# The CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

# January - April 1988 Volume 45

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

No. 406

JANUARY 1988

# CHRONICLE



# GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

SHAFTESBURY AVENUE . WEST WORTHING

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We produce approximately 500 copies of the CHRONICLE each

month (except for August) at a cost of 18p per copy. This is total annual cost of £990

This magazine is our outreach to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and in this spirit it comes to you free a charge, with love from the Garing United Reformed Church.

(Should you feel inclined to make any contribution to the production costs, it will be received with grateful thanks.)

# From the Vestry

# SPRING IN JANUARY

Elders and Church have decided after earnest prayer consideration to enter the New Year in hope of GROWTH IN THE CHURCH. To this end or beginning, it 1 s hoped to hold a BIBLE SOCIETY "GROWTH DAY" in the Spring. You will at once realise that Growth in the Church will not occur as a result of a special prayer study. The whole question of



what we mean by GROWTH in the CHURCH needs to be considered and acted upon. NOW!

"GROW in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3.18)

Look out in the New Testament for examples of GROWTH and you will find that most of them emphasise:-

GROWING in fellowship with Christ:

GROWING in love for each other:

GROWING in compassion for those who live, or partly live without Christ.

Seldom is the emphasis placed upon growing numerically, but we may expect this as our fellowship with Christ and each other deepens.

How would YOU like to spend Sunday evenings in January and February on this theme or in this way...?

- 6.00pm ....Refreshments in the East Transept during which the theme of the service may be discussed in a spirit of fellowship.
- 6.30pm ....Worship with the theme continued by talk or video.
- 7.15pm .... An Epilogue and Blessing.

Well it's a thought and worth a prayer! ANYTIME is a good time for coming closer together in Christ and for Christ ... and preparation in Winter can make Spring in January.

Every Blessing for the New Year.

William onnelly

# NEWS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

# IN' MEMORIAM

Bertha Alice HULLAND 22.11.1987
"In the heavenly country bright
Need they no created light"

# FOR YOUR PRAYERS

# FOR GROWTH 1988

"And this I pray, that your love may GROW yet more and more in knowledge and all discernment" Philippians 1v9.

All who are ill in hospital....Students returning to college after Christmas...all who suffer stress at work or at home....the Community Centre Church at Durrington .... Ron and Elspeth Christopher

# 

# The Shield of Faith

Rather like a police riot shield, it 18 big enough to protect all of us from head to toe. Unbelief is a missile and 1 t can come 1 n various guises. Fear of failure can cripple our actions. Is God hearing me? HAS he forgotten me? Has it worked? Will it last? We must not have 90% faith and 10% doubt. We have opportunity to believe God. If we know God has do. shown us or told us what we must but our faith is lacking, we need to hold our sheild high and say "Lord Jesus. I don't understand but I love you and I trust you". Say it you believe it and so are able to obey God.

LIZ STILWELL
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Ron and Elspeth Christopher are grateful the many prayers. cards and enquiries concerning Elspeth's fall. The operation her femur has been satisfactory. Her is to get walking again and this is complicated by the Parkinson's condition. Ron thanks those who have been so generous of their time and petrol in conveying him to the hospital and home again.

#### \* \* \* \*

The Editor wishes to thank all who contribute 'The and help with the production of to Chronicle' month by month. He wishes Happy New Year and trusts that more of you will feel able to send in your thoughts. ideas. holiday news and/or anything a little unusual. The stories of God's fulfilment in our lives are always most acceptable and we look 'forward year 1988 with the hope that magazine will reflect more of the work **1**n the GOD BLESS YOU ALL Church. \* \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor.

I remember when, last April, my dear wife died of cancer, how comforted I was by our Minister. He was a stranger to me until 11.00am on that Saturday, but he has been my good friend since then. He stood by my side and said a prayer over my wife's body.

A number of the nursing staff at St. Barnabas Home are members of our church and their support and encouragement and friendship have been of immense help to me. I feel I am not facing life alone. I also have to say that if my wife had not died I doubt I would have met so many delightful people, or come to hear the Word of God in such a wonderful church.

From April to October this year I was privileged to receive Holy Communion as a member of the Church of England in Goring U.R.C. From 1st November I have been privileged to receive it as a member of the Church. It makes no difference to the Elements, but it makes me feel proud that I am a member - it also makes me feel humble.

I am just an ordinary churchgoer - I know any 'quotes' from the Bible or Scriptures (my Wife was 'up' with Scriptures as she had to learn them at school. she told me). I prefer to listen to sermons explaining them to me in simple language. Armistice Sunday I was going to wear my medals. I am glad I did not. I am putting them for good. We remembered the fallen - not campaigns. I never shot at the 'enemy' - well. My 'range' bullets made you don't in RASC. furrows across the fields. I usually got 'strawberries and cream' on the ranges at Sittingbourne and Ponteland. Just as well I was not in the NAVY!

If I can be of service to our church I

will be very pleased, but I do not play any musical instruments and am glad when I have voices louder than mine near me when I am singing hymns in church!

If anyone wants to visit Arundel Wildfowl Trust, I am a member and can take in a guest free of charge. He or she does not have to stay with me, once inside. I can convey them there and bring them back, or meet them there. I usually go two or three times a month for a couple of hours - in daylight. I also have a spare National Trust Ticket - same applies.

Hope I have not bored you - never realised my notes would cover more than three pages!

Sincerely.

LESLIE MONTFORD

(We understand that the Wildfowl Trust is well worth a visit in winter months, when many of the rarer birds are to be seen there. Ed.)

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# 'THE WALKING HAYSTACK'

I would like to thank all who have supported me regarding the recent publication of my book. I have also really appreciated the times when readers' interest has been verbally expressed, perhaps because of nostalgia or a thought to ponder. One reader said "I laughed with you and I cried with you". How human! For all your encouragement, support and responses - Thank you.

# HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS

Correction of Telephone Number:-DEAN Mr. G., 61 Cedar Avenue

65175

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Grant us Wisdom, Grant us Courage, for the facing of this hour" C.P. 563.

Britain today is faced with one of two possibilities, revival or apostacy. Forces of evil

seek now, as never before, to undermine Christ and His Church. Some examples of this are seen in such things as the Islamic Movement, which is now growing as fast as Christianity. It becoming widespread in London and fundamentalists plan to take - first. London. then all of Britain. The occult is spreading an alarming rate and should never at dismissed lightly as 'hocus-pocus'; it is evil and dangerous. Another movement we hear little about, but one that is gaining a stronghold in Britain (and many other countries), is 'The New Age Movement' or 'The Aquarian Conspiracy'. This movement, usually depicted by a rainbow. seeks to embrace all religions, all gods teaches the divinity of man. self-realisation. the power within and many other doctrines.

around this country violence, materialism, alternative lifestyles, all kinds of evils and all kinds of miseries. Why has it happened? What went wrong? The answer is. it is our fault. Primarily it the fault of the churches of this nation. We are ALL to blame. For example, where was church when the 1967 Abortion Act was passed. the 1735 Witchcraft Act repealed in 1951 homosexuality made legal in 1967? Once these things are within the bounds of the the ensuing sin longer individual. is no but becomes corporate.

The Church has been so apathetic - we just sat back and let it all happen. I heard one preacher say, on this very subject - he believes that Britain is worse now than before we ever received the gospel of Christ. Surely

we are living on borrowed time: we are a nation ripe for judgment. We are guilty of the same sins that Menasseh, king of Judah committed, which brought about the destruction of Judah (2 Chron.33 v6 & Jer.7 v9). Three times the prophet Jeremiah was told not to pray for Judah because of the evil Manasseh committed (Jer. 15 v. 4).

God's law is absolute and unchanging. Our country is overflowing with evils. What can we do? There is an answer. It is in 2 Chron.7 v.14 which says 'If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land' - (NIV).

Note, God says 'My People' — that is us believers. God requires a praying people who listen to Him and intercede for the nation "for we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against the spiritual wickedness in High Places" (Eph. 6 v.12). (AV). We need to use the whole armour of God as has been outlined by the Contact Group. We need, as Jesus told us, 'to watch and pray' (Mark 14 v. 32).

ROSEMARY KITTO

(It is difficult to understand the sweeping statements made above - I have taught many Islamic students in my time and have often found them to be more God-fearing than we are. In fact, they worship the same God as we do, save that they call Him Allah and really do pray to Him more often than we do.

Which reminds me: I loaned a copy of the KORAN to a member of the Church some long time ago - can I have it back please? - Ed.)

# WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Please pray for this movement as it enters its second century; that its future may be assured for our daughters and granddaughters; for sisters of the world yet to come; for people praying and acting together in solidarity for world concerns of Justice and Peace.

Services are on Friday 4th March at 3.00pm (at St. Mary's, Goring) and at 8.00 pm (at St. Symphorian's. Durrington)

OPEN



DOORS

Jesus said. "I have opened a door in front of you which no-one can close." Revelation 3 v8.

EILEEN RHODES

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The Storm severely damaged Lomas House and the residents had to be evacuated in the early hours of the morning of Friday. 16th October. Two large chimneys on the east side of the Main House were blown over and through the roof into the bedrooms occupied by the Rev. Phillips and by Miss V. Porritt. Miraculously they escaped unhurt. The telephone was out of action and Miss Haffner, the Warden, braved the elements and flying debris to go out and call the Fire Brigade. All the residents assembled in the dining room and the situation was serious, with water pouring down from burst tanks and pipes, that the wardens and residents were all helped to go next door for safety and shelter - four to Norfolk House and the rest to the Beeches.

A letter from the Secretary of our Missionary Committee offering help has been received with appreciation.

Lomas House is a retirement home for missionaries of our Council for World Mission. When there are vacancies, the home is extended to ministers of the U.R.C. The Management Committee are in need of the help of a retired gentleman who would take an interest in Lomas House from the point of view of keeping an eye on the premises and reporting to the Committee of the need for any major or minor repairs. If there is someone who could give this kind of help please let contact me and I will gladly provide information and answer questions.

RON CHRISTOPHER

# WOMEN'S CONTACT GROUP

'In your majesty ride forth victoriously on behalf of truth, humility and righteousness: let your right hand display awesome deeds!-Psalm 45v4.

We welcome again Mrs. Glen Dean as our first speaker of the New Year on January 7th, as she still has much to share with us. A couple of dates for your diaries: - we will be welcoming Gail Lawther, the Editor of 'Christian Woman' at our meeting on February 4th, so please keep that date free. Also our next evening get-together is planned for February 6th at Jane and Paul Archer's home, with a Kentucky Fried Chicken Take Away providing the sustenance.

Finally, for those of you who had monetary Christmas gifts and were wondering what to buy with it, why not purchase Paul Rush's Tape 'Cry for Justice'. Contact Liz Stilwell or Julie Ward.

LIZ STILWELL

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Happy New Year. We are back on January 12th for the start of another busy year, which will include the examination of 11 of our Young Leaders early in February, fund raising for Brigade Week. Spring Camp at Dorking U.R.C., Summer Camp in Holland and numerous other events and activities yet to be organised.

As I write this - 'the morning after the night before' - our annual display - yert once again I realise how blessed we are. It was such a happy evening and there was a feeling of love everywhere. Thank you for your cards and good wishes to all Officers and girls. Please continue to remember us in your prayers, especially the young officers, Sharon, Alison and by the time you read this, Denise also.

We need their energy, ideas and enthusiasm, but they in turn need to know they have loving and caring and prayerful support from all of us.

God Bless. JEAN WEBB

What a year it has been to be sure! Recalling the highlights (and the low times) I really could almost write a book - don't worry. I won't!!

Throughout the year we have shared all our joys and all our cares with you and we are grateful for the love and support we receive from Our year, as usual, culminated in our display and award-giving on 12th December, an evening of great fun, fellowship and fulfilment. This year though, there was an extra celebration you know and we capped it with a surprise party for our Captain. It was truly the best kept secret of the decade and Jean's face as she saw each of her Special Guests arrive was a joy to behold! the plotting and scheming that A11 Brenda Brunton and I had been doing over the past weeks was hugely successful and we rejoiced!

Now we go forward into a New Year which we hope and pray will bring Health, Happiness and Peace to every one of us. God bless you all.

DOREEN NORRIS

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## BIBLES FOR SIERRA LEONE

We are so grateful to everyone who so generously supported our short-notice appeal for Bibles and Teataments to be sent to the Christian Community in Sierra Leone. At the time of going to press we have filled 14 cartons with books of various sizes and versions totalling, we estimate, over 300 volumes.

Some of Bury Drive Church wish to join in and will be bringing their cartons in in the near future. Transport to the Christian Literature Crusade depot in Hampshire will, thanks to Don Stewart, present no problems.

The Missionary Committee are grateful for the generous response to the envelopes for Bible Sunday. £113-30 has been sent to the Bible Society for the work of the translation, printing, binding and distribution of the Scriptures in the every day language of peoples throughout the world.

RON. CHRISTOPHER

\*
Soon after our return from holiday in August.
Mr. Connelly lent a tape of New Orleans Jazz to someone - he can't remember who! We would be very pleased if this could be returned - we promise not to be mad at you!! Thanks.

CARE CORE GROUP

The date of the next meeting is 6th January at 8.00pm, at 35 Franklin Road. If you would like a lift, please contact me on 47597.

We will be seeing 'The Silent Scream' on loan from the New Life Church.

CHRISTINE BREWER

# REFORM Magazine

After many years enthusiastically ordering and distributing the Reform Magazine, Miss Molly Hawke feels it is time she handed over this work for the Church. The mantle has fallen on me and I will continue in exactly the same way as she has done.

So please, all you subscribers, make yourselves known to me on the first Sunday in the month, when I shall be in the porch before and after both Morning and Evening services and collect your copies.

May I remind you that the subscription for 1988 is now due and will be £4 - no increase on last year. If anyone wishes to learn about what goes in the other U.R.Churches, this is the magazine for you. 10 copies a year for £4! Thank you Mollie for all your work in the and I hope I shall continue this dot in the efficient and cheerful way it has been done bv you.

SHEILA GOODERHAM

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# MINISTRY OF FLOWERS

# Flowers for January

3rd 10th 17th and 31st - FLOWER FUND 24th Mrs Dearsley

# FLOWER FUND

As 1987 draws to a close, I wish to express my grateful thanks for the continued support to the Flower Fund. Sincere thanks for contributions received during December of £50.

# CHRISTMAS

12

A warm 'Thank you' to all who assisted in any way to make the Church "SPECIAL" for birthday of Jesus. I would not have been to carry on with the ministry of flowers without the unstinting help of Jean Hillis and Carol Webber, especially since the death of Nora Groves. I am delighted to welcome new helpers. Rosemary Evans. Doris Lyons and. in the Year, Jane Bond. The Lord has answered my many prayers.

God bless you and Season's Greetings to all.

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# BOYS' BRIGADE

The Officers and Boys of the Company wish you all a very Happy and Blessed New Year. We are still struggling on but we look to the future and we are sure, with your prayers and indeed with God's help, some good will emerge.

It is really good to see the lively number of Anchor Boys coming along under the leadership of Eileen Rhodes. Because quite a few of you now belong to our Copper Club our Mission giving has improved considerably. We were able to send to the Brigade/Christian Aid appeal and it seems we were the first Company in the Country reach our target. £20 went to the Juniors World Mission Project to help equip a school in Zambia. £15 went to our own Church Mission fund and a further amount went to the Ethiopian Appeal. We will obviously continue with our Copper Club and hope it will prove even more sucessful in the New Year. As a way of thanking recent B.B. you for your support in our Week THANK effort, we will be holding a YOU COFFEE MORNING (That is not even a fund raising effort) at 10 am., on Saturday 10th January.

Several people have mentioned that at Coffee Mornings they have a great opportunity to have a chat with friends they normally rush past on a busy Sunday morning. Do please try to come along and as a further incentive you can have a cup of coffee with our compliments. We are hoping to repeat the performance during the coming months and invite other Church organisations to join with us.

DONALD STEWART

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### WOMEN'S GUILD

On Tuesday 17th November, we were entertained by the Goring Townswomen's Guild who presented the play "Crime at the Cedars".

The excellent cast made the most of the characters they were called upon to play. The

mounting tension surrounding the central character, a woman whose unrequited love for the husband of the owner of the Cedars, led to false accusations against an innocent woman and eventually attempted murder, was well sustained.

It was an enjoyable afternoon and the play was much appreciated by all present.

VERA BRISCOE

# \* \* \* \* \*

December 1st was the occasion of our Christmas Party. During the afternoon we played Beetle. We thanked Dulcie Jenkins for organising the games and Betty Ashburner for arranging the tea we all enjoyed afterwards.

Other ladies are welcome to join with us as we commence the Spring Session on Tuesday January 5th at 2.45pm., when we entertain ourselves. The second meeting on January 19th entitled 'The Flying Angel', will be addressed by the Rev. Hugh Ford.

BERYL STUTTER

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# GORBACHEV, GLASNOST and the Gospel

Something that affects us all is happening in Eastern Europe.

The Communist takeover of what is now the Soviet bloc was accompanied by the announced intention of making religion in general and Christianity in particular, a thing of the past. The Church experienced extreme pressure, including persecution and martyrdom. Later, national and local leadership allowed the Church fluctuating measures of freedom. In many communist countries Christians are now encouraged to help with social needs e.g. drug addiction.

GLASNOST is having a positive effect and in the past year EUROVANGELISM has been involved in . Poland with Luis Palau's first-ever ministry in Eastern Europe. Hundreds openly committed themselves to Christ.

Authorisation was obtained for the publication of more Christian literature (including Scriptures) than ever before.

Problems and pressures remain. Some believers are still imprisoned for their faith. Church activities are sometimes controlled. But in the next year. EUROVANGELISM expects more opportunities than it has had in 25 years of working with Christian believers in Eastern Europe.

If you would like more information about EUROVANGELISM'S work, let me know.

# CLOTHING FOR UGANDA

Readers will remember that in July we organised a collection of clothing. linen. etc.. be sent to the needy in Uganda. Your response Was tremendous, both in goods and donations We elated.... until we learned that Ugandan citizen who had undertaken to arrange Kampala had unable air transport to been fulfil this commitment. A Ugandan Bishop. who was visiting London, advised us to contact Christian organisation Mission Supplies who agreed to arrange carriage by sea and land. The goods are now on their way but we have meet the cost - £498.

We felt justified in using the money raised the Cream Tea and from donations. but we were still £209 short. A member of the committee has us this balance and with lent we propose humility, to ask you to help us repay this debt. Immediately before and after Christmas. there are many calls on your charity. so. with agreement of our member, we are planning to make an appeal in February 1988. We hope and pray will that уou respond with usual your generosity.

WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE SIDNEY HIDER

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1) To subscribe to "Evangelism today" (25p monthly) to become be ter informed about the Lord's work at home and abroad.

(Please See Phyllis Wheeler)

2) To attend our Church's monthly Missionary Prayer Meeting on the last Wednesday of each month in the Harris Room, 10.00h-11.00h. All are welcome.

### LONDON LETTER

Many months have passed since I last wrote -many months of hard toil - and the job does not get any easier! We now have over 85% Bangladeshi pupils, 10% from other parts of the world and 5% from UK. Teaching is badly hampered by the language problem. There are a couple of Bengali teachers who help in mother-tongue teaching with groups of children, but this only treats the "tip of the iceberg".

Many children learn remarkably quickly and those good parental encouragement do Unfortunately there are not a large number of happily settled families. Many are homeless live in temporary accomodation. B&B in poor rooms. crowded and dingy conditions. homes or Others come from broken one-parent families of dubious moral and legal backgrounds. The Argyle Square play area worker has not develop the able to Square play facilities because of the risk to children from drunks groups of skinheads.

Violence in the form of street fightings. muggings and beatings is now increasing. Many of the fights appear to be drink related. homes are being broken into during daylight hours and women are again being approached in the street.

Racist literature printed by National Front or similar racist organisations is being distributed throughout the area. Unrest and unhappiness surround us. This is reflected in the children's behaviour and relationships, both inside and outside school. However, we keep on trying for improvement!

A couple of years ago, a class of children did a project on a derelict plot on Argyle Street, which was being used as a car park and rubbish tip. Following this project, a committee was formed of interested people, who have worked and fought for use of the land. This year has seen a transformation of the site. Camden Council has paid for the basic clearing, turfing and fencing while planting and maintenance work is being done by the children and adult volunteers.

the local community are to Members of through contact encouraged to use the garden with the school and to be key-holders and a rota of opening hours from April onwards. will provide a greater measure of safety and security for families with young children. The London Electricity Board and L.B.C. Radio have sponsored awards for "Brightening Up London". to 100 years of electricity in celebrate Capital and to recognise, encourage and those people, companies or groups who worked to make London a better place in which to live and work.

There were five categories:

Architecture and Environment:

Commerce:

Community Service;

Transport:

Sport and Leisure.

Over 3000 nominations were made and from these 800 final entries were received. The Argyle Community Children's Garden won the Community Service category and three of us went to the Savoy Hotel on December 8th to be presented with our trophy and a cheque for £1000 by the Duke of

Gloucester. We then discovered we had also been chosen as the overall winners!

Glamour and euphoria are not long lasting. More hard work awaits us. but we are encouraged! prize money will be spent on play equipment. Further funds to be raised will make a corner, flower beds and a mural. Frank Dobson. our local M.P., and the Mayor of Camden each planted a tree. We have also planted daffodils in memory of the people killed in Kings Cross Underground tragedy. Whenever I get outside with a children's working party. we make a little more flower bed and plant few more daffodils and hope for a brighter, better and happier Spring in Kings Cross.

A Happy New Year to you all. Love from

MARY CONNELLY

# A VACATION IN THE 'THIRD WORLD' (Pt. 3)

Last month we left you while preparing to dourney on to the Victoria Falls. We arrived there at 11.30 a.m. and were greeted at the Victoria Falls Hotel entrance рy a flamboyant character in a brown uniform, which was from cap to boot with badges given by visitors from all over the world. When Barbara saw him she promised to bring him a badge from Sunny Worthing, if and when the next time arose. This cheerful doorman took us inside while 'flunkies' carried our luggage into the hallway. We got the feeling that we were still in the time of the early explorers and were welcome.

This imposing hotel made a great impression upon us both - it being one of the best hotels in Zimbabwe and holding a high reputation for its class, service and social activities. However it did not live up to its reputation for once - we had arrived; things usually happen to us that shouldn't happen to anyone! On our first night Barbara went to bed early, having a touch

of tummy trouble and wanting an early night. Eric while preparing for bed found that, on turning back the bedclothes, the bed had been slept in and not made up afresh!

Eric called for the night Manager! He completely and utterly embarrassed and could not apologise enough, but he cracked . vitriolic tongue on the subservients and happened fast. We were moved into a similar bedroom across the corridor which. seemed identical, and we settled down for the night fresh beds, having left most of our belongings in the original room. The Manager promised that he would transfer our luggage and belongings into the new room first thing in the morning. Unfortunately, Barbara's 'tummy bug' made her a little antisocial and she was not best pleased at having to be transferred having settled down for the night, but eventually she was resettled in comfort.

Our first impressions of the Falls still remain with us and will do for a long time. perhaps for ever. As we approached the cascade from the Hotel, through the trees, we could hear pounding. rushing. (or thundering is the only word) and we could the spray on our faces for at least half a before arriving to face the water. As we emerged from the trees, a breathtaking sight was before Even though the water flow was so low. prolonged drought. there Was enough coming over the rocks and down the Devil's Cataract, to create a beautiful sight. We were informed that the Falls are over a mile in width from Zimbabwe to Zambia and about 300ft vertical drop.

The Gorge is quite narrow and a pathway has been trodden parallel to the Falls, through the rain forest. This was first trodden by David Livingstone on his arrival there in the late 1800s. He was the first white man to behold this wonderful torrent and when he came upon it in his dugout cance, manned by natives, the water

was at a much higher level than it was on our first visit. There was a very fitting statue the Explorer/Missionary at the nearest end the Falls and just alongside this monument there rather steep fall towards the abyss. We descended the steep stairway which wet and slimey, to find at the bottom there a wonderful view of the length of the Also, a beautiful rainbow curved across descending waters in the afternoon sunlight. Eric considered that this was worth at least reel of film and took many pictures of the cascades that were in the rainbow range. It a thrilling experience.

The soul was uplifted by the sheer beauty, the light and dark and the wetness which all made for an experience never to be forgotten.

Harold later showed us a photograph himself taken in 1941 (on his 18th birthday) showing him about 20 feet down the face of falls on a small island known as Livingstone Island, where he had just lost his pith and his foothold. He saved himself from 300ft jump by grabbing were some bushes that firmly established at the spot! He eventually got back to the top and returned by the dugout cance, which the natives used as a regular ferry in those far off days! Needless to say were abandoned a long time ago, after too had paddled straight over the top. (He never got his helmet back!)

Along the pathways from the Hotel to the Falls were small groups of native artists were carving animals out of wood and various indigenous stones. They varied from the crude to the most artistic carvings and were offered to the tourist at similar prices! One had to be quite firm with them they pressed their as products on to the visitor. We made purchases which we will treasure in our home for the of our lives.

(to be continued)

ERIC & BARBARA POPPLESTONE

NO. 407

FEBRUARY 1988

# CHRONICLE



# GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

SHAFTESBURY AVENUE . WEST WORTHING

# From the Vestry

# HOW LONG HALT YE BETWEEN TWO OPINIONS?

leaders Christian are calling upon Christians of all denominations to niot together for a NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND REPENTANCE to 5th on Saturday, be held March. 1988. Now there 18 nothing new about this. The history of nation our reveals. for example time of war, occasions upon which the whole nation summoned to make solemn act of repentance and faith in face of national crisis. Similarly.



services of thanksgiving for the ending of the second world war were held in Worthing on 13th May, 1945 and a glance at the Orders of Service indicates the deep sense of gratitude to God that conflict ended. danger over. the people rejoiced ... and in Hope!

Those days will seem far from us now and with the increasing isolation of the Church from National affairs, the whole idea of a National Day of Prayer will appear to some as irrelevant. Maybe we need to probe a little more deeply into this concern using the Bible as scalpel. It may hurt but it will heal.

Most of us will know the events in the life Israel which led to Elijah's celebrated Of question to the people on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18:21). The people were divided under the rule of King Ahab. who had repudiated the faith nation had through which the been born. infidelity. unbelief were Apostacy. rampant "How among the people. With the question long between two opinions?" the halt ye prophet

challenges King and Nation to decide between God and the false god Baal and his prophets. We know what followed. God vindicated Himself with fire. That however is not the end of the The days and years and centuries which followed have continually demanded. рх God's Word and Spirit, that Christians accept challenges of their own age. The conflict and FALSEHOOD goes on. TRUTH resolved only in the victory of CHRIST care and death: a victory into which we through repentance and faith are called to enter.

Does this sound too dramatic or disturbing of our 20th Century sensitivities? It may then be a help to know that the prophet Elijah was called a troubler of Israel ... and by the King too!

Join with us then in prayer on this The recent Prayer Vigil in which more people than ever before took part. should serve to Vestry. encourage us. And from the let the message of Peace. Truth and Love be offered 1 n Christ, for you, your children, our Nation and for the whole world ....there you have mУ opinion.

With Christian Love to you all.

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Congratulations to our Durrington Community Church friends who have now held their first and largely attended church meeting. Your Ministers, the Rev V. Chapman and myself were greatly encouraged by the attendance and happy and hopeful spirit of the meeting. God bless you all and may 1988 be another year of Growth in Christ and fellowship together.

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#### NEWS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

BAPTISM

Stevie HANNON

22.11.1987

MARRIAGE

Christine Enid Adams to James Mark PERRY

19.11.1987

IN MEMORIAM

Kathleen Joyce YORKE 24.11.1987

"In the heavenly country bright Need they no created light"

# THE FAMILY

How good to know that Mr. & Mrs. R. Turtonhad such a good Christmas at Westholme: and to rejoice that they, with other friends, are now over the worst of the storm damage suffered bУ E. many. Mrg. Edmonds 18 1 n Southlands Hospital following a fall and she is brave and cheerful as always. Mrs. Elspeth Christopher 18 now in Ravenswood Nursing Home on Winchester Road, Mrs. Molly Hooker is still in Worthing Hospital and we are glad that progress is being made. Louise Thompson, one of our young and of the musicians group, has entered hospital for a period of treatment, and Miss Liz Dyer has removed into a beautiful ground-floor flat happily settled down (see Handbook amendments). To all friends, wherever vou are. we send love and blessings and remembrance 1 n our prayers.

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# CALL TO BATTLE

I write again to support Rosemary's letter in last month's Chronicle. We are certainly nation ripe for Judgement. We need to come before the Lord as Christians a body of and repent. 3

Christian leaders are calling upon Christians to join together for a National Day of Prayer and Repentance on Saturday, 5th March, 1988. The call is to prayer and fasting, with a particular emphasis on our repenting before the Lord for the state of our Nation, calling upon Him to forgive us and to give us afresh the power of his Holy Spirit, that we may proclaim the Word of God with power and authority within the nation.

We also need to pray for those in authority. The conversion of men and women in a nation and the health of that society is linked to intercessory prayer for those in authority. In 1 Timothy 2:1-4 Paul urges that 'entreaties, prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority'.

Thirdly, we need to be active as Christians in opposing or supporting Bills which are going through Parliament, which we know are for the good or bad of the nation according to God's laws. In order to do this, we must be aware of is happening in Parliament. CARE 18 actively trying to encourage all Christians to be more aware of what is happening in society and 1n government. through quarterly CARE NEWS. I do recommend that you get on their mailing list. Prophecy Today is also very good. If you would like to receive a CODY of CARE NEWS each quarter, please contact me on W. 47597.

(If you feel strongly about influencing society by political action, why not join a political party and do the job much more effectively. All political parties would welcome good Christians with strong ideals, if they are serious! - Ed)

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# GRANT US WISDOM, GRANT US COURAGE

May I add one or two comments to Rosemary's article about her fears in the January Chronicle?

Is it really OUR fault, are we really to blame? I would rather blame the evil powers who are always ready to snatch opportunities.

I know that there are many very committed and conscientious Christians involved in the changes in our laws. A change in civil law 'per se' does not necessarily make individuals responsible for corporate sin. We should not confuse secular or civil law with moral law. Since when have Christians lived by civil law alone? "Render unto Caesar ...."

Let us remember that the Old Testament has an historical setting as well as age-old truths. but since it was written we have had Jesus' new covenant of love, we have hope and faith in the eternal majesty and love of God. (Despair and unjustified self-condemnation can also be instruments of the devil, sowing fear, pessimism and doubt). No individual human can see Divine whole. How right that the article should end with words of St. Paul to the Ephesians and Jesus' command to "watch and pray". But if anyone wants to do something more practical feel involved in the fight, let them WRITE too to our M.P. to the Press. to the Viewers Listeners Association and let the Christian message be heard!

Finally, let us all keep the New Year resolution with which we were charged by our Duty Elder on the first Sunday of the Year also words of St. Paul (Philippians 4 v. 8) "Whatsover things are true... honest..., just..., pure..., lovely..., and of good report; if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, think on these things."

JANE BOND

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# CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIMS

"God has given us eternal life, and this life has its source in His Son. Whoever has The Son has this life: whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life". (1 John 5:11.12) If we believe in the Son of God. Jesus Christ. then we are Christians and we have eternal life. Those who follow the Islam religion do not believe Jesus Christ as the Son of God - for in their holy shrine in Jerusalem - the Dome of the Rock -it is written "there is only one God and He has no son". Let us therefore not be confused in our thinking, as Christians we do not worship the same God as the Muslims. Their religion is one of fear and obligation - they pray and fast because they have to. But the Christian religion is one of sacrificial love and freedom.

Dear Editor.

Your remark, in last month's magazine, that your Islamic students were more God-fearing than many Christians, persuades me to write and support you! Islamic teachers in my school often brought their prayer mats into my room in order to find quiet and peace for their devotions. These girls were gracious and mannerly: - their families were controlled and hard-working.

Many of your readers will quote Jesus as saying "No man cometh to the Father but by me". I quote, in reply, "In my Father's house are many mansions". "Judge not lest ye be judged". "We know in part ".

If we had been brought up in a Muslim family, we should be devout in that faith We are privileged to know something of God through Jesus - but let us not despise the searching of others.

FAY BLAKEY
\*

# On: THE FACING OF THIS HOUR (Chron. Jan. 88)

Consider Matthew 13 v. 36-43: Jesus explains the parable of the weeds.

Jesus was fully aware of the kind of world into which He had come. It was He who told that we must look out for the evidence of abroad in the world: and that at the time of the harvest the weeds would be separated grain and be thrown into the fiery furnace. v.31-44. Consider Matthew 25 The final judgement. The Son of Man will separate the sheep from the goats.

When the Son of Man comes in Judgement wemaybe surprised at the choice He makes. do not know about anyone else's fate at that time. we have only to be concerned for our own salvation, which Christ has prepared for us. we know whether Mr.X or Mrs. X is a visitor. teacher, or any other sort of worker for the Lord? No, the yeast that is working the the bread is invisible and the Son of Man sees and knows many whom we do not.

To be concerned for our own salvation not as selfish as at first it might seem: - for. if we are persuing a way of life, the pattern of which has been set by Jesus Christ Himself. We doing encompass with in so and compassion, as He did, all those with whom come in daily contact. Then decide. let them each one for themself, whether they wish follow too.

Consider: that we are called to watch and pray.

Some of us are called into contact with many and diverse folk - across the counter. on the telephone. at home. abroad. in the board-room. in the court-house, in other people's homes. Some of us may be called into ministry or to far away places in the Missionary capacity. Wherever our corner may and however big or small, our light has to shine constantly and as brightly as our faith

allow. (We should constantly be seeking ways increase our faith) because JESUS DIED FOR US. Consider: Jesus died on a cross, to save us from our sins. He died to save me and уou and butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker. died to save the Hindu, the Muslim the the Jew, the Jehovah's Witness etc. etc. He died save as many as would come to Him to be forgiven. He died to remove their guilt ours. It was HE who took the guilt of the world upon His shoulders. it was HE who battled with satan in the wilderness, so that we could FREE, free to shine with His love in ourt lives. to be an example to those whom we meet. The buck Α Christian be there. cannot conscience of another human-being nor of make a Christian out another human Only Christ can do that. Fault only lies with us if we let our light be blown out.

Does this sound too simple? Is it all too easy? Read again Matthew 11 v.28-30, and take up again the Yoke of the Lord. Listen to Him again and He will tell you where and when He wants you to work and He will tell you over and over again that He will be with you and give you His strength.

HILARY REDMAN

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# From OLD FRIENDS IN BIRCHINGTON, KENT:

It is always a joy to receive news hear of their friends at Christmas and to activities in their churches. Those of You remember Bill and Eileen Searle will recall active they were in the Men's and Women's meetings and the happy and sometimes hilarious times we had when preparing for Christmas Easter meetings. I cannot recall those days without remembering Reg Goodchild who was so much part of our fellowship. The following is an extract from Eileen's Christmas letter:

"It is now five years since we left Goring.

How time flies! Our church here seems to be growing every week. There thirty were members when we came and only this welcomed Sunday WA nine new members and we are now one hundred. The Sunday school has more than trebled in number. I don't know where all the children come from they are all welcome. Every Sunday they come into church and sing two of their songs and all the people love it. It seems so nice that are part of the service. When уou churches closing. it's good to know one that's growing. I understand we have asked other United Reformed Churches if they had any books to spare and we have managed to have copies given to us.

A church within our district caught fire and all their books were lost. 80 we held coffee morning and sales table and managed collect £350 to send to them. Not bad for and a half hour's work was it for small а church !? Please remember us to all at Goring,

EILEEN & BILL \*\*

What a wonderful example of Christian love. between churches! ETHEL DEARSLEY

\* \* \* \*

How impressed I was to read the article written by Leslie Montford in the January of the Chronicle, as I had a similar experience eight years ago when I lost mУ second realised I was alone. I became Minister depressed but our came to comforted me and gave great encouragement carry on. I, as an ordinary churchgoer, was made a member of our wonderful church six years when I promised to serve the church and this I will most certainly do. If for any reason I prevented from attending Sunday morning Service the week that follows does not seem the same. Yes Mr. Montford, Mr. Connelly is very friend always willing to give a helping hand.

# HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS:

5 \* Mrs. A.R. Hopkins, Holcombe Hotel, 92 Heene Road, Northing. 200916 15a \* Miss J. Dyer (Liz) 1 Arun Lodge, Arun Close, Durrington. 693256

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## GIRLS' BRIGADE

By now I trust you all have new diaries? Please make a note and come and join us on Tuesday. 9th February, when we are holding an Open Evening as part of our Brigade Week effort. The evening will commence at 6.30 p.m. with a talk by Kemp, a blind lady, who will also have with guide dog. Susie. After the talk question and refreshments will served he and collection taken for Guide Dogs for the Blind. We still have a long way to go to our £1000 the cost of training a guide dog and your support on 9th February would mean a great deal to all of us. Please keep used stamps and foil coming our way. The money from the sale of these **a**11 goes towards our dog. Our Young Leaders are now in the final stages of their training and take their tests on lst March. Please do remember them in your prayers. Do take care, all of you, during the winter months. bulbs are now well up so Spring cannot be too far off.

Blessings.

JEAN WEBB

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# STRANGE THINGS DO HAPPEN!

I thought you might like to know about some of the strange things that have happened during the past year at our church.

Strange vibrating noises emerging from the grand piano were caused by several Mothaks being placed in various parts of the mechanism.

A severe sewerage blockage inside an inspection

chamber was caused by someone jamming two broomsticks into the main outlet!

A choir member complained about water leaking. the outside choir vestry investigating the flat roof above the vestry. 1t was found that the drain outlet was blocked. clearing the blockage A flood of about gallons of water cascaded down the church drive. Because some folk neglect to empty the kettles after use. a considerable amount of accumulates at the bottom of the kettles. On the last occasion when the lime scale was physically removed from three kettles we had nearly pounds of material!

Someone had their wallet stolen from the main hall on a Sunday nearly two The vears ago. wallet was recently found. stuffed inside the cistern the gent's cloakroom! in The driving licence in wallet still the had the readable name and address of the owner.

Whilst connecting up the outside decorative lights just before Christmas someone came into the church during the lunch break and stole the extension lead.

It was not only a fairy on top of the church Christmas tree recently - someone managed to reach high up to the top of the tree and remove the special flasher unit for the lights.

Being rather conscious of the cost of heating the church we observed how many folk neglected to close doors after them and so cause loss of valuable heat. It was noted that it was not always the children that were the culprits!

During the summer months someone probably living near the church and knowing that their dustmen are not too keen in removing sacks of garden the rubbish from their residence. deposited dustbins. The etc.. into the church accumulation of rubbish had to be carted away to the council tip on several occasions. The have often noticed people living the near front pushing wheelbarrows loaded with rubbish and dumping the contents by the litter bins at the side of the road.

To end on a more joyful note - several people in the Grand Avenue area have recently seen and heard a nightingale (robin?) singing away merrily very late at night. On the night we visited the area we heard the bird concerned and also two barn owls flying over the road.

MEMBER OF FABRIC COMMITTEE \*

# AN ANCHOR BOY

A shining face, hair neatly combed, Clean shoes, grey socks and trousers smart. Red jumper being worn with pride, A sight to warm the coldest heart. An Anchor Boy.

A grubby face and knees to match, Tatty old tgrainers, worn-out jeans, Red jumper worn with extra pride 'Cos Mum and Dad have little means. Ah Anchor Boy.

Attentive, never answers back, Always on time and always there, Doing all the things he should, Even closing eyes at prayer. An Anchor Boy.

A chatterbox on mischief bent. A handful who upsets routine And when, at last, he goes off home A calmness falls upon the scene. An Anchor Boy.

All shapes, all sizes, all backgrounds, All different in the things they do And say, and think, but each one needs The help and love of me and you. Our Anchor Boys.

(source unknown)

#### LONELINESS

Loneliness is one of the most debilitating and devastating dis-eases, experienced I suppose everywhere. Since coming south to live, however, it would appear to be of endemic proportions. There are times, may be many of them, when we do not feel as if we are in relationship either with Christ, or with other people, when, for one reason or another, we feel totally and utterly alone. Let me paint some pictures of loneliness-

- 1. There is the loneliness associated with bereavement when someone precious and close to you is no longer there. That loneliness expresses itself in grief, numbness, bewilderment. There are a whole range of emotions that of being left alone without intimate relationship because of suffering experienced by the loved one because of the unexpectedness of it perhaps wrong relationships never put right. It is a physical loneliness with many emotional expressions as well.
- There is that devastating loneliness even when surrounded by people. In a crowd, can feel very much on your own. Everyone else 18 with someone but you feel left out. Even when, to all intents and purposes you are part of crowd, even may be the life and soul of party, but deep down, you FEEL alone. Or, again, may be you really are alone. living situation which enforces that isolation on you. You wonder when anyone will contact, write telephone, or invite you out. Maybe you have even chosen that aloneness. but not the loneliness it produces. We can look at these pictures in a different way, for behind each of them are expressions of physical, emotional spirirtual loneliness. Physical loneliness is felt most deeply by those who live alone. is no one to talk to and to share with sickness and problems arise. Is it worth cooking a meal just for one? etc. Emotional loneliness afflicts everyone from time to time. There is so

much we want and need to talk about and share with another, but cannot bring ourselves to do so. People do not seem to have the Or inclination to understand. We feel hemmed with a great wealth of feeling struggling to get out - a desire to share things at a deep not just superficialities. There is the need be understood. There is the need to love and not be misunderstood in that, as well as the need to BE loved and FEEL loved. Spiritual loneliness is greatest when we lose the awareness of presence. There is a great empty hole at centre of our being and there seems meaning or purpose in life.

The answer to all these types of loneliness lies in GOD. How can we work through this desperation and come again into the fulness of relationships and wholeness which God intends for us? I would suggest four things we need to do.

- 1. Experience His loneliness. Read Matthew 26 vv. 36-46 and Ch. 27 v. 25-50 the story Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane before his arrest, and then the Crucifixion. We never experienced real loneliness loneliness in those terms. Jesus WAS at the greatest point of need as he prayed Garden, but even his closest friends could keep awake to support him. He was without fellowship. Then, on the Cross, he was much more significantly separated from his Heavenly Father - "My God. my God. why hast Thou forsaken That is total and utter loneliness to have never been subjected. Jesus understands how we feel. It is important that we enter into some of what he felt as he died for us. We shall never be as lonely as he was.
- 2. Allow Him to fill the hole inside. We must trust Him with our deepest thoughts, feelings and needs.
- 3. Let Him take away our fear of being alone. If we allow Jesus to fill that hole inside us. we need not fear to be alone with Him. In fact.

we must seek out such times. Aloneness is not the same as loneliness. Jesus sought solitude many times to be alone in pray with his Father.

4. Let Him give us people. We are not made to live alone and we need people to share our lives as Jesus had his disciples. Let God open us up to people, at church - as neighbours - in our families - to others who also badly need such fellowship - perhaps through the telephone, a letter, or by a visit, and thus help to free others from THEIR lonely prisons. From Good News Bible: God has said "I will never leave you. I will never abandon you" (Hebrews 13 v. 6). Even if I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, Lord, for you are with me. (Psalm 23 v.4).

ELLA G. ROBERTSON

# BOOK THIS DATE!

# SATURDAY, 26TH MARCH

A Bible Society Church Growth Day will be held for ALL who attend our Church. Friends from the Durrington Centre Church will also be invited. We promise such a fascinating and exciting day that those who don't come will wish they had!!

#### YOUR CHURCH'S LIFE IS AT STAKE

Further details will be broadcast regularly and frequently. Our first action plan is to call a meeting of one representative of every organisation connected with the church EARLY IN FEBRUARY.

PLEASE BE PREPARED BOOK THAT DATE

# 

Not a lot, as Paul Daniels might say, but nevertheless our 'Thank You' Coffee Morning in January went off very well. Perhaps our offer of a free cup of coffee frightened some people away. From those who did attend it would seem that a few more Coffee Mornings would help us to get together more and perhaps discuss our ideas and even our complaints.

Quite a few people these days are not very happy about our lines of communication 1n the church. Perhaps we interpret Matthew 6 v.3 incorrectly. The next Coffee Morning be at 10 a.m. on Saturday 20th February and it will have the title 'Together'. The title speaking for itself as the invitation still stands for other church organisations to participate in whichever way they choose.

Our 'Copper Club' is flourishing and it has been very gratifying to receive amounts both great and small from members of the congregation and the Junior Church. Imagine the amount could raise if we all just put away a penny a day throughout the year. Mind you, instead of large dar I could bring along a wheelbarrow 1 f we all gave according to the many blessings we receive. The Junior section boys have been fascinated in their growing of hyacinth bulbs in water containers and also the colouring of their miniature stained glass windows. The Company section boys' interests vary from one week to ball. another. at the moment 1t 18 volley Several of the boys have expressed interest in doing more camping this I year. 80 hope the response for the summer camp at Glynde will be good.

We have recently acquired an allotment which at the moment seems to be nothing other than flints and weeds but I am sure that by the time that summer comes we will have some interesting results.

DONALD STEWART

# MINISTRY OF FLOWERS Flowers for February

7th: Rev. & Mrs. Connelly

14th:Girls' Brigade 21st: Mrs. Ayling

28th: Mr. & Mrs. Young

## Flower Fund

Sincere thanks for £10 received in Dec/Jan.

# Christmas Decorations

A very warm thankyou to Frazer Finlay and Ron Jordan for taking down the decorations.

DOROTHY TURNER

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### CLOTHING FOR UGANDA

Good news from Mission Supplies. that at last the cartons of clothing are on the WAV from Mombasa to Kampala. They should arrive at Mango Hospital about 10th Jan. Apparently the delay was caused by problems with another shipment that had been put in the same container.

Mr. Farndale will notify us immediately he has further news. WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE

JEAN HILLIS

# \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### WOMENS GUILD

On Tuesday 5th Jan., we entertained ourselves as various members related anecdotes connected with family life. Some were funny, some were tinged with sadness - all were interesting.

Holcombe Hotel, Heene Road.

Many thanks to the Anchor Boys for the bulbs I received at Christmas, especially 'Michael' whose effort and care is resulting in flowers. Also to the Church for the gift of a lovely

plant. A. R. HOPKINS
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The donations and cash from boxes and phials amounted to £513.46 for the year 1987; this sum being just over £200 up on 1986! May we extend grateful thanks to all members and friends of the church who gave so regularly; do please keep up saving and donating. Thank you.

MARY LUCKIN

"RUSSIAN LEADER, Mikhail Gorbachev's words, "May God help us", gravely spoken at the end of his first speech in America, took many listeners by surprise. It was an unexpected phrase from the leader of an atheistic state.

Mr. Gorbachev's upbringing was not unbelieving one. Born in a North Caucacus village. he was baptised into the Russian Orthodox faith and his mother. who still lives there. attends the church with unfailing regularlity.

"Each Eastertide, when her famous son goes home to celebrate his Birthday, she makes the traditional Russian Easter Cake, adorned with the letters XB, which mean 'Christ is Risen'.

"That Mr. Gorbachev should speak God's name so openly may be symptomatic of a slight but perceptible thaw in the Soviet attitude to religion."

(from THE CHRISTIAN HERALD)

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Remember in your prayers Rev. Beryl Chatfield. who is ministering to the Churches of Streatham Hill and Stockwell Green. In her Newsletter, she tells of the search she has been having for suitable premises in Stockwell she rejoices that they have found some albeit needing a lot of conversion and adaptation. She it will be a day of celebration and thanksgiving when they move in. We hope it will not be long.

\*

# A VACATION IN THE 'THIRD WORLD' (Pt. 4)

The three hundred mile journey from Victoria Falls to Bulawayo was fairly uneventful. Eric drove most of the way having recovered from "the bug" enough to help with the driving. The road was long and straight with very little traffic. In fact we counted less than twenty vehicles during the whole trip.

However, about fifty miles north of Bulawayo we were flagged down by two armwaving motorists who seemed to be in trouble. They had two off their car and the tyres on them appeared be beyond repair. in fact there was hardly anv tyre to speak of. One of them asked if we could take them and their wheels into Bulawayo. Having decided that this was not on. we had not 88 enough room in the car for them nor their wheels. we explained to them that we had just overtaken an army truck which was about half a mile behind us.

Feeling a little uncomfortable at not being too helpful to the natives we pressed on with our fourney. On arriving at our destination. our nephew emphasised the wisdom of our decision to continue without offering further help. The particular strip of road where we had accosted was in the area where six years party of English travellers were intercepted and seen again. You may remember were never the horrific reports in the British press when the remains of these Europeans were discovered in shallow graves.

Although the stories that reach us from Zimbabwe telling of massacres and murders are horrendous, in actual fact there is relatively little crime in that country as we know it Rapings and murders without reason arè almost unheard of, as are muggings and vandalism. It seems that only bad news travels abroad! quite remarkable to note the beautifully clean width wide streets in this city. The of streets was ordered by Cecil Rhodes when he insisted that they should be wide enough to allow teams of oxen with their carts to be turned around - a team of sixteen head! The spaciousness and the light coloured buildings give a very lovely impression as one enters the City.

Eric's niece. Margaret welcomed us wonderful hospitality and phoned Roger immediately to ask him to bring home some medicine for Barbara's poorly 'tum'. She still in a bad way and was very glad to have arrived without disaster! The home to which had come was a large bungalow with lovely. home-made drapes, beautiful furniture and an of quietness and calm which is difficult to find in our country. The only sound that disturbed was that of the guard dogs padding around a t night as they patrolled the garden. because Bulawayo is in the middle of bush country and very occasionally young terrorists come the residential areas to cause trouble. They dealt with in no uncertain manner!

Several evenings we were taken out to dine. "The Golden Spur" was a fascinating steak house where the decor was after the "Western" style and the food was equally impressive. We all ordered steaks and Barbara kept to a ladies portion (by this time feeling better) while Eric had a rump steak, which was described as 'a man-sized, naturally matured slab of meat'. Roger, however, had a T.bone steak ('Two steaks in one, tender fillet and tasty sirloin' which flopped over each end of his steak dish. We all gasped at the size of this - but he was the first to finish! Amazingly, the steaks were of very high quality, although the dried up grass that the cattle survive on, leaves one asking how the milk beef can be so fullsome and good. However, when washed down with 'Hooligan juice' this marvellous!

Well, space is running out and there is so much to tell. Perhaps there will be room for some more about Bulawayo next month.

ERIC & BARBARA POPPLESTONE

# CHRONICLE



# GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

SHAFTESBURY AVENUE . WEST WORTHING-

# FROM THE VESTRY

## EASTER IS EARLY

LORD OF THE FROST-RIMMED EARTH AND SNOW CLAD MORNING, SHOW US, BEYOND OUR DEARTH A GLORIOUS DAWNING! WHEN HE - SPRING'S LORD SHALL SPEAK TO EARTH'S SAD MOURNING THE RESURRECTION WORD.

Receive God's Word of Life in the events of LENT with ASH WEDNESDAY on 17th February; The National Day of REPENTANCE AND PRAYER on Saturday 5th March from 9-5 p.m. when Goring U.R.C. will be the local centre for this event, with ministers from neighbouring churches taking part.

Mothering Sunday, with its emphasis on the Church nourishing through Christ, our homes and families, is on 13th March. The Great Event on

26th March is our whole day on the subject of Growth Saturday to - a look forward to in anticipation and to remember in gratitude. Palm Sunday heralds Holy Week with Maundy Thursday and Good Friday lighting our way from winter to spring, from death to life. to EASTER and THE RISEN LORD.

EASTER IS EARLY THIS YEAR and I for one am glad!



Yours with blessings and love,

William Connelly

#### Dear Editor.

Having dealt with the Free Will Offering on a Sunday evening, (in the absence of Mr. Tye holiday) I decided to glance at the February Chronicle before going to bed. Instead quick perusal. I was so enthralled I read 1 t from cover to cover. For me the Chronicle had really taken off. Here were excellent by members of the Congregation pertaining that article by Rosemary in the January issue on Muslims. These proved, that even folk similar beliefs do not view all problems in One would hope that they type of persons who would sit down together and analyse their points of view; and then to an amicable decision.

In a national context this does not often happen and so we see the extremist element come to the fore and be widely publicised. I have in the past employed Muslim, Sikh, Hindu and Christian personnel in a factory and there was no apparent problem.

Having read the magazine, I was very disappointed to find a note on the back cover stating "there was to be no further comment order of the Minister". If. as the Editor 500 states, we produce about copies time. a circulated to church members and friends, then a discussion as suggested (probably on the lines of a church meeting) will only produce about one twelfth of this number of people and suffer in consequence. There certainly will be the potential for a viewpoint on а Having also regard to the fact that. spectrum. only a few months ago, both the Minister were making a plea for more items of interest to enlarge the size of the Chronicle. Curtailing potential correspondence will not encourage. great pity. Thank you for the articles submitted by everyone.

FRAZER FINLAY

# \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* CLOTHING FOR UGANDA

... THE FINAL CHAPTER!

Below is the text of a letter from the Medical Superintendent of Mengo Hospital:

3rd Februaru, 1988.

Dear Mr. Hider.

Thank you for your letter of 24th October. The consignment of clothing due on 16th Movember has just arrived - on Januaru 28th! It had been held up by the border dispute between Kenya and Uganda; but it is now here. I am going to distribute it this week with the help of mu colleagues. We are deeply grateful and it will bring joy to many hearts. They are so thankful to receive these gifts. Please do pass our heartful thanks to the donors.

I was a boy in Worthing in the 1920's when my mother died. I was 5 at the time and lived in Rowlands Road with an aunt. My mother is buried in Heene Road Cemeteru, now closed, I believe. We used to go to Holy Trinity - Canon Hollis was the vicar. West of Grand Avenue there was nothing almost to Littlehampton. Nostalaic memories!

God bless you in all you do for Him. May the New Year be happy and blessed.

Yours sincerely in CHRIST,

David Milton-Thompson.

Whilst Dr. Milton-Thompson's letter is addressed to me - his only contact here - his message is obviously meant for everyone who took part in the scheme so I warmly invite you to share it with me.

SIDNEY HIDER \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

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At their last meeting the House and Fabric Committee decided on a programme of maintenance works for 1988. These include some items held over from 1987 due to lack of funds.

- Redecorate interior of Church Hall. Repairs to defective and rotted wood at front of Church. Repair cracked ceilings in church.
- New panels on main Notice Board at corner of Shaftesbury Avenue and Barrington Road.
- Repaint outside of the Manse and general repairs.
- Remove dilapidated summerhouse from rear garden at the Manse. (Summerhouse is in a dangerous condition).
- Concrete area formerly occupied by the hut to form 2 extra parking bays.
- 6. Re-instate loudspeakers in front of rostrum. Seek advice on better microphone facilities for the lectern and a balanced sound system for church.

We are making allowance for emergency repairs to electric lights and fittings, sanitary ware, plumbing, drains, windows, locks etc. all of which require regular attention throughout the year.

The Committee wishes to thank Mr. Don Stewart for all the valuable work he does on behalf of the church. Also Mr. Ron Courtnadge for servicing the heaters in East/West Halls, our gardening contractors and everyone who keeps the church premises clean and tidy.

COLIN NODES

## INLAND REVENUE HELPS THE CHURCH

Hello Friends,

Many years ago the main thrust of the Sermon of a minister in one of my churches in Scotland was "money" and criticism of how little of it was given to its work. did members give so little? (In some respects it's no surprise that Scots seem to get the reputation of having short arms and deep pockets!)

Although this is not the case in our church, the work of our Lord must continue both here and in other countries where in some, even now, the knowledge of Jesus Christ and his Teachings have never been heard.

You don't necessarily need to give more to add to the advancement of the work of the church and welfare of the peoples of the world. If you sign a Deed of Covenant you are agreeing to give a certain contribution each year to further the work of the church.

Now comes the important part - your contribution is grossed up and the church receives tax relief - for some people I'm sure that's a little complicated - please let me explain. Basically if you give £10 to the church - by way of a Deed of Covenant, the church receives £3.70 from the Inland Revenue.

If you wish to sign a Deed of Covenant, please write to me at 31 Taw Close, Durrington or telephone me at 690023.

May I please remind current covenantors that the Inland Revenue will only grant Tax Relief to the church on the amount actually PAID by you in the Tax Year (to 5.4.88) and NOT the amount which you have covenanted.

As I mentioned to you when I spoke at church on 7th February, I work for the Inland Revenue. I like to think I am arithmetically competent. I am however not so good at remembering names, though I have "instant recall" of mine and those of my family. After my introductory chat I sat down and the Lord asked me the question - "John - you didn't tell the congregation your name, did you?" Well it's below - all my best wishes and may God bless you all,

JOHN MATTHEWSON

# \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS

# New Members:-

la	ŧ	BROWN Mrs.M., 60 Goring Way	43650
3b	ŧ	CHAMBERS Dr. & Mrs.J., 145a Goring Road	502847
8	*	CHATFIELD, Miss E., 50 Reigate Rd.	48313
15b	ŧ	TITLOW, MRS. A., 18 A'Becket Gardens	63360

## Change of Address:-

155	¥	HUTCHINGS	Mrs . A.	, 60	Muir	field	Rd.			64705
145	*	CRACHTLL	Mr. £	Mre.	V. 1	Vale	åva.	Findan	Vallay.	871-3806

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#### BAPTISM:

James Samuel PUMPHREY 14.2.88

## IN MEMORIAM:

Sidney BLANDFORD 31.12.87
"Rest in the Lord"

Mary May Elizabeth FREEMAN 27.1.88
"Beloved of the Lord"

Claire BIRD 30.1.88
"A radiant and faithful soul obedient to the heavenly vision"

Emily Louisa MAY 1.2.88
"A child of God"

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### WOMEN'S GUILD

On Tuesday, 19th January, the Rev. Hugh Ford gave a talk on his experiences as a 'Flying Angel' when he worked with the 'Mission to Seamen'. This Christian charity has offered succour and comfort in many forms to seamen over the years. Men of all races and creeds have been served by the Mission and thousands of seamen have had reason to be grateful for its help.

The Mission supports bereaved families who mourn the loss of a father, husband or brother at sea. Their work is a vital part of the lives of "Men who go down to the sea in ships". The history of the Mission is one of service and long may this tradition continue.

VERA BRISCOE

+ + + + + + +

On Tuesday, 5th February, Miss Vi. Kemp and her guide dog visited us. Susie and Miss Kemp have been together for eight and a half years and Susie is now over 10 years old. Miss Kemp. a lady with a clear voice and a lovely smile, gave details of puppy walking, the training of dogs at Folley Court. Wokingham, the care taken in selecting a dog of the correct temperament for its new owner and the instructing of the new owners when for a month before taking their they are taught to live and walk with it.

All these details, together with follow-up care, brought home to us the excellent work done by 'Guide Dogs for the Blind". This was a story of human ingenuity which could never have got off the ground but for the intelligence and devotion of the dogs involved. Our collection enabled us to forward £40 to the Association.

BERYL STUTTER

# DRUG ABUSE & MISUSE THE TELEIOS PROJECT

After many months of waiting, we have now received official charitable status. Over the last few months we have been holding a weekly prayer meeting on Wednesdays in the Harris Room at 7.30 p.m. If you would like to pray for the Project and for those whose lives are affected by drugs, you would be most welcome. If you are unable to attend on the Wednesday night, your own private prayers for the Project will be greatly appreciated.

On 10 the January we talked to the Twenty to Thirty Group at Broadwater Parish Church the Project. The Group took a great deal interest in it. At the end of January we went a foundation level teaching week for counselling at the Old Rectory, Crowhurst. This course enabled us to obtain a basic grounding in Christian Healing and Counselling.

For further information about the Project please ring Wg. 38861.

A.A. MORTON
JOHN GORDON

Continued from page 15.

On arrival home we refreshed ourselves with cold apple pie and ice cream and a big That night our hosts treated us to a Braai Vleis (Barbecue to you) and cooked some South African sausage (called Boervorst) and steak. This was followed by an attempt at 'Hooligan Juice' which is a secret recipe which we supply on request. Suffice it to say that it delicious and half way between being a drink and a sweet course. We were sorry to depart Bulawayo but as all good things must come to end we had to say goodbye to Margaret and and their beautiful home in the morning.

ERIC AND BARBARA POPPLESTONE

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6th Mrs. Barnett 20th Mr. Nodes 13th Mr. Turton 27th Flower Fund

#### FLOWER FUND:

Thank you for £2.00 contributed in January and February

DOROTHY TURNER

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On 30th January, 1988 four of us attended an Elders Quiet Day held at Central United Reformed Church, HOVE, Sussex. It was led very ably by Rev. Brian Johanson, B.A., B.D., D.D., Minister of Christchurch U.R.C., Tonbridge.

The theme for the day was Stewardship.

The day was split up into Teaching, Discussion in small groups and Meditation. We explored all aspects of Stewardship.

One section was STEWARDS OF TIME where we looked at the question of putting our time to the best use in every aspect of our life: Church, Work and Family.

Next was STEWARDS OF MONEY: Tithing etc.

Then followed STEWARDS OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS: becoming aware of our gifts and using them in the service of Jesus Christ.

This is only a very brief summary of ground covered in the day, it was very helpful and could have gone on for much longer, as there was so much to learn and digest. It was good to meet and study with people from many U.R.Cs from the area, and the host church looked after us very well.

The Speaker was excellent and it would be very good if we could invite him to speak to us one Sunday morning.

BOBBY HITCHIN

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The Rev. B.C.Bhonsie, from Bombay, testifies to the power of the Gospel message in his country. He tells of the PAWRI RATHWA tribe who live in the Satpura mountain ranges of Northern Maharashtra. Despite government attempts to stop head-hunting, the tribe still practises this evil ritual.

Mr. Bhonsie continues: "On 22nd June, 1987 we released the Gospel of Mark in PAWRI. in the Devanagari Script. The effect has been electrifying. The literacy rate in the tribe is low and the main readers of the Gospel have been school-age children. Yet as these children began to read the Gospel, (the first book of any kind in their language), people began to respond to the Word of God. By Christmas 1986. Pawris were baptised in one tribal village. following month a group of 20 were baptised in another village in the same mountain range. Gospel is spreading like wildfire in the Satpura mountains!"

The above is from a Newsletter sent to members of the BIBLE-A-MONTH CLUB. This Club does NOT send books to its members but sends out scriptures on their behalf. (Monthly subscription £2.0. Informative leaflets issued and world map available. Bible Society, Stonehill Green, Westles, SWINDON, SN5 7DG). Suitable for individuals or groups.

# BIBLE SOCIETY PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH.

12.00 to 1.00 p.m. on Friday, 18th March, 1988 at CHRISTCHURCH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH.

SPEAKER: THE REV. VERNON LEWIS

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# THE GIRLS BRIGADE

March looks like being a fairly quiet month for Our Young Leaders take their tests March and on 8th March we shall be preparing our Easter gifts for the housebound and Our session will end on 22nd March. highlight of the month, however, will be the wedding of Caroline Brunton on Saturday, 12th March at 3.0 p.m. and our Explorers w111 forming the Guard of Honour on that occasion. We wish Caroline and Bill every blessing for the future.

Many of you will probably soon be starting your spring cleaning and turning out items you do not require any more. Will you think of us please as we have a jumble sale on Thursday, 14th April and a 'phone call to any G.B. Officer will bring about an almost immediate response!

May you all be especially blessed this Eastertide.

JEAN WEBB

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#### CLOTHING FOR UGANDA

In the January "Chronicle" I gave early notice that the World Mission Committee had been forced meet unexpected expense in getting clothing to its destination. I. also said we would be seeking donations to help us with the costs. Happily, I am now able to say that all our expenses have been covered from another source and no appeal is necessary.

SIDNEY HIDER

P.S.

The clothing arrived at Mengo Hospital on 28th January.

# A VACATION IN THE THIRD WORLD (Pt.5)

One of the delights of living in Africa is the enjoyment of a cool drink on the verandah at sun down. The sun sinks very fast into western skies and within approximately half an the Of. start the is sun fully. set. Sophisticated alcoholic beverages are hard to get in Zimbabwe and often soft drinks are more popular. Roger returned from work at about p.m. and flopped into a deck chair with of relief. He owns a small workshop in which the work is mainly carburetter repairs for cars and vans for which the owners cannot get replacements for want of foreign exchange. employs four men. two black and two white and they all work together harmoniously. There 18 plenty of pressure on him to keep the old cars going and so there is little respite at mid-day. He therefore is tired and dry when he gets and the 'sundowner' is especially appreciated by him. The dogs would settle around our having already been fed. We would then recount our exploits and activities of the day.

On one of these evenings we related afternoon trip out to Chipangali. the animal orphanage, where many species of animal and bird life are brought from the wild in distress some sort and given medical help and until such time as they are ready to be returned to their native environment in the wild. afternoon we arrived it was particularly hot and we were informed that the lions would be fed 4.00p.m. We had roughly twenty minutes at the smaller animals and birds before arriving at the lions enclosure. On the way, however, passed two beautiful baby elephants which just being fed with great branches of trees with some leaves still on them. The elephants making short work of this repast.

At last we found the lions and even though they were securely enclosed behind two layers of wire fencing, it was quite an awesome sound to hear the male lion growling at his females so as to keep them in 'pecking order' at supper time! Barbara was quite frightened as she had been so close to so many fiercesome heasts before, (except at the London Zoo some 40 previously). It was interesting to 866 relationships which obviously existed between these eight or nine beasts as they enjoyed their There was an obvious favourite was given her supper first while the others were kept at bay. Then. and only when the allowed, the rest of the pride came and enjoyed their meat.

Another treat enjoyed while in Bulawayo was a snack lunch of waffles and syrup at the store restaurant. Outside in the street there were vendors selling wonderful handmade goodies all at very tempting prices and we were told do our shopping here rather than in the wares were very good quality although much cheaper than there. Ivory elephants. scap-stone figures of animals, birds, natives in various stances, all beautifully executed with skill and feeling. The creatures almost seemed alive. We were very impressed at the high standard of the workmanship of the folk who sit for hours carving in wood, stone and ivory and who make baskets and leatherwork which. if seen in Harrods would fetch far higher prices than those asked for here.

While in Bulawayo we made a trip out to the Matopos where Cecil John Rhodes is buried. His grave is set in the top of a granite hill which because of the expansive views of the lower ground all around, he called "View of the World". He chose this spot to be his burial place.

There was a party of black school children descending the hill as we arrived and they grew very excited as Eric poised his camera to take pictures of them. It was strange that this

should happen at all as the 'modern' historians of Zimbabwe are trying to write out the that Rhodes played in developing their country. (It seems that the government has an inferiority complex about its own history and is trying point out that the indigenous black population have always been there. The fact that they been dragged along into the twentieth century is rather a sore point and they would have liked to have the credit for doing it themselves. But more about this when we come to the Zimbabwe ruins!) These children were obviously not being 'brain washed' in the same way that some their contemporaries are.

Cold drinks were taken at the car. due sensible forethought of Eric's Margaret. We then took a sorti further into the bush where another game park, the Maleme dam and wilderness area awaited our investigation. Unfortunately there were very few animals to seen that day apart from some hippos way out the middle of the Maleme Dam which was nearly dry. The only treat was the first sight ostrich after we had been exploring in the for nearly an hour. We were assured that we were very lucky to see this unique bird and there should be many more of them. The ostrich refused to come near for photographs and we had to be content with a long-lens view. the way back to the city we had glimpses cattle egrets, a grey heron and saddle-billed storks. Of course, we are not as knowlegeable as we sound. Harold is an expert on birds wildlife and gave us constant commentary and information.

We spent some time and not a little money in the Arts and Crafts Centre of Mzilikasi where the native crafts of pottery and modelling in clay are being extended to welding, lace making, linen work and furniture crafts. The quality of the workmanship was of a high standard and the students were surprised to see white tourists interested in their work.

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# A DAY FOR GROWTH

OR GROWTH FOR A DAY? Saturday, 26th March.

It all depends on how you look at it. But we promise such a fascinating day that what you will take away at the end of it will urge you to become involved in our follow-up program.

THE REV. Dr. MARTIN ROBINSON of THE BIBLE SOCIETY will be conducting the day for us in our church.

I hope you will have heard or read of some of our plans already. You will all have received a letter and enrolment form by now. (If you haven't - phone me after 7.30 p.m.: W 48263 (this evening!).

This day is specially organised for all those who love our church. And this must mean you, otherwise you would not be reading our Chronicle!

The object of the day is to find out how we can grow upwards (and thereby nearer to one another in spirit); outwards (and nearer to those around us); and downwards (in order to strengthen our roots and make us more stable and more committed to our Faith, our Church and our Lord. So, do come.

WILFRED RHODES

# 

A PRAYER FOR US ALL "O LORD, support us all the day long of this troublous life.

Until the shades lengthen and the evening comes, And the busy world is hushed.

And the fever of life is over,

And our work done.

Then LORD, in Thy mercy,

Grant us safe lodging,

A holy rest.

And peace at the last, Through JESUS CHRIST,

#### Amen

No. 409

APRIL 1988

# CHRONICLE



# GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

SHAFTESBURY AVENUE - WEST WORTHING

# From the Vestry

#### BEYOND EASTER

"Lord, let me live and act this day still rising from the dead."

George MacDonald seems to be near the truth of the Gospel of Resurrection in this line from one of his poems. You will remember the story of the Raising of Lazarus in St. John ll v. 44. We may be raised from death through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, but we have to be seen ALIVE in the world both as individuals and churches. Christ Himself commands that the graveclothes of death be removed in order to show that we are alive!

But this is a continuing process. St. Paul, in writing the Colossian church, says "If you then are Risen with Christ seek those things which are above." Col. 2 v.l.

Our life of prayer, of meditating upon the Risen Lord, our resolve to follow Him in making sacrifice of self to gain in Him Eternal Life, will keep us fully occupied in this mortal life. And we have the 'Christian Year' to help us. ASCENSION DAY is on 12th May, WHITSUNDAY is on 22nd May and TRINITY SUNDAY, is on 29th May. The movement of the Life of Faith is from Glory to Glory!

Thank you for your kindness in our recent bereavement and God bless you all,

Ever Sincerely,

# NEWS OF THE FELLOWSHIP:

# IN MEMORIAM

Norah Elizabeth GENT 21.2.88

who loved to worship here Joan BYASS

24.2.88

the loved mother of Brends Lewis Alice BRIGDEN

Eternal Rest grant to them, O Lord.

We are glad to see Mr. Russ Harris making good and brave progress after surgery in Southlands Hospital.

Mrs. Molly Hooker is still unwell in nursing home. Miss Rogers and Miss L. Callow are now home again.

# REV. EDWARD SYMMONS

who has accepted a call to the church at Andover, is to be inducted there on Saturday, 7th May at 3.00p.m. We hope for a party from GORING to attend. God bless Jean & Edward in their new work.

# THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & REPENTANCE

This event was held on Saturday, 5th March in Goring U.R.C. and attended by some hundreds of people, with contributions in prayer, scripture readings and talks by Ministers. Elders and Church Members. This was part of a nationwide time of Prayer & Repentance. You are invited to ask God for a fuller repentance, in order that we may all experience a deeper blessing and RENEWAL in our Christian life.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I would like to say 'thank you' on behalf of my mother, Mrs. D. HOWARD, for the visit by Mr. Connelly to her when she was in hospital; also for the lovely flowers which were sent and the Girls' Brigade's charming gift. Mother is back at Irene House and making slow but steady progress. With many thanks.

JUNE LESTER

P.S. May I take this opportunity to thank you both for your very excellent articles 'Vacation in the Third World'. They have made most interesting and informative reading and I've enjoyed them very much indeed.

J.L.

# FROM A COMMUNICATION Sent from the U.R.C. Southern Province

# KEEP HOPE ALIVE IN SOUTH AFRICA

The crisis in South Africa deepens. Most humanitarian aid has already been halted and even more is under threat. The South African Council of Churches has made known its grave concern that legislation tabled before the South African Parliament on 1st March almost certainly endangers funding by our agency, Christian Aid, to the churches bodies. Families without related breadwinners, victims of violence, detentions removals, refugees fleeing Mozambique - all could face almost impossible hardship. On 29th February, leaders of a number of South African churches, in a spirit of non-violent action, informed the South African Government of their intention to witness and petition their government this moment of crisis for South Africa". These leaders were arrested and unable to deliver their petition to the State President and Members of Parliament.

The General Secretary of the United Reformed Church, The Rev. Bernard Thorogood, has of the statement from the African church leaders which is too long print in our magazine. Ron Christopher be pleased to let anyone have a CODY request. Please remember that South African looking to Christians are us for continuing prayers and support. May We indeed be one of them in their struggle for justice and righteousness.

#### WORTHING'S NEW MAYOR

CONGRATULATIONS! to Councillor John Cotton on becoming the Mayor of Worthing in May. As the first Chairman and now the President of the Durrington Community Centre Association, he radiates an enthusiasm, care and service for the Community Centre. When others retained nis doubt he vision and conviction that there was a need for such centre in Durrington. In the early "Working Party" days he shared with me the hope that when the Centre was built and opened an Ecumenical Service of Christian Worship would be held on Sunday mornings in the Centre. the executive of the Durrington Community Centre Association he has always encouraged and supported our Church and rejoices with us that it is now a Local Ecumenical Project. Mrs. Cotton is also active in the work of the Centre.

I have had the honour of being invited by Councillor Cotton to be his Chaplain. I have gladly accepted. It is appropriate that I should do so in view of our close association in the work of the Centre and our friendship.

RON CHRISTOPHER

Congratulations Ron on this well deserved honour! (Ed.)

#### THE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Mrs. S. Williams of the Spastics Society visited us on 1st March, to tell us about the work of the Society in helping the victims of cerebral palsy - of which spasticity is but one example. She explained that the cause of the condition, which can affect either or both mental and physical abilities, is still not known, but treatment at an early age can help to improve the quality of life for the victims, especially those whose mental faculties are unimpaired. Such treatment includes training parents to continue the process at home.

As patients enter their late teens, State aid tends to cease and the Society tries to fill the gap by providing further education, sheltered workshops, accommodation, advice, training and guidance. Just occasionally they are able to place people in normal work situations by arranging to subsidise their pay so that employers pay pro-rata to output. As adult patients grow older they need to try to become independent of their parents and the Society can and does assist this process.

All these activities cost money and, as the West Sussey Appeals Organiser, Mrs. Williams has to meet a 1988 target of £67,000. This will have to be raised by door-to-door collections, profits from Spastic shops, fetes and similar events. Here local voluntary groups affiliated to the central society, play an important role. Last year the Worthing Group raised £7000.

The talk, followed by a variety of questions, was an interesting fore-runner to a visit we shall be making to the local workshop.

SIDNEY HIDER

# MONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

The Monday Evening Fellowship is coming out of winter hibernation on Monday, llth April. When we will all gather in the Cornwall Room at 8.00 p.m. to greet my friends of long standing, Mr. & Mrs. Jim Richards. They will give an illustrated talk on "Old Worthing". On 25th April we will welcome Mrs. Elsie Flack, who will give us a 'talk' accompanied by singing to her guitar.

I can personally recommend both these evenings as I have heard all these folk on previous occasions and they are all greatly appreciated.

We are looking forward to the start of a long summer session, so come along and bring a friend so that we are a nice large group to greet these speakers.

AUDREY STEWART

# 

For many years most of us have used our Public Libraries and the books borrowed have given us hours of pleasure. It is impossible to contemplate life without a library. It is true to say that at no time have we enjoyed better libraries. We in Worthing are particularly well served.

The talk Mr. Laker gave us was most interesting and opened our eyes to the inner workings of the library. He dealt with the purchasing of all types of books, the new methods of cataloguing and the computer which plays such an important part in our lives today - everything done with the borrower in mind.

We can now, on one up-to-date ticket borrow from any library within the Worthing area; so dump that old ticket! Almost any book, on any subject, from almost anywhere, can through the computer, be obtained within a short space of time. He illustrated by showing examples, the cost of good reading. Novels - flo plus and science books £50 plus. Large print books are never neglected and recently over £700 was spent on these. This shows the difficulty of buying on a budget.

The new method of catalogueing according to colours should prove helpful in selection. There are new, up-to-date reference books, where we can discover sources of goods supplied if complaints need to be made. With all this happening for the help of the community, how sad that a security system is now installed and working to prevent books being stolen, either by carelessness or intent. What does this say about present day behaviour and morals?

ETHEL DEARSLEY

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# THE GIRLS' BRIGADE

April already! Have you remembered that we have a Jumble Sale on Thursday, 14th April? Do please contact any Girls' Brigade Officer if you have any items for collection. We could also do with some help on the day, please, at 6.00pm serving behind the stalls. On Sunday, 24th April, at 3.00p.m. we are the host church and company for the Girls' Brigade Annual District Parade and Service. All are welcome to the service and the offertory that afternoon will go to Great Ormond Street Hospital.

CONGRATULATIONS are in order too, for all our Young Leaders who recently passed their graded tests. We now have 5 new grade I, 3 grade II, 1 grade III and 1 Warrant Officer. Well done, Girls!

JEAN WEBB

# "LOGOS" (THE WORD)

What a happy morning we spent together and what an encouraging result: £250 for the "LOGOS AID" appeal. Many thanks to all who participated.

"That's not just OM's ship. That's OUR ship" exclaimed a Christian friend, on hearing of the LOGOS' demise - a sentiment echoed by people around the world. Christians in 254 ports in 5 continents have welcomed the LOGOS. For many this was THEIR ship and numbers regard the LOGOS crew as their spiritual midwives. Many full-time Christian workers point to a LOGOS visit as the turning point in their lives.

Over 6 million people have climbed the LOGOS' gangways. About 1 million have participated in programmes on board. All have visited the large book exhibit. 30 million items of Christian literature have been distributed and 2000 young people have completed a year's training programme.

It has been decided to pray and work for LOGOS II. It took six years to get LOGOS I and three years for "DOULOS", the sister ship. The probable cost will be about £3 million. Qualified and gifted personnel will also be needed. The article in the latest "Operation Mobilisation" Bulletin (of which the foregoing is a summary) concludes: "It is an overwhelming challenge, - too big for OM. But if Christians around the world unite on this project. God is able to provide not just an OM ship, or even "our" ship, but HIS ship!"

PHYLLIS WHEELER

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# THE SYNOD MEETS AT BRIGHTHELM

On Saturday, 17th March, the Synod OP Southern Province of the U.R.C. met at new Brighthelm Church-and-Community Centre at This Centre was opened October. It has been built and furnished of proceeds from the sale of the site of former Union Church, Queen Square, Brighton, As a young man I often visited Union to enjoy a reverent Service. an outstanding choir and challenging preaching. A church that combines within its worship and witness a Community Centre, is a significant outreach Church in today's world. Brighthelm Church-and-Community Centre will be found in North Road and when you are 1n Brighton I suggest you pay it a visit. Do not miss the sculpture of the "Loaves and Fishes" on the front of the building.

Brighthelm is in a way the opposite of our own outreach at Durrington. Brighthelm is church that contains a community centre with People and co-operates together (PACT). This organisation covers a number of Community ventures and experiments. At Durrington we have taken the church into a community centre, a secular building, as of the many organisations using the each week. In this setting the church and its members are much more observed than It is a testing form of witness and much depends on how far Christians take their share in the other activities of the centre. The Synod opened with worship: "Christ is the world's Light", we sang. The Scripture Mr. Peter bУ Bunker. congratulated on his receiving the O.B.E. for his service to the community in Sussex and his vision of and commitment to, PACT. Worship and prayers concluded with the Fury Group leading us in the song:

"When the Spirit of the Lord is within My heart, I will sing as David sang .... " The Synod was under the Chairmanship of our new Provincial Moderator, The Rev. David Helyar, M.A., for the first time. One item of special interest to our own church: following application and support from the West Sussex District Council. Synod recommended General Assembly that this new and pioneering - the Durrington Community Centre Church - be recognised as a local church the U.R.C. I have been asked by the Community Centre Church to represent them at General Assembly at Southport in May. It proposed that there be a Unification of U.R.C. and the Congregational Union Scotland. We heard an informative address from the Chairman of the C.U.S., Dr. Jim Merilees.

The World Church and Mission Department introduced "Mission Pursuit" a pact for study, reflection and action, in the form of an entertaining playlet. The generosity and care of our churches was reflected in report of the Finance and Administration Department. From the Ministries Department we learned that we have from our Province in training 12 for the Stipendiary Ministry, and 5 for the Auxiliary Ministry. The Church Society Department provided some interesting i information as to the wide changes our environment and communities through Euro-Tunnel. We were reminded of hardships for the poor which may arise from the changes of the D.H.S.S. in April.

The act of worship ended with the hymns:
"We have a Gospel to proclaim" and
"Go forth and tell, O Church of God, Awake
God's saving news to all the nations take".
This is the task of all the churches within
our Province.

RON CHRISTOPHER

# 

Before leaving a Christian retreat weekend, a friend of mine recently wrote these thoughts:

LEARN ABOUT JESUS - He will share that Life with us all, to enable us to live as truly as we can and learning about Him, by reading and by listening to others around us. But, above all, by living our own lives as we walk into each day. Perhaps, going back and thinking, what would He have done?

Is there something in a gospel which talks together with us in the situations we find ourselves in?

Sometimes I think the thing that shone above all in His life was that it was ALIVE with the awareness of other people He met day by day. Alive with being strong and good. Alive with Kindness and Mercy and an Awareness of God the Father, the Maker and Upholder of everything.

He is not someone in the past. He is our daily Friend.

We must be positive if we are to be like Jesus, as He was. If it is only a kind word to another it helps sometimes.

As a former nurse I have empathy with the sad and depressed and mentally ill. I always smile when listening to them that have lost the art to smile. If we live our lives more truly and care for others, Jesus becomes more real. This He does to me.

So, if we are going to be just to others we come into contact with each day; and walk with Him always; and walk with God; to love mercy and walk with Him always - we need to learn about Jesus.

Son of God have mercy on us this day. AMEN MIKE DONNELLY

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#### "THE WALKING HAYSTACK"

For Christmas I was given a copy of Eileen Jordan's book. The Walking Haystack, stories from the life of an ordinary English woman.

Having just finished the hook, I can honestly say it was a joy to read. Its simplicity makes it easy and enjoyable reading.

Eileen's time in Norfolk was of great interest to me, places she described in the 1920's which we have visited in the last ten years.

It was fascinating to see how little some had changed. Eileen's sense of fun, her concern for everyone shines through. All the way through the book we see how her faith developes, in a simple, but lovely way.

Eileen quotes writings and prose she has come across and kept in an exercise book. In recommending this lovely book, I would like to quote one of these pieces written by a 15 year old in 1856 -

Grant me, great God,
A heart to Thee inclined,
Increase my faith,
And rectify my mind.
Teach me always
To tread Thy sacred way
And to Thy Service
Consecrate my days.

- JENNY MERRITT

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The children of Argyle Primary School in King's Cross, London, have written two songs: "Peace and Harmony" and "Show the World some Kindness", which have been set to music by George Georgiou, our music teacher.

These songs haved been recorded by a small recording company and will be on sale from Wednesday, 23rd March, when the Mayor of Camden is coming into school to hear the songs and start the sale promotion.

The records will be on sale at £1.50 each and profits will go to the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children Appeal. They will be available from The Rev. and Mrs. Connelly. Please telephone or sign the list in the church vestibule. (Tel: 48259).

J. MARY CONNELLY

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#### FLOWERS FOR APRIL

Easter Sunday 3rd Mrs. Hillier
10th Miss Hambleton
17th Miss Wharhirst
24th Miss Hawke

THE FLOWER FUND: Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Thank you for £10 received during March.

MOTHERS DAY: Warm thanks to the members of the Women's Guild who helped to prepare the daffodil posies. 160 were distributed on 13th March.

DOROTHY TURNER

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# SWANWICK 1988

Readers may like to know that the following conferences will take place at Swanwick on the dates shown. Further details can be obtained from Sidney Hider.

WORLD MISSION CONFERENCE - 6th to 12th August

## WOMEN'S GUILD(16th FEBRUARY)

On a lovely spring-like day we were in for a treat from Miss Wyn Funnel, talking to us about being a Redcoat. All the members laughed merrily at the anecdotes that she told us.

Starting at Butlins, just to go as a "friend" she was the one to get hooked by the "Butlins Bug". Going back for a few more seasons. work was very hard as you always had to be cheerful, even if the weather was awful! But she felt cheered when she saw harassed families arrive and after unpacking, unwind as the children left to have fun being taken care of by Redcoat Aunts.

Wyn herself was doing the camp radio - waking people up with a cheerful 'good morning' and quite loud music. She found being a Christian quite an asset in the job as people often unburdened themselves to Redcoats. She ended her talk with singing "I Believe" - the song she used to sing at Butlins - then we all sang "To God be the Glory" and she ended with a short prayer. Scotch pancakes were served with the tea as it was Shrove Tuesday (pancake day).

B.STUTTER

### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP (2)

On 15th March a small party of members paid a visit to the Fitzalan Howard Spastics Centre in Pavilion Road. It was an educative - and humbling - experience.

Mr. Ron Tribe (in charge of the Society's explained the mini-coaches how collect their folk each week-day morning from as far afield 8.5 Bognor and Shoreham bring them to the Centre. There they gainfully employed on tasks commensurate with their personal abilities and paid the maximum permitted wage of £4 per week, regardless their individual output. (Any payment over £4 equivalent deduction would mean an from persons State Allowance).

Most of the tasks undertaken, such as weaving and assembly work under contract with commercial companies. are simple repetitive but they give the workers achievement. wonderful sense of printing and carpentry spoor produce excellent work able to stand comparison that of commercial Some concerns. Of. attenders are not able to work but companionship and to give their home-carers a break.

Horse riding, swimming, music-making, mental and physical education are available through the Centre which also provides morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea at a total cost of 25p.

were all impressed most dedication of Mr. Tribe and his helpers and with the happy and busy atmosphere they created. The success of the Centre depends largely on public donations so next time we Spastics Society collecting we shall dip deeply into our pockets because we know the money is being well spent.

SIDNEY HIDER

# THE CHRONICLE

THE MARCH CHURCH MEETING decided that -

- The Order of Service paper be enlarged to include the Order of Service, family news, announcements and requests for prayer. The Minister will need someone to help him to collect the information.
- 2. The April issue of the Chronicle is the last in this form under the editorship of Mr. Eric Popplestone. We offer our grateful thanks for the editorship of both Mr. and Mrs. Popplestone. We are glad to say that Mr. Popplestone will continue to print the new Chronicle when a new editor has been appointed. Members of the church and congregation who have gifts in editorship work are asked to see the Minister for particulars of what is involved.

RON CHRISTOPHER

It is a sad moment when one says farewell to a loved one. And even more so 11 when occurred unnecessarily. In burying Chronicle, the Church must feel a great loss. I am sure that former editors would feel the some will be turning same and in their graves.

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However, it is not wanted any more, or there would have been more members at the Church Meeting to vote down the 15 members who wanted its message stifled. I pray for the Church in its moment of loss and hope that some way will be found to fill the gap.

We need a leader who will see things in the light of Jesus Christ, for whom so many have an unsatisfied requirement.

Yours, in His name, for the last time. Editor