

They spent three months twice working in the Garden Tomb in Israel. Denise worked in the Book Shop, which was also the entrance to the Garden, dealing in Dollars and Shekels!

She said that Ken was the Tour Guide around the Garden. She felt it such a privilege to be invited to do this work and met many people from all over the world.

With great sadness Denise said that she had lost one of her grandsons in a road accident. He was the son of her eldest daughter.

At the time of their marriage Denise' father was still working in London, but on his retirement many years later he and her mother moved to Worthing. Ken was a physicist having gained an M.Sc. Master's degree from Imperial College, London. He worked in an office near the Battersea Power Station. He also became a member of Mensa, the high I.Q. "club". Later, part time, he used to teach driving test examiners.

And then Denise remembered that she had been games captain in her school!



Naturally Denise thrives on her grandchildren, and two of them are getting married this year, 2019. "They are all lovely," she says.

Denise and Ken moved to Worthing as both sets of parents lived here. Denise and Ken were members of the 'Tab' church in Worthing at first, then later attended Worthing Baptist Church.

She worked for FEBA Radio for a time. They first came to GURC on 29th September 1998, becoming members the following year in 1999.

It was on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017 that Ken died after a long illness. For many months he was brought to church in his wheel chair and had a special spot on the back row.

Towards the end of his life he had Carers call three times a day. They were marvellous in the help they were able to give.

Now Denise is glad to still be able to drive, and regularly helps in the Kestro Stroke Club and plays Table Tennis at church.

*Wilfred Rhodes*



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# So you think English is easy?

## Read on:

1. A sea bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
2. The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
3. They were too close to the door to close it.
4. Leaving after having done some sewing, a sewer fell into a sewer.
5. Seeing the tear in the painting, I shed a tear.

*Thanks to Caddington Parish Church for the above .*

*Here are a few more, I have thought of:-*

1. He used to wear a bow tie when attending to the bow on his boat.
2. Wait a minute! - I have some very minute items to show you.
3. I wound the clock up every day, which does not help the wound in my hand.
4. She is a dear girl who regularly does her homework, because she is keen in studying deer in the Epping Forest.
5. Sow seeds early in the year so the plants can grow large enough for the sow to eat.
6. Leaving Reading on the 10.30 train, I was ready to continue reading my novel.

*I am so glad that I was born and brought up in England, as learning English as a foreign language would have been quite difficult for me!*

*Graham Redman*

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# The Grand Tour

## Part Two Tuscany - Home

*Caroline Hibbs*

You will remember from part 1 after ten lovely days in Tuscany it was time to move on so here we are again and travelling north as we make our long leisurely return home. First stop is Bologna where, it seemed, we were not to be made very welcome.

The man behind the desk immediately tried to put us off staying, having driven over 170 miles we felt a bit put out as you can imagine! Well we let him rant



and rave about a music festival in the next field, he said it was noisy and no one could sleep all week. He kept on and on and when we managed to get a word in to ask if he had any spaces he reluctantly said 'One or two!' our reply was simply 'we'll stay!' We had at least

20 to choose from!! Noise didn't bother us.....WE had been to the Spa Grand Prix and that WAS noisy!!! We enjoyed a very peaceful night there! Waking the next day it was a beautiful sunny morning and we are all ready to go and see more cars. These were not any old cars either we had stopped in Bologna to visit the Ferrari Factory at Maranello about 30 miles west from Bologna. Driving into the town you had no doubt what you were going to see, there were signs of Ferrari everywhere a beautiful statue of their logo, the prancing horse, in the middle of the first roundabout on entering the town. We arrived on the day of the 2018 Singapore Grand Prix and watched the start in the museum!! Amazing!!

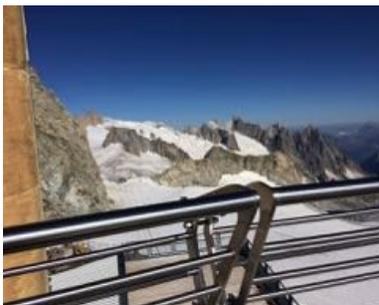
The museum was so interesting with very early designs to the latest road and racing cars. I could probably bore you senseless about it!! There are some interesting facts about the company which was started by Enzo Ferrari who had no money when he began so he went to the bank. Well of course he would! He had an idea and no money and managed to convince the bank in Maranello to give him a loan: this they did on the strength of his design idea and his business sense. 90 years later Ferrari still deals with the same bank in the town.



Their clients are extremely loyal to the brand which has gone a long way in making them so successful. Eric Clapton has a one off model which has never been made again (well except a full sized model made of clay as an exhibit for the museum). Clapton still has it today some 40 or so years later.

We were taken on a bus tour of the factory site after the museum which is like a small town within a town. The roads are named after the Champion racing drivers of which they have had nine. Like its patrons the Ferrari workforce are just as loyal. The men and women who work for them have grown up in the town going to the local school which was started by Ferrari and is supported by the company where young people can learn to be motor engineers and go to work in the factory. As I said I could bore you senseless but we must go on .....

The Italian Alps are calling.



When we have holidayed in Italy in the past we have always taken the route through the Mont Blanc Tunnel driving through the Aosta Valley and often said we should stop here one day. Well the time had arrived. What a majestic place this is, mountains all around and warm sunny weather, gorgeous, and we had six days to enjoy.

Our first excursion in this wonderful location was to drive the Grand St Bernard Pass, made famous by the opening sequence of the film 'The Italian Job'. (You remember where the man in the little red sports car drove into a tunnel as it exploded!!!). The day began with blue skies and warm sunshine so off we go! The hairpin bends were challenging as we ascended the mountain pass the only words spoken were OOO's and AAH's. The highest point on the pass was 8114 feet above sea level where there is a lake and a hotel in which to have coffee before we walked up higher to see more glorious views to the valley below. There are not enough words in the English language to say how beautiful it is. On we went around the lake to a second hotel at the border between Italy and Switzerland which is just as lovely. We encountered mist or rather low cloud on the way back across the pass which made driving round hairpin bends a bit scary! As we descended the sun was still there. The drive was a definite 'Bucket List' moment.

We spent a lot of time relaxing, driving, walking and just enjoying the magnificence of the area, during our time in the Alps the weather was glorious. The weather was just right to take another trip: UP!! This time by 'The Skyway'. A cable car which revolves allowing for 360 degree views up from Courmeyer up Pointe Helbronner with the promise of mountain views. First stop 7000 feet to change cars and on up to 11371 feet. First thought ..... amazing ..... second thought ..... not so amazing as we developed a feeling of dizziness, it was due to the altitude but we kept calm and went outside onto a fantastic outdoor viewing platform where the dizziness went away and the air was clean and fresh and not a bit cold. We were on a deck like a ship and were able to see the very top of Mont Blanc and looking down to ice-fields of Helbronner where people were trekking back down the mountain, bit too energetic for us! We descended to the first stage in the same way we came up, visiting an experimental alpine garden full of plants that survive in the mountain

atmosphere. At this level we didn't feel the altitude and spent a long time people watching, particularly the paragliders as they jumped off the side of the mountain and picking up the thermals to carry them up, down and around to a safe landing.

Back down to earth and on the way home and stopping for the usual ice cream we were able to see the most spectacular views through to the mountain we had been up, God's world is so beautiful, we are its custodians and must keep it well.

The next day dawned warm and sunny and was another bucket list day, we were off to Turin on the train to visit the old Fiat factory. The one with a race track on the roof, you know the one ..... from 'The Italian Job' ... the minis raced around it trying to shake off the police!!! Not only does it have a race track but also a State of the Art gallery housing the art collection belonging to the Agnelli family who are the owners of Fiat and their collection includes Picasso, Matisse, Renoir and among others. Incidentally Fiat is now part of Ferrari so its cars all the way!

We visited the Duomo and its museum and ascended the Campanile, well I say ascended we got half way up a very ancient rusty staircase; it wasn't the safest we had ever seen coupled with pigeons flying around inside the tower we turned and very gingerly came back down again. We comforted our wimpishness with the fact we had already seen the view of the city from the Fiat building. Anyway it will be time for the train soon!! After an ice-cream!! Of course! Turin is a beautiful city well worth our visiting as it is so close.

We had the most wonderful few days in the Alps and promising to return one day we left with a little apprehension because now we were really homeward bound. Making a stop at our favourite chateau in Burgundy! We couldn't leave France without another taste of the Boeuf Bourguignon on the way.

Travelling back north west towards Calais the weather began to cloud over and was getting cooler as we went, a definite sign that we were nearing home.

We stopped in Calais for two nights, using the day to go to the beach in Dunkirk, it was vast and really made us think of the soldiers on that day so long ago when they were trying to escape France and into the 'Little Ships'. Our holiday was wonderful, we have seen and done so many things and feel privileged to do so. There have been coincidental links wherever we have been. Art and Cars are probably what comes out in this little story but there is one more coincidence..... When we pitched up at the caravan site in the Alps we parked by a very well kept path on which stood a sign Via Francigena.

It meant nothing to me and when we drove over the Grand St Bernard Pass, we stopped in a small village and there was the sign again. Well twice .... you have to look it up don't you? It turned out to be a pilgrims path that runs from Canterbury to Rome and many people walk all or parts of it. We walked a small part from the caravan site and watched as groups came past passing the time of day with us. That is not the end because then we stayed in Calais and the path ran right past the site so now I want to go to Canterbury to find its start. Watch this space, although I can assure you; dear reader that I will not be walking the whole thing!

#### AND HERE ARE THE STATISTICS I PROMISED YOU -

Distance Travelled 3781 miles = 6049.6 K = 6,049,600 metres.

Approximately 37.15 miles per 5 litres.

Payage 552.00€      Fuel 508.36 litres      Cost 743.00€

Tunnels 254877 mts = 254.88 k = 159 miles plus.....

Channel Tunnel 100900 metres = 100.9 K = 63 miles plus.....

Southwick Tunnel 490metres = 0.49 K = 0.30 miles!

17 lorry nationalities      12 Caravan nationalities

Height above sea level with Caravan 4540ft

Height above sea level without Caravan 8114ft

Height above sea level on foot 11371ft      ... and 27 Ice creams!

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# The Evening Twilight

I have longed for the insight  
that brings us closer to reality.  
This world in which we live and work  
directs human minds to formality.  
For in the distant evening twilight,  
there's a world hid from our eyes;  
replete with exquisite beauty,  
devoid of corruption and lies.  
Stunning scenes hidden from our gaze,  
reflect an inward purer light.  
If men were aware of its inner Source,  
more would adjust their minds aright.

- by William Doyle

---

- First woman: "I don't see Charlie half as much as I used to."
- Second woman: "You should have married him when you had the chance."
- First woman: "I did !"

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## Visit to Cambridge

I wonder when you last visited Cambridge? Maybe on a one day coach trip? Or maybe you have never stayed there?

Wilf and I have friends and relatives in nearby counties and in mid-November we decided to pay them a visit. We were attracted to stay in Cambridge at Westminster College. The college is a United Reformed Church theological college, also used by other organisations for training opportunities. Wilf had stayed there before whilst attending lay preacher training courses, but since his last visit the college has had a splendid refurbishment for the grand sum of £7 million pounds, paid for by the URC and URC churches up and down the country.



The college is now open to receive guests for Bed and Breakfast and we were interested to try it.

We had a lovely room, more like a suite actually, with a huge bathroom and a separate fully equipped kitchen. Breakfast (full English!) in a beautiful panelled dining hall was excellent and we had the opportunity to speak to some interesting people also staying there.

We had mentioned when booking that we were members of the URC and may have been given a discount and a free parking space in the grounds. Parking in Cambridge is very difficult.

Cambridge town centre with its magnificent colleges and the River Cam is a short walking

distance away, and there are so many eating places you need never go hungry.

Apart from visiting friends we were privileged to attend Evensong in Kings College Chapel, which was heavenly. We also visited the interesting Fitzwilliam museum, and were pleased to find almost next door a URC church with a café and very friendly staff.

Have we whetted your appetite to have a short stay in Cambridge? Please ask us if you would like to know more.

By the way, the gates behind me when I took the photo have over the top an image of the Biblical burning bush. What a stimulus for the students!

*Eileen Rhodes*

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## Something to think about

A year has passed since I left Goring on one of the coldest days of the year and Yorkshire's weather since 'The Beast from the East' left has been kinder than I had been led to expect before leaving Goring. I have a little chuckle when watching the ITV weather forecast and Hull shows a degree warmer than Portsmouth on the map. Beverley is inland from Hull, sheltered from the South West by the Wolds and Goring is further in the shelter of the Downs, so both of us don't do too badly!

Here's something to smile about for those who remember William. One Sunday, after the morning service, one of the 'ex-pat' URCs called me to meet another URC minister's widow who is living just outside Beverley and was visiting for the day. We exchanged questions such as "Where did you come from?" and "What churches were you serving?"

I discovered that they had served in central Nottingham, at Castlegate, but not at the same time as we were

in West Bridgford, and the name William Connelly was not familiar to her. However, after a little more chat, a thoughtful look appeared on her face. With some hesitation she asked, 'William – Bill Connelly?' 'Yes.' 'Had a twin brother, Charles?' 'Ye-es' 'Lived in Brampton in Chesterfield?' 'Ye-e-s' 'Went to Brampton Congregational Church' 'Yes, how did you know?'

'Well, we were at Brampton in the 60's, and there were still people in the church who remembered that some were reluctant to teach in Sunday School in the 30s and 40s because of coping with the terrible Connelly twins!' She wondered what were the thoughts of that congregation when Charles qualified and went into Further Education and William entered the Church!

Remember the Christmas carol that William and I wrote – 'How Many Days to Christmas?' It was sung again on a special day of entertainment over Christmas at Toll Gavel church.

I think its last outing was with Durrington School choir in our church in 1989?

The window-ledge project continues; I have people asking me what is coming next as a month nears its end. For this year, I decided to make a series of the names of the months in one window – how each got its name and other interesting facts. I have already written the bases for these in old Chronicle articles from 1976. How lucky it was that I kept those magazines!

January had a picture of Janus looking back and forward at the same time with a text explanation of his Roman links. Alongside, there is a card with the Anglo-Saxon name of 'Wolf-monath' so-called because of the wolves howling for food at that time of the year. February has its 'Februaire' or cleansing time, and the A/S name of 'Sol-monath' – 'wet sand, or mud month,' or 'Kale-monath' – 'kale, or cabbage month'.

The book, Edith Holden's 'Nature diary of an Edwardian lady' is open at February. There is information and rhymes about Feb.

I can turn the pages halfway through the month and move from snowdrops to catkins and birds. I printed off the rhyme about the number of days in the months - 'Thirty days has September', etc. for those who have not learned it as a child.

For St Valentine's Day on the 14<sup>th</sup>, I put several of my model frogs on one side of the other window, and the words, 'Valentine's Day: "Be ready! Pucker up. You have to kiss a lot of frogs before you find your handsome prince!"' On the other side, I put a 'Valentine'-labelled jar of Marmite alongside the one I am currently using, with the words "Do you love me?" I hope that these have caused a few smiles.





However, the creative spark in me has not only been providing interest in my windows for passers-by, but I have bought a few 'sparkly' dresses from the charity shops and am making more collages with sequins and diamante patterns on silk or crushed velvet.

My first confidence-building one was small, but well received and admired by my daughter-in-law's family in Istanbul. My next one is bigger and will, I hope, grace the walls of the 'Istanbul' Turkish restaurant in Beverley. It depicts the tulip, the symbolic flower of Istanbul.

Those famous 'Tulips from Amsterdam' came from Turkey, originally. Tulips came to Turkey from Asia. During the Ottoman Empire the Sultans had their gardens filled with tulips and the flowers became very popular and a symbol of power and wealth. They were called 'Tulipa' in Latin from 'tulipan', which means 'turban', because of their shape.

They were taken to Holland around 1578. At one time they commanded a prohibitive price - as much as a house for just one - but eventually the price dropped after 'Tulip Mania' subsided and the growing of tulips became a major industry. The public gardens and parks in Istanbul are covered in tulips in the spring and there are tulip festivals to rival Holland.

As the sun gets higher in the sky and the days are lighter, that 'Spring feeling' starts to kick in. The weather has improved and I have been outside looking at my own plants, patiently standing there in their pots. Crocuses and daffodils are slowly turning yellow and blue. I am waiting to see if the dead-looking twig of Forsythia will come to life.



It held on to a leaf until December, so I hope there are roots, unseen, in the pot. The tiny slip of Japonica seems promising with flower buds glowing pink near the base. If I put it in a bigger pot with room to expand, maybe it will have quinces within a couple of years. The blackberry plant that sprang up from a 'passenger' seed also looks promising alongside the loganberry.

The 'past their best' narcissi and primulas bought at the end of season last year are now repaying me with interest in gold, blue and pink.

The white begonia in my front window was brought inside for the winter and has bloomed continuously. The red kalanchoe is one which Carole Cullis gave me as a small plant about three years ago.

As always, being a gardener is a matter of expectation, hope and patience, but above all, loving care of the right kind is needed before any harvest can be enjoyed. Just like life!

*Mary Connelly*

# Download the GURC App

## for Mobile Phones & Tablets

As this country and the World for that matter are moving towards more people using their mobile phones and tablets to access the internet an App has been specially designed and introduced for this church. It should be easier to manage than our website on small devices, although access to the website can be made from the App.

Primarily, it should make it easier for people on the move to keep in touch with Goring United Reformed Church.

Users have easy access to the 'SUNDAY INFORMATION (Welcomes, Recordings and the PREACHING PLAN, Access to WHAT'S ON - our diary of events.

Then there are buttons for I'M NEW HERE, CHRONICLE & PRAYER REQUESTS.

The App compliments our website - which is better seen on a desktop computer, laptop or tablet.



Our website has been redesigned with the mobile phone and tablet in mind.

If you have a Smartphone or Tablet/iPad and are interested, download 'MY CHURCH APP' search for GURC at top of the screen, select and instal.

- or speak to Graham Redman for intructions as to how to download and install it.



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# A Bible Quiz

## How well do you know your Gospels?

1. Only four women are mentioned in Matthew's genealogy of Christ. Who is not among them?  
a. Sarah, b. Rahab c. Tamar d. Ruth
2. Jesus in Hebrew means?  
a. Immanuel b. Salvation c. God with us d. Son of Joseph
3. Joseph, when he first learned that Mary was pregnant, decided to:  
a. Flee from Nathareth b. Terminate their betrothal  
c. Send her away to her cousin, Elizabeth d. Marry her quickly
4. In the sermon on the Mount, Jesus admonishes his followers to:  
a. Make a virtue of necessity b. Burn the candle at both ends  
c. Beware of wolves in sheep's clothing d. Turn over a new leaf
5. The first person Jesus raised from the dead was:  
a. Jairus' daughter b. Lazarus  
c. Peter's mother-in-law d. The widow's son
6. When Herod heard about the fame of Jesus, he said that Jesus must be:  
a. Elijah b. John the Baptist c. A demon d. Elisha

Answers on the following page, - 28

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## Articles for the Summer CHRONICLE

You can submit articles to the editor in either of the following ways

E-mail to [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

Post to Graham Redman at 5 Salvington Hill, BN13 3AT

The closing date for the summer magazine articles is 1 May 2019  
However, it would be most helpful if you could submit articles before this.

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## Other Publications

### Handbook and Directory:

Available for Church Members and those regularly attending.

### Welcome

Sunday Welcome sheet Hymns & Songs Readings, Prayers and Notices

### Leaflets

About this Church, What's On, Baptisms & Dedications, Church Membership, Funerals, Getting Married, Hall Hiring.

Past weeks' 'Welcome' sheets, Leaflets and the Chronicle are all available from our website <https://gurc.org.uk> and click on 'Chronicle & Publications'

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**Answers to Quiz on previous page:** 1a, 2b, 3b, 4c, 5a, 6b

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## Weekday Activities

Journeys with Jesus & Junior Table Tennis	Monday Afternoons
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
Cake, Tea, Coffee and Chat	1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesday Afternoons
Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Group	First Wednesday in Month

## Publications Team

Editor: Graham Redman    01903 260568    [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

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Reporters: Mr Wilfred Rhodes

Proof Reading: Mrs Jane Bond and Mrs Denise Woods

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Susie Thomas

Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -

2 Ardale Close, Worthing, BN11 6HW

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*The Chronicle costs approximately £1.50 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 Susie Thomas ( address above ). Thank you.*

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The **CHRONICLE**

<https://gurc.org.uk/chronicle>

[chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)



# Goring United Reformed Church

**Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. At the beginning of this year, a Joint Pastorate was formed with Sompting United Reformed Church with whom we share Ministry.**

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Reformed Association of Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

The churches of Emmanuel in Worthing, Sompting, St Andrew's Rustington and Littlehampton are part of the 'Worthing Cluster' and United Reformed Church Southern Synod, whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, New Life Baptist Church and Bury drive Methodist Church.

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



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

<https://gurc.org.uk>



# The **Chronicle**

Summer 2019

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*The Magazine of Goring United Reformed Church*

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

## **GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

- We share a minister with Sompting United Reformed Church -

**Shaftesbury Avenue, Goring by sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4EA**

Website: <https://gurc.org.uk>

Church Office: [office@gurc.org.uk](mailto:office@gurc.org.uk) Telephone 01903 600260

Minister: Rev Andrew Sellwood - Friday rest day

17 Drummond Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DX

Telephone: 01903 248259 E-mail: [minister@gurc.org.uk](mailto:minister@gurc.org.uk)

Pastoral Secretary: Mrs Hilary Redman

5 Salvington Hill, High Salvington, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

Telephone: 01903 260568 E-mail: [pastoral@gurc.org.uk](mailto:pastoral@gurc.org.uk)

Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith

10 Cissbury Drive, Findon Valley, Worthing, West Sussex. BN14 0DT

Telephone: 01903 873265 E-mail: [treasurer@gurc.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@gurc.org.uk)

## **Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary**

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 Creche

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

# The Chronicle



Summer 2019

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6 Happy 60th Wedding Anniversary - Bobby & Mick Hitchin

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8 Brian Mitten - A story of a lifetime.

12 400 years of the King James Bible

14 Download our App - for Smartphones and Tablets/iPhones



15 Ark Group

16 Mary Connelly

19 Barn Dance & Christian Aid Evening

20 My Trouble Tree



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## Discipleship

Just because we may have been a Christian for many years and regularly attend church, we cannot be expected to know everything about the faith we hold. We will inevitably have questions, it's only natural. Sometimes, we may think we may have questions we really should know the answers to. A question may come to us from a sermon or from our Bible reading, but as the time goes by we may feel we cannot ask about it or we forget to ask, we miss the opportunity. But remember it is good to ask questions, an enquiring mind helps us grow. No question is too basic or simplistic, no question is too complex or challenging. Always feel free to ask. For example, I was recently cornered by one of our church attenders with- "What is the difference between a disciple and apostle?" That's a good question. I hope I gave a suitable answer. So here is the short answer: Every apostle was a disciple, but not every disciple

was an apostle. Every person who believes in Jesus is called His disciple (or follower). Matthew 28:19-20 records Jesus saying to his disciples, *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* The disciples now become apostles.

An apostle (or messenger) has the authority of the one who sends them, like an ambassador or representative. The enquirer went away satisfied.

Now comes the expanded answer and some of its implications. The Greek word for "disciple" simply refers to a learner and is used throughout the New Testament to refer to people who believed in Jesus. The word *disciples* in our Christian context simply means "believers" or later those called "Christians". The Greek word for "apostle" literally means "one who is sent" and can refer to an ambassador or anyone sent on a

mission. An apostle is given the authority of the one who sent them. All of the apostles were disciples—they were among the many hundreds of believers in Jesus—but only a select group of disciples were chosen as ‘the Twelve’. This refers to the original twelve disciples, we have however to replace Judas Iscariot with Matthias in that group. In the church there tends to be a narrow definition of apostles distinguishing between the original twelve and those who came after, for instance Paul. We see that there is definitely a select group of twelve apostles, their names are seen written on the foundations of the walls of the New Jerusalem: (Revelation 21:14). *14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.* Remember 12 is such a perfect Biblical number you will see it often.

So we have established a disciple is simply someone who believes in Jesus and seeks to follow him in his or her daily life. Originally, of course, a disciple was someone who

literally knew Jesus in the flesh and followed him — but after he was taken up into heaven, anyone who was committed to Jesus was called a disciple. That’s what you and I are, people seeking to follow Jesus. That’s our title but what does it mean for us to be a disciple of Jesus? It means first of all that we want to learn from Him ... and we will, as we study God’s word, the Bible, and listen to others teach from it. So therefore, we are to make the Bible part of our life every day. The Psalmist said, *“The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple”* (Psalm 119:130). But being a disciple also means we want to put God’s word into action by seeking to share his love with others.

A couple of observations about the word *disciple-ship*. The word *discipleship* never occurs in the Bible. The term is ambiguous in our English translation. It can mean my discipleship, in the sense of my own pattern of following Jesus and trusting Him and learning from Him. Or it can mean my activity of helping others be disciples.

It can also mean to preach the gospel, to evangelise so that people get to know Christ and become Christians and, thus, disciples. For example, Acts 14:21 says, “*When they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium.*” So we see the process in making disciples, bringing people to know Jesus.” But that is just the beginning of the journey.

In reality discipleship is a long process, it lasts a lifetime. Jesus taught there is no status or prestige in this process, all are equally journeying together. It was in Antioch the disciples or ‘*followers of the way*’ were first called Christians” (Acts 11:26). Everybody who believed in Jesus was a disciple therefore was a Christian.

Interestingly Paul does not use the word “disciple.” In fact, the word disciple or discipleship never occurs anywhere in the New Testament outside the Gospels and Acts. It’s not the terminology that is important but the authenticity of the believer.

In our times of increasing secularisation there are fresh concerns about how to bring people to Christ and grow them up as Christians, as disciples. It is sad that in the church today we have somehow forgotten how important it is to nurture a new believer into maturity. There is a real danger of them losing heart and direction if we just leave them to fend for themselves. However, we are reminded that nurturing or mentoring happens in so many ways in the New Testament. Here are just a few references, there are many others.

2 Timothy 2:2 Paul trained Timothy to train others to train others.

Matthew 28:20 Missionaries are to teach the nations everything Jesus commanded.

Hebrews 3:13 All Christians are to exhort each other every day to avoid sin and to stir each other up to love and good works.

1 Peter 4:10 All Christians are to use their gifts to serve others.

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So, implementing this Biblical example -

- Every Christian should be helping unbelievers become believers by showing them Jesus in their lives.  
That is making a disciple.
- Every Christian should be helping other believers grow to more and more maturity. That is making a disciple.
- Every Christian should be seeking to keep on growing themselves.  
That is also our journey of discipleship.

There are so many study resources available to help us to grow in our understanding and to help us talk about Jesus. Let us discern what is helpful and may this be a time of real growth and blessing for us all.

Hear Paul's prayer for the believers in Ephesus. Ephesians 3:14-21

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I kneel before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in

love, <sup>18</sup>may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, <sup>19</sup>and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup>Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

*Andrew Sellwood*



Bobby & Mick Hitchin celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on the 17 March 2019. About 50 friends joined them in the church hall for lunch after the morning service.

## *Articles for the Autumn CHRONICLE*

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available from our website <https://gurc.org.uk> and click on 'Chronicle  
& Publications' and also on our new 'App'. [See page 15]

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## David Brian Mitten

It was my turn to take some notes for the Chronicle, as Wilfred was on holiday. So I visited Brian, as we know him.

Brian, welcomed me with a cup of coffee. He began by telling me he was born in Southsea near Portsmouth on 21st October 1932.

He had a younger brother and sister. Whilst living in Southsea, his father, answered an advertisement for a pharmacist in a Midhurst Chemist shop where there was a vacancy. Brian said that Dad was also an optician. This was when Brian was only 12 months old.

He was keen to tell me that the shop had previously been owned by H G Wells, and there was a wall plaque commemorating this.

He said that he began his education at Midhurst Roman Catholic School. The nuns being dressed in their black habits frightened him, as a little boy of five.

He described to me how his father made an arrangement with the school that Brian could arrive at 10.00am after the nuns had stopped singing.

At the age of 11 he was moved to Hurstpierpoint College never having been away from home before. His mother wanted him to go there to improve his diction.



There were 120 boys in the school and Brian was the youngest. He was bullied. He was there seven years and whilst he was there the school celebrated their hundred year anniversary.

At the age of 18 he joined the army in Aldershot for his two year National Service. His Sergeant asked him, "What does your father do?" "Chemist", he replied. "RAMC for you my boy." Royal Army Medical Corps. Brian didn't really want to be with the medics, but you don't argue with them. During his time in the army he was promoted to Sergeant.



Then having been demobbed he joined the National Provincial Bank, East Street Chichester.

He was keen on Vespa Motor Scooters, and his father bought one for him. He joined the Vespa Club whose premises were opposite the Bank. He used to ride his Vespa from his home in Midhurst to the Bank in Chichester.

In the Bank he entered account details in the ledgers, no computers then, he was allowed to change the one sheet. He progressed to work on the counter. Later the Bank moved him to Haslemere.

He met Jean Wallace from Midhurst and married her there on 18th May 1957. When he was in the Bank in Haslemere the inspector told him he would like him to have some large branch experience, and so he had to move to Maidstone.

He and his new wife moved there. They have three children, David, Graham and Julie. Sadly David was killed in a motor cycle accident when he was 27 years old. Brian has four grandchildren.

One day on his way to open up the Bank in Marden near Maidstone while he was in a car with four other men a lorry hit the side of their car.

There was £8,000 stowed in the boot, quite a lot of money in those days. The robbers came armed with pickaxes, and asked Brian for the keys, but Brian was sitting on them, so they couldn't find them. Brian and his driver were passing the keys between them!! They couldn't get in the boot to steal the cash as the boot had an unusual locking mechanism. The thieves didn't get any money and drove off in their get-away car.

Brian said he was more worried about his chicken sandwiches which were also in the boot! He went to hospital for a check up. He was called to the Bank's head office in London where he received a cheque for £100 for bravery. They also paid for his suit to be cleaned. The people in the Bank said he should have been given a new suit!

He was then moved to Somerset to a town near Exmoor where he



Reports appeared in the Daily Sketch & local papers

lived and worked for four years. Whilst there the Vicar said to him, "Could you be the treasurer for the youth club, and do a Bible reading once every three weeks?" Someone had said, "You should have been a Vicar!" He and Jean moved to Worthing. Jean, who had been a member of this church for a few years died in 1998, after taking an overdose. She wrote in a note to Brian 'I cannot stand the pain any longer'. A very sad day for Brian.



Brian & Jean celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary. Photo taken in their back garden - 35 Robson Road. May 1997

Brian began coming to church here at Goring because he thought he might 'see' Jean.

Brian loves his golf and proudly tells me that he has been a member of Ham Manor Golf Club for 42 years.

He married his cousin Pat in 2004. She died from cancer a couple of years ago.

Brian joined the Ark when Les Richardson left.

He became a Church Member in June 2014.

He stood down just before Easter this year and was presented with a gift of money and biscuits to say thank you for his contribution to the Ark.

Brian said that he met Edna here in church. They keep each other company and do some enjoyable things together.

*Graham Redman*

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## 400 Hundred Years of the King James Bible

400 years ago, the best-selling book in history was published – the ‘King James’ or ‘Authorised’ version of the Bible. It wasn’t the first English Bible – in fact there were two officially ‘authorised’ translations published in 1539 and 1568.

The 1611 Bible, though it was commissioned by the King, was never actually ‘Authorised’ in any official way – only by the strength of public popularity.

One sign of its popularity and quality is that while from 1534-1611 there were eight published translations of the Bible into English, after the King James Version was published, the next significant English-language Bible didn’t appear until the Revised version was published in 1885 – 274 years later!

Many writers, Christian and atheist, have celebrated this anniversary, as the King James Bible is one of the greatest influences on our language. It’s given us lots of familiar phrases, and when it’s read aloud well it still has tremendous power and dignity.

Some very traditional churches still insist on using it as the only ‘proper’ Bible, though most

recognise that it’s no longer appropriate for everyday use.

That’s not just because the language is old-fashioned; it’s more to do with the fact that some words have changed their meaning in the last 400 years, and also that since 1611 we’ve discovered earlier and better manuscripts of the Bible in the original Hebrew and Greek, so that we now know there are a few places where the text which was translated in 1611 isn’t what was originally written.

But that leaves us with the question of why this book was and still is so important.

Less than a century earlier it had been dangerous even to own a Bible in English, let alone to print one! The Bible was considered such a dangerous document that only those authorised by the church and educated in Latin were allowed to read it for themselves.

Everyone else had to rely on what the local priest told them the Bible said.

Archbishop Cranmer (who wrote that other pillar of English Christianity, the Book of Common Prayer) and the other reformers who led the split of the Church of England from Rome believed it was vital to freedom and healthy Christian faith that people should be able to read God's word for themselves, and made sure that Bibles in English were available in every church, with the doors open all day so they could be consulted by anyone.

The King James Version was an attempt to revise the work of earlier scholars, checking it for accuracy against the Greek and Hebrew texts then available and making the language as simple as possible.

Part of the power of the book is that the editors deliberately used short words in everyday use whenever possible.

They described their aim as being "to deliver God's book unto God's people in a tongue which they could understand."

That simplicity gives it a lasting beauty, but also makes it ironic that many people prefer it to good modern versions because it's 'more dignified'.

I suspect that the editors would have been furious!

Today we have more different translations of the Bible than ever before. There were none in 274 years after 1611, but I know of 24 from the last 50 years alone.

They all try to strike different balances of accuracy, readability and dignity. We're so used to being able to read the Bible for ourselves that we can easily take it for granted.

But imagine being one of the first generation allowed to do so – queuing up to look something up in the Bible chained to a desk in church, or carrying a precious Bible of your own, hot from the press.

Why not take some time this year to read one of the gospels, first in a good modern translation (we use the New Revised Standard Version in Church) and then in the King James version.

Appreciate both for what they are, and listen to God in words ancient and modern.

*The Rev'd Nick Watson  
St. Thomas' Church, Wednesfield*

# Download our Church App

Just search for 'Goring URC' on the Google Play or App Store



- Designed for all mobile phones and tablets -

## Why do I need an App?

After all, we have the Website!

*There is easy access to our 'Listen Again' service, 'Whats On' and the 'Welcome Sheets'.*

*The Church Business image will take you to the Preaching Plan, Hymns & Songs, Health & Safety, and Church Meeting Minutes.*

*The Navigation Bar at the bottom of the screen: I'm New, Prayer Requests, Bible and our Website.*

Apparently most people in the world nowadays use their phones to access the internet more often than they use their main computer.

According to a survey carried out by the Independent newspaper, the average Brit checks their phone 28 times a day - that's at least once an hour, and more than 10,000 times a year! Staggering, isn't it ?

It is even more important now to have Goring URC presence on the App stores. The website, however, has and is always better viewed on a larger screen like a desktop or laptop. Appy Days! *Graham Redman*



## Welcome to the ARK!



Note the Caterpillar - picture below !



A group for Adults with Babies and Toddlers who like to to chill out over a tea/coffee, and catch up with others with their little people.

We meet on Thursday mornings in the main church hall to play and chat, colour, stick, and make interesting things with playdo!

The pictures on our display board may look exceptional for the age range 0-3, but grownups too like to express themselves on paper. The children often prefer to take their pictures home to show the family.

The group remains small but if all our friends were to come on the same day

the group would be quite big!

Because it is a drop in we never know who will walk through the door.....

We were sorry to say 'goodbye' to our door keeper Brian, who retired at Easter time. He has served in the Ark for many years and we will miss him.

Thank you Brian for all your help.

It seems incredible that the summer term is already nearly done, but time always flies by when you are enjoying yourself!!

Thank you to all who support us in prayer as we try to serve the community in which we live.

*Hilary, Rosina, Carole and helpers*

---

## Mary Connelly

“Whan that Aprille with his shoures sote  
 The droghte of Marche hath perced to the rote  
 And bathed every veyne in swich licour,  
 Of which vertu engendred is the flour .....” and so on.

No, Editor, do not think that my spelling has suddenly deteriorated!

I decided that I would make things a little more difficult for my ‘window readers’. They have become accustomed to easy reading and I thought they should be challenged from time to time. I gave them Edith Holden’s ‘Diary of an Edwardian Lady’ as usual, with her lovely observations and illustrations, prolific for April, and the supposed origins of the name of April, but a shock to be faced with Chaucer’s prologue to the Canterbury Tales, in its original form. However, I put a translation of the Prologue for those who could not work out the old language, alongside a picture of

Pilgrims entering a Monastery to rest for the night.

Although I dislike the way our modern spelling is going, there must have been people through the ages feeling the same thing as our language developed of course, and I must accept that this will happen. Chaucer’s work will endure and be enjoyed and appreciated by those who can be bothered to work at it! (There are some good translations, of course.)

Alongside this, I put an excerpt from T.S.Eliot’s ‘Waste land.’

---

"April is the cruellest month, breeding  
 Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing  
 Memory and desire, stirring  
 Dull roots with spring rain.  
 Winter kept us warm, covering  
 Earth in forgetful snow, feeding  
 A little life with dried tubers."

I admit, it took me a while thinking about these words.

Some days when I have been outside in the garden, people have stopped and reminisced about School Certificate, English GCSE, or A levels, having stopped to read the April 'information'. It has been interesting observing people standing outside my windows and their reaction to what they see. Some read a little and pass on, but the next time they are passing, they pause and read more. I try to arrange it in smallish units, for ease of assimilation. After all, there is a certain reluctance at first to stand and stare! (What will other people think?)

Nevertheless, on May 1<sup>st</sup>, there will be my regular window readers looking to see what the new

month brings. This time, there will be the usual Roman and Anglo-Saxon names for the month of May, and pictures and history of the Padstow Hobby Horse, whose celebrations start at midnight on April 30<sup>th</sup> and continue to 9pm on May 1<sup>st</sup>. On the 8<sup>th</sup> May, the display will be changed for the pictures and history of the Helston Furry (Flora Dance). I was asked the other day if I was a teacher.

Whatever made them think that? It was also mentioned to me that it must cost me a lot of money to keep the different plants showing in my front garden. No, only expense for the pots and the compost, and time, patience and hope, or is it faith?

In just over a year, plants that looked as though they were dead, or just two leaves, or not even there, have shown themselves. One small shoot is now a six foot tall blackberry with three budding branches; the loganberry, too, a triple branched plant with many flower buds.

The campanula, which had been prolific in Goring, came as a secret seed and one day sought the light of day. I recognized a baby leaf nestling in another plant's pot, allowed it to grow more, then transplanted into its own pot. It is now divided between four more pots. The forsythia twig that stood for months with one leaf, shed it and stood bare for three months, but now has four leaves, and a new, sturdy shoot growing from its roots. The Japonica twig is covered in flowers. I hope they will be fertilized and become quinces.

Thank you, Hilary and Graham, for the warning about the Mexican/ Cornish daisies I had acquired.

Yes, you were right, after only a year living in Beverley, they are

making sure they will not be overlooked. By next year they will be taking over! Lovely, though. At what point does any plant become a weed?

No, they're not weeds. The answer is to pot up all the numerous offspring and take them to a plant sale at church, so that others can have the delight of the daisies' cheery faces for a few months.

"Sing a song of May-time,  
Sing a song of Spring;  
Flowers are in their beauty,  
Birds are on the wing:

May-time, play time,  
God has given us May-time.  
Thank Him for His gift of love,  
Sing a song of Spring

Frederick Arthur Jackson, 1867-1942

*J. Mary Connelly*

## Barn Dance

Saturday 30 March included a ploughman's supper.

A live band with a well known caller, and as you can see, in the Sanctuary.

We had many friends including those from the neighbourhood



## Christian Aid Collections

The total amount raised this year is £377.83

Monies came from the quiz, fish & Chips, Envelopes, Marmalade and Sundays' coffee donations. Many thanks to all who contributed to this worthy cause. *Bett Swierk*

## My Trouble Tree

I hired a plumber to help me restore an old farmhouse, he had just finished a rough first day on the job: a flat tyre made him lose an hour of work, his electric drill packed in and his ancient pick-up refused to start. While I drove him home, he sat in stony silence.

On arriving, he invited me in to meet his family.

As we walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands.

When opening the door he underwent an amazing transformation.. His face was wreathed in smiles and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss.

Afterwards he walked me to the car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier.

'Oh, that's my trouble tree,' he replied 'I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing's for sure, those troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children.. So I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home and ask God to take care of them. Then in the morning I pick them up again.' 'Funny thing is,' he smiled,' when I come out in the morning to pick 'em up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before.' Anon

---

**Do you have something to write about for the next Chronicle?**

**You have until the first of August to do so.**

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## Weekday Activities

Journeys with Jesus & Junior Table Tennis	Monday Afternoons
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
Cake, Tea, Coffee and Chat	1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesday Afternoons
Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Group	First Wednesday in Month

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*The Chronicle costs approximately £1.50 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 Susie Thomas ( address above ). Thank you.*

The **CHRONICLE**

<https://gurc.org.uk/chronicle>

chronicle@gurc.org.uk



# Goring United Reformed Church

**Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. At the beginning of 2018, a Joint Pastorate was formed with Sompting United Reformed Church with whom we share Ministry.**

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Reformed Association of Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

The churches of Emmanuel in Worthing, Sompting, Goring and Littlehampton are part of the 'Worthing Cluster' and United Reformed Church Southern Synod, whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, New Life Baptist Church and Bury drive Methodist Church.

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



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

<https://gurc.org.uk>



# The Chronicle

Autumn 2019

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*The Magazine of Goring United Reformed Church*



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

## **GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

- We share a minister with Sompting United Reformed Church -

**Shaftesbury Avenue, Goring by sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4EA**

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## **Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary**

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 Creche

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

# The Chronicle



Autumn 2019

Vol.76 - No. 660



Front Cover: Worthing Observation Wheel.

Views can be seen on a clear day up to 10 miles in all directions

Photo taken on one evening in August from Worthing Pier.

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**Disclaimer:** Whilst great care is taken to accurately reproduce articles presented for the Chronicle, mistakes sometimes do occur. Please note that the views expressed in the following pages are not necessarily those of Goring United Reformed Church.

## Andrew and Jill Return

Once again, we return from a visit to Australia and the inevitable jet lag kicks in. But it was all well worth it to see our family on the other side of the planet. However, not all went smoothly. We did have a worrying time when grandson Theo was born a bit too early, things did not go to plan. The good news is that now he is doing very well putting on weight and becoming very alert. We got to see him smile for the first time.

Yes, the visit was good, more of a hands-on working holiday than a sitting back and relaxing time. There was a fair bit of nappy changing to be done ... so Jill tells me. It was nice to see everyone settled and doing well, it made the goodbyes just a little easier.



Emma, Scot, Theo, Lily, Jill, Liz and me.

Being together as a family again reminded me that families are amazing things and a blessing sometimes, we forget. Families are for most people, what they are born into, a place where they grow and are nurtured, a place of safety. It is often said you can choose your friends, but not your family. So, sometimes you have to work at being a family. Children in families that are functioning well have a place where they can thrive, they can push the boundaries of what is and isn't acceptable in a loving environment and be guided and shown how to fulfil all of their potential. Learning to function with all the very different individuals that make up a family is a massive learning curve, both for children and adults. We never stop learning. In reality not all families are like that, unfortunately for many, families can be a difficult place, a place of instability even of fear, a place where no nurturing takes place and there is no guidance as to how to grow and develop.

The Bible talks about church being a family: 2 Corinthians 6:18 "and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."

We ask the question what merit is there to Christians becoming like family?

I suppose it all depends on what model of family you are using. It is not uncommon for the church family to become dysfunctional. This is when communication and relationships fail. How then do we relate to other believers?

Acts 2:42 could be considered a basic statement of ideal church activity: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." We see the Bible places importance on the church family unit because of these reasons:

We honour God together through our worship. There is a unifying factor when believers worship God together, whether it's through music or preaching or serving. Psalm 34:3 emphasizes a call to corporate worship: "Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together." In order to honour God our worship has to be genuine and from the heart. We also need to be metaphorically singing from the same hymn book. Otherwise it is empty and becomes false praise.

We study God's Word together — A church family provides consistent Bible teaching. This often comes through small groups, Bible studies, teaching from the minister (sermons), Junior Church lessons, and so on. The church family is called to grow spiritually together, spurring one another on. [Second Timothy 3:16](#) says, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness." That is one of the texts that have inspired the act of reading the Bible through the year as we are now doing. It is a form of worship that is pleasing to God.

We find accountability — The church provides a framework for responsibility and accountability. Once relationships grow and friendships form, there is someone to encourage you, rebuke you when necessary, and rejoice with you. [Proverbs 27:17](#) says, "Iron sharpens iron; so man sharpens his friend's countenance." Accountability is crucially important in the battle to overcome problems and differences.

The church family is also a perfect place to find someone to pray with, talk to, and confide in.

We find support in difficult times — When troubles come, a support system is crucial. When in need, you will want your brothers and sisters in Christ to uphold you in prayer and assist with practical needs like meals, cleaning, transport and even childcare. [Galatians 6:2](#) encourages us to "carry each other's burdens", and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ."

We gain opportunities for service — We not only receive support in the church; we give it as well. Your calling in the church is to contribute, not just to receive. When we are in close fellowship with other believers, we know when they need support and prayer. We can step in and help in practical ways. [Ephesians 6:7](#) says, "Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people." This is summed up in [Ecclesiastes 3:4](#) together we experience a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance.

We make disciples — there comes a time when we need to learn to grow and develop spiritually, not just to receive and be fed ([Hebrews 5:12](#)). Each of us is important as the body of Christ, the church family. We all have unique gifts and talents as God has seen fit to equip us with. We are called to realise them and use them.

We can evangelize, teach, encourage, and “disciple” our church family, draw in those who are on the edges and feel vulnerable. Most importantly we are to witness what we have found in Jesus to the wider world.

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age” ([Matthew 28:18–20](#)).

In an age when the culture is increasingly secular and selfish, people are less likely to have opportunities to interact with other human beings.

There are a lot of isolated lonely people out there. So we can see it is beneficial to be in a family of like-minded believers. Our Christian brothers and sisters can encourage us in our faith journey, respond to our questions about spiritual issues, and be a support in times of hardship.

The church family can also give an opportunity to serve and disciple others. “Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching” ([Hebrews 10:25](#)).  
Amen



*Andrew Sellwood*

## *Congratulations to David & Margaret Butcher*

Who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on 8 August this year. They decided they would mark the occasion towards the end of July with a cruise around northern Spain and western France on board the P&O MV Arcadia.

They visited Santander, Cherbourg, Bourdeaux and St Peter Port, Guernsey.





Cake was shared by all after that morning service on 11 August



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## George Thomas Bailey

8th March 1926 ~ 6th July 2019

Maureen & I moved to Goring nineteen years ago. Fairly soon after we arrived, I became a helper at Kestro, and I am pretty sure George was attending the Friday afternoon sessions then.

George was a Londoner through and through. He lived somewhere off the Walworth Road, was a frequent visitor to the East Lane market and loved to reminisce about the life and times of a South East London youth. He did not admit to any skulduggery but was obviously part of a gang who delighted in helping themselves to the odd apple or other item of fruit from the market stalls.

He joined the Post Office and became a telegram messenger boy which caused him to have to learn all the street names in and around the Borough of Southwark. He remembered Rotherhithe Street in particular as it is the longest street in London. It helped a great deal if you could recall which end started with the high numbers and which the low. If not, and you went in at the wrong end you were destined for a journey of in excess of two miles! - and if that was not

punishment enough you were in line for a good telling off, if not a clip round the ear from the postmaster for taking too long! George liked sport and was a regular at Southwark Park.

Football was his game. Surprisingly he was not greatly into boxing although there were many gyms around the Elephant & Castle.

He was a quiet man who I always found to be helpful, well liked by all who had any dealings with him.

*Vic Joy*

George treated people with courtesy, kindness and appreciation. He always remembered how good Goring URC had been with his late wife. A great adventurer who travelled the world but also enjoyed a quieter side of life doing crosswords and watching t.v.quiz shows. At the age of 87 he still played table tennis and won. I am quite sure he will be missed at his regular pew on Sundays.

*Marianne Barber*



George on two of his many loved cruises -

Left: Ready for Dinner, and below: San Francisco.

Photos by Marianne

His funeral was held here at Goring United Reformed Church on Monday 29th July 2019 11.30 am.

The service was conducted by the Rev Tony Trevithick



## *Puzzle collected from a cruise*

### Fill in the blanks with names of birds

Last week I went to visit a friend of mine. She has been ill with \_\_\_\_\_ and still had a job to \_\_\_\_\_. Years ago she had served in the \_\_\_\_\_.

I was \_\_\_\_\_ by the time I had climbed the steps, but did not stay long as she started to grumble and \_\_\_\_\_. Downstairs I met two people with arms entwined like a couple of \_\_\_\_\_. His name was \_\_\_\_\_ but usually he just used his initial \_\_\_\_\_. They were going to Norwich to see the \_\_\_\_\_ play football.

He was now unemployed as he was caught \_\_\_\_\_ the bank, he had used a \_\_\_\_\_ to move the safe after taking a \_\_\_\_\_ at the cashier.

He only spoke \_\_\_\_\_ English and had eyes like a \_\_\_\_\_. She was a \_\_\_\_\_ haired beauty, although no spring \_\_\_\_\_, she seemed to live in cloud \_\_\_\_\_ land and would often \_\_\_\_\_ about what they were going to do, saying "\_\_\_\_\_ live as cheaply as one".

I crossed the road on a \_\_\_\_\_ crossing to my car, but found that I was out of \_\_\_\_\_. While waiting at the garage I had a snack of \_\_\_\_\_ margarine and I hoped the service would be \_\_\_\_\_ as I wanted to get home to see the ballet \_\_\_\_\_ Lake on the television, and to enjoy a pint of \_\_\_\_\_.

I had a good wash the following morning using \_\_\_\_\_ toilet soap.

## Articles for the Winter CHRONICLE

You can submit articles to the editor in any of the following ways

The Form on our Website or App

E-mail to [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

Post to Graham Redman at 5 Salvington Hill, BN13 3AT

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## Other Publications

### **Handbook and Directory:**

Available for Church Members and those regularly attending.

### **Welcome**

Sunday Welcome sheet for Hymns & Songs Readings,  
Prayers and Notices

### **Leaflets**

About this Church, What's On, Baptisms & Dedications, Church  
Membership, Funerals, Getting Married, Hall Hiring.

Past weeks' 'Welcome' sheets, Leaflets and the Chronicle are all  
available from our website <https://gurc.org.uk> and click on 'Chronicle  
& Publications' and also on our 'App'.

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## News from the Stitchery: Thread and Colour

Recently Quinary, the Contemporary Textile Art Group I belong to set ourselves a research project looking at thread.



Each of us were set a task to research and report back, we came up with some very interesting information with regard to the history, uses and types of thread people have used over the centuries for practical and as well as decorative purposes. My Brief was to look into the dyeing of thread.

It was quite difficult to find information about dyeing thread alone as most articles I read talked about textiles in general. Mostly the fabric was woven and then dyed. I was also asked to look at one colour – well - what to choose? This question was the hardest to answer so I wait and trust inspiration would come!

I discovered that fabric; which includes thread for this presentation; has been dyed for millennia.

The Phoenicians were renowned and celebrated for the manufacture of colourful textiles. 'Phoenicia was an ancient civilization in Canaan which covered most of the western coastal part of the Fertile Crescent. Several major Phoenician cities were built on the coastline of the Mediterranean. It was an enterprising maritime trading culture that spread across the Mediterranean from 1550 BCE to 300 BCE. (Before the Common/ Christian Era)' [www.timemaps.com](http://www.timemaps.com)

These people used wool from Damascus and high quality linen possibly from Egypt. Their high reputation meant the textiles were highly sought after firstly for the brilliance of colour and secondly the delicacy of the embroidery. This image of the Phoenician alphabet was used in the embroidered textiles. They produced their own dyes using mostly shellfish and molluscs.



The colourful fluid they discovered was rather like the ink from Octopus, Squid or cuttlefish. At this point in my research I came across a story which not only intrigued me but it decided the one colour I was to use! Legend has it that a sheep dog belonging to Hercules the hero of Greek mythology, was walking along a

beach in Tyre, an ancient Phoenician city. The dog found and bit into a small mollusc, this turned his mouth purple and it became known as Tyrian Purple or Royal Purple.

This discovery brought great prosperity to Tyre, it was very rare and therefore the most expensive animal dye money could buy.

Purple is mentioned 48 times in the Old Testament and 9 in the New Testament, the prophet Ezekiel in chapter 27:7 mentions the Tyrians obtaining "Fine embroidered linen from Egypt ..... your awnings were of Blue and Purple from the Coast of Elishah, and in Proverbs 31:22 says; 'The wife of noble character makes coverings for her bed. She is clothed in fine linen and purple.'



We know Jesus was wrapped in a purple robe at his crucifixion, which the soldiers present at His death drew lots for the robe as the purple fabric was so valuable. Purple symbolised great wealth and sovereignty, it was reputedly the colour of Cleopatra's barge and Julius Caesar decreed that only the Emperor and his household could wear the colour.



Manual cotton dyeing in contemporary India

Queen Elizabeth I also forbade anyone to wear purple except her and members of the Royal family. The Imperial State Crown, worn by our Queen, has a purple velvet cap to enhance the jewels and I assume makes it more comfortable to wear! Purple is a colour that has been associated with spirituality and has sacred, romantic, nostalgic connotations and also those of sadness as dark purple was worn by people as they were coming out of their black mourning clothes.



Left: The dyer of the fountain "Weberbrunnen" in Monschau (Germany).

Whether purple was the first animal dye made I don't know, but the first synthetic dye coincidentally was also purple discovered in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century when William Henry Perkins in 1856 made the aniline dye 'mauvine' from coal tar.

*Caroline Hibbs*

## The Leprosy Mission

Mark Chap 1. v 40-45.

Even when Jesus lived on earth the scourge of Leprosy was present.

The Leprosy Mission was set up to combat Leprosy, still prevalent in the 3rd world countries today. It is a disease that is fairly easy to cure if caught early. However many sufferers in remote regions are late getting treatment which leads to disfigurement and deformities, there is also a stigma to having this disease.

This Church has supported the mission over many years in both money and prayers. Information is always available on the table at the back of the Church it is updated regularly.

The Missions most recent initiative has been "Heal Nepal" where any money raised was matched by our government.

This is a very worthwhile Charity, if anyone felt able to support it, please contact Bobby Hitchin, representative for this Church.

*Bobby Hitchin*

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## Fellowship

This year has been another interesting and varied time for Fellowship, which ended with Bobby's garden party, and we were lucky this year with the weather.

We were able to sit in her garden and enjoy the sunshine. Our numbers have remained steady with new people joining us which is a joy.

Our year starts again on 10th September and anyone who wishes to join us will be most welcome.

*Carole Culliss*

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## Treasures Upon Earth

One dark evening around Christmas, James and Rana were walking me home, when I noticed an elderly gentleman struggling along carrying two or three bags of shopping. His back was bent more than mine, he looked cold and his nose had a big drop on the end. I was pushing my walker and as it is capable of carrying more than a bag or two of shopping, I spoke to the man and asked where he was going and whether we could help him to carry his burden. He said he lived in a house on the other side of the street from me, fully visible from my windows. I had never seen him before.

James and Rana carried his bags and we walked much slower to keep step with him. They stood at his front door and handed them to him in his hallway, then came across into my house. "Either he has lots of Christmas presents to give, or the carrier bags in the hall are the tip of an iceberg," said James.

I saw the old man only once or twice in the next month or so, as he went up the road to the shops in the late afternoon, seemingly preferring dusk and darkness to the broad light of day. Speaking to the lady who lives next door to him, I mentioned this and she replied, "He's a very private man." I referred to the bags in the hall.

"That's what they are, bags in the hall. The rooms have much more."

Time passed. I saw no light at the front windows, but was told that he lived in the back. Then I heard that he kept warm by a small light in his gas cooker. I supposed that he was happy to do so. I never saw him to speak to, not even to pass the time of day. He is a private man, so he should have his privacy.

One day, I saw the milkman deliver a bottle of milk to his front doorstep. It was still there in the afternoon. I drew the neighbour's attention to it.

"I expect he has been sleeping," she said. It was there the next day,

too, on the doorstep, palely loitering. "If he doesn't bring it in tomorrow, I will call the doctor," said the neighbour. The next day, she did. "He's in a poor way."

Cutting a long story short, he was taken to hospital for a thorough check and a place found for him in a Care Home. He was cleaned up, given a room with a television and three good meals a day. The idea was that he should stay in the Home until his own home was made habitable.

One day at the beginning of June I saw a couple of men standing outside his house at nine in the morning wearing high visibility clothing. They looked as though they might be workmen.

A little later, a couple of suited, identification –neckband-wearing official-looking men arrived. They stood, talking together for some time, occasionally looking at their watches.

At 9.40 a.m., a taxi pulled up and the old man got out.

Even from my window, I could see that his white hair was clean and gleaming and, though still bent over as before, his body looked better-nourished and his clothes clean and pressed. He was the one who had the key to open the door. He used it and they all went in.

Half an hour passed before the officials left and walked up the road towards the council offices.



One of the workmen went up the road, and came back driving a large white van with a cleaning firm's information on the outside.

He unloaded a big builders' bag – full of other recycling bags of large size, and took the van back to its parking space. The bag of bags stood on the pavement. He took several bags inside the house with him. Soon, a full bag was put outside on the pavement.

"Newspapers knee high!" They worked for the rest of the morning and until 4 in the afternoon. There were ten huge full bags and various boxes and artifacts stacked up on the pavement, including a couple of old television sets from Rediffusion days. The bag of bags was empty. This same impressive clearing and stacking up of bags and boxes went on every day for a week, the clearers wearing heavy gloves and sometimes dust masks. The old man was there for a couple of days, telling them what NOT to remove from his precious collections of many years. Each day the van went away full.

I went across and congratulated him on the big adventure, inviting him to tea when he came back home. The house has stood empty since, waiting

for a firm of interior cleaners to come and take the layers of dirt away, though the delay may be due to the fact that there is no electricity or water.

The longer the time the owner is away, being cared for: meals prepared, hygienic and comfortable surroundings, encouragement to be showered, bathed and relatively handsome once again, his desire to come home again may be drastically lessened. Can a new life begin? Are those remaining collections SO important? When did the deterioration begin? What is the reason, or what is the excuse?

It would be hard to find such a good excuse as that made by one of the Collyer brothers, Homer and Langley, of New York, who never moved from home, and continued living together in their family mansion after their parents died in the 1920s. As time passed, they retired from work. They chose to go out shopping after dusk to avoid being confronted by noisy, jeering, thoughtless youngsters. They not only bought provisions, but a large gathering of various artifacts and interesting objects to fill the rooms: a model T Ford chassis, 14 grand pianos,

dress-making dummies, a wine press, doll perambulators, chandeliers, weapons and ammunition, the folding top of a horse-drawn carriage and daily and weekly newspapers.

Langley looked after Homer as he lost his sight and mobility. Langley decided that a diet of 100 oranges a week, with peanut butter and black bread, would help to restore Homer's sight. He faithfully delivered this diet to Homer, making his way through the mounting walls of newspapers. Both men became fearful of burglars and intruders.

Langley boarded up the windows and set booby traps in the corridors of newspapers to catch any unwanted visitors. Taking Homer's food to him one day in 1947, he inadvertently tripped a wire and was buried beneath a few tons of newsprint. Homer heard the commotion, but what could he do? Blind, immobile and hungry, he survived for a few days before dying of a heart attack.



When Langley Collyer had been asked why he was keeping so many newspapers, he said that Homer would regain his eyesight through the orange diet and that when it happened, he wanted for him to be able to read all the news that he had missed.

I am making sure I do not have to find such a good excuse, though I have made a few purchases since I have been in Beverley, but I am trying to keep supplying the charity shops with something each month. Weekly is too ambitious!

When Helen and Fred (her new husband) were over from Crete, they bought me a souvenir of Worthing from the Saturday Market. He keeps watch for me in the back yard. Still and silently.

He respects my privacy.

*J. Mary Connelly*

## Church Outings

### July Church Picnic

Unfortunately, the church picnic in July was rained off, but we still managed to have fun. Here we are playing "Blankety Blank" in the church hall instead



### Winchester Day Out

It was also sad that our day out to Winchester had to be called off because of insufficient numbers signing up and therefore not making it financially worthwhile.

Keep your eyes open for future events.

*Outreach Group*

## What do you know about this church?



### The Church Windows

You may have noticed that there are 'stained' glass sections at the top of each echelon window. However, you will need to stand near the communion table then look back to see them. Unfortunately, at the present time they are in pretty poor condition, and the Property Group is currently collecting estimates for their repair. This is part of the programme to double glaze all the windows in the Sanctuary. This should help to make us feel more comfortable during the winter months especially if we can also insulate the walls which we are also planning to do.

Look out for the Winter Chronicle for an explanation of all of the stained glass windows and the etched glass in the Sanctuary doors. *Graham Redman*

## Celebrating 20 Years of 'Open the Book'

Many of us are from the Sunday school generation – but we are a thing of the past. There are generations of children who have never been in a church or heard the amazing Bible stories. 20 years ago a group of Christians in Bedford wanted to take Bible stories into their local primary school. This has now become an exciting initiative across England and Wales, and Bible Society's primary education programme.

Now some 16,800 storytellers regularly take 'Open the Book' assemblies in 3099 primary schools.



The 'Book' that is 'Opened' is the Lion Storyteller Bible by Bob Hartman. He says he is 'overwhelmed' and had never imagined that so many children would hear these stories (there may be 200-250 children in each assembly). As the children file into the hall you can hear them say: "Oh, good, it's Open the Book" and as they leave, many say "Thank you".

The children love volunteering to take part in the stories, and at times the whole school takes part with words such as "Hooray" or "Oh no"

Here in Worthing there are three teams of volunteers going into different schools and Mary Redman and I (and until recently Jenny Morgan) are privileged to take part in the team going to Durrington and Springfield primary schools. Every rehearsal and performance is underpinned by prayer.

Yes, it's quite a commitment, but we also have a lot of fun, and as Bob Hartman says "There is something joyful about being part of the story. We want to open the way so that children can hear God's story and find out who He is through His story".

If you think God might be calling you to share the Bible with children in this way please speak to Mary or myself or visit: [biblesociety.org.uk/openthebook](http://biblesociety.org.uk/openthebook)

*Eileen Rhodes*



All photographs printed on these pages are done so with permission from 'Open the Book'

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## Do you remember?

On the 10th November it will be Remembrance Day again and I thought it might be good if we remembered again two of our number who did great things at that time. At the Remembrance service of November 2011,

I introduced Derek Walker. He presented our poppy wreath in the service with Jonathan Cooper.

He was one of our oldest members of our congregation. He served in the Royal Navy from 1939 when he was 19, until he was 26 in 1946.

He sailed everywhere, helped with the evacuation of Greece and Crete and was in the leading ship of 4000 to land at Dunkirk on D-Day. He was a Senior Lieutenant at the end of the war, reasoned to be too young to make Lieutenant Commander, as he was under 30.

At the time of our service he was 91. Later he lived in Scotsdale in Ferring. He died a few years ago.

And the other church member?

Jim Hope, of course. Now he lives in Victoria Lodge in Shakespeare Rd. He is 94 now.

He entered the R.A.F. when he was 18 in 1943, and was sent out to South Africa to train as a pilot. He has a wonderful Log Book from those days detailing all the flights he made, training in a Tiger Moth, later in an Oxford aircraft. After an

incredibly thorough training in South Africa, he was sent to North Africa and flew throughout the Middle East and Israel as well as North Africa. On one occasion when he had time to spare in Jerusalem, he visited the Mount of Olives on a mule. But having visited various places there, when he looked for his 'transport' he discovered someone had stolen his mule and left a donkey in its place! And the donkey was too small, and Jim's feet touched the ground when he sat on it.

Then later, as 1st pilot he flew Halifax Bombers for Coastal Command and also Wellington Bombers, with a crew of 6 or 7. He was Flight Sergeant, not wishing to become a commissioned officer as all his crew were non-commissioned and he wanted to stay with them wherever they went. He kept in touch with some of his crew for very many years after the war.

Jim has written a description of a hair-raising event as pilot. On 8th September 1945, just 6 days after the war ended, Flight Sergeant Jim Hope, first pilot of Halifax NA142 of R.A.F. Squadron 518, with his crew of 6, flew to deliver the Halifax from Tiree, a small Scottish island where they were stationed, to Tain in the Scottish Highlands, but near the coast. They were just about to approach Tain when they were diverted to Stornoway due to fog. But the visibility was very bad there too and Jim flew over the airfield a number of times to enable him to descend to 300 ft.

More circuits were made and then when just about to land the end of the flare path and the boundary fence were suddenly upon them and the next moment they ditched in the sea. None of the crew were injured and all escaped through various hatches, though they found themselves in the sea and not all could swim.

They had to visit the sick bay when they got to shore and the navigator particularly enjoyed being carried by a W.A.A.F. orderly who was rather larger than himself! It was discovered later that neither radio nor control tower had operated correctly and a special light on the runway was not lit. It all happened at 10.45 pm, in darkness. The Halifax was a write-off.

Two incredible survivors!

A privilege for me to hear their stories.

*Wilfred Rhodes*

## Improving Society

A healthy society seeks love, unity and peace,  
when men are rid of malevolent  
acts, these qualities will increase.

Men, light a candle in your heart, for each sister and every brother.  
Hold hands in loving kindness,  
showing care for one another.

If men refuse to build their lives and institutions on divine principles,  
disorder will continue, it will not be  
resolved, by relying on audio-visuals.

Conflicts, corruption, greed and famine, all stem from disorder  
of the mind and lack of desire,  
to be a capable Reformer.

When men keep an open mind and seek knowledge, skills and courage,  
society will come together,  
then everyone will flourish.

This may seem impossible to some, but not to the mature mind.  
All men stand between light and  
darkness, we can improve humankind.

*William Doyle*



### *The Handbook and Directory*

has been updated to No. 72: September 2019.

This edition includes the recently elected elders.

Other changes have also been made, and are continually  
updated throughout the year.

## Download our Church App

Just search for 'goring urc' on the Google Play or App Store



- Designed for all mobile phones and tablets -

*Any problems, please speak to Graham Redman 01903 260568*

*You can read more about it on our website <https://gurc.org.uk>*

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## Answer to the Bird Puzzle

I had a good wash the following morning using DOVE toilet soap.  
 SPECKLED HEN.  
 enjoy a pint of KESTREL or KINGFISHER or WOODPECKER or  
 to get home to see the ballet SWAN Lake on the television, and to  
 STORK margarine and I hoped the service would be SWIFT as I wanted  
 was out of PETERL. While waiting at the garage I had a snack of  
 I crossed the road on a FELLICAN crossing to my car, but found that I  
 what they were going to do, saying "TOUCAN live as cheaply as one".  
 seemed to live in cloud CUCKOO land and would often CROW about  
 She was a RAVEN haired beauty, although no spring CHICKEN - she  
 He only spoke PIGEON English and had eyes like a HAWK.  
 used a CRANE to move the safe after taking a GANDER at the cashier.  
 He was now unemployed as he was caught ROBIN the bank, he had  
 going to Norwich to see the CANARIES play football.  
 name was JACKDAW but usually he just used his initial JAY. They were  
 I met two people with arms entwined like a couple of LOVEBIRDS. His  
 as she started to grumble and GROUSE. Downstairs  
 I was PUFFIN by the time I had climbed the steps, but did not stay long  
 WRENS.  
 and still had a job to SWALLOW. Years ago she had served in the  
 Last week I went to visit a friend of mine. She has been ill with THRUSH

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**Do you have something to write about for the Winter Chronicle?**

**You have until the first of November to do so.**

## Weekday Activities

Journeys with Jesus & Junior Table Tennis	Monday Afternoons
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
Cake, Tea, Coffee and Chat	1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesday Afternoons
Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Group	First Wednesday in Month

## Publications Team

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Reporters: Mr Wilfred Rhodes

Proof Reading: Mrs Jane Bond and Mrs Denise Woods

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Susie Thomas

Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -

2 Ardale Close, Worthing, BN11 6HW

*The Chronicle costs approximately £1.50 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 Susie Thomas ( address above ). Thank you.*

The **CHRONICLE**

<https://gurc.org.uk/chronicle>

[chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)



# Goring United Reformed Church

**Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. At the beginning of 2018, a Joint Pastorate was formed with Sompting United Reformed Church with whom we share Ministry.**

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Reformed Association of Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

The churches of Emmanuel in Worthing, Sompting, Goring and Littlehampton are part of the 'Worthing Cluster' and United Reformed Church Southern Synod, whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, New Life Baptist Church and Bury drive Methodist Church.

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



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

<https://gurc.org.uk>



# The Chronicle

Winter 2019

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The Magazine of Goring United Reformed Church



*Jesus: Light of the World*



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

## **GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

- We share a minister with Sompting United Reformed Church -

**Shaftesbury Avenue, Goring by sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4EA**

Website: <https://gurc.org.uk>

Church Office: [office@gurc.org.uk](mailto:office@gurc.org.uk) Telephone 01903 600260

Minister: Rev Andrew Sellwood - Friday rest day

17 Drummond Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DX

Telephone: 01903 248259 E-mail: [minister@gurc.org.uk](mailto:minister@gurc.org.uk)

Pastoral Secretary: Mrs Hilary Redman

5 Salvington Hill, High Salvington, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

Telephone: 01903 260568 E-mail: [pastoral@gurc.org.uk](mailto:pastoral@gurc.org.uk)

Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith

10 Cissbury Drive, Findon Valley, Worthing, West Sussex. BN14 0DT

## **Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary**

10.30am Morning worship - with Holy communion on first Sunday in month.

- Family service monthly as announced
- Junior Church with Creche

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

- Bible Study on first Sunday in month

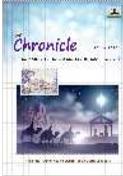


The  
**Chronicle**



Winter 2019

Vol.76 - No. 661

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Nativity Scene: They came to worship Him

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## Rev Andrew Sellwood



Babies; as you may know we have had a new addition into the family this year, Theo our grandson. We get sent regularly cute photos from Australia.

After a difficult start in life he and mum and dad are doing very well. Studies show that the time of year that produces the most babies is September, in fact September the 25<sup>th</sup> is when most babies were born in the UK in 2018. I'm no expert, but I disagree with them. I believe the most prolific time for babies is a bit later in the year, the Christmas season. New borne babies appear everywhere: in shopping centres, schools, churches, on windowsills, mantle pieces, even on a car dashboard — you name it. They range from life-size to miniature, paper to plastic, knitted to ceramic, wood to even neon. Some of these babies are brand-new, while some are hundreds of years old. All of them have the same parents, the same bed, and the same name.

You know I am referring to the baby Jesus in the nativity scene. At Christmas, nativity scenes come out of storage and make their appearance. When the last mince pie is eaten, the babies go back in storage to be forgotten as being out-of-season. Banished to the loft, to be covered in woodworm dust (note to property group).

What about the real baby Jesus? Where does he go after Christmas? It's always intrigued me about the Christian year, Christmas is such a focus, but a mere snapshot of Jesus life on earth. For many people that is the one that sticks. That's the one for the album. It's a cycle that some

people never break out of. Christmas cosiness doesn't sit well with Easter challenge.

Jesus cannot be relegated to a mere decoration or forgotten most of the year. Jesus did not remain a baby, that seems obvious, although it seems that model baby in the artificial manger never gets older from year-to-year. But that baby did grow older. As important as that birth was (being born of a virgin doesn't happen every day [Matthew 1:23]), Jesus did not remain that innocent little babe in a manger: "And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and man" (Luke 2:52).

He was not put away and was not forgotten: “And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all” (Luke 4:14–15).

That innocent babe grew up to be an innocent man: “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, *yet without sin*” (Hebrews 4:15). Although — and because — He was sinless, Jesus could die for our sins and give us His righteousness: “For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21).

We are born, and then we die. Jesus was born as well, but He was born *to* die. The night before He was betrayed to his killers, Jesus said, “The Son of Man goes as it is written of him” (Matthew 26:24). Why did this innocent-babe-turned-innocent man have to die when He had done nothing worthy of death? “God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). Jesus Christ was born specifically to die in our place.

We were all born at some point (probably longer ago than we like to

think!), but few of us have baby statues on display; our birth is not that noteworthy. Being born once gets us here; however, it does not get us where we *should* be. Only a second birth can get us into the kingdom of God. As miraculous as the birth of Christ was, so is the reality of the second birth. When Nicodemus asked how that can be, “Jesus answered him, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God’” (John 3:3). One must be born again by faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour in order to be forgiven of the sins that separate us from God the Father.

Don’t hide Jesus in the cupboard or attic and forget about Him. You can become a part of God’s family, and that’s not just the plastic Joseph and Mary; instead, take in the risen and ascended Jesus and hide Him in your heart, “so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith” (Ephesians 3:17). Only then will you be able to “to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ” (Ephesians 4:15)! Don’t make the babe in the manger a year-long stranger!

*Have a happy and peaceful Christmas  
from Andrew and Jill*





## 25yrs in the Ministry

Andrew and Jill cutting the cake on Sunday 29 September

## 60th Anniversary

Roger & Shirley Wilde celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary

2 Sep 1959 - Sep 2019



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## Fellowship: Tuesday Afternoons

Our first meeting was for General Chat, and for our second meeting Tony was due to continue his train journey, but we started a discussion on the Old Testament and spent the rest of the afternoon talking about life and all its aspects. It was an interesting afternoon.

We then welcomed the Rev. Janet Hopewell who spoke about her role as advocate for older people

and her role in particular working with care homes and those with dementia. In her church, Pagham URC, she is responsible for setting up a 'Teapot Cafe' mainly for those with dementia and their carers. They meet once a month. She is also Associate Minister in her church and the surrounding district. She is a busy lady

*Carole Culliss*

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## Prayer

"The wonderful thing about praying is that you leave a world of not being able to do something, and enter God's realm where everything is possible. He specialises in the impossible. Nothing is too great for His Almighty power. Nothing is too small for His Love."

*Corrie ten Boom*

"Corrie" ten Boom Was a Dutch watchmaker and later a writer who worked with her father, Casper ten Boom, her sister Betsie ten Boom and other family members to help many Jews escape the Nazi Holocaust during World War II by hiding them in her home.

## Goring URC Youth Club of the '70s



Back row. Lindy, Denise, Chris, Graeme, Alison, Phillip, Janet, Val, Tim  
 Front row. John, Paul, Janice, Chris, Malcolm, Caroline, Nick, Chris.

*If you recognise anybody or wish to find out more, please speak to Val Gill*

### Youth Club Reunion

Twenty of us met in the church halls on a Saturday evening in October from 7.00 - 10.00 as we used to do in the 1970's.

There was a delicious chocolate cake iced with the words "You haven't changed a bit", a sentence we heard a few times that evening.

---

Over 40 years have passed but we were just as competitive at table tennis, especially 'round the table', which had to be repeated several times. At first we owned up to losing 3 lives but by the end it was 'continue 'til you drop'!

A few of us managed to dance to Status Quo's Down, Down, Deeper on Down and keep breathing.

We enjoyed the tuck shop, although we were drinking tea and

coffee instead of canned fizz, and ate a lot less sweets and crisps than we did in our teens.

It was fascinating to meet with friends from our teenage years and find out how they had filled their time to their 50's and 60's.

It was a great success and we've already got a date planned for 2020.

*Val Gill [née Luckin]*

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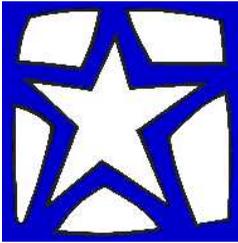
## *What do you know about this church?*

How many times have you entered the church through the inner double doors and wondered what the etched glass panels are all about? - or indeed if you have noticed them at all !

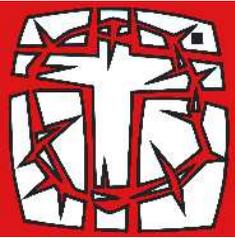
Then have you stood on the Rostrum by the Communion Table and looked back at the side 'stained glass' windows? You may be forgiven if you haven't noticed them, as they are in a pretty poor condition. However, the Property Group are planning to replace them and double glaze the other windows.

*Graham Redman*

## The West Echelon Windows



The Star of Bethlehem supposed to be the morning star, symbolises the Nativity. As the morning star proclaims the dawn, so Christ's birth heralded the passing of the world from night to day - from the darkness of sin to the light of salvation.



The Cross and Crown of Thorns symbolises the Passion.



The Pelican who tears open her breast to feed her young with her blood, is the symbol of Christ's work of redemption and sacrifice, and resurrection. It was believed that the Pelican brought its young ones to life with its blood. The emblem is frequently shown above the crucifixion.



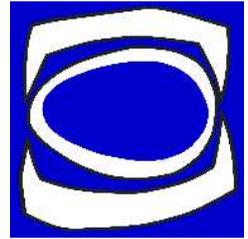
The Eagle, because it is the 'bird which soars upwards to heaven.



The  $\triangle$  and  $\bigcirc$  were frequently used by early Christians as symbols of the Trinity and Eternity.

## The East Echelon Windows

The Egg is the symbol of creation.



The Apple and Serpent are symbols of sin.



The Dove was used by the early Christians on the tombs in the catacombs, and the position of the bird had a special significance: it usually signifies the Holy Spirit but in some cases, as in this example, it symbolises Baptism.

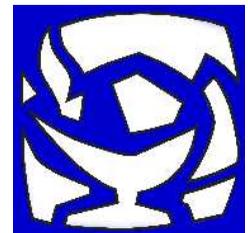


The Apple is the symbol of the fall of man, but in the hand of Christ symbolises the redemption from sin.

The hand is shown to be that of Christ by the use of the cruciform nimbus - a halo with the cross superimposed on it.



The Lamp symbolises guidance, knowledge, enlightenment, and immortality.





St Matthew was given the Cherub, or human semblance because he begins his Gospel with the human generation of Christ; or according to others, because in his Gospel the human nature of Christ is more insisted on than the divine.

In the most ancient mosaics the type is human, not angelic, for the head is that of a man with a beard.



St Mark was the Lion because he has sent forth the royal dignity of Christ, or according to a third interpretation, the lion was allotted to St Mark because there was in the Middle Ages a popular belief that the young of the lion was born dead, and after three days awakened to vitality by the breath of its sire.



The revival of the young lion was considered as symbolic of the resurrection, and Mark was commonly called the 'Historian of the Resurrection' .

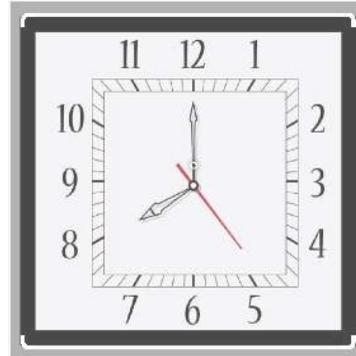


St Luke has the Ox because he has dwelt on the priesthood of Christ, the ox being the emblem of satisfaction.



St John has the Eagle which is the symbol of the highest aspiration, because he soared upwards to the contemplation of the divine nature of the Saviour.





## The 8 O'Clockers

Our Church has been unique in holding every Sunday at 8 o'clock in the morning, a short half hour of Praise and Prayer.

The 8 o'clock service was, I believe only 'unique' in the U.R.C tradition, in as much as we originally offered Holy Communion at that time every Sunday. A practice more often found in the Anglican Church but a passion of our former minister, Rev William Connelly. This is where the foundation of the service lay, in William's passion and that of several others at the time who had Anglican backgrounds. The first of these services was conducted by Mr Connelly on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1979.

In the earlier years Holy Communion was celebrated every Sunday morning at 8 o'clock. However, from January 2006 Communion was celebrated just once a month, usually on the first Sunday.

Prior to 2006 our minister Rev Andrew Sellwood, Revs Simon Franklin and Marie Roe and of course Rev William Connelly and Rev Peter Heckels, Mrs Hilary Redman and myself took the service. After 2006 Mr Alec Ralph and Rev Margaret Ashby joined 'the team'. Margaret continued to conduct Communion every 2 months for the next 13 or 14 years.

She and I conducted the monthly Communions alternately for all those years. Just lately Valerie Cooper had taken Margaret's place.

The services in between the Communion became "Prayer and Praise" services and Mrs Lily Collison led those for many years until reducing health and strength took her into Koinonia Residential Care Home.

Mr Trevor Plank has led the group for the past several years until the end of September, and the group numbered some 4 or 5. Trevor and his wife Roxana have been connected with our church for at least 40 years, and Trevor was received into membership in 1981 and for many of those years he was Auditor of our Church Accounts.

Miss Cath Findlay, a member of the church and of the group, was very helpful for many years, picking up some of the 8 o'clockers in her car. However, like all of us, age and health has been catching up with all of them, and the group has decided that the service should close. This happened on the last Sunday in September 2019.

Trevor says "the 8 o'clock was a simple old fashioned Bible-based service. An anachronism perhaps, but with the state of the modern church what is needed are more anachronisms, not less. The Church will have to go back before it can go forward."

The church is very grateful to all those who have lead the service over so many years, and grateful also to those who attended. Margaret and I are sad that the service has come to its closure.

I know that Margaret was very pleased to be with the group every two months, and it was a real privilege for me to be able to conduct Holy Communion.

*Wilfred Rhodes*



## Twenty Questions

How many questions you can answer about Christmas, the Bible and this Church.

### Across

2. Light of the World.
5. The birth of the Messiah was foretold here.
8. This symbolises the Nativity on one of our windows.
10. Our Weekly service sheet
11. Number of books in the New Testament
14. Our Church Website
16. The coming of Christ
17. Where did God send Angel Gabriel?
18. Where can you find this Church's Cradle Roll?
19. Which month did our present church building open?

### Down

1. Our Church Magazine
3. Who was Mary's Cousin?
4. Goring URC belongs to which Synod?
6. This Church was inaugurated in 1940. Which month?
7. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, but where?
9. The Church Library
12. John depicts this symbol on one of our entrance doors.
13. Who ordered a census to be taken in the Roman Empire
15. Who lived in Bethany with her sister Mary?
17. Which country supplies Trafalgar Square's Christmas tree?



Crossword puzzle grid with 19 numbered starting points for words.

Answers on page 26

**Disclaimer:** Whilst great care is taken to accurately reproduce articles presented for the Chronicle, mistakes sometimes do occur. Please note that the views expressed in these pages are not necessarily those of Goring United Reformed Church.

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## Getting to Know You

GLAD (GURC Ladies Are Dining) have met several times this year including one evening out with the men. We enjoyed a meal together at a local pub which was a success apart from it being one of the hottest days of the year and we were sat in front of the windows with no blinds. However, the company was good and the menu offered a wide choice at a reasonable price. Both the ladies and the gents are dining out in November.

This has been taking place for several years now and is a great opportunity to catch up with news and get to know each other better. A real blessing.

All ladies are invited to join us and will be very welcome. *Val Gill*

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## Christmas Services at Goring URC

Second in Advent: Led by the Elders	Sunday 8 December 10.30am
Third in Advent: Rev Andrew Sellwood	Sunday 15 December 10.30am
Carols by Candlelight	Thursday 19 December 7.00pm
Fourth in Advent	Sunday 22 December 10.30am
Nativity Service	Christmas Eve 5.00pm
Christmas Day Celebration	Wednesday 25 December 10.30am
First After Christmas	Sunday 29 December 10.30am

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## A Christmas Poem

All heaven was waiting for the birth of God's Son;  
plans were established and much would be won.

Long ago the prophets foretold,  
that Christ would come, born a Jew.  
He would bear men's burdens, offering love,  
making men's minds fresh as morn' dew.

Blessed Mary believed and was hailed,  
she respected the Angel and obeyed  
'Come, O come, Emmanuel,'  
sang this pure and sanctified maid.

From the darkness and chaos,  
He would dispel human fears,  
bringing joy, peace and goodwill,  
to allay all sorrowful tears.

On Jordon's bank a cry was heard,  
'Awake, here comes the King of kings,  
bringing ancient knowledge and  
glad tidings, among other things.

Come let us greet the Lord of Light,  
amid the brightness of the dawn.  
Behold the Saviour of the world  
a fresh beginning, with hopes reborn.

A bright light in the canopy of stars,  
called the Magi from afar;  
to a Majesty long concealed,  
guiding science by a luminous star.

The Saviour came in humble guise,  
with a message of mercy, love and unity.  
Christ with God's people, as was prophesied,  
brought guidance for all the human community.

*William Doyle*

## Twins Chat Together in the Womb



The first baby said to the other, "Is there life after delivery?"

The other replied, "Why, of course. There has to be something after birth. Maybe we are here to prepare ourselves for what we will be later." "Nonsense" said the first. "There is no life after delivery. What kind of life would that be?"

The second said, "I don't know, but there will be more light than here. Maybe we will walk with our legs and eat from our mouths. Maybe we will have other senses that we can't understand now."

The first replied, "That is absurd. Walking is impossible. And eating with our mouths? Ridiculous! The umbilical cord supplies nutrition and everything we need.

But the umbilical cord is so short. Life after delivery is to be logically excluded."

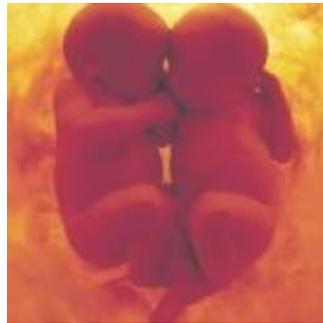
The second insisted, "Well I think there is something and maybe it's different than it is here. Maybe we won't need this physical cord anymore."

The first replied, "Nonsense. And moreover if there is life, then why has no one ever come back from there? Delivery is the end of life, and in the after-delivery there is nothing but darkness and silence and oblivion. It takes us nowhere."

"Well, I don't know," said the second, "but certainly we will meet Mother and she will take care of us." The first replied "Mother? You actually believe in Mother? That's laughable. If Mother exists then where is She now?"

The second said, "She is all around us. We are surrounded by her. We are of Her. It is in Her that we live. Without Her this world would not and could not exist."

The first said: "Well I don't see Her, so it is only logical that She doesn't exist." To which the second replied, "Sometimes, when you're in silence and you focus and you really listen, you can perceive Her presence, and you can hear Her loving voice, calling down from above."



*The above piece can be found from many different sources on the internet, with the words differing slightly from one source to the next.*

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# The Moors Explorer

An August 2019 outing from Beverley  
(Including some irrelevant (?) information.)

"Mum, we're going for the day to the North York Moors.  
We're going on the 'bus. Want to come?"  
Out the whole day? Much walking? Meh! I'll think about it.  
O-kaay. I'll come.  
I'll have to get up early.

We're at Beverley 'bus station in good time. The bus comes in.  
It's a double decker. We must go on top!  
U-up the first step. I park my walker near the door.  
Gollum-like, I crawl upstairs. Front seats full.  
To the back! We'll sit at the back.  
Oh, this is ok. So what if these seats are right over the wheels?  
We're going on a Moors adventure, we're going on a double-decker 'bus!  
We're on our way.  
"North Bar Within; North Bar Without", and we leave Beverley behind.  
The road undulates. We're on a Rollercoaster Ride!  
South Dalton spire rises up above the trees.

We had a picnic there last Sunday,  
sitting on a bench across the road.  
Behind the church, two men using  
motor saws destroyed an ancient tree.  
'Health and safety' for the graves.

We bump and lurch along.

A green field and golden field.  
The green field is an ocean of  
potatoes. The golden field is strewn  
with huge gold bars of straw.

Undulating countryside.  
So much in Yorkshire undulates,  
undulates.  
Floors undulate, the roads undulate,  
the fields of Yorkshire undulate.

Wetwang. Wetwang? What is a wang?  
How did it get wet?

Bracing Yorkshire air? The cold air  
hisses and swirls around our heads  
and ruffles our hair.

---

It cools our necks and shoulders.

The body cools to shivering – it's too cold with two windows open, but no one likes to say.

Jackets back on.

Ooh! Patchwork fields. Like Cornwall, but larger, and stitched more delicately with bare, dry-stone walls.

Dustily busy, a Combine Harvester makes short work of the now dry wheat.

The strong winds of yesterday have worked their magic.

Oh! Trees!

The dark road winds among the crowding trees.

There's light at the end of the tunnel.

Out into the open again.

Wide open countryside. But where is the sea?

There is a far, far horizon, but it's land, lots of land.

Yorkshire is much wider than Cornwall.

Grain-searching crows peck and bob in the still golden stubble fields.

Here's another green field. More potatoes.

Chip butties, chips in curry sauce, chips with gra-avy.

Pickering. Ten minutes here.

Passengers, ants in a line, go to the

toilet across the road.

Off again!

Straw rectangular yields to straw cylindrical.

Giant golden rolls wait in the field like racing cars upon the grid.

Black hooded drivers perch ready on the tops.

Siddington – "One way in and one way out." That's what I'm told. Signpost to Helmsley. "Lo, He comes with clouds descending." Queen Victoria requested from her new organist in the Queen's Private Chapel that Helmsley, 'the old tune' should always be used on Advent Sunday to 'Lo He Comes.' Not the new one in Ancient and Modern. (From Hymn Tunes and their Story.

Over four hundred pages, cloth bound. Post free, 5 shillings from Pitman Hart, 20, Paternoster Row, London.)

Clouds are descending.

Kirkbymoorside.

Hutton-le-hole. More people get off. Sticks, staffs and backpacks.

Trees, trees, trees, then 'The Moors!'

Purple heather as far as you can see.

Royal purple, faded purple.

Sheep move in the heather.

---

What's this? Cultivation?  
 How green is my Yorkshire valley!  
 Radiant emerald fields reach upwards  
 into the purple velvet of the crown.  
 Moors, moors, moors.

Danby – forty-five minutes stop here.  
 Lo, the clouds are now descending.  
 Lowering clouds, rain in the air.  
 Toilet, picnic. Museum.

Back to Hutton-le-hole.  
 "Are we all on?" Upstairs again. Here  
 we go, up the hill."  
 Back over the moors.  
 Distance and heather. Heather, purple  
 heather.  
 What is that escarpment? Oh, for  
 binoculars!  
 Everything is so big that it all seems so  
 small.  
 Rain.  
 Beyond the mountainous grey stands  
 lighter grey, diaphanous.  
 No! The diaphanous grey is also  
 mountainous, distant, but substantial.  
 Roller coasting, we zoom across the  
 moors, hurrying, scurrying, rattling and  
 banging.  
 "No, it's not your walker crashing  
 around."  
 This bus plays its own discordant  
 music. Can we not stop and listen to  
 the silence, Or the sound of the wind  
 in the heather?

From the top of the bus as we bump  
 and lurch along, we see with our eyes  
 gold and green interludes, mighty  
 purple chords and full, rolling, golden-  
 green orchestra.  
 Our ears only hear the discord of the  
 double decker bus.

Far off, a shaft of sunlight breaks  
 through the cloud, illuminates a field  
 of shining green. Freshness and  
 freedom.

Grey skies.  
 A lone gorse bush stands black against  
 the grey sky. A violin solo.

Hutton-le-Hole.  
 Sheep are on the green, sheep are on  
 the road. They wander through the  
 village, continually nibbling.

'The gra-a-ss is gre-ener acro-oss the  
 road.'

Cars slow down for the ambling  
 sheep.

Tea room, café, pub, walkers, hikers,  
 drinkers.

Ryedale Folk museum: A village  
 through the ages. Lots of walking?  
 My first drive of an electric 'buggy'.  
 Mmm. I might be tempted sometime.

We could survive the Apocalypse here!  
 I still know the old-fashioned ways with  
 black iron fireplaces and earth closets.

I can use the old ovens. "Not too much coal, or the buns will burn!"  
 But I'd miss my washing machine.  
 It's no joke bending over the old tin bath, hour after hour, doing the family washing.  
 I could get the smithy going and some of the farm implements.  
 Threshing machine? I'd need help!

Last bus home. Upstairs again. Yay!  
 Good front seats.  
 Five minutes on, a voice: "Where's my backpack?"  
 "I've left my back-pack!"

Lo! We are descending, descending.  
 Middleton and Marston Moor. What's the history of that battle?  
 Old Malton, Malton – Yorkshire's Food Capital. Tell me!

From the top of a bus, bumping along – we have seen silent music, filling the senses:  
 Choral pieces, dark and deep and harmonious.  
 Fugues. Sonatas.  
 A pictorial, pastoral symphony.  
 Beethoven, Bach and Handel.  
 Elgar and a bit of Vivaldi.  
 As the 'bus lurches homeward the music plays on,  
 But the bus only plays Shostakovich.

Nearly home.  
 Through villages to the view of Beverley Minster.  
 Molescroft and Wylies Road.  
 From North York Moors to Istanbul (restaurant) – all in one day!  
 'Ey up! Eyup!'  
 (The owner of the restaurant comes from Istanbul  
 And his name is Eyup. )  
 'Merhaba!'  
 Manor Road and the Bus Station.  
 I creep carefully downstairs, my faithful walker waits for me.  
 One big step for me. "Thank you, driver!"  
 A truly wonderful day.  
 All from the top of a bus,  
 From the top of a noisy, bumpy, wonderful, 'Moors Explorer' double-decker 'bus.  
 I walk home.  
 The Minster clock that ticks away my life  
 Chimes the three-quarters.  
 Chimes the four quarters and strikes the nineteenth hour.  
 I'm home.  
 And my white front door is purple, gold and green.

J Mary Connelly



# Christmas Crossword

**Across**

- 1 Jesus' birthplace (9)
- 5 Herod slew the children of this age and under (3)
- 8 Peter quoted his words on the day of Pentecost (4)
- 9 "A \_\_\_ shaken with the wind" (4)
- 10 "Ye shall find \_\_\_ babe wrapped in swaddling clothes" (3)
- 12 The year from Jesus' birth (2)
- 14 Anna was of this tribe (as recorded in Luke) (4)
- 15 "Behold, a \_\_\_ shall be with child" (6)
- 20 "Fruits \_\_\_ for repentance" (4)
- 21 The wise men came from here (4)
- 22 "He shall reign of the house of \_\_\_ for ever" (5)
- 23 A female ancestor of Jesus, as recorded in Matthew 1 (4)
- 25 The amount of manna to be gathered per person (4)
- 27 He multiplied the widow's oil (6)

- 30 "As soon as the voice of thy salvation sounded in mine \_\_\_" (4)
- 32 An altar meaning witness (Joshua 22) (2)
- 33 To increase (3)
- 35 Malarial fever (4)
- 36 To guide (4)
- 38 There was no room here (3)
- 39 These men went to see the baby Jesus (9)

**Down**

- 1 "Mary, of whom was \_\_\_ Jesus" (4)
- 2 Jesus' age when he was taken to Jerusalem (6)
- 3 Jesus did not do this in the wilderness (3)
- 4 Adam's wife (3)
- 5 "Mary was espoused \_\_\_ Joseph" (2)
- 6 "They that \_\_\_ soft clothing are in kings' houses" (4)
- 7 Zacharias said, "I am an \_\_\_ man" (3)
- 8 Grandson of 23 (5)
- 11 A place near Bethel (3)

1		2		3	4		5	6	7
							8		
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		15	16	17		18			19
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				22					
23			24				25	26	
					27	28		29	
	30								31
32					33		34	35	
36		37							
38				39					

by Colin

© BiblePuzzles.org.uk

- 13 "A pair of turtledoves \_\_\_ two young pigeons" (2)
- 16 "That \_\_\_ might be fulfilled" (2)
- 17 "The \_\_\_ of God was upon him" (5)
- 18 Mother-in-law of 23 (5)
- 19 This went before the wise men (4)
- 20 The mother of Jesus (4)
- 24 He was king at the time of Jesus' birth (5)
- 25 "\_\_\_ that one would hear me!" (2)
- 26 Jesus was laid in this (6)
- 28 The spirit did this to Jesus in the wilderness (3)
- 29 Thus (2)
- 30 The first garden (4)
- 31 "Where is he that is born king of the \_\_\_?" (4)
- 32 A priest in the time of Samuel (3)
- 33 A tree of the olive family (3)
- 34 To put into water (3)
- 37 "\_\_\_ angel of the Lord appeareth" (2)

Answers on page 26

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.org.uk

## St John's Gospel 1 - New English Translation

### The Prologue to the Gospel

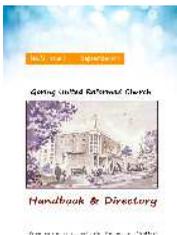
1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was fully God. 2 The Word was with God in the beginning. 3 All things were created by him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. 5 And the light shines on in the darkness, but the darkness has not mastered it.

6 A man came, sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify about the light, so that everyone might believe through him. 8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify about the light. 9 The true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was created by him, but the world did not recognize him.

11 He came to what was his own, but his own people did not receive him. 12 But to all who have received him—those who believe in his name—he has given the right to become God's children 13 —children not born by human parents or by human desire or a husband's decision, but by God.

14 Now the Word became flesh and took up residence among us. We saw his glory—the glory of the one and only, full of grace and truth, who came from the Father. 15 John testified about him and shouted out, "This one was the one about whom I said, 'He who comes after me is greater than I am, because he existed before me.'" 16 For we have all received from his fullness one gracious gift after another.

17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came about through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God. The only one, himself God, who is in closest fellowship with the Father, has made God known.



### *The Handbook and Directory*

has been updated to No. 72: Issue 2 October 2019.

This edition includes the recently elected elders.

Other changes have also been made, and are continually being updated throughout the year.

## Answers to Twenty Questions on page 14 and 15

- |                              |                              |                       |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Chronicle                 | 2. Jesus                     | 19. 16 September 1961 |
| 3. Elizabeth                 | 5. Isaiah 7: 14              | 18. The Little Chapel |
| 4. Southern Synod            | 8. Star on the West transept | 17. Nazareth          |
| 6. 4 August 1940             | 10. Welcome                  | 16. Advent            |
| 7. Stable                    | 11. TwentySeven              | 14. gurc.org.uk       |
| 9. Dean Library              | 14. TwentySeven              | 13. Emperor Augustus  |
| 12. The Eagle soared upwards | 16. gurc.org.uk              | 15. Martha            |
| 13. Emperor Augustus         | 17. Nazareth                 | 17. Norway            |

Down

Across

## Answers to Christmas Crossword on page 24

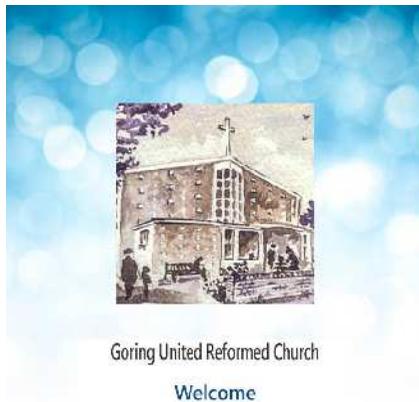


## Answers to Christmas Quiz on page 28

- |                                                      |                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. 1843                                              | 10. Egypt                         |
| 2. 1864                                              | 11. St Stephen                    |
| 3. George VI                                         | 12. Gold, Myrrh, and Frankincense |
| 4. Tom Smith, a 19th-century London sweet shop owner | 13. January 7th                   |
| 5. Robins                                            | 14. England                       |
| 6. The Merry Wives of Windsor                        | 15. Wine                          |
| 7. Hungary                                           | 16. Rudyard Kipling               |
| 8. The Stone of Scone                                |                                   |
| 9. Norway                                            |                                   |

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*Any problems, please speak to Graham Redman 01903 260568*

*You can read more about it on our website <https://gurc.org.uk>*

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## A Christmas Quiz



1. When was the first Christmas card printed?
2. Which year was the first ever organised Christmas Day swim?
3. The first royal Christmas broadcast – which monarch made it?
4. Who invented the Christmas cracker?
5. What birds were popular on UK Christmas cards?
6. Shakespeare wrote a play for Elizabeth I, as a Christmas present. Which one is it?
7. Stephen the 1st founded a country in the year 1000, on Christmas Day. It's ?
8. What did Scottish nationalist students take from Westminster Abbey on 25th December 1950?
9. Which country donates the Christmas Tree in Trafalgar Square?
10. Where did Joseph, Mary, and Jesus travel after leaving Bethlehem?
11. Who is the patron saint celebrated on the 26th of December?
12. What gifts did The Three Wise Men give Jesus on his birthday?
13. When does the Russian Orthodox Church celebrate Christmas?
14. In what country was eggnog invented?
15. What were the children drinking in the first commercially produced Christmas cards by Henry Cole?
16. Who wrote the first ever King's Christmas message?

Answers on page 26

*From biblepuzzles.com*

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**Do you have something to write about for the Spring Chronicle? You have until the first of February 2020 to do so. British Summer Time starts 29 March!**

## Weekday Activities

Journeys with Jesus & Junior Table Tennis Fellowship	Monday Afternoons 2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
Cake, Tea, Coffee and Chat	1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesday Afternoons
Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Group	First Wednesday in Month

## Publications Team

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Please send contributions towards the cost of the Chronicle and mailing to her at -

2 Ardale Close, Worthing, BN11 6HW

*The Chronicle costs approximately £1.50 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 Susie Thomas ( address above ). Thank you.*

The **CHRONICLE**

<https://gurc.org.uk/chronicle>

[chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)



# Goring United Reformed Church

**Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. At the beginning of 2018, a Joint Pastorate was formed with Sompting United Reformed Church with whom we share Ministry.**

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Reformed Association of Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

The churches of Emmanuel in Worthing, Sompting, Goring and Littlehampton are part of the 'Worthing Cluster' and United Reformed Church Southern Synod, whose affairs are governed by General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, New Life Baptist Church and Bury drive Methodist Church.

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



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

<https://gurc.org.uk>