

The CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

Spring, Summer, Autumn & Winter 2012
Volume 69

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Goring United Reformed Church

The
CHRONICLE

Spring 2012



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

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

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

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

Mid-week

- 10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

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Front Cover

Snowdrops taken in editor's garden during February.

Articles for The CHRONICLE

Closing date for the next CHRONICLE magazine is the 1 May

www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle



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Photo: Wilfred Rhodes

Rev Andrew Sellwood dedicating his grand-daughter, Lily on Christmas Day 2011

Amongst the highlights of our year 2011, for our minister and his wife, Jill, was to have all their family around them for the month of December.

The highlight for us was to see Andrew Dedicate his own grand daughter, Lily, on Christmas Day. This image will live in our memories as well as theirs.

And we in the Church have all promised to pray for Lily and her parents — not forgetting her grand parents!

Rev Andrew Sellwood writes: —

We are entering the time of preparation for Easter, Lent the period which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). At the beginning of Lent we enjoy Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day as commonly known. It was a kind of symbolic feast in preparation of the lean times ahead. This day is followed by Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent where again employing a symbolic act applying the ashes of repentance. Let's now look at the lent traditions in a little more detail.

Why is it called Lent? Lent is an old English word meaning 'lengthen'. Lent is observed in spring, when the days begin to get longer. Why 40 days? 40 is a significant number in Jewish-Christian scripture:

- In Genesis, the flood which destroyed the earth was brought about by 40 days and nights of rain.
- The Hebrews spent 40 years in the wilderness before reaching the land promised to them by God.
- Moses fasted for 40 days before receiving the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai.

Jesus spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness in preparation for his ministry.

Most Christians regard Jesus' time in the wilderness as the key event for the inspiration and duration of Lent.

Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline. The purpose is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ - his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial and resurrection.

The earliest fasts of Lent tended to be very strict, allowing one meal a day, and even then meats, eggs, and other indulgences were forbidden.

The Eastern Churches expect its members to follow this today.

Now, in the Western Church, only Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are suggested as possible fast days, but Fridays are still set aside for abstinence from meat having instead 'fish on Friday' to remember the first disciples Jesus called. You could have a reprieve from fasting on Sundays as they are not a part of the Lenten fast, because Sunday in earlier traditions was always a feast of the resurrection.

Not all Christian churches observe Lent. The Bible does not mention the custom of Lent, however, the practice of repentance and mourning in ashes is found in 2 Samuel 13:19; Esther 4:1; Job 2:8; Daniel 9:3; and Matthew 11:21.

I was reading an article which describes Lent as a recommitment to our new year's resolutions that by this time have been broken. Not too sure about that theory. We tend to give things up for Lent: chocolate, alcohol, cigarettes etc. Much of our sacrificial penitence is rather tokenistic. They are things we could easily do without in other words not a costly sacrifice. Perhaps our abstaining from these things would do us good

health wise and financially. Perhaps instead of giving things up we could take things on: commit ourselves to new initiatives, for the Kingdom instead of being passive in our reflections we could be active.

As mentioned, during Lent there are many foods that some Christians - historically and today - would not eat: foods such as meat and fish, fats, eggs, and milky foods. So that no food was wasted, families would have a feast on the shroving Tuesday, and eat up all the foods that wouldn't last the forty days of Lent without going off. The need to eat up the fats gave rise to the French name *Mardi Gras* ('fat Tuesday'). Pancakes became associated with Shrove Tuesday as they were a dish that could use up all the eggs, fats and milk in the house with just the addition of flour.

Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the ritual of *shriving* that Christians used to undergo in the past. In shriving, a person confesses their sins and receives absolution for them. This tradition goes back over 1000 years ago. A monk wrote about it in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles.

On a lighter note where does pancake racing fit in? Pancake

ances are thought to have begun in 1445 (seems to specific to be true). A woman had lost track of the time on Shrove Tuesday, and was busy cooking pancakes in her kitchen. Suddenly she heard the church bell ringing to call the faithful to church for confession. The woman raced out of her house and ran all the way to church; still holding her frying pan and wearing her apron, hmmm.

After Shrove Tuesday comes Ash Wednesday. Where do the ashes come from and why? The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are made by burning the palm crosses that were blessed on the previous year's Palm Sunday. I have noticed in one of my catalogues these ashes can be bought from Church suppliers. A bag of ashes big enough for 1000 people costs around £6, a bargain. The service draws on the ancient Biblical traditions of covering one's head with ashes, wearing sackcloth, and fasting.

I remember our girls coming home from school after an Ash Wednesday service with smudged black marks on their foreheads, the crosses having lost their shape a bit by home time. At some churches the worshippers leave with the mark still on their forehead as long as

possible so that they carry the sign of the cross out into the world. At other churches the service ends with the ashes being washed off as a sign that the participants have been cleansed of their sins.

More about the symbolism; the marking of their forehead with a cross made of ashes is a sobering reminder to Christians that: Death comes to everyone - They should be aware of their sins - They must change themselves for the better - God made the first human being by breathing life into dust (ashes), and without God, human beings are nothing more than dust and ashes. The shape of the mark and the words used are symbolic in other ways: - The cross is a reminder of the mark of the cross made at baptism. - The cross of ashes may symbolise the way Christ's sacrifice on the cross as atonement for sin replaces the Old Testament tradition of making burnt offerings to atone for sin.

In the reformed tradition it seems we have lost most of the tradition of the ancient church. We sometimes acknowledge Pancake Day but that's about all.

Perhaps we need to reconsider some of the aspects of the Lenten season and use it for spiritual growth and exploration. We so often fight shy of the concept and principles of repentance and forgiveness, for aren't we all 'good Christians already'?

Lent study groups are a way we can discipline ourselves to study Gods word and seek to apply it to our lives. It is also an excellent opportunity to share views and experiences with brothers and sisters of other denominations.

O Lord and Master of my life,
give me not the spirit of laziness,
despair, lust of power, and idle talk.

But give rather the spirit of sobriety,
humility, patience and love to Thy servant.

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou unto ages of ages. Amen

St. Ephraim the Syrian (AD 305-373) With Syria in the news at the time of writing I thought this an apt inclusion .

Andrew Sellwood

Fellowship: Tuesday Afternoons

Well, after a time at my heart rehab. group on Tuesdays - which I have finished now - I am now back with the Tuesday fellowship again, and able to report on what we are doing. Before I do I would like to thank Carole for doing the last report for me in my absence. I have two meetings to tell you about so far:-

- ◇ Our first meeting was the new year party which I didn't go to. I gather it was enjoyable, so that kicked the session after Christmas off.
- ◇ The second meeting which I did attend was a visit from June who came from St Andrew's Church. She has been before to give a talk on a cruise that she went on.



Mamy & Ruth Raharimanantsoa spent Christmas 2011 in Worthing, so were able to be with us on Christmas Day and taking part in the service.



Photo: Wilfred Rhodes

Fellowship. Continued from previous page.

This time she gave a talk on a book her daughter gave her many years ago about expressions that we use but we probably don't realize we are doing so. She gave many examples - 'Cottoning on', and if you make your kitchen clean and tidy then you have made it 'shipshape'. One that I liked was the expression 'I wash my hands of you.' This refers to Pilate who after he had tried Jesus, with the help of his wife, literally washed his hands and told the accusers to do what they wanted saying he wanted nothing to do with it. Later we had a time when we could think of expressions we knew or used ourselves. I often use the expression 'Murphy's law' when coincidentally something happens at a bad moment like appointments clashing, and things like that.

Well that is all for now. As the session gets underway I will report again for the next issue of Chronicle.

God bless, Janet Dean

Church Building and the Sanctuary



For a number of years, the members of this Church have been considering ways in which they can better reach the needs of the community and introduce their neighbours to the love of Christ, and to encourage them to come inside. To a certain degree this has already been achieved by making improvements to our halls, and by providing a skating rink in 2010 and 2011. The Little Fishes recent building programme has also made a significant difference to the way in which the public sees us.

During the summer of last year the Property Management Group discussed ways in which improvements could be made to the Sanctuary area - after all it has no double glazing; no wall or roof insulation; no comfortable seating. The heating system needs

addressing both for our worshipper's comfort and to protect the fabric of the buildings. The existing gas radiators have a detrimental effect on our very valuable organ. Tables used for refreshments after morning worship could be replaced with something more suitable for use in the Sanctuary. We could provide portable screens to separate the worship and refreshment areas.

Could we use the Sanctuary for the community during weekdays?

In order to raise awareness of some of these problems and to look to those who already use the building, the Property Group suggested that we should undertake a questionnaire or survey to try and discern God's will and the way forward. The idea of a survey was taken to Church Meeting, and in September and October the survey papers were made available to all who came to worship.

The Autumn Chronicle reported that the Questionnaire was being made available in the church to seek the Lord's will by asking as many people to contribute their ideas. It said, "Have you ever stopped to think about the use of our Church premises, in particular the Sanctuary?" "It has very limited use at present. Should we be using it more often? - now there's a question! We are constantly being challenged to think about the way that the Church should move forward to meet the needs of the 21st century. Is it time to think differently about how we use the sanctuary?", the report added.

In the most recent Quinquennial survey, two of the surveyor's comments were -

1. "The Church and more particularly the associated halls have evidently enjoyed the benefits of some considerable effort and outlay in terms of internal improvement of space, which has also solved some of the previously reported problems externally and it was nice to witness these being put to good use whilst I carried out the survey"

2. "The area of greatest concern is, evidently, how to bring an equivalent improvement to the main church".

The report in that autumn Chronicle concluded with - "Whatever the Group does, we want to do it for the benefit of the whole Church, God's Church, both now and for the future.

We ask you to prayerfully consider this. This is not only about what we as individuals would personally like to see take place, but we should be aware of what the Lord wants us to do. What is His way forward?

We need to seek it."

The results of that survey were carefully discussed at a Property Meeting and, taking into account all the returns made, conversations held, and drawings submitted, draft plans were drawn up showing a possible solution to the various suggestions that had been made. These survey results and plans were made available to the November Elders meeting and a presentation was given to the following Church Meeting.

It was evident that the roof should be tackled first, and in view of the very high risk of copper theft, it was thought that it should be dealt with as a matter of the utmost urgency. Therefore Church Meeting gave the Property Group authority to proceed, knowing that costs will amount to £20k-£25k.

Worthing Borough Council's Planning department, have recently given us consent. Many will know that the local papers - the Herald and Argus have picked up information about our plans to replace the copper roof - the information already being in the public domain. We have discussed the roof proposals with Synod and have a contractor ready to go ahead once the necessary Synod approval has been granted.



Church meeting recommended that all the future building plans, so far discussed, should be put on display in the Church during January giving people time to look, and to come to the January church meeting with any further thoughts or ideas ready for discussion.

The display in the Church during January 2012 showed the results of the survey, see below, and proposed plans.

75% said that they would like to see more comfortable seating provided.

46% thought that the Heating and Insulation should be improved.

42% of those taking part would like to see improvements to the Vision and Audio Systems.

40% suggested that the Sanctuary could be used during the weekdays - for concerts etc. Opening up and making the Welcome area larger with improved refreshment facilities.

12% would like to see either the carpet runners removed or re-arranged.

There were some other suggestions that were made which amounted to less than 5% of the total and as many from individual suggestions. All of these will be discussed at a Property Management Group Meeting.

At the January Elders' and Church Meetings Matthew Smith, Treasurer, suggested a possible plan to achieve a result over a number of years. He emphasised that this was a concept plan only, to see whether the entirety of the proposed plans were financially viable, taking into account mission activities also under consideration. Graham Redman, Property Group, also spoke and encouraged others to give their points of view, underlining

what Matthew had said, emphasising there were other options to be explored, but in principal this was an achievable plan. It was suggested from the floor that ideas, comments etc. be put in writing to a member of the Finance or Property Group in order that they can be properly discussed and incorporated into the proposed plans. The Southern Synod Buildings office will also need to be consulted.

The meeting was reminded that nothing was "cast in stone" and before anything can be done members will be consulted at Church meeting.

The concept plan, and the various elements therein will be reviewed annually, taking into account members' feedback, along with updating on the many variables inherent in the plan.

All detailed plans will have to be approved by Church meeting before any proposed work is carried out.

If you have any constructive views on the subject, either for or against, *please, please, please* do let either Matthew, Andrew, me know, or any member of the Finance or Property groups know.

We want to ensure full consultation and understanding of the emerging ideas and plans.

Graham Redman

Millennium Marvel

After my wonderful Hot-air Balloon adventure earlier in the year I began to think about what could be next on my 'Bucket List' and came up with the idea of visiting the Falkirk Wheel, something I wanted to see, having heard of it from a Scottish friend. I asked my two daughters if they would like the three of us to make the trip and they jumped at it.

We decided on the dates we wished to travel and Caroline set to work on the bookings — Flights, Hotel, Car hire etc. She is very good with the 'on-line' bit! - I wouldn't have a clue!

The Falkirk Wheel is the biggest rotating Boat-Lift in the world and as such is the most amazing spectacle. Even when you are right there looking at it you can hardly believe what you are seeing, standing as it does as high as 8, yes EIGHT double decker buses. It was never intended to be built as a Tourist Attraction but as a method of combining two canals, the Union and the Forth and Clyde, which almost, but not quite, met at Falkirk back in the 18th and 19th centuries. The joining of these canals was a project of immense proportions known as The Millennium Link Nothing short of a miracle, coming in as it did, under budget and well within the time of completion. The fact that it has become such a success with tourists as well as the Waterways industry is a bonus undreamed of. For all its size it works on no greater power than it takes to boil 6 kettles.

I implore anyone with or near an Internet

facility to look it up on Google. You'll be amazed. So much for the facts! Now back to our trip.

On Sunday 11th September – Yes 9/11! We flew to Edinburgh. As we landed it started to drizzle. Oh well, we were in Scotland after all. We picked up the Rental car which Beverley drove – [very well indeed considering it was a strange car in a strange town and in ever increasing drizzle].

We made our way to the Premier Inn where we were staying for two nights and where we met up with my cousin Lloyd who had driven from his home in Cheshire to join us for the trip. The sun shone next morning as we were having breakfast – but when we got outside it was raining again and we realised just how hard the the wind was blowing – and getting WORSE!

We could hardly stand up, though I, luckily, was in a wheelchair. And the RAIN !!!!!!! It wasn't coming down, it was absolutely HORIZONTAL – honestly. Needless to say, the boat rides which should have been the highlight of the trip weren't operating. Apparently we were being hit



by the tail-end of hurricane Katya fresh from her travels across the United States and the Atlantic Ocean. It was such a shame because the lovely landscaped parkland area would have been a glorious walk and a chance to see it all from a different angle.

As it was we could only stay in the shelter of the Visitor Centre. Luckily the girls and I had another day although Lloyd couldn't stay. He had a long drive home on Monday night. So on the Tuesday we thought we would try again.

We only had the morning as we had to be at the Airport by 2pm. For the second time it was sunny at breakfast— but raining when we went out though the wind was slightly less strong.

On reaching the Wheel we

were delighted to find that the boat-rides were going which was a great experience but we couldn't see out of the windows because of the neverending rain.

However we had done what we set out to do and would not have missed it for anything BUT.....wouldn't you just know it, the rain stopped and the sun came out as we sat in the departure lounge waiting for our flight home.

That's life I guess !!!!!!!!

Doreen Norris

I have received two e-mails recently about the same miracle. The first is self explanatory, the second I have copied just a small part of what was the transcript of a URC minister's sermon in a Surrey church in October, and describes the same miracle, but in different words:—
Wilf Rhodes.

1. My Dear Friends,

In the tradition of the Coptic Orthodox Church there was a story of a Muslim Caliph who challenged the Coptic Patriarch and said "you have a verse in your Bible that says, 'by faith you can move mountains.'" The Caliph added, "Show me that this verse is true and move the mountain of Mokottam (in the south of Cairo). If you cannot move it, I will kill all the Christians".

The Patriarch was very sad and worried because he was not quite sure that the mountain would move. He was contacted by a shoe maker named Simon who said to the Patriarch, "do not worry, let us just pray and fast for three days and our mighty Lord will make a miracle!"

The Patriarch called for prayer and fasting for three days. On the third day, the doubting Caliph came to see if the mountain would move or not. The worried Patriarch was praying with his people, and behind them, Simon was interceding with confidence.

The mountain moved! The Caliph said, "I now know that you worship the true God."

Today was the third day of fasting and prayer. Many of our staff in the Diocese of Egypt, having this story in mind, were expecting a miracle to happen today or tomorrow; a miracle that can show how God will rescue His Church!

Today I have seen a miracle. It was very much like moving a mountain. I went this morning to visit the Grand Imam of Al Azhar. I arrived a bit early and I waited at the office of his advisor. While waiting I saw a bearded Muslim man in his 50's who came to present a proposal to the Grand Imam's advisor. He said, "*I am a Muslim and I live between Tahrir Square and Maspero. I came here to witness that the spirit of hatred against Christians has increased a lot. On the night in October when the killing of Christians took place, I met a group of people who were searching for Christians to beat after they heard that Christians attacked the army.*"

The man added, "Hatred is on the rise and I came to witness for this." He proposed then that Al Azhar must respond to all the thoughts that promote this hatred towards Christians. He also said that, "I and a group of Muslim

writers and artists are happy to devote our time in order to combat this hatred against Christians. We have a list of books we must respond to and correct the false teachings towards Christians."

The advisor of the Grand Imam said to him, "this is a very good idea. Why don't we have the idea written and I will present it to the Grand Imam."

I did not believe my ears! A group of Muslims are disturbed by hatred of Christians and want to combat this hatred! !!!

To me, this was a miracle!

Who moved the heart of these people? Certainly it is God, who hears our prayers! Let us continue to pray.

+ Mouneer Egypt

The Most Rev. Dr. Mouneer H. Anis

Bishop of the Episcopal/Anglican Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa

President Bishop of the Episcopal/Anglican Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East

2. 9/11 10 years on.

9/11 was the forceful reminder of what a dangerous thing religion can be. Fortunately religion can be something else. Something beautiful happened in Egypt recently that some might have missed. Egypt is 10% Christian.

The Coptic Christian Church is one of the oldest in the world. You may remember that on New Year's Eve a bomb exploded outside a prominent Coptic church in Alexandria. 23 people were killed and 90 seriously wounded. The attack was meant to spark sectarian tension, but instead a remarkable thing happened – a movement throughout Egypt in which Muslims expressed sorrow and thousands showed up to attend Coptic Christmas services with Christian neighbours.

An American Lutheran pastor working in Egypt told the 'Christian Century' that "at church after church Muslims formed human chains of protection around Christian buildings so Christian brothers and sisters could celebrate Christmas. Millions of Egyptians replaced their Facebook profile photos with the image of the cross and crescent. Bumper stickers showed up all over Egypt with the cross inside the crescent and the words 'We are all Egyptians'" The religious news is not all bad, not at all..

“Thou, God, seest me.”

In my childhood, we had texts hanging on at least one wall of each bedroom and I think there was one on the parlour wall. But this particular one, ‘Thou, God seest me,’ was the most frightening to me and was rather like a Big Brother camera set in the wall, recording every move I made, every word I spoke, and even every thought which flitted through my mind. It was either a threat or a warning, which stayed with me and still waves a big stick at me from time to time. “For God’s all-seeing eye surveys Thy secret thoughts, Thy words and ways.”

Oh, dear! What did/does God see when He looks at me? If I were to make myself a list of ‘good’ and ‘bad’ that He can see, which list would be the longest? I don’t need to ask that question, I already know the answer! I can hide my shame with bravado, or just keep quiet and hope no-one notices. But things happen when they shouldn’t, things don’t happen when they should, illnesses occur, age creeps up and painfully grabs you with an ever tightening hold.

It was a very cold, very damp Sunday morning. Joints ached, knees threatened to give way and arthritis pinged in the hands. Should I just stay at home and get on with a few jobs in the warm? Would I keep as warm in church? Would there be a draught? Would I be able to keep my legs warm even with my PolarTec trousers on? Would there be ‘A Goodly Fellowship’ or would everyone be insular? Would

the hymns be repetitive and boring, with no real theological teaching or spiritual message? Would the readings be dull or uplifting? Would the sermon be difficult to hear, or clear and audible? Would it be well thought out, with deep, comforting words and a bracing, stimulating message? Would it really be worth going out at all?

Dither, dither, dither. “Go, you will be glad of it.” So came the word, just in time to get there on time.

We were greeted by two or three people with a smile, and had a chat with a couple of others before the service began with the rousing hymn ‘Praise ye the Lord, ‘tis good to raise your hearts and voices in His Praise’ by Isaac Watts, which immediately spoke to me with the words that had become familiar in childhood and adolescence. We sang it with much of the same fervour as we did in Carnkie Chapel in Cornwall so many years ago.

We are bidden to praise Him for His wondrous works in Nature, then are reminded that ‘the sprightly man, the warlike horse, / The piercing wit, the active limb/ All are too mean delights for Him.’ Then some crumbs of comfort: ‘But saints are lovely in his sight/ He views His children with delight;/He sees their hope, He knows their fear/ And looks and loves His image there.’

The lesson from Mark 1 29 – 39 told of Jesus’ tiring work of healing and preaching and his need for solitude for prayer and contemplation and spiritual refreshment. Isaiah told us to be comforted and to comfort and ‘They

that wait upon the lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.'

The hymn, or 'chorus' as we called them in the old days, 'Jesus' love is very wonderful' with its actions to the words, reminded me of the Missions we had from time to time through the circuit, and in particular the chorus we sang with gusto next day in the school playground, until the teacher told us to shut up, as it was "Not the right place for it": 'Wide, wide as the ocean, high as the heaven above, Deep, deep as the deepest sea, Is my Saviour's love. I, though so unworthy, Still am a child of His care, For His word teaches me That His love reaches me everywhere.'

Thank you, Nahum Tate, and Nicholas Brady for your hymn, 'Through all the changing scenes of life' which came next, with further confirmation of the Saviour's love. 'Deliverance He affords to all/Who on His succour trust. Fear Him, ye saints and you will then/Have nothing else to fear/Make you his service your delight, /Your wants shall be his care.'

The children's talk was about the sick and sad and long-suffering, and 'keeping on keeping on', being aware and helping others.

Are all these hymns today chosen specially for me? 'At even when the sun was set', though it was morning, it didn't matter. It said what I needed to hear! 'And none O Lord, have perfect rest, /For none are wholly free from sin; / And they who fain would serve

Thee best/ Are conscious most of wrong within. O Saviour Christ, Thou too art man; / Thou hast been troubled, tempted, tried; /Thy kind but searching glance can scan/ The very wounds that shame would hide; Thy touch has still its ancient power; /No word from Thee can fruitless fall; / Hear, in this solemn evening hour, / And in Thy mercy heal us all.'

Unfortunately, these days, my retention of the spoken word is not at its best. I am rather like a basket being taken to the well for water – not much is retained, but continual immersion keeps the wicker pliable and makes for a much cleaner basket!

The hymns, however, can resonate, and tunes and words be repeated in the head if not with the voice. They can be looked up and read again and again. No one is perfect, but we are redeemed.

"And can it be that I should gain' by Charles Wesley drew the service to a close. 'My chains fell off, my heart was free, / I rose, went forth, and followed Thee. No condemnation now I dread, / Jesus and all in Him is mine; / Alive in Him, my living Head, / And clothed in righteousness divine, / Bold I approach the eternal throne, / and claim the crown, through Christ my own.'

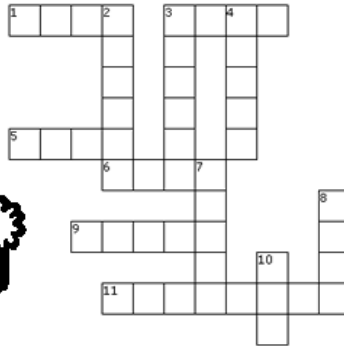
"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4. 15).

Mary Connelly

If you are not grown up,
you might be able
to do this puzzle

The Good Shepherd

John 10:11-18 (NIV)



ACROSS

1. Wild animal that looks like a dog and hunts in packs
3. The period from birth to death
5. A strong feeling of affection
6. Goes faster than walking
9. What we use to speak
11. One who takes care of the sheep

DOWN

2. The male parent
3. To hear or pay attention to something
4. A group of sheep herded together
7. Woolly animals which are similar to goats
8. The opposite of bad
10. A small place where animals are kept

Words Used

good	sheep	runs	listen
shepherd	wolf	father	pen
life	flock	voice	love



Above. Skating at Woking United Reformed Church during Spring Half Term. About 15 of their folk visited us last autumn for our Festival of Light and skating event.

They have recently come to the end of a major building programme, involving alterations to the hall and kitchen. A reception area and refreshments bar was built onto the side of the church with new toilets, meeting rooms and offices. The Sanctuary also saw many changes including the rostrum, ceiling, lighting as well as sound and vision systems.



Large glass dividing doors were added towards the rear of the sanctuary. - see picture left.

They send their love and greetings to us.

Some may recognise Beryl Richardson in the photo - now a member of Woking.

Do you have a past-time, an interest or a hobby that you would like to write about for the Chronicle? Have you visited another church or somewhere interesting this summer, or have you been on a holiday that others may like to read about.

You don't have to be a Church Member here at Goring - maybe you worshipped with us some time ago - maybe you are a regular reader of the magazine.

In any of these cases, if the answer is, "yes I do have something to write about", please let the editor know. He will be pleased to hear from you. You have until the 1st of May so there is plenty of time — at the moment !!

Articles for *The* CHRONICLE - Spring edition

You can submit articles to the editor for inclusion in the Chronicle by any of the following ways —

1. E-Mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk
2. Via the website - www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle
3. By post to Graham Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

The last day for the Summer Chronicle is 1 May 2012

The Chronicle is also on line at www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

Weekday Activities

Messy Church	1st Monday Afternoon in month
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd & 4th Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Sunday Mornings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings
Games	Alternate Monday Afternoons

Publication Team :-

Proof Reading:

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Susie Thomas

Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -
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The Chronicle costs approximately 75p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

The CHRONICLE
www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

chronicle@gurc.org.uk





Goring United Reformed Church

Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. In May 2005 a Joint Pastorate was formed with St Andrew's United Reformed Church in Rustington, with whom we share Ministry.

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

Goring and St Andrew's are part of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

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

Goring URC is part of Churches Together For Worthing, and Christians Together in Goring, with whom we often join for worship. The other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, the New Life Baptist Church and Bury Drive Methodist Church.

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



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

The CHRONICLE

Summer 2012



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

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

Shaftesbury Avenue, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex, BN12 4EA

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

Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

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

Mid-week

- 10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 69 - No. 631 Summer 2012

Front Cover

Wedding of Michelle Bailey & Andrew Gay on 28 April 2012.

Picture caught by Geoffrey Redman on his mobile phone as the bride and groom leave the church after their marriage service.

Articles for The CHRONICLE

Closing date for the Autumn CHRONICLE magazine is the 1 August

www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle



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As I am sure you already know Pentecost is a Christian holy day that celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit 50 days after Easter. Some would consider it the birthday of the Christian church. [Confusingly I have just read an article saying in a theological journal that Pentecost was 40 days after Easter; they were getting confused with ascension, I think I need to write to them to let them know].

Originally, Pentecost was a Jewish holiday held 50 days after Passover. One of three major feasts during the Jewish year it celebrated Thanksgiving for harvested crops. However, Pentecost for Christians means something far different, but resulting in a great harvest you could say. I always find God's timing to be amazing, you couldn't have arranged things better if you employed a top PR company. Our Easter happened at Passover when Jerusalem was crowded with people who witness the events of the weekend.

The church was born at Pentecost when the city was also crowded with people celebrating.

We are told 3000 individuals were added to the number of disciples that day.

Although Jesus followers were a little uncertain what or who was coming to them they had some preparatory teaching. Before Jesus was crucified, he told his disciples that the Holy Spirit would come after him: And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever — the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. *John 14:16-18*

50 days after Jesus was resurrected (10 days after he ascended into heaven), that promise was fulfilled when Peter and the early Church were in gathered in Jerusalem for the Pentecost celebrations.

They were all together in one place, united just as Jesus prayed for in John 17. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. *Acts 2:1-4*

So there in that upper room when the Spirit came the followers were each equipped with gifting and empowered for mission as prophesied in Joel. Although this event would not mean that every Christian would be gifted for every kind of ministry, it did imply that all believers would be empowered by the Spirit. The church of Jesus Christ would be a place where every single person matters, where every member contributes to the health and mission of the church, again the theme of unity

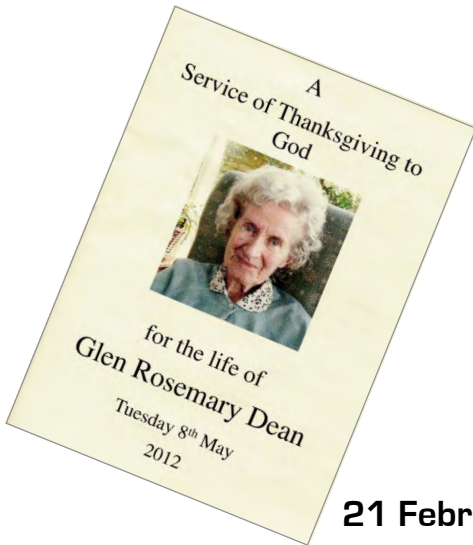
[see Eph 4:11-16].

Over the years I have made a study of Holy Spirit generated revival from Wesleyan times to the Victorian renewal to the Toronto outpouring.

There seems to be one common factor - a Christian community in a crisis. Perhaps this may be due to a wavering of faith/loss of direction, diminishing numbers, being swamped by a particularly sinful and corrupt society.

Andrew Sellwood





Glen Rosemary Dean

21 February 1928 - 29 April 2012

Geoffrey and Glen became members of Goring United Reformed Church on 1st December 1974.

Ever since, Glen has been a gentle member serving her Lord and Saviour in many ways -

One of her greatest passions was prayer. She was responsible for a good number of prayer groups and Bible study groups over the years, both in the church and in her home. She understood that prayer is the most powerful life-tool that a person can have.

She would listen and pray with anyone who cared to share with her, no matter - at home or in church, or on the telephone - or just anywhere... at the shops and so on.

In fact it would be unusual, indeed, if no prayer were offered at any meeting with Glen.

She led prayers in the church too, but being shy of putting herself forward, she would be present in small groups of like minded people, praying regularly together.

She was present at the 8.00 morning service of Holy Communion, and led the Friday evening prayer group, often finding a little something to give to each member of the group, to illustrate the theme of the passage: a little mustard seed, or a 'jewel', a stone perhaps, just a little something to take home by which to remember again, the living Word.

She was abundant in worship. She would sing and dance in the spirit, but not necessarily in public! Again she seemed most comfortable in small groups, but would invite others to share in her exuberant worship, born out of her passion for the Lord Jesus.

Quietly, Glen was part of the team which prepares Holy Communion for Sunday Worship, treating the elements with dignity and respect, setting the table with care, that the Lord would be pleased with her offering of service.

Lately she and Geoff were the representatives of this church at the Christians Together in Goring meetings. Sharing ecumenically with Christians from our six neighbouring churches, taking news of our missionary events and bringing back news about the mission of the other churches - making that connection by communication.

Significantly, Glen became part of the regular Christians Together in Goring prayer meetings, praying for

the local church in the community. As part of this outreach she helped to raise funds for the Worthing Churches Homeless Projects, helping to sell books at the annual Saints & Sinners Day held at English Martyrs Church.

She was not an Elder, by election, but she supported Geoff who was. She helped him with his pastoral work, although always careful not to do his work for him.

Between them Geoff and Glen collected together vast numbers of books which double lined, sometimes treble lined the book shelves in their home. We are delighted that some of those that belonged to Glen have been given to this church. They are to be released for friends to borrow, once they have been properly catalogued.

The members have decided that the collection be called 'The Dean Library' and is sited in the East transept.

Never afraid to pray with anyone. Everything was worthy of prayer. Always putting others before herself, always putting Jesus Christ above all others.

Thank You God for giving us our sister Glen; and thank you Glen for your devotion, and witness to the Lord Jesus Christ in this place.

Hilary Redman

Tuesday Fellowship

Arundel Castle Guides

We had a visit from John Penny who has been a guide for Arundel Castle for 17 years. Part of his job is to train the new guides. Arundel Castle is the current home of The Duke of Norfolk The Earl Marshal. There are 75 guides. He went on to explain the rota system, and quite a colourful sheet it was too. We were then told how they show new guides what to do and how they get ready for the public. All guides do the job differently (like Chefs) They all must be good with people. They must be most helpful and answer questions as best they can and if they can't then they must get somebody who can. The standard is quite high and there is a strict list of "do's and don'ts" for the guides. We were shown a few guidebooks from past years made for the public to purchase. The first one was priced one shilling - today they cost £6 00. We were then told that the guides are volunteers, policemen, plumbers and so forth. An interesting afternoon. Maureen made us a lovely fruit loaf cake, and delicious it was too Maureen.

Valentine's Day

I must thank Carole who wrote this following report for me on the Valentines Day meeting because I couldn't go. It was led by Alison Westcott.

We had scrumptious heart shaped

cakes made by Maureen but they didn't save one for the reporter - shame on them. Before eating the cakes Alison told us about the origins of Valentines Day.

The 14th itself started off as a Roman festival to the god Juno who amongst other things promoted marriage. The name St. Valentine came from a priest who performed marriages against the Emperors edict who forbade his soldiers to marry because he thought it would distract them from their careers. The priest was eventually martyred but on the day of his death he wrote a thank you letter to a girl who had regularly visited him in jail signing it from her Valentine. Valentine cards came from the USA in the 1800s..

Penzance to Paddington

Next we had another visit from our friend Tony Trevithick with another journey along the way from Penzance to Paddington. We have reached Liscard where I have stayed with my friends so I can say it is a nice place. Tony reminded us of life and faith and how people in the 60s wanted to get away from the mainstream life. Today it is drugs and drink and they go downhill like the train goes downhill to Looe. We are in an attitude of compromise to our stand. Once in Looe the train goes back uphill. Menkeys is a place of indifference. He then gave examples. We are all just as important to God as one another.

We pass through St. Jonas which is a beautiful place onto Saltash. There Tony reminded us about independence and he gave an example - as his daughters were growing up as parents they had to give the girls a bit of freedom. We come across the River Tamar. Tony told us the importance of building bridges with people who have different cultures from us. We are now out of Cornwall from Plymouth to Davenport. I do enjoy Tony's trips. Thank you Tony .

Members' Afternoon

Next we had a members afternoon. Maureen submitted a poem about Spring. Joan read one about a hug and how good a hug is sometimes as it shows love. Carole read another poem about Spring. Doreen read a lovely story about a Samuel who was around in the time of Jesus. It was a lovely story and I recommend you ask Doreen to let you read it. Bobby sang a love song to the setting of My Favourite things from the Sound of Music which Joan Burrage had given her. A good afternoon.

A book: My Redman & Amos Families

We had a visit from Graham and Hilary Redman. Graham has written a book about his ancestors and the book is entitled 'My Redman and Amos Families', a wonderful heirloom for Chloe. He showed us photos that are in the book which he put onto the television screen whilst he spoke about his ancestors. A lot of hard work over many years have gone into this project. Hilary helped with some research while Graham was working

but when Graham retired in 1999 they were then able to work together on the rest of the research. Graham showed us a special Victorian Family Photograph Album and Family Bible. Graham's roots are in Kent, Wiltshire, Essex and Norfolk. Some lived in the old Kent village of Mersham which has more or less been cut in half by the construction of the Eurostar railway. He said that his ancestors there would be horrified and probably turning in their graves if they knew what they had done to the village.

Now Graham said that he didn't meet one Grandfather because he passed away before Graham was born - on the day of the funeral along came Graham to cheer everyone up.

A Great Grandfather was born in Malta so that was an excuse for a holiday, where he found out a bit more of the Redman family. Graham published the book himself and we saw a photo of him checking the books to see if they came up to his high standard. We saw a copy just to look at carefully, I can tell you it was. However, when we had our tea we were able to have a better look at what the book contained without being nervous because he had two proofs for such occasions, and they were good to see. Well there you have it. Graham said he is now writing an autobiography for Chloe and any descendants who may follow on.

Well done, and thank you for sharing it with us.

Well that is it for now. Janet Dean



Property Management

Roof Work

As this magazine goes to print, work is progressing well on our church roof, stripping the old copper off and replacing it with a new plastic type material, called Alkorplan.

The contractor, Chris Fuller, CF Roofing is also providing 3/4" timber boarding and a 3" insulation layer as a base for the outer plastic cover sheet.

I think that most people will know now that we had an attempted theft of copper from our roof late on Wednesday night, 2 May. Fortunately, our Inland Revenue neighbours saw what was happening and alerted the police, avoiding which may have been a much worse incident. A letter of thanks has been given to the Gate House and Security Department of the Revenue.

Sanctuary Chairs

The Property Group met one evening around the middle of May to discuss the purchasing of some padded chairs for the Sanctuary.

A recommendation from Property Group will be taken to the June Church Meeting where it is hoped that approval will be given to purchase a number of chairs at a price of about £85 each. In order to ease some of the expenditure on the Church finances, it would be much appreciated if we could each pay for, or help to buy a chair. A box will be provided at the back of the church for the purpose. If you are a tax payer, I think that the Treasurer would prefer that you speak to him first as he is able to receive tax relief.

The Harris Room

Unfortunately, this room has become more of a storage area than its intended purpose — a meeting room. If you have anything in that room which belongs to you, please remove the item(s) very shortly as we will be clearing the room ready for decoration and refurbishing.

Health and Safety

We will shortly be completing our Health and Safety Document and Risk Assessment. You may remember that a couple of years ago we completed our Fire Risk Assessment which is revised and updated annually, and which will form part of the whole Health and Safety Document. We are all reminded that nothing heavy should be stored above shoulder height and nothing should be left on floors which may cause a hazard.

Autumn Cleaning Day

We are proposing to have a cleaning day again sometime in the autumn to help keep our premises clean and tidy. Date yet to be arranged.

*Graham Redman
Property Management Group*

Articles for The CHRONICLE - Autumn edition

**You can submit articles to the editor for inclusion in the Chronicle
by any of the following ways —**

- 1. E-Mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk**
- 2. Via the website - www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle**
- 3. By post to Graham Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT**

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STATISTICS

We are inundated with data and numbers and statistics, so here are some more for your edification. You may say enjoyment?

This is about TEA TOWELS, in the Church Kitchen.

Out of some 60 or 65 tea towels in the cupboard, up to 45 are washed and ironed every 3 weeks or so.

Washing takes 90 minutes and ironing takes 70 minutes.

Tea Towels come from all over the world – from the Isle of Wight to Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Some are quite aged – the oldest from 1973 (The Lady); 1983 (Four Seasons); 1989 (Australia).

So “Bravo” and “Hurrah” you might say – BUT tea towels are still put in the bag folded. Even with a tea bag complete with staple included, which has disastrously contaminated further washing loads.

So you had better pass the word to all those who use our tea towels. Fix this problem so that it NEVER happens again this side of eternity.

A Nony Mouse.

Picture below: the Table Tennis Group at their ‘Jubilee Tea Party’





The Ark Animals

There's always something exciting going on at the Ark, the group for adults and toddlers. Each meeting is vaguely 'themed' and in January we had five sessions about farm animals. It was soon chicken day, and after we had coloured pictures of hens and chicks, Rosina Bayley came in with one of her chickens to meet the children. Most of the children loved it, but one was not quite so sure! We sang 'Chick, chick, chick, chick, chicken lay a little egg for me'. Rosina brought out an egg from her pocket, and we passed it round for everyone to see. Hardboiled? — Yes!

Other animals in the series were cows, pigs, sheep and horses, but no-one had one of these to bring in for a 'hands on' meeting. What a shame!

Hilary Redman

Plate Collection

I have been collecting plates for a very long time and I have them all over my house, in the kitchen, hallway, bedroom and downstairs loo - everywhere!





It all started when my late mother-in-law had a friend who was moving house, so she decided to downsize her possessions, so she gave me six plates which turned out that they had been made in 1820.

I have a selection of plates from Bradford Exchange, about three complete sets.

Quite a few of the plates including Wedgwood, and Royal Dolton, have come from charity shops, One of the most interesting plates I have is a "Millennium" plate depicting various events: Captain Cook, Trains, Bicycles, Light Bulbs, Telephone, First Flight and Space Travel. I now have a collection of about 170 plates.

Daphne Eames

The Invitation

Just after Easter an invitation came through the letterbox. It read "The Lord Chamberlain is commanded by Her Majesty to invite Mr Matthew and Mrs Wilhelmina Smith to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday, 22nd May 2012 from 4 to 6 pm. Yes, I was expecting it!

In early February I received a phone call at work one day to inform me that I had been selected out of 500+ staff to represent my company at one of the Royal Garden Parties this year. To say I was surprised would be an understatement; I knew nominees' names were going forward but never thought for one minute that mine would be amongst them and then to be selected, well I just couldn't believe it. Once I got over the shock I realised what an honour and a privilege it was to be selected.

So with my new outfit on and my very handsome husband in his 'National Dress' (kilt outfit) beside me we caught the 1 o'clock train up to Victoria on the appointed day. It was a beautiful day with the sun shining and a slight breeze; this was such a relief after all the wet weather we had previously had.

We queued with the other guests but it wasn't long before we were entering the palace gates, then through the palace out into the gardens. We stood at the top of the steps on the terrace before going down into the garden itself and took in the view. To the left all the tea tents were set up and to the front of us,

further away, the Royal and Dignitaries tea tents. There were also two bandstands, in opposite corners of the garden with military bands who took turn to play a selection of music throughout the afternoon. The Yeoman of the Guard, Gentlemen at Arms and Gentlemen Ushers were on duty.

The gardens were immaculate and beautiful and Matthew and I enjoyed our stroll through them. There were splashes of bright colours here and there with the Azaleas and the Rhododendrons, which were out in bloom. There was also a lovely lake, which different water birds habituated.

The refreshments themselves were everything you would have expected. Cold drinks; lemon and water served in glasses; you could return for more if you needed to, which was very welcome. Tea was served from long buffet tables and you had a choice of tea, iced coffee or apple juice to drink. Cucumber, salmon, egg and ham sandwich fingers and a selection of small tartlets both sweet and savoury; everything was delicious.

There are about 8,000 guests at each of the Royal Garden Parties. So the quantities served are enormous. At a typical garden party, around 27,000 cups of tea, 20,000 sandwiches and 20,000 slices of cake are consumed. Some 400 waiting staff are involved in the serving.

At 4 p.m. the Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by Prince Andrew, Princess Anne and the Duke and Duchess of Kent all came onto the terrace and stood at the top of the steps whilst the National Anthem was played.

After the playing of the National Anthem, The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh circulated among the guests through 'lanes' of people that are apparently peculiar to Royal garden parties. Each took a different route and random presentations were made so that everyone had an equal chance of speaking to Her Majesty or The Duke of Edinburgh. The Queen and the other members of the Royal Family eventually arrived at the Royal tea tent, where they met further guests.

We may not have been lucky enough to be presented to either the Queen or Prince Philip but we did have the opportunity of getting very close to them. At 90+ Prince Philip is still very much the gentleman with his top hat and tails and the Queen was beautiful, I would describe her as serene, dressed in a peach ensemble.

They both took time with each of the people presented to them and they seemed genuinely interested in what was being discussed. At about 6.00 pm, The Queen and the other members of the Royal Family left the garden, when the National Anthem was played to mark the end of the party.

I came away from Buckingham Palace having experienced something, which not many people get the opportunity to do, and with some lovely memories. I hope you have enjoyed reading about this special day. I am ordering a DVD of the occasion, if anyone wants to borrow it just let me know.

Wilma Smith





Sorry!

I've done it again! I have been playing my Martha role so much, saying that when I have caught up on the things that have to be looked after here, and all is just right, I'll get off to Crete and see my old friend Pantelis. You may remember the name from my series of articles on Crete. I last saw Pantelis in 2007. He was not well then and has had constant radium treatment for cancer that had started on his neck, but ignored until it was really too late for more than a delay of the inevitable.

Each year, each season, I thought I might get away and spend some time with him. I didn't. And now he's dead. My procrastination meant that the comforting meeting didn't happen. The odd short letter and card do not have the same meaning or effect. Well, it's too late now!

I am making a memorial photo album for his nephew and family of the happy times we have spent together – picking grapes, making wine; cooking sheep's head; gathering snails and boiling and eating them. Riding on his 'mikani' – his three wheeled, two-stroke tractor, the noisiest machine in the neighbourhood, was an experience that will never be forgotten!



The memories are good, but the regrets rankle and hurt.

I must make sure the same thing does not happen again with some friends and members of the family who are old or ill, or both.

They do say that the biggest regret in a person's life is usually not for what they have done, but for what they have *not* done – the missed opportunities of all kinds.

“You will not know what you can do until you know what you have done.” (‘The Bagman, or The Impromptu of Muswell Hill’ – John Arden.

Mary Connelly

Lent Study Course

Closing Worship

This article was printed in the order of service for the closing service of the Lent Course held in the English Martyrs' Church, on April 1st.

Wilfred Rhodes

'The Desert is Fertile' by Dom Helder Camera, Archbishop of Recife, Brazil

God's voice today.

We are told that Abraham and other patriarchs heard the voice of God. Can we also hear the Lord's call? Isn't it pretentious to say this? Dangerously presumptuous? We live in a world where millions of our fellow men live in inhuman conditions, practically in slavery. If we are not deaf we hear cries of the oppressed. Their cries are the voice of God.

We who live in rich countries where there are always pockets of under-development and wretchedness, hear if we want to hear, the unvoiced demands of those who

have no voice and no hope. The pleas of those who have no voice are the voice of God.

Anyone who has become aware of the injustices caused by the unfair division of wealth, must, if he has a heart, listen to the silent or violent protests of the poor. The protests of the poor are the voice of God. Are we so deaf that we do not hear a loving God warning us that humanity is in danger of committing suicide? Are we so selfish that we do not hear the just God demanding that we do all we can to stop injustice suffocating the world and driving it to war?

Are we so alienated that we can worship God at our ease in luxurious temples which are often empty in spite of all the liturgical pomp, and fail to see, hear and serve God where he is present and where he requires our presence, among mankind, the poor, the oppressed, the victims of injustices in which we ourselves are often involved? It is not difficult to hear God's call today in the world about us. It is difficult, however, to do more than offer an emotional response, sorrow and regret. It is even more difficult to give up our comfort, break with old habits, let ourselves be moved by grace and change our life, in other words to be converted. We must have no illusions. We must not be naive. If we listen to the voice of God, we make our choice, get out of ourselves and fight non-violently for a better world. We must not expect to find it easy; we shall not walk on roses, people will not throng to hear us and applaud, and we shall not always be aware of divine protection. If we are to be pilgrims for justice and peace, we must expect the desert.

The great and the powerful disappear, stop helping us and turn against us. They finance campaigns which become shrill

with lies the closer they feel the danger coming.

And what is worse, those who are not powerful also avoid us. They are frightened. At times, we feel we are speaking in a desert, as did all those who were active in the cause of justice before us. Injustice spreads and becomes worse. Only the stones listen. Or men with hearts of stone.

Our weariness spreads from the body to the soul, which is worse than any bodily exhaustion.

We feel the desert round us as far as our eyes can see. Soft sand which we sink in up to our knees. Blinding and burning sand storms, which hurt our face, get in our eyes and ears ... We reach the limit of endurance, desert all about us, desert within. We feel that the Father himself has abandoned us. 'Why hast thou forsaken me?

We must not trust in our own strength, we must not give way to bitterness, we must stay humble knowing that we are in the hands of God, we must want only to share in the making of a better world. Then we shall not lose our courage or our hope. We shall feel the invisible protection of God our Father.

'Festival of Light'

- our theme this year is 'God's created Light'.

This event will be held during the October half term week;

- **week commencing 29th October. Entry FREE**

Ice skating sessions -

Tuesday 30th October to Thursday 1st November : 10am - 5 pm

Friday 2nd November : 2pm - 7 pm

[£2 under 12's / £3 over 12's]

Disco Ice Skating session on Friday 2nd November : 7pm - 9pm

[£3.50 Disco Skate]

Other attractions include - Refreshments / Fair Trade Stall / Fair Trade Fashion Show / Children's Competitions

Put the dates in your diary now. Please get involved in the preparations or at the event itself. If you haven't already volunteered and you would like to, please speak to me.

Please pray for this event; for preparations over the next few months, and that we get all the help we need in order to fully benefit our community and chosen charity.

Please also pray that sponsorship will be forthcoming, to optimise the funds we will be able to pass on to our chosen charity this year, Worthing Churches Homeless Projects, and for their on-going work among the homeless in our community.

Wilma Smith [Co-ordinator]

THE DURRINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE CHURCH

In April we were privileged to be invited to the official opening and dedication service for the new Durrington Community Centre and Church.

Through the dedication and devotion of the late Rev. Ron Christopher, Associate Minister of our church, the first Community Centre was opened some 25 years ago. The church that was formed in that Centre was a Local Ecumenical Project (L.E.P.) between Methodist and U.R.C. denominations. Later the Baptists became involved.

The largest hall in the new Centre was full to capacity with representatives of all the users of the premises. Some of their leaders spoke about their activities, as did the Centre Manager and the Vice Chairman of D.U.C.C.A. (Durrington Community Centre Association.) The Rev Margaret Ashby conducted the service. She is presently minister in charge of the church and also present were past ministers and founder members.

Following the service was tea with a celebration cake and ribbon - cutting ceremony and the planting of an oak tree sapling grown from seed by a young local boy. We also had the opportunity to look around the whole of the Centre, and admire all the new facilities.

Wilf & Eileen Rhodes.



Bury Drive Street Party

Every picture tells a story and this was a story of celebration.
Monday afternoon 4th June, Bury Drive Street Party for EVERYONE!

- ◆ About 200 children and adults came.
- ◆ Everyone brought some food and a chair and it was great!
- ◆ Bouncy castle - Dancing in the street - a Royal Jubilee Quiz.
- ◆ Lots of flags and lots of talk.

Pictures contributed by Andrew Sellwood, Mike Bayley & Graham Redman





Spring Harvest

On March 31st a party of 10 (4 of us older ones and 6 Young people) set off for Minehead for Spring Harvest. As it was the first time I have been I was looking forward to seeing what it was all about. Unfortunately I had an accident on the first morning so for the rest of the time there I was not too well after that. However I enjoyed certain things that Spring Harvest organized that I attended.

I did like the evening celebrations. They were very good and the music was very good and uplifting. Space is of the essence here to tell too much but one evening was quite interesting. Where you could have gone away wondering what it was all about. The speaker explained in a clear way exactly what was happening and why. I left that evening feeling that truly God

was there in the midst of us and so I got a bit more out of further worship times there.

Now I have to report that Valerie had a late night one evening because Jonathon Vera was there and did a late night show that dear Valerie could not resist going to. Mind you had I been a bit better I probably would have gone with her. She told us she enjoyed it so I was pleased. Yes in about 5 or 6 years time I will go again.

I will be more aware of those steps and hopefully avoid another accident. That is if I wasn't too terrible. and they let me come with them again. Then I feel I will get the true benefit of Spring Harvest because it was well organized and a good rapport between the speakers leaving you feeling that they all get on well together.

I recommend it but be aware of the steps on the apartments.

Janet Dean

Brand New website for this Church

The Church's Website was written and put on the internet over 10 years ago, and in that time many things have changed and moved on, particularly in technology. I am pleased to say that during the last year or two Ryan Thomas has been busy redesigning the site and making full use of modern technology.

From what I have seen so far, I can certainly commend this to all who use the internet, it is not completely finished yet, but it is well on the way.

By the time you read this Chronicle it may well be available for you to see now on your computers: www.gurc.org.uk, so have a look at it and make full use of our website. Included on the pages are amongst other items will be: News, Church Diary, Service leaders, Chronicle, Hall hire etc....

Graham Redman

Weekday Activities

Messy Church	1st Monday Afternoon in month
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings
Games	Alternate Monday Afternoons

Publication Team :-

Proof Reading: Mrs Jane Bond and Mrs Denise Woods

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Susie Thomas

Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -
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Telephone 01903 260568

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

The Chronicle costs approximately 75p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Susie Thomas (address above). Thank you.

The CHRONICLE
www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

chronicle@gurc.org.uk





Goring United Reformed Church

Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. In May 2005 a Joint Pastorate was formed with St Andrew's United Reformed Church in Rustington, with whom we share Ministry.

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

Goring and St Andrew's are part of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

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

Goring URC is part of Churches Together For Worthing, and Christians Together in Goring, with whom we often join for worship. The other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, the New Life Baptist Church and Bury Drive Methodist Church.

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



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

Autumn 2012

Magazine not produced

The

CHRONICLE

Winter 2012/13

196 **Good Christ**
IN DULCI JUBILO Irregular
Capo 3(D) F (D)
Good Christ

35 **Angels from the realms of glory**
Iris 87 87 with refrain
Words: J Montgomery (1771-1854)
in this version Jubilate Hymns
Music: French carol melody

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight through all the earth;
heralds of creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth!
Come and
worship Christ, the new-born King;

Words: © in this version Jubilate Hymns



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

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

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

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

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

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

Mid-week

10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 69 - No. 632 Winter 2012/13

Front Cover - Christmas Carols

Articles for The CHRONICLE

Closing date for the Spring CHRONICLE magazine is the 1 February 2013

A note from the Editor - Are you artistic with a paintbrush, pencil or camera? Any age. Would you like to produce an illustration for the front cover of the magazine? If yes, then the editor will be pleased to hear from you.



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Advent - a time of preparation

In so many activities we humans may become involved with it is the preparation that is so important. We have recently heard about athletes training for years preparing to compete in the Olympic Games; it's no good turning up on a whim and deciding to run the hundred meters. Actors have to learn their lines before the curtain rises on them, or they will be lost for words. Gardeners need to prepare the soil to grow vegetables or those show winning blooms. Cooking again requires advanced preparation for creating that memorable gourmet banquet. Another example is decorating, my dad used to say 80% prep and 20% finishing was his theory for painting a door. You have to spend time stripping off the old paint if you're doing it properly you have to get right back to the wood. For this you might use heat gun or chemicals to loosen the old paint, then a scraper. Once the paint is off you then start sanding, filling sanding again, primer, under coat only then when it is as clean and smooth as possible a

couple of top coats can be applied. Mind you don't get any runs or hairs in the paint or its start again time. In our house there are about ten doors that need painting ... Any offers?

After this description you might consider going to the DIY store and buying a new ready painted door.

In our walk of faith we need to be prepared for the journey. In this area of our life perhaps we need more preparation than when painting a door. In the light of Christ we see what we are really like and are required to strip away all the tarnished and damaged bits of our lives. Our priming comes through reading the word, worship and prayer. Advent is a good time to reconsider this aspect of preparation of our lives. Scripture frequently tells us to be prepared for the coming of the Lord.

We sometimes forget that the Liturgical or Church Year begins with the first Sunday of Advent not the 1st of January.

From the Minister's Study

Advent is a time of joyful anticipation of the Incarnation of Christ, God's love made visible. "Advent" is a Latin word [*adventus*] meaning "coming." During Advent, Christians prepare in a threefold way for the coming of the Lord into the world through the birth of God's Son, Jesus Christ, and for his final coming at the end of time. So we consider these three elements:

1. The first advent, the birth of Jesus.
2. The re-birth of Jesus in our own lives.
3. The Second Advent, the final coming of Jesus Christ.

The Advent — Christmas — Epiphany season that we celebrate as Christians is not just an observance of events that happened long ago. It is not a sentimental birthday of the "baby Jesus." Nor is the season exclusively future oriented, watching and waiting for the coming of the exalted Christ at the end of time. The season is a celebration of God's self-disclosure in Jesus Christ, the eternal Emmanuel — God who was with the people in the past and who is with us now and for all time to come.

No one knows the actual date on which the infant Jesus was born. The date on which the Church observes his birth is more symbolic value than anything, coming five days after the winter solstice.

Thus we celebrate the Word become flesh, coming to dwell among us as the light of the human race, just after the darkest point of the solar year.

And so Christmas is a holy day second only to Easter in the Reformed calendar. Advent takes its meaning from Christ's passion, death, resurrection, ascension, and sending of the Spirit. For three hundred years or more the church celebrated no other aspect of Christ's life and ministry than the Easter account.

Therefore our Christmas celebration has taken much of its meaning from the Easter story. The crib, the rejection, the Wise men's gifts, the cross, and the crown are closely connected.

Advent is a time of joyful anticipation of the realization of God's promise. It is a grace-filled season of new hope, new life, and new love. There is a sense of urgency in Advent that wakes us up from our complacency. Advent should challenge us to prepare ourselves and our world for the full coming of the kingdom of peace and justice. We have been granted so many amazing gifts to be used in the service of the Lord.

Unfortunately as is human nature some people are stingy in sharing them.

From the Minister's Study

If we are not careful we become like sponges soaking up all that is given and keeping it safe for ourselves. The gift becomes stale tarnished and useless. Perhaps we need to re-learn how to be open hearted in order to receive God's many blessings and to respond by giving of ourselves.

As we prepare to exchange gifts with our loved ones, we must also prepare ourselves for the true gift of God's love. Do we accept God's gift with gratitude? Do we proclaim the good news to others?

Are we becoming more ADVENTurous by being more joyful, hopeful, faithful lovers of ourselves, God, and others. Are we watching and preparing for Christ's coming now and at the end of time?

The preface for Advent reminds us to "Watch for the day" so that our hearts may be "filled with wonder and praise" when the Lord comes. Christ's coming will only be recognized by those who are alert to his appearance every day. May this season of Emmanuel fill you with the Lord's abiding presence.

Andrew Sellwood



Photo of the Olympic Prayer Day at Goring URC - taken by Rosina Bayley

The Local Church here in Goring



The Dean Library

At the November 2011 Church meeting, members heard that the late Geoffrey and Glen Dean had given books to the church, to be made available for members and friends to borrow. It was agreed to call the collection 'The Dean Library'.

The Property Management Group provided some shelves in the east transept, in readiness for the sorted and catalogued books.

Today there are almost 500 books on the shelves, given by the Dean family and several others who have now added to the collection.

They are ready for reading !

If you would like to browse the shelves and borrow books, then please feel free to do so. They are labelled and shelved alphabetically by author, starting on the left hand side of the transept.

There is a **Loans and Returns Book** :

Please record the date, the author and title of the book which you would like to borrow, then add your name and 'phone number, before you take the book away. Please tick the box on the right of the page when you bring the book back, and replace it on the shelf. If you have any comments or recommendations to offer on the book you have borrowed, please write them in the book.



Look out for a **Catalogue** soon to be available, which will make choosing books easier.

If you have books suitable to add to the collection please put them on the trolley in the library for sorting and cataloguing.

Enjoy! *Hilary Redman*

The Local Church here in Goring

Christmas

at

Goring United Reformed Church

- 9th 10.30am Bible and Gift Sunday. Refreshments.
3.00pm Holy Communion. Afternoon Tea.
- 16th 10.30am Traditional Carol Service. 3rd Sunday in Advent
- Refreshments afterwards
- 16th 6.30pm Candle-light Carol Service including a
Guinness World Record Breaking Carol Singing attempt.
- Refreshments including Mince Pies.
- 23rd 10.30am 4th Sunday in Advent. Rev Andrew Sellwood.
- Tea, Coffee and Biscuits.
- 24th 5.30pm Nativity for children and the young at heart.
- Mince pies and other refreshments afterwards.
- 25th 10.30am Christmas Day Celebration. Mrs Hilary Redman and the Elders
[Finishing no later than 11.15am]
- 30th 10.30am Morning Worship Rev Andrew Sellwood.
The Sixth Day of Christmas.
6th January 10.30am Epiphany Sunday.



Happy New Year !



Sunday 16th December 2012

Service
Begins: **6.30pm**

Record attempt starts
at 7.00pm sharp

Venue: **Goring United Reformed Church**

Come and join our special service as we team up with churches across the nation and Premier Christian Radio to attempt to break the **World Record for The Largest Number of Carol Singers Across Multiple Locations.**

To attempt the record we'll be singing 15 minutes of some of our favourite carols. So come with your friends and family to join in the fun!

Premier
CHRISTIAN RADIO

FIND OUT MORE AT WWW.PREMIER.ORG.UK/WORLDRECORD

The Local Church here in Goring

Tuesday Fellowship

The following article was one of the very few articles written for the Autumn Chronicle. As no magazine was produced then it is being published now in the Winter edition.

We had a visit from Rev. James Bamber to talk to us about food and faith. He started off by telling us about his Grandmother who was a genuine and quiet Christian lady who James thought the world of and who got him interested in food and the Christian faith. Because she was such a devout Christian he came to faith in Christ himself.

We were shown lists of different foods such as herbs and some fishes which are brain foods. Snooze food are things like Horlicks, milk, lettuce turkey and bananas. Wake up food are things like

rice, meat, cheese, beetroot, and cinnamon. Peace food are things like rice, mint, chicken, liver, nutmeg, herbs, oats and wholemeal. Next he spoke about how to be a good host or hostess by being warm and welcoming. He gave an example where he went to two different events. One event he felt welcome and another he felt not so welcoming. Next up we had our A.G.M.

I still report for the group which I enjoy doing. Then after that we had a couple of poems read by Peggy and Carole. After that when we had our cup of tea we had a delicious colourful cake that Maureen had made. I enjoyed that.

Next we had a very interesting visit from Nick who is a Street Pastor in Worthing. He told us that the Street Pastors are usually 60 plus.

Articles for The CHRONICLE - Spring edition

You can submit articles to the editor for inclusion in the Chronicle by any of the following ways —

E-Mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk

or by post to Graham Redman, 5 Salvington Hill,
Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

The last day for the Spring Chronicle is 1 February 2013

The Chronicle is also on line at www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

The Local Church here in Goring

There is usually a team of 29.

Some act as prayer partners who stay behind at the church while the teams go out and they can be contacted at all times to pray for anything that crops up. Their main job is to help damaged people and protect vulnerable people out on their own. They are very good at spotting potential trouble before it starts and often can stop trouble before it starts in a caring way. One example is if they see a girl walking on her own and there are a group who may hurt her they think ahead and two Street Pastors will befriend the girl and walk with her and two will go with the boys and they will walk the boys in the opposite direction. Now the interesting uniform is mainly the big jacket. In the said jacket there are lots of pockets which hold lots of interesting things. Water bottles, thermal blankets, flip flops. If some girls walk on these stilt type shoes and they are drunk they stagger more in the stilettos and throw them off, so they are walking about in bare feet, the Street pastors give them flip flops to wear home. Now one item amused me - Nick produced a lollypop. If they think 2 lads are squaring up to one another ready for a fight then they get given a lollypop and it works, the fight doesn't start. I would want more than a silly little hard boiled ball on a stick, - I would want my favourite chocolate bar (yes I am fussy about chocolate and sweets).

The rest of the uniform contains a polo shirt, hat, fleece and a denim shirt and a bag containing a first aid kit and information cards. They are trained by Police, and Social Services. All in all an interesting afternoon, and they do a fantastic job. The mind boggles as to what people are doing out at 4 o'clock in the morning when I am usually fast asleep at that time. It is surprising what goes on in Worthing at night really and this was an eye opener.

Now the last afternoon of this session was spent at Bobby's house again for her annual Garden party. Unfortunately we had to have it in Bobby's dining room as the weather was not as kind to her as it usually is. However it was a nice afternoon. It was good. We had a couple of quizzes. One Bobby took from the Diamond Jubilee Street party at Bury Drive so had questions about the royal family. Then the next one that we did while having a cup of tea was organized by Doreen who had traced a map of England and marked some prominent towns and cities and we had to guess the town and match them to the corresponding numbers beside the red dots on the map. That was interesting and she put a lot of work into it. Well that's it but we must congratulate Gwen on her 90th Birthday on the 16th June. In a way we celebrated her Birthday with her. That was nice.

Janet Dean

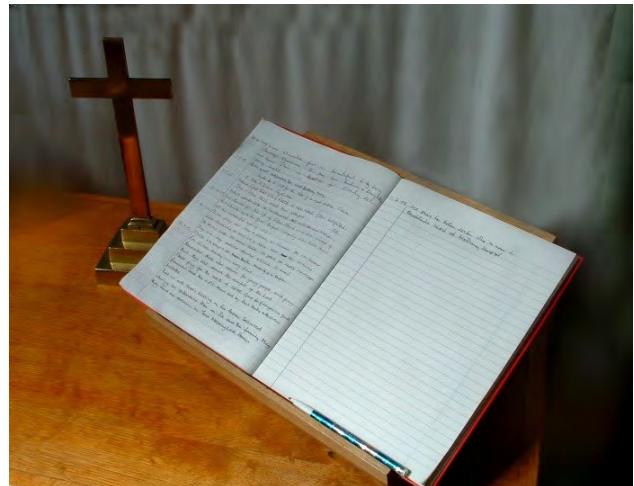
Pastoral Care & Resources at Goring URC

There are many ways in which we can show our love for one another, and here at Goring URC we have several resources which can help:-

We can pray: How do I know who needs my prayers?

The Prayer Book

Please make use of the **prayer book** in the little chapel, situated just to the left of the pulpit. In this place of quietness take time to read and record prayers of thanksgiving and prayers of intercession. You are welcome to share joys and sorrows in prayer through the means of this little book.



Pastoral Elders and visitors

Something on your mind? **The Minister** or a **pastoral elder** will hear you in confidence, and will pray with you and/or for you. If you are unable to get to church please ask for a visit. The names of the pastoral elders are listed in the church handbook. If you would like one of these please speak to Graham Redman

The Local Church here in Goring



We can take part in the ministry of flowers: How?

The flowers that have been part of our worship on Sunday are taken out with greetings from church friends to those who were unable to join us. They are often taken to sick friends or those with something special to celebrate.

Would you like to **pay for the flowers** some times, either as a gift, or as a memorial or thanksgiving?

- * Maybe you could **arrange the flowers** for Sunday worship?
 - Please let Carol Webber know.
- * Would you be able to **distribute flowers** occasionally?
 - Please let me know.

We can visit those who are stuck indoors:

Perhaps you are available to visit people who are unable to get out, to have a little chat, do a little shopping, offer a lift in your car. Please let me know.

The Book of Remembrance

The Book of Remembrance is in the Little Chapel. If you would like the name of a loved one recorded here, please let me have the details — name and date of death is sufficient.

If you would like help through pastoral care, or have a gift to offer in the care of others, then please speak with me as soon as possible.



Hilary Redman, Pastoral Secretary.

How well do we know the Christmas Story ?

In which books in the Old Testament were these prophecies written?

1. The Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.
2. "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.

Taken from Matthew's Gospel Chapter 1. v18

3. Who was Jesus' mother?
4. How was Mary going to have a baby? - she wasn't married.
5. Who said , "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary to be your wife."
6. What did Joseph do when he woke up from a dream?
7. In which town was Jesus born?
8. Who was king at the time?
9. What did the kings see to guide them to Bethlehem?

From Mark's Gospel Chapter 1. v7...

10. John the Baptist announced to the people, I will baptize you with water but He [Jesus] will baptize you with What?

From Luke's Gospel Chapter 1. v26.... 1. Isaiah 7: 14

11. In the 6th month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, to which town in Galilee did God send the angel Gabriel?
12. The shepherds hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in a What?
13. What did the shepherds do after they had seen the baby,?
14. What did the law of the Lord require for every first born male child?
15. Why did Mary lay her baby in a manger?

Answers

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Isaiah 7: 14 | 5. Angel of the Lord | 9. Star in the East | 13. Went off singing praises to God. |
| 2. Micah 5: 2 | 6. He married Mary | 10. The Holy Spirit | 14. To be Dedicated. |
| 3. Mary | 7. Bethlehem | 11. Nazareth | 15. There was no room in the Inn. |
| 4. By the Holy Spirit | 8. King Herod | 12. In a Manger | |

Property Management

If you own and are responsible for a building, you will know that there is always something to be done! This church building is no exception.

There was no Autumn cleaning day as such this year, a number of jobs, were undertaken during October, some large jobs, some small by various people, and we thank them for their time and hard work. One of the larger jobs was the complete decoration of the Harris Room, including laying a new carpet, cleaning of the curtains, and bringing in the blue upholstered chairs.

In the Sanctuary, all of the damaged and worn plywood chairs have been removed from the church and are in the process of being disposed of. We are very grateful to those people who helped with the clearing of the Sanctuary and the taking of the old chairs to the Corporation tip. All this in preparation for our third Festival of Light and before the introduction of our new upholstered chairs. The best of the old chairs have been saved, repaired, treated and stained, and some are stored away as reserved seating. Whilst the skating rink was in situ, it gave us the opportunity of looking at our floor in detail and deciding what to do with it - after all it has been down since the Church opened in 1961, and to our knowledge had not been treated at all in that time. It was decided to have contractors in to clean and polish the Granwood flooring tiles — for just a few

hundred pounds. The alternative, a very dusty sanding and polishing which would have cost the Church about £7000 - £10000, not really an option!

The upholstered chairs which were ordered back in the summer were delivered on Friday 16 November. We hope that you will be pleased with this recent purchase, which should enable us all to worship more freely without constantly thinking about our backs and our comfort.

The Main Hall and kitchen floors are to be professionally cleaned and polished.

As you may remember from the results of our survey 12 months ago, we have plenty of other planned items for the future. The Quinquennial Surveys suggest that the brick courses on the south and west elevations need some repointing - we would like the Sanctuary walls insulated [the rest of the building's walls were insulated a few years ago]. Other items include a new central heating system, some double glazing and maybe a blind or two.

All very much though depends on our resources. The Property and Finance Groups will be discussing these plans shortly with a hope of bringing a suggestion to a Spring Church Meeting.

Graham Redman
Property Management Group



'Festival of Light'

- our theme for this year was 'God's created Light'.

This event was held during the October half term week;

- **week commencing 29th October. Entry was FREE**

We had our Ice skating sessions -

Tuesday to Thursday 10am - 5 pm

- and on Friday 2pm - 9 pm [including some Disco Ice Skating]

Other attractions included - Refreshments, Worthing Tabernacle Fair Trade Stall, an El Shaddai Stall, a Fashion Show, Face Painting and Competitions.

Our event coordinator for this, our third Festival year was

Wilma Smith. Mary Redman had organised the first two years.

Well done Wilma and all of your helpers who made this year another great success.

You only had to look on our visitors faces and to hear their comments to know that this was a great success —

'we are coming again next year' we often heard said.

The Editor has been asked to give a special thank you to those helpers who took time off from their work to be part of the team.

We will have to see where we are called and what else we can do for our community.....

Some comments and photographs of **THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHT** can be seen on the following pages.

The Church and the Community

We really enjoyed the ice skating but we kept falling over, it was difficult to get up because we were always laughing.

We brought friends with us who also loved the skating and we hope the skating rink comes back again.

Anya and Mia Kovacs



What I liked most about the Festival of Light was seeing so many new people come into the church with expectation on their faces. It was obvious they were all having lots of fun and wonderful to see families together enjoying themselves. When they thought the experience was over they seemed genuinely pleased and amazed when the free "goody bags" were handed out at the end - an excellent souvenir!

I shall remember one mother's comment when she said to me at the end of her family's visit "Thank you all so much for an outing that didn't mention Halloween once". *Susanna Gauntlett*

— It was fun —

Fun for the skaters, of all ages - I was impressed how a youngster could take a fall with no trouble (I wish I could do that!).

It was fun for the grownups who looked on and chatted to one another.

It was fun for the 'staff' who were there to welcome and encourage.

I spoke to so many people, mostly 'strangers'. It was great to see so many coming through our Church door. Yes - it was fun for us all. *Bill Marshall*



My memories of the Festival of Light or 'How did you spend your half-term holiday?'

Putting on peoples skates
 Emptying bins in the toilets
 Chatting to people from other Churches
 Putting on peoples skates
 Replacing toilet rolls
 Chatting to people from our Church
 Putting on peoples skates
 Taking photos of the fashion show
 Chatting to the young men from Ice Magic
 Handing out plasters for blisters
 Putting on peoples skates
 Chatting to families I recognise
 Putting on peoples skates
 Taking photos of skaters enjoying themselves
 Chatting to people I didn't know
 Putting on peoples skates
 Me "Shall I help you?"
 Visitor "Yes please, you've obviously done this lots of times."
 Me "Yes, I'm becoming quite an expert."
 Visitor "Isn't that the wrong foot?"

Oops! More practice needed! Maybe next year? *Val Gill*



The Church and the Community



Any one for skating?

Yes, anyone : in they all came, one after another.

A special delight and inspiration were the faces of the children on holiday with 'CCHF All About Kids' . At the branch of this charity in Hassocks staff had "Googled" 'Skating Sussex' and found us!

The children are all under privileged and from inner city London, they had never done any skating, many of them had never seen the sea, nor had they been in a church before.

The Leaders were thrilled with the hospitality of 'the people in yellow tee shirts' It was wonderful to be a part of it.

Two ladies from SCOPE were brought to 'skate' in the skater's chair. One of them laughed so much as she was pushed round that the tears just rolled down her face.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these." [Matthew 19 v 14 NIV]



Hilary Redman



From *the* Minister's Study



The Church and the Community

Car parking attendants - a cold, sometimes wet and lonely job.

However we are the first contact many of our visitors have with us and a cheery, smiling welcome is a good start to their time on the ice rink.

Catering assistant - a great spirit of teamwork in the kitchen/hall to enable our guests of all ages to relax with their refreshments and chat, laugh and share their experience of visiting us. The 'buzz' generated from around the tables was exhilarating and rewarding whether it was the group of youngsters from London, local families and friends meeting up, or the group of wheelchair visitors, everyone enjoying one another's company and friendship from both sides of the serving hatch.

Alan & Alison Westcott

Weren't they wonderful! Is the comment one of our visitors made about the models in this years fashion show.

They were indeed wonderful. This year in support of the Worthing Churches Homeless Projects we showcased clothes from their charity shops. In this way were able to add over £140 to our total.

Also promoting the idea of recycling our clothes; thereby caring for our beautiful world.



Caroline Hibbs

Fun. Friendship. Food. Fashion. Fund raising. — FANTASTIC.

What a wonderful event this was and what a wonderful way to reach out to the community. Congratulations to everyone who helped organise the Festival of Light and thank you for helping me raise an extra £272 to help homeless and disadvantaged children in India.

Well done. Jane Lee

The Church and the Community



Fantastic We would just like to say that the ice rink was yet again fantastic and it was nice to see so many happy faces and new people who now have attended at The Ark and Messy Church.

The staff from the Ice Rink were fantastic with both children and disabled members to enable them to have a great time on the ice.

We thought that the variety of food and refreshments that the church provided for this event seem to go down well with all the parents, carers and children who were welcomed into the church to enjoy a great time out.

It was great to see the unprivileged children enjoying themselves without having to worry about problems at home.

We both think that it would be a great shame not to do the ice rink next year, as the church provided all children, carers and parents a great time out together and a lot of them were asking about it next year and will invite their friends. It was nice to be able to invite new people into our church family. *Donna Standing and Stuart Newell*

... and some - well - they just sleep through it all and let others do the work !!



The Church and the Community

Chloe Redman's school class were asked to illustrate their activities during half term week, and this is what Chloe drew.

Obviously, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday were the days we were holding our Festival of Light and Skating.



Very many thanks to those of you who have written during the last months or so about their interests, hobbies and holidays etc. If you have something that you would like to write about, even if you have written before, please let me know, I shall be pleased to hear from you and maybe put it in *The Chronicle*. Editor

30 Years of KESTRO



It is difficult for me to gauge, as a relative interloper of a dozen years, whether or not all or any of the people who will read this magazine, know anything or everything, about KESTRO.

Since becoming an 'elder' of the church I have heard the word 'outreach' bandied about with increasing frequency. It is my view that we do, as a small group of people, a tremendous amount of 'outreach' and 'KESTRO' is one of the examples.

1982 was the year that a small group of people, most of whom probably had nursing experience and a number of whom were members of Goring U.R.C. got together with the intention of forming a Stroke Club under the leadership of Robin Bradley, with assistance from Margaret Briggs, Sylvia Batchelor & Joan Stay.

Having banded together, they held their first meeting in Red Cross premises in Shelley Road. I do not know if the natives closer to home were hostile or otherwise. However, it was later decided as numbers increased, that they should move to the hall at this Church with Rev William Connelly as the chairman, and on Friday afternoons between 2 pm. and 4 pm. KESTRO meetings have been held ever since.

Each meeting starts with the gathering of members and being held to ransom by any one of three people demanding money - membership or transport or a ticket for the raffle - to keep the ship afloat.

Next, it's exercises, Ugh!. Everything is voluntary, just do not let Peggy catch you slacking! The objective is to help those bits that do work to keep moving, and those bits that do not work so well to encourage some regeneration.

The Church and the Community

Next is tea, with biscuits and/or cake, followed by any announcements, news of those unable to be with us for the afternoon, forthcoming attractions, news from the Stroke Association etc etc. We then have 45 minutes of either games or a speaker. During the course of these weekly meetings, friendships are made which are of the long term firm friendship variety.

The astute amongst you readers will have realised that 30 years have passed since Robin and her merry band kicked off the KESTRO bandwagon so our committee decided to have a celebratory get together. The 22nd. June was decided upon. The Mayor and Mayoress of Worthing were invited. Sue Sycamore was invited to do the catering and we dug up as many names from past registers etc., as we could. On the day 66 members, former members, former helpers and friends sat down to a two course lunch, with coffee to follow. The hall had been sublimely decorated with banners, balloons and bunting, not to mention beautiful flowers. The tables, neatly laid, made the church hall a banqueting hall!

After I had welcomed one and all, said a few words and thanked the caterers, we were entertained by Mac - Karioke with a 1940/50/60 flavour.

The Mayor knew all the words as did his lady wife. Signs of a mispent youth ?? My lovely lady wife, Maureen, has a talented sister, Margaret, who agreed to make and ice a cake for the occasion, decorated with the blue KESTRO logo in the form of a circle. It looked wonderful - even after our guests of honour had stuck a knife into it. The cake was sliced for everyone to have some.

Then it was 4 o'clock.

Our guests appeared to enjoy themselves and made every effort to circulate as many of the assembled company as possible. The subsequent letter I received was most complimentary and indicated how much they had enjoyed the afternoon. Others have followed suit.

It was a great day, none of which would have happened without a deal of hard work by Peggy, Carol, Maureen, and Carole Culiss who are the backbone of our committee.

Carole is our stalwart transport organiser which week by week is a very taxing task. Maureen looks after our finances. Carol arranges our varied weekly programme.

They all give a good deal of time and effort into making the club tick. Without Steve Webber we would not have a KESTRO website, and I rely on him to get me out of computer holes I fall into from time to time.

The Church and the Community



I guarantee only two things to members and prospective members: - a) a warm welcome and b) a cup of tea.

For b) I rely on Jane Bond, Denise Woods, Joan Jenkin and recently Shirley Meggs.

I have been able to keep my guarantee intact.

Our minibus drivers Steve, John, Matthew and Chris help bring the members to the club as do our Chairman Jim, George, John, Jill, Jim and Ray.



Jim and Grace Hope deserve a special mention here as Grace is a pillar of strength to Maureen when she is struggling with the figures in the columns, and Jim who picks up and ferries as well as grappling with the erection and dismantling of tables.

From *the* Minister's Study

And where would we be without our name badges!!!

Our birthday secretary is Tania, who ensures each member gets a birthday card, and if they are lucky??? they have 'Happy Birthday' sung to them.

Peggy has been the stalwart who introduced fun with sponge balls into the exercise routines, but our two regulars have been Sonia and Gill who have provided regular entertainment. Thank you ladies and Eileen who was on our list until her shoulder operation.

Last, but by no means least on this list is Sarah. She is our student from Worthing College who comes as often as her timetable permits. She is my electrical advisor, helps run the raffle and general run around for me. She, like the three previous students, Ellen, Joe & Alice we have had, has been marvellous.

If I have forgotten anyone, please forgive me.

Dear reader, you will, I hope, see that KESTRO is in good shape.

Sadly, membership is increasing. That means more people are having strokes. What it also means is, there is somewhere to go to find friendship, a

warm welcome and a cup of tea! AND it started with a great deal of assistance from Goring United Reformed Church Membership, and is still, very much, supported by that membership. I, in no way, wish to categorize the club with a religious label associated with one denomination as I do not wish to deter any one, irrespective of their colour, creed or social background from wanting to join us.

If you would like to, come and join us on a Friday afternoon between 2.p.m. and 4pm, see what a lively bunch is there.

The worst that can happen is that you get dragooned into doing the exercises but you will still get a cup of tea and a warm welcome.

Vic Joy

Footnote: The club would not be as flourishing as it is today without the hard work and enthusiasm of Vic - to whom many thanks are due.

Author unknown

OUR DAY AT MESSY CHURCH

— by Valerie Cooper

Way back in the June I was asked by Nick White, synod Children's and Youth Development Officer to give GURC's experience of Messy Church at a training day entitled "Making Waves", in Crawley on Saturday 8th September.



The minister, Andrew, left with Nick White, on the right, Synod Children's and Youth Development Officer visits Messy Church

The Church and the Community

So I thought I should share some of our experiences with you, but not the same as I shared in Crawley, as you are welcome to come and experience Messy Church at GURC for yourselves.

Each Messy Church session begins almost as soon as the previous one finishes and Bett Swierk and I meet to discuss the crafts for the theme of the session, Susanna is then emailed and provides an informative newsletter which is given to every family that comes.

The themes have been worked at the beginning of the year for the ten sessions that take place over the year. Messy Church meets on the first Monday of the month except in August and when there is a Bank Holiday.

On the day of Messy Church Bett and I meet between 9:30 and 10 in the morning, this took Ray by surprise when he was decorating the Harris Room, "What are you doing here, you don't start till 2 o'clock!"

Preparing the meal is the first thing we do, it is very important in this day and age to give parents the opportunity to sit down and eat with their children in a relaxed atmosphere; this is something that rarely seems to happen now as everyone is so busy.

Once the pots are bubbling we usually get out the tables, clean them down, they are always dirty, and start to lay out the crafts. I do any photo copying that's needs to be done, especially the newsletter, if you look on the Messy Church display board at the back of the church you will see one. In the middle of all this we have a cup of coffee and at around 1pm we

have a sandwich, the team begin arriving at 2:30, setting up the Cornwall Room with games to share, hot and cold drinks and fruit to eat, chill out time after school. Just before the doors open at 3:30 we gather for prayer and ask God to bless us and our visitors. They start to trickle in and continue to arrive right up until almost 5pm.

Susanna welcomes everyone as they arrive and the children fill in a name sticker, so we know who they are. All the team generally wear a name sticker so everyone knows who we are! Janet and Barbara offer drinks and fruit and games are played or they just chat.

Just before 4 o'clock they are asked to pack up the games and the double doors

The Church and the Community



to the hall are open, the rest of the team brace themselves and the craft begins. Sometimes, if not every time, the noise is phenomenal and there is a good buzz around with laughter and chatter. Some crafts are more popular than others and it can be difficult to talk to the visitors about the theme when 6 or so children are trying to find out what they are supposed to be doing. The most popular crafts are those that involve food!

Very often we have a craft that becomes part of the meal, something savoury for the first course but more often something for pudding!

After 50mins of crafts, most of the children have tried most things and have a bag of "experiences" to take home with them, the 10 minute warning is given to begin to finish up, it is given again five minutes later and at 5 o'clock we line up and go back into the Cornwall Room for worship. You may ask why the Cornwall Room, but experience has taught us that the Church space is too big and there are too many tempting things to climb on!

The Church and the Community

While the craft is going on some of the team are beavering away in the kitchen, putting finishing touches to the meal, wrapping up knives and forks in serviettes, filling jugs with water and putting out the beakers, all the cutlery, beakers and plates have to be counted to make sure there are enough for everyone. Frequent headcounts are taken and the number varies every time the register is checked and I'm sure that more people sit down to eat than sign up for dinner! I think we average about 50 to eat most months, but not everyone stays for the meal, so more are coming to Messy Church than we always realise. Once some of the team and the visitors have gone into the Cornwall Room, the hall is prepared for the meal, the tables are cleared and cleaned, chairs put round, the serving tables put up and the food put out; all this in about 15mins! From this you may note that the worship takes about 15 minutes, with birthday wishes, a Bible story told in various ways, a song, which Mary usually has prepared. However, recently we have used songs and great graphics from a DVD or Utube; a prayer and our Messy Church grace before the meal. If things are taking a little longer in the hall, we may have to sing the song again or on occasion we have a "J.E.S.U.S." shout.

The meal is also an amazing time, generally with enough food for those who want it to have seconds and its then that we notice that a few Dads have slipped in and sat down to eat with the rest of the family. That is something I think is great, that family members feel comfortable enough to join us even for a short time.

At about 6pm the visitors begin to drift away, but it takes time to gather belongings and children, to coat them or strap them into a buggy because someone nearly always runs off!

The tables are cleared and cleaned again before being put away, the hall floor is swept, the dish washer is put to good use and everything is cleared away leaving it ready for tomorrow. Once the rest of the team have made their weary way home Bett and I sit down for a very welcome cup of tea before putting away the craft bits and pieces, finishing up in the kitchen and washing out the dish washer, leaving between 7:30 and 8pm.

And that is our day at Messy Church!

Please remember to pray for Messy Church and should any of our families arrive on a Sunday morning, show them the love of God and pray that they will find room for Jesus in their hearts.

Valerie Cooper

PICTURES OF MUMBAI

Patiently waiting, behind passengers, expectant
crew disembark to meet their families.

We share taxi to view sights -

Victorian Gothic buildings and banyan
trees hung with washing.

A harnessed cow stands waiting.

Young men walk by listening to mobile
phones and perched high under blue
plastic sheeting, piles of books
miraculously stacked horizontally.



Schoolchildren with plaits and brown uniforms obediently sit in park eating lunch,
chaperoned by teachers in bright orange and green saris.

The Local Church here in Goring - Members' Interests

A horse drawn carriage waits for custom, decorated with plastic flowers. White capped men sit on walls and talk. In his shop van a man weighs vegetables.

The barber cuts a man's hair on a chair in the street and resigned sewing machinist repairs tourist's garment for a pittance.



Offerings to the gods remain on little plates in the street.
 We snack on biscuits and water
 and on the bridge above the open laundry Indian women
 offer their beads and bags for just a dollar or two;
 and with them on that bridge we exchange a communion of smiles.

Marianne Barber

The Living of Lives, the Naming of Names

Back in the summer, I had the chance to go to see my aunt near Alton; I dithered a bit about going, as there were so many jobs to be done, particularly in the garden, as I needed to make the most of a day or two of rare dry weather during the prolonged rainy spell. However, my friend persisted and said, "You don't want to regret not going, remember!" So I decided that I had to take my own advice and not let opportunities pass when I could go and see someone before it was too late.

So I went to see my Aunt Flor, then aged 96, the last surviving child of a family of 14. She had looked frailer than before when I saw her at the family reunion in Cornwall last year, though bright and cheerful enough and actively going around the hall to speak to nieces

and nephews, their children and their children's children. Aunt Flor and dog. "Lunch is nearly ready, only



Her sight had been failing progressively for several years and she could not read and found it difficult to see things on television. Apparently she had suffered two strokes in the last year or two. So, yes, it was time to go and see her, poor old thing!

We arrived, rang the doorbell and were met by

the potatoes to be mashed. Come and have a drink first, then you can bring everything to the dining room." She had prepared a beef casserole with several vegetables to accompany it, followed by a good rice pudding and raspberries and strawberries. "Coffee or tea?"

The Local Church here in Goring - Members' Interests

We sat around talking for a while and then she said, "You had better come and see the garden". We went out through the back porch with its pots of flowers and outside there was an old chest freezer with herbs and vegetables growing in it.

Down the steps and into the garden and immediately in front of us there were hanging baskets, pots and other containers containing flowers of all kinds, a long wide flower bed, a sweet pea row and then a greenhouse of such a size it would not have disgraced a market gardener. It was full of dozens – hundreds (?) of plants in pots, none of them small and all of them healthy. "Would you like one of these and this and this?" Having recently determined I was going to reduce the number of plants I had to look after, I was lucky to get away with only bringing home six pots!



My mother, Lily, was one of the 14 children in the family; Flor was one of the younger ones. 12 grew to maturity and all were taught not to be idle. They had to help to look after the younger ones and earn their keep by helping in the garden or on the farm, learn a trade, or go out into service. Most of the girls showed a talent for gardening, Grandma having shown them how to do it. All made family-supporting gardens after they were married and after they retired.

The Local Church here in Goring - Members' Interests

Mother, with a little occasional help from father, kept a big vegetable garden at the back of the house; she grew almost everything we needed for our family of six. Over the years, until their deaths, we had Great Aunt Mary and my paternal Grandma Martha living with us. At the front was a big lawn and several flower beds. She developed cancer of the pancreas and went to the Royal Marsden for chemotherapy. She came home; the cancer was in remission. I have a photo of her out in the garden using a long handled Cornish shovel to dig a trench for her runner beans!

She had a couple of years growing things before the day came when my sister told me that she hadn't even watered the plants in the porch. We knew then that the end was near.

Flor is still good looking, but she got out a couple of photographs to remind us what a beautiful young woman she used to be. As an Army nurse she served in France and Belgium and after the war started up a convalescent home, which later became a Nursing Home. A little smallholding was alongside, which her husband farmed and helped provide meat and vegetables and milk. When he died, Flor shared a bungalow with her daughter, preserving some independence, yet having some support when needed. Her social life has slowed down somewhat, well, a little, but

there's no stopping her getting out and about. For her 96th birthday celebrations, she had lunch with the Inner Wheel, a buffet evening at the Conservative Club and a dinner and cabaret the next week. And as a general rule.....? I know she doesn't take it very quietly!

We were sitting having a cup of tea before leaving, and I said, "I suppose you have a rest and sleep in the afternoon?"

"Well," she said, "I sit down a bit and then I remember something that needs to be done and I get up and do it." So is she a 'Martha' or a 'Mary'?

What's in a name? There's Sarah (mother's mother), Martha (father's mother), Lily (mother) and Flor (aunt). What's in a life? They have lived their lives in different ways, but always with a garden. I took my daughter Fiona, another garden lover and her son to see aunt Flor before they returned to America. Next year we hope to take her daughter, Charlotte and our (as yet unborn), first great-grandchild! There is much discussion over what his names will be. Various combinations of ancestral names from Derbyshire, Cornwall, Scotland, Ireland, Holland and Spanish Mexico are being agonized over. In his life, will he like gardens too and help to create and maintain their beauty and usefulness?

I remembered a stanza from a poem, which was often found on

The Local Church here in Goring - Members' Interests

plaques in public gardens and frequently quoted in my childhood.

[Was this poem not also set to music and performed as a soprano or tenor solo?]

P.S. I wrote this in the summer. Since then, our great-grandson was born in America. (You can work out some of the acknowledged background connections from the names they chose - Theodore Gael Cordova, known as Teddy.) He has already made his first visit to the Pumpkin Patch!

"God's Garden"

The Lord God planted a garden,
 In the first white days of the world
 And he set there an angel warden
 In a garment of light enfurled.
 So near to the peace of heaven
 That the hawk might nest with the wren,
 For there, in the cool of the even,
 God walked with the first of men.
 And I dream that these garden closes
 With their shade and their sun-flecked sod
 And their lilies and bowers of roses,
 Were set by the hand of God.
 The kiss of the sun for pardon,
 The song of the birds for mirth,
 One is nearer God's heart in a garden
 Than anywhere else on earth.
 For he broke it for us in a garden
 Under the olive trees
 Where the angel of strength was the warden
 And the soul of the world found ease.

Sadly Flor fell and broke her hip. She spent time in Winchester hospital, getting screwed back together, then recuperation and rehabilitation in Alton hospital. At home at last, she was moving around with a walker outside and a stick indoors.

The last I heard was that she had travelled down to Cornwall with her daughter for our annual family reunion and as usual, though not able to move around very much, was the lively one of the party!

She'll be back in the garden in the spring, - I shouldn't wonder, now she's 97!

Mary Connelly,

July/August, Oct/Nov, 2012

My mother, Lily, was one of the 14 children in the family; Flor was one of the younger ones. 12 grew to maturity and all were taught not to be idle. They had to help to look after the younger ones and earn their keep by helping in the garden or on the farm, learn a trade, or go out into service. Most of the girls showed a talent for gardening, Grandma having shown them how to do it. All made family-supporting gardens after they were married and after they retired.

Returning From America

We have recently returned from America. During our trip we stayed in Michigan, Virginia and Kansas.

We saw the wonderful colours of autumn, just another aspect of the wonderful world God has provided us with.

In Kansas we attended a Church Bible Study for an hour prior to the church service. It is a beautiful little modern church with a very small elderly population. Now another more evangelical church are sharing the building. The original church are having to make adjustments, but are glad to have other Christians worshipping God in their own particular way. As we get older we find it difficult when changes come, but God honours us when we seek His ways.

By the way it is so good to be back in Goring URC and enjoying our wonderful organ and organist. May God bless us all as we seek to serve Him. *Bobby Hitchin*

Experimental Textiles - Six Years On

A few months ago my daughter Caroline wrote an article for this magazine about how she came to be studying for a degree in Experimental Textiles.

It was a long, hard, struggle taking 6 years.



Caroline Hibbs
BA(Hons) LSDC

Sometimes she must have wondered WHY? – but she stuck at it and I was very proud of her efforts.

Finally, in July, came Graduation Day. Unfortunately I was unable to attend the Ceremony for a variety of reasons. Imagine my disappointment. However, there was more !!!!!

Through the good auspices of the Society of Designer Crafts she was awarded a Licentiate so can now add LSDC after the BA(Hons)

How cool is that. Well done Caroline. *Doreen Norris*

Weekday Activities

Messy Church	1st Monday Afternoon in month
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings
Games	Alternate Monday Afternoons

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The CHRONICLE

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Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. In May 2005 a Joint Pastorate was formed with St Andrew's United Reformed Church in Rustington, with whom we share Ministry.

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

Goring and St Andrew's are part of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

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

Goring URC is part of Churches Together For Worthing, and Christians Together in Goring, with whom we often join for worship. The other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, the New Life Baptist Church and Bury Drive Methodist Church.

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



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.

www.gurc.org.uk