

The CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

Spring, Summer, Autumn & Winter 2017
Volume 74

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Goring United Reformed Church

Be ready for our Church Day
18 March 2017 10.00am-3.00pm Page 17

The CHRONICLE

Spring 2017

The Magazine of Goring United Reformed Church



**Time
for God**

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

Web site: www.gurc.org.uk

Church Office : admin@gurc.org.uk Telephone 01903 600260

Minister: Rev Andrew Sellwood - Friday rest day
17 Drummond Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DX
Telephone 01903 248259

Church Secretary: Mrs Valerie Cooper
27 West Park Lane, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4EP
Telephone: 01903 506264 E-Mail: the_secretary@gurc.org.uk

Pastoral Secretary: Mrs Hilary Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT
Telephone: 01903 260568 E-Mail: pastoral@gurc.org.uk

Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith
10 Cissbury Drive, Worthing, West Sussex. BN14 0DT
Telephone: 01903 873265 E-Mail: treasurer@gurc.org.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

The CHRONICLE

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Spring 2017

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Front Cover

We welcomed Julia Wolfe through the organisation called, ‘Time for God’, in August last year.

She is visiting us from Germany and is spending about 12 months with us.

Julia has been joining in with all aspects of the church life and helping with many, if not all, of our groups that meet in the church and halls. Her stay contributes towards her Christian development and of course her use of the English language.

The photographs on the front cover were taken on her mobile phone when she was at a Conference in Wales and where she met up with 75 other young volunteers.

See pages 9 to 13 to read more of what she has been up to.



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Rev Andrew Sellwood

Have you ever stepped out on a clear starry night and just spent a moment gazing up at the stars?

It reminds me of how great our creator God is and how small we are. We have our feet fixed on the earth. However, astronauts have a different perspective on things. That's what captured the imagination of astronaut Jim Lovell.



He said "At one point (while in space) I sighted the earth with my thumb and my thumb from that distance fitted over the entire planet. I realized how insignificant we all are if everything I'd ever known is behind my thumb." Even though we appreciate the enormity and diversity of Gods creation he still has a place for us. For Jesus has a great plan to restore this broken world, to heal this hurting humanity. He has chosen us, who call ourselves Christians, to change the world, to do great things in His name. Imagine, He desires to accomplish so much... with so little! In Psalm 144:3 David asks: "O LORD, what is man that you care for him, the son of man that you think of him?" David openly wondered how God could possibly consider using insignificant men and women like us for His purposes. Compared with God... we ARE insignificant. We are not all that impressive.

Yet God desires to be in a relationship with us. Look at Ephesians 2:10 "... we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." God prepared things for YOU and me to do.

However, many people don't do anything for God because they don't think they are important enough for Him to pay attention to. That may be a genuine thought or it may be an excuse. And I believe THAT'S one of the main reasons Jesus chose men like Peter, James and John to be His disciples. They weren't all that important. They were just insignificant fishermen. And yet... when they had been in the presence of Jesus for just over 3 years, short apprenticeship, they rocked the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:13) and the world. We are still talking about them

So, can God use you and me for his purpose? Well... absolutely yes! That is IF you spend time with Jesus. The more time you spend with Jesus, the more God can equip you to be used by Him. So, what does God do to make us useful in His kingdom? Well... a couple of things come to mind.

First: God equips us through the Bible. The Bible TEACHES us. It REBUKES us when we're not doing things right. And it TRAINS US in righteousness so we know how to do things right.

It makes us competent and fully equipped for every good work. When you read the Bible, God's words WORK on you.

They CHANGE you.

They MOULD you. If you want God to use you, work with you, and change you... READ THE BOOK!!! That's the first way God EQUIPS us for His purposes.

Secondly: God equips us through others in the church (Ephesians 4:11-12)

In our churches, there are many brothers and sisters who can EQUIP us;

- by prayer
- by testimony
- by giving us encouragement.

Proverbs says it this way: "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." (Proverbs 27:17).

You need to pay attention to those who can equip you for ministry. If you lack Bible knowledge, then find people who know more than you. If you have a problem, find someone to pray with you. If you feel the need to be useful to God in ministry – find a job that needs doing or help someone who is overburdened with their workload. You see, that's the whole purpose of Church... so that we with God's help, can EQUIP each other. But equipping us is only part of the story.

God says He's got something for us to do. God has invested in tools to equip us.

God doesn't ask much just for us to change the world and build His Kingdom.

Now we have this knowledge, this commission, the question is; Are our lives "Glorifying God!" In attitude and character that salts the earth and lights the world. Empowered by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit our lives will reflect God's love. Then people will see the very thing they're searching for and we get to point them to Jesus! How might our world be different if each of us was daily living in this power? How might our church be different? What would happen in

Goring if we as individuals and as a church were boldly living out this mission of Jesus, actively living and proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom?

Remember the passage where Jesus stood up in the Synagogue and quoted from Isaiah and declared this mission statement? LUKE 4:14-22.

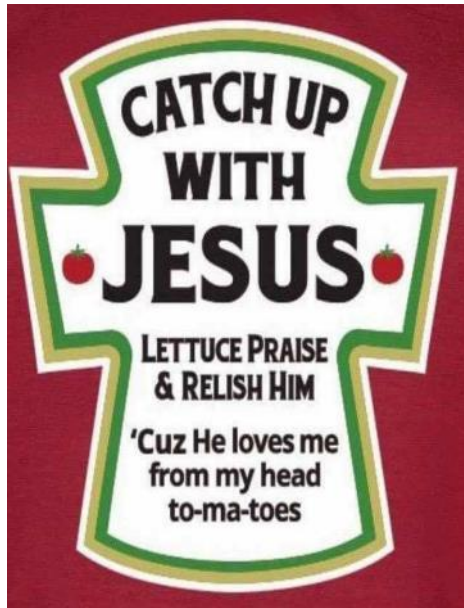
'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

Andrew



Submitted by Margaret Trevithick



Submitted by
Margaret Trevithick

Tuesday Fellowship

The members of Tuesday Fellowship were pleased to once again welcome our friend Revd. Tony Trevithick on 14th February. We had been invited to take another train journey with him and were eager to know where we would be going and where we would stop to 'explore'.

We have been making our way from Brighton along the south coast and this time 'Mr. T.' took us through Havant and on to the now-closed branch line to Hayling Island. He visited North Hayling as a young boy when staying with family there.

We enjoyed many anecdotes and reminiscences of his grandfather and father. Revd. Trevithick always links the history he relates with today's dilemmas, problems and troubles. He certainly gives us much to ponder and reflect on and his observations are always so apt and relevant.

We continued on towards Portsmouth and Southampton (mentioning smaller stations as well) in the same vein.

We all felt that the afternoon's trip was over far too quickly and will be so looking forward to our next 'train outing' with Tony. *Alison Westcott*

GRACE AND JIM HOPE

I was very pleased to visit Grace and Jim and to discover something of their long lives. Quite fantastic!

Grace Glen was born in Glasgow, but as she says, she didn't catch the accent because she was shipped out to Deal in Kent! Her father was Scottish, and her mother was English and a very respected piano player and teacher. But Grace was given over to live with a distant relative – who had a wooden leg! She describes how she used to scrub the floors in the house when she was 11.

Grace was born on 11th March 1924, and will be 93 this March. She went to school in Deal and left when she was 16. But at 11 + she passed the scholarship to a grammar school in Dover, but the family were poor and thought they couldn't afford to send her there, but with the help of the school Head Teacher she was able to obtain grants to pay for travel and uniform, etc.

And Jim? Properly James, of course.

He was born in Sunderland. He had a brother, 4 years younger than him, but his father died when he was just 9. Jim was born on 31st March 1924, so there's another man who is younger than his wife! He went to school in Sunderland and entered the R.A.F. when he was 18 in 1943, and was sent out to South Africa to train as a pilot. He has a wonderful Log Book from those days detailing all the flights he made, training in a Tiger Moth, later in Oxford aircraft.

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

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

Jim has written a description of a hair-raising event as pilot.

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

when just about to land the end of the flare path and the boundary fence were suddenly upon them and the next moment they ditched in the sea. None of the crew were injured and all escaped through various hatches, though they found themselves in the sea and not all could swim. They had to visit the sick bay when they got to shore and the navigator particularly enjoyed being carried by a W.A.A.F. orderly who was rather larger than himself! It was discovered later that neither radio nor control tower had operated correctly and a special light on the runway was not lit. It all happened at 10.45 pm, in darkness. The Halifax was a right-off.

Then Jim went back to Sunderland to live with his Mum for a period.

What about the years since the war?

Jim was first married when he was 22 in 1946, and married Grace in 1965 at Albany Park Baptist Church, Bromley in Kent – they have been married for 52 years, come March. They moved to Worthing in 1995, from Sidcup.

They attended a Methodist Church whilst living in Sidcup, and on their first visit the minister asked them if either could play the organ.

The church had been praying for an organist, and when two new people arrived they thought they were an answer to prayer!

Jim had attended college and became F.R.I.C.S. - Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors – also a member of the Institute of Town Planners, (this was for the Greater London Council) up to the time of his retirement.

And Grace? These few words do not do her justice nor attempt to cover her life story in anything like completeness. She has worked as a book-keeper, and office secretary. But one big and most responsible job was in the Citizen's Advice Bureau in Thamesmead. This was a new housing area built near Greenwich at the end of the 1960's for people to move to from the slums of London. She was the organiser of the C.A.B. giving advice to people who moved there and through her work won a special Thamesmead Community Award.

And then Jim remembered another story: Whilst training in South Africa, another airman friend had his money stolen and Jim lent him about £10, quite a sum for those days. Then they were separated and were sent to different North African countries to serve. So Jim thought he would not see his money again.. Then one evening Jim discovered someone on his bed in the tent where they all slept. It was his friend who had hitched a lift on a transport plane from the country where he served, to find Jim in order that he might pay him back.

Of course this isn't the end of their story, how can long lives be covered in a few words? But what adventures both Grace and Jim have had! I am grateful for their patience in talking to me.

Wilfred Rhodes

Junior Church Christmas Outing

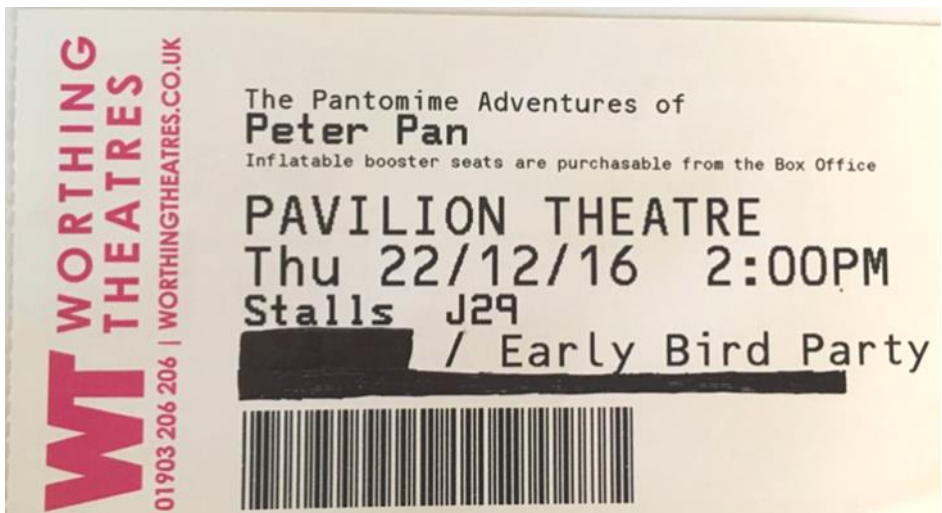
“The Pantomime Adventures of Peter Pan”

On the 22nd December, Junior Church and everyone who is involved and wanted to come went to see Peter Pan at the Pier Pavilion Theatre together.

Personally, I didn't really know what to expect, because I have never been to a pantomime before. Luckily, Chloe sat next to me and explained the main aspects before it started and I was prepared to join in shouting “Oh, yes it is!” or “Oh, no it isn't!” and understood that the pantomime dame played by a man (who lost his wig halfway through the play) and the use of flour are main aspects of a traditional pantomime.

Even though Peter Pan wasn't played by a woman and sausages were just briefly mentioned, it was an amazing afternoon and a nice end of the year as a Junior Church group!

Julia Wolfe



Time for God – die Erlebnisse der letzten Monate

Please see page 12 for the English translation

Vor fünf Monaten bin ich in das Flugzeug gestiegen, das nach England geflogen ist und ich realisiere immer noch nicht so richtig, dass ich jetzt schon ein halbes Jahr hier bin. Es fühlt sich überhaupt nicht so lange an, aber wenn ich an all die Dinge denke, die ich schon erlebt hab und die Erfahrungen, die ich in dieser Zeit gemacht hab, kann ich es kaum glauben, dass das alles in sechs Monate geschehen ist!

Die meistgestellte Frage so ziemlich aller Leute aus der Kirchengemeinde ist, wie ich in Worthing klar komme und was ich so in meiner Zeit hier unternehme, also dachte ich, ihr würdet vielleicht gerne ein kleines Update aus meinem Leben hier in England lesen.

September war ein sehr interessanter, aber auch anstrengender Monat für mich, der mich vor viele Herausforderungen gestellt hat, über die ich in meinem Alltag in Deutschland nie nachdenken würde, wie zum Beispiel mir die Wegbeschreibungen und Umgebung in Worthing zu merken, Hobbys zu finden und mich an meinem Arbeitsplan zu gewöhnen. Am Ende des Monats fand unser Vorbereitungsseminar mit „Time for God“ statt und ich habe viele andere Freiwillige getroffen, die in ähnlichen Situationen waren und wir hatten eine sehr schöne Woche!

Oktober begann mit meinem Geburtstag und ich dachte vorher,

dass der Tag in einem komplett anderen Umfeld vielleicht dazu führen könnte, dass ich Heimweh bekomme, aber zum Glück ist meine Gastfamilie so super, dass ich einen wunderbaren Tag hatte! Nachdem ich von dem Seminar wieder gekommen bin, hatte ich langsam das Gefühl mich wirklich eingelebt zu haben, ich besuchte Brighton mit einer Freundin und entwickelte eine Routine im Alltag. Nachdem ich aber in den Herbstferien eine Freundin in Poole besucht hatte und wiederkam, habe ich erst bemerkt, dass der „Einlebensprozess“ wahrscheinlich noch eine Weile andauert.

Im November habe ich nach langem Ausprobieren endlich meine momentanen Hobbys gefunden, ich bin einem Chor beigetreten, habe angefangen, Badminton zu spielen und zu boxen. Außerdem habe ich das Gefühl, in meiner persönlichen Entwicklungen sehr große Fortschritte zu machen und ich lerne sehr viel in allen Bereichen der Arbeit und dem allgemeinen

Leben hier! Am 18. November ist Phoebe, mein Field Officer von TfG vorbei gekommen und Hilary (als meine Supervisorin) und ich hatten jeweils ein Gespräch mit ihr um festzustellen, ob alle Parteien mit der momentanen Situation zufrieden sind.

Der Dezember war ein sehr, sehr erlebnisreicher Monat für mich! Ich habe Freunde in Southampton, Winchester und London besucht, mit Mary, Paul, Chloe und Nathan Vanillekipferl und Zimtsterne gebacken und diese deutsche Tradition auch mit den Mädels aus unserer JwJ Gruppe geteilt. Beim Tuesday Fellowship habe ich einen Nachmittag vom deutschen Weihnachten erzählt und beim Kestro Club habe ich an meiner

allersten britischen Weihnachtsparty und einem traditionell britischen Weihnachtsessen teilgenommen und mit Little Fishes habe ich zwei wunderschöne Krippenspiele angeschaut. Junior Church hat mir die Gelegenheit gegeben, ein original englisches „Pantomine“ zu sehen, das hier zur Weihnachtstradition gehört und bei „The Ark“ habe ich gelernt, sehr einfache und schöne Weihnachtskarten zu basteln.

Da ich mich entschlossen hatte, nicht nach Hause zu fahren, habe ich Weihnachten mit meiner Gastfamilie gefeiert und der 1. Weihnachtstag, an dem in England Weihnachten gefeiert wird, war sehr schön!



Nach Weihnachten ist meine Familie für ein paar Tage nach Worthing gekommen und sie war sehr beeindruckt von der Herzlichkeit aller Leute hier!

Im Januar fand die „BIG conference“ von TfG in Wales statt und wir waren 75 Freiwillige aus verschiedenen Ländern,

die im vergangenen September nach Großbritannien gekommen sind. Wir hatten eine unglaubliche Woche mit sehr interessanten und inspirierenden Vorträgen und Gesprächen und einer Menge Spaß!

Jetzt bin ich seit ein paar Wochen wieder bei der Arbeit und freue mich schon auf die nächsten Monate! Ich habe bis jetzt schon sehr viel gelernt und ich bin mir sicher, es gibt noch sehr viel mehr zu lernen. *Julia*

Time for God – Things that I've been doing

It has been six months since I got on a plane and arrived in Worthing. Time flies! On one hand it doesn't feel like I have been here for nearly half a year already but on the other hand I think of all the things that happened and that I have experienced and can't believe that it all fitted in five months!

And since I get asked a lot how I am getting on and what exactly I am doing with my time, I thought maybe some of you would like to read a little update on my life here.

September was an interesting and challenging month for me as I tried to remember names, ways around Worthing and my timetable whilst finding hobbies to do in my spare time. At the end of the month, I went on the "Time for God" preparation conference at Highleigh and met lots of other volunteers. It was an amazing week and a really good opportunity for me to speak to people in the same situation as me!

October started with my birthday and I secretly feared that that day away from home would cause me to be homesick, but as my host family is so amazing that didn't happen and I had a wonderful day! After I came back from the conference I really felt like I was starting to settle in, visited Brighton with a friend and developed some kind of routine. At least I thought that at the time. However, in half term, I visited a friend in Poole and coming back from that trip I noticed

that my settling in progress wasn't finished at all and probably won't be finished for quite a while but is a constant development in the right direction!

November was the month I found my current hobbies, after trying a lot of different things. I joined a choir and started playing badminton and taking a boxing class which is definitely not as violent as it sounds!

Leaving all of that on the side, I feel like I am making really good progress in my personal faith and general development! I notice that I am definitely giving more time for God. On the 18th of November, my field officer from "Time for God", Phoebe, came to visit and had a chat with Hilary and one with me to see if we are happy with the situation and how we are doing. "Time for God" is an amazing organisation and I am very grateful for their support and interest in every single volunteer and placement!

December was an amazing month! I visited friends in Southampton, Winchester and London, baked lots of Christmas cookies with the

Journeys with Jesus girls and also shared that German tradition with Mary, Paul, Chloe and Nathan. In Tuesday Fellowship, we had an afternoon where we talked about Christmas traditions in different families and I was able to share our German traditions with them which was lovely! I experienced my first British Christmas party and Christmas dinner including Christmas cracker with Kestro and at Little Fishes I got to see two amazing Nativity Plays.

Junior Church gave me the opportunity to watch my first pantomime ever [See separate article] and at "The Ark" I learned how to make my own Christmas Cards.

Christmas Day itself was incredible as well as I decided to celebrate it with the Coopers instead of going home!

After Christmas my family came to Worthing for a few days and they were amazed by all the lovely people they met here. Thank you to everyone who came to see them!



In January, I went on the Big TfG Conference in Wales and met up with 75 other volunteers who came to the UK in September.

We had the most amazing time and really interesting workshops and speakers as well as conversations with one another.

Now, I am back at work and am looking forward to the next months! I already learned a lot and am pretty sure there is plenty more to learn.

Thank you all for making enjoying my stay here as easy as possible!

Julia Wolfe

Pastoral Care & Resources at Goring URC

Jesus said "Love one another as I have loved you" St John Chapter 15 v12

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:-



Payer:-

In the Little Chapel, just to the left of the pulpit, you will find a Book for Prayers. Here you are welcome to write your own prayers, and join in the prayers of others.

The Minister or an **Elder**, see Church Handbook, will be pleased to listen to you in confidence. If you do not have an Handbook please speak to Graham Redman.
01903 260568.

Visiting:-

Several of our church friends are house-bound. Could you spend a little time with those who are unable to get out.

Transport:-

If you have spare places in your car would you be willing to offer lifts to those without transport?

Flowers:-

The flowers that have been part of our worship on Sunday are taken out with a greeting from church friends. They are taken to sick friends or those with something special to celebrate. There are several ways in which you can help with this ministry:-

- Do you know anyone who would like to receive a bunch of flowers?
- Could you make a contribution to the flower fund?
- Could you arrange flowers from time to time?
- Could you take a turn to deliver flowers?



Please speak to Carol Webber if you would like to help with the Ministry of Flowers 01903 690334

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 do not hesitate to let Andrew, or any of the elders know.

*Hilary Redman, Pastoral Secretary. 01903 260568
or e-mail at hilli@ashleacottage.co.uk*

Articles for the Summer edition of The CHRONICLE

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

- 1. E-Mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk**
- 2. or by post to Graham Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT**

The last day for the Summer Chronicle articles is 1 May 2017

However, it would be very helpful if you can submit articles before this time

Remember -

Recordings of Sermons and Complete services are available on our website.

1. On the front page and in the centre in green text, click on **Audio/Video Desk** or **Sermons & Talks**. To listen to a complete service you will need to log in first. Login, using your own details or enter Username as **'guest'** and Password as **'guest'**
2. Not got a computer, or internet then speak to Paul.

Also Remember -

Close Circuit Television Cameras are installed around our premises and are continually monitoring and recording.

They are there for security purposes only.

Smile when passing !!



Church Day

in the Cornwall Room

Saturday 18 March 2017 10.00am -3.00pm

Managing Change

Led by Rev Andrew Sellwood

There will be many things changing in the Worthing area of four churches shortly and also within our own local church.

Bring your own lunch. Tea and Coffee provided

Do please put this very important date in your diary and be ready to join in with what Andrew has to say, about Managing Change here.

Do keep an eye open in the Welcome sheets, on the Screen and on the Website for the latest information and updates.

Surprise!

I don't like surprises. I don't like risks. Granny made me so careful. "Don't run! Don't climb! You'll fall! You don't know what will happen!" It would be too windy or too cold, or too hot or too wet, to go out some days. According to her, "It'll all end in tears!"

I wanted to climb a tree.
The other children were doing it.

Dad said, "You can do it for me,
but ask your mother."

I knew what she would say.
She would repeat the law Granny
had already laid down.

Anyway, the tree would be too tall.
I have never climbed a tree.

I had to go to bed early, even in
summertime. "Read your Bible."

I read my Bible, a 'reward' from
Sunday School, listening with
envy and resentment to the cries
and shouts of the children still
running on the common, in the
fields and on the road.

But we did have other books –
many books. I became well
educated in Literature, History and
Geography without knowing it.

I learned to read and learn, to look
and learn, to listen and learn and
wonder.

I looked at plants and flowers and
creeping, crawling, buzzing,
barking, clucking, crowing, glowing
life around me.

I saw the moon in a pebble, the
rainbow in a drop of rain, the sun in
a shining buttercup.

Life happens. Addition, multiplica-
tion: hope, joy, happiness.
Division, subtraction: sorrow, sad-
ness, despair.

Death happens.

'Coming, ready or not!' Prepared or
unprepared, the demanding day
still seeks you out.

I like to be in control. I like to know
what I am doing. I like to know
where I am going, for life is as fast
and intricate and technical as For-
mula One racing.

Trying to control everything I seem
to have lost the joy of living.
The body is exhausted; the senses
tired and dulled, the spirit weak
and feeble.

Pebbles stub your toes; rainbows
have disappeared; buttercups and
celandines are weeds.

Hours and days and years have
sunk beneath the waves of
weariness. Yes, for tomorrow calls
and beckons. The sun will rise
again.

Miscellaneous - Mary Connelly

But will it shine? Tomorrow points out to sea. But the future is veiled with the fogs of the past; I cannot even see the horizon, so how can I know what is beyond?

Cast off! Let go! Let the wind take the sail, let the wind clear the air.

Let me feel the wind and the sun and the rain on my face. Let it caress from the south and the west, or bite from the east and the north.

I must meet the unexpected. What is 'The Great Unknown' if you are exploring it?

I still have the Bible I mentioned. The decorative presentation label stuck inside the cover is filled in by the handwriting of Charlie James, the Sunday School Superintendent. He was the village carpenter and undertaker as well as supplying the milk for us all.

At the top, the date is written: Xmas 1941.

PRESENTED TO (printed)

Mary Spargo,

From Carnkie Sunday School

I opened it at random, as I sometimes do to get an impromptu message that can help in times of stress and trouble.

I opened at Psalm 139 and saw verses 7-10.

"Whither shall I go from your spirit? Or whether shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.

If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall thy hand lead me and thy right hand shall hold me."

Mary Connelly. Winter, 2016, Spring, 2017.

In some of our older hymnbooks, including Congregational Praise, is to be found a hymn no. 398, by William Cowper, 1731-1800. It is well worth reading, remembering and singing: "Sometimes a light surprises...

In holy contemplation, we sweetly then pursue The theme of God's salvation and find it ever new; Set free from present sorrow, We cheerfully can say, E'en let the unknown morrow Bring with it what it may.

It can bring with it nothing But he will bear us through...

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, 3rd March

AM I BEING UNFAIR TO YOU?

Our annual service of celebration this year has been prepared by the Christian women of the Philippines, a country of 7,000 islands in the Pacific Ocean. Its position on the Pacific Ring of Fire contributes to the high incidence of typhoons and earthquakes, averaging 20 per year. A category 5 super-typhoon, Haiyan (2013) is the most severe storm ever recorded to hit land and it claimed thousands of lives.

The population in the Philippines is more than 100 million, one of the highest in Asia. Filipino women are brave and resourceful. The Philippine Constitution provides for equal rights, yet in practice Filipino women are discriminated against and treated as subordinates in the home, in the church and in society.

As a result of Spanish colonisation Christianity is the major religion with more than 80% of the population Roman Catholic. Between 120 and 170 languages are spoken, with English and Filipino being the official language.

Our service focusses on the Bible story of the workers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16) and we hear the stories of a girl, a mother and an older woman, recounting their situations and their hopes and fears.

Would you like to find out more about the theme, the Philippines and the service? Everyone is welcome to attend one of the services in our area:

2.30pm at St. Andrew's Church, Ferring, followed by refreshments. (This is the first time the service has been held in this church. Perhaps we could help each other with a lift? Also the 700 bus stops very nearby).

7.30pm at Durrington Community Centre (Tesco car park)

Please speak to Eileen if you would like to know more: 248263

They were beautiful days

From the comfort of my home
I watch the news from Aleppo.
Three boys say that school
is now a basement
and hope for less chance
of being bombed.

Recalling a lost friend, one says,
'when we used to go to school,
I would sometimes lend him a pencil;
he would lend me a notebook. They were
beautiful days', finding happiness in the ordinary
which was once beautiful to them.

Marianne Barber

Some Old - Some New

- ◆ Come in and pray today. Beat the Christmas rush.
- ◆ No God - No peace. Know God - Know Peace.
- ◆ Free trip to heaven. Details inside.
- ◆ Searching for a new look? Have your faith lifted here!
- ◆ Car Park for Members only: Trespassers will be baptised
- ◆ Joiners and Builders welcome.
- ◆ - also Sparks, to keep the flame burning.
- ◆ Don't become unstuck. Stick with Jesus



Statement on the United Reformed Church Past Case Review

We have all made mistakes and we want to learn from those mistakes.

People have been hurt by bullying or abuse in churches in the past. Things went wrong and people may be carrying the hurt inside them. We want to learn from the past and do better in the future. The Past Case Review is a way for the United Reformed Church to listen and to learn.

We truly want to hear about any behaviour which may need challenging, or if you have been hurt in the past by anyone in the United Reformed Church.

If anyone who has had any connection with your church wishes to share something that has happened to them within any United Reformed Church, we would ask them to get in touch with the Past Case Review team.

We want our churches to be safer places, where people can grow without fear.

Telephone: 0207 916 8682

Website: www.urch.org.uk/past-case-review

Email: pastcase.review@urch.org.uk

Further resources and information are available online at
www.urch.org.uk/past-case-review

THE URC PAST CASE REVIEW PROCESS

A TIME TO ACKNOWLEDGE PAST ABUSES, SHOW CHRISTIAN LOVE AND BUILD A STRONGER, SAFER CHURCH COMMUNITY

The United Reformed Church has set up a **Past Case Review** and is now inviting anyone with concerns about the behaviour or conduct of anyone affiliated with the URC since its formation in 1972 to raise them formally.

Why is this happening and what does it mean for us?

There is the highest level of public and political concern about past failings in the behaviour of national bodies which have resulted in past abuses being ignored or covered up. A number of high profile cases involved national figures in positions of authority or influence who were found guilty of abusing their power, authority or celebrity status (such as Jimmy Saville and Rolf Harris), in particular involving the abuse of women and young people.

The churches have recognised that they have ignored evidence about past abuses. Some church leaders have been found guilty, including a Scottish Cardinal and a former Anglican Bishop of Lewes. The Pope has said that abuse of children was like "leprosy" infecting the Church, according to the Italian *La Repubblica* newspaper. Pope Francis has strengthened the Vatican's laws against child abuse and has sought forgiveness from the victims of sexual abuse by priests. Sadly, there have also been a few cases within the URC.

Concern about abuse is now widespread around the world and several countries have established public enquiries.

The UK government's *Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse* is investigating a wide range of institutions including local authorities, the police, the armed forces, schools, churches and mosques to consider the extent to which State and non-State institutions have failed in their duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation; to consider the steps which it is necessary for State and non-State institutions to take in order to protect children from such abuse in future; and to publish a report with recommendations.

All the UK churches are reviewing their own files and past practices concerning all forms of abuse.

A consistent finding is that mistreatment is usually associated with abuse of power by people exercising authority. Examining these cases has therefore inevitably led churches to explore the ways in which power is used and abused within the church and, in particular, the concept of spiritual abuse, meaning the use of spiritual authority or The Bible by an ordained or lay church leader to coerce, intimidate or ill-treat people, not only physically but also emotionally and spiritually.

The URC has established a formal process to receive, evaluate and respond to any allegations involving ordained ministers and also lay church leaders.

All churches are being asked to draw this to the attention of congregations. A brochure (explaining the process in detail) and a poster are available www.urch.org.uk/past-case-review.

A team of independent people will respond to the allegations and provide support to all involved.

What happens next?

Past and present members of local congregations are now being given the opportunity to raise any concerns about past physical, sexual, emotional and spiritual abuse.

If a disclosure is made in a local church context, the person who wishes to disclose will be put in touch with the Past Case Review team.

There will be no pressure on people to disclose, but should they want to, there is a clear process in place which has been authorised by General Assembly.

If an issue of concern about past abuse is raised in a particular local congregation, this can provoke strong emotional reactions and upset. If it becomes public, there may be contrary opinions, shock, outrage, denial and deep hurt. We trust that God will guide us and grant us wisdom, sensitivity and open minds as it progresses.

Anybody from our church who wishes to talk over a concern can speak with the Minister, their Elder or Safeguarding lead. You can also contact the Past Case Review team direct, no matter who you are or what your question, by sending an email to pastcase.review@urch.org.uk.

The URC and our own local church aim to be an open, respectful and trusted community, guided by Christian love and respecting the humanity of all involved. We know this does not work perfectly; people do get hurt in churches and serious abuse does happen. This process enables us to hear and respond to deep hurts, which may have been nursed for many years. The process of talking, listening respecting and apologising can be healing and should help us to be stronger communities.

The website is full of information and resources, including a wide range of counselling services:

www.urch.org.uk/images/PCR/PCR-docs/Past-Case-Review-Brochure-10-09-2016.pdf.

We pray that as the process works its way through, we will see the love of God at work, that our churches will become safer spaces for worship and fellowship, and that we will be able to care for each other in Christian respect and compassion.

With thanks to David N Jones, Elder,
Abington Avenue URC

Weekday Activities

Journeys with Jesus & Junior Table Tennis	Monday Afternoons
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Table Tennis for All	Tuesday & Friday Mornings, 9.30—11.30
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Group	First Wednesday in Month

Publication Team :-

Reporters: Miss Marianne Barber & Mr Wilfred Rhodes

Proof Reading: Mrs Jane Bond and Mrs Denise Woods

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Susie Thomas

Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -
2 Ardale Close, Worthing, BN11 6HW

Editor: Graham Redman.
Telephone 01903 260568

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

The Chronicle costs approximately £1.50 each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Susie Thomas (address above). Thank you.

The CHRONICLE

www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online

chronicle@gurc.org.uk





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 Reformed Association of 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 2017

The Magazine of Goring United Reformed Church



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

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

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

Web site: www.gurc.org.uk

Church Office : admin@gurc.org.uk Telephone 01903 600260

Minister: Rev Andrew Sellwood - Friday rest day
17 Drummond Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DX
Telephone 01903 248259

Church Secretary: Mrs Valerie Cooper
27 West Park Lane, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4EP
Telephone: 01903 506264 E-Mail: the_secretary@gurc.org.uk

Pastoral Secretary: Mrs Hilary Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT
Telephone: 01903 260568 E-Mail: pastoral@gurc.org.uk

Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith
10 Cissbury Drive, Worthing, West Sussex. BN14 0DT
Telephone: 01903 873265 E-Mail: treasurer@gurc.org.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

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 74 - No. 650 Summer 2017

Front Cover



The Church Front Garden

We thank Vic Joy and Peggy Mott for the work they continually do on our gardens making them look so beautiful. Photo taken 21 April.



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Rev Andrew Sellwood

In Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost, gathered in an upper room of an ordinary house, were about one hundred and twenty followers of Jesus Christ.

They were there praying, praising and patiently awaiting the promised gift that Jesus had told them would be sent from God. They didn't know exactly what to expect or when to expect it, but they were gathered there obediently.



Let us recall what happened on that great day; some say the birth day of the church.

Acts 2:1-21 is the first part of the Pentecost story. "Pentecost" is from the Greek word meaning "fiftieth," because it was (and still is) celebrated 50 days after the Sabbath following Passover, which is also the day of the giving of the Torah (the law given to Moses by God himself during the Exodus), 50 days after the original Passover that caused Pharaoh to let the Hebrew people leave Egypt.

Pentecost is the old Greek and Latin name for the Jewish Festival of Weeks (*Shavuot*). It is also called the Festival of Reaping and Day of

the First Fruits. Jews traditionally read the Book of Ruth at Pentecost, as the story links with the grain harvest theme of the festival.

Pentecost, like Passover, was a major pilgrimage feast. Jewish pilgrims from the surrounding nations would flood into Jerusalem for the celebration of the gift of the Torah and the wheat harvest. One contemporary Roman commentator wrote 'The usual unpleasant smells around the city are overwhelmed by the smell of the baking of bread from all the wheat given as sacrificial offerings'.

The city was packed with visitors. Its streets were alive with people shouting, dancing, musicians

playing loud music and the chanting of the Torah—these were the sights, sounds, and activities that characterized this two-day festival.

But this Pentecost was something more. It was also 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus. And on this day, the Holy Spirit came with power on his disciples as Jesus himself had told them to expect (Acts 1:8). Into this flood of pilgrims, the Holy Spirit drove a band of 120 disciples of Jesus to proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God announced by Jesus and ratified in his death and resurrection.

The sound that their proclamation created rose above the general clamour of the pilgrims, in part because it came with great power and in many languages. Apart from concluding these Galileans were drunk (as apparently some did), there needed to be some public explanation for what was going on. Peter stands in the midst and provides it. “In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters will prophesy...” (Acts 2:17).

Peter’s message here was critical for them and for us to understand. What these pilgrims were witnessing that day in Jerusalem was not simply an amazing miracle, it was, as Peter’s message alludes to, nothing less than the inauguration of an entirely new era. The “last days”

had begun. This celebration was no longer just about wheat, but the Bread of Life coming down out of heaven. It was no longer about Torah given by God on Mount Sinai long ago, but the Giver of Torah being poured out among these people on this Mount Zion here and now. It was no longer 50 days after the death of many lambs brought for Passover sacrifice. It was 50 days after the resurrection of the Lamb of God who had conquered Sin and Death. This festival of Weeks was now the site of the out breaking of the Day of Days.

Our witness as church on this day, as on that day, is exactly what Peter declared it to be - the beginning of an entirely new era, in which we still find ourselves being blessed by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

So, this 2017 Pentecost we remember that we are to be a worshiping community that lives in the flow of the Spirit in every way, empowered to live as Christ’s representatives in the world.

As we celebrate Pentecost it becomes a time for those who may have been discerning their ministries throughout Lent and Eastertide to be blessed with an anointing in the power of the Spirit to engage those ministries they have discerned.

Andrew Sellwood



On Saturday 18 March Andrew led a meeting for church members and friends in the Cornwall Room to discuss 'Managing Change in the Church.' Later we will hear feed back from this meeting and seek ways in which this church may be moving forward.

Remember -

Recordings of Sermons are available on our website. gurc.org.uk

Just click on 'RECORDINGS' tab at the top of the screen, or on the picture towards the bottom.

Not got a computer, or internet then speak to Paul.

Also Remember -

Close Circuit Television Cameras are installed around our premises and are continually monitoring and recording. They are there for security purposes only. So smile when passing !!



Sunday Morning 19 March

74 adults and children came together in the church Sanctuary for our first Café Style Worship.

We have another booked for Sunday 11 June at 10.30am.
Bring and share lunch.



Tuesday Fellowship

The members of Tuesday Fellowship were pleased to once again welcome our friend Revd. Tony Trevithick on 14th February. We had been invited to take another train journey with him and were eager to know where we would be going and where we would stop to 'explore'.

We have been making our way from Brighton along the south coast and this time 'Mr. T.' took us through Havant and on to the now-closed branch line to Hayling Island. He visited North Hayling as a young boy when staying with family there.

We enjoyed many anecdotes and reminiscences of his grandfather and father. Revd. Trevithick always links the history he relates with today's dilemmas, problems and troubles. He certainly gives us much to ponder and reflect on and his observations are always so apt and relevant.

We continued on towards Portsmouth and Southampton (mentioning smaller stations as well) in the same vein.

We all felt that the afternoon's trip was over far too quickly and will be so looking forward to our next 'train outing' with Tony.

Alison Westcott

Jason and Anna came to pay a visit to the fellowship on Tuesday 28 February to speak about their life and experiences in Canada.

Jason is training for the ministry, whilst Anna is street pastoring. They live by faith and have great testimony to share.



Algorithms:

Do you recognise these women of the Bible?

1. Daily

2. Cars Do

3. Threes

4. Animo

5. At Harm
6. Rim aim

7. A Rash

8. Heal

9. Break Eh!

10. Habitat
- Solution below ...

Articles for the Autumn edition of The CHRONICLE

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

1. E-Mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk
2. or by post to Graham Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

The last day for the Autumn Chronicle articles is 1 August 2017

However, it would be very helpful if you can submit articles before this time

Solution to the above algorithms



5. Martha

4. Naomi

3. Esther

2. Dorcas

1. Lydia
- 10 Tabitha

9. Rebekah

8. Leah

7. Sarah

6. Miriam

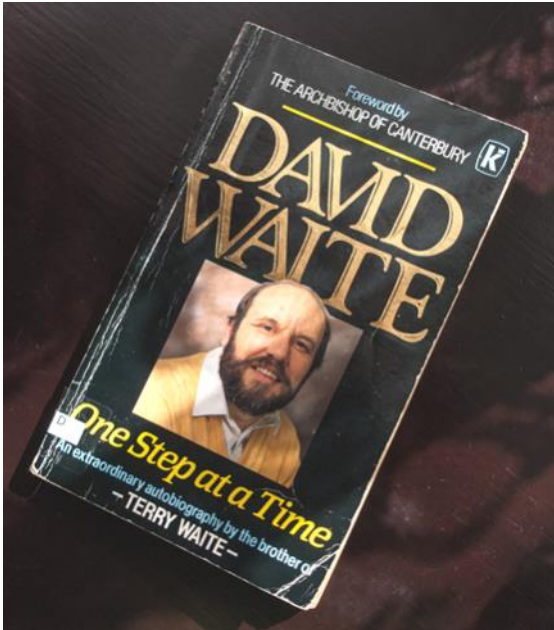
My Garden by Freda Flint



The local church here in Goring - Freda Flint

My garden is a haven, not only just for me,
But for the birds that visit it and the buzzing bee.
The flowers brightly coloured and the veggies in their plot
all make me feel contented and happy with my lot.
I like to dig the borders and keep the garden trim.
I like to eat the veggies, it all helps to keep me slim.
I have a little nesting box way up in the tree,
for all the little Bluetits who come to visit me.
I also have a table filled with seeds and nuts
and those little fat balls so they can fill their guts.
But there are intruders in my garden, I didn't ask them in.
There are caterpillars and flies no bigger than a pin.
They eat up all my veggies without a single care
and nibble at the flowers much to my despair.
Then there are those slippery things that leave a slimy trail.
But if I'm feeling nasty I'll put salt upon their tail.
I've also got some foxes, and their cubs, you see.
They like to play and fight and chase around my little tree.
That's O.K. no damage done, but then they dig for grubs
and romp around and go to sleep upon my favourite shrub!!
(flattening it).

A Little book Review: One Step at a Time by David Waite



This book was handed to me to put in the Dean Library a few weeks ago, and I was inspired to read about the less well known brother of the rather famous Terry Waite, whose autobiography "Taken on Trust" is also in the Library.

David wrote his autobiography in 1989 when Terry was still missing. The brothers were seven years apart in age, but were good friends whilst they were both at home, but inevitably when Terry set off on his career David was still at home and going to school.

The book gives us an insight into the Waite family, and tells of how they 'managed to cope' whilst they waited for news of Terry.

It was the media's constant question "How do you cope?"

Not only did the family have to cope with Terry's disappearance, but also the media attention which threatened their privacy.

The family were sure that Terry would survive, and would be returned home.

David suffered as a child because of his disability. He also felt lonely - as though there was someone was missing. These thoughts were not unfounded as he discovered later in life.

He gives us a lovely picture of his faith in God, where it came from and how it grew as God blessed him, with illustrations showing God's presence in his life.

He tells how his friend Eric lent him a 'smashing' book, but he doubted that he would have time to read it. "God's Smuggler" by brother Andrew. It is a book

about the plight of Christians in communist countries.

David did read it and it planted a seed of thought in his mind. He would take Russian Bibles into Russia... and he did.

His next call was to take an offer of a lift to the Olympic Games in Munich - again to take books etc. Now that was an adventure! - and it was on this mission he met his wife to be, Alison.

The two of them went on to find God leading them through life together, showing them His support as they worked for Open Doors, the Christian initiative for Persecuted Christians.

He tells of his wife, and his own family - they had four children, and how they depended on the Lord for their daily living, and how He blessed them as they served Him.

He ends with this: "...whatever the Lord does with us, wherever He takes us, this we know - we will be walking with Him One Step at a time.

Hilary Redman

Journeys with Jesus and friends

‘Cook up a Bible story’

“Don’t forget to wash your hands!” is probably something no one who came to our JwJ & friends holiday club will ever forget again after we spent two mornings in the Easter holidays in the kitchen and explored some Bible stories in a slightly different way.

After listening to or reading a story the girls captured their thoughts and used their imagination to create posters which you can see at the back of the church. Have a look, maybe you will discover something you never thought about before.

I definitely never thought about a centipede on the Ark or how Noah cleaned up after all the animals!

After everyone chose their favourite apron we went into the kitchen and cooked a meal which represented what we talked about beforehand.

The menu for the first day included animal-shaped biscuits for ‘Creation’ and a ‘sad face’-pizza for ‘The Fall’. Of course we ate the pizzas first but there weren’t many biscuits left when we all went home!



On the second day we firstly talked about ‘Noah’s Ark’ and then made one each out of a jacket potato, baked beans, a sausage representing a giraffe and a cheese roof protecting them from the rain.

And as the rainbow is a sign for God's promise to Noah we made rainbow cupcakes for dessert.

And even after doing all the washing up we had some time to do a challenge involving marshmallows.

And no, it wasn't the 'Chubby Bunny' Challenge (much to Anya's relief and Chloe's disappointment).



We had to build towers out of marshmallows and cocktail sticks and make them stand steady, maybe a hint at the 'Tower of Babel'?

Who knows, but we had a great time and have some great pictures showing the fun we had! *Julia Wolfe*

These we have loved

Down in Cornwall, in a little village, in a house at the end of the row just above the chapel, lived the Spargo family. Mum and dad and son Harold lived there with Jimmy and Martha, dad's parents. When Granny Martha became a widow, they commissioned the first bungalow to be built in a big green field below the few cottages and houses. I have the original piece of paper from the builder:

Mr. J. S. Spargo. Carnkie. March. 31st 1931.

Re. estimate price to build bungalow to plan & supply all necessary material for masonry (not including stone for foundation) £192 - 0 - 0.

G S Martin. Carnkie.

There are other papers and receipts showing the gradual paying off of that sum and other expenses. The family moved into the bungalow in 1932 and settled down just in time for me to be born in 1933.

It was basic accommodation; subsequent bungalows built alongside were better designed and more comfortable, but had a higher price!

However, we had what we needed. We had a garden to grow vegetables and kept hens for eggs and a rooster to protect them and provide a Christmas dinner.

There was a well and a hand pump to draw up water; a flush lavatory (luxury indeed!) tacked on to the back kitchen, fed by rainwater from the roof, linked up to a cess pit under the front garden near the road; a big boiler in the back-kitchen with fireplace underneath for water to be heated to wash clothes, zinc bath pans to wash them in (and us, weekly, in front of the kitchen stove), a huge wooden roller



mangle and a clothes line up the back garden. We had a coalhouse and a wood shed and dad made a little smithy at the back of the garage, complete with anvil, to sharpen stonemasons' tools and mend farm implements.

We gathered furze (gorse) bushes from the common to supplement the coal and wood. Blackberry picking was a major chore in the autumn from the common and the hedges of nearby farms. We picked enough blackberries to make pies to eat immediately and make many jars of jam to feed us in the winter.

Other comforts included an accumulator radio, oil lamps and candle sticks, a small smelly paraffin oil stove and a big, black, attention-seeking Cornish range, with a belly ever hungry for coal. In June 1938 my sister, Elizabeth was born.

A few days later, my brother Harold died from pneumonia – a complication from an attack of measles. It was a hard time for all, to be followed by the hardships of war. Dad volunteered in 1940 and joined the RAF. The good part was that he learned oxy-acetylene welding in the engineering departments he worked in, which became very useful once he was back home again. He had a marvellous experience being posted to India towards the end of the war, spending time in Delhi and Bombay, visiting the Taj Mahal and being the guest of the Maharajah of Jodhpur.

At last, in 1947, electricity was brought to the village and living conditions slowly began to change for the better. By 1952, the old black Cornish Range had been ripped out and a grate installed in its stead. It was then a 'fireplace' instead of 'the slab'. There would be no more polishing of the big iron body with 'black lead' mixed with vinegar, put on with one brush and polished off with another, while the tiny flecks of graphite floated in the air, gleaming in the shafts of sunlight slanting through the window, then lightly coating everything in the room with a fine black dust. There would be no more 'Brasso' rubbed on the brass knobs and decorations with a piece of an old vest and polished off with a handful of old towel. Women failed in their housewifely duty if the brass embellishments did not gleam!

Once the big, black body of the Cornish Range had gone, cooking was done in what had been the 'back-kitchen' (now promoted to 'kitchen') with an electric cooker. Yes! Electricity had at last taken over from coal and paraffin stoves.

The big, heavy, dark green mantelpiece that had loomed over the big black stove had gone, too. There was just a demure tiled fireplace, somehow incongruous until we became more modern in our outlook. We had to find places for all the things that had been kept or displayed on the old mantelpiece, for example, right in the centre, a

Staffordshire figurine of Charles H. Spurgeon, the famous Baptist preacher. (Why he, rather than John Wesley, was there, I cannot imagine, as we were thoroughly Methodist.) Two pottery spaniels sat at each end. In between, there were various little jugs and trinkets – ‘A Present from Falmouth’/ “Perranporth”/Newquay etc. The tea caddy and biscuit box stood beside the tin holding ‘salts of lemon’ for removing stains.

The ‘top of the range’ box-heater iron was also kept on the mantelpiece, rather than in the cupboard with the more lowly flat irons. There was a triangular lump of iron, which was dropped into the fire to heat up, then hooked through the hole in the end by the ever-ready poker and dropped into the iron box. The end shutter was pushed down and the smoothing iron was ready to ‘dash away’ on folded blanket and sheet on the kitchen table. It had a wooden handle, so did not need rag or pads for holding like the flat irons. A piece of old sheet was kept to test the temperature of the irons against scorching even though a lot of sprinkling of water and damping and rolling of clothes had already been painstakingly done.

Well, now we had an iron heated by electricity, to some degree more regulated, which did not scorch the clothes quite as

quickly as a red-hot heater pulled out of the fire.

Now it was the tall glass-fronted dresser that dominated the living room. It held family treasures, deemed too precious to use, which, pushed closer together, made just enough room for the more delicate of the deposited ornaments.

There were tea sets, dinner sets, jugs floral and lustre, cups and Coronation mugs; glass ware of every description, colour, cut and engraving. There was a cranberry glass jar, which held the current supply of saffron, to be reduced by frugal, but sufficient, amounts when the next batch of cake and buns was to be made. How we loved to sniff that jar! So now the glass cabinet holds treasures from several generations as they had their journeys, outings, birthdays and wedding days marked by different kinds of souvenirs.

On the top of the cupboard, out of reach of the children, right in the centre, stood a working model of a brass stationary steam pumping engine, which dad made during his blacksmith apprentice years. Snakes and Ladders, Draughts (Checkers) and Dominoes were kept there and the very occasional bar of chocolate alongside THE CANE, which was sometimes threatened, but never used.

Miscellaneous - Mary Connelly

For years I had had a yearning for an ornate teapot, decorated with flowers. I put in a request for it to 'be left to me', but Mum and Dad said I could have it if I earned it. A price was set and every week I scrubbed the pantry floor and cleaned the car inside and out and weeded the front path to decrease the bill half a crown each time.



After what seemed to be forever, at last it was mine – not to have tea made in it, but mine to admire and enjoy ownership. The teapot stayed in the cupboard, but came with me when I got married and took pride of place in *my* glass-fronted cabinet beside those other things I had chosen. When mother died, we shared the contents of the cupboard by taking what we particularly wanted, mainly for sentimental reasons, or, in some cases, envy. The cranberry glass pot still held saffron that I used and it retained the aroma for a long time.

Over the ensuing years, we added to our own treasure trove until the cabinet was full. So once again, there are several generations remembered; birthdays and weddings celebrated; presents given by relatives and friends – all these treasures now wait to be dispersed among our children and grandchildren. Some have already been 'earmarked' for sentimental reasons, mainly for the memories they evoked of the previous owners who cared for them and loved them. They are a tangible connection and a chance to

touch and hold beloved objects that were also touched and held by those we loved so well.

We are not waiting for me to die; we are doing it now. A start on the benevolent dispersal has begun. Well, did you ever see a hearse with a trailer attached to carry the deceased's earthly treasures?

But have I done enough to lay up for myself.....?

Mary Connelly

Rare Flowers in Earth's Garden

We each have a memory of someone who has touched our lives in a very special way, leaving us with pleasant memories to cherish; these dear souls are the gentle flowers of true friendship that adorn our hearts and like the flowers that grow in the earth are among the most beautiful in all of God's creation. Yet the rarest flower of all is the one that breathes in the divine fragrance of God's Grace, exuding His perfume which is an aroma to sweeten the vilest of creatures, or situation. Once inhaled, human conscience, disposition, thoughts and character respond, changing the person and the environment. When the scent of divine grace is allowed to permeate the actions of the soul, humankind will be seen to be doing the will of God on earth, as it is in heaven.

The Source of this sanctifying grace that emanates from these rare flowers, has many names; scripture refers to Him as *The Spirit of God* (Genesis 1:2) *Holy Spirit* (Luke 11:13) *Spirit of Truth* (John 14:17) *Spirit of Grace* (Hebrews 10:29) *Spirit of Life* (Romans 8:2) and so on. He is present on earth as a gift to God's people, so that humankind may serve God's House and worship His sacred name.

Sensing the aroma of His Holy Presence changes our perception of the world and our attitude towards people and things; important, since the times we live in are changing and the dreadful things happening at this time must play themselves out before a refreshing time comes.

In the meantime we witness the delicate flowers of youth cut down and injured or killed by the scourges of war, conflict and destruction.

Young people in the bloom of life meet violence on our streets; illness takes away those dear to us, too soon. Bodily abuse both self-inflicted and imposed, increases suffering; suicide is often seen as a way out of painful situations, yet none of these things are designed by God, even though He allows them.

It is only when the human soul inhales the aroma of the Holy Spirit that our society shall witness light where there is darkness, love where there is hate, right where there is wrong. The discerning son or daughter of God knows instinctively that God has sent His Spirit to dwell in the hearts of those who love Him and seek to know Him.

he world offers us glamorous plans and solutions for making our communities a better place, but many leave Christ out of their deliberations. If God is not on the human agenda, justice, mercy, the moral disposition and truth will suffer. We need more than human ideas; we need the wisdom and power of God, inherent within us, so that more flowers of a sweet nature may adorn the earth, carrying the scent of divinity, perfuming the ugly places.

Several centuries have passed since Jesus, the *Lily of the Valley*, the *Rose of Sharon*, walked the earth; His human life was set as an example for God's people to follow. His mission continues among those rare flowers of humanity who can be found in the valleys, as well as on the mountain tops. They each carry a heavy responsibility; our prayers will sustain them.

In the meantime let us remember that nothing exists in isolation, the entire human race is united by a common thread, a divine seed; we are branches of one tree, supported by one trunk. The *body has many members, but all are one body* (1 Corinthians 12:12; Romans 12:4). Likewise, as flowering plants are subject to disease and pests, so the human mind has to contend with impure thoughts, which cause havoc if allowed to go unchecked; so too does *anxiety and fret* (Philippians 4:6).

Be rid of them, they leave a stain on the soul. When we inhale the sweet aroma of the Holy Spirit, we begin to experience a new kind of life, a life that brings the fruits of the Spirit – *love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control* (Galatians 5:22). This strengthens us to press on; then we shall know that we know, *Christ has made us His own* (Philippians 3:12).

Our greatest treasure is knowing that we belong to Him. It is one of the secrets in living the Christian life and inhaling His aroma will remind us that nothing can outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing – *believers have the mind of Christ* (1 Cor 2:16).

Our journey on the Christian way may be dogged by difficulties and setbacks; Christians are not immune to problems. But in my experience the sweet aroma of the Spirit of God can be inhaled, even in the most stinking places. There is nowhere on earth that the Spirit cannot enter, no soul that He cannot touch, if He so desires and we allow Him to do so.

God strengthen our resolve to be the kind of person He wants us to be and grant us the grace to delight in the perfume of His Holy presence.

William Doyle



The Three Sons

A father told his three sons when he sent them off to university, "I feel it's my duty to provide you the best possible education. You don't owe me anything for that. However, I want you to appreciate it.

As a gesture of appreciation, please each put £1000 into my coffin when I die".

His sons became a doctor, a lawyer and a financial planner, each very successful financially. When their father's time had come and they saw their father in the coffin, they remembered his wish.

First, it was the doctor who put twenty £50 notes onto the chest of the deceased.

Then the financial planner, who also placed £1000 there.

Finally. It was heartbroken lawyer's turn. He dipped into his pocket, took out his cheque book and wrote a cheque for £3000, put into his father's coffin and took the £2000 cash.

He later went on to become a politician.

Reprinted from 'The Villager' magazine, All Saint's Church, Caddington, Beds

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Publication Team :-

Reporters: Miss Marianne Barber & Mr Wilfred Rhodes

Proof Reading: Mrs Jane Bond and Mrs Denise Woods

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Susie Thomas

Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -
2 Ardale Close, Worthing, BN11 6HW

Editor: Graham Redman.
Telephone 01903 260568

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

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The CHRONICLE

www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online

chronicle@gurc.org.uk





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 Reformed Association of 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

Autumn 2017

The Magazine of Goring United Reformed Church



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GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

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

Web site: www.gurc.org.uk

Church Office : admin@gurc.org.uk Telephone 01903 600260

Minister: Rev Andrew Sellwood - Friday rest day
17 Drummond Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DX
Telephone 01903 248259

Church Secretary: Mrs Valerie Cooper
27 West Park Lane, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4EP
Telephone: 01903 506264 E-Mail: the_secretary@gurc.org.uk

Pastoral Secretary: Mrs Hilary Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT
Telephone: 01903 260568 E-Mail: pastoral@gurc.org.uk

Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith
10 Cissbury Drive, Worthing, West Sussex. BN14 0DT
Telephone: 01903 873265 E-Mail: treasurer@gurc.org.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

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 74 - No. 651 Autumn 2017

Front Cover



The Church Congregation

Photo taken on Julia Wolfe’s last Sunday with us on 16 July.

We have enjoyed Julia’s company since she arrived in Worthing in August last year. During that time she has involved herself in many of the Church’s activities.

She returned home to Germany on Saturday 22 July.



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Harvest Festival 8 October

Rev Andrew Sellwood

Making a Mark

Recently I went on a walking trail on the South Downs Way near Brighton. It was only about 4 miles long but on the Ordinance Survey map there were many interesting items in the landscape to look out for. The oldest was a bronze age burial burrow 4500 years old, long since robbed out. Moving on we come across the low grass covered walls of a deserted medieval village or large farmstead.



Further along the trail are rusty cart rails and tangled crumbling metal work, they look like dinosaur bones, but are all that's left of a Victorian quarry. Finally, half hidden by the lush summer vegetation were the stark angular concrete foundations of an isolation hospital abandoned in the 1940's. A varied selection of sites spanning many centuries, hidden and slowly being reclaimed by nature. From a distance, you don't really notice them, they blend into the landscape. They all bear testimony to human activity making its mark; by people long gone whose stories are largely forgotten.

Jesus Christ left his mark on our world and for us Christians, he made a huge difference to the landscape of our lives and continues to do so. It should come as no surprise, then, that as his followers who attempt to be more and more like him at each turn, we should also be working to effect change in our world and leave a mark. This mark isn't about seeking fame or having our own name remembered but having his name remembered by those who were previously unaware of him. The thought of making a positive impact in a big world with so many complex issues can be overwhelming.

But there are so many little things that we can do to make big changes. While Jesus left a remarkable legacy from his time on earth, and made the ultimate sacrifice, he didn't overlook the significance of small acts of kindness.

Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Matthew 5:13 "You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavour? Can you make it useful again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. You are the light of the world-like a city on a mountain, glowing in the night for all to see. Don't hide your light under a basket! Instead, put it on a stand and let it shine for all. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."

It is the power of one. Our lives can make a difference. In **Ezekiel 22:30** God says, "I looked for someone who might rebuild the wall of righteousness that guards the land. I searched for someone to stand in the gap in the wall so I wouldn't have to destroy the land, but I found no one".

God is looking for that one individual who can make his or her mark.

You may be the only Christian whom some people will ever know. The fact is that God can do a lot with a little.

If you don't believe me, just remember that shepherd boy who was willing to share his lunch one day and saw Jesus feed 5,000 people, plus women and children, with his little offering. Or in the Book of Exodus, we find the story of one man who lived such a godly life that, for all practical purposes, he kept two-and-a-half million people from turning to idolatry. His name was Moses. God is just looking for one-someone like you, someone like me. Will you be that one person? Have you heard of Henrietta Mears? I must admit I hadn't, but in 1928, she was called to teach a Sunday school class at her church, at first, she was very reluctant thinking she was not good enough. However, under her direction, the class grew from 40 to 400. She later went on to found a Christian publishing company and a Christian Conference Centre. Of the people she influenced, many went into full-time Christian service. Among them was Billy Graham. Henrietta Mears and Billy Graham certainly made their mark for Gods Kingdom. The power of one; we all can make our mark for God!

Andrew

William Sinclair Marshall

I really did enjoy my visit to “Bill”, as we all know him. And he didn't mind me asking him that very leading question: He was born on 1st September 1928, at Strathaven in South Lanarkshire, Scotland. For those Sassenachs who don't know, that is pronounced “Straven”. He went to school at Hamilton Academy for his secondary school education. His father was a director of a Glasgow company importing paper and his mother was a school teacher. Bill had an older sister who lived for some time in Canada as well as Scotland.

Later his father retired to England.



Bill was 17 when he left school, all his senior schooling taking place during the second World War, so as he says no outings for him or his friends, and times were difficult.

He was supposed to go on to university, but he rebelled – Bill had had enough of school! He went to work for the Inland Revenue in Scotland instead! Then for a little over two years he served in the Royal Air force as an Air Wireless Mechanic.

[As he said he was determined NOT to be a clerk!] He learned all about radio equipment necessary for all the different aircraft. Then it was back to the Inland Revenue. He took another examination with them, which he passed and then of all places they decided to send him to Worthing! This was in 1950 when he was just 22. Poor Bill! He had to live in a hostel on the site of the Office just next to our church.

Of course our church as we know it had not yet been built. Bill wanted to make contact with a church and also with scouts, and found his way to the 2nd Worthing Scout troop at the end of West Park. And who should he meet there but Doris Baker (who I wrote about last year) and her son Keith. Having been brought up in the Presbyterian Church in Scotland by his parents he found his way to St. Columba's Church – now Emmanuel United Reformed

Church. Each Sunday he rode there on his bicycle – no car in those days, of course. But on wet days, cycling is no fun, so then he attended that church on the corner – Goring Congregational Church!

At that time meeting in what is now our Main Hall. Rev Cyril Franks was the minister at that time, and Bill told him that he was his “wet weather church”.

He met Gladys at the Inland Revenue, and for a while they both worked in the same section.

They married in September 1954 at St Helen's Church in Hangleton, when he was just 26, and they moved to the house in Bolsover Rd. and he has been there ever since!

Bill and Gladys had three children – Jim, Mary and Peter – in that order. When Jim was 4 or 5 years old and Mary about 2 or 3 the family changed from St Columba's Church to Goring Congregational Church.

This was about 1959 or 1960. It was difficult for the whole family to manage the journey by bike! For a year or so they still worshipped in the “Main Hall” when Mr Franks was the minister. But the church was packed out every Sunday and Bill found himself squashed up against a radiator and often felt ill with the heat.

Gladys and Bill's children have proved to be very gifted.

Their daughter Mary lives in France; she was a dietician but now teaches English as a foreign language, in her village.

There are two geologists in the family – Mary's husband, Tim, at a university in France, he specialises in volcanoes. Jim is also a Professor of Vulcanology at a university in Liverpool, but now is 4/5ths retired.

It seems that he is so enthusiastic about his work that he can't quite retire 100%. Their son Peter has been an Industrial Pharmacist and has worked for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals in Kent for many years. As that Company has now pulled out of the U.K. he continues to work as a Locum Pharmacist.

Bill's wife, Gladys, sadly died in January 2010, after 56 years of marriage. She suffered very much with arthritis and spent her last years in Guild Care's Irene House. Bill visited her every day and after she died he continued working there as a volunteer until very recently, when Irene House was closed.

Bill became an Elder some years after joining this Church. Incredibly he was the 'Dame' in Rev. Peter Heckel's pantomime – do you remember?

He was also in the Worthing Operatic Society, and in our church choir on special occasions. He performed frequently in the Operatic Society's productions.

Bill has three grandchildren, and a great grand daughter who he was planning to meet for the first time at the weekend of my visit.

His daughter Mary has an adopted daughter from Haiti and her photograph was much in evidence!

Next year he will be celebrating a remarkable festival, and I don't think that will be an excuse to slow down, as Bill is still much involved with Scouts. Ryan and Susie's two sons are in the group Bill works with.

So we must wish Bill many happy returns of next year and will put 1st September 2018 in our diaries!

Wilfred Rhodes



Harvest Festival Celebration

Sunday 8 October 2017 at 10.30am

Guest preacher: Mr Graham Campling

G.L.A.D. to eat out?

'GURC Ladies Are Dining' met for the first time in November last year at the North Star and it was a great success.

We have now visited the Toby Carvery and Shafiques in Goring Road. This is a social time getting to know each other better over a meal, and conversation flows as new and closer friendships are made.

Please do look out for our next get together, you are welcome to join us.

Perhaps one evening we can join with the 'M.A.D.' men.

Val Gill



Julia at her farewell lunch organised by Kestro on Friday 21st July at the Worthing Bowls Club.
- with a pile of 'goodies' to take home!

1940's EVENING

SUSIE THOMAS

I'm drafting this on the back of one of the A5 posters created to promote the event - they were SO beautiful!

Firstly, a BIG thank you to Rosina Bayley for organising the Outreach event - there were various faces in the hall that I didn't recognize and it also lured my sister-in-law, niece and nephew into the Church - they hadn't even made the boys' Christenings! I think we were all relieved that their heads didn't spin round 360 degrees or whatever else is supposed to happen if they're demonic.

Lots of people had taken the trouble to dress up - Val and Graham Gill even arrived authentically, by tandem! Prizes on the night went to Andrew Sellwood (FIX?! Had he promised a particularly short sermon the next day in return for the win?) and Marianne Barber, who managed to look characteristically fabulously glamorous even dressed as a 1940s washer woman.

Special mention also to Jill Sellwood and Caroline Hibbs, who looked fantastic.



Joe had a pretend gas mask box (a brown-paper-covered square box with long string) but Andrew had the real thing. He's clearly older than he looks, although he had a cover story about it being a family heirloom ...

The local church here in Goring - 1940s Social Event



The Thomas family contingent - the hall was so busy that despite our best efforts we did rather block the door, apologies to anyone inconvenienced - had made varying degrees of effort with costumes: my sister-in-law had made a 1940s-style hat and my father-in-law was a disturbingly convincing spiv ... I wore a dress that was more 50s than 40s. (Nineteen 50s, I'm not IN my 50s. Yet.)

Joe was a scruffy urchin (no change there, then) with anachronistic long hair but grey shorts, tank top and aforementioned gas mask box slung over his shoulder. Charlie, on the other hand, had garish shorts, t-shirt and ubiquitous mobile phone! He did get into the spirit of things with the food though - I think he ate an entire year's ration's worth of boiled eggs ...



Talking of boiled eggs, the food was AMAZING! I had been promised boiled eggs (as a pescatarian I couldn't look forward to the prospect of unlimited spam ...) but the reality was so much more. I am actually having to force myself not to use random CAPITALS everywhere here, it really was THAT good. And I haven't even started on the emojis yet ... There was a LOT of cake.

Which is always a good thing.

The local church here in Goring - 1940s Social Event

Special mention to the beetroot cake, which definitely counted as one of my 5-a-day. (Says the woman who also counts seeing orange traffic lights as one of her five-a-day ... Please don't tell me that doesn't count because the colour is technically amber.)



Julia (hair impeccably set in a 1940s style) had bravely lent Nathan Redman her camera - he had a great time snapping away. (Lots of photos of knees, if I recall correctly ...) Paul Redman was also on camera duty - as you can see from the fantastic pictures here - far fewer pictures of knees and floorboards than his son's efforts.



THE BIBLE SOCIETY

THE GOOD NEWS AND THE CHALLENGE

CHINA has one of the fastest growing churches in the world.

Half a million people are baptised there every year. Millions of Bibles are printed in the country where God's word was once banned. Isn't this GOOD NEWS?

Yet there are CHALLENGES too. There is an acute shortage of Christian leaders, ministers and teachers. During the Cultural Revolution churches were closed and worship was banned, and so for 20 years no-one received theological education – a whole generation gap in the output of church leaders. The Bible Society say there is one trained minister for every 6,700 Christians, and if the same ratio was applied to us here we would have to share our minister with 60 other churches. We might hear them preach only four times a year.

Imagine how difficult it is for Chinese Christians to grow in faith and discipleship.

There is another impact: cults are a growing threat as Christians misunderstand scripture due to a lack of proper Bible teaching.

The Bible Society also say that 60% of Christians in rural China cannot

read and rely on the teaching of others to access God's word.

One of China's 6,000 ordained ministers, Revd. Liu, says he has never had a day off in 35 years, not even for his daughter's wedding. He works a 19 hour day, starting at 4am with a walk along the river to pray and sing.

Every weekend he leads three services, a prayer meeting and a Bible study in his own church, and travels to at least four others to preach. He says "I have no choice – this is my special burden and calling that God has given me".

'Jesus saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things.' *Mark 6:34 (ESV)*

If you would like to know more about the Bible Society's work in China and help provide quality Bible teaching to a trainee minister in China please speak to Margaret Butcher or myself.

Eileen Rhodes



*Pictures printed with kind permission
from the Bible Society*



Lost in Translation

Private School in Nairobi:	No trespassing without permission
Indonesian hotel menu:	Toes with butter and jam
Luggage trolley, Singapore:	Not to be removed from Crewe station
Qatar hotel:	Please do not use the lift when it is not working

Mary Connelly writes:-

Several of you have heard me expressing my thoughts on the sense of aimlessness following the death of my husband, William. I remembered a story which my father used in a sermon. I searched through years of notes and sermons and found the notes he had written in 1950. He had spent most of the war in the Airforce where he learned how to do oxy-acetylene welding which was put to good use in his workshop once he was demobbed.

He was a Methodist Local Preacher for many years. He read well and observed well, using ideas and illustrations from life.

I wanted to share these thoughts with you, which have helped me.

Thoughts on Uplift.

It has been required of us to live our lives in a world pitifully shattered and broken in an age almost spiritually bankrupt and among people very largely blind to their real resources.

Our sense of handicap is so bewildering that we are conscious of little else. There is so much to put right we scarcely

know how or where to start. 'Somebody ought to do something about it, but we're poor handicapped folk from whom nothing could possibly be expected.'

The *Kite*. Making/trying/ flying/ running /throwing up to catch the breeze.

Here I am, earthbound, but the kite is soaring higher and higher still into the sky, pulling, pulling, dipping, swooping, and soaring.

The kite string has reached its full length – the kite wants to go higher! The string is holding it back. What if I give it liberty, set it free, cut the string?

The string is cut – kite, fly free! Oh! What's happening? It's slipped to one side, it's wobbling, it's losing height, and it's out of control. It's wrecked!

The kite string that had been the 'handicap' in some strange way had been its support. What had let it down had really kept it up. The string kept the kite in the right attitude to the wind as it squarely opposed it. Once it ceased to resist, it ceased to ascend and was therefore unable to climb to a level of existence quite unthinkable without its handicap.

The Lancaster. There is standing on the aerodrome runway, an aeroplane, which, fully loaded weighs 31 tons. Heavy! Heavy! You think that will fly? Impossible! The engines start up and the plane comes roaring up the runway. It's airborne! The impossible becomes possible before our very eyes.

In the same way as the plane takes off against the wind and uses it to help to ascend, so we may get help from the things that appear to be against us.

Matt 19 v.26 "Who then can be saved?" And Jesus looking upon them said to them, "With men this

is impossible but with God all things are possible."

Low flying. Low flying is dangerous both to fliers and people and objects below. It is the same in the way we live and are content to live too low spiritually.

Perspective. As the plane climbs up, the perspective of the earth is different. Small things are now unnoticed, larger views are now opened out. The little worries of everyday life that appear very large sometimes and spoil our experiences – these can be left behind in the contemplation of greater things.

Romans 12 v8. "Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Philip James Bailey wrote in 1884:

"We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths; in feelings, not figures on a dial; we should count time by heartthrobs. He most lives, who thinks most, feels noblest, acts the best."

James Stanley Spargo.
Cornwall, 1958.

*J. Mary Spargo/Hearn Connelly.
August, 2017*

Goring Little Fishes Playgroup

We would like to thank the Church for the ongoing support for the playgroup. Childcare is not what it used to be and expectations have risen.

The staff have worked extremely hard this year getting to know each other, as the team has grown, and striving to keep up with changes in legislation and the training this entails.

This year has been a challenge with many of our children needing extra care, which entails a huge amount of paperwork and visits by various professionals.

Numbers are looking good for 2017 - 18 and we are anticipating several families using the 30 hours free entitlement introduced by the government, this has encouraged us to extend our hours to support working families but we will be continuing with our term time only sessions. If you would like to visit you will be made very welcome, there is always something to occupy another pair of hands. Please continue to remember us in your prayers.

Elouise Chowne (Manager) and Val Gill (Deputy).

Articles for the Winter edition of The CHRONICLE

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

- 1. E-Mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk**
- 2. or by post to Graham Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT**

The last day for the Winter Chronicle articles is 1 November 2017

However, it would be very helpful if you can submit articles before this time



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www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online

chronicle@gurc.org.uk





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 Reformed Association of 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



Winter 2017/18

The Magazine of Goring United Reformed Church



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

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

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

Web site: www.gurc.org.uk

Church Office : office@gurc.org.uk Telephone 01903 600260

Minister: Rev Andrew Sellwood - Friday rest day
17 Drummond Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DX
Telephone 01903 248259

Church Secretary: Mrs Valerie Cooper
27 West Park Lane, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4EP
Telephone: 01903 506264 E-Mail: the_secretary@gurc.org.uk

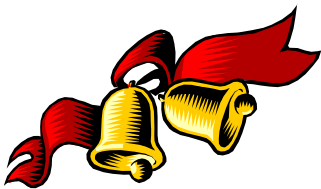
Pastoral Secretary: Mrs Hilary Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT
Telephone: 01903 260568 E-Mail: pastoral@gurc.org.uk

Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith
10 Cissbury Drive, Worthing, West Sussex. BN14 0DT
Telephone: 01903 873265 E-Mail: treasurer@gurc.org.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



The CHRONICLE

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Front Cover



Top: Bible Society Concert
'A Proms Night Out' Page 12

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Christmas services Page 4

Rev Andrew Sellwood



These days in our modern world it's easy to think that Christmas is about Santa Claus, Christmas trees, gift giving, parties, getting together with friends and family, having time off, and being in the party spirit. Christmas has become commercialized and stressful.

Most shops on the high street have posters declaring "Happy Xmas" instead of "Merry Christmas". The world it seems has tried desperately to take Christ out of Christmas in recent years, and the secularized version of Christmas has been winning over the Christian version.

In my own lifetime, the changes in how Christmas is celebrated has changed and transformed at an alarming pace. I was pleased to find a sock at the end of my bed with an orange, a few crayons and the other sock to the pair, OK that maybe an exaggeration, a Meccano set was more likely. Last year the average present spend on a child between 8 and 12 was £475, I find that hard to believe. Alas, the world does change perhaps too fast.

So where did Christmas come from? Look at the roots of the word itself. You have Christ and mas, which is short for mass. So, it comes from the early church tradition of celebrating a mass in honour of Christ's birth.

Many of the customs over the years got borrowed from the secular traditions of Santa Claus, trees, decorations and other things as well. Renaissance nativity scenes of the 15th century with the figures of Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus with halos around their heads. The halos are the artist's rendition of the glory of God shining forth from these holy people. We have the ever-popular annual choral rendition of Handel's Messiah.

But What's Christmas really about? It is about God so loving the world that

He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes on him shall not perish, but have everlasting life. It is God coming in the form of a man, with a flesh and blood body, to personally teach us the way of salvation. It is about "Peace on earth and goodwill toward man". It is God giving the greatest gift to this world that has ever been given in all of history. Jesus Christ came to one day die a death by crucifixion as the sacrificial lamb, to bear the sins of humankind, so that whosoever desires forgiveness and a second chance may have it. It is about humanity's redemption and salvation.

Christmas is still a very beautiful time for those who have eyes to see the beauty of it. Children especially are blessed with the ability to see the magic and the beauty that is Christmas. God gave the greatest gift to humankind, and the three wise men came to give gifts to God's Son in honour of his birth.

So, the tradition of gift giving was born from that time. We give and receive gifts from a heart of gratitude and thanksgiving for the gift of God's Son given to us.

Christmas is a time to draw closer to God and to family.

It is a time to worship the Lord, and to rededicate ourselves to him. It is a time to heal our broken relationships with family and friends, and to strengthen the ones that already are flourishing. Christmas is a magical time of celebration and renewal. When seen and felt properly there is a warm glow and a joyful feeling known as, "The Christmas spirit". It is real and available to one and all.

Christmas is in a good place on the calendar, at the end of the calendar year. It is to close the old year with a celebration and a renewal both mental, spiritual, and emotional, in the lives of the people. Then the New Year can begin with a positive note and celebration before the routine of life begins once again. Christmas is a small break away from the burdens and the cares of the world. I hope that you get into the Christmas spirit this year and enjoy the beautiful benefits that it contains. And above all else, enter into the awesome communion and worship of Almighty God, as you thank him for his incredible gift of his very own Son.

May God richly bless you this Christmas season.

Merry Christmas!
Andrew

Christmas Services

First Sunday in Advent

Sunday 3 December at 10.30am

Carols by Candlelight

Thursday 21 December at 7.00pm

Christmas Eve Morning Worship

Sunday 24 December at 10.30am

Nativity Service for the Young at heart

Sunday 24 December at 5.00pm

Christmas Day Celebration Service

at 10.30am

There are refreshments after each of the above services except on Christmas Day.

Refugees

Recently we had a speaker in a morning service from “Stop the Traffik” who said , after the service, that Worthing had agreed to have a number of Refugee families come to live in our town.

I asked Andrew if he had any information about that and this is his reply: -

In 2016 members of Maybridge Community Centre Church, along with four other Worthing churches, have responded to this issue. 12 Syrian families are being housed by church members across the town. Others will be helped by the local authorities. Philip Papps, of the Maybridge church is a founder and trustee of Worthing 4 Refugees; this organisation is now officially recognised by the Home Office. In November 2015 West Sussex had pledged to take 240 refugees. We are not sure if this is still so. The URC has no practical advice or resources to offer yet. We can only really help by giving money and items to help people help set up home. This could be channelled through Worthing 4 Refugees.

Wilfred Rhodes.



Tuesday Fellowship

This Autumn, we started our Fellowship meetings with two special afternoons. The first was another visit from Tony Trevithick, continuing his rail journey from Brighton to Thurso in the north of Scotland.

He started this leg at Romsey, then Salisbury, and on to Warminster and Longleat House and all the wonderful animals that habit the grounds and lake. Mr T marvelled at God's creation and asked us, 'what is the meaning and purpose of life?' From Longleat we arrived at Bradford on Avon, where there is a bridge that crosses the River Avon and along this bridge is a pillbox building, hanging over the side which was once a prison. Our journey ended at Bath Greengate where Tony went to school,

Our second speaker was the Rev Gary Ingram, vicar for the last 8½

years of St Andrew's Church in Ferring. He has a vibrant personality and he entitled his talk 'The Other Six Days'. He said that people were always commenting he was lucky that he only had to work on a Sunday, with the odd wedding on a Saturday, but like Andrew his days are always much filled with visits to the school, meetings and visiting.

He has a close working affinity to the Baptist minister in Ferring. We are hoping he will give us another talk in the future.

Carole Culliss

A look ahead to Easter -

First day of Lent: Ash Wednesday 14 February
 Mothering Sunday 11 March: 10.30am Morning Worship
 Palm Sunday, 25 March: 10.30am Morning Worship
 Maundy Thursday 29 March: 7.00pm Holy Communion
 Good Friday 30 March: 10.30am Worship
 Easter Day 1 April: 10.30am Easter Celebration Service.

The local church here in Goring



On Sunday afternoon of 29 October we hosted a joint service for the Worthing Cluster of United Reformed Churches:

- Emmanuel, St Andrew's, Littlehampton, Sompting and Goring

Here are a few photos taken during refreshments in the Cornwall Room afterwards.



Photos by Charles Morgan

Mary Connelly writes:-

Shall I, or shall I not? Decisions, decisions!

I should be used to making them at my age. Life constantly demands decisions, though I must admit that lately I long to sit back and make no more. Unfortunately, to attain that bliss, there are decisions to be made – should I downsize to a small house near to my son in Yorkshire, starting a new life at 84? Or cut out that step and go on the long waiting list for sheltered housing – also near my son and his wife – to save them a day's journey to get here? Or shall I coast along here along the coast and hope for a long innings with no problems?

That may be wishful thinking. Old age is not kind.

Whatever and whenever, 'One more step along the world I go...'

"You are older than the world can be,

You are younger than the life in me;

Ever old and ever new,

Keep me travelling along with you:

And it's from the old I travel to the new;

Keep me travelling along with you."

Sidney Carter.

The children of Mersham Gardens have been very thoughtful – they provided us all with a poster to put in the window if we did not want them to call for 'trick or treat', so for two or three days, the poster was in the window warning ghosts and ghouls not to call at this house. Across the road there was a lot of pumpkin preparation, manufacture and trying on of costumes, tables set up with flickering carved pumpkins; there were witches and skeletons, white-sheeted ghosts, zombies in green and black and all the latest in Hallowe'en trends. Then the merry confectionery trail around Mersham Gardens began.

I wondered how many prayed for the souls of the dead on All Hallows Eve? Did they even know it was the Eve of All Saints day?

As though to remind them, the church bells started to ring. Was this a sign from above? Perhaps. The bell ringers of St. Mary's were doing their usual Tuesday night practice to be good and ready to call the faithful to worship and prayer on a Sunday.

The masks and hats and fires of Hallowe'en, vie with those of Guy Fawkes/
November the fifth/Fireworks Night, and, of course, the sickly sweet food,
comfortable furniture and glittering decorations of Christmas yet to come.

Carol singers will come knocking, expecting money in exchange for one little
verse of 'Away in a manger.' When I have asked for another verse, the
answer is often, 'I don't know any more.' (I wonder if the little lone singer to
whom, last year, there and then on the doorstep, I taught the other two
verses, will improve his takings this year? Shall I print a few copies of
different carols to hand out?)

Who will be knocking before Christmas? What welcome can I give? Over
sixty of years of William's ministry, each Manse attracted 'guests' of varying
natures, descriptions, and desirability, throughout the year, not just at
Christmas.

This house is not the manse, nor is it an inn, though sometimes it feels like it!
The ghosts and ghouls looking for entrance are largely of our own making,
creeping into our minds.

Yet despite the cramped conditions, there is room for the unborn baby, there
is room for the birth of the Saviour. Come in and grow here.

You sought shelter; you seek to redeem. Come Baby, come Man!

"Evil things are there before Thee,
In the heart, where they have fed,
Wilt Thou pitifully enter,
Son of Man, and lay Thy head?
Enter, then, O Christ most holy;
Make a Christmas in my heart;
Make a haven of my manger
It is heaven where Thou art."

George Stringer Rowe. 1830-1913

"I bring thee joy from heaven above,
I bring thee pardon, peace, and love:
Say, weary heart oppressed with sin,
May I come in? May I come in?"

Frances Jane van Alstyne, 1820-1915

"Come quickly in, Thou heavenly Guest,
Nor ever hence remove
But sup with us, and let the feast
Be everlasting love. Amen"

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

J. Mary Connelly

Mary Connelly

Alpha and Omega

This autumn may be the end of an era for me. If Grandma does decide to move away, it may be the last time I come to Grandpa's church. In my mind I'll always see it as Grandpa's church!

Let me introduce myself, as many of you will not know me. I am the granddaughter of Reverend William Connelly, who was the minister here from 1974 to 1991, so I have been coming to this church on and off since I was a small child. It seemed to be such a large and daunting place back then, and it was strange to see our funny, jokey grandfather become this imposing man in black with a big booming voice! What a change from reading us bedtime stories and telling us about the crocodile under the stairs and the dragon of Arundel Castle to talking about serious subjects which, at that age, I did not understand. Then, half way through the service, we were led away with the other children to Junior Church.

My two brothers and I had always been told beforehand that we had to be on our best behaviour. I dare say that we were not always successful because, to be honest, we were little monsters!

Something that stuck in my mind was how the chairs were mismatched. I remember a charming mish-mash of different chair styles! At the front of the church there were small ones for the children. I actually asked about them last year, after Grandpa's memorial service, and Hilary showed me them. I was amazed I was ever small enough to sit in them! No wonder the

church had seemed so big to me! I remember that the wooden adult chairs had seemed so large, and we felt so grown up any time we sat in them. The large higgledy-piggledy collection of grown-up chairs, a mix of styles, with even the odd comfortable armchair here and there! I never got to sit in one of those though. I assumed that they were reserved for the old people. Mind you, at that age, I thought anyone over 30 was old. Now that I've turned 40 I have revised my opinion on that!

From late childhood, throughout my teens and early 20s, visits to Worthing became a lot less frequent, so I rarely came to the church. When I came for a longer visit in my mid 20s, I was seeing the church from a completely new perspective. It didn't seem so big and intimidating, and Grandpa had retired by then, so he was sitting in the chairs with us. That was when he noticed that I didn't sing the hymns. I wasn't brought up with them so I don't know any of them. Neither did I learn them in adulthood as I am baptised Greek Orthodox and we don't have hymns. The priest and the psaltors sing the chants but the congregation does not. So if any of you have noticed that I don't sing, this is why. Other than some of the Christmas carols, I simply don't know them!

Grandpa was always interested in discussing the differences between the Orthodox Church and other branches of Christianity. I've been thinking about them over the past few weeks. The hymns are just one of many differences.

The only difference in our Creed is the Filioque Clause. Whereas you say that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and from the Son, we say that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father together with the Son.

All the other differences are in how the services run. For example we have incense and the sprinkling of holy water. We have real wine in our communion, and spiced bread, which is dipped in the wine as opposed to plain bread or wafers. We all go up to the priest at the altar, who gives us the Communion and says a short prayer for each of us individually. Prayers are not said with closed eyes, as they are often done here. We say that the Lord is the Light, and we do not shut out the light.

We make the sign of the cross rather than clasping our hands to symbolise that prayer is an active rather than passive deed. Larger churches are always built in the shape of a cross,

and the altar is always in the east. (I did notice that your main room is in the shape of a cross). The walls and ceilings of the Greek churches are decorated with icons depicting people and scenes from the Bible. After such a long absence from Grandpa's church (yes, I still call it that) it seemed strange not to have them around. Your Alpha and Omega banner always comforted me whenever I was feeling out of place. Talking about the differences and similarities with Grandpa, as well as Rev. Sellwood when he was studying Orthodoxy, helped tie the two together for me and made me feel more at home.

I thought you might be interested to see The Lord's Prayer as it is said in Greek Orthodox churches. It is in Ancient Greek rather than Modern Greek. Ancient Greek is rarely used nowadays outside the churches. I have, however, written it in the Latin alphabet so you can read it.

Pater Imon

Pater imon o en tis ouranis
 Ayiasthito to onoma sou
 Eltheto i vasilia sou
 Yenithito to thelima sou
 Os en ourano ki epi tis yis
 Ton artion imon ton epiouson thos imin simeron
 Ke aftes imin ta ofilimata imon
 Os ke imis afiemen tis ofiletes imon
 Ke mi isenegkis imas is peirasmon
 Ala ryse imas apo tu ponirou
 Oti su estin i vasilia ke I dinamis
 Ke I doxa is tous eonas
 Amin

By the time this goes to print, I may have visited Grandpa's church for the final time; I'm not sure. It is an odd thought, a strange feeling. As I said at the beginning: the end of an era for me. But it will always be 'Grandpa's church' in my mind!

Natasha Peters

Mary Connelly

A Proms Night Out



Saturday 25th November was an evening to remember in aid of The Bible Society of Pakistan was a concert entitled 'A Proms Night Out' with Worthing Voices choir and the Anniversary Orchestra.

The conductor was Shirley Linford and soloist, Cathy Harris.

There was a varied programme of orchestral music and singing including a medley from Rogers & Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*, *Pomp and Circumstance March*, *I vow to thee my country*, and a *Fantasia of British Sea Songs* with many other pieces.

There were about 120 present the majority waving the Union flag.

Peter and Mary Stewart, of the Bible Society hosted the evening. Mary spoke about the many difficulties that Pakistani Christians experience.

The evening raised £729.00 for Pakistan - that is a lot of Bibles !!

Carols by Candlelight Service

Emmanuel United Reformed Church

Sunday 17 December at 6.00pm

Worthing Voices with Cantamus

Carol Service at Lancing College

Sunday 17 December at 2.00pm

Mozart's Requiem

Goring United Reformed Church

Saturday 10 March 2018

Time: to be announced

**Worthing Voices with
The Anniversary Orchestra**

Conductor: Shirley Linford

Traditions

Beware of Becoming Attached to Church Traditions.

It should be very obvious that any church which is seriously trying to follow Jesus as Lord will be continually modifying its practices.

The Christians there will be constantly looking at what they are doing to see what could be improved. I'm not saying change for change sake following fads and fashions, but thoroughly discerned changes. When potential improvements are recognised, naturally they will be put into practice without delay.

Nothing could be more obvious, could it?

Sadly, there can be no doubt that churches which properly attempt to keep improving their practices are in a minority, I think a small minority. Instead, what so often happens is that traditions develop and take hold among congregations and prevent them from fully following the Lord 'we've always done it like that'. Either something that was once the will of God continues to be practised after it should have been let go. Or, even worse, something that was never God's will becomes entrenched and then goes on and on.

I would suggest that many Christians will be found to be at fault for the times when they had a choice between loving God or a church tradition and they chose the tradition.

Of course, Christian traditions are not always negative things. There is a great sense in which the church is a traditional entity right to its heart. The Christian faith has been handed on as a tradition down the generations, most recently to those of us who are alive today.

There is a real sense too in which the Bible is a tradition that we have received from the church of the past.

Statements of faith such as the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer are also good and helpful traditions. There is nothing wrong with the great traditions of Christianity, it is how we apply them that can be the problem.

It is wrong, however, when much more superficial things become entrenched without proper consideration.

Or worse still, adherence to dogmas and doctrine that have gone unchallenged and become corrupted.

During this year, we are marking the reformation of the church.

As we know Jesus Himself began the reformation of the church 2000 years ago. We as His followers are called to continue the process. However, the Reformation we are marking is a change that took place 500 years ago in Germany.

A monk, Martin Luther had a problem with the Church of his day.

Although reformers had many complaints about the Church of the 16th century, the practice of selling "**indulgences**" raised the most opposition.

An **indulgence** was a payment to the Church that purchased an exemption from punishment (or penance) for some types of sins.

Just so you know you cannot buy one now — the church outlawed the sale of **indulgences** in 1567. Something so obviously wrong to us now became an accepted practice, a tradition.

Acting on this belief, he wrote the "**Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences**," also known as "**The 95 Theses**," a list of questions and propositions for debate.

On October 31, 1517 Luther defiantly nailed a copy of his 95 Theses to the door of the Wittenberg Castle Church. Reformers questioned many of the practices of the church and tested them against scripture. We have a modern version of that process we say, 'What would Jesus do?' Luther also had a passion that people should be able to read the Bible in their own language. For him, the word of God was the only truth that could set a person free, you needed to read and understand for yourself.

At this time, the '*authorised*' or official version of the Bible was only available in Ecclesiastical Latin.

This was the language of scholars and highly trained clergy. One of the key concerns of the reformers was to get Scripture into the vernacular (every day) language of the people.

They in no way regarded their translation as something definitive. Rather, they viewed the 1604 - 1611 version as a translation that improved upon what had come before and would surely be further improved upon in the future.

We as a church support that continuing work with Ruth & Mammy Raharimanantsoa as Wycliffe Bible Translators, also the work of the Bible society. In our way, we are continuing the reforming process. But it is strange how we desperately hang on to things like some of the antiquated language we use in church.

I am guilty of favouring the old language of the Lord's Prayer.

The local church here in Goring

I have been told on many occasions this attitude is unhelpful for mission. I get defensive when clever people modernise, or make politically correct the words of some of our great old hymns. So there has to be tolerance involved respecting the needs of others, especially communicating the message, we have received about Jesus. One of the major characteristics of the society we live in is that it is constantly evolving. As people who are living out a Christian witness within society (Matthew 5:14-15; 1 Corinthians 5:9-10), we should be continually adapting the way we do things.

This will allow us to appear as relevant as possible to people outside the Christian community. This attitude will also help believers themselves to grow more solidly and with increased confidence in their faith. So how do we go about this process of being relevant? Well the URC has a new initiative here as part of the introduction to it.

'Walking the Way' is the umbrella term for the United Reformed Church's exciting focus on lifelong Christian discipleship and mission. When you engage in Walking the Way, we hope that your own understanding of what being a Christian disciple is deepens.



The Communion table placed in the centre of the Sanctuary for Café Style Worship

The local church here in Goring



Cafe style worship - 29 October

You may grow beyond your dreams in living as a disciple when you are in church and, perhaps more importantly, when you are not.

The Greek word for 'disciple' is mathetes. The literal meaning is "one who learns as they follow".

Walking the Way explores what it means to actively follow and learn from – and to be eventually transformed by – Christ. It's for everyone at any stage of the Christian journey – whoever you are, whatever your existing relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church is, whatever your personal circumstances. It's for you whether you have been following Jesus for five days or five decades.

While there's nothing new about being a disciple of Christ, we're confident that there is something new about Walking the Way in its accessible approach and in the wide range of supporting resources produced and planned.

This is something in the church that you think could be improved upon, try to do something about it, tell an Elder or tell me.

There is a need to be very careful here, however.

First, be open to the possibility that your idea for an improvement might not be right don't let that discourage you. Christians, young in age or length of time as a believer, need to be encouraged. **Second**, make sure that you act only in love. Never be harsh towards those who reject your idea, and never talk unkindly about them. Always respect the feelings of others.

Change of any kind can seem threatening and unsettling.

Try to persuade others that your idea for improvement is for the greater good. It will not be a good thing if it is just something you would like to see. If you believe that the idea is important enough to persevere with even after first being rejected, don't give up.

Be patient in prayer, continue with the process of discernment and gently and lovingly persist in making your suggestion.

Back in the mid 1980's I worked with a chap, let's call him Eddy, who would never eat any foreign food, the comment was ... 'it was all disgusting rubbish'. Even a harmless margherita pizza was too far off the scale to be accepted as edible. OK, each to their own, no one bothered to challenge him, no point.

Then one day we had an office night out and we went to a pub for a meal.

Eddy studied the menu his eyes rested on the house special, what is it he enquired. The bored waiter said he thought it was shepherd's pie. So that was chosen.

After the meal Eddy said it was the best thing he had ever eaten.

The shepherd's pie was in fact a very authentic Moussaka.

It was later explained that it was a Greek version of shepherd's pie. He was converted and began to try all sorts of things, even the odd pizza. Sometimes it's good to get out of our comfort zone now and again.

After all familiarity can lead to contempt. When we try different things, they may positively challenge what we hold dear and we embrace the change, or they may affirm what we once had was indeed good and we value it more.

This could be a time for new beginnings - The Walking the way initiative - The new Worthing Cluster and its mission and ministry - A year of Remembering the 1517 Reformation - our heritage that guides our response to the Gospel.

May we constantly be reforming ourselves and the church in the name of Jesus and for His glory.

Andrew Sellwood



Our Craft Fare on Saturday 18 November



Women's Word Day of Prayer

2 March 2018

by the women of Surname, South America

'All God's Creation Is Very Good'

See Spring Chronicle for details

Issue date 25 February 2018

ROWLAND SINGERS CONCERTS

Christmas Concerts: - all start at 7.30pm

Thursday 14 December: Emmanuel URC

Tuesday 19 December: St Symphorian's

Thursday 21 December: Assembly Hall.

- with Lancing Brass

Good Friday 30 March 2018:

Hayden's Creation with orchestra

at the Assembly Hall

Goring Little Fishes Playgroup "OUTSTANDING"

OfSTED visited the playgroup on Friday 6th October. This is the first time we have had notice of the visit and we were a little nervous. However, the children were brilliant that day, enabling the staff to enjoy the session, and we all kept a calm head when questioned and were able to demonstrate our knowledge and skills.

We are so pleased to have been assessed as outstanding in all areas of Leadership Effectiveness, Quality of teaching, Personal development and Outcomes for children. See report, right.

"The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities, indoors and outdoors, assessing the impact this has on children's learning.

The inspector sampled the pre-school's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.

The inspector and the manager completed a joint observation and discussed the quality of learning and teaching that took place.

The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection."

Our area for improvement is to:-

"Continue to use the excellent self-evaluation and ongoing staff training plan to further enrich the current outstanding practice."

Well done and a big thank you to all the staff, children and parents. Also thank you to all who support us in any way however small. *Val Gill*

The summary for parents includes

- ⇒ The manager is truly inspirational.
 - ⇒ The staff's expert knowledge and understanding ensure every child's uniqueness is met
 - ⇒ The outstanding quality of teaching ensures every child is included
 - ⇒ Children are extremely happy and settled
 - ⇒ Children enjoy many opportunities to be confident, self-motivated and physically active
- Partnerships with parents are exemplary

The Team



Top: Val, Eloise & Petrina

Bottom: Ricky, Rebecca & Lesley

Goring Little Fishes

Goring United Reformed Church, Shaftesbury Avenue, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing,
West Sussex, BN12 4EA



Inspection date

6 October 2017

Previous inspection date

8 June 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

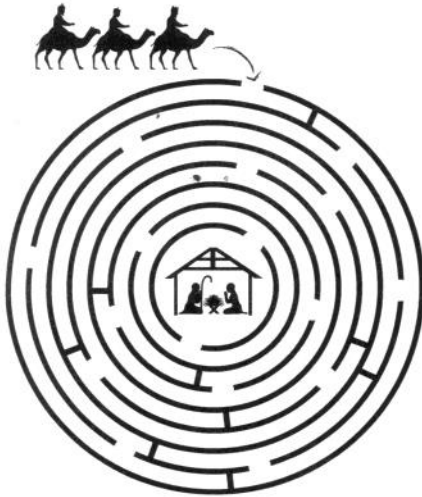
This provision is outstanding

- The manager is truly inspirational. She continually reviews everything she and the staff do. The manager inspires and motivates children, their parents and the staff team in achieving the best they can. She sets exceptionally high standards for herself.
- The staff's expert knowledge and understanding of all children's abilities and developments ensure every child's uniqueness is met. The outstanding quality of teaching ensures every child is included in all activities regardless of their stage of development. The pre-school uses additional funding astutely to address gaps in learning rapidly to help children catch up quickly.
- Children are extremely happy and settled within the welcoming environment. They are highly motivated and eager to join in with the stimulating and exciting activities and use the resources, enabling them to become particularly keen learners.
- Children enjoy many opportunities to be confident, self-motivated and physically active, such as learning to swing, balance and bounce.
- Partnerships with parents are exemplary. Parents comment that they feel exceptionally welcome and have a comprehensive understanding of their children's learning and development.
- Children focus on activities for sustained periods and benefit from endless opportunities to use their imagination to adapt activities in their own way and at their own pace.

The full inspection report is available on-line
www.reports.ofsted.gov.uk . Enter 'Goring Little Fishes'
 in the Name box and click on Search.
 - or go to www.gurc.org.uk/fishes

Maze

Can you be a star and guide the wise men to Jesus?



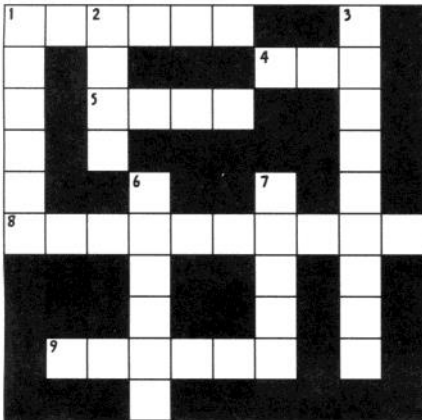
Word search

Can you find these Christmas words?

BETHLEHEM	JOSEPH	SHEEP	CARD
STAR	ANGEL	CHRISTMAS	TURKEY
KING	GOLD	PRESENT	SNOW
JESUS	FRANKINCENSE	CRACKER	CAROLS
MARY	MYRRH	TREE	DONKEY

A V C T Q O C K L I B N W R F
 D E F R A N K I N C E N S E K
 Q S L E R A O N E T T H T Q X
 J O S E P H D G G Q C H K A E V
 G G H O I P K M A T L I R G V
 M Q R S W C R A C K E R U V Y
 W Y Y J S G E J A Z H T T P C
 T O R S E R A T R F E M U R H
 U R C R K S M N O O M A R Y R
 R S A T H U U W L L N S K S I
 S A R E M K A S S F E G E E S
 H I D O N K E Y N O P O Y N T
 E S E U V W R E X Y Z L E T M
 E C D P R E S E N T R D Y M A
 P J A N G E L K L S N O W I S

Crossword



Across

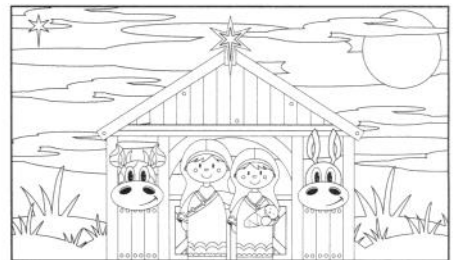
1. Hark! the herald _____ sing
4. The day before Christmas is called Christmas _____
5. _____, Peace and Joy
8. Who gave gifts to Jesus? (3-4-3)
9. Once, in Royal _____ City

Down

1. Type of calendar we open before Christmas
2. One of the gifts the Wise Men gave Jesus
3. The town where Jesus was born
6. How many days of Christmas are there?
7. Who was born at Christmas?

Spot the difference

Can you spot 11 differences between the pictures?





Giving Time for God

I, Phoebe (pictured left), recently had the pleasure of visiting Goring URC as part of my job, as I am Marielle's (pictured left) field officer.

As her Time for God field officer, I offer Marielle my support as she journeys through this year, volunteering in the church on our programme, supervised by Hilary Redman.

She is here on a gap year from Germany, helping to run a number of events in the church calendar. For example, as I arrived on a Monday morning, Marielle emerged from serving at Little Fishes, the group for toddlers, covered in glitter and with a big smile on her face!

Thank you Marielle.

Also thank you Valerie and Rosina for hosting her, and Hilary, for her hard work as supervisor. I pray you, Marielle have a year of growth and enjoyment in your new church community!

Phoebe Scott-Green, Time for God field officer
www.timeforgod.org

Articles for the Spring edition of The CHRONICLE

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

- 1. E-Mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk**
- 2. or by post to Graham Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT**

The last day for the Spring Chronicle articles is 1 February 2018

Weekday Activities

Journeys with Jesus & Junior Table Tennis	Monday Afternoons
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Table Tennis for All	Tuesday & Friday Mornings, 9.30—11.30
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Group	First Wednesday in Month

Publication Team :-

Reporters: Mr Wilfred Rhodes

Proof Reading: Mrs Jane Bond and Mrs Denise Woods

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Susie Thomas

Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -
2 Ardale Close, Worthing, BN11 6HW

Editor: Graham Redman.
Telephone 01903 260568

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

The Chronicle costs approximately £1.50 each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Susie Thomas (address above). Thank you.

The CHRONICLE

www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online

chronicle@gurc.org.uk





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 Reformed Association of 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