

The CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

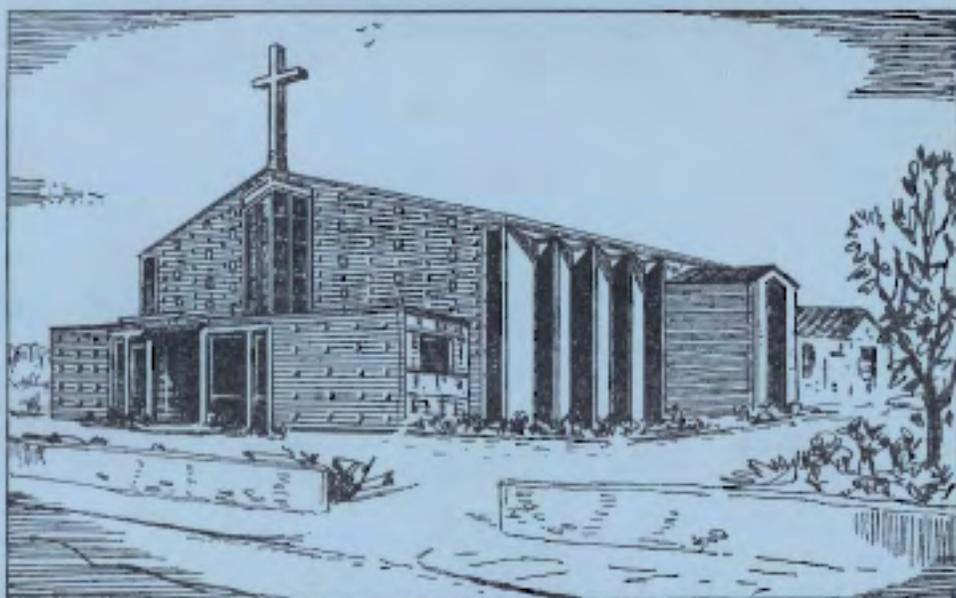
January - December 1976

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

The CHRONICLE



GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

SHAFTESBURY AVENUE • WEST WORTHING

FROM THE VESTRY

"Behold, I make all things new"

Only Christ Himself would dare to say this, for on any less authority the words would sound absurd, brash or wildly optimistic. When we say Happy New Year we do not express our own hope but Christ's promise. A new Era began when Jesus was born, this is what we mean when we speak of the INCARNATION as marking the difference between B.C. and A.D. But are we really living in the years of our Lord? This event has taken place in an absolute historical sense, but has it taken place in you? A new Age began with our Lord's birth - it bears fruit as He is born in us here and now... the New Birth is an essential part of the NEW AGE. It is in experience of Christ that we dare to say these things on the edge of a darkening world.

January 4th is Dedication Sunday, when we shall as a Church give ourselves again to God's service. At this service and preceded by a service of preparation on Saturday night, ten young people will be received into full membership of the Church. How dare you? They are young, teenagers, vulnerable, exposed to all life's problems. But this is the question of unbelief, - let those who are truly alive to A.D. 1976 remember

that this is the year of our Lord, and rejoice with young lives who have come to know and love a SAVIOUR.

The Ministry of Healing Committee will be reporting at an early Church Meeting. Most certainly we shall recommend continuing the evening Communion Ministry of Healing. And the use of Prayer Circles and of the Prayer Request Book in Little Chapel will be further considered. One important thing, do please write your Thanksgivings in the book, many have been blessed - why not say so. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so.

Blessings and love,

WILLIAM CONNELLY

BAPTISMS

Raymond David Belchamber 7.12.75

Kay Louise Belchamber 7.12.75

"Gladly we bless Thee humbly we pray Thee For all the children of the earth".

IN MEMORIAM

Ernest Walter Jephson 18.11.75

Flora May Fraser Martin 28.11.75

"In the heavenly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou it's light, it's joy it's crown,
Thou it's sun which goes not down;
There for ever may we sing
Alleluias to our King".

Warmest thanks to all whose thoughtfulness, imagination and skills contributed to the most marvellous decorations

and crib for Christmas. Many have written in appreciation of flowers and plants distributed to sick friends over the Christmas period.

"HAVE YOU HEARD"

A new column for your news

That on the Communion in November and December new records for attendance were established. Who said build a gallery!?

The Young People have a "Link" Scheme for joining up with help and friendship to any in the Church or district who need a hand or smiling face or a visit. Details from the Minister ... why not join in older friends can help young people with their problems too.

Project '75 The Young People's own contribution to elderly or disabled friends, another link between the members of our congregations.

P.S. Fill this space with your news!! Are you doing something, planning something exciting? Don't forget Mr. G. Redman keeps the Church Calendar so consult him on availability of dates.

HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS

- * Redman Mr. & Mrs. G., 81 Sea Place, W. 45026
- * Shave Mr. & Mrs. G, 8 Thakeham Close
- * Bushby, Mrs. O., 9 The Boulevard. W. 502759

BIBLE VERSESGood Tidings for the New Year

1 Chronicles Chapter 29 vv. 10-13 Wherefore David blessed the Lord before all the congregation. And David said, Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel our father, for ever and ever.

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty! for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. Thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head over all. Both riches and honour come of thee and thou reignest over all. And in thine hand is power and might: and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

So placidly amid the noise and haste
and remember what peace there may be in silence,
As far as possible without surrender
be on good terms with all person,
Speak your truth quietly and clearly,
and listen to others,
Even the dull and ignorant, they, too have their story.
You are a child of the universe, no less
than the trees and the stars, you have
a right to be here.
Therefore be at peace with God, whatever
you conceive him to be, and whatever your
labours and aspirations in the noisy confusion
of life, keep PEACE with your soul.

by Max Ehrmann

(sent from friends in Vancouver)

PHIL SCUDDER

OUR CORRESPONDENTChurch Meeting 4th December, 1975

Before the actual start to the meeting there was a short informal singing of carols.

Fellowship Tribute was paid to members who had died since the previous meeting. Details were given of sick members. Any additions to the Book of Remembrance should be notified to Mr. N. Gregory.

The transfer of Miss W. Smith to Bury Drive Methodist Church was agreed together with the acceptance by transfer of two new members.

Treasurer's Report Mr. Redman gave details of present financial position. There was a welcome increase in collections during the year. Repairs had been undertaken to various parts of the Church fabric. April 1976 would show the start of centralised payments of stipends to ministers. The Church was asked to agree to a gift to Mr. John Titlow this year and for further help in the future. The meeting agreed.

Question Time It was hoped that the heating apparatus would very soon be put in order. Mr. Mooney gave a report on a meeting held on Monday, 1st December and details of further events regarding "Evangelism for Christ" programme. Gifts of money would be welcomed by him as Treasurer of the project. Young people of the Church were prepared to distribute Prayer Cards. Prayer vigils were already being held in various houses, and Mrs. Tuley was asked to see if a Prayer Vigil could be arranged in the Church on New Year's Day.

The Elders had raised the question as to what could be done to preserve the Spiritual intensity now apparent in the Church. The Minister stated that there was a time for prayer every Friday at 9.0 p.m. in the Prayer Chapel.

As a follow-up of the last reports Messrs. Bond and Popplestone gave further details of the meeting of the Synod at Canterbury. Several questions needed answering and it was suggested that special meetings be held for discussion such as those held once or twice after evening service.

The Elders were to be asked to consider all these matters.

Best wishes were extended to Mr. Eric Bond on his forthcoming visit to Malaya.

GIRLS' BRIGADE

The final result of our Bazaar way back in November was £260 and we were delighted with the result. With some of this money we were able to give pleasure to "Save the Children Fund", "St. Bridget's" Cheshire Home, and "Westholme".

Our Awards evening we all enjoyed immensely and now we face the challenge of a new year. Please pray for us that more help may be forthcoming. With 62 girls we really are getting desperate for more pairs of hands to help us.

Many exciting things are planned for 1976 and in due course you will all come to hear about them.

A Happy New Year to you all,

JEAN WEBB

BEFORE WE ASK

I am weak, but 'He' is strong. At the Prayer Meeting held before the Healing Service, my sister-in-law Phyllis was mentioned twice for Healing. She had had a cartilage operation that had gone wrong. Phyllis and I write weekly to each other, and in her letter after the Healing Service she said that during the weekend a wonderful experience of God's Presence, a calming and a Peace within came over her.

On the Friday before the Healing Service the Therapist was delighted to tell Phyllis that her progress had gone up from 65 to 94, the ultimate result has to be 180, so you can see she still has a long way to go. Before we even asked for Healing He knew of her need.

I am sorry to say she has had a set-back. Coming down the stairs her bad leg gave way, and she fell from top to bottom, banging herself from side to side, she could hardly bear anyone to touch her whilst her body shook, fear had set in.

On the Monday at Casualty she saw the doctor there, who assured her that no damage had been done and the swelling around the knee would go down eventually, though this means added time to heal.

Please, may I be assured of your continued prayer support for Phyllis. May God's wonderful healing which is just waiting to be asked for, for everyone who needs God's Healing and Blessings. 'Father Give us the Faith to Believe.

God's Healing and Blessings be upon you all,

CONSTANCE J. GILL

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Doris and Gordon Wraight would like to express their deep appreciation of the many and varied kindnesses so graciously shewn to them during recent weeks. Whilst your loving thoughts and prayers were a comfort all the way through, they were particularly helpful during the dark days. May they take this opportunity of sending New Year Greetings to friends at the Church.

Mary Stephens wishes to thank everyone who helped in the Christmas Festival.-----

Christian Aid for December - £12.80

With many thanks to all friends for their continued support.

HILDA HELE

THANK YOU, EXPLORERS

The Residents of Hayward House would like to say a big thank you to the Explorers for their very kind thought in sending each of us a Christmas Card; we were so pleased to have them, and we hope all Explorers have had a very happy Christmas and will have a very happy New Year.

SMALL AD.

The Day Room at the new Worthing Hospital requires an old but serviceable sewing machine (hand variety). Please get in touch with the Sister in charge if you have such a machine to give.

PHIL SCUDDER

FAMILY CIRCLE

The Committee wish all readers a Happy and Prosperous New Year. As we are about to start the second part of our Programme it is worth re-capping on the results of our efforts so far.

Four evenings have been held and the total attendance at these nights exceeds 400. This is very pleasing indeed. What of the future? On Monday, 2nd February we offer you an American Tour Film which is synchronised to popular and classical music. This will take the whole night and we thoroughly recommend this programme to you.

On Monday, 1st March we have the Slide Competition, presented by Mr. Chester Fromme. This evening will be devoted to the competition and a talk on how to get the most from your camera. Following this on Tuesday, 30th March, an evening's entertainment will be provided by the "Rolland Singers" and finally on 26th April we have Mr. Phillip Challiss, the well-known B.B.C. Pianist, playing for you.

We trust this programme is attractive to you. Why don't you help us to expand our audience? If you have friends, not necessarily members of the Church, who do not attend these evenings, bring them along. Note the dates NOW!

Look forward to seeing you all in 1976.

MONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

Let us go forward into this New Year, trusting in the Lord completely, in everything we do, may we put God first and He will direct us.

We commence our meetings in 1976 with Mr. Connelly speaking to us on 12th January, in the Cornwall Room about "Strange Encounters". On 26th January we are combining with the Missionary Committee and we warmly invite EVERYONE to come to the Church Hall at 8.00 p.m. to hear Mr. Philip Vickers speak on "Aid to the Church in Need". This is an International and Interdenominational organisation started by Roman Catholics at the end of the Second World War, to support Christians throughout stricken Europe. It now seeks to help Christians living under threat of religious oppression, in all parts of the world - such as those living in Communist countries. The expenses of the evening will be met by our fellowship, but we do ask that people will respond generously to the collection to be taken for "Aid to the Church in Need". Refreshments will be provided.

IRENE TULEY

CHURCH FLOWERS FOR JANUARY

4th	Mrs. B. Chatfield
	Mr. & Mrs. Pullinger
11th	Mrs. V. Cartledge
18th	Mr. & Mrs. Boyce
25th	Mrs. E. Dearsley

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We hope that our programme for the Spring Session will prove attractive and will encourage more men to support our fortnightly Fellowship meetings. We open on 6th January with a "Quiz" devised by Robbie Parker, and we invite you to sharpen your wits and attend in force. Please obtain your copy of the syllabus from me or Douglas Mooney.

We finished our Autumn Session on a high note with a delightful programme of Christmas music by the New Orpheus Singers which we shared with the Women's Guild, and we are looking forward to the second visit of Norman Snow in March, when we shall continue our journey to the Arctic Circle through Scandinavia.

REG GOODCHILD

WOMEN'S GUILD

At our meeting on 25th November, members voted whole heartedly for the continuance of our meetings in their present form, and our Spring session has been arranged accordingly.

Tuesday January 6th is the date of our first meeting in 1976: please enter it in your diary and come along to hear the New Year Message which our Minister has promised us. It has the intriguing Title "When the old Queen Died".

We hope all our members will be with us to start the new session and we shall be particularly pleased to welcome new members. A New Year Social is arranged for January 20th. An attractive programme is being prepared so come along and enjoy yourselves.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR WITH MANY BLESSINGS IS WISHED FOR
ALL OUR MEMBERS.

ETHEL GILBY

BOYS' BRIGADE

Many thanks for your kind contributions towards our Boys' Brigade Week effort. We received 54 contributions amounting to £30 and amongst these contributions we had one for £5 one for £3, one for £2 and six for £1, to these givers of extra amounts we give extra thanks. The sponsored effort of collecting tins of food fell short of the target of 250 tins by 80 tins, but we are sure the food will be appreciated by some of the needy folk around Christmas time.

Our numbers have fallen especially in the Company Section, but we hope the quality makes up for the lack of quantity. Some members of the Company have committed their way to the Lord and are serving Him in various ways in the life of the Church. We generally find that the boy who progresses through the Junior and Company Sections and who also makes regular Junior Church attendance is the boy who helps to make the real backbone of the Company.

We certainly need your prayers for our work amongst these boys, and we would particularly ask your prayers for the boys due to be promoted from the Juniors into the Company in September.

We look forward to a good start for our pre-junior section on the 14th January. Mrs. Garrod will be in charge and we are sure that if she has the material she will make a good job. If you know of any youngster under 8 that is keen to launch himself into a B.B. career - please let us know.

The B.B. Officer from the U.S.A. was asked recently about the strength of the Boys' Brigade, his reply was "The Lord Jesus Christ, he is our strength". We as a Company would like to ascribe to that for indeed His is the only strength we can rely on.

DONALD STEWART

MISSIONARY NEWS

The fact that you are able to read this magazine at all demonstrates that you and I enjoy two freedoms - of worship and of publishing material about the Christian Faith. We have been used to these privileges all our lives and now most of us take them for granted. We shouldn't - they could very easily be lost. About half the world has already lost (or never had) these freedoms and we are to hear something about this at our next Missionary Event:-

A MISSIONARY/MONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

OPEN MEETING

MONDAY, 26th JANUARY at 8.0 p.m.

"AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED" - BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN

ILLUSTRATED TALK BY PHILIP VICKERS

ADMISSION FREE,

COLLECTION FOR "AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED"

This is an open evening for all, not just for members of the MEF or for missionary supporters, and it is hoped that there will be a good response. Young people are particularly invited.

This is an opportunity to hear something of the work being done to help Christians who today are being persecuted for their faith. The organisation represented is one of the few to concentrate such help where it is most needed, in the "People's Democracies" of Eastern Europe and Asia, a sphere largely neglected by the World Council of Churches. We tend to hear very little about the vicious sentences to imprisonment and forced labour camps of Orthodox and Baptist Christians in Russia for the 'crime' of holding services or distributing Bibles. Even where 'freedom' to be a Christian is allowed it is often accompanied by penalties ensuring that Christians cannot hold good jobs or use further education facilities.

Any 'Detente' with Iron Curtain countries will be a spurious sham if it does not secure at least an alleviation of this persecution. In the meantime our support, our interest and our prayers are sought for our suffering fellow-Christians and this meeting gives us an opportunity to demonstrate these.

ROBIN BRUFORD

MISSION TO WORTHING -
PENTECOST 1976

At the recent Church Meeting a progress report was received giving up to date information of the gathering momentum of this effort. For the benefit of those (260 odd) members who were unable to be present, we give below a summary of the report.

Since the summer, over 500 people, representing a cross-section of the 43 churches committed to support the Mission, have been meeting in house groups to study a syllabus prepared by the Rev. Clifford Johnson entitled "Into all the World". These groups are ecumenical and most of those involved met at an inspiring and enthusiastic rally held at the Worthing Baptist Church on 1st December.

The Mission is being directed by Mr. Johnson (Methodist), Mr. R.G. Brown (a Baptist layman) and Captain Tennant of the Church Army (Anglican), supported by a committee of 18 clergy and laymen. All church members throughout Worthing have received a letter indicating the objects of the Mission and suggesting ways in which we can all help - if we have the will. Many of our older friends cannot offer active help in some of the ways suggested. We can, however, all pray, and we can back our prayers with hard cash. The treasurer, whose name is appended, will be pleased to receive gifts in financial support of the Mission.

In this connection most churches have made donations from their funds but it is estimated that several hundreds more pounds will be needed.

DATES TO REMEMBER are:

1st January	Prayer vigil for Mission in each church
1st March	Rally in Worthing Baptist Church at 7.30 p.m. for all those actively committed to the Mission.
5th June	Procession of Witness through Worthing culminating in a short service in the centre of town.
9th - 12th June	Rallies in the Assembly Hall with special guest speakers. Details of these meetings will be announced later.

During the early weeks of 1976 Mr. Johnson and others propose to have short services on Saturday mornings in the Montague Street shopping precinct and also in the Guildbourne Centre.

DOUGLAS MOONEY

A Letter from Rev. Clarke:

You are invited to a meeting of Group Bible Study Leaders and Clergy from the Goring Area to be held in St. Mary's Vestry on Wednesday, 7th January, 1976, at 7.30 p.m. At this meeting there will be an opportunity to discuss the results of the Bible Study Group meetings and to comment on future plans for the Mission in Goring. This notice is being sent out well in advance so as not to clash with Christmas mail, so would you kindly take note of the time and date.

***** please see page 21 *****

H.F. Fllis' FAMILY LIFE (Continued from last month)

At the Essex village of Little Dunmow there is held each year a competition to find the happiest married couple. They compete for a side of bacon known as the Dunmow Fritch. The couples are cross-examined by the judges and some will state that they have never had a disagreement. If I was a judge I

would hesitate to award the prize to such a couple. To me such a statement would suggest, that one or the other had been dominated by his or her partner and was no longer a vital living personality. What are the charges levelled against Family Life to-day?; There are many divorces, separations and desertions, parents are unable to control their children and many homes become just a place to eat and sleep!

The Chinese and Israelis are attempting an alternative to the familiar pattern, but I believe this is an expedient to include women in the work force and to indoctrinate the children with their new philosophies. I cannot believe these new patterns will survive because it is contrary to human nature to separate parents from their children and deprive children of parental love and care, however efficient the clinic. No doubt, however, the change from the vigorous Chinese pattern of ancestor worship and the discipline and exclusive pattern of Judaism was due.

What has happened to family life in our country? There is little doubt that it has changed over the years. First we had the Industrial Revolution when men left the land and were sent to factory and mining areas. This was the beginning of the break up of village and rural communities, where not only the parents and children, but the grandparents were all within walking distance of each other, in fact to parody W.S. Gilbert - "And so were his sisters and his cousins whom he reckons up by dozens, and his aunts".

This depression was increased by the invention of the steam locomotive and motor transport, making travel easier. The 1914 war saw the break up of many families for many fathers and sons left home, many never to return, and many mothers went into industry working long hours to help the war effort. After the war unemployment sent men far afield seeking work, and no longer were the grandparents cousins and aunts around the corner. The theatres,

music halls and cinemas also had their effect by providing entertainment previously found at home. Apart from war none of these events were wrong in themselves, but all effected the pattern of family life in this country.

I suggest that the qualities of a Christian family are love, care and compassion and a respect for the personality of each member by each member. There is also a material side involving good housing and adequate incomes which should not be overlooked. Education should also play its part and I would suggest that a course on "The Family and the Home" for sixth formers would be as great a value as Latin or Greek. For Christian parents, Christian teaching on the family and human relationships cannot be left to the schools but the Church should play a greater part in this respect.

At the centre of family life is the relation of parents to each other and of children to parents and parents to children. The sacredness of personality is a Christian principle. This has done much to deliver the child and in some cases the mother from being merely a chattel or a plaything. When Jesus heard his disciples discussing which of them would be the greatest he "Took a little child and set him in the midst" so setting forces at work more powerful than the displacement of one code for another. The fact that Jesus accepted a child as a person challenges love itself to more intelligent service. It is a great thing to care for the physical health of each child in the family; it is a great thing to give a good education; but the greatest is to develop its character and it is in the family that character is built. It must however be the child's own character not one imposed by rite or parental prohibition, but by unselfish example and an appeal to the mind and heart by truthful and rational explanation. In dealing with personality example is often not enough. A younger member of a family will often see the example set by parents and take it all as a matter of course. If however he or she is confided in, given an explanation, given a responsibility as an essential member of the family, the example is more likely to be followed. (to be concluded next month)

YOUTH CORNER

Dear Boys and Girls,

Here we are again, a whole year gone, and we enter the first month of the New Year. The Angles and Saxons called this month "Wulf monath" because cold and hunger made the wolves enter the villages at that season. We call the month January, after the Roman god Janus.

Janus was a god with two faces, a god who looked forward and who looked back, and who carried in his left hand a key. The Romans worshipped Janus in a temple that was kept open in times of war, but was closed in times of peace. He was the god of beginnings and ends. The pious Roman who wanted to begin a matter well, or to make a good end of something, implored the assistance of Janus. This god was also the doorkeeper of heaven and the protector of gates and doorways. His temple had twelve doors in it, just as the year has twelve months.

It was a clever idea of the Romans to name the first month of the year after Janus, because he suggests looking forward and looking back. Everyone who thinks at all feels at the beginning of the year that it is a time for looking back on the past, and also a time for looking forward to the future. It is a month of beginning as well as a month of ending.

As Christians we believe in the one God, who is with us always, not only at ends or beginnings, not every month, but every day, every hour, every minute.

Happy New Year,

MARY CONNELLY

Great God, we sing that mighty hand,
By which supported still we stand;
The opening year Thy mercy shows,
That mercy crowns it till it close.

By day, by night, at home, abroad,
Still are we guarded by our God;
By His incessant bounty fed,
By His unerring counsel led.

With grateful hearts the past we own;
The future, all to us unknown,
We to Thy guardian care commit,
And peaceful leave before Thy feet.

(C.P. 638)

Philip Doddridge

CLOSING DATE FOR FEBRUARY MAGAZINE WILL BE 18th JANUARY

Overheard at Fer. Place -

Returning Speaker at tea-time:

"I told them about the absent minded professor who,
on coming down to breakfast, kissed his egg and
cracked his wife over the head with the spoon!"

FROM THE VESTRY

The Reformed Pastor!

- A phrase well known through richard Baxter's book of that name; yet beyond all that he said to his own generation, words that have a profound meaning for us today.

I want this Ministry to be a good ministry. Whether long or short, when seen in earth's eyes, I want this Ministry to be a good one when judged from the eyes and heart of heaven. At a time when the word 'Mission' is on our lips and in our prayers, let us make this a MISSIONARY Ministry. Within a society where loneliness imperils young and old alike, I want this to be a CARING Ministry. Above the nervous noises of an uncertain age, I want this to be a CONFIDENT Ministry, full of praise, full of Christ, full of the Holy Spirit, full of Gospel truth.

But I am asking too much of myself, and with all your love perhaps you are making the same mistake. The Reformed Pastor, the Renewed Church, is possible only when we offer ourselves in weakness and trembling into the loving healing hands of Christ. This is what I am doing today.

O Thou who camest from above
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.

THERE LET IT FOR THY GLORY BURN.

Blessings and love,

WILLIAM CONNELLY

The Ministry of Healing

Miss Lilah Harris	Mr. C. Brann
Miss Sheila Walsh	Miss F. Lock
Miss L. Callow	Mr. & Mrs. E. Humphrey
Miss J. Boughton	Miss D. Gay

For these and the many whose names are in the book
for prayers,

The Lord Bless you and keep you

In Memoriam

Peter MacDonald Shaw	1. 1. 76
Thomas William Tipper	27.12. 75
Edward George John Goodhind	17.12. 75
William Ronald Fraser Batten	16.12. 75
William Joseph Ball	10.12. 75

"Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted"

Baptism

Isabel Joy Titlow	28.12. 75
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"The arms of young and old are given in love to
serve this joy"

Wedding

John Robson Turton	
Violet Emma Cartledge	10. 1. 76

"and the greatest of these is Love"

New Members

*Ann Bil	45 Upton Road, Worthing
*Anne Burningham	142 George V. Avenue, Worthing
*Christopher Chatfield	50 Reigate Road, Worthing
*David Courtnadge	98 The Strand, Goring
*Brian Easey	22 Sea Lane, Ferring
*Lesley Easey	22 Sea Lane, Ferring
*Lindy Elliott	5 Adur Avenue, Durrington
*Wendy Evans	20 Palatine Road, Goring
*Graeme Gill	43 Alinora Avenue, Goring
*Neil Webster	5 Oakleigh Close, E. Worthing

And Jesus said 'Follow Me'
Looking unto Jesus

We rejoice in this sign of the growing life of our Church pray for their faithfulness in years to come.

WANTED A small bookcase for the Vestry, any offers to the Vestry please.

Have you heard?

NEW COLUMN

The Brigades have ambitions.

Their greatest ambition is to bring young people into the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Your help in prayers and other practical ways is always valued. This week's quotation Come up and see us sometimes - who said that - ? not Don Stewart surely!

That the Vigil, 15 hours in all, gathered together many people in prayer for the Worthing Mission.

Don't plan your next event before consulting Graham Redman - he keeps the Church Calendar.

The Minister is never too busy to see you, invite him!

We are to receive some more new members next month... what about YOU ... it's a challenge and an opportunity.

FILL THIS SPACE WITH YOUR NEWS

HANDBOOK AMENDMENT

Please see page 2 for new members and addresses

* Mr. & Mrs. J.R. Turton, 5a Robson Road, Worthing

BIBLE VERSESDiligently

Joshua Chapter 22 v. 6. But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the Lord charged you, to love the Lord your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Luke Chapter 15 vv. 8,9. Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house diligently till she find it. And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me: for I have found the piece which I had lost.

Hebrews Chapter 11 v.6. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Having shared, with others who have been ill recently, the kind concern and prayers of the Church, we are anxious that everyone should know how grateful we are, and how much the good wishes and visits of our Minister and other friends have helped us both.

FRANCES & PIP BIGGS

I would like to express my sincere Thanks for all your kindness, gifts, and above all for your prayers, shewn to us during Mr. Shaw's illness. Also my appreciation for your kindness to me after his passing from this world to a higher place, where he has found peace and rest, and to those who attended the cremation. Many, many thanks to you all,

my Best wishes for the New Year,

LILY CALLOW

VIEWPOINT

Constantly, I find that the number one obstacle to personal faith in Christ is 'the Church'.
(Rev. David C.K. Watson). Do YOU have a view on this

which you would like to share with others? Let's hear it. Write to The Editor in time for the March issue.

PROVOCATEUR

NEW YEAR'S DAY PRAYER VIGIL

The 43 Churches participating in the Mission to Worthing "COME 76" were asked to keep a Prayer Vigil on 1st January.

Accordingly, the West Transept of our Church was used for prayer from 8.00 to 23.00. One or more members agreed to be 'on duty' for each hour and were joined during the day by other members and friends.

The young people were responsible for one hour, another time was covered by the Thursday afternoon prayer group and the Friday night prayer group met a day early and covered the last two hours.

The list of members and friends in the handbook was divided up and a section given to the leader of each hour so that in addition to praying for the Mission and for those in need, prayers were offered for each one of us in the handbook. Ten of the lists contained the name of one of the young people who were to become members on 4th January. The thought came to a number of people that to hold a Prayer Vigil on 1st January was the right way to start each year. Next year come and join us! The Lord surely blessed us all that day!

IRENE TULEY

CHURCH SECRETARYSHIP

The Church Meeting on 29th December received a report from the Elders of a review of the office of Church Secretary. Since the resignation of the Joint Secretaries about a year ago, Mr. C.S. Stephens had carried on the duties with general assistance from Mr. F.C. Bond.

It was felt that the single office of Church Secretary should be restored, but that some of the associated duties which have gravitated to that office over the years should be hived off and allocated to separate officers of the Church. The Meeting therefore

agreed to the following appointments, to take effect at the annual election of Officers:-

Church Secretary	Mr. Charles S. Stephens
Secretary for Pastoral Matters	Mr. Eric C. Bond
Secretary for Christian Education	Mr. Eric W. Popplestone

The effect is to continue the non-conformist tradition of having a central lay Officer giving personal support to the Minister and dealing with the business of the Church, whilst at the same time streamlining the duties to a manageable level. The two new associated offices can be clearly defined and the duties are sufficient in importance and extent to warrant separate appointments.

It is beyond doubt that the Membership of the Church will feel grateful to Charles Stephens, Eric Bond and Eric Popplestone for their dedication in accepting these appointments. Each has already earned our gratitude for unstinting and efficient service, and each has now embarked on a course of duty to which he is especially devoted. It must be a matter for sincere and general thanksgiving that the same manifestation of the Holy Spirit which led the Elders and Church Meeting to invite them to serve has inspired them to accept the invitation.

JOHN S. BLACKWOOD

MISSIONARY NOTES

A Point for Discussion

In some countries where missionaries work, as indeed in many others, including our own, terrorist activities are common. In the fighting terrorists get hurt and seek two things, medical aid and refuge - a situation which can pose particular problems for medical missionaries who may become involved. It is generally agreed that they have a duty to give the medical aid whatever their feelings towards the terrorist's actions and the cause for which he stands.

The difficulty comes in the question of refuge. Having treated the injuries to the best of their ability should they give the terrorist up to the authorities and possibly to summary execution?

Of course there can be no hard and fast rules of general application and those faced with this terrible dilemma will always have to decide each case in the light of their own prayers and guidance. Sometimes it may be right for the Christian to give refuge to the terrorist. Where this is so it has also to be said, however paradoxically, that it may well be equally right for the civil authorities to mete out to the Christian the punishment for such conduct laid down by law. There is ample New Testament authority for both propositions, since it is a Christian's duty

1. to obey God's commands as revealed to him;
2. to submit himself to the civil authorities and not try to escape any consequences that may flow from his carrying out his duty to God.

That way is terribly hard, as is the whole problem, and all those involved (which, before long, could easily include ourselves) deserve both our prayers and our understanding.

S.O.S. CALL THE FIRE BRIGADE!

What a blessing it is to share our needs and the needs of others in prayer. The prayer circle originated $1\frac{1}{2}$ years ago because of someone in need. God abundantly blessed that person because a few of us shared the need over the telephone, and we each prayed in our homes. Since then, the circle has grown and we have seen many wonderful answers to our prayers. Jesus said "If two of you agree on earth about any request you have to make, that request will be granted by My heavenly Father" (Matt.18 v.19)

The Prayer Chapel and the Request for Prayer Book are now much used and therefore the role of the prayer circle is to receive any URGENT requests

for prayer - you might like to call us the Prayer Fire Brigade!

We are in the process of creating 3 or more small prayer circles as a circle can only be really effective if it is not too large. If there are any who would be willing to be part of a prayer circle, (and have a telephone), the Minister will be pleased to pass on your name. Please telephone urgent requests for prayer to any one of the following numbers:

Worthing: 44157, 65319, 40376

IRENE TULEY

H.E. ELLIS' FAMILY LIFE (Final Instalment)

I think we should be careful not to condemn every change in the pattern of family life just because it is different. There were faults in the past and I am reminded that in 1867 the problem of the Waifs and Strays in our cities was so vast that Dr. Barnardo founded his Homes for homeless children. We have come a long way since those days.

I suggest that a marriage built on the following three points should result in a useful happy family:

1. The Christian basis of marriage
2. The recognition of the dignity of womanhood, manhood and childhood
3. The recognition of the brotherhood of man and the part of the family in promoting the Kingdom of God.

In conclusion what can we do today? 1. Recognise that the root of many of our social problems lies within the family life and it is the duty of Christians to show what Christian family life can and should be when founded on love. 2. To show that it is fundamental to Christianity to regard every personality as of equal value in the sight of God. 3. That Christians should do all that is within their power to secure for others the necessities and comforts of home which they enjoy themselves. 4. Support all measures which secure better housing so that slums

and housing shortage will never occur again. In this respect houses should have priority over office blocks and more houses should be built to be rented by those unable to obtain a mortgage.

I can do no better than to end with part of the story told by St. Luke of the encounter on the road to Emmaus "And they drew nigh unto the village, and he made as though he would have gone further, But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us, and he went in to tarry with them. And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread and blessed it and brake and gave to them and their eyes were opened, and they knew Him."

ELECTION OF ELDERS, 1976

The Annual Election of Elders will take place at a Church Meeting on 15th April, 1976, and every full Member of the Church is eligible for nomination as a Candidate for election to the Elders' Meeting.

As has already been announced at Church Services on Sundays, 25th January and 1st February, Members are invited to submit nominations to the Church Secretaries by Sunday, 8th February, 1976.

Each nomination should be in writing, signed by the proposer and seconder, but not requiring the prior consent of the Nominee. Members of the Nominations Committee will be responsible for making a personal approach to every Nominee. Notice of the persons who have accepted Nomination will be given at the Church Meeting on 4th March.

Elders retiring by rotation in 1976 but who are eligible for nomination, are:

Mr. E.C. Bond	Mrs. F. Calsteren
Miss L. Harris	Mr. D. Mooney
Mr. C. Nodes	Mr. E. Popplestone

C.S. STEPHENS
Secretary

First Report to the Church Meeting on the Ministry
of Healing

(Presented by the Committee of Elders and interested
friends)

DECEMBER, 1975

We believe

- (1) that all our knowledge of God leads to the conviction that he seeks our good and desires us to be completely whole as people and personalities.
- (2) that Christ came to accomplish this work as healer of men and women and that the Scriptures are the basis of testimony to this work.
- (3) that at the heart of the world sin has broken that relationship which makes us God's loving and obedient children. Christ's work is to restore this relationship, ours to accept his gift.
- (4) the mysteries of pain and suffering are to be seen in the light of the Cross where Christ forgives and reconciles us to God.
- (5) that all our worship, fellowship and service should tend toward wholeness in Christ. Love is healing and every Committee of the Church for whatever purpose should have a primary purpose of loving and caring and healing in Christ's name.
- (6) There will remain many mysteries until we see God face to face, and faith alone as trust in God through Christ will help us within these mysteries.
- (7) Healing of body, mind and spirit will be sought in this light and we believe that God's loving purposes will not be ultimately denied by disease, suffering or death. It is in this spirit that we shall pray for physicians, surgeons and nurses, and the whole ministry of healing.

(8) To keep this central to the Church we suggest that we continue the evening Communion services with their emphasis upon the healing ministry of Christ in his Church. That use of the prayer book and requests for prayers through prayer circles and through the vestry should be encouraged. The Thursday morning prayer service will continue to emphasise the ministry of healing. The Church being open and the Minister being available in the Vestry will be seen as the beginning of a more vigorous counselling service to the community.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The Service for the Women's World Day of Prayer is being held at St. Mary's Church this year, on the 5th March, 1976 at 3.0 p.m. and it is hoped that the ladies of our Church will support this United Service with all the churches in Goring if possible.

LILAH HARRIS

HELP THE AGED APPEAL, 1976

Wed. 10th March

Once again our help has been requested and your support will be much appreciated, either in the form of used clothes and blankets, or as a helper to receive and pack the clothing on the day. We are also especially asked to raise a donation of money this year. Please note the date.

JANE BOND

Christian Aid for January - Amount received
£42.80

With many thanks
HILDA HELE

GIRLS BRIGADE

Another year is now well under way, but already we have met a large snag! Like most holiday-makers we too have now got a surcharge of nearly £40 on our week's camp booked for August.

As we have a lot of money to pay out this year, we propose to try and raise this extra £40 by way of a coffee morning and an Open Evening. Our Coffee Morning will take place on Saturday, 10th April, and on Tuesday, 15th June we shall open our doors to all who would like to share an evening with us.

We rejoice in the news that Mrs. Norris is now a lieutenant, and all being well will officially receive her Commission at our Church Parade in March. We are happy too to report the promise of two new helpers to the Company Section. Truly our prayers are being answered.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Quiz on 6th January proved to be a very lively event and although some of the questions were very testing there was always someone ready with the answers.

In February we look forward to seeing Holiday slides presented by Ron Briggs on 3rd and on 17th we welcome Rev. Clifford Johnson from Offington Park Methodist Church, who will talk on "Mission to Worthing 1976".

We are most anxious to increase our membership and we extend a warm welcome to all men who can spare an hour and a half to join us on alternate Tuesday afternoons.

REG GOODCHILD

MONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

All ladies are warmly invited to join us on 9th February in the Cornwall Room at 8.0p.m. and to bring with them "A Book that I'd Like to Recommend".

On 23rd February Mr. Cliff Edwards is coming to speak on "Off-Beat Brighton", to which gentlemen as well as ladies are very welcome. Mr. Edwards is a native of Brighton and being an historian he started to delve into the stories of people that lay behind the landmarks and the back roads of Brighton. His hobby has become a part-time job and he is now an official tourist guide.

IRENE TULEY

WOMEN'S GUILD

Our first meeting in February, on the 3rd of that month, is to be a Members' Afternoon, when four of our members will entertain us with their "Favourite Reading". These readings should meet the varying tastes of our members.

On 17th February we again exploit 'local talent' when Mrs. F. Calsteren, an Elder of the Church and member of the Guild, will show us transparencies and talk about some of the 'Stately Homes of Britain' which she has visited, camera in hand.

There is always a welcome awaiting new members.

ETHEL GILBY

CHURCH FLOWERS FOR FEBRUARY

1st	Mrs. F.L. DePury
8th	Mr. & Mrs. M. E. Jones
15th	Mr. & Mrs. F.L. Wills
22nd	Mr. & Mrs. C.S. Stephens
29th	The Rev. & Mrs. W. Connelly

KAY WINSTANLEY

THE FAMILY CIRCLE

The Family Circle starts its 1976 programme on Monday, 2nd February by showing a coloured film, which is synchronised to popular music, of an American Tour. The film has been shown extensively in Sussex and has been widely acclaimed for its superb photography.

On Monday, 1st March we will be running a slide competition and further particulars of this popular evening will be issued later. Please take note of the dates now.

JIM CURRIE

FROM THE YOUTH FORUM

During some Sundays just prior to Christmas we visited and shared in the worship of various other churches in our neighbourhood. Here are some accounts of the experiences that we had:

On visiting Worthing Tabernacle we found it very different from our home church. A great difference was that there was no choir, but this made no difference at all to the singing. Sitting in the gallery, some of us feared that we might feel outsiders to the service but it was a mutual agreement that we were made to feel very welcome, enjoying the atmosphere and finding it easy to praise God. It was immediately noticed that when there was a bible reading virtually the whole congregation had taken their own bibles to follow the readings. The Minister's preaching was clear and easy to follow, but the sermon although longer than those we are used to, was understandable and interesting. There were a lot of young people present and the ages otherwise were quite varied. In spite of the differences we all enjoyed our visit immensely and were made to feel quite at home.

JUDY BRUCE-HAY
VALERIE LUCKIN

We went to the Gospel Hall in Bedford Row on 14th December. There was a large congregation in the rather simple church, consisting mainly of older people, who appeared very friendly to us. The service was not conducted by one person but different people stood up and read a passage from the Bible. We were not sure if this was prearranged or if it was similar to the Quakers: they stood up when they felt prompted to do so. I personally think it was the first reason as these people appeared to be leaders of the Church. After a short pause a hymn was sung after a Bible reading. There was no musical accompaniment but the congregation put all their mind and soul into praising God. Occasionally instead of a reading someone would read a prayer full of praise to God. Again we could not see why this type of service ended, but it did. We then celebrated Holy Communion, as they did each week. Only three large cups of wine and one loaf were used. After Holy Communion people had the chance to leave if they wanted to. We remained and heard one of the members read a part of Revelation. When he had read he discussed its meaning and relevance to our life with God. This event also occurs each week, but with a different speaker each time. The service then ended.

We thought the congregation was very kind to us and we also found it quite easy to worship God freely there.

PETER MARSHALL

Visit to the Friends Meeting House

On 23rd November we visited the Friends Meeting House, otherwise known as the Quakers. When we arrived we were each given a leaflet about the Quaker meetings. The people were all very friendly and made us feel quite at home. When we went into the hall everyone was quiet. There were a few

young children in the hall with us at first, but after $\frac{1}{4}$ hr. they went into another hall. The silence was only broken three or four times when people felt moved by the Holy Spirit to say a prayer or say something that might help the other people. To me the first half hour was very interesting, but after that I began to get a bit bored. The service ended with the elders shaking hands.

JULIAN BREWER

SUSSEX DAY

In the Meeting House of Sussex University members of United Reformed churches throughout the county will gather on Saturday, April 3rd for the purpose of listening to the Moderator of General Assembly, Dr. George Caird, joining in discussion, hearing organ music, touring the campus and generally getting to know one another. Dr. Caird will talk about the relevance of the Bible for the world today. There will be various displays and a bookstall. Recreational activities for children are being arranged, and it is hoped whole families will attend.

There has never been anything like this in Sussex before and we want this Church to be well represented. Leaflets giving fuller details and forms of application are available now (from the Secretaries). There is a limit to the number which can be accommodated so apply as soon as you can. The closing date is 15th March.

STOP PRESS

From Highdown School, Worthing.

May I ask you to pass on to your congregation our gratitude for their generous gift of toys and money, £3 from your Toy Service. The lovely toys have given the children great pleasure.

GWEN DAVIS

YOUTH CORNER

Dear Boys and Girls,

Already the first month of the year has gone - thirty one days of 1976 used up, and gone for ever! What did you do in those thirty one days, I wonder? How will you use the days of the next month? How many are there in February? If you learn the old rhyme which follows, you will never have any trouble remembering how many days there are in a given month.

Thirty days hath September,
 April, June and November;
 All the rest have thirty one
 Excepting February alone,
 And that hath twenty-eight days clear
 And twenty-nine in each leap year.

In the old Roman calendar, February had 29 days, but it was robbed of one day in order that August (named in honour of the Emperor Augustus) might have thirty one days, the same number as had been given to July (named after Julius Caesar). Augustus was then happier!

However, every four years February has one day added to its twenty eight. This extra day is added because a full year consists of 365 days, 6 hours, and at the end of four years these odd six hours have added up to a whole day of twenty four hours; it is given to February to make up for its short allowance of twenty eight days. That fourth year we call leap year.

The name February comes from "Februare", meaning "to purify". The Romans had a festival of purification in honour of the god Lupercus, or Taurus in the shape of a wolf-god - perhaps the wolf which mothered Romulus and Remus. This very ancient festival was held on the 15th February,

when goats and a dog were sacrificed, and then two youths ran round the Palatine Hill with strips of goat's hide ("Februa") in their hands, slashing anyone they met to purify them. In A.D. 494 Pope Gelasius the first replaced the Lupercalia by the festival of purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated on 2nd February.

Cleansing and purifying in February? It's usually towards the end of February (if not before) that we think about Spring cleaning our houses. What about some spiritual cleansing? Cleaning minds and hearts ready for God's sunshine. Let some sunshine in your soul!

So here hath been dawning
Another blue day,
Think, wilt thou let it
Slip useless away?

Out of eternity
This new day is born;
Into eternity,
At night will return.

Behold it aforetime
No eye ever did:
So soon it for ever
From all eyes is hid.

Here hath been dawning
Another blue day.
Think, wilt thou let it
Slip useless away?

Thomas Carlyle

So here we have an extra day, what will you do with it - and with the other twenty eight?

MARY CONNELLY

MARCH, 1976No. 276FROM THE VESTRY

How strange of the Devil
 With his unerring aptitude for putting the wrong
 thing in the right place,
 To try to tempt Christ,
 With all the kingdoms of the world and the glory
 thereof.

He should have offered Him
 a quiet cottage in Nazareth,
 A little child listening to the birds,
 And a patch of field flowers.

The modern poet Teresa Hooley sharpens the
 point of Lent until we are stabbed into life at
 the thought of what temptation really is. The
 present age, so shapeless and grey is quite
 capable of overflowing the lives of all but
 those who with Noah make an Ark in their hearts
 and through grace and faith survive the flood.

Read again the temptations of Jesus ... and
 read of His victory on the Cross. And remember
 that it is only as we are buried with Christ that
 we rise with Him.

Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon 'Lencten'
 meaning the Spring. May we pass through it to
 Easter which is the Spring of Souls.

Blessings and love,

WILLIAM CONNELLY

How little it costs
 If we give it a thought,
 To make some heart happy each day.
 Just one kind word
 Or a tender smile,
 As we go on our daily way.

IN MEMORIAM

Robin Oswald PARKER 28.1.76

Edward Noel HUMPHREY 4.2.76

and with these loved friends we remember all who have been bereaved during these past few weeks.

"And with the morn those angel faces smile,
which I have loved long since, and lost awhile".

THE MINISTRY OF HEALING

Many of our friends are ill, among them we remember Sheila Walsh, Mrs. L. Knight, Mrs. D. Mooney Mrs. F. Pritchard, Mrs. A. Cleverton, Mr. A. M. Campbell, Mrs. L. Burrage, Mr. R. Bruford, Mr. G. Fleming. So many are their number and with 'Flu, Mumps and the rest, we send our love to you, named or unnamed. You are remembered in our prayers for healing, and the book in the Little Chapel is for your help, please use it that we may help each other.

BAPTISM

Vanessa Irene BAKER 15.2.76

"of such is the Kingdom of Heaven"

WEDDING

John Robson TURTON 10.1.76

Violet Emma CARTLEDGE

"That theirs may be the love which knows no ending"

SERVICES FOR LENT

11th March 14.30h Bury Drive
"Mission in Age' Fr. D. McCarthy

18th March 14.30h Church of the English Martyrs
"Mission in Marriage and the Family"
Rev. P. Bennett

25th March 14.30h U.R.C.
"Mission at work" Rev. R. Pearson

In addition a service of Holy Communion will be held at St. Mary's on a date to be announced.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Michael and Joan Parker wish to thank the Church Members for all their support and practical help last Friday week at Dad's funeral. It was a great comfort to us to know so many good friends were thinking of and sharing with us at this time.

Thank you everyone for your pretty cards, your letters, your care and concern and lovely flowers During that bitter cold weather my house was like Spring. My love to you all,

TRUDIE KNIGHT

HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS

Mr. & Mrs. Hewitt, 'Trist', The Green, Veryan,
Mr. Truro. Tel: Veryan 457

Mrs. Humphrey, Brimar Nursing Home, St. Botolph's Rd

Mr. & Mrs. Shave, Tel: 43998

Mrs. M. Kershaw, 48 Vicarage Close, Steeple Claydon,
Bletchley, Bucks.

Mr. & Mrs. J. R. Turton. 5a Shaftesbury Avenue, Wg.

Mrs. Arnold, Tel: W. 34189

NOTE The new edition of the Church Handbook will soon be in preparation. I would be grateful to receive details of any changes that have not already been notified, by the end of March.

JANE BOND

HAVE YOU HEARD?

The Minister is still looking for a small bookcase for use in the Vestry. That Norman Gregory will very kindly and upon request help you to keep the Book of Remembrance up to date. That the bookcase

in the Little Chapel now has some large print Bibles - a gift from Mr. & Mrs. R.F. Raper, please use them.

By way of preparation for 'COME 76' - the Mission to Worthing, the Goring area Churches are combining for a United Prayer Meeting in the Roman Catholic Church of the English Martyrs on Tuesday, 1st June, at 19.30 hrs. This meeting is to be organised and led by a committee of Bible Study Group Leaders from the local Anglican, Methodist, Roman Catholic and United Reformed Churches. Please make a note in your diary to support this important event.

That the Minister has lost a page of his Master Plan visiting List. If you think that you have been left out of his rounds telephone the Vestry and invite him to call ... he is feeling miserable about this loss.

A large number of friends are bringing Bibles to Church - Good idea!

MISSION TO WORTHING
Dates to note

- March 1st (Monday) 'Calling all Christians' preparation for Mission. Special Meeting at Worthing Baptist Church, Christ Church Road, 19.30h.s.
- June 5th (Saturday) 'Procession of Witness' from West, East and North Worthing, through the town, concluding with a short service on the sea front.
- June 6th (Sunday) United Service, St. Paul's. 2Ch.
- June 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th United Rallies - Assembly Hall, special speakers.
- June 13th (Sunday) Thanksgiving Service, St. Paul's at 2Ch.
- June 27th (Sunday) Mass Rally - Broadwater Green.

LIVE A MIGHTY ARMY MOVES THE CHURCH OF GOD

BIBLE VERSESPeace

St. John 14 v. 27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you, let not your heart be troubled neither let it be afraid.

Romans 14 vv. 17 & 19 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink: but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

Philippians 4 vv. 6 & 7 (The Living Bible)
Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything; tell God your needs and don't forget to thank him for his answers. If you do this you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and your hearts quiet and at rest as you trust in Jesus Christ.

Church Times Prize Poem

For Lent

PETER REMEMBERS

"Lord, You must never wash my feet!" I cried;
But in the Upper Room's obscurity,
His lowliness rebuked my stormy pride.
I let Him kneel to me.

As He looked up, as I gazed down at Him,
A glow like sunset's crimson touched His brow.
Fear stirred within me, - but my eyes were dim
(I see more clearly now)

While on the table waited Bread and Wine, -
His Feast, where mortal and immortal meet, -
The Prince of Glory stooped; with hands divine
He washed my dusty feet.

E.G. HARDING

THE LATE MR. ROBIN PARKER

It was a terrible shock to hear of Robin's sudden death.

We first knew him about twenty years ago when he attended evening service in the Church Hall where we worshipped in those days. After hearing his voice during hymn singing my late husband and the late Mr. Hite contacted him. He did not become a member until his wife was able to come. After they became members things went well. I took Phyllis to our Working Party and she became our Treasurer and settled down. If you look at the dates in the Handbook you will see that Robin took over as Church Treasurer when the late Mr. G.L. Nodes retired. Robin did so many jobs in such an excellent manner. He helped at garden parties and any carpentry and joinery work he could always be relied upon to do. He was introduced to the Choir by the late Mr. W.G. Hite and we all know what a powerful voice he had and how we enjoyed listening to his singing.

He will be very much missed by all who knew him.

He was on the committee of the Church building and was a very helpful member. When the late Mr. S. Grew took us on an outing to London arrangements were made for us to see over the City Temple and whilst there I asked him to especially take a note of the kitchen which he did and so he designed our present kitchen.

We ask for God's blessing on his only son Michael and his wife, and the two grandchildren.

from

CICELY NODES

A NOTE FOR ANY NEW FRIENDS

We shall be very happy to welcome you to the next series of classes in preparation for Church Membership. These are to be held at the Manse on Sunday afternoons from 2.30 p.m. until 3.15p.m.

beginning on Sunday, 7th March.

It will be understood that any decision to become a member of the Church will be considered as these classes continue, and that you are under no obligation to become a Church Member unless you personally express a desire to do so.

THE MINIST

THE RECEPTION OF CHURCH MEMBERS
ON PROFESSION OF FAITH

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in accordance with the decision of the Church Meeting, we are now to receive into full communion with the Church

Dearly beloved, we have heard with joy of your decision to live the Christian life, and of your desire to be joined to the family and household of God. Now you come, after careful thought and prayer to profess your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, to consecrate yourselves to him, and to accept the privileges and responsibilities of membership in his Church.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And be not fashioned according to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Do you acknowledge Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, and do you confess the Christian faith as it is taught in the Holy Scripture?

Response: I do

Do you promise to obey God's holy will, and to walk according to his commandments all the days of your life? Do you resolve to fulfil the duties of membership in the Church, joining regularly in public worship, in the Communion of the Lord's Supper, and in the Church Meeting; and, being faithful in Bible reading and in prayer, in giving and in service?

Response I do.

Do you promise to live and witness as a Christian believer, to seek the peace and welfare of Christ's Church, and, with all the followers of Christ, to work and pray for the coming of his kingdom in the world?

Response I do.

The Minister then says to each of the Members to be received:

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we receive and welcome you to membership of the Church, to share in all its privileges and responsibilities: and in token thereof we now give you the right hand of fellowship.

The Father of our Lord Jesus Christ grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be filled with all the fulness of God.

NEWS OF LOCAL U.R. CHURCHES

St. Andrew's Rustington The wide outlook of this Church is reflected in the pages of the Jan-March issue of their magazine, "Break Through". Locally a share has been taken in inter-Church discussion groups, and bi-monthly services have been maintained by St. Andrew's at the Amberley Home for the Elderly at Littlehampton.

During the past year the Church has consistently supported efforts to raise funds for the Bible Society, working in some events with the Parish Church.

Financial support for C.W.M. through the use of "tortoise" missionary boxes has increased, and further money has been raised by the collection of used postage stamps for the U. R. C. Bureau.

At the evening service on 29th February a film depicting the work of the Church of South India is to be shown, and this will be followed by the discussion of a series of relevant questions.

A new estate is being developed quite close to St. Andrews and this challenge is being met by the visitation of these new homes. Combined Methodist and U.R.C. leaflets are being used in this connection.

PERCY J. BIGGS

WORLD CHURCH NEWS

A Cry from the East

The 48 of us who braved a wintry evening on 26th January heard some facts about the persecution of Christians in Eastern Europe which were much more chilling than the weather. As details of hundreds of concentration camps, forced labour camps and 'psychiatric hospitals' were given, with maps, photographs etc. It was difficult to realise that we were not looking at the horrors of past history like the Nazi regime but at the living picture of another thriving State-fostered oppression deliberately aimed at Christians and other so-called deviationists. Some of us wondered why it had been left to an off-beat Catholic organisation, Aid to the Church in Need, to bring these facts to our attention. But more of that another time.

The story Philip Vickers gave us was grim but it also had many aspects of hope. His organisation is interested not only in making the facts known but in doing something about them. We saw pictures of a new church in a new city in Poland which had been built because the workers insisted on having it - they provided their labour free and Aid to the Church in Need supplied some of the money. Because of the State's need for Western currency aid can often be given to individuals and this goes to other Christians as well as Catholics. Above all, the fact that the State still found plenty of Christians to

continued on Page 12

persecute after, in the case of Russia, nearly 60 years of doing so showed that people were still turning to Christ despite the dreadful penalties they could expect. What can we do?

Pray - both for the Christians and their persecutors
(Paul was one once)

Give - we made a start with £18 at the meeting

Tell - Use any influence we have to make the facts known. With the Communist propagandæ machine in full flow at Innsbruck we would do well to remind everybody of these other facts of Soviet and East European life which you don't see in Pravda or the Morning Star.

And from the West

If you are one of those people who intended to respond to the Guatemala Earthquake Appeal and then forgot, the address is:

Guatemala Earthquake Appeal,
Room 16, P.O. Box 999,
London, EC3 2AA

ROBIN BRUFORD

FROM THE BOYS' BRIGADE

We are pleased to tell you that under the direction of Lyn Garrod, Sharon and Dianne the Pre-Junior Section of the Boys' Brigade is growing. With a simple programme of Bible stories, expression work and games we feel sure that these youngsters will be well grounded in learning about Christian fellowship. The average attendance each Wednesday is 15. Please pray for this work and remember that we could well be influencing the lives of these boys for the next ten years or more.

We have 'hit rock bottom' with our finances and so will be endeavouring to improve the situation this year. Due to the extra interests that we are covering we need to obtain certain essential items of equipment.

As canoeing proved to be so popular last year we hope to build or buy at least four canoes. More camping and band equipment will soon be required. When you come to think that the bugles and drums that we are now using would cost over £30 each to replace you can get some idea of what we are up against.

Our first fund raising effort will be a Coffee Morning on Saturday 13th March, when we hope also to have a bring and buy stall. Car cleaning will also be undertaken (if it is not too cold). Following that there will be a Jumble Sale on 30th April and the Junior Section boys will be engaged on their Sponsored Walk round Cissbury Ring on 15th May.

Please rest assured that any form of appeal that we make is also directed to the parents of the boys. A letter will soon be sent out asking the parents to assist us more in the upkeep of the Company. They will be asked to contribute such items as unwanted gifts, books, watches, jewellery and trinkets etc; items that have been hanging about doing nothing for ages. Have you a loft, attic or garage that needs clearing?

Other dates that you may consider putting in your diary are:-

Saturday, 10th April - Junior Section Display at
the Sixth Form College

Friday, 7th May - Company Section "Open Evening"
in the Church Hall.

DONALD STEWART

TOYS FROM TOPS

The new Toy Library being set up at Durrington to serve handicapped children can buy its supply of toys at reduced prices if Persil tops are produced at the time of purchase. So if you can save your Persil packet tops and let me have them you will be helping this valuable new project at no cost.

DOROTHY BRUFORD

ADDRESS GIVEN BY MR. HAYWARD AT ROBIN PARKER'S FUNERAL

When I heard last Wednesday week of the sudden passing of Robbie I sat for a while trying to realise what seemed so impossible, that his full and active life had so suddenly come to an end. There crossed my mind these verses of Scripture "And it came to pass when the Lord would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. And it came to pass when they were gone over Jordan, that Elijah said unto Elisha, ask what I shall do for thee before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. And it came to pass as they still went on and talked, that, behold there appeared a chariot of fire and horses of fire, and parted them asunder; and Elijah went up by whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof".

Let no-one say that Robbie has died, he has been translated, and I cannot help feeling that if there had been someone in that London street who had been truly in the spirit, he might also have seen the chariot of Israel and the horsemen thereof as Robbie's spirit was taken up in the whirlwind. And well might we who are left pray that we might receive a portion of his spirit, though I wonder how many of us would feel that we have either the gifts or the energy to bear a double portion of his spirit.

Robbie was a man who lived a very full life and who lived life to the full. He did so many things and all that he did he did well. He was an excellent gardener, a superb carpenter and joiner, he for ever gladdened his way and that of others with a song, he managed his domestic life as if he had taken a domestic science degree and he was an expert in matters of finance. Most people can be good at one thing, some even at two, why was Robbie good at all that he did? I believe that the answer to this question is twofold. First, whatever he did he loved the doing of it. He loved his garden and it

always looked neat and colourful and it was fruitful, he loved his music and for him to sing was a real joy, he was in fact still taking singing lessons to improve himself. I used to marvel that he even seemed to enjoy being a housewife - I should have hated every minute of it, as would I think many of the gentlemen here. He loved to make useful and beautiful things, he handled wood as if he could feel as well as see its beauty. He was one of those people for whom the logic of figures made pleasing mosaics. He loved all that he did.

And the second reason why he lived life to the full was that he was always ready to do what he could do for other people. It was a joy to him to have more seedlings than he needed so that he could encourage some other and perhaps lesser gardener. He was thrilled when he could use his skill with wood to make something for beauty or use in this Church. No need to put a memorial to him here, for many years to come people will say of a number of pieces of furniture here "Robbie made that - beautiful isn't it". He was always ready to go somewhere to sing, either as solo or in chorus, to support any good cause. And it has often tickled me to hear him discussing with my wife how to prepare a certain dish, or mix a cake, and how many people has he helped with tax, investment or such problems? - that we shall never know. But the true explanation of all this his love of life, his love of service, was his love of God. Not a man of whom it could be said that he wore his religion on his sleeve, he carried it in his heart and because of that it filled all his life and all that he did - can we doubt but that for him "All the trumpets have sounded on the other side". And we that remain may indeed give thanks to God that our lives have been enriched by his capacity for friendship, and well may we pray that a portion of his spirit may rest upon us.

FAMILY CIRCLE

We were delighted by the large attendance at our American Tour Film Show. It was encouraging to have so many turn out on such a cold evening to enjoy the excellent film. Our next presentation is on Monday, 1st March when we have organised a slide competition for that evening. Three classes of slides will be judged by Mr. Chester Fromm and we assure you that this will be an evening of considerable interest to all.

On Tuesday, 30th March we have the Rowland Singers, led by Mr. Emery, giving a concert. This is probably the most ambitious programme we have arranged so far for your entertainment. It will cater for all, young and old, so do come. During the evening you will be given an opportunity to raise the rafters.

We are indebted to Mrs. J. Webb who has kindly re-arranged her Girls' Brigade programme to enable us to use the main Hall on this particular Tuesday. Please note both these dates and remember the 30th March is a Tuesday.

J.M. CURRIE

WOMEN'S GUILD

Lomas House, in Shelley Road, the Home in which retired missionaries live, is a concern of our Church, and the Church is represented on the Management Committee. Miss Constance Fairhall, a resident and Deputy Warden of the House will be our speaker on Tuesday, 2nd March, and we shall welcome her as one of the faithful servants of the Church overseas and also as a link with our friends in Lomas House. Her subject "Mission: the Changing Picture", should stimulate our interest in modern missionary methods.

A complete change on 16th March with a visit from the Goring Marine Drama Group. We have sampled the high quality of their performance on previous visits and look forward to another enjoyable afternoon.

ETHEL GILBY

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The sudden death of our former Secretary, Robbie Parker, to which reference is made elsewhere in the Chronicle, came as a great shock to all our members. A tribute was paid to him by Mr. Reynolds at our Meeting on 3rd February, and we shall sadly miss his quiet friendliness and good humour as well as his vitality and drive which contributed so much to the success of our meetings. He was to have given us an illustrated talk on 2nd March, on his recent visit to Australia & New Zealand but instead Reg. Hobbs has kindly stepped into the breach and will show slides of the Far East. On 16th March we look forward to seeing the second part of Norman Snow's journey from Henfield to Hammerfest. Those of us who saw Part I will not wish to miss this and we anticipate a very good attendance.

REG GOODCHILD

MONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

Spring cleaning is upon us, so when turning out cupboards, remember that on 8th March we are having a Bring and Buy Table, in addition to a Quiz! On 22nd March Mrs. Wyatt is coming to speak on "Magistracy in Worthing". All ladies are welcome to join us in the Cornwall Room at 20h. PLEASE NOTE THAT our evening outing on 5th April has been cancelled and instead we shall be going out on 29th March to the Pier Pavilion, to enjoy "The King and I" a production of the Worthing Theatre Guild. This will be the last meeting before Easter.

IRENE TULEY

CUTLERY

"Thank you" to those kind folk who have responded to the request for cutlery for church use, but, like Oliver Twist, we are still asking for more especially knives and forks. Soup spoons and table spoons are not required.

L.B. REYNOLDS

NOTICES

I should be interested to know if there are any "homoeopaths" in the congregation. Please contact me FIN 3443. Would any association be interested in a simple layman's talk on homoeopathy?

FAY BLAKEY

During the past 16 years or more Members of this Fellowship have enjoyed four Coach Outings per year, firstly by the late Mr. Grew and the last 10 years by Miss Winifred Smith who has had to give up as organiser.

A volunteer to undertake this well worthwhile service is now urgently needed; please see Church Secretary, Mr. C. Stephens or Ernest Munday.

ERNEST MUNDAY

Covenant Scheme

Will all those who use the Freewill Offering Envelopes under the Covenant Scheme kindly ensure that their payments are right up to date on Sunday, 4th April, 1976, otherwise the Church's tax repayment claim will be reduced. May I add a word of thanks to all Covenantors by whose thoughtfulness the income of the Church in the year to 31st December, 1975 was increased by tax repayments of £594. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any information about the Covenant Scheme.

RICHARD J. TULEY

HELP THE AGED APPEAL

Please remember the collection of clothes, blankets and money in the Church Hall on Wed, 10th March, from 10h. - 12 noon and 14.00h - 16.00h.

HAYWARD HOUSE

Mrs. D. Turner has kindly agreed to show her slides of Ethiopia on Saturday, 20th March, in the Church Hall at 15.00h. in aid of Hayward House.

The Committee will be very pleased to welcome you on that occasion. They have asked for it to be made known in the Church that we are struggling on, short of an upright Vacuum Cleaner for the upstairs of Hayward House, and if anyone has one they could spare we should be pleased to hear from them.

DULCIE JENKINS
JANE BOND

TOMATO PLANTS

There will be a Coffee Morning at 56 Bolsover Road on 24th April, 1976, for the sale of tomato plants. Please make a note in your diaries.

CHRISTIAN AID

Amount received for February, 1976 £25.40

received with thanks
HILDA HELE

YOUTH CORNER

Dear Boys and Girls,

Before January and February were introduced into the calendar the Roman year had only ten months, and September (7) October (8) November (9) December (10) had the right names! Until 1752 March was the first instead of the third month, and in the middle ages the year was usually reckoned as beginning on 25th March. The Anglo-Saxons called it HLYD MONATH, stormy month, and HARAED MONATH, the rugged month.

The Romans named the month in honour of Mars, the god of war. They thought of him as clattering by in a chariot drawn by two horses, Terror and Flight; a threatening figure, brandishing a long spear, lifting a gleaming shield to heaven, and raising his head on high so that the lightnings played about the great helmet. To the Romans, Mars was more than a mere fighter; they regarded him as a God who could do almost everything because he was

so strong. They prayed to him for rain, and consulted him in their private affairs, offering on his altar a horse, sheep, wolf, magpie or vulture. When soldiers went to war they carried with them a cage of chickens sacred to Mars, and before battle they would offer corn to these sacred birds, eagerly watching to see if the food were greedily eaten or rejected; if it was eaten it meant Mars was on their side, if it was left, that the day would go ill with them.

Mars was associated in their minds with thunder and lightening, and yet the Romans believed that the woodpecker tapping the trunk of a tree was the answer of this blustering, noisy god to their prayers! The last three days of March were once supposed to have been borrowed from April, and according to an old legend, they are always stormy:

"March borrowed from Averil
Three days and they were ill.
The one was sleet and the other
was snow and the third was the
worst that e'er did blow".

Equinoxes are the two days in the year - March 21st and September 22nd - when the days are equal to the nights all over the world, and exactly half each hemisphere at any instant is illuminated. The Vernal equinox falls on March 21st (Springtime), and the sun passes from South to North, which results in the days growing longer and warmer in the Northern hemisphere. The month of March then, is part Winter and part Spring, and sometimes "comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb".

So as march breaks the icy bonds of Winter and moves into the longer, brighter warmer days of Spring, we thank God for His goodness to us.
"To God, who all creation made, Alleluiah! Ye clouds that onward sweep, ye winds on pinions light, Ye thunders echoing loud and deep, ye lightnings wildly bright, In sweet consent unite your Alleluiah! Ye floods and ocean billows, Ye storms and winter snow, Ye days of cloudless beauty, Hoar frost and summer glow, Ye groves that wave in spring, and glorious forests, sing Alleluiah!

Now from all men be outpoured, Alleluiah to the
Lord,
With Alleluiah evermore the son and Spirit we
adore.

Canticle 796 (C.P.)

Latin 10th Cent.

Translated by John Mason Neale
(1818-66)

MARY CONNELLY.

APRIL, 1976No. 277From the Vestry

EASTER IS

SPRING
 FLOWERS
 SUNSHINE
 SHOWERS
 BLOSSOMS
 GARDENS
 LIFE
 CHRIST

In your own Easter Thanksgivings add your word that best describes Easter, children will add Eggs there's life for you! Some may add Easter bonnets, and why not - I never once knew a woman to buy a new hat unless she were happy or wanted to give surprise happiness or love to another. EASTER IS. fill the space with your own hope, yearning, prayer or experience

The Church of Jesus Christ and it's history, Calvin once said, is nothing but a chain of resurrections from the dead. Are we part of this miracle? So much is said of the wealth of this planet upon which we live... here is beauty, vegetation, light, water, oxygen; here are the untapped stores of energy, and the twentieth century is an age of energy. And yet, surely the poet speaks truth:

"No planet knows that this
 Our wayside planet, carrying land and wave,
 Love and life multiplied; and pain and bliss,
 Bears, as chief treasure, one forsaken grave".

The Lord is Risen is our song today, let it be sung from steeple bell to children's voices. Let Gospel be told, and our own personal resurrection in Christ is the Gospel... let our lives tell the news that Jesus is risen.

"The world itself keeps Easter Day,
 Saint Joseph's star is beaming;
 Saint Alice has her primrose gay,
 Saint George's bells are gleaming:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Lord hath risen, as all things Tell:
 Good Christians, see ye rise as well
 Hosanna in Excelsis!

Blessings and love,

WILLIAM CONNELLY

NEWS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

Engagement congratulations to Alan Flashman and Diane Welling

MARRIAGES

Christopher Byerley	28th February
Janice Croydon	
Michael Jones	
Margaret Cummings	6th March

"Love never faileth"

IN MEMORIAM

Beatrice Mary Golds
 (Mother of Mrs. P.M. Pritchard)

Dorothy Hunter

"I am the Resurrection and the Life saith the Lord"

HAVE YOU HEARD?

That the service of Holy Communion with the Ministry of Healing is fixed on the date of the Evening Communion. A number of our friends speak of their gratitude to God for His blessings to them in this service.

That since the Prayer Request Book was introduced in the Little Chapel six months ago, there have been nearly 200 entries!

Mrs. E. Morgan is making progress after her accident and sends her love to you all.

Mr. S. Arnold who is still unwell is making better progress - while Mrs. R. Turton is also gathering strength after her illness.

A road accident has prevented Mr. & Mrs. Hassall from attending church, we are glad to report that they are home again. Read their greetings and poem on another page!

Mr. G. Brockis is unwell and has gone to his daughter's in Mill Hill.

Congratulations to Graham Bond on his having qualified as a Chartered Accountant.

Edward and Mary Hite had their third son, Russell John, over 10½ lbs weight on Wed. 11th February. Congratulations!

Congratulations to Yvonne, daughter of Harry and Eileen King on her wonderful achievements in winning the international philately competition, which was recorded in last month's "Herald"

Don't forget the Communion at St. Mary's at 20.00h.. on 7th April (Wednesday) all are invited. The Minister regrets that an earlier engagement at St. Columba's prevents his own attendance at this service.

A note on the Minister's Telephone

Please remember that Worthing 48259 rings both the Manse and the Vestry. We have our own exchange so as to transfer calls as necessary; when you wish to telephone the Minister kindly use this number and please not the number of the call box at the Church. Remember 48259 rings both in The Manse and The Vestry.

COME ON! FILL THIS COLUMN WITH YOUR NEWS!

HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS

Mr. & Mrs. C. Byerley, 1 Ely Close, Worthing Tel: 65993

Mr. J. Byerley c/o " " " " "

Mr. & Mrs. S. Webber, 1 Nutley Close, Goring, Tel: 42027

NEW MEMBERS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| * Miss A. Rose Green | of 43 Marlborough Road |
| * Mr. Eric & Mrs. Betty Jones | of 27 Alinora Crescent |
| * Miss Sheila Walsh | of 5 Compton Avenue |
| * Mrs. Sylvia Cane | of 2 Collingwood Road. |

BIBLE VERSES

Remembering Good Friday and Easter

Galatians 6 v. 14 Paul wrote: But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 12 v. 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and furnisher of our faith: who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Philippians 2 v. 5/8 Moffat's Translation. Treat one another with the same spirit as you experience in Christ Jesus. Though he was divine by nature, he did not set store upon equality with God, but emptied himself by taking the nature of a servant; born in human guise and appearing in human form, he humbly stooped in his obedience even to die and to die upon the cross.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you everyone for your letters, cards, flowers and above all for your loving and prayerful support during our recent sad loss, and indeed through the whole of our mother's long illness. We much appreciate the kindness and care shown by you all.

PHYL PRITCHARD & Family

I would like to thank the Chaplain, my fellow officers, helpers in the Company, and all friends in the Church for their prayers, congratulations and good wishes, all of which made my Dedication such a wonderfully memorable occasion.

DOREEN NORRIS (LIEUT)
5th Worthing Girls' Brigade

MEMORIES

On 25th January, 1976 our Minister's sermon titles were Morning: Parables of Passion and Persuasion, The Prodigal Son, Evening: Heroes for the Hour - Daniel.

During the morning service I recalled that in my boyhood days I attended what was called The Mission Hall, situated in a small village on the estuary of the River Severn. When the boys of the Bible Class became obstreperous, the Leader usually suggested that a hymn should be sung and the following hymn from Sankey's hymnbook was invariably chosen:

Afflictions though they seem severe
In mercy oft are sent,
They stopped the Prodigal's career
And caused him to repent.

Chorus: I'll not pine here for bread
I'll not pine here for bread, he cries
Nor starve in foreign lands,
My father's house has large supplies
And bounteous are his hands.

What about Daniel?

This brought memories of an old hymn often sung at Band of Hope meetings:

Standing by a purpose true,
Heeding God's command,
Honour them, the faithful few,
All hail to Daniel's band.

CHORUS: Dare to be a Daniel!
Dare to stand alone!
Dare to have a purpose firm!
Dare to make it known.

OCTOGENARIAN

APPOINTMENTS

At the Church Meeting on 4th March the following appointments were warmly approved:

Lettings Secretaries - Mr. & Mrs. Collison, 39 Reigate Road,
Tel: W. 48861
Chronicle Treasurer - Mr. E. Munday, St. Christopher, Rusper Road,
Tel. W. 61471

These vacancies have been occasioned by the desire of Miss E. Fisher to relinquish these offices, and the Church Meeting wished to have placed on record its sincere thanks to Miss Fisher for her devoted and efficient service in these dual capacities over many years.

C.S. STEPHENS

ELDERS' ELECTION

The following have accepted nomination for the Election to fill six vacancies, which will be held on Thursday, 15th April at 19.30h.

Mr. D. Blakey	Mr. D. Mooney
Mr. E. Bond	Mr. E. Popplestone
Miss F. Calsteren	Mrs. D. Turner
Mr. N. Dobson	Mr. G. Skirton
Dr. R. Webb	

Voting papers for use by those unable for good reason to attend the Church Meeting may be obtained from the Secretaries and must be returned before the time of the Meeting.

The Annual Financial Report for 1975 will also be presented at this Meeting which will be followed at 20.30h by a Communion Service for Maundy Thursday.

The newly elected Elders will be commissioned and dedicated at the morning service on 25th April.

C.S. STEPHENS

ANNUAL REPORTS

The Annual Reports of the Church are to be presented at the Church Meeting on 1st July next.

Secretaries of all organisations are asked, please, to complete their Annual Reports as soon as possible after 31st March, and forward them for collation to Mr. Reg Goodchild (4 North Avenue) who has kindly agreed to act as Editor of the Annual Report again this year.

C.S. STEPHENS

PROCESSION OF WITNESS

As part of the Mission to Worthing there will be a Procession of Witness on the morning of Saturday, 5th June. Although comparatively few people will be active participants in the work of the Mission, the Procession of Witness provides an opportunity for all Christians, of all ages, of all levels of commitment to play a vital part.

Each church will process as a unit, initially from one of three assembly points; in the case of our church from St. Botolph's, Heene. The three processions will set out for Beach House Park where those for whom the whole journey would be too far may then join the Procession. From Beach House Park the combined Procession will go via Warwick Street and Chapel Road to the Esplanade, where there will be a short time of silent prayer for Worthing and District, a hymn and a blessing.

It was felt that members from this Church will wish to participate. To determine the number of members who intend to join the Procession, a list has been placed on the Notice Board in the Church Vestibule.

It has been suggested that we may hire a coach, in conjunction with other Churches, to transport some participating members to either St. Botolph's or Beach House Park. If you wish to be included in the coach party, please indicate this in the right hand column of the list. JOIN US AND WITNESS TO YOUR FAITH.

POST BAG

Dear Members and Friends,

I have been one of you for many years - since 1953 - but because I had a Nursing Home to run, I was unable to take an active part in Church work, beyond attending morning service and Tuesday Bible Study classes. Therefore I feel I'm not well known amongst the present day members. Since Mr. Hayward married us three years ago we have lived in Walberton, 13 miles away, we still come most Sunday mornings and often to Monday socials. Since our bad car accident two weeks ago, we thank God we are still alive, and miraculously no bones broken, and are now recovering, we realise how much we are remembered, and how very kind people are. We thank you for all your prayers and sympathy. While I was in bed recuperating I wrote the following lines for our Evergreen Club. I'm on their Committee, and having never lived in a village before, I am overwhelmed by their generosity and kindness.

LIVING IN A VILLAGE

Living in a village is as lovely as can be,
It makes you feel that you belong to one big family,
Everybody knows you as you walk along the street,
And if a stranger comes in sight, he's eyed from head to feet.

Everybody knows if you have something new,
They know just how you got it, and if it's paid for too.
They meet you daily in the street,
They know just what you wear,
But in this lonely world of ours,
How nice that people care.

And when there's any trouble,
Friends come from far and near,
They 'phone, they call, they wish you well,
You're glad you still live here.

And when there's any sorrow, by everyone 'tis shared,
You never even gave a thought that quite so many cared,
They've brought us flowers, they've brought us fruit,
They've brought us cakes and pie,
They take us in their cars each day,
Their kindness makes you cry.

So Thank You every one and all,
The callers and the rest - and know
that the folks from the Evergreen,
Are the ones we love the best.

MABEL HASSALI
(nee Johnson)

CHURCH FESTIVAL 1976

Please book the following weekend:

SATURDAY, 1st MAY and SUNDAY, 2nd MAY

Saturday evening activity is being arranged by the
Family Circle.

SUNDAY 8.00h Holy Communion
10.30h Morning Service

Tea will be served after the service, in the Hall, when everybody
can meet and have a "Chat".

Guest Preacher: The Rev. C.C. Franks, of Furley, U.R.C.
formerly minister of our Church

18.30h Evening Service

Flowers As we wish to decorate our Church for this special
Festival, if any members wish to make a donation either with
flowers or money, please contact Mrs. Winstanley. It has been
suggested that all members wear a "Button Hole".

The object of this weekend is to involve every member of
the Church doing something, and not leaving it to the few.
Should you wish to help in any way please contact the undersigned
who will put you in touch with the member of committee who is
responsible for that particular job of work.

We want to see our Church "FULL" at both services.

NORMAN A DOBSON

A Variety Entertainment will be given by groups and
members of the Church on Saturday, 1st May in the Church Hall
at 20.00h. All ages welcome! Refreshments will be served in
the interval.

REG GOODCHILD

"G.E.A.R."

Have you heard about GEAR? One of a number of groups within the denomination, Gear is the group for Evangelism and Renewal within the U.R.C., and its aims are as follows: (1) to emphasize that the basis for all Christian life and work is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. (2) to explore means of evangelism relevant today and to encourage participation in outreach. (3) to seek the deepening of spiritual life and its practical expression, particularly through such means as Bible study and prayer.

Gear consists of a committee of 8 or 9 people and is not a group to which you can formally belong. They got together in 1974 and recently held their second conference at Swanwick in Derbyshire, which I was privileged to attend (at the expense of this church).

Over 120 were present, together with about 20 young children who were well occupied with their own learning activities, whilst we worked on the theme "Mission Impossible?" Our main talks of the weekend were given by Reverend Dr. Charles Duthie, Principal at New College, and Reverend Alan Dunstone recently returned from Papua New Guinea.

The Conference considered the ways and means of mission, beginning with ourselves and our faith, affirming that it is only through God's grace at work in renewing us that we care enough for others to share our faith with them. "Evangelism" someone once said "is one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread". However presented, the gospel must be told in its simplicity and of course lived out in our Christian lives, by our faith in God through Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 9 vv 19-23 shows the position of the evangelist - our position when sharing our faith.

Looking at Paul's letter to Galatians, we considered different ways of getting the best out of God's word. You can learn more sometimes from dramatizing a piece of Scripture, or another time looking at the meaning of a particular word which recurs throughout a passage.

If you would like to know more about GEAR, or to receive their quarterly broadsheets containing news and teaching, please let me know. It is indeed encouraging to see God in His Holy Spirit at work in Christ's body, the Church. Give thanks to God for all His goodness.

JEAN D. BOUGHTON

WORLD CHURCH NEWS AND VIEWS

ANOTHER ASPECT OF FREEDOM

We don't seem to hear the expression 'Free Churches' so much these days. From some ecumenical points of view this is no bad thing, but we should lose something of great value if we were to forget what the term means.

I was reminded of this recently when I read - in the Christian press, too - that it is the duty of the Church in Mozambique to 'keep in' with the new rulers of that country. This of course is rubbish - it is not the duty of the Church to 'keep in' with governments, whether in Mozambique, Russia, Britain or Spain. It is the duty of the Church to proclaim the Gospel. Historically, those parts of the Church which allowed themselves to become part of a government establishment very soon lost much of their real effectiveness, however much they may have increased the numbers of their nominal adherents. The many breakaway movements, including those which led to the founding of the various Free Churches, were very necessary in order to revive a Gospel emphasis.

Of course the Church should endeavour to live in peace with all men, including governments, and to avoid confrontations wherever they can do so without detriment to their witness. But they cannot sell out their birthright for the sake of recognition by, or participation in, government.

FOR YOUR DIARY

We look forward to our special meeting on Thursday 31st June, at 19.45h when we hope to have the Bishop of Tirana, the Rt. Rev. Torquin Fhast, to speak on the subject 'Chinks of Light' - the story of the rapidly expanding work in Albania. In view of the expected interest this will be an all-ticket occasion, and application should be made to me between 1st April and 1st May, the earlier the better.

ROBIN BRUFORI

CHURCH FLOWERS FOR APRIL

4th	Wedding Flowers	
11th	Miss I. Wingrove	(Mrs. E. Mabey
18th	EASTER DAY	(Mrs. C. West
25th	Miss L. Harris	

KAY WINSTANLEY

GIRL'S BRIGADE

We do hope that we shall see you at our Coffee Morning on Saturday, 10th April between 10.00 and 12.30h. This is the first of our efforts to raise £40 surcharge on our camp holiday. We are very grateful to those who have already made donations towards this sum. Camp is a vital part of our Brigade life and we all benefit from it, officers and girls alike.

On 1st May twenty of us will be leaving on the 8.30h train for London to attend the Girls' Brigade Rally at the Royal Albert Hall. Remember us in your prayers that day. We know we shall have a very rewarding and enriching day.

JEAN WEBB

EXPLORER SECTION

We have all settled down very nicely together and we are now rather anxious to see the Section grow. If you have a little girl between 5 and 8 years old we would love her to come along on Tuesday evenings. We meet from 18.00 to 19.15h and do all sorts of exciting things together. Please tell all your friends and neighbours about us; we have plenty of Explorer uniforms waiting to be worn!

JANET LUCKIN
Explorer Leader

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We were very grateful to Cyril Calsteren for showing slides on "Australia and New Zealand on 17th February when the Rev. Clifford Johnson was unable to talk to us, through illness. We also enjoyed Reg Hobbs slides on the Far East admirably presented by Mrs. Hobbs on 2nd March. Our Easter Programme on 13th April is being arranged by our Organist, Bob Edwards and the A.G.M. will be held on 27th April. I shall be pleased to receive nominations for the Officers and Committee.

REG GOODCHILD

MONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

On 29th March we shall be visiting the Pavilion for Worthing Theatre Guild's production of "The King and I". On 5th April all those interested in the Fellowship's arrangements for the Church Festival '76 on 1st and 2nd May will meet in the Cornwall Room at 20.00h.

For our first meeting after Easter we shall join with the Family Circle on Mon. 26th April in the Church Hall, when we will be entertained by the celebrated pianist, Mr. Philip Challis followed by the Ferring Amateur Dramatic Society.

May the risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ truly live in your hearts this Easter.

IRENE TULEY

WOMEN'S GUILD

A reminder that on 30th March Mr. R.E. Rutherford will speak to us about his work as a prison visitor: he has a fascinating story to tell. A fortnight later we shall meet in Holy Week and though we shall gather in the usual fashion and have the customary tea and talk before going home, we shall mark the approach of Easter by having a devotional meeting at which our good friend the Rev. H.W. Theobald will address us. We shall have the added pleasure of having Miss Netta Passingham to sing to us. Some women of the Church who do not usually attend the Guild may like to join us on this occasion. The musical programme arranged for 27th April is to be given by a group of friends led by Mrs. J.B. Whitehead. These friends have not visited us before and we shall look forward eagerly to their coming and to the entertainment they will bring us. Attendances this session have been most encouraging. Can we keep it up?

ETHEL GILBY

THE MAYFLOWER CLUB

Have you heard of the Mayflower Club? Probably not if you have joined our Church fellowship within the past few years. Or, if you have heard the name, do you know why and how it functions? It is twelve years old now and for that number of years our Church has accepted part responsibility for its continuing existence and played an active part in its life. The brain-child of a member of the Society of Friends, it exists as a Club for elderly lonely people in the West Worthing area, meeting every Wednesday in the Friends' Meeting House in Mill Road, for tea, social intercourse and entertainment. It is a place where the friendless find friends. Five local churches of varying denominations - of which we are one - act in weekly rotation as 'hostess', supplying cakes for tea and some kind of entertainment, all being cared for by a small group of helpers from among the women of our Church who do the necessary 'chores'. Mrs. Pepperdine has for 12 years led - and still leads - our group of helpers.

From time to time we ask fellow-members of the Church to come and help by providing entertainment, talks, travel pictures, a quiz, etc. Will you consider offering some such entertainment of about half an hour's duration, or, if you are asked, will you respond if you are able? The Club is much appreciated by its members and their obvious pleasure is sufficient reward for time and effort expended on their behalf.

ETHEL GILBY

"COME TOGETHER"

The "Come Together" Choir have been invited to our Church, and will be with us on Saturday 22nd May, at 19.30h. The members and friends of the Church are asked to keep this date free, as the evening promises to be most enjoyable.

EDITOR

FAMILY CIRCLE

We have two more evenings to complete this Season's Programme. Our next event is the Rowland Singers on Tuesday, 30th March. This will provide a pleasant musical evening for all. Our final Programme will be held on Monday, 26th April. This will be a two-part evening. Mr. Philip Challis the B.B.C. concert pianist will provide the first part of our programme, and Ferring Amateur Dramatic Society will present their entry for this year's Arun Festival, as the second part of our evening's entertainment.

A short A.G.M. will be held at the end of our programme on 26th April. We strongly recommend that you come with your friends and enjoy these excellent programmes offered for your entertainment. Best wishes,

JIM CURRIE

Christian Aid result for March - £9.20 received with thanks,
HILDA HELE

COFFEE MORNING

There will be a Coffee Morning at 10.30h at 56 Bolsover Road, on 24th April, 1976, when tomato plants will be on sale for the Unified Appeal. Please come and enjoy a coffee and a chat.

E.M. DENNIS

NEW CHURCH PRAISE

"Lord God, by whom all change is wrought,
By whom new things to birth are brought,
In whom no change is known!"

No, this is not from the new hymn book, but these are the opening words of a hymn in Congregational Praise. For a church to be alive there must be change, and more often than not God shows the way through young people who are given a fresh approach to The Truth.

One aspect of this awakening is in worship and particularly in hymns, which has been shown during the last few years by the number of new supplementary hymn books including many modern tunes which have been published by the main denominations.

In response to a demand within the United Reformed Church at the time of its formation, a committee was appointed by the General Assembly in 1973 to prepare a supplement to the hymn books of the uniting Congregational and Presbyterian churches; this supplement was published last year and is called New Church Praise. Many of our churches now have it in use and I have been asked to write these notes as I did at Hounslow before moving to Goring. I am not qualified to talk in detail on musical forms etc. but I hope these comments from a yellow church member will be helpful to the average worshipper.

It should be emphasized that New Church Praise is a small book additional to and in no way to replace Congregational Praise, and it provides a variety of praise both in words and music, suited to the present day. For some years the young people in our churches have been learning modern tunes (often at school) to some of our present hymns and the effect of singing the old words to new and better tunes in church has surprised many adults; but there has been a growing need for more meaningful words as well as more fitting tunes.

This need has now been met in the U.R.C. with New Church Praise, which supplement has been compiled with the help of some of the finest musicians in the land, and with the co-operation and enthusiasm of the congregations it could be a real uplift to young and old who worship in our churches.

To any who are prejudiced from the start, the following facts have emerged during my study of the book and may be of help or interest.

(a) Although there are some melodies which may seem unusual until you have sung them several times and find how well they suit the words, the book also includes such songs as Kum ba yah, Lord of the Dance and Give me Joy in my Heart at the other end of the range.

(b) Out of 100 hymns there are 22 tunes which we know and have sung in church or have heard the children sing, some with improved arrangements.

(c) In addition there are several tunes based on traditional airs which you will recognize.

(d) Included in the composers are well known names, e.g. Vaughan Williams, Gustav Holst, C.H. Parry as well as the living Erik Routley, Caryl Micklem and Peter Cutts, who have made the largest contribution.

(e) Among the authors are names we know, like Isaac Watts, John Bunyan as well as Fred Kaan and Sidney Carter whose modern hymns have been sung on occasions before.

(f) The words edition also includes the melodies which should be a great help in learning new tunes, and this is now available on Christian bookstalls.

Finally, a quote from the foreword by Erik Routley - "May God be pleased to answer the endeavours of the editors in the cheerful, warmhearted and adventurous singing of our congregations".

GEOFF SHAVE

YOUTH CORNER

Dear Boys and Girls,

Three months of the year already gone! Incredible!

April, the fourth month of the year, consists of thirty days, which was the number said to have been given to it by Romulus. Numia Pompilius gave it twenty nine, but Julius Caesar gave it thirty, which number it has since retained. In the original

Alban or Latin calendar April consisted of thirty six days and was the first month.

How different from March is April! It is not a god and not a goddess. It is the Angel of Spring. Gracious, exquisite, tender and kind, April follows behind the dust of the bloodstained chariot of Mars, sprinkling the earth with soft showers, bringing up delicate and pretty flowers and buds, and filling the woods and trees with bird song. The Romans saw that this month opened the gates of birth and restored to life all those lovely and gentle things which had hidden in terror from the blasts of winter. "Omnia Aperit!" they exclaimed in admiration, which means "It opens all things!" So the Roman name was APRILIS from "APERIRE" - "to open", either from the opening of the buds on the branches, or of the bosom of the earth in producing vegetation. April is the Opener.

The Anglo-Saxon name was EOSTRE or EASTRE-MONATH This English name "Easter" and the German "Ostern" are said to be derived from "Ostera" a Teutonic goddess whose feast was celebrated by the Ancient Saxons early in the Spring. Bonfires are still lit by the priest on Easter eve in many parts of Europe, especially in Germany. The Easter fire of Germany corresponds to the Beltane fire of Celtic Europe, which had the same ceremonies and beliefs - that is, that wherever the light of the fire reached, the fields would be fruitful and the inhabitants safe from sickness and danger.

Festivities were also held to celebrate Easter, such as dramatic performances, dances, songs, etc., and special cakes were made, of which the present day "Hot Cross Buns" - bearing a representation of the Cross and Simnel cakes are relics.

In Roman Catholic lands eggs were forbidden during Lent, and so these were a welcome gift on Easter Sunday when the long weeks of restraint were over. Today though we still have our eggs at Easter, we often dye them in bright colours and make them of chocolate or sugar.

As symbols of resurrection, life and fruitfulness Easter eggs should remind us of the Resurrection, the rising from the dead of Jesus Christ, and his breaking open of the tomb. He died as a payment for our sins, He overcame death, and has given to us the knowledge that we shall live for evermore, and has given to us a victory over death!

The world itself keeps Easter Day,
And Easter larks are singing,
And Easter flowers are blooming gay,
And Easter buds are springing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
The Lord of all things lives anew
And all His works are rising too.
Hosanna in Excelsis!

John Mason Neale
(1818-66)

CP. 725

MARY CONNELLY

We offer our congratulations to Charles and Mary Stephens on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary (40 years) which they celebrated on 21st March 1976.



A VERY HAPPY OCCASION especially for our Junior Church, when our lovely Janice was married to our own Chris. We wish them much happiness in their new home.

MAY, 1976No. 278From the VestrySurprised by Joy - Impatient as the Wind

And after Easter? the forgotten festivals of Ascensiontide - May 27th and Whitsuntide - June 6th. To help restore the place of Ascension in our Calendar I am proposing to hold a service of Holy Communion in the Little Chapel at 7.30 a.m. Please note this, and should there be any other way in which we can use the day please let me know. Suggestions like ... a time of prayer for the Mission to Worthing... or whatever way in which you are led to accept the joy of this day of triumph will be most welcome.

Whit-Sunday This year will have its particular place in our Calendar as being the time when all the prayers, planning, and work we have done for the Mission will be concentrated on the proposed Big Meetings in town. Pray that the Gifts and Graces of the Holy Spirit will be shown among us, and that many who are presently uncertain about their faith will be guided into the certainty of life in Christ. We shall use the day in this Church by celebrating the work of the Holy Spirit; in seeking His guidance upon the life of the Church; and in receiving New Members into the Church. I shall be especially pleased to discuss the question of Church Membership with any friends who may be led to confess their faith at this time, or to transfer membership from their former Church. Our young people's group in preparation is not yet ready .. but you may be .. and remember age, energy, infirmity, we sometimes have less barriers than excuses!

"Surprised by joy - impatient as the wind", should be our mood at the moment. We are on the edge of a new breakthro' into the society around us ... more than we know people are looking to the Church to find Christ and Christian people - faith and fellowship.

A Parable. Last Sunday night 40 young people came to the normal Manse meeting. Some met in the sitting room, some in the kitchen, some in the garden, we are not sure why, but surely God must know. Pray that we may receive grace to help.

My personal thanks to all who let their names go forward for the Elders' Election, and to the extraordinarily large number

who came to the Election and Finance Church Meeting. Whether you are called to serve as Elders does matter, but not so much as your faithfulness as members called to be part of the body of Christ.

Yours with joy and impatience,

WILLIAM CONNELLY

NEWS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

In Memoriam

Flora Gladys Newman 28.3.76

Maud Smith 16.3.76

"My Peace I give unto you"

Marriage

Ivor Gawn

Josephine Prodger 3.4.76

"Whom Thou for evermore dost join in one"

Baptism

Russell John Hite 28.3.76

"For of such is the Kingdom of Heaven"

The Ministry of Blessing and Healing

Mrs. M.E. Jones is unwell and to both our friends at 9 Trent Road we send our love.

'Pop' Edmonds, Bob Pepperdine, Ernest Munday, are making progress after illness.

Welcome

New babies having arrived at the homes of Mr. & Mrs. W. Davis
of 78 Muirfield Road and

Mr. & Mrs. B. Taylor of 23 Ivydore Avenue, we send blessings & love.

HAVE YOU HEARD

You are invited to fill this column with your news!

That Rosemary Kitto is soon to come nearer home, to Lancing.

That a class for Lay Preachers meets regularly for those who feel called to this work. Further enquiries to the MINISTER, please.

BIBLE VERSESChristian Aid in the Early Church

The Acts 11 vv. 27-30. And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be a great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judea: which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Dear Friends,

My grateful thanks to all of you for your constant and solicitous enquiries for my health during my recent illness, also the many get well cards and spring flowers, from the Junior School. These and I know your personal prayers and kind visits, have helped me tremendously to make my recovery, for which I thank GOD with all my heart.

Yours very sincerely,

V.E. Turton (Mrs.)

FLORA GLADYS NEWMAN

I would not like the passing of Mrs. Newman to go unnoticed. She was a member of our congregation for about 5 years, along with her daughter Doreen (the late music teacher), but recently she has not felt well enough to be present. When we met in the Strand she told me about her quiet times on Sunday mornings which had to take the place of public worship. Years ago she and her family lived opposite us and were very busy, happy people all co-operating in helping the daughter in her professional capacity. Mrs. Newman's love for her family, music and children was very obvious, and on Thursday 1st April she was laid to rest at Durrington Cemetery, after a beautiful service in the little Chapel there, her numerous family well in attendance and accompanied by the lovely bird song from the overhanging trees. Personally I will miss her and the warm and friendly little chats we used to have.

AUDREY STEWART

"COME '76" IS ALIVE AND WELL

Enthusiasm and expectancy are mounting noticeably with the many signs of tremendous co-operation and encouragement God is giving through "Come '76" - reprint of prayer cards because of demand; Warwick Street possibility for Enquiry Centre; area poster campaign; financial needs being met; many local area activities. Your Christian witness, prayers and support for Task Force are vital if this venture of faith is to deepen its impact on the area.

Broadcast. The many hundreds who thronged Worthing Baptist Church for the two rallies will be thrilled to know that Radio Brighton are recording a service from St. Botolph's, Heene, at 7.30 on Wednesday, 26th May. The Rev. Jack Koney has kindly offered this opportunity to the local church through "Come '76" (this is only one of the many thoughtful and shared concerns the Mission has caused). We urge all Task Force members, now over 800, to make sure they come and we invite anyone interested to join in another joyous occasion.

Counselling. The whole mission is evangelistic - sharing God's good news in Jesus - and because we confidently expect under God that many will be enquiring about following Christ, especially as a result of the main rallies; experienced counsellors are urgently needed to assist in this important work. To prepare you for this tremendous ministry three further sessions will take place (the first was on 30th April) at 19.45h - 21.00h at Worthing Baptist Church, on Fridays 7th, 21st May, 4th June. God can use you!

Procession. To enable the Procession of Witness on 5th June to be more meaningful, enjoyable and not merely a test of endurance, important changes have been made. There will be only one meeting point at Homefield Park (by Hospital) with starting time unchanged at 11.00h. Car parking is more readily available and the police also regard the revision as more practicable. Let us make this an occasion to remember.

Children. In addition to children's activities during half-term, a competition has been launched through schools and churches. Entries need to be with Mr. R. Brown (Tel. 48082) 27 Pembroke Ave. by 21st May and he will gladly give further details. Winning

posters, collages and models on the theme "Come '76" will be displayed in the new library from 29th May and other prominent places.

We thank God and His guidance and urge your continuing support. For any further information phone Mission Executive (60356, 48082, 202554).

Leslie Tennant, Mission Executive.

P.S. In all the excitement and activity, don't forget the day of prayer on Thursday, 20th May at Shelley Road U.R.C.
11.00-12.00h 13.30-14.00h, 15.00-16.00h, 17.30-18.30h.

Church Meeting with Holy Communion

15th April, 1976

The form of the Meeting took on a new pattern this month, with the chairs arranged in a large semi-circle, so that everyone could see each other. We started with a hymn and then had prayers, and then the minutes of the last meeting were read. Church Family news was exchanged and this was followed by the distribution of ballot papers for the election of elders. We all voted. The Financial Report was then presented by the Church Treasurer, and after some discussion and explanation it was adopted. After this the service of Holy Communion was held, as the adjudicators were still busy counting the votes. After Holy Communion the results of the ballot were declared and the new elders are: Mr. E.C. Bond, Mrs. F. Calsteren, Mr. N. Dobson, Mr. D. Rooney, Mr. E.W. Popplestone, and Mr. G. Skirton. We sang another hymn and the meeting closed with the Grace.

N.B.P.

CARNIVAL FLOAT

It has been suggested that our Church should seek the opportunity of showing itself more in the local area. An ideal occasion will be during the August Bank Holiday when the local Rotary Clubs hold their Rotorama. Part of the celebrations includes a carnival procession of bands, floats etc; and many local businesses and organizations take part. The procession

wends its way from Grand Avenue and ends up in Palatine Park, so it passes through a large part of the area that our Church covers. With as many Church members as possible and members of the organizations working together we should be able to decorate a float depicting some of our Church activities. With the talent, resourcefulness, energy and desire to witness for Christ that is contained within our Church it will be relatively easy to muster materials, labour etc; to achieve something worthwhile. Permission has not yet been obtained for us to participate in the procession but if enough interest is shown in this proposal, the permission should not be difficult to obtain. For the time being I will be prepared to co-ordinate the help and enquiries but please do not let me deter anyone of those young active types that abounds in the Church to come forward and take the job from me.

DONALD STEWART

BOYS' BRIGADE

Thank you very much for your generous response at our Coffee Morning on 13th March. With donations received we reached the magnificent total of £62. Some folk think we should have reached a higher figure but to me the sum raised is very satisfying and we have much to be thankful for. If we start making comparisons then we will never be satisfied. To answer some folk in respect of my statement in the March Chronicle about the cost of band instruments etc; I must mention the estimate received for the repair of two bugles - namely £25. We are hoping to build three canoes very soon now and the cost will be over £50.

On Saturday, 20th March we took twenty of our boys to Petworth to compete in the West Sussex Battalion Cross Country Run. Our Senior team won the trophy for their section with Graeme Gill first, Brian Easey second and Alan Currie third. The Company section team were runners up in their event with Colin Easey coming third. The Junior teams (2) were not so well placed but the A team came a respectable third with Mark Wallace leading the field of 52 runners. Well done lads.

During the last two weeks in March we had an exhibit in the Youth Exhibition at the Worthing Library. We had several enquiries from which we yielded three recruits and one helper.

We even managed to link two boys with the East Grinstead Company.

Although not able to be at the Worthing Festival run by the National Childrens Home we were able to send a contribution raised through the sales of "Sunny Smiles" booklets.

On Saturday, 3rd April we decorated a float and took part in the Worthing Students Rag-Day Procession. The boys enjoyed the experience and with their collection tins they were able to contribute towards the effort that raised £400 for the pre-school playgroups.

On Saturday 10th April the Junior section held their Display at the Sixth Form College. The 25 boys that turned up did well to entertain an audience of about 150 parents and friends. It was good to see some Church members amongst the audience. We were pleased to have as guest of honour our former Junior Section leader Elwyn Jones and his wife. Our Chaplain did well to survive his game of handball with the boys and even managed to score a goal or two. Thank you to our Girls' Brigade Officers for helping to deal with the programmes and tickets.

Friday 30th April will be the day of our Jumble Sale and we are looking forward to plenty of support from parents and friends. We are thankful for the number of parents that rally round on these occasions.

Please accept our invitation to come along to our Company Section Open-Evening on Friday 7th May at 7.15 p.m. We are not promising a dynamic display but at least you will get a good idea of what activities the boys are normally engaged in in Brigade work.

Saturday 8th May a party of twenty of us will be visiting London for the Annual Display of the Boys' Brigade at the Royal Albert Hall. We look forward to a happy and interesting day. Saturday morning 15th May the Junior Section boys will be holding their annual sponsored walk round Cissbury Ring. We do hope the weather will be a little kinder on this occasion than last year when everyone received a thorough soaking.

£67 was raised last year when the target was £100 so this year they are aiming for £200.

DONALD STEWART

GIRLS' BRIGADE

Thank you very much for all your support on 10th April. As you no doubt know the morning was so successful - £100 14 - and we are quite overwhelmed by your generosity. We have now been able to pay our annual fees to headquarters and also put to one side, until August, the extra money needed for our camp holiday.

We hope to see you all again on Tuesday 15th June when we are having an Open Evening from 19.00-20.30h. Some of our friends from the Cheshire Home will be with us and the evening will include some entertainment and refreshments, all free of charge! Make a note in your diary now.

JEAN WEBB

SUSSEX DAY

On Saturday, 3rd April, 500 people from U.R.C.s all over Sussex descended on Sussex University. The speaker for the day was the Rt. Rev. Dr. George Caird (Moderator of General Assembly), and he took as his theme "The Word of God in a World of Crisis."

In the morning he gave an excellent and inspiring talk (without any notes, for over an hour!) on "getting into lane". Clearly, today more than ever, Christians have got to know the direction they are going in, and then stand up and be counted. He spoke mainly on the wider aspect of the way in which God speaks to the nations, though of course each nation is made up of individuals. If a nation "gets into a lane" based on God and makes the right decisions, then many of her problems will be solved. If however this path is rejected, then people and nations could well be heading towards disaster, and will find it very difficult to get back into the "right lane".

This could well be the case in Rhodesia and S. Africa, and possibly even Britain.

Dr. Caird referred to the struggle between good and evil which has existed throughout time. In the Bible, the oppressive powers of Assyria and Babylon are mentioned and later that of Rome. These powers of darkness are referred to in Revelation and might well be seen in the threat of the Communist Regime today. While Revelation may be difficult to understand, its overall picture is that Truth will triumph in the end.

Following this talk we went into small discussion groups where we were given the questions: God speaks to us today, (1) How? (2) What about? (3) How do we know? One interesting point which came up in the group I was in was that one way God seems especially to be leading us today, is in unity between the Churches.

After a break for lunch we returned to the Meeting House - a modern, circular building with multicoloured windows - for another session with Dr. Caird, including questions given to him during the day. The afternoon ended with a short time of worship, followed by tea and biscuits.

"Sussex Day" proved to be a great success, and was an opportunity to share in Christian Fellowship with friends old and new, from the other U.R.C.s throughout Sussex.

CHURCH FLOWERS FOR MAY

2nd	Church Festival 1976	Miss I. Dymott, Miss M. Johnson Mr. & Mrs. H. Spence Mr. & Mrs. J. Turton Mr. & Mrs. A.E. Winstanley
	9th	Mr. & Mrs. T.A. Howe
	16th	Mr. & Mrs. N. Gregory
	23rd	Misses. L.A. & M.M. Redman
	30th	Mrs. E.M. Townsend

KAY WINSTANLEY

WORLD CHURCH NEWS

1. I make no apology for returning to the subject of freedom and the persecution of Christians. Last week two contrasting items came my way - the report of a visit to Russia by the Secretary of the Baptist Union, Dr. Russell and the repeats of the Solzhenitsyn television and radio broadcasts. Not surprisingly the emphases of the two men were very different - the Russian urging us to wake up to our own dangers as well as to the sufferings of his fellow-countrymen and the Englishman advising us not to 'rock the boat' by open protests lest we disturb his detente with the Soviet authorities. Of course it's much more comfortable and less trouble to follow the advice of the fashionable Churchman than to tread the harsh path pointed out by the Russian prophet. Prophets always have been uncomfortable people to live with and Solzhenitsyn is no exception. The British Baptist hierarchy has come out strongly in favour of the comfortable approach, even to the extent of totally omitting from its denominational paper any mention of the Solzhenitsyn broadcasts. (As a Baptist I am allowed to say this!)

2. The Church generally has greeted with another resounding silence the latest gross infringement of our civil liberties in this country. The freedom of employees not to join a Trade Union has recently been withdrawn by law and already a number of people have been sacked for standing out against compulsory membership. Some members of the governing party are urging that those who are sacked for this reason should also be denied unemployment pay, presumably with the aim of starving them into submission, although they have not got their way - yet. What is the Church doing about this? Um - well it is protesting about investment in South Africa!

3. One freedom the Christian is not entitled to enjoy is to remain in comfortable ignorance of the state of the world. For the benefit of those who didn't know therefore (see last month)

see over

- a. Tirana is the capital of Albania;
- b. Albania has since 1945 suffered under the most ruthlessly atheistic regime in the world, not excluding China - indeed its leaders are beginning to accuse the Chinese of revisionism;
- c. There is no Bishop in Tirana - nor indeed any Church at all in Albania except well underground;
- d. There is no June 31st this year or any other;
- e. May 1st is a marxist festival in many countries, including our own from 1978;
- f. April 1st is well, surely I don't have to explain that.
- g. The only person Torquin Fhast was

ROBIN BRUFORD!

PALM CROSSES from AFRICA

As you probably noticed, the palm crosses which were distributed on Palm Sunday were a little paler than the traditional "Golden Palms" which are grown in Spain. This is because they were grown in Tanzania, in seven mud hut villages in the Diocese of Masasi. The average total income for each mud hut is about £20 per annum, on which the whole of the family exists. We are encouraging the Christians in Masasi by our purchases, and helping them to make improvements. The profits for two years of selling Palm Crosses enabled the villages to build a permanent school. The work was done without cost, but the money paid for the roofing. We are told that it is a lovely school - nice and light inside - quite unlike the dark old grass-roofed buildings. It is the least we can do to help the Christians in Africa in their struggle to survive.

E.W. POPPLESTONE

Date for your Diary:

N.C.E.C. Scripture Examination Prizegiving at Worthing Baptist Church, Christchurch Road, Worthing, on 18th June, 1976.

HOLLOW HOPE:

The Brighton, Central & West Sussex, Christian Education Council in their March Issue of "Council Contacts" complain of lack of material for their non-appearance for some time. Indeed, this issue has only one page of copy which has been inserted by the editorial staff. Come on now you budding journalists - now is your chance to get published further afield. Let them all know how you are enjoying our Christian fellowship at Goring, and make it attract others.

E.M.P.

Christian Aid result for April = £18.20

With many thanks,

HILDA HELE

Help the Aged

Dear Mrs. Bond,

The recent Appeal in the Worthing area raised a record number of sacks - over 650 - a 15% increase over last year as well as over £650.

This successful outcome could not have been realized without the generosity of many people in Worthing and your support, which was very much appreciated, especially in these days of economic stringency.

Yours sincerely,

K. Rees (Mrs.)
Deputy Director- Local Appeals

"COME '76"MISSION TO WORTHING

The posters say 'Support and Pray' for this mission. The leaders of the Bible Study House Groups in the Goring area invite YOU to join them in a United Prayer Meeting.

At the Roman Catholic Church of

The English Martyrs

on Tuesday, 1st June, 1976

at 19.30h.

R. TULEY

'COME TOGETHER'

SATURDAY, 22nd MAY, at 19.30h. IN THE CHURCH

The Brighton and Hove 'Come Together' Choir have, after seeking the Lord's will in prayer, been led to accept an invitation from this Church to lead us in worship on Sat. 22nd May, at 19.30h. This time of fellowship will be part of Goring's contribution to the Mission to Worthing with other local Churches being invited to join us.

As the host Church, we ask that our own people, young and old alike, make a particular effort to attend this service and bring their friends so that all might be richly blessed. Let us have our Church filled with people, prayer, praise and joyful music and singing to the Glory of God!

R. TULEY

MONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

We warmly invite anyone interested in Diamond Engraving on Glass, to join us in the Cornwall Room at 20.00h. on 10th May, when Mrs. Taylor of Westdene College will be demonstrating this art. On 24th May we shall be having a Members Evening Discussion

Discussion entitled "If.....?"

IRENE TULEY

YOUTH FORUM

The young people are busy preparing a service which they will be leading in this Church on Sunday evening 16th May, and at Clermont, Brighton the following week. They will also be writing to invite others of their own ages from other churches in the area to share in the worship at our own church and afterwards for discussion in the Hall.

I am sure that they would welcome and be encouraged in their work by your support in body and in prayer for these occasions.

GRAHAM R. DMAN

WOMEN'S GUILD

We are nearing the end of our Spring Session - only two more meetings to go! The musical programme arranged for April 27th has already been announced, and after this on May 11th we have our Annual General Meeting. Officers and Committee have to be elected for the Guild year 1976-77, but we plan to get through the business as quickly as possible and the rest of the time will be given up to the usual social side, with possibly a short item of entertainment. Do come along to this last meeting so that we end what has been a happy year with a flourish!

We look forward to the outing on Tuesday May 18th when we hope for a fine and happy afternoon out together. A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY September 7th, start of our Autumn Session.

ETHEL GILBY

EVERYBODY IN!

May, our 5th month, was the third month in the ancient Roman Calendar, and was called May probably after Maia, daughter of Atlas, who was supposed to hold the world on his shoulders. Maia was also the mother of Mercury, who ran swiftly from Heaven to Earth on errands for the gods, and to whom the Romans used to sacrifice on the first of the month.

Many old customs and rites have survived or even been revived in parts of Britain, and provide a link between the present and the far-off past, of the whole world, reaching back through ancient folk-lore to pagan rites which were once common to all races.

In Cornwall, the coming of summer is welcomed by traditional celebrations at Padstow and Helston - the Hobby-Horse and Furry Day (the floral dance). At Padstow the May Day celebrations begin at midnight on the 30th April, when the singers or 'Mayers' strike up a song:

"Unite and unite, and let us all unite,
For summer is a-come unto day,
And whither we are going we will all unite,
In the merry morning of May".

They go from door to door singing to people in the town, suiting the words to the person sung to, until 2.00h to 3.00h. After a few hours sleep, the singers gather again and at 10.00h the Hobby Horse appears - wearing a mask and costume very much like a New Guinea dance mask. Together they go with the 'Oss' through the streets, the houses decorated with branches of sycamore and May, singing and dancing to accordion and drums. This goes on most of the day, (with a few rests) until about 21.00h.

The famous Helston "Furry Dance" takes place a week later. The Festival is possibly descended from a pre-historic rite of sun-worship, though changed through the centuries. Unless

the day is unsuitable, e.g. a Sunday or Market Day, the festival always falls on the 8th May. This is the day of the Apparition of St. Michael, Patron Saint of the Parish, who triumphed over the devil. Before the Reformation the day was probably a parish feast day, then the May-day merry-makings were probably tacked on to it. So pagan and Christian were joined together in dance and song.

There is an early morning peal of bells from St. Michael's Church, then young people go off into the country and gather boughs of 'May' - generally flowering sycamore. They return at 8.30h waving the branches, and walk through the town, accompanied by St. George and the dragon, Robin of-the-wood, and St. Michael. The party stops at certain places to sing the Hal-an-Tow song.

During the day there are three more dances, the school children's dance - all the girls dressed in white and wearing garlands of lily of the valley on their heads or a buttonhole of lilies, the boys wear white flannels and shirts, and wear buttonholes of lilies. The mid-day dance is for top hats and morning suits, and long dresses and floppy hats - for the gentry, and specially invited visitors. They are led by the town band, and accompanied by the mayor and two beadles. The first two couples should be of Helston birth, and Helston's most recent bride has by old custom the right to be the leading lady - and no other band can play the tune just like the Helston band!

The town is decorated with flowers and greenery, and the dancers enter the shops and houses by one door, going out by another, dancing round some of the larger gardens, which are open to all. This going in and out ("the windows") of houses is probably a survival of a purification rite, or an act of driving out the spirit of darkness and bringing in the spirit of light. The decoration of the town with greenery and flowers can also be linked to the bringing to their homes the fertilisation spirit, or god of growth, present in the form of flowers and green foliage.

While we do not believe in the necessity for pagan ritual to make sure the sun will shine, and our gardens grow, or our families grow strong and healthy, we can still be joyful to the Lord in song and dance.

Dance! - just like some people I saw on Easter day by Worthing pier who started to dance to the music being played by the Salvation Army band, hymns and all. 'Come on,' they said, "sing! Remember what today is! Don't sit there like you're dead!" and they danced and sang until the band finished. We were too reserved or respectable to sing in more than a mutter, if we sang at all. No one would, or could have known that Easter day was a Christian day of joy and good news. Why didn't I go and join with them to sing, and talk to them? Oh, this missed opportunity to witness for Christ! Next time, I will!

"Dance, dance, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance" said He,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be
And I'll lead you all in the dance", said He.

Sidney Carter.

Much Love,

MARY CONNELLY

STOP PRESS

Many thanks to all who gave support to our Coffee Morning and tomato plant sale on 24th April, which was highly successful. The amount raised so far is £26.15 with more still to come in, as we have a few tomato plants left.

MRS. E.M. DENNIS & MRS. POPPLESTONE

CHURCH INVENTORY

In the past few months, an ad hoc committee has been helping the Minister and the Church Secretary for Christian Education to investigate the opportunities for practical evangelism in our own district. There has been a different set of members each time and a great amount of work has been done. There is no doubt that far more is still to be done. If you have not been asked to help it is possible that we are not aware of your particular interest or need. For this reason we are now at the point where we are about to compile a Church Inventory of Personnel. In order to do this we are about to launch an inquiry into the assets we hold in the way of personnel in our Church.

The reason for wanting this knowledge is that we find it very difficult to get to know each other except in a casual and protracted way, and such information as we can collect about US would help to speed the process.

We know of quite a few experts in certain fields of life - but there are others amongst us that are not recognised, simply because we don't know. On the other side of the coin, there are many with special needs and we could give them our support with positive help and prayer. Therefore when you get our Questionnaire would you be so kind as to give it your serious attention and then we can analyse the results to find out what resources and needs we have in our Church community, so that we can be more outward looking in our work for Jesus Christ. By this we mean to take our Christian message into the local Community and by our example and personal influence do what we can to spread the Gospel.

E.W. FOPPLESTONE

JUNE, 1976No. 279FROM THE VESTRY

Remember, therefore, always to pray for your minister, that God would put some divine message into his mouth which may leave a heavenly relish on your spirit.

So writes Richard Baxter, that faithful puritan divine whose personal life and writings on the work of the Ministry have been an inspiration to ministers for three centuries and more. It is not always easy to leave a heavenly relish upon the spirits of others. Impatience, anxiety, an eagerness to get on with things can overseason one's conversation until the words become too salty, vinegary - or else by complacency become too honeyed and sugary!

The Mission is now in God's hands, and we are invited to give ourselves to this work. May those who organise, counsel or pray remain filled with the divine message that will leave a heavenly relish upon the spirits of many.

Some friends are already asking - can we not continue our friendships and study in the House Groups that have so greatly helped our preparation? The real answer is to be found in the thought that nothing we do in Mission should be so far away from the normal life of the Church as to make it's continuance unreal or burdensome. The good and helpful studies and friendships will carry on as you desire them and experience the need for their place within our church life.

Make the Mission live in your own life, in your friendships in your work. Seek opportunities of sharing the deep things of your life in Christ with others, and be ready to welcome those who are sure to be led to our hearts as to our doors in their response to Christ's word.

Every Blessing,

WILLIAM CONNELLY

BAPTISMS

Peter Graeme Edward Drew 2.5.76

Edward Morgan Taylor 16.5.76

God, who touchest earth with beauty
 Make me lovely too,
 Keep me ever by thy Spirit
 Pure and strong and true.

IN MEMORIAM

Brenda Juson

Harriet Webber Two good friends of the Church

"My peace I leave with you"

HAVE YOU HEARD? That John Blackwood has been most happily re-elected to serve on the Arun District and Ferring Parish Councils.

Congratulations!

That our former Minister, The Rev. C.C. Franks has been elected as the new Moderator of the Southern Province.... that's what comes of taking part in festivals organised by Norman Dobson?

That Chris Brann speaking with a clarity and sincerity that blessed us all has now testified to his call to the Christian Ministry, bless you Chris.

That the Family Church Festival brought so much joy, colour, gospel to us that some want to make it an Annual Event - what do you think?

That a cassette recording has been made of the morning and evening Church Festival services on 2nd May, and also of the Easter Sunday morning service. Anyone interested in hearing them please contact Mr. & Mrs. Tuley.

Arthur Razzell has some interesting things to tell us about our inclinations in timing on Sunday services ... he will be telling us more of his diligent research into our use of Sunday.

THE MINISTRY OF HEALING Gordon Wraight and Pop Edmunds are still far from their accustomed vigour ... but near to us in spirit. Little Rachel Brunton is unwell and we send blessings to her parents in their anxiety. Rob Turton overdoing it (as usual!) is having to rest for a time.

Mrs. Beckerton, Mr. Campbell, Miss D. Raynor among our friends are all making progress and we are grateful for this.

There are many - not least Mrs. G.L. Nodes who are grateful for Richard Tuley's recording of services ... let us know if this ministry can help you ... it has helped many during a time of illness.

"COME 76"

The United Church Enquiry and Advice Centre and Come 76 Headquarters was opened on 19th May at Curry's (old) shop, 6 Warwick Street, Worthing, near the Guildbourne Centre, by the new Mayor of Worthing, Mrs. W. Frampton. It includes a book display, enquiry counter, and an inner counselling room where people can come with their problems and receive help from an experienced counsellor. The Centre is open each day from 10.00h to 17.00h, please make its facilities known. (also see P. 15)

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Perhaps you have heard that some 'underground' work is going on in our Church in the form of informal meetings to discuss what we mean by Christian Education in our church and time. A questionnaire has been circulated and many responses have now been collected and are being collated.

The main outcome of our deliberations, so far, has been a feeling that we ought to find out where our people work and what pressures they experience daily. We decided the only way to find out was to ask you - hence the questionnaire. Since Christian Education embraces the whole life of the Church we need to develop our 'Family' Church and we must accept the social and political issues of our time. How would you like to come to a Church Meeting to discuss the implications of, say, the war in the Lebanon; a strike at Leyland Motors; the provision of a home for unmarried mothers, Rhodesia or help for the victims of Russian anti-semitism? Don't ignore this: Discuss it - chat to Bill about it - come to our next Church Meeting and talk about your feelings on the matter. Now it is YOUR TURN!

BIBLE VERSESMISSION TO WORTHING Paul Said: Ephesians 4 vv. 11-13

And these were his gifts: some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip God's people for work in his service, to the building up of the body of Christ. So shall we all at last attain to the unity inherent in our faith and our knowledge of the Son of God- to mature manhood, measured by nothing less than the full stature of Christ.

A Chinese Philosophy

"If there is no righteousness in the heart, there is no beauty in the character. If there be beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the family home. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. When there is order in the nation, there will be peace and love in the world".

If I should sit and count my woes,
The way, each week, the money goes,
The harassments of every day,
I'd surely weep my soul away.
But lots of folks worse off I see,
I'm mighty thankful, I am me !!

Humour at Worthing Hospital, last week, between a young male receptionist and myself:

Rec. "Can I help you?"

me. "I have an appointment with Dracula, which way do I go?"

Rec. "So sorry to tell you, but Dracula is at home, rather sick. But turn right, go upstairs, and Frankenstein will see to you".

me. "Thank you very much".

P.S. This all took place, without a smile and quite seriously - and I loved it !!!

P. SCUDDER

strands of mission activity, local, UK and abroad were all brought together and ample notice given of all events. The small attendance at some recent events and the slow build-up of support for the Worthing Mission were attributed at least in part to lack of information and co-ordination.

SUPPRESSION: Those interested in my note last month on the suppression by the Baptist Times of views unpopular with the Soviet authorities will be concerned to learn that this has continued for a further month despite protests to the Editor of that once-independent weekly.

R. BRUFORD

"FESTIVAL FOLLIES"

Did you enjoy the variety entertainment provided on 1st May by members of the Church Groups? Those participating had a lot of fun both on the night and in rehearsal beforehand. It was a miracle that all went as well as it did because it had not been possible to have a full-scale dress rehearsal beforehand. We learnt one thing, that there is plenty of talent in the Church and even more which was not used on this occasion. It is hoped to make this an annual event on the calendar of the Family Circle and it would be helpful to have a note of anyone who would like to assist in any way either as "artiste" or "Technician". We might well need back stage helpers, carpenters, electricians, make-up etc. and would like to have a note of any volunteers. Names to me please ...

REG GOODCHILD

I would like to thank everybody who "played" any part in the Weekend and it was a great thrill to have with us once again The Rev. and Mrs. Franks as our guests. The following reports were composed by church members. Once again thank you all for making the weekend such a success.

FAMILY CHURCH FESTIVAL

Immediately on entering our Church on this Festival Day one was conscious of thankfulness, happiness, beauty and a thorough family atmosphere. Flowers were lavish and beautiful and almost everyone wore buttonholes. The Church was full, with the infants in the Chapel, the Junior Church in the side aisle, and the Brigades and Christening party occupying the front pews. The

Colours were presented and received by the two ministers, then followed a most uplifting and joyous service.

It was refreshing to hear the infants singing and to see the procession of Junior Church round the church carrying the banners telling of their various enjoyments. A prayer was then said by two boys from the Bible Class, and a statement of faith by a member of the "Squash Group".

The Youth Choir followed in an excellent rendering of "Hand my Silver Trumpet" such a lively and joyous song, these young folk could do so much in the future musical part of our usual morning service. The first conversation led by the Rev. C. Franks in the pulpit, and our own minister at the Lectern with Mr. Connelly asking the questions on the thoughts and results during Mr. Franks' early ministry here and of the building of the present Church. The dialogue was most interesting. With the conclusion that Mr. Franks' objective was then to knit together as one the Young, the pensionable age, and fringe communities. The then existing church members had the enthusiasm and the building now had it's beauty and light to encourage growth.

The Baptism followed giving again the feeling of growth and family togetherness.

The Choir by singing an anthem and followed by Scripture readings and prayers with the hearty singing by the congregation, all helped to endorse the theme of this Festival - Joy, Praise, Thankfulness and forwardness through the spirit of our Lord.

In the second conversation places were exchanged by the ministers and Mr. Franks questioned as to our future as a Church, and the reply by Mr. Connelly was that we must be a neighbouring church, the minister ever present "on the job" and to have our church, not only the building but also the members willing to help the young, old and lonely, thus to achieve and fulfil the original object of our being firmly fixed in Christ, thus open to all and to go forward as one.

This most inspiring and feeling of family togetherness was brought to a close after the colours had been returned by both ministers. Again as various officers, members of organizations and church representatives as a token of the "family" gathered round the Communion Table, a Dedication Prayer was spoken by P.10

GIRLS' BRIGADE

We were blessed with lovely weather for our trip to London on 1st May and all enjoyed the Rally very much. We returned home greatly uplifted by the sight of so many girls, like ourselves, all belonging to Girls' Brigade.

Our summer activities are now well under way and we are busy too preparing for our Open Evening on Tuesday, 15th June, starting at 19.00h. You will come along won't you? We have a number of girls to be enrolled, refreshments will be available, you will have an opportunity to see some of the work already done this year and a chance to relax whilst the girls entertain you. Suddenly we have a lot of new Explorers and they are looking forward to singing and playing for you. Its all free so do come!

JEAN WEBB

GIRLS' BRIGADE ANNUAL RALLY AND DISPLAY ROYAL ALBERT HALL

Written by one of the Girls

On Saturday, 1st May, 17 girls and 3 officers from the Girls Brigade assembled at Durrington Station to catch the 8.30h train up to London. We were going to the Annual Girls Brigade Rally at the Royal Albert Hall.

On arrival at Victoria we set off for Westminster Abbey which we spent part of the morning admiring. We also visited Buckingham Palace and saw the Horse Guards. We ate our packed lunches in St. James' Park among the pigeons and the weather kept fine for us.

After lunch we started walking up to the Albert Hall, for ten of us were to attend the afternoon performance. In the parks we saw pelicans, ducklings and fed the sparrows and pigeons from our hands. While the younger among us were at the afternoon rally, the rest of us wandered through the parks and round the shops (and awaited the F.A. Cup Final results!)

By just before 18.30h we were seated in the Albert Hall. The Rally began with the Guard of Honour and Assembly and a fanfare of trumpets announcing the arrival of the platform party. The Rev. John Scott led us in worship and the National President, Lady Nicholson, gave a welcome to visitors. Then we were

entertained by different companies doing P.E., acting, singing and by a brilliant girl's band. During the Rally, 29 girls received their Queen's Award from the guest of honour, Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk. Later, we heard massed bands and everyone cheered on their teams colour in the team games. Excerpts from "Come Together" were played and expressed very well in dance form. An excellent finale called "The Mountains of God" which went through Bible stories about mountains and brought out messages for us today, finished the Rally well, and we returned home after agreeing that we had had a great day.

FROM THE TREASURER

Here are details of our giving for the months of January to April this year.

	<u>Loose Cash</u>	<u>Envelopes</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
January	105.47	315.73	421.20
February	136.79	290.20	426.19
March	119.59	287.71	407.30
April	138.87	257.14	396.01

"Let us give as Thou deservest and not to count the cost"

In addition the following sums were collected for special causes:

		£
January 18th	Feed the Minds	24.87
April 16th	Christian Aid	26.34
April 18th	Unified Appeal	22.46
May 2nd	Toc H Belfast Children	
	Holiday Appeal	27.00

CHRISTIAN AID FOR MAY

Amount Received £39.35

With many thanks for your continued support

HILDA HELE

GORING (SUSSEX) CONGREGATIONAL HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD.

Many friends who have joined the church in the last few years may know little of the history of the Housing Association. It was formed in 1969 with the object of purchasing a large property in the vicinity of the church and transforming it into one room flatlets for elderly folk. After much searching two adjoining houses were purchased in Shaftesbury Avenue and plans were drawn up by an architect to convert them into nine flatlets with a warden's flat on top. These were approved by the local council and other interested parties and a loan agreed, but a change in government regulations made it necessary to obtain approval of the Dept. of the Environment. Their insistence on a separate bathroom, toilet and kitchen for each flatlet made the scheme financially impracticable and the houses were sold. Fortunately house prices had risen and we were able to more than cover our outgoings including heavy architects fees etc.

The Management Committee decided to look for one property which could be purchased without government assistance and in April, 1973 No. 2 Shaftesbury Ave. was purchased for £15,845. By this time members of the church and congregation had subscribed approximately £14,000 by way of donations, 5% Loan Stock and unsecured loans of which £11,000 represented donations and special efforts. The conversion into flatlets was completed early in 1974 at a cost of £5,400, financed by the Association's balances, a loan of £5,000 from the church at 7½% and a bank overdraft, which at December, 1975 stood at £1862.

The first tenants arrived at the end of March, 1974 and the Rev. Wallis Hayward, who had given enthusiastic support to the scheme, officially opened Hayward House in May. The five tenants enjoy central heating, constant hot water, cooking facilities and electric light at an inclusive rental under £9 per week and they appear to be well satisfied with their flatlets.

We are of course anxious to repay the bank overdraft and the loan from the church. We are very thankful for all the help we have already received and look forward to your continued generosity. DONATIONS OR PERHAPS A LEGACY WILL ALWAYS BE WELCOMED BY THE TREASURER FROM WHOM A COPY OF THE ACCOUNTS MAY BE OBTAINED.

J.R. BEALE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

MONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP On Monday, 7th June at 7.30 p.m. the Goring Churches are holding an open-air service "Songs of Praise" as a contribution to "Come 76" - the Mission to Worthing. We look forward to seeing all our fellowship members and friends attending this service, on the Green outside St. Richard's Church, in Collingwood Road. Our Minister and his harmonium will be in evidence!

Miss Wendy Boothroyd, Chief Junior Librarian, will be speaking on "Books for all the Family", on 21st June at 20.00h in the Cornwall Room - all ladies are welcome. Remember, remember the 5th July! Please make every effort to attend the Annual General Meeting, which will be followed by supper.

IRENE TULEY

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP At the A.G.M. on 27th April, 1976 the Chair was taken by the President, the Rev. William Connelly who addressed the meeting following the conclusion of the business proceedings. The Secretary reported another successful year, although the average attendance at meetings had dropped slightly. The Treasurer revealed a satisfactory financial position with a useful credit balance in hand.

Our Minister was re-elected President and Messrs. Spence and Reynolds - Vice-Presidents. Mr. Robert Pepperdine a former Secretary was elected a Vice-President in recognition of his past service to the Fellowship. The Secretary, Treasurer and Registrar and Committee members were all re-elected.

The Autumn Session will start on Tuesday, 21st September with a Members Afternoon and it is hoped that all men who can spare an hour and a half on alternate Tuesday afternoons will join us in Fellowship and share the pleasures of the friendly meetings which we enjoy.

REG GOODCHILD

CHURCH FLOWERS FOR JUNE

6th	Mr. & Mrs. D. Gill
13th	Mr. R. Briggs
20th	Mrs. A. Hopkins
27th	Miss Frost

KAY WINSTANLEY

"COME 76" LIST OF EVENTS

5th June (Sat)	PROCESSION OF WITNESS (meet in Homefield Park not later than 10.30h)				
6th June (Whit Sunday)	COME 76 SERVICES In Local Churches ST. PAUL'S Worthing 20.00h "Come Together"				
7th and 8th Mon Tues	LOCAL CHURCH MEETINGS 'Whosoever will may come'				
9th (Wed)	ASSEMBLY HALL	Worthing	19.30h	Lewis	Misselbrook
10th (Thurs)	"	"	"	Michael	Creech
11th (Fri)	"	"	"	Maurice	Barnett
12th (sat)	"	"	"	Vic	Jackopson
13th (Sun)	St. PAUL'S	"	20.00h	"Come Together"	
27th (Sun)	BROADWATER GREEN		14.45h	Open Air Mass Rally	

The Worthing & District Council of Churches invites you to their special United Meetings of Faith and Challenge "Come to God".

Enquiries to Robert Brown (Worthing 48082) or to the Mission Shop Warwick Street, Worthing.

YOUTH CORNER"Knee-deep in June"

Dear Boys and Girls,

June is the sixth month of the year by our modern reckoning. In the old calendar it was the fourth month and originally had 26 days, but later, 29. To those, Julius Caesar added one at the time of his reform of the calendar.

Three Roman origins have been suggested for the name of this month - from the word "Juniore" - the young; from the Latin word which means 'to join' - 'Jungo', or in honour of the goddess Juno, the "Queen of Heaven". She was the beautiful, but jealous wife of Jupiter, who drove about in a chariot drawn by strutting peacocks. She was thought to be the guardian of women, and the month as favourable for marriage. Perhaps the name of the month comes from a good mixture of these ideas!.

The summer solstice, (the longest day- the sun being overhead in the northern hemisphere) occurs on the 21st or 22nd.

Last month, I told you about the May festivals in pagan times which were to welcome summer, driving away the spirit of darkness and winter and bringing in the spirit of light and fertility.

The next important festival after those of spring was the great day of Midsummer, and the lighting of the midsummer bonfires. These ceremonial bonfires may be traced all over the world, not merely in Cornwall, and go back to the bonfire as a symbol of the sun, at midsummer at its highest point in the heavens. The sun was one of the first gods worshipped by man. In Celtic times, great sacrificial bonfires were lit in honour of the sun. Even in recent centuries country people lit bonfires and used to leap over and through the fires, and drive their cattle through or round them so that they might receive the full benefits of the heat-charm to ward off disease and bad luck.

Many other customs on Midsummer Eve have now died out, but the bonfire celebrations carry on as revived in 1929 by the St. Ives Old Cornwall Society. Hymns are sung, prayers are said, there is a bunch of herbs and a garland of flowers thrown into the fire. This is symbolical of the human or animal sacrifice after the Christianisation of the custom - now celebrating St. John's Eve - and many a Cornish pasty is eaten in place of the sacrificial banquet! We feel no admiration for the goddess Juno, nor do we worship the sun; our hearts are made glad by the splendour of summer, and we offer the glory of June to the Giver of all beauty and all joy, the mighty God who is also our Father.

Summer suns are glowing
Over land and sea.
Happy light is flowing
Bountiful and free.
Everything rejoices
In the mellow rays,
All earth's thousand voices
Swell the psalm of praise.

God's free mercy streameth
Over all the world,
And His banner gleameth
Everywhere unfurled.
Broad and deep and glorious
As the heaven above,
Shines in might victorious
His eternal love.

William Walsham How
(CP. 644)

Yours Affectionately,
MARY CONNELLY

FROM THE VESTRY

It was, I think that outstanding evangelist of last century, Dr. Moody, who was once confronted by a critic's comment "I don't like your methods!" The great evangelist must have prayed for a moment before being led to ask his critic the question that will always remain before us - he replied "Well Sir, and what are your methods?"

We will all give thanks to God for the Mission to Worthing Come '76. Some scenes will remain with us for years to come. The Roman Catholic Missioner played in by the Salvation Army bands "The Church's one foundation" words and music of Anglican origin! The Procession of Witness with a splendid representation from our own Church - people pushing bikes, wheelchairs, prams - or just walking! People you hadn't expected to see turning out - even the odd dog - for whom there was a suitable message as we entered the gardens for the service ... did you spot it? Our Youth Singers with guitars and smiles both in procession and open-air service on the Green.

How vigorously you all served from loud-speaker van and leaflet distribution to soloists, musicians and by your happy presence. You blessed us all.

One evening after a Mission service I strolled through the town in hope of picking up comments from those whose interests do not lie in our direction. It was at this point that I realised the need for further work among the people of our town. Some might say that we need "Detached Evangelists" as there are "Detached Youth Workers". People who are trained to listen to others at street corner - or wherever they might meet for company or refreshment or escape.

We have been recalled to Mission and the work must go on. Those first rate organisers have not finished - nor the Counsellors nor the Speakers and Choirs - they have only begun.

What are our methods to be in the coming months? Let's follow the appeal of one of our Preachers who urged us to pray

for VISION
 for INSIGHT
 for PEOPLE

for Christ's sake,
 Blessings and Love,

WILLIAM CONNELLY

P.S. It was 8yrs old Graham Clark who so happily carried the
 Name of our Church from the beginning to ending of the Procession.
 Well Done! W.C.

NEWS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

BAPTISM Simon James Gethin
 15 Torridge Close 30.5.76
 "Make this little heart Thy home"

WEDDING Rodney William Shears
 Gillian Johnston 12.6.76
 "for whither thou goest I will go"

The Ministry of Healing

Florence Moody is much better as also are Gordon Wraight and Pop Edmunds. We welcome home Dorothy Cozens-Walker after her family gathering in California. Recent visits to Mrs. Brand, Miss Dymott, Miss Downing and Mrs. L.M. Cuff indicate good spirits despite difficulties of age or illness. Miss E. Robinson hopes to be about a little more this summer. Bob Pepperdine shares his love and hopes to return to his place at worship. Do please remember to inform the Minister at Tel: 48259 in cases of illness or need - and the Pastoral Secretary, Eric Bond or any Elder can help in this service of sharing and caring in the Name of Christ. It will also help us all to remember that the Request for Prayer Book in the Little Chapel is for General and not Church use only. The Ministry of Healing goes far beyond our immediate borders

to embrace all who are in need.

Have you Heard?

SILENCE

"The Lord is in His Holy Temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him".

Do please remember that the entrance of the Elder with the Bible five minutes before public worship invites us all to five minutes of Silent Worship.

Magazines

Sometimes a few left over at the end of the month - please feel free by the 3rd Sunday to take an extra copy to a friend or neighbour.

Church and Society

A working party under the leadership of Dr. R. Webb has been set up to look into any matter that falls under this head. It will then report to Church Meeting. The subject of Religious Education in Schools is to be raised - you are invited to raise your vital subject - please see Dr. Webb or Telephone: 40546.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Since the Church Meeting on 3rd June, I have given a lot of thought to the question of Church Membership which was then raised. To apply for Church Membership on Profession of Faith is a big and courageous thing to do, and folk who do this in adult life have most probably not had the blessing of a Christian home and upbringing, or they would hitherto have been affiliated to a Church and join ours "by transfer". Surely we should give a very real welcome to those who come forward to join us by Profession of Faith and not put them off by undue interrogation. I am sure that what constitutes Church Membership is a developing thing - we start as learners, gain experience and make discoveries, yet end as learners, and our responsibility as existing Church members is to do our utmost to help and understand those who are starting on this great venture.

MOLLIE HAWKE

CONGRATULATIONS

To Mr. & Mrs. R. Briggs on the celebration of their Emerald Wedding (55 years) on 25th June.

To Mr. & Mrs. Popplestone Senior, on the celebration of their 57th Wedding Anniversary, on 2nd August.

To Mr. & Mrs. W. Hayward on their Ruby Wedding, 27th June, 1976.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to send you all my thanks for your kind enquiries and get well cards, and especially to the Minister for the help his visits have given me. All your kind thoughts and prayers have put me well on the road to recovery, and I hope to be at Church soon.

FLORRIE MOODY

I have a lot to be thankful for, now that I have got so much better as to be able to get to Church after being laid aside for several weeks. I wish to pass on and say thank you for all prayers said, thoughts and enquiries made, flowers sent. Also very much appreciated were the visits given, and a little yarn, and the opportunity of hearing the recordings of the Festival Services and Easter morning, which were very good.

"POP" EDMONDS

BIBLE VERSES

DO

Psalms 143 v.10 Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness.

Micah 6 v. 8 He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.

Colossians 3 v. 17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed do in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

I LIVE ALONE DEAR LORD

I live alone dear Lord,
be thou my guide.

In all my daily needs stay
by my side.

Spare me from fire, from flood,
malicious tongues,
From thieves, from fear
and evil ones.

If sickness or an accident befall
Then humble, Lord I pray,
hear thou my call.

And when I am feeling low,
or in despair,
Lift up my heart and help me
in my prayer.

I live alone, dear Lord,
yet have no fear,
Because I feel your presence
ever near.

From the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Taken from "Yours"
with acknowledgments

CHURCH FLOWERS FOR JULY AND AUGUST

<u>JULY</u>	4th	Girls' Brigade
	11th	Mr. & Mrs. D.E. Mooney
	18th	Mr. & Mrs. G. Wraight
	25th	Mrs. M.W. Joyce
<u>AUGUST</u>	1st	Mr. & Mrs. A. Reynolds
	8th	Mrs. I. Kitto
	15th	Mr & Mrs. Paterson
	22nd	Mr. & Mrs. A. Birch
	29th	Mrs. D. Langridge

KAY WINSTANLEY

COME '76 THE PROCESSION OF WITNESS

With a great sense of expectation and happiness, approximately two and a half thousand of us gathered on all sides in Homefield Park on the morning of Saturday, 5th June. We were asked to be present by 10.30 a.m. but in fact did not move off until 11.00h thereby giving us an opportunity for ecumenical exchanges with other Churches, gathered on the same side of the park.

Our Church was the 38th in the order of 40 churches taking part in the Procession so, when the command came for the Salvation Army Band to lead us all out of the park, we waited some time before moving off ourselves. In the meantime we were able to appreciate the size of the procession as it passed us in young folk, old folk, middle-aged and pram-folk, all were taking part and witnessing to our unity in Christ. Then our turn came and with our Minister and Youth Singers at the head, our columns, 85 strong, moved out of the park, Graham Clark going before with the Church banner, which he carried all the way to Steyne Gardens. As we processed through the town we were greeted with cheerful smiles by most of the bystanders. The only negative reaction appeared to be that of the driver of an ice-cream van, going in the opposite direction, who leaned out of his cab to enquire "What's wrong with Sunday then?" to which the reply was of course, "Nothing!". By the time we reached Steyne Gardens our numbers had risen to 100 and we were joined there by several more members. After all were assembled we gave thanks to God and worshipped Him in song and prayer during a short service lead by The Rev. W. Purvis.

This was a memorable occasion as the Churches have done nothing like this before. What the full effects and impact were, we shall never know, but we pray that some of those watching will come to love and worship our Lord Jesus Christ.

ERIC BOND

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

The Minister and Editorial Team wish everyone joyous and happy holidays.

ASSEMBLY HALL RALLIES

On the four evenings commencing Wednesday, 9th June and ending Saturday, 12th June there took place four splendid rallies at the Assembly Hall. These were widely attended from all parts of our town and in many ways provided a climax to "Come '76".

Every evening Ministers in the area supported by a Choir, solo singers and musical accompaniments of various kinds led a programme of worship and praise. Each evening a stirring message was given by a visiting preacher and invitations given to those who felt the Lord calling them to come forward to witness that Christ was indeed their Saviour. This was the very essence of mission and the trickle declaring themselves became a flood on the last evening when the presence of the Holy Spirit filled the Hall. Counsellors from the various churches ministered to their new found brothers.

Let mission in Worthing and elsewhere in this land continue so that once more this nation will be a people of the Lord.

GEOFFREY DEAR

OPEN-AIR SERVICE, MONDAY 7th JUNE

This was held on the green outside St. Richard's Church, and what a wonderful evening it was. The sun shone with a warm blessing on all who assembled here to give praise to God. Many members of the various Churches were present, and some sat on the grass while others had brought chairs to sit on. Our own Minister lead the worship which included singing by our own Youth Singers, and recorder playing by the children of Selden School. Hymn sheets had been handed out and we all enjoyed a good sing of some of our well-known hymns. Mr. Warne and Mr. Clarke took part in leading prayers and reading, and Father McCarthy pronounced the blessing. All together it was a memorable and enjoyable occasion, and we hope that those who listened from their homes, will have been blessed with the message of God's love which was coming to them on the loud-speaker.

M.B.P.

THE NIGHT WE "CAME TOGETHER"

It's a good thing our Church is a big one. It was full to capacity and many extra chairs had to be brought in, which must have been a source of delight to Richard Tuley who, as an act of faith, invited the "Come Together Choir" to sing for us on Saturday, 22nd May.

There were many, many faces I didn't recognise, so the idea that surrounding churches might join us proved to be correct. It was described as "A musical experience in love", and that was the emotion radiated by the Choir with the opening words of "Come together in Jesus' Name", the theme song of the entire performance.

They were all so involved. No one seemed to be there because he or she could sing, play a musical instrument, or was a dab hand at accoustics. They all loved the Lord and they didn't care who knew it. Even the most reticent follower could, under this wonderful influence, turn to his neighbour (possibly a stranger until then) and greet him in the name of Jesus.

The follow up is "If My People". But will our Church be big enough to hold all who will surely flock to attend? I know I speak for all when I say a big "thank you" to Derek Moon from Littlehampton, the Choir Master..... The Brighton and Hove Choir and (who could forget them) the ladies who provided tea.

ROSEMARY KITTO

THE YOUTH SINGERS

Many thanks to Geoff Shave for carrying on during my illness. I am making improvement and hope to be in double harness again with Geoff. The Singers have been busy. At the Open Air Service outside St. Richard's they gave some well chosen items and we had the crowd joining in. On Sunday, 20th June the Rev. R. Clarke of St. Richard's has invited them to come again and sing at an afternoon service.

Friday, 18th June, there is the Frize Giving of the N.C.E.C. Scripture Examinations at Christchurch Road Baptist Church, and again they have been invited to attend and sing.

Yes, I know this will all be over by the time you read this, but it is just to show you that these young people are keen to spread the gospel in song. We are anxious to raise some money for music, the Choir has very kindly helped with £5 but music costs a lot and we intend to get it. A Coffee and Cake Sale morning has been arranged for 26th June, if you didn't know about it, and want to help us with a gift believe me we will be very thankful.

Thanks to all for your interest in these young people, we hope to repay it to you in "Service and Song".

J. ROBSON TURTON

Some time when you are feeling important,
 Some time when your ego's in bloom,
 Some time when you take it for granted
 You're the best qualified man in the room,
 Some time when you feel that your going
 would leave an unfillable hole,
 Just follow this simple instruction
 And see how it humbles your soul.

Take a bucket and fill it with water,
 Put your hands in it up to your wrists,
 Pull them out, and the hole that remains,
 Is a measure of how you'll be missed.

You may splash all you please when you enter,
 You may stir up the water galore,
 But stop; and you'll find in a minute
 That it looks just the same as before.

The answer to this is quite simple,
 Do just the best that you can
 Be proud of yourself but remember
 THERE IS NO INDISPENSABLE MAN.

LADIES BIBLE CONFERENCE 1976

Jeanne Harper, Shelagh McAlpine, Jean Darnall, Johanna Ruth Dobschine

God said - This conference was born out of the word of God given in prayer - the vision of two women praying together many years ago.

God is faithful - His will is done when we are obedient to His call.

Would you believe - that nearly three hundred women could be prayed for by name, separately before God, that their hearts might be prepared to meet Him.

Would you believe - that the Holy Spirit would give a precious word for each woman and that some were seen to be fulfilled.

Would you believe - that as treasurer the assistant being unable to come, the Lord would send me a trained cashier to travel in the same car.

Would you believe - that as many grey heads as fresh young ones would be seen worshipping together.

Would you believe - women from every county, every denomination could and would come together just to give love, praise and worship to their God.

Would you believe - that for hours on end ordinary women would find joy and peace in listening to God's word, in praying to and praising Him.

Would you believe - that under the guidance and love of God's Holy Spirit women were released from bondages, healed and restored.

Would you believe - that women would minister to other women broken by sin, sufferings and burdens, and weep in the flesh and in the spirit for them.

Would you believe - they would comfort, pray for and love them before one another and the company of heaven.

Would you believe - that young and old would stand and acknowledge their sin and their need before God and His Church and be blessed because they humbled themselves under His merciful hand.

Would you believe - that these women called apart to worship Jesus would go home anointed with His love.

Would you believe - that a woman widowed two weeks would praise God, and thank Him for His blessings and mercy to her and her children, and acknowledge with joy Lord Jesus' saving grace.

Would you believe - that it was said "How these Christians love one another".

Would you believe - Psalm 51 "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise".

Would you believe - some of the last words spoken at the Conference were "Be Still - Be still and know that I am God".

AFTER THOUGHT

Family Church Festival I was delighted to read the reports of the Church Festival in the June Chronicle, but noticed that two of the services on the Sunday were not reported on.

More than a dozen of us were up and about early enough to share in the service of Holy Communion at 7.30 a.m. Our hearts were full of praise and thanksgiving as we remembered what the Lord Jesus Christ had done for us and we appreciated the stillness and silence as prayers were offered for a day that proved to be busy and bustling and joyful.

The usual congregation for the evening service was more than doubled and we "entered into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise". The scriptures were read by members of the Youth Forum and the Youth Choir inspired us with their moving rendering of the Negro Spiritual, "Steal Away to Jesus". The choir's anthem, the prayers and hymn singing

all helped us to look back with praise and look forward with joy in the service of our Lord.

In his sermon, Mr. Franks reminded us that in these days, it is absolutely vital for Christians to KNOW and to be sure of what they believe - they need to be educated. Therefore we must be prepared:

To spend time in prayer and study of the Word of God,
 To witness to our faith in the Lord Jesus
 To serve Him in our lives, and even though we may make mistakes, God and His church is gracious in love and forgiveness.
 Christ calls US to become effective Committed Christians by His enabling power.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Owing to illness I was unable to take part in the street collecting but others stepped in and all the streets were covered.

1975 we started with a cheque of £25 which went to make a total of £100. This year there wasn't that cheque but the envelopes gave us £81 which is actually more than we collected in 1975.

My thanks are wholeheartedly given to all the collectors.

I feel it is right to mention Mrs. H. Hele who week by week collects for Christian Aid. The amount annually is much more than the street collection. Many thanks to Mrs. Hele.

J. ROBSON TURTON

Amount collected for June is £30,75p received with thanks.

HILDA HELE

WORLD MISSION NEWSLEPROSY - Still a Scourge

Since drug treatment of leprosy began to achieve some success twenty years ago we have become accustomed to thinking that the problem of leprosy has been virtually solved. The harsh reality was brought into focus at the international conference of the Leprosy Mission last month. It is estimated that 15 million people are suffering from leprosy around the world and that only 3 million of them are receiving any treatment at all. Even worse, because of ill-organised and inadequate treatment programmes by some governments and charitable organisations some strains of the disease are developing a resistance to the standard sulphone drugs which had previously achieved some success in treatment. The Leprosy Mission thus finds itself with the formidable task not only of stepping up its own effective treatment programme but of persuading the other organisations to adopt higher standards of treatment and control. As always, it needs money and its current budget is £1,200,000.

Some of us already support the Mission by using the collectives supplied for the purpose or by making direct contributions. Our collector for both purposes is Miss Janet Luckin, who will be very pleased to give details - and to receive gifts for the work.

HERE.....

The new Missionary Secretary designate is Mrs. Glenn Dean, who will need not only our good wishes but our active and prayerful support as she takes over the task of strengthening and co-ordinating the Mission efforts of our Church.

..... and THERE

At the U.R.C. Assembly enthusiastic support was given to the proposals for changing the international organisation of the Council for World Mission so as to give an equal voice in running its affairs to the churches in the countries traditionally receiving mission aid. So far, so good. Let's hope that similar attention will now be given to improving the hopelessly inefficient organisation of the C.W.M. in this country.

ONE CHURCH, ONE FAITH, ONE

Our ecumenism these days is very broad but also tends to be very thin. The case of an elder of the Church of Scotland who has been called upon to resign and to repent because he has undergone believers' baptism has understandably ruffled many feelings. Whatever the rights and wrongs, the effect of such public wrangling upon non-Christians must be a scandal to the whole Church.

R.F. BRUFORD

MODERATOR'S INDUCTIONSOUTHERN PROVINCE

The Induction service will be held at Purley U.R.C. on Friday, 1st October, at 7.30 p.m.

A coach will be leaving our church at about 5.30p.m. If you wish to attend please contact Mr. Norman Dobson as soon as possible Tel: W. 65593, so that I may book the correct seating capacity. The cost will be £1.00 return.

N.A. DOBSON

STOP PRESS

The Church will be glad to receive the memorial silver salver, presented by Mrs. Stevens. It is given in memory of the late Mr. Stevens' association with the former Congregational Church and Mrs. Stevens' association with the former Presbyterian Church, and will be used at services of Holy Communion in the Little Chapel. It will be dedicated on a Communion Sunday.

We are glad and give thanks that a number of our people have responded to the Mission, either on Confession of Faith or else in seeking Rededication, 16 in all. We give thanks to God for this decision and promise them our help in their Christian lives.

FROM THE TREASURER

Collections for the month of May were as follows:-

Loose Cash £179.24

Envelopes £317.62

Retiring Collection for Sudan United Mission £29.05

Leprosy Mission Phials per Miss J. Luckin £20.60

I have collected £20.60 to be forwarded to the Leprosy Mission; many thanks to all who donated. If anyone in the Church is interested in having a phial, to collect for the Leprosy Mission, please contact the Minister, Thank you.

JANET LUCKIN

The Youth Club leaders and members wish to express their grateful thanks to all their friends in the Church who helped to make this year's camp a success. A wonderful time was had by all (33) who went and we were joined by the youth group from the local Church on the Sunday evening for fun and games (and hot dogs).

F. & J. ALMOND

SMALL AD.

A self-contained furnished flat is required for a young professional lady, in the Goring/West Worthing area. Willing to pay around £10 per week.

Anyone knowing of such accommodation available please write or 'phone:-

Miss Geraldine Green,
Flat 1, 22 Lyndhurst Road,
Worthing. Tel: W. 30224 or 205111 Ext. 662

MONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

Remember, remember the 5th July! The Annual General Meeting of the Fellowship, at 20.00h in the Cornwall Room, will be followed by supper. Please make every effort to attend. The last meeting of this session will be on 19th July when we shall enjoy a "Seashore Stroll". We shall recommence our meetings in the Autumn on Monday, 13th September.

IRENE TULEY

WOMEN'S GUILD

At the Annual General Meeting on 11th May reports by the Secretary and the Treasurer reviewed the first year of the newly-formed Women's Guild. It had been a happy and successful year with varied programmes including speakers representing several charitable causes. Collections at some meetings had raised about £25 for those causes and nearly £50 had been contributed to Hayward House funds from the Sales Table provisioned by members at each meeting.

Thanks were expressed to all who had worked for the success of the Guild and members for their loyal support.

Appointments of officers and Committee for the year 1976-77 were made as follows:-

Officers (all to be ex-officio members of Committee)

President - Mrs. W. Connelly
 Vice-Presidents - Mrs. J. Tilbury
 Mrs. F. Calsteren
 Secretary - Mrs. E. Dearsley
 Treasurer - Miss M. Redman
 Pianists - Mrs. C. West
 Mrs. D. Cozens-Walker
 Registrar - Miss K. Attkins.

Elected Members of Committee

Mrs. D. Jenkins Mrs. D. Turner
 Miss C. Mann Mrs. N. Winter
 Mrs. B. Reynolds (Flower Secretary)
 Mrs. P. Scudder

A warm welcome was given to Mrs. Dearsley as Secretary and to the newly-appointed members of Committee. The Autumn session will open on 7th September. E.G.

GIRLS' BRIGADE

We are sure you will be delighted to know that we now have 70 girls in our Company and feel that for the time being we have reached our limit. A waiting list has been prepared and, if we have any vacancies, we will recruit again in September. We rejoice and thank God for all these girls in our care and for all the opportunities of helping them to be true followers of Jesus Christ.

We shall break for the summer holiday on 20th July and return on 14th September, starting our session with our annual Jumble Sale on Thursday, 16th [REDACTED]. We shall be at camp at Edenbridge from 14th August - 21st and hope that the sun will shine for us.

Happy holidays, safe journeys and Gods blessings on you all.

JEAN WEBB

YOUTH CORNER

Dear Boys and Girls,

The month July is called after one of the greatest men who ever lived - Julius Caesar. When the year began with March, this month was the fifth, and the Romans called it Quintilis, which means the fifth month. Julius Caesar was a writer, orator, soldier and statesman of ancient Rome, and you will probably agree that, whether or not you approve all the things he did, he was certainly important enough in his own day to have a month named after him. He not only conquered nation after nation, but made wise laws and wrote immortal books, he set himself to reform the calendar.

He himself made the fifth month the seventh, and because the old name Quintilis would not suit, and because his birthday fell on the 12th, it was named Julius in his honour in the last year of his life.

It would take far too long to tell the story of Julius Caesar, but we must remember that he it was who conquered Britain and first taught the barbarians of our island to respect law and desire civilisation.

In July starts the period known as 'Dog-days' (Dies Caniculares) the hottest period of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, generally reckoned now to be from 3rd July to 11th August. Various dates from 3rd July to 15th August were given for the first of the Dog-days by the Greeks and the Romans, and various lengths of time from 20-54 days. They were generally associated with the influence of Sirius, the 'Dog Star', and according to Pliny began with *heliacal rising on 19th July. *(that is, when it first emerges from the sun's rays and becomes visible before sunrise).

Dog-days were regarded by some of the ancients as the most unhealthy period of the year (probably because of it being so hot and sultry and giving a 'life-less' feeling) - and as being the direct cause of madness among dogs! So watch out!

The real reason behind the superstition of St. Swithin's day which falls on 15th July is not known. It is believed that if it is wet on that day, it will rain for a period of 40 days. One explanation, given is this. St. Swithin was an Anglo Saxon bishop, chaplain to Egbert, king of the West Saxons, and tutor to his son Ethelwulf, who made him Bishop of Winchester on his accession (852). St. Swithin disliked pomp and grandeur, and brought about this 'punishment' of rain when the remains of his body were moved from a common graveyard to a resting place inside Winchester Cathedral.

July can remind us of the great Julius Caesar, it can remind us of St. Swithin by being wet, or of dogs by being hot and taking all our strength away. Just think how fortunate we are to live by the coast. We nearly always have a sea breeze to stop us getting too hot, and the sea in which to swim and feel refreshed. We have the Downs on which to walk in the sun and wind. Then we have our beds to sleep in when we're healthily tired from our work and our play. God is really good to us!

The sun that keeps his trackless way
And downward pours his golden flood
Night's sparkling hosts, all seem to say
In accents clear, that God is good.

C.P. 36

John H. Gurney(1802-62)

We hear it in the rushing breeze;
The hills that have for ages stood,
The echoing sky and roaring seas
All swell the chorus "God is Good". Yours affectionately,

SEPTEMBER, 1976.No. 281FROM THE VESTRYHARVEST AND MISSION

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest". St. John 4 v.35.

I don't think that I have ever seen white fields before this summer. The green fields of England of corn or pasture have changed to white. In the days of our Lord the seasons were more clearly defined and the harvests of Palestine more predictable. Four months was allowed from sowing to reaping and the life of the people was governed by the steadily reliable season.

It is not so in the spiritual life or in the life of the Church. Jesus speaks of the immediacy of the harvest, and of the urgency of the evangelist's task. One of the dangers facing every church is the thought that we have plenty of time - plenty of time to plan - to think things out. God's plan of redemption is set before us ... Christ is the plan, in His Cross and Rising, the harvest.

The prophet Jeremiah reminds us as individuals, as a Church, as seekers for faith, as givers to Christian Aid at Harvest "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved". May the words of Prophet and Saviour awaken us to the truth.

Every Blessing,

WILLIAM CONNELLY

IN MEMORIAM

Percy Charles Andrews	27.6.76
Arthur Eversfield	10.7.76
Walter Cushing	9.7.76
Gladys Dodd	13.7.76
George Arthur Dodd	27.7.76

To all who mourne, to those who give thanks for God's Grace in Christ who is victory over death, let these words come as a benediction. They were written by Robert Murray McCheyne whose short life of thirty years made a great mark upon the Church in Scotland and especially in Dundee.

When this passing world is done,
 When has sunk yon glowing sun,
 When we stand with Christ on high,
 Looking o'er life's history,
 Then Lord, shall I fully know,
 Not till then, how much I owe.

C.P. 772.

BAPTISMS

Simon John Tapp 10 Cotswold Close	18.7.76
Nicola Louise Davis 78 Muirfield Road	25.7.76

MARRIAGES

Stanley Richard Grant Jane Eileen Mary Hammersley	17.7.76
Andrew Jonathan Upson Linda Margaret Sparks	24.7.76
Leslie Peter Carswell Patricia Rosalyn Paterson	14.8.76
Douglas David Loxton Margaret Aileen Kean	21.8.76

HAVE YOU HEARD?

That Mr. Eric and Mrs. Betty Jones of 27 Alinora Crescent are prepared to let their names go forward to Church Meeting as successors to Rob Turton in the secretarial work of Christian Aid. We are grateful for their offer of service.

That, as from 12th September, Steve Perkins and Chris Chatfield will be spending Sunday mornings at Clermont U.R.C., Brighton, helping in the Junior Church, which is in difficulties due to a lack of staff and children. Your prayers are asked for that God may give strength and inspiration for the carrying out of this project to His glory. C.C.

Some months ago Mr. Connelly introduced a link-up scheme. He put one or two young people in touch with members of the Church who are unable to go out or have other problems. This is going on quite well. Mr. Connelly linked Anita and me to a lady called Miss E. Robinson. She is unable to get out a lot as she broke her leg. We try to go and see her once a week, but sometimes we cannot manage it. We enjoy going to see her as it brings her some happiness and joy. We also do things for her like making a cup of tea or washing up. We may do some shopping for her or just talk.

JACKY BRAME

P.S. Any more links needed, you see how keen the young people are!

WILLIAM CONNELLY

BIBLE VERSES

What we have had

Genesis 8 v.13 And Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked out, and behold the face of the ground was dry.

What we hope for

Psalms 107 v.35 He turneth the wilderness into standing water and dry ground into watersprings.

NEWS OF FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Congratulations! Joan and Cyril Franks on the birth of their granddaughter Joanna on 2nd June.

Also to Mr. & Mrs. Reynolds on the celebration of their Golden Wedding on 31st July.

Lorna Webb has passed three A levels, thus enabling her to go to Bristol University next term. Well done, Lorna!

Glen and Geoffrey Dean celebrated their Silver Wedding on 4th August.

Sick folk Brenda Ford is home after her operation on her knee in Southlands Hospital, we wish her well and speedy recovery to full use of her leg again. Ethel Gilby has returned home after her eye operation, and Ernest Munday is progressing nicely after his recent stroke. We pray for God's blessings on all these friends.

HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS

- p.4 Women's Guild Secretary: Mrs. E. Dearsley
 Monday Evening Fellowship Secretary: Mrs. J. Bond
 Family Circle Secretary: Mr. D. Gill
- p.6 Missions Committee Secretary: Mrs. G. Dean
- p.7 Non-Serving Elder: Mr. R.F. Hobbs
- p.19 New Member: Miss L. Easey
- p.44 Mrs. Winter*

ADDITIONS

- *Mrs. H. Webber, 54 Harefield Avenue
 Mrs. P. Connor, 58 Merryfield Crescent, Angmering

Change of Address

- Mr. & Mrs. C.S. Stephens, 40 Falmer Avenue, 43947.
 Mr. Brockis, 14 The Crescent, Bucklow Hill,
 Knutsford, Cheshire.

With my apologies for the omissions in the new edition.
 Please add these details to your copy to keep it up to date.

"The root of the matter is a very simple and old-fashioned thing, a thing so simple that I am almost ashamed to mention it, for fear of the derisive smile with which wise cynics will greet my words. The thing I mean is love, Christian love. If you feel this, you have a motive for existence, a reason for courage, an imperative necessity for intellectual honesty".

Bertrand Russell

They never learned to love, who never knew to weep.
Tennyson

Advice is seldom welcome, Those who need it most, like
it least. Johnson

Occupation is the necessary basis of all enjoyment.
Leigh-Hunt

NOW

If you have kind words to say, say them now.
Tomorrow may not come your way,
Do a kindness while you may,
Loved ones will not always stay;
Say them now.

If you have a smile to show, show it now,
Make hearts happy, roses grow,
Let the friends around you know
The love you have before they go -
Show it now.

Charles R. Skinner

FLOWERS FOR SEPTEMBER

5th	Mrs. F. Calsteren	19th	Mrs. M. Hite
12th	Miss E.W. Fisher		& Family
	Miss D.M. Hedgcombe	25th	Mr. & Mrs. J.R. Beale

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Dear Mr. Connelly,

Thank you very much for letting us use your Church Hall. We all enjoyed Sunday School. It was a fine week and we did lots of exciting things. Yesterday we went to the Aquarena and also we went to see the Mayor.

Lots of love from
Melanie Spiers
and the 1st Henfield Brownies

I would like to thank all the kind friends who wrote to me personally at the sudden passing of my husband Walter to the fuller life. Your sympathy and prayers have upheld me through this sad time and I am most grateful for your thoughts and understanding.

Doris Cushing

I wish to say a sincere "Thank you" to all those friends in the Church who have so kindly supported me with prayers, messages, gifts and visits during and since my recent eye operation. All these have greatly helped.

Not least would I thank our Minister who though away on holiday spared time and thought to send me encouraging messages.

Ethel Gilby

Thoughts in the garden, 3 Melrose Avenue, Sunday afternoon
27th June, 1976.

Is Goring U.R.C. a friendly church? All we can say is that the experiences through which we have passed during our sixteen years sojourn in the district have brought a most

helpful measure of kindness and compassion, and these indications of friendship whether in word or deed have been amplified during recent months. It is quite impossible to enumerate the many ways in which we have been helped but cards, letters, phone calls, prayers, visits, cassettes and flowers (one lovely bunch after the Festival) left the impression of goodwill, and we can only express to one and all a big "THANK YOU".

D. & G. WRAIGHT

Dear Editor,

I should like to be given the opportunity to write on behalf of my wife and myself, to thank our kind friends at the Church for their prayers and flowers, and those who either sent cards, phoned, or called to see us during our separate spells of indifferent health lasting from January until the present time. We are most appreciative of the warmth of your feelings for us, and are looking forward to the time when we shall be joining you regularly for the act of worship.

Our gratitude, in particular, is extended to our Minister, Mr. Connelly, who cheered us beyond measure on his frequent pastoral visits. Our heartfelt thanks to him for the prayer and words of comfort which greeted my wife on her arrival at St. Francis, and a similar service which he rendered to me when visiting me twice, as he did, at Seabrook. May God bless him and his care for others,

Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR BIRCH

Extract from a book "Salute to a Sufferer" by the
late Dr. Leslie Weatherhead
Published 1962

"One mistake we make is to think of God as a big man trying to keep up with all the things that happen to millions of people; 'with so many children that He doesn't know what to do'. But one Bible writer says

"In Him we live and move and have our being". Suppose that is a bit nearer the truth! Do you realise that there are more cells in your brain than there are people on this planet? You don't watch over them. What happens to them happens to you. What happens to us, in a very real sense, happens to God. Not physically, of course, but in an identity of being which love involves. I must not stay to work that out, but if that little girl in your home fell and hurt herself, her mother would hold her, closely, as if the mother were trying to take the little body back into her own and bear the pain. God's sympathy is more than that. IN HIM, we live and move and have our being. He knows and feels what happens to us because in a sense, it happens to Him. In a mysterious way, I believe all our suffering is caught up into the Divine Life. God is not standing apart watching our suffering, the distress happens also to Him, and only God could bear it".

WORLD MISSION NEWS

THE MISSION FIELD AT HOME

Our Missionary Summer School proved somewhat different from the usual pattern in that there were no missionaries there! Or rather, there were no traditional British missionaries. In their place however we enjoyed the fellowship and the ministry of 4 pastors of the Zairean church and of the Ph.D. from the Lushai Hills in the extreme east of India. So, along with british, German and French schoolers, we had a foretaste of the new order which is currently being introduced into the C.W.M. (Council for World Mission) by which all the national churches are to have an equal say in the running of the Council, so that it may soon be considered quite normal that an African church, say, will be sending missionaries to Europe. Perhaps we have much to learn from such a reversal of traditional patterns.

....AND ABROAD

As a family, however, we have been able to have some contact this summer with two real live English missionaries - although no-one who knows him could ever call Frank Vaughan 'traditional'. He and his wife, Dorothy, have been working in Brazil since 1965. During that time they have had a wide variety of work and experiences. They have known the joy of building up a lively young church, establishing new congregations and helping to find and train the local pastors to lead them; they have run successful Christian radio programmes and more recently they have had the difficult task of labouring away in another area with hardly any visible results for all their efforts - a time of severe strain upon their physical, mental and spiritual resources.

By the time this magazine appears they will be back in Brazil undertaking yet another work and its attendant challenges. Like all long-term work, their share of family problems, in particular concerning the education of their 4 children. Please pray for Frank and Dorothy Vaughan, as for other missionaries known to you. From time to time I hope to pass on reports on the progress of their new task.

ROBIN BRUFORD

CHRISTIAN AID

Amount received for July	£42.95	
" " " August	£13.85	received with thanks

HILDA HELE

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTSMONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

Our summer session ended with two happy evenings. At our A.G.M. we sadly had to say "Goodbye" to both our hardworking Chairman, Mrs. Do Goodchild, and Secretary, Mrs. Irene Tuley, although both will continue to be Fellowship members. Mrs. Robin Bradley and Mrs. Jane Bond have been elected in their places respectively. Irene, in particular, has been the main stay of the Fellowship for three years and we wish her much joy and plenty of other things to do in her "retirement". Mrs. Dorothy Bruford and Mrs. Barbara Popplestone have joined the Committee. Mrs. Rosemary Read retired.

Our seashore stroll became a putting competition which everyone enjoyed.

We look forward to our opening next session when Bill will be with us on Monday, 13th September to ask and answer some questions, and on 27th September we will be joining with Family Circle for the Harvest Supper and Barn Dance. See you there!

JANE BOND

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our Autumn Session commences on Tuesday, 21st September when we have a Members' Afternoon. Some of our members will tell us about their "Hobbies" and an interesting afternoon is assured.

We hope to see many new faces this Session and have arranged a programme which is very varied and, we hope, will prove of interest to all. Do come along and bring a friend - our Group is open to all men who can

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spare an hour-and-a-half on alternate Tuesday afternoons. If you have difficulty in getting to the Meetings, let me know and I will try to fix up transport for you. (Tel. 49855)

REG GOODCHILD

B.R.F., I.B.R.A. & FOCUS MEMBERSHIP for 1977

Will members of the above fellowships requiring any alteration to their order, or any non-members who wish to join, kindly let me know by 30th September at the latest. Thank you. (The cost of the B.R.F. copies will be 60p per annum).

(Miss) E.F. Shearmur,
2 Wycliffe Court,
Southview Gardens,
W. Worthing, Tel: 47870

WOMEN'S GUILD

Last year proved that the "New Look" of the Guild as Miss Gilby called, was a success. This year we hope all women of the Church will support the meetings and so make this year as successful. Come to all or any of the meetings and introduce and be introduced to new friends.

The Session opens with what should prove an interesting and exciting talk by our Minister, "Experiences on the Way". We hope to see you on 7th September, at 2.45 p.m.

ETHEL DEARSLEY

GIRLS' BRIGADE

Remember, remember the 16th September! That is the day of our Jumble Sale at 6.30 p.m. Please ring 40546 or 501675 if you have anything to be collected.

We have had a lovely holiday and now look forward to a happy and busy session.

JEAN WEBB

YOUTH CHOIR

After a break for the holidays, the Youth Choir is commencing again on the first Wednesday in September.

We will be concentrating on rehearsals of "Holy Moses", which we hope to present as part of a Family Circle evening sometime in the future. By the time you read this we will also have paid a visit or 25th August to the "Mayflower Club" (a friendship club run by the Goring churches) and sung them a selection of songs.

Lastly, I have been asked to pass on a plea from our guitarists for a music stand. If any one has a spare one that they no longer need, we could put it to very good use and would be very grateful.

CHRIS CHATFIELD

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN PRACTICAL THINGS

Just what does our Church mean to YOU? Is it just the convenient spot to hold services or does it reflect the fellowship and spirit of our faith; or is it more?

Why do I ask such a question?

To answer that it is necessary for me to tell you what is going on.

The Elders will be receiving a report at the September Meeting which will give them a detailed account of what needs doing to the fabric of the Church to keep it up to a good standard of maintenance. They will also be receiving estimates from building firms for the commission of the work.

If they have to accept one of these estimates it will cost about £5.00 per member of the Church to pay the bill - some of us cannot afford this, so others will have to dig deeper. In these days of rampant inflation, what used to be taken for granted has now to be seriously investigated to see if we can afford it. To be fair, the outside of our Church has not had any maintenance since it was built and it is now beginning to show. It is therefore becoming urgent that we get the whole idea of maintenance in some sort of order so that we can keep our lovely Church as it is. One must realise that this is only for the OUTSIDE of the buildings. The inside and the heating etc. form a further study.

My idea, for what its worth, will be to suggest that WE do it OURSELVES. We can surely find in our fellowship a number of 'do-it-yourself' enthusiasts who know which end of a paint brush to hold. I know for certain that we have experts who are willing and able to offer advice and assistance. There would be some ladder work for the younger and agile volunteers, but there would be plenty of "lower down" work such as doors and window frames for those who like to keep their feet on the ground. We would need about twenty volunteers to give two or three days work each. (not all at once). Here is a novel way of doing some work for Our Lord. A programme would be drawn up so that the organisation could be efficient and there would be no confusion. In fact, a one day annual commitment by twenty volunteers would give us all the labour to maintain our buildings inside and out on

an indefinite basis (a kind of "Forth Bridge" effort).

I know this has been tried internally before, but now we are not in any position to really contemplate the spending of such large amounts of money on work we should be doing ourselves.

Have a chat with your friends at the next meeting of your fellowship, working party, family circle, youth club, etc. and see what enthusiasm there is to save our Church from the inevitable Appeal for building funds to save our Church from falling down at some time in the future. Then come to the September Church Meeting ready to discuss the matter with some confidence. We could start this operation next summer.

ERIC W. POPPLESTONE
Secretary for
Christian Education

YOUTH CORNER

Dear Boys & Girls,

I hope you have had a good holiday during the month of August, which is the eighth in our calendar, - originally called Sextilis, as it was then the sixth month (when the year began with ~~March~~).

The first day of August is Lammas-day, or Lammas-tide. The Anglo-saxons called it HLAF-MAESSE - loaf-mass. It was the feast of thanksgiving for the first-fruits of corn. This day marked the start of harvesting in the rural calendar - a period of hard work which ended in the Harvest Festival, when the people gave thanks and

tried to keep on their land the Harvest Spirit, or the spirit of fertility. Corn dollies were made with the first or last reaping of corn in order to hold the spirit of fertility throughout the winter, and to sow it the following Spring with the seed corn.

The Emperor Augustus was a grand-nephew of Julius Caesar. At first he was called Octavius, and ruled the Roman Empire with Mark Anthony and Lepidus. (Triumvirs). Finally he became sole emperor, and did much that added to the honour and glory of his magnificent empire. The people, anxious to flatter him, changed his name to 'Augustus' meaning 'noble'.

Then they called the eighth month August, but July had 31 days and August only 30. The Romans thought Augustus would be jealous of Caesar's extra day, so they took a day from September and tacked it on the end of August.

The eighth month was chosen for the reason that Augustus celebrated the chief events of his life during that time. It was in August that he was made consul, ended his wars, and conquered Egypt. His reign was called the Golden Age, for not only did he bring the blessing of peace to the war-tired world, but under his patronage both literature and art flourished.

The immortal poets Horace and Virgil lived at this time, libraries were built, agriculture developed, and temples and buildings rose up on every side in all the magnificence of marble.

It was in the reign of this mighty emperor that far away in Syria the Holy Child was born, whose reign has not yet ended, and whose birth has divided time - B.C.- before Christ, and A.D. - in the year of Our Lord. Little did the proud emperor imagine, as he boasted in his palace how he had found Rome made of brick and had left it of marble, that a child was then living who would divide all the ages of the earth and set a cross

between the reign of Augustus and the march of a new religion that was to grow and spread until it reached all lands.

Behind the mighty Augustus follow only a shamefaced figure VII or 7. It is shamefaced because it knows that it has no right to be where it is. September is the ninth month of the year, and to call it 'Septem' which means 'Seven' is quite wrong. But our friend VII raises an appealing glance, and seems to say to us "Do not turn me out. I at least serve one useful purpose. I remind you of the distant past, when the year began with March, and when the month following August was in truth the seventh month of the year".

The Romans, when they had given the name of their great Augustus to what was then the 6th month, felt that no one else would be worthy to have a month named after him, and so let the old simple titles stand for the remaining months.

No-one else did have a month named after him - only the rest of time, in which we live and all future generations will live - the Year of Our Lord!

Rejoice the Lord is King;
 Your Lord and King adore;
 Mortals give thanks and sing,
 And triumph evermore,
 Life up your heart, lift up your voice:
 Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Saviour reigns,
 The God of truth and love;
 When He had purged our stains
 He took His seat above.

His kingdom cannot fail;
 He rules o'er earth and heaven;
 The keys of death and hell
 Are to our Jesus given.

He sits at God's right hand
 Till all His foes submit,
 And bow to His command,
 And fall beneath His feet.

Rejoice in glorious hope;
 Jesus the Judge shall come,
 And take His servants up
 To their eternal home.

We soon shall hear the archangel's voice,
 The trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

Charles Wesley
 1707-88

MARY CONNELLY

Dear Editor,

Is there room in the Chronicle for "Correspondence" as a regular feature?

There must be many who have a valuable contribution to make to the life and witness of the Church who are, for a great variety of reasons unable to come to Church meetings or other gatherings where they could make their voices heard. For most of these the writing of a short - and I emphasise 'short' - letter would enable them to make known their views to those who are more fortunate. One wonders how often decisions taken in the name of the Church - or, perhaps, decisions not taken which ought to have been, would have been different had the Meeting been in possession of a wider consensus.

Here is a start:

Dear Editor,

Would the work and witness of the Church be impeded or improved by the abandonment of the Evening Service and the substitution of two services in the morning at, say, 9.30h and 11.30h (with Coffee in between)? Perhaps for the Winter months. What would be the views of

- a The Minister
- b The Elders & Officers
- c Junior Church Staff
- d Choir and Organist
- e Mums and Dads and the children themselves
- f The regular worshipper at either of our present services

Yours faithfully,

"Random Enquirer"

AUTUMN 1976

While none of us would wish to shorten this glorious summer by premature longings for the Autumn, our Calendar does refer to Harvest Celebrations and these are shortly followed by the first Sunday in October which has been traditionally regarded in our Churches as Dedication Sunday.

While our hearts are still full of Thanksgiving in the 'run-up' to October, should we not, as conscientious Church Members, be taking stock of the measure of our personal contributions to the work and witness of the Church to which we have given our faithful allegiance? How do we stand on the following check-list?

1. Prayer
2. Bible Reading
3. Attendance at worship
4. Service - especially where we are blessed with special aptitudes.

FROM THE VESTRY

"Enlarge the place of thy tent and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations; spare not: lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes".

Isaiah 54 v.2

It was good to learn from the recent Junior Church Meeting that we are short of room on Sunday mornings. We need to realise that men, women and children together in Family Church number 450 or so souls. A big family to accommodate and care for on Sunday mornings. Add to this growing numbers in Brigades and youth club and you see our problem - or opportunity - according to your vision. The growth of population in this district is likely to increase for some years to come, and so all the churches will have increasing opportunities.

It is not only a question of asking "have we premises for a continuing growth?" The words of the Prophet go deeper than that. Have we enough love to offer in Christ's holy name? Are we prepared to enlarge our vision to accord with that of Christ Himself?

We need you - especially any who are so far uncommitted - to come forward and let us have conversations on growing and caring. Parents of new children could come forward. Middle-aged who have yet to thrill to the glory of growth in the Church could come forward.

All must pray that our growth will be in Grace as well as in numbers. Why not telephone me 48259 - and ask to have a word? - we have no problems of unemployment here, unless you create them for yourselves. God needs your service NOW!

The new cards for the Ministry of Healing beautifully designed by Miss Ella Robertson, are available upon request from the Vestry. This Ministry is at the heart of the Church and we give thanks for God's honouring and blessing of it.

Blessings & love,

NEWS OF THE FELLOWSHIPIN MEMORIAM

Rosa Florence Rayner 21.7.76

Anne Skinner 29.8.76

"My Peace I give unto you"

Miss I.G. Dymott has made a gift to us of a brass flower vase. It is inscribed "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Jesus love".

We appreciate this kindness and pray God's blessing upon the giver.

"Pop" Edmunds makes progress and we hope soon to welcome him home.

Ernest Munday is vastly improved and with us again.

Robert Fepperdine is still far from well and to him and Greta we send our blessings.

"Let us for each other care
Each the others burden share"

HAVE YOU HEARD

Mr. and Mrs. WINSTANLEY (Ted & Kay) are shortly to remove to Horsham. Their witness and work among us in the Eldership, Family Circle and in a most distinguished Ministry of Floral Decorations and distribution, have greatly enriched the Church. They hope to return to Worthing later on - meanwhile our Blessings and Thanks go with them.

Our Bookstall, in the Eastern transept, selling Christian literature, has been in operation for a year now, and will soon be displaying a selection of books particularly suitable for Christmas gifts. Bibles, concordances and other hard-backed books will gladly be obtained upon request, as will calendars for 1977 (Keswick block etc) and any other Christian literature you may like to have. Orders and enquiries please to Jean Boughton or Richard Tuley.

HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS

New Members

Mrs. R. Bradley

Mr. G. Marriott, O.B.E. and Mrs. D.,
"Wickets", 11 Alderney Road, Ferring, Tel: 41852

Change of Address

Mr. & Mrs. E. Hite,
30 Hinde Road, Felpham, Bognor, Tel: 952-4829

Mr. & Mrs. R. Edwards,
4 Patricia Avenue, Goring, Tel: 47798

Apologies to Mrs. Weber (incorrectly spelt in Sept. issue)

Family Circle Secretary - VACANT - enquiries to the
Chairman, Mr. D. Gill.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A very big Thank You to so many of our Members who have by their many enquiries by post, phone, gifts, flowers, visits and prayers uplifted us, especially by the Fellowship of Prayer Groups during this period of being

laid aside. Also thanks to our Heavenly Father who unites us all in His love.

ERNEST MUNDAY

On Sept. 5th I had the great privilege of being welcomed into membership of our Church. And what a glorious blessing that "welcome" was. I felt completely surrounded and uplifted with the love from so many members of the congregation whom I have grown to know during the past few months.

Truly the "Glory of God" was with us that morning. May I continue to work and worship together with you all in ever greater fellowship.

Thank you all,

ROBIN BRADLEY

BIBLE VERSES

ENDURETH

Psalm 52 part of verse 1. The goodness of God endureth continually.

Psalm 145 vv. 10-13. All thy works shall praise thee O Lord: and thy saints shall bless thee. They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom and talk of thy power. To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom. Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.

James 1 v. 12. Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the LORD hath promised to them that love him.

He is great David's greater son,
 I'll praise Him while I've breath,
 For now with Him I am as one
 And will know no other death.

Through Him I am a child of God
 A joint heir to the throne,
 With gospel shoes I have been shod,
 To lead me safely home.

ANON.

LOVE IS A GARDEN

Love is the earth in which we can sow,
 Love is a seedling waiting to grow,
 Love is a dewdrop, crystal and clear,
 Love is a fragrance for all those near,
 Love is a flower with colour bright,
 Love is a garden - wondrous sight,
 Tend your garden and pluck blooms with care,
 For God's in this garden all of us share.

ELIZABETH DAVIES,
 Southport, Lancs.

EDITOR'S POST BAG

Dear Editor,

Replying to the suggestion of "Random Enquirer"; does he attend the Evening Service?

I was present at the Evening Service on Sunday, 29th August when the attendance was something over 60. So far as I could check only 5 were also in Church Sunday morning.

Our Minister took as his text: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst" and spoke

deprecatingly of a Minister who could only preach his best to a large number. Also he mentioned his disappointment at his attendance at 7 or 8 different churches during his holiday finding only one with people under his own age.

There were at least 25 young people in the back rows in our congregation, surely this is encouragement in itself for a minister who works exceedingly hard on Sundays to fulfil his commitments and is much appreciated by all as a pastor and friend. Sincerely,

D.B.J.

Dear "Random Enquirer",

I read your letter with astonishment. Do you attend the evening service? Have you been there when the presence of Christ has been so real? There is a precious personal fellowship which is lost in larger numbers, such as attend in the morning. It is an important time for the young people as well as some of us 'old-uns'. If Mr. Connelly agrees by all means have a 9.30 service but without coffee please! We come to worship God, not for a social gathering, and coffee would just be the thin end of the wedge. Yours sincerely,

"An Evening Worshipper".

To "Random Enquirer",

Your welcome suggestion in the current edition of "The Chronicle" prompts me, as a newcomer to Goring in November last, and my recent advent to section "d" of your letter, to agree in the concentration of morning only services in the winter.

This morning one could not help noticing the large percentage of elderly folk like myself, who must be fearing the strain of bad weather and the difficulty of attending evening services, even if possessing a car.

Attendance at Goring United Reformed Church indicates a great preference to morning services; even in the good weather of 1976 the numbers in the evening have been barely a quarter of the usual morning attendances.

The stimulus and help of well attended morning services would surely be beneficial to us all - young and old - without the possible disappointment of a probably increasing numerical poverty in the evening. Yours very truly,

W.N. PHILLIPS

Thank you for this correspondence. Letters on any subjects will be welcome in the Post Bag. EDITOR

FROM THE TREASURER

Collections during the last three months were as follows:-

	<u>Loose Cash</u>	<u>Envelopes</u>
JUNE	149.73	262.69
JULY	153.48	263.58
AUGUST	170.40	305.22

Gift Day

Your generous gifts amounted to the sum of £757.70 and grateful thanks are extended to all who contributed. The target of £1000 was not reached, but the amount received will play a significant part in maintaining the General Account. Your continuing support in coming months is graciously solicited.

N.F. REDMAN

G.B. CAMP 1976

At two minutes to three, with the coach loaded with girls and food, we left the Church for our week's camp at Edenbridge. The journey took longer than expected, but we weren't sure if the driver lost his way or if he was trying to show us the countryside!

Sunday morning brought a nice long walk over stiles and railway lines to Church. However, it was a pleasant surprise, after the service to find cars waiting to take us back to base, where we had turkey for lunch. Yes, Captain did come to Church with us!

We visited Hever Castle, Chartwell and Haxted Mill, and explored Edenbridge, which we found most interesting.

Camp brought it's little problems, but it also brought fun and games, enabling us to get to know each other better. Thank you Captain and Officers for a very enjoyable camp.

ANITA LUCKIN

GIRLS' BRIGADE

By the time you read this our jumble sale will be over; we hope it will have been successful, and are very grateful to you all for your support and help at this annual event.

The start of this session finds us with one less helper and a lot more girls! It's the Explorer Section that has suddenly grown from 9 to 19 children; is there anyone who feels that they could help Janet with these small girls? Play the piano for her perhaps and generally give help where needed - week by week - every Tuesday from 6 - 7.15 p.m. We have taken these children in, rather than see them wait for one or perhaps two more sessions, feeling sure that someone, somewhere, will provide the extra help we need.

Continued on P.12

Have we a pianist in our midst too? Someone for our Company Section, who could come along, and during this present session, see what we do and how much playing is involved.

Pray for our needs and pray too for Janet and Caroline as they begin their Officers Training course. They are young and they are enthusiastic and just what 5th Worthing needs, but the training course is tough and will take several months. Your prayers, and love and care of them will strengthen and support them and we shall be able to rejoice together when we see them commissioned early in the new year.

Please make a note of our display - Friday, 10th December at 7.00 p.m. in the hall of the Sixth Form College.

JEAN WEBB

WORLD CHURCH

NO NEWS IS NOT GOOD NEWS

Almost at the last moment I have had to scrap the main item for this article. This was to have been an account of threats of immediate expulsion by a certain Middle Eastern government against missionaries who hand out Christian literature. Because of the possibility that publication could make matters worse for the people concerned I have (rightly) been advised not to use the item (not that I imagine that this magazine is required reading for foreign Embassies). However, you can pray for the missionaries concerned without needing to know their names. God knows them.

LATIN, MATIN - OR NUTTIN'?

Don't be misled by the media into thinking that the rift between the Pope and Archbishop Lefebvre is only, or mainly, about whether the Archbishop and his followers should be allowed to use the old Latin Mass - it's very much more serious than that. As the Archbishop has made clear, he

wants an end to all ecumenical moves by the Roman Catholics and a **withdrawal from agreements already made**. The Archbishop of Canterbury, for example, is a heretic, he says, and should be treated as one until he repents and is converted (even more so, presumably, you and I). This attitude deserves no support from Free Churchmen, however much we might be prepared to defend anyone's right to be conservative in liturgical matters if he so wishes. If the Lefebvres and the Paisleys have their way the face of the Church will be marred by yet more bigotry and bloodshed.

Incidentally, I went to my first R.C. wedding the other day and was impressed by both the formal and informal parts of the service which included an injunction to greet our neighbour in any friendly way that we deemed appropriate (unfortunately I was standing next to a bloke!). As with every visit to a Catholic church over the last 5 years I came away regretting that the forms of worship in most so-called Free Churches are the most conformist, rigid and unchangeable that one can find.

UNITED NOTIONS

"The United Nations is unique as the only universal organisation of the world.(!) The great changes that are transforming our planet - political, economic, ecological and others - are concentrated in the United Nations". So saying, the Christian Peace Conference calls upon us to recognise 24 October as United Nations Sunday and to support the UN work for peace between the nations and towards "the establishment of a new and more just international economic order".

Of course we ought to pray for the United Nations, but we would do well to pray for the organisation as it really is, with its hideous disfigurements, rather than the idealised, indeed idolised, picture presented by the CPC.

ROBIN BRUFORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

WOMEN'S GUILD The Guild opened with an attendance of 48, in spite of the fact that many were still on holiday.

Our Minister's homely talk - "Experiences on the Way", the Way being the Ministerial Way, I feel sure gave us all food for thought. Many must have come away with two major thoughts: 'Pray for your Minister, Encourage your Minister'. Let us all remember to do so. If only we could all do this for each other!

October 5th 2.45p.m. our Guild Anniversary, when our speaker will be Mrs. Marjorie Hayward and our soloist Joan Folwin. We hope all women of our Church will be with us welcoming those who are joining us from other local churches. Tea will be served in the Hall after the service. October 19th: an Exhibition of Arts & Crafts, when we shall discover hidden talents among our members.

We are always glad to welcome new faces at any of our meetings, so come along.

ETHEL DEARSLEY

MONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP What a pleasure it is to commence a new session of fellowship together when autumn programmes commence, and particularly so for us with Bill opening our meetings with some stimulating thoughts and questions.

Our next two meetings will also be of great interest and we warmly invite any lady members and friends in the Church to join us to hear Miss Stroud, Matron of St. Barnabas on Oct. 11th, and Mrs. Barnes on Oct. 25th who will be demonstrating the use of Kake Brand cake coverings.

JANE BOND

HAYWARD HOUSE COFFEE MORNING

You are warmly invited to a coffee morning in the Church Hall in aid of Hayward House, on Saturday, 23rd October, 10.30 - 12 noon. Bring & Buy!

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YOGA A Yoga group will meet on Thursday evenings at 8.00 p.m. from September 30th in one of the lower halls.

If you feel that an hour of slow, relaxed movement might be just what you are needing please come and join in. You will feel better for it.

HEATHER NORRIS

STOP PRESSFOR SALE

3 Night Storage Heaters. Proceeds to Girls' Brigade Funds. Please phone W. 40546 if interested.

Our Jumble Sale raised £81.

JEAN WEBB

FLOWERS FOR OCTOBER

3rd	Mr. & Mrs. N. Redman	17th	Mrs. E. Dearsley
10th	Miss M.D. Curtis	24th	Mrs. G.L. Nodes and family
	Miss H.F. Lowman		
	31st	Mrs. J. Tilbury	

KAY WINSTANLEY

WORTHING BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL MEN'S CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP

Dear Friends,

Following my recent acceptance of the Presidency of our Fellowship, I am wishing to make contact with as many men as possible who might be interested in joining our monthly lunchtime meetings. Our Fellowship is interdenominational and we meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 'Greenhills', Lansdowne Road, Worthing for lunch at 1.0 p.m. followed by a talk from a guest speaker, ending by 2.15 p.m. at the latest.

Our guest speakers come from various walks of life; on 19th October Doctor Rob Ferguson, practicing until just over a year ago in Nepal, will be speaking to us, and on 16th November, Mr. Bill Wildman of British and Foreign Bible Society, will be speaking to us.

BOYS' BRIGADE

Despite the inconvenience to some the summer months have been ideal for the carrying out of our outdoor activities. Camping, canoeing, sausage sizzles, sponsored circuits of Cissbury Ring, swimming etc; have all been engaged in with virtually no snags involved. The exception was the soaking we received at the West Sussex Battalion Sports at East Grinstead in June. We do thank the Lord for His travelling mercies when we remember our escape from what could have been a bad accident when the crew-bus skidded on a bend and did a couple of turns without leaving the road.

The Juniors held their holiday week at Bembridge on the Isle of Wight and everyone enjoyed themselves, the staff as well as the boys. The Company Section held their Annual Camp at Pwllheli in North Wales and during that time the boys managed to climb Snowdon. Some of us doing it the easy way by going up by train found we had to queue for 3½ hours, travel for 1 hour at a cost of £3.30.

During the first week-end of September the Company boys held a camp at Petworth. On the Saturday morning we found enough water in the river at Greatham Bridge for all to go canoeing with some duckings among the younger ones!

Whilst at these Camps we do remember the Object of the Boys' Brigade - "The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among boys ..." and we do have definite times for devotions.

The month of September is the beginning of our new session and we look forward with God's help to real progress in the life of the Company, although I should say your Company. With only 4 appointed Officers dealing with 80 boys you can imagine we will not be deaf to offers of help. We are in particular need of a pianist in the Junior Section. The boys could prove themselves to be better singers than the girls ... if they only had the chance.

Yours in His service,

DONALD STEWART

YOUTH CORNER

Dear Boys and Girls,

October was originally the eighth month (Latin - Octo, eight) of the old Roman calendar, the year beginning in March. Like September, it kept its old name after the calendar was altered, and it became the tenth month with 31 days.

The slavs term it "yellow month" from the falling of the leaf, and an old name for it in Germany was "wine month". In England it has been the chief month for brewing.

28th October, the day of St. Simon and St. Jude, in medieval times had a reputation similar to that of St. Swithin's day - and with reason, for towards the end of October the fine weather finally breaks up and winter gales begin.

31st October, of course, is well known as Hallowe'en, a festival which has become a habit with people, and is now remembered long after it has ceased to have its early meaning. As "All Hallows" Eve, or the night before All Saints' or All Hallows' Day - it was always thought by the superstitious to be a time when ghosts and witches were abroad, **having one last frolic before the Holy day which followed.**

But long before the birth of Jesus the ancients had looked on it as a night of mystery. 31st October marked the eve of the Celtic New Year, the festival being called SAMAIN. Samain was believed to be a time when ghosts and demons roamed abroad. The Druids, those heathen priests who lived in early Britain and Ireland, lit bonfires to ensure the renewal of life in the earth after its long winter sleep - to make sure of the sun's return in the spring, - and people did this for many centuries afterwards. The Druids were convinced too, that on this night the God of death summoned to him the souls of all the wicked who had died during the previous year. This festival of Samain was associated with burial mounds which

were thought to be entrances to the other world.

But strange as it may seem, people observed the same date in ancient Rome. It was a feast in honour of Pomona, goddess of fruits and gardens, and everywhere nuts and apples played a part in the various ceremonies. So now you see where many of our Hallowe'en customs come from, like the one of throwing an apple peeling over a girl's shoulder, and if it formed a letter this was the initial of her future husband.

Although we are not now so superstitious as to believe in these old fancies, we still like to keep up the old customs, even though it is only in fun. So we do unintentional honour to the goddess Pomona by roasting nuts and 'ducking' for apples, and using all sorts of ancient, foolish means to find out our "fortune" in the year to come. So what was once a night of fear has now become a night of fun.

All praise to Him whose bounty crowns
With flowers and fruit the year;
God is our hope and strength today,
Therefore we will not fear:

For the harvest of bygone ages,
In the hope of the coming days,
Go into His gates with thankfulness,
And into His courts with praise.

Arthur Campbell Ainger
(1841-1919)

MARY CONNELLY

NOVEMBER, 1976No. 283FROM THE VESTRYEVERYBODY IN!

What bothered me the other Sunday, when the Church was so full that there wasn't a seat to be found, was our lack of real joy and thanksgiving. You start taking a full church for granted and it will soon be empty!

I wonder if you realise what a burden I have for this Church. Day by day my prayers are for you all. The strong that they may serve Christ in their strength.. the weak that God will uphold them .. the aged and infirm that they may know God's love and offer their prayers and joy in the Lord even when they are unable to share physically in our worship and fellowship.

The work of Richard Tuley in recording and taking records of our services to so many homes is greatly appreciated. Visits of Elders ... care by Brigade and Junior Church leaders is so vital. My worry concerns my relative impotence in the midst of so much growth in our work.

One of my cares is that someone somewhere should be forgotten or feel out of things at a time when we have so much praise and so many blessings to share. Do care about this - a word with me or Telephone 48259 - or a word with the Elder could be so important - we do love you in Jesus and want you to know and share our love.

Blessings & love,

WILLIAM CONNELLY

BAPTISM

JULIE ANN BELCHAMBER 10.10.76

"For of such is the kingdom of heaven"

MARRIAGE

DAVID STOVOLD
CHRISTINE HIDE 25.9.76

"Whom Thou for evermore dost join in one"

IN MEMORIAM

ERNEST HENRY NORTHEM d. 11.9.76

JOHN EDWARD DAWSON d. 21.9.76

"My Peace I give to you"

NEWS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

Included among recent visits have been Miss D. Rayner, Miss F. Lock, Miss D. Gay, Mr. & Mrs. M.E. Jones and a host of other good and faithful members of the Church.

We thank God for the faithfulness of those friends whose prayers and grace support us. Many homes witness prayers for our Church without which we could not live. Miss E. Frost is now in The Priory - bless you Ethel!

HANDBOOK ALTERATIONSAmendment

P. 43 Mr. & Mrs. Turton NO TELEPHONE

P. 42 Mr. & Mrs. Turner Tel. 43008

Change of address

Mrs. M. James, 17 Grasmere Avenue, Ruislip, Middx.

Mr. & Mrs. E. Winstanley, 5 Millais, Horsham, Tel: 92-3558

Mr. & Mrs. A.E. Edmonds, 47 Meadway Court, Tel: W. 45008

Mr. & Mrs. E.C. Bond, 6 Ashurst Drive, Tel: 44157

BIBLE VERSESDelighting in God's Word

Psalms 119 v. 16 I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.

Psalms 119 v. 47 I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved.

Psalms 119 v. 174 I have longed for thy salvation, O Lord: and thy law is my delight.

I'm having a job in the Vestry!!

Doing what? You may well ask. Well firstly there's the telephone which has to be answered. "Mr. Connelly's Vestry" certainly - but not Mr. Connelly's voice - mine. I will help if I can or pass on your message, thus leaving the reverend gentleman more time for personal contacts.

Many of your calls bring requests for prayers for healing and it is my job to keep both the Minister and the list up to date on this subject. All such requests are dealt with at once. Consequently any cards or notes with a strange (i.e. not the usual) illegible handwriting on them, will have been written by myself.

A point worth mentioning - please remember to tell us all the good news, so that we can share joy in the way God is working in each one of us and through the Church as a whole.

ROSEMARY KITTO

"YOURS"

If you are not already receiving a copy of this publication you may well be interested in doing so. It is full of interesting and stimulating reading matter, and has been enjoyed by a number of our folk for a year now. If you would like a copy (price 7p) please contact Miss J. Boughton on the Bookstall. It is published monthly.

MEMBERSHIP

We were all very sad at the last Church Meeting to learn of the impending removal to Horsham of our dear friends Ted and Kay Winstanley. We record with great thankfulness the wide range of services performed so devotedly in and on behalf of the Church by both of them. We are grateful that we are permitted the tentative hope that their absence from our midst may not be permanent.

CHARLES STEPHENS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many thanks to all friends who have shown me so much kindness during my recent illness, and for the lovely flowers which I received.

PHYLL SCUDDER

I would like to say a sincere "Thank you" to all concerned who helped me so much in committing myself to God, through Christ, and on 3rd October, to the fellowship of believers. It was indeed a thrilling occasion! My sincere thanks to Mr. Connelly, who so bravely stood up to the rough edge of my tongue, and "never gave up", also for all the help and encouragement I received from so many of the members; for the patience they showed in putting up with my moods and tantrums over a long period. Also for the limousines at my disposal to speed me along. Thank you all! I have seen Christianity in action, and I know that I have made the right decision.

There is always so much to learn from the Lord that I shall be busy for the rest of my life and yet be more peaceful and joyful than I have ever been before. And I am looking forward to it, and sincerely hope that I may become a useful member. Thanks be to God!

HANNY WEBER

We would like to take this opportunity of saying how very much we appreciated all the many good wishes which our friends at Goring expressed to us on our recent departure to Horsham. As most of you know, we left Goring with a great deal of regret as we have had a long and happy association with the Church. We shall, without doubt, miss its very real fellowship and the many friends we have made over the past fifteen years. You will always remain in our thoughts and prayers. We hope to return to Goring permanently in the not too distant future but in the meantime we shall be likely to be frequent visitors.

Continued P.21

POEM

When you are walking
 On the sea-shore
 Looking at the sea,
 The waves ebbing,
 The sea-gulls crying,
 Flying high.

You decide to make yourself
 Comfortable on the fine smooth sand.

Suddenly you see the
 Most beautiful girl in the world,
 In her bare feet walking
 With her long silky hair flowing.

Alone, in her summer dress
 Her slim body full of the
 Holy Spirit.

With Jesus inside her,
 Like a picture.

This Poem "The Most Beautiful Girl" was written by
 DAVID MYLES, a friend from St. Giles Home.

MINISTRY OF FLOWERS - NOVEMBER

7th Mr. & Mrs. Pepperdine
 Mr. & Mrs. Flashman (Wedding Flowers)
 14th Mrs. Stredwick
 21st Mrs. Ross
 28th Mrs. Turner

GOOD NEWS!

The whole Bible in Today's English Version - The Good News Bible - was published on 11th October, jointly by the Bible Societies with Collins-Fontana - and is available from our bookstall. Would you like a copy - for yourself or to give away? Price £1.50 paperback; £2.95 hardback; (also obtainable with photo illustrations).

New on the Bookstall:

1. **WHEREVER YOU GO** (30p) contains selections from Living Light, a book of daily Bible readings patterned after the great devotional classic Daily Light but using texts from the modern language paraphrase, the Living Bible.
2. **BAPTISM & FULLNESS** (75p) by John R.W. Stott - aims to "help us to a Biblical understanding and experience of the work of the Holy Spirit today".
3. **A SHEPHERD LOOKS AT PSALM 23** (80p) by Philip Keller.
4. **YOU MUST BE JOKING** (70p) by Michael Green (Canon Michael Green is Rector of St. Aldate's, Oxford) - asks: "Will you stand out from the crowd and think for yourself? Will you have the courage to examine the evidence and ask yourself how sound are the assumptions about God and meaning, life and death, with which you have lived so far? Will they bear the weight of your life and future?"
5. **GOD CAN DO IT AGAIN** (65p) - Miracles do happen - every day in the ministry of Kathrun Kuhlman, the woman they call "the love healer". How? Why? Her answer is God.
6. **MEET CHRIST & LIVE** (75p) by Michel Quoist, author of Prayers of Life.
7. **RAINBOW GARDEN** (60p) by P.M. St. John (Scripture Union). "The rainbow seemed to touch the earth behind the old stone wall, and when Elaine explored she found a garden. It became her hiding place, new as she was to the Welsh countryside and the ways of the boisterous Owen children. Later the garden brought her friendship with the family who owned it, adventure, and eventually,

8. KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE (75p) by Paul E. Little (S.U.)
This book intends to "give many a new and sharper understanding of the Christian faith; to others it will come as a needed and welcome refresher course".

9. KNOW WHY YOU BELIEVE (75p) by Paul E. Little (S.U.)
"Is Christianity national? Is there a God? Are miracles possible?" - This book examines such questions as these and helps the reader sort out the facts that provide solid ground for the Christian faith.

10. PLEASE MAKE ME CRY (70p) - Cookie Rodriguez was a female drug addict "so hard even death didn't want her - but the people at Teen Challenge knew Someone who did".

Books, Records, Book-tokens, Cards: obtained on request.

Give a Christian book or Bible this Christmas.

JEAN BOUGHTON

WORLD CHURCH

DE MORTUIS NISI BUNKUM

Although a justly-rebuked cynic, I doubt if I am alone in expressing concern at the adulatory obituary of Chairman Mao by the Editor of the Baptist Times (who last appeared in these columns as a defender of the Russian Government). According to Mr. Locks "Mao was passionately concerned with the well-being of the ordinary people". No doubt he was - and he was so passionately concerned about the well-being of anyone who disagreed with his views or methods that he immediately relieved them of the burden of living in an uncongenial atmosphere, or at all. "His vision was of a society ruled by the human values of justice and equality". Everyone has his own ideas on justice and if the iron police state coincides with Mr. Locks', as may well be, how can one argue? As regards equality, though, how many people in China were allowed to proclaim themselves equal with Mao ... and live?

To be fair, there is a hint that Mao was not absolutely perfect, though only as a passing qualification to his praise. "Christians however should be able to appreciate the grandeur of Mao's vision and recognise the deeply spiritual quality that pervades much of his thought, whatever disagreements they may have with his ideas and whatever sorrow at the short shrift given to religious believers in China".

I am prepared to believe that Mao sincerely thought that his action say in eliminating Christians was for the good of his country, just as I could believe the same regarding Hitler's elimination of the Jews and of Stalin's attempted elimination of both. But sincerity does not make any of these actions right or their perpetrators deserving of praise by Christians.

THE LITTLE RED READ BOOK AND THE LITTLE READ BLACK BOOK

One thing we can certainly learn from Mao and his followers is the importance of being well read in what we believe. No generation of Christians has so undervalued the Word of God as our own.

From another part of Asia there is the story of the evangelist in Korea who one day was attacked and his supply of Gospels thrown into the river. Some years later he entered a remote village on the same river with good reason to think that he must be the first Christian to set foot there, but he was amazed to find a Christian community already established, limited in its knowledge of the faith but recognisably Christian. On enquiry he found that one of his Gospels had been found in the river and read by the one literate man there to the whole village with the result that a number of the people instantly decided to follow this new Way.

Today we have versions of the scriptures available in many styles of contemporary language as well as the traditional versions. Yet I submit that the teachings in these books are largely unknown, even to those who are always carrying them about. More of this another time.

ROBIN BRUFORD

UNITY NEWSThe Worthing Council of Churches

The Worthing Council of Churches, after giving thanks to God for the blessings of "Come '76", and expressing warm thanks to the Mission Executive and Mission Committee for their splendid leadership, went on immediately to consider plans for

CONTINUING MISSION and CONTINUING ACTION

Here are some of the suggestions which the spiritual concern and Mission Committee is now considering:

Monthly open-air services in Steyne Gardens during the summer: Annual Festival of Praise, led by the "Come '76 Choir": Area visitation: Open-Air Drama: use of religious films in cinemas: Young people's Coffee Bar: Spiritual Concern Prayer Conference: Religious Arts Festival: Eve of Whitsunday Act of Christian Witness: A Mission every five years.

WATCH FOR ACTION ON SOME OF THESE PROPOSALS SHORTLY.

ELLA ROBERTSON

THE CHURCHES COMMISSION ON UNITY

Copies of "The Ten Propositions" issued by the Commission have been available in the Vestibule in recent weeks and during October there have been weekly meetings on the subject in Arundel.

Our own General Assembly have asked that the Ten Propositions shall be studied in the Churches and that replies shall be sent in by Districts and Churches by January, 1977.

It is hoped that Members of the Church will be able to give careful study to the Document which will then be the subject of informed discussion at the Church Meeting on 2nd December, 1976.

THE BOYS' BRIGADEDIARY

- 19th Friday Boys' Brigade All night games marathon (sponsored)
 20th Saturday B.B. Week Fund Raising effort commences
 27th Saturday B.B. Coffee morning with Bring & Buy stall

Our first parade service of the new session proved to be a little embarrassing owing to our now taking up so much room in the front rows. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused to the congregation but nevertheless we are happy to know that two rows were given up to a party of parents and relatives of one of our Boys Raymond Belchamber, on the occasion of his new sister's baptism. It was good to see several other parents of the Boys in the Church and we look forward to more embarrassments in the future as more parents and Boys are drawn into the fellowship we so much enjoy.

The Company is expanding and we welcome into the work Malcolm Nicholls, Paul Richards as Warrant Officers. Dianne Wellings (soon to be Mrs. Flashman) and David Courtnadge are now helping in the Junior Section with Judy and Valerie plucking their guitars in their endeavours to get the Boys to sing.

We are pleased to announce the impending promotion of Graeme Gill to Warrant Officer, Brian Easey to Staff Sergeant, David Goodman to Sergeant, Colin Easey and Philip Gill to Corporals, Alan & Paul Atkinson and Allan Currie to Lance Corporals. We pray that they all may play their part in the extension of Christ's Kingdom among the Boys.

By the time you read these notes some of the Officers and Boys will have been away for the week-end of 23/24 Oct. at Crowborough. We will be visiting another B.B. Company and plan to join with them in some of their activities including Bible Class. We hope that in exchange the 1st Crowborough Company will be able to visit us in Worthing within the near future.

Our "Paper Chase" is on again once more and we will be pleased to accept your old newspapers and magazines. If you have difficulties in bringing them to the Church please let us know and we will arrange to collect.

During the eight days commencing 20th November we will be holding our Boys' Brigade Week Appeal and hope to be involved in all kinds of fund raising activities. For twelve hours from Friday 19th at 21.00h we should be holding an all night games marathon if the task is not too daunting for the Boys. On Saturday the 27th at 10.30h we will be holding a Coffee Morning with a "Bring & Buy" stall plus Christmas Cards and Tupperware goods. We do respectfully ask you to come along and give us your support.

The Officers and Boys of the whole Company offer their prayerful good wishes to Dianne and Alan on their marriage on Saturday, 6th November. We congratulate Alan in particular for attaining his first achievement and hope he will go on to get his Gold award.

DONALD STEWART

GIRLS' BRIGADE

Since the last Chronicle, Lesley has joined the Officers Training Class and Linda Miller has joined us as a helper until her re-instalment as an Officer comes through from Head Quarters, when we shall then have another Lieutenant. Muriel Hurt has joined us as pianist in the Explorer Section and we give thanks to God for the gifts and talents that these folk bring to our Company, and pray that they will be happy in Christ's service in Brigade and in the fellowship of the Church.

Have we a tailor/tailoress in our midst? With four Officers all needing uniforms, this is something of a problem. Please 'phone 40546 if you can help. They won't be ready to wear them before the New Year!

We have just enjoyed a very interesting Training Day with Officers of other Companies in the West Sussex District. We have a song which says "All over Brigade The Spirit is moving", and this was much in evidence as together we were shown how to mime Bible stories, make

fascinating collages and march properly! 5th Worthing Senior and Brigadier girls delighted everyone with their culinary skills - and the day was brought to a fitting close by our Chaplain and my favourite chorus!

He is my everything
 He is my all
 He is my everything
 Both great and small
 He gave His life for me
 Made everything new
 He is my everything
 He'll satisfy you.

JEAN WEBB

EDITOR'S POST BAG

Further to our interesting correspondence last month I received this letter: (Ed.)

"To Random Enquirer" Views of one fairly regular Evening worshipper (Category F).

In this age of ever increasing loss of freedom of choice, please leave us freedom to choose to attend morning or evening worship - or both.

Choice of 9.30 a.m. and 11.30 a.m. would not help folk who have commitments - work, family etc. on Sunday mornings. In my opinion the work and witness of the Church would be impeded, not improved by such a change.

E. MASON

REMEMBRANCE CORNER

Two requests were presented to the Elders at their Meeting on 23rd September, 1976. The first was for the provision of a seat outside the front door of the Church. Several of the volunteers who transport

some of our less able and incapacitated members have to make two or more journeys at lunch time on Sundays. It was felt that a seat at the entrance to the Church would enable the members who are waiting to enjoy the sunshine.

Secondly, it was pointed out that some of the Hymn Books are getting a bit 'tatty' and need replacing - particularly the large print variety. In view of the tightness of funds at the moment it was felt that there was an opportunity for some of those who wish to present a memorial to the Church to make a contribution. If this appeals to you please contact Bill Connelly.

ERIC POPPLESTONE

Freely, Freely you have received ...

So sing our Young People. And God does bestow wonderful gifts upon us when we come to Him with open hearts and gladly we take those gifts, for they are meant not just for ourselves but that we might share them with others. If we are truly open to God then He will guide and direct our lives, how we use our time, our talents and our possessions.

God has made a truly wonderful commitment to us in the giving of His Son. If we understand anything of the wonder of the Gospel, then we understand that once we have accepted Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour (Hallelujah) then we belong to God. He has bought us and redeemed us with the precious blood of His Son. The Apostle Paul says of this 'It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me'.

Too often today we hear the sorry lament, 'I don't want to be committed!' Friends, if you are Christians then you are committed; but do you recognise this commitment for what it is? Are you prepared in love, earnestly to seek the will of God in relation to your giving for the work of His Church, or if He asks you to increase your existing giving, then please contact:

P.T.O.

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(a) Miss L. Harris - 2 Southsea Avenue, Goring
(Worthing 40779)

For details of the Freewill Offering Envelopes
Scheme

(b) Richard Tuley - 1 Arun Close, Worthing
(Worthing 65319)

For details of the Covenant Scheme

And may the Lord, who loves a cheerful giver, abundantly
bless you.

RICHARD TULEY

INDUCTION OF THE REV. CYRIL FRANKS
to the Office of Moderator of the Southern
Province, 1st October, 1976

On a perfect sunny autumn evening our coach, admirably driven by "Ron", with 30 folk, left for Purley. We ambled along the A24 via Horsham and Redhill, admiring the scenery and arriving at approximately 18.00h. We were warmly welcomed by Purley friends and were soon seated in our reserved seats. There were about 800 or so in the congregation, some from as far away as Wales. After the arrival of the Mayor of Croydon the impressive service commenced. It was conducted by the Moderator of the General Assembly, the Rev. R.J. Hall, M.A., B.D.

During the service in which various clergy took part, greetings from the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Southwark were given by their local representatives, together with greetings from all other denominations. Cyril then made his Declaration of Faith and was inducted into the office of Moderator of the Southern Province. The Right Hand of Fellowship was then given and this most inspiring service was drawn to a close with a very short statement of loyalty to all from Cyril. Afterwards we gathered together with friends in the rooms and halls to partake of the

excellent refreshments so admirably supplied and served by the ladies of Purley. One must mention the high degree of friendship of all who gathered at this most memorable service. The Choir and the organist completed this wonderful occasion with an outstanding performance. The homeward journey was another treat, as Ron brought us down the M23 to arrive at "The Cross" just after 22.00h. Our thanks to Norman Dobson for arranging this happy outing.

M. & A. CLEVERTON

Extract from a letter received from the Moderator, Rev. C.C. Franks, to Mr. Norman Dobson:

..."Would you thank those who made the journey from Goring last night to be with us at the Induction. It was a great source of encouragement to me and to many others to have your presence and obvious support... I think folk will appreciate that I found it difficult to share myself with so great a number of people. My new role means that I now have a new relationship with the Goring Church, but that by no means removes my sense of indebtedness for all they gave me and us during the time we lived among you. The freedom which I had at Goring to attempt to discern ways in which to develop the life of a Christian Community, have been of invaluable help in my Purley days. Now I shall be carrying the experience to many other places so that Goring will be ministering too. Thank you for so many things,

CYRIL

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

The I.B.R.A. Missionary Appeal. The following is an extract from a letter received from the above Association in acknowledgment of the amount contributed for the September appeal "We are most grateful to receive the gift of £7.05p which is the collection made from our Missionary Appeal through friends at your Church. Would you kindly convey to all concerned our grateful thanks, for it is in the knowledge that we have the support of so many friends in this country that makes it possible for us to continue our witness overseas".

Thank You,

E. SHEARMUR

Westholme. We are holding our A.G.M. on Tuesday, 9th November at 14.30h in the Dining Hall at Westholme. We would be very pleased if you could spare the time to come along as we are in great need of friends for our fund-raising efforts.

J. RAGAN

Women's Guild. Our Anniversary Service on 5th October was a very happy occasion when Mrs. Hayward was our speaker. We were joined by members of other Women's Fellowships of local churches and all said what a happy and inspiring service it was. We were so glad that Mrs. Connelly was able to be our Chairman and that Mr. Connelly and Mr. Edwards joined us for tea, which was served to over 100 people. To the Men's Fellowship - So sorry you had to look after yourselves!!

On 2nd November our speakers from the Lantern Hotel will speak to us of the international Polio Fellowship, and on 16th November we "Journey to the Far East" with Mr. & Mrs. Hobbs. Do join us.

E. DEARSLEY

Men's Fellowship. The Autumn session got off to a good start on 21st September when three of our members spoke about their hobbies of stamp collecting, doing-it-yourself and coin collecting. Others chipped in with contributions on marquetry and carnation growing (guess who?) On 5th October we were challenged by the Rev. Clifford Johnson to name the authors of a number of well known quotations after listening to a most interesting and lively talk on "The Art of Quotation".

Please note an alteration in dates on the programme. Mrs. Wyatt will be speaking on 2nd November and the visit to the Library takes place on 16th November. Anyone requiring transport to the Library should let me know in advance.

REG GOODCHILD

"Jesus Christ Superstar" A trip to London to see this show is being arranged for Saturday, 8th January. It is hoped that many of our friends in the Church will join the young people in this evening out, which should be a great experience. The cost will be £4 which will include travel, the show, and also a meal beforehand. Please give names (plus £1 deposit) to either Chris Chatfield or Chris Byerley by 21st November.

CHRIS CHATFIELD

From the Treasurer. Herewith are details of our giving for the month of September.

Loose Cash	£160.75p
Envelopes	£282.89p

In addition the sum of £65.40p was received by way of Harvest Gifts for Christian Aid. Our thanks to all who contributed.

NORMAN REDMAN

Christian Aid for October

Amount Received	£19.57	With thanks,
		HILDA HELE

YOUTH CORNER

Dear Boys & Girls,

November, the 11th month of the year, takes its name from the Latin word NOVEM (nine) as, until the introduction of the Julian calendar it was the ninth month of the old Roman Year, which began in March. They added a day to it, and it now has 30 days. The 11th November was considered by the Romans as the beginning of winter.

Perhaps this month passes before us disguised under a heavy cloak and a wide-spreading hat, with a barrel of gunpowder tucked under its arm, for November, to a great many English children, is the month of Guy Fawkes and the gunpowder plot.

Bonfires are lit to commemorate the failure of the gunpowder plot in 1605. The bonfires however, like Hallowe'en, remind us of the Celtic Samain, when they were lit to ensure the sun's return after winter. The Celtic calendar was based on the agricultural and pastoral year, and began on 1st November which our ancestors celebrated with the festival of Samain.

The month was also called "Blood month", because it was at this time they slaughtered many animals for winter food. Not all their cattle could be kept during the winter months on the stocks of fodder available, so the surplus cattle was slaughtered and preserved in various ways (salted, or smoked etc.) to last through the winter. This all-important day of Samain could not be ignored by the early Church, who rededicated the occasion to the saints in heaven. It was instituted in A.D. 835 and called All Saints Day. (as we saw last month, traces of Samain still linger in the witches and ghosts of Hallowe'en - All Saints eve, 31st October).

November 23rd is St. Clement's Day. St. Clement's symbol is an anchor - he was tied to an anchor and drowned - and because of this he was nominated as the patron of iron-workers. The trade celebrated his feast day until fairly recent times. Until 1880, for example, blacksmiths gathered at Twyford, near Winchester, to perform the ceremony of "firing the anvil" - ramming gunpowder into a small hole in an anvil and igniting it. Afterwards, St. Clement's effigy was carried round the village and money was collected for a feast at the Bugle Inn. In view of the importance of smiths in primitive society and the numerous legends concerning the saxon smith and wizard Wayland, who forged mail for the gods, a much older festival of smiths may once have been celebrated on this day.

November 30th is the day of St. Andrew of Scotland. Certain relics of Andrew were brought to Kilremont in Fife, now St. Andrews, from Patras in Greece, where the Saint was crucified. The tradition that he was martyred on an X shaped cross (used now on Scotland's flag) seems to have originated in the Middle Ages. It was said he considered himself unworthy to die on the Cross of Christ.

DECEMBER, 1976No. 284FROM THE VESTRY

"You'll find Him laid within a simple stable,
 A babe new-born, in poverty forlorn,
 In love arrayed, a love so deep 'tis able
 To search the night for you:"

Christmas shines upon us as some great and glorious beam of light shining from heaven to seek to find and to lead us to God. There is no hiding from it, the light of heaven has become the light of the world to search the darkest night whether of earth's corporate tragedy, or of man's personal sin or sorrow.

This is why we use symbols of light at this Holy Season, this is why our hearts yearn beyond their knowing for Him who is their only certain dwelling. Be glad if by the gospel of Christmas you are disturbed, for His is a disturbing light - as the sun to warm us to life - as a fire to gather us around the hearth of Him to whose family we belong in Christ.

And remember, that at the first Christmas the scene did not lay stress upon the presence of children or animals. Those who welcomed Him were the old, the tired, the workers, the scientists and the patient ones like Simeon and Anna. Give a good Christmas to your children but remember that Christmas is really more for us than them; unless the light shines upon us to shine within us who shall renew their shining eyes from year to year?

Bright as a candle's steady light
 Warm as an age-long fire
 Clear as heaven this shining night
 God love lies in the byre.

Blessings & love,

William Connelly and Mary

NEWS OF THE FAMILYMARRIAGE

Alan Robert Flashman
 Diane Marjorie Welling 6.11.76

"that their love may grow yet more and more"

IN MEMORIAM

Kate Mahon aged 92 years
 Frank John Clements aged 93 years, died 7.11.76
 Angus Macaiven Campbell aged 75 years
 died 9.11.76

"My Peace I give unto you"

CONGRATULATIONS

To Mr. & Mrs. Fleming and Mr. & Mrs. Latimer who celebrated their Golden Weddings recently, and to Mr. & Mrs. Emery Diamond Wedding 4th December, and Mr. & Mrs. Wills Diamond Wedding 9th December.

New members of the Church have been welcomed most regularly during this past year. In addition to their reception at Holy Communion we also welcome them at Family Circle and Church Meeting. Do give your own welcome too.

We are glad to give better news of Robert Pepperdine who is now at home again. Miss D.R. Raynor has now joined Miss E. Frost at The Priory. Miss F. Lock sends loving greetings to her many old friends, and Mrs. P. Scudder is greatly improved. We are always glad to give news in this column and especially that we may pray for any who are ill. The book for your Prayer Requests is always open in the Little Chapel. We are glad to send out our specially prepared leaflet in order to help forward

the Ministry of Healing. Miss Rosemary Kitto acts as secretary for this Ministry and she or the Minister are always glad to receive your requests for prayer ... and your prayers of thanksgiving!

HAVE YOU HEARD

A new Bible study group begins at Eric & Barbara Popplestone's on Tuesday, 23rd November at 20.00h. You are welcome especially if you live close by.

Friday, 21.30h is a time some members set apart for prayers in the Little Chapel. There is room for you.

Our young people meet for prayer on Thursdays at 20.00h in the Little Chapel. We thank them for introducing us to "A TALK ABOUT JESUS DAY" held last Sunday (7th Nov.)

The Minister is always glad to lend books from his private library. He is doing an end of year check. Please see him if you have any of his books.

THAT WE INVITE SILENCE BEFORE WORSHIP and especially when Mr. R. Edwards begins to lead our preparation with his much appreciated organ voluntaries.

That some twenty people representing this Church are joining with other Christians from the Anglican, Methodist and Roman Catholic churches to visit approximately 550 homes in the West Durrington area to offer each household a leaflet giving details of the churches serving the area.

HANDBOOKNew Members

	<u>Tel.</u>
* Mr. R.J.H. French, 27 Melrose Close	46203
* Mr. & Mrs. W.E. West, 47 Coniston Road	47820
* Miss E. Mosscrop, 37 Ashurst Drive	40086
* Mr. L.N. Phillips, 72 Windermere Crescent	46286
* Mr. K. Fish, St. Giles, Elm Grove, Lancing	83-2821
* Mr. & Mrs. R. Hurt, 19 Frobisher Way	
* Mr. & Mrs. N. Randall, 106 Sea Place	
* Mr. M. Nicholls, 35 Melbourne Avenue	43062
* Mr. & Mrs. H. Johnson, 39 Melrose Avenue	
* Mrs. L. Cox, 7 Terringes Avenue	43942
N.B. Mr. & Mrs. J.R. Turton, New Telephone	502812

LETTERS

Dear "someone who cares",

To say "Thank you" for your gift to the Girls' Brigade seems so inadequate, but it is said sincerely and with much love especially from those who work so hard in the Company. It is gifts such as this that help us all to realize how well worth while it all is. So "thank you" not just for your gift, but for your 'care' of us all.

Blessings and love,

JEAN WEBB &
the Girls' Brigade

Dear Editor,

I hope that you will have been able to regard as gratifying the response in your column to my letter concerning the times of our services of worship on Sundays. It is important that as a Church we should be continually alive to what may be changing needs in the Community and we should **never** allow ourselves to drift into the position of taking things for granted. I feel this danger particularly myself because over a long period of years it has been my custom and privilege to attend all the services, apart from periods of holiday

and infrequent sickness. It is good to know that the evening service is so greatly valued and further evidence of this is to be seen in the increasing attendances. Over the past year - 40's - 50's - 60's - 70's and most lately over the 100 and defying a surreptitious count!

RANDOM ENQUIRER

Dear Editor,

Please convey to all our friends in the Church our warmest thanks for the cards and greetings we received on the occasion of our recent Golden Wedding.

GEORGE & ALICIA FLEMING

FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

We all know that Mrs. Winstanley looked after the flowers of the Church as part of her work for some time, and we have all taken pleasure in the way she did them.

Now however this work has been handed on to me, with the help of some ladies we hope to carry on the good work, week by week. I am not in possession of a list of names or dates when anyone would like to provide the flowers for 1977. Will you be good enough to let me know in good time, as I can only supply the floral decorations if the money is there to pay for them.

From 15th November I will be on the telephone, No. 502812. There are still two dates in December which are not booked. 5th December, and 26th December. If anyone would like either of these dates I would be grateful if they would contact me. Some ladies may prefer to arrange their own flowers, in which case I would be only too willing to assist them in any way I can.

DECEMBER FLOWERS

5th	-	12th	Miss M. Peck
19th	Mrs. Cozens Walker	26th	-
	Mrs. V. Turton		

VIOLET TURTON

BIBLE VERSESChristmas

Isaiah 9 v. 6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Luke 2 vv. 10/11 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

2 Corinthians 8 v. 9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine,
Love was born at Christmas,
Star and angels gave the sign.

COURAGE

I do not pray, dear Lord
From dangers to be free
But for the power to face
Each danger, dauntlessly.

I do not pray that I
No pain or grief may bear
But for the courage, Lord,
To bravely take my share.

However hard my lot,
Or difficult my road,
Give me the needful strength
Fearless, to bear my load!

And if I faint and fall,
Grant me, dear Lord, I pray,
To feel your guiding hand
Set me upon my way.

EVELINE YOUNG

WORLD CHURCH PAGETHE GOOD NEWS

If there is one thing that all news media from, say, The Times or BBC 2 News down to this column, have in common, it is their concentration on bad news rather than good. This is a habit well worth giving up, for Christmas at least. In fact, if we look more closely, nearly all the bad news implies some good news which is being overlooked. So lets look for this good news behind the bad:-

'Christians persecuted in Russia' - for nearly 60 years the Russian authorities have been trying to eliminate the Christian faith, yet by all accounts there are more practising Christians in that land than there were 30 years ago.

'37% of households have no Bible' - unless my arithmetic fails me, then 63% must have one!

'Flight from the Ministry' - well, yes, many ministers do leave the ministry for other jobs, but at the same time many 'mature students' who have retired early from other occupations are joining theological colleges in response to a call to enter the full-time service of the Church.

'Black Minister turned away from Jimmy Carter's Church' - but even in the 'Deep South' of the U.S.A. more churches are open to all races than ever before.

'Two Churches refuse to consider the Ten Propositions' - but many hundreds of churches of all denominations are considering these starting points for a basis of unity.

'Empty Churches' are referred to again and again - yet there are still in this country twice as many regular attenders at worship as there are regular attenders at professional football matches, while in parts of Brazil and Indonesia people are coming into the Kingdom faster than buildings can be raised to house them.

Perhaps we should all do well to apply this technique whenever we read or hear bad news. Not overlooking that we shortly celebrate the birth of the Good News made flesh to dwell among us.

P.T.O.

MANY THANKS

..... to those, both in and outside our immediate fellowship (this magazine gets into some odd places!) who have expressed their appreciation of these contributions and, just as much, to the occasional strong critic. Like everyone who puts pen to public paper, I can never have too many of either. If you are sufficiently moved to make use of the Letters to the Editor page, so much the better.

A Blessed Christmas to you all.

ROBIN BRUFORD

POETS CORNER

Blessed are you who take time to listen to cerebral palsy speech, for you help us to know that if we persevere we can be understood.

Blessed are you who walk with us in public places and ignore the stare of strangers, for in your companionship we find havens of relaxation.

Blessed are you who never bid us "hurry up" and more blessed are you that do not snatch our tasks from our hands to do them for us, for often we need time rather than help.

Blessed are you that stand beside us as we enter new and untried ventures, for our failures will be outweighed by the times we surprise ourselves and you.

Blessed are you that ask for our help, for our greatest need is to be needed.

Blessed are you when you assure us that the thing which makes us individuals is not our peculiar muscles, nor our wounded nervous system, but in the God-given self that no infirmity can confine.

Rejoice and be exceedingly glad to know that you give us reassurance that cannot be spoken in words, for you deal with us as Christ dealt with the slow and peculiar.

WRITTEN BY A SPASTIC

A WASTED DAY

Sometimes I sit at set of sun
 And think of all I might have done,
 The loving words I meant to say,
 That were unsaid at close of day,
 The little duties that were mine
 I'd left undone for lack of time,
 The kindly deeds I meant to do
 And quite forgot to carry through.
 The generous gift and timely aid
 That were neglected, I'm afraid.
 Ashamed I sit at set of sun
 And think of all I might have done,
 The chances that I lost to-day
 That never more will come my way.
 Dear God! My careless soul forgive
 And teach me better how to live. EVELINE YOUNG

RECIPE FOR A HUSBAND

Not strictly a food item perhaps, but this recipe for a husband, found in a book dated 1870, sounded appealing.

Be careful of your selection, do not choose one too young. When once decided upon and selected, let that part remain for ever settled.

Even poor varieties may be made sweet, tender, and good, by garnishing with patience and well sweetened with smiles.

Wrap in a mantle of charity. Keep warm with a steady fire of devotion.

When thus prepared, husbands will keep for years and improve with age.

A SMILE

A smile costs nothing, but gives much. It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give. None is so rich or mighty that he can get along without it, and none is so poor but that he can be made rich by it. A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill in business, and is the countersign of friendship.

It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and is nature's best antidote for

trouble, yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen, for it is something that is of no value to anyone until it is given away.

Some people are too tired to give you a smile, so give them one of yours, as none needs a smile so much as he who has no more to give.

Author unknown

ELLA ROBERTSON

FROM THE TREASURER

Collections for October were as follows:

Loose Cash	£202.74
Envelopes	£311.61

The cost of lighting and heating the Church Premises is a constant expense which has to be met. Will those organisations who normally send a donation toward these costs please do so by the end of December. Your help is much appreciated.

NORMAN REDMAN

JUNIOR CHURCH STATISTICS

Attendance at Junior Church 1970-76

	1970/1	1971/2	1972/3	1973/4	1974/5	1975/6
Number on Registers	72	60	86	79	107	133
Number with 90% + attendance	37	32	27	36	42	50
Ditto for 2 years	18	17	16	11	27	35
Ditto for 3 years	11	11	9	6	9	27
Number of Prizes awarded	11	10	7	5	7	18

The Bye-Election for an
Elder

The following was the report of the Scrutineers following the Ballot at the Church Meeting on 4th November, 1976.

Mr. R.D. Courtnadge 33 Votes
Mrs. D.M. Turner 33 Votes

(Two ballot papers were spoilt)

As it is required that to be elected a candidate shall receive more than 50% of the votes, it is greatly regretted that neither of the candidates in this Bye Election may be regarded as having been elected.

The Elders have been asked to give consideration to this position and to report with recommendations at the next Church Meeting.

CHARLES STEPHENS

ELDERS ELECTIONS

The somewhat startling result of the bye-election to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Winstanley, provides, apart from mathematical amazement, considerable scope for reflection.

Sad as it is that a deeply sincere and devoted candidate failed in an offer of service to the Church, it is even more sad, and not a little worrying, that nearly three hundred members appeared not to bother, although voting papers were made available to those unable to attend the Meeting.

In April, 1977, five Elders will retire by rotation and we still have in addition Mr. Winstanley's place to fill.

How many ballot papers shall I order to be printed, please?

CHARLES STEPHENS

CHRISTIAN AID result for November £19.10

received with thanks.

HILDA HELE

THE RICHES OF VARIETY

(Thoughts from the 1976 U.R.C. Forum at Swanwick)

The Forum itself always provides plenty of variety - of age, interest and background. As a family we met a cross-section of people from U.R. Churches in diverse situations, experimenting with a range of ideas and facing different problems.

We enjoyed a variety of activities, - croquet, swimming, walking, talking, modelling, singing and more, including good eating and plenty of laughs. We listened to Rev. Bill McGuigan, from Friary Church, Nottingham who spoke of "a motley of Christians" and "the dreams of Shalom, i.e. peace."

We heard Rev. Dr. Leslie Newbigin, of the Church of South India, speak to us on Ephesians. He lit up the Bible words with comments such as: "Jesus Christ does not make copies, he makes originals". "Each culture distorts the picture of Jesus - we need to learn from each other." "Diverseness is for the sake of unity. Unity has no meaning without diversity".

We saw Dr. Newbigin on the Sunday morning leading our worship clad in the beautiful white Bishop's robes of the C.S.I. He told us that Christians were people who went to work in the morning facing the sunrise. Others, meeting them, saw the light on their faces and asked, "Where does the light come from?" They replied "Turn and see." This was witness.

We sat absorbed in a film on Batik, the multi-coloured patterns produced in Malasia on silk, using wax and dyes, - reminders to us of the multicoloured pattern of races in Malasia and in the world.

Thus we met, we participated, we listened, we saw, we absorbed - and over all was the thought of the rich variety of life within the Christian fellowship, made possible as our theme said, because we also had "So much in common." Perhaps the usefulness of our

diversity for our common purpose was best expressed in the words of a new hymn:

Let us talents and tongues employ,
 Reaching out with a shout of joy.
 Bread is broken, the wine is poured,
 Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
 Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
 Pass the Word around, Loaves abound!

So we all left the Forum and went home, praying that the sunrise would light up OUR faces, and those of our fellow Church-members, and help us to "Pass the Word around".

BERYL CHATFIELD

THE WEEKLY FREEWILL OFFERING ENVELOPE SCHEME

May I please ask all contributors to the above Scheme to complete any arrears that might be outstanding by the last Sunday in December if possible. Once again I appeal to all members of the Church who have not adopted the envelope method of giving, to think and pray earnestly about it. Giving regularly by the envelope scheme helps to remind us that it is necessary to support the Church when we are absent. This is the only way our Treasurer can assess the Church's income accurately.

I shall be happy to provide envelopes to any member of the Church or congregation who wish to join the Scheme. Please contact me at the Church or write to me.

Miss L. Harris,
 2 Southsea Avenue,
 Goring-by-Sea, Worthing
 Tel: 40779

I thank all those members who have given so regularly throughout the year.

LILAH HARRIS
 Weekly Freewill Offering
 Envelope Treasurer

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday Evening Fellowship Since we last wrote in the Chronicle we have had three very interesting evenings with the Cornwall room walls being stretched! Firstly, Miss Stroud from St. Barnabas' talked to us about the Home and the care she and her staff have for their patients. Secondly, we had a most interesting demonstration in the use of Kake Brand cooking chocolate in making all kinds of sweets and cakes. We were able to welcome 12 friends from St. Richard's to that meeting, and look forward to seeing them again. We relived some holiday moments with slides at our last meeting.

By the time this is printed we shall have visited Worthing's new library, and will then be looking forward to our Christmas meeting on 6th December at which we will be very pleased to see any who would like to join us.

JANE BOND

Women's Guild What a wonderful display of handicraft greeted members when they entered the hall on 19th October. We had no idea there was so much talent among us. We hope to discover more at a later date. Listening to conversation as one viewed the exhibits we constantly heard "Oh, I didn't know you could do that". What a lot we discovered about each other.

On 2nd November we heard of the work of the International Polio Fellowship and in particular of that done at the Lantern Hotel in Worthing for Polio victims. Thank God that with the help of today's medical science Poliomyelitis is on the way out, but the tremendous courage of those of today's sufferers made our own aches and pains perhaps easier to bear. We were able to contribute to the work at the Lantern that afternoon through their sale's table, which we supported to the sum of £33.

On 14th December we shall be joining the Men's Fellowship when Miss Newsom's Choir will I know delight us with Christmas Music. So, tune up for I know you will be asked to join in.

ETHEL DEARSLEY

Men's Fellowship We have been delighted to welcome several new members this session, but have plenty of room for more. On 19th October Mr. Ron Lowries gave us an illustrated talk on the origin and work of the Gideons International. Although everyone has probably seen Gideon bibles in Hotels it may not be generally known that the organisation "shares the Good News" by distributing bibles to schools and hospitals as well. Each year almost half a million children above the age of seven, are presented with a personal pocket testament.

Our only meeting in December is on 14th when we share an afternoon of Christmas Music given by Miss Newsom's Choir, with the Women's Guild.

REG GOODCHILD

The Girls' Brigade Our display "All in a Year's Work" will take place on Friday, 10th December at 19.00h in the hall of the Sixth Form College. Programmes are now available, price 20p each, and we hope to see you there.

As the year draws to a close we would like to say thank you for all your help and support during 1976, and wish you all a Blessed and Peaceful Christmas, and a Very Happy New Year.

JEAN WEBB

New Year's Day Prayer Vigil "The Lord surely blessed us that day". This was the feeling expressed after last year's prayer vigil when the West Transept was manned all day. We propose to start 1977 in the right way; in prayer, and once again to cover the hours of 8.00h to midnight. During this time of prayer each person whose name appears in the Church Handbook will be prayed for individually.

To ensure that each hour of the day is covered will those willing to covenant for an hour, or perhaps half an hour, please contact the writer. Once the hours are covenanted, then all who wish to do so, may come and go as they are led.

IRENE TULEY

STAR OF BETHLEHEM

As this month especially we shall be thinking of the Star of Bethlehem, and how those who in faith followed the star found Jesus, lying a simple baby in a manger, I thought we might like to know that in our own locality are to be found two wild flowers called Star of Bethlehem. The first one is a yellowish green flower growing approximately six inches tall and can be found in wooded areas between March and May.

The second flower has green leaves with white centres and a larger white flower, to be found in grassland between April and June.

For the beauty to be found in the simple things of life we thank Thee O God.

GAGEA
LUTEAORNITHOGALUM
UMBELLATUM

ROBIN BRADLEY

YOUTH CORNER

Dear Boys and Girls,

Here we are at December; from the Latin DECEM - ten, the name now given to the last, or twelfth month of the year.

The Nativity - the Birth of Christ, the Light of the World - is celebrated on the traditional early Christian date for His birth, since the real one is unknown. As with other festivals, this Christian occasion also absorbed several pagan festivals, many of which were held in honour of the sun's rebirth after the winter solstice.

One of the earlier rites celebrated at this time was the Yule sun-worship festival. Yule logs and Yule candles became a traditional part of Christmas, symbolising fire and light. The Yule log often had the figure of a man drawn on it, and was sometimes lighted with a piece of charred wood, which had been saved from the last year's fire. These ceremonial fires of mid-winter were originally intended to help the sun when it had reached the lowest point in the heavens, just as the mid-summer fires did honour to the sun at its highest.

Another symbol of fire and light is the northern European custom of the candle-lit Christmas tree, which was believed to shelter woodland spirits when other trees lost their leaves. There is a 15th Century account of a Christmas tree being set up in a London street, though Prince Albert is usually credited with having introduced the custom into the English home in 1841. Mistletoe, a traditional Christmas symbol was a sacred pagan plant. It was considered so sacred that it had to be cut with a golden sickle. Holly and other evergreens were also respected, for the refuge they provided until the other trees regained their leaves. Now, we make a wreath of holly - and take the evergreen with its red berries to symbolise everlasting life and the Blood of Christ.

Mumming plays were also part of the Christmas celebrations. Their traditional central theme symbolised the defeat of winter and the miraculous revival of nature, and the approach of spring. The Old English word 'wassail' was a greeting meaning 'be of good cheer'. At the Christmas feast, friends toasted each other by drinking from an elaborate wassail cup. Often parties of poor people went to the houses of the rich, singing traditional wassail songs and begging drinks and money.

Carol singing is a very old custom, the earliest English collection was published as long ago as 1521. The singing of carols from house to house with much enjoyment by both hearers and performers was a much more favoured pastime in the days before Hi-Fi radio and television!

In some parts of the country the carol singers would exchange clothes between the sexes, and blacken their faces. I myself can remember as a child, being frightened by the carol singers in our village, the women dressed in men's clothes, and vice-versa, all with blackened faces, carolling

by the light of a candle in a turnip lantern. Little did they know that blackened faces and exchange of clothes was long ago connected with sacrificial beasts and smoke-begrimed faces by the fires of fertility rites, though they collected for church funds!

There is not time or space to write of the many ancient customs but Saint Nicholas is perhaps dear to your hearts as the patron saint of children. His generosity was legendary and people often found his gifts in their homes when they needed them most. These days "Santa Claus" very quietly leaves gifts for children and we give gifts to each other to celebrate the greatest gift of all, from God to us - "Immanuel - God with us".

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven;
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where weak souls will receive Him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

O Holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in
Be born in us today.
We hear the heavenly angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord, Immanuel.

Phillips Brooks
(1835-93) CP. 718

We are looking forward to seeing your own gifts and talents in action in your contributions to next year's Chronicle!

MARY CONNELLY

SERVICES

DIVINE WORSHIP

Sundays at 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Holy Communion: First Sunday in the morning

Third Sunday in the evening.

MONTHLY BUSINESS CHURCH MEETING

Thursday preceding First Sunday in the month at 7.30 p.m.

MONTHLY DAY OF PRAYER

Second Thursday in each month at 10.30 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.

Holy Communion following morning session.