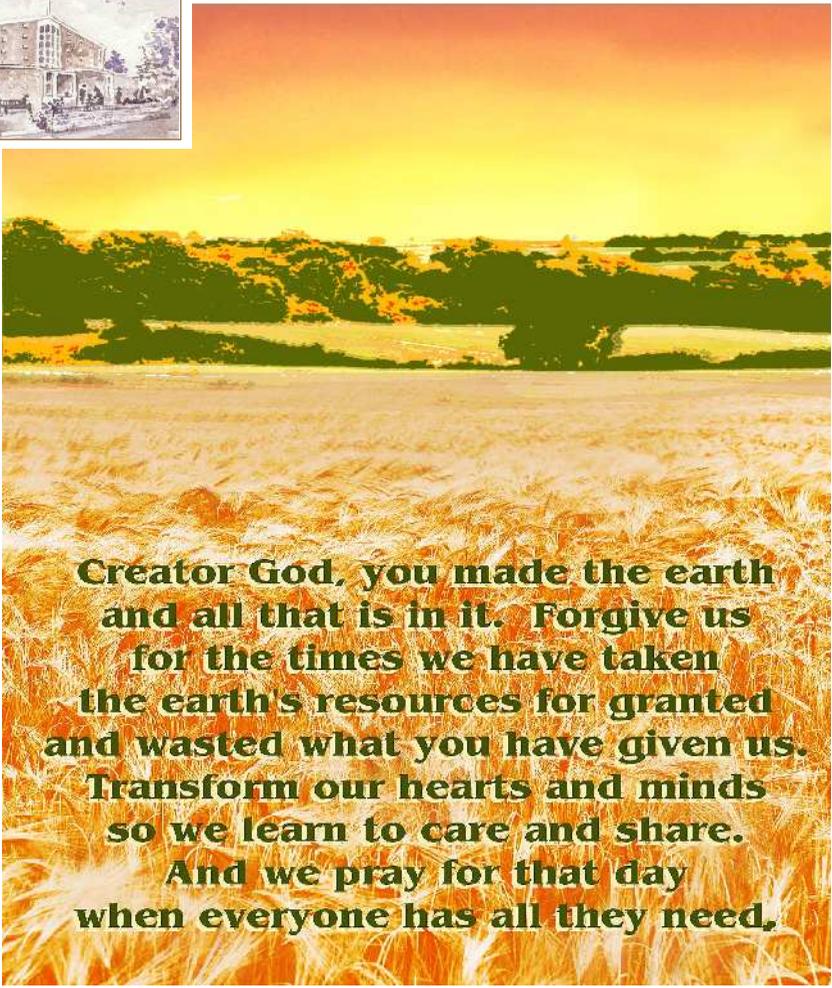




The **Chronicle**

Autumn 2022

The Magazine of Goring United Reformed Church



**Creator God, you made the earth
and all that is in it. Forgive us
for the times we have taken
the earth's resources for granted
and wasted what you have given us.
Transform our hearts and minds
so we learn to care and share.
And we pray for that day
when everyone has all they need,**

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

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

- We share a minister with Sompting United Reformed Church -

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Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary

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

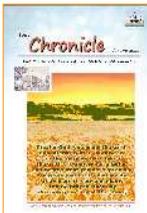
All services at 10:30am are live streamed and recorded for later viewing on our website <https://www.gurc.net/> and our YouTube channel.



The **Chronicle**

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Vol.79 No. 672



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The Chronicle: Winter 2022

The deadline for Winter magazine articles is 1 November

Items can be submitted by Email to chronicle@gurc.org.uk or directly to the Editor.

The Winter edition will be available from Sunday 4th December

From the Manse

Rev Andrew Sellwood



My countdown clock to retirement is inexorably running down. Sadly, the time has come to drastically reduce my library. Even more distressing is that no one wants the books! I have contacted colleges, charities, and churches. One local second-hand book seller expressed interest, however when I told them the subject matter, they were very sorry but couldn't take them, 'not much call for theological stuff'. So, it's to the tip they go to be recycled. Goodbye old friends. There is one slim volume I am keeping, it is a commentary given to me back in 1988 by a family member on 2 Timothy.

On the flyleaf is written 'We hope this will help you carry out the difficult duties entrusted to you' then a reference to chapter 2 verse 15. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

I consider Paul's letters to Timothy to be as relevant and inspiring today as they were then. At times I have felt they were speaking directly to me when I was facing a situation that was difficult or challenging. As I reflect back on my ministry there have been some awful times. If I told you, you probably wouldn't believe me! It was all down to the complete lack of grace that some 'Christian' people in church have. Perhaps someday I will publish my memoirs. Of course, there have been good times as well. Overall, I feel it has been an honour and blessing to have laboured for the Lord. I can honestly say in times of trouble he has been there with me.

That brings me to the times we are all facing or about to face. On the news we have so many warnings about hard times ahead and another possible (probable) recession. Over the winter there will be many families facing financial hardships as basic bills rise.

A phrase being glibly banded about is 'people will have a choice to heat or eat'. This comes from commentators and politicians who will have no problems making their own ends meet.

There are wars and rumours of wars. We are all too aware of the tragic war in Ukraine but there are another nine major conflicts taking place. They don't appear on our TV news, at this time of writing we seem to be more concerned over celebrities falling out and of the uncharacteristically hot weather, yes, it is hot we can tell! Rehydrate, drink more water, I forgot we are in a drought. Seriously, despite the floods in places there is a world-wide shortage of fresh water.

Our global climate is changing leading to extremes of weather conditions. Floods, fires, famine and fighting characterise the world. There is a global refugee problem, 90 million people displaced from their homes and countries, hopelessly wandering the planet.

All the facts and figures are becoming more extreme, we are breaking records in all the wrong ways.

In the UK our churches are suffering post Covid, denominational churches are down in attendance by 34% (recent Evangelical Alliance survey for the church times May 2022).

However, the good news is there are signs of growth in the evangelical/charismatic churches. Those that are Bible based and worship centred. So now we are in a season where we must do some serious thinking and praying about a way forward. This applies to how we live and how we are Church in the next few years. Relationships between church and community have struggled somewhat over the last couple of years. We need to build bridges again.

“We know from other pieces of research that there is an openness to the gospel at this time and the most common pathway to faith is through a Christian friend.

This research highlights the need for every church to prioritise inspiring every member to be a great friend and equipping them to be able to share their faith.” – Phil Knox, Head of mission to young adults, Evangelical Alliance.

This is also what the LICC programme teaches on its Frontline initiative. As individuals we all have different places and circumstances where we meet people. In those environments we can be ourselves with no fixed agenda or thoughts of ‘I must convert my lost friend before it’s too late’. We wait and when the time is right or appropriate, we can share our faith, God will do the rest. That way we come over as genuine not as an overzealous evangelist. God will give us opportunities; God will give us words. We see this in the letter to Timothy.

Chapter two of the second letter to Timothy begins with a warning, after nine verses describing all kinds of problems and despicable people. “But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days”. Paul then goes on to encourage Timothy.

A Final Charge to Timothy

¹⁰You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹persecutions, sufferings —what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹²In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

We need to remember that God is in control of His church and of His Kingdom. Disasters and catastrophes come and go but God will always prevail. If we follow him closely, we will also prevail, be more than conquerors (Romans 8:37 - do yourself a favour and read all of Romans 8). Sometimes we forget this and need reminding when things seem to be going badly.

We must re-tune ourselves into God's wavelength. Just like a radio the signal may drift a bit and get a bit fuzzy (OK perhaps not in this digital age but this is a metaphor) and needs to be retuned, we also may drift and need to be fine-tuned, or 'tweaked' as it said in my synonym selector in MS word.

As we continue along our journey of faith we learn and apply God's word. We see God working in people's lives and that gives us motivation and confidence to carry on. Just as Timothy is thoroughly equipped for every good work so can we be.

Andrew Sellwood

The Earth's Temperatures

One hundred years ago, on 13th September 1922, the highest temperature ever recorded in the world was reported to be 57.7 Centigrade (136 Fahrenheit) in Al'Aziziyah in Libya.

This stood for nearly a century but was challenged at various times and eventually decertified by the World Meteorological Organisation in 2012, which believed there was a faulty reading. It was replaced by a record of 134F (56.7C), taken not in these heady days of climate crisis, but back in July 1913, at the aptly named Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley, California.

There are many other examples of temperatures near to 60C going as far back as 1909 (Cherokee, Oklahoma) and 1966 (Sonora, Mexico).

The WMO is an agency of the United Nations responsible for promoting international co-operation on atmospheric science, climatology, hydrology and geophysics.

Temperature peaks are measured in three major ways: air, ground, and through satellite observation. Of these, air measurements are used as standard because of the persistent unreliability of ground and satellite readings. Since these measurements generally are taken of necessity in extreme conditions, they are frequently challenged, and a great deal of uncertainty remains.

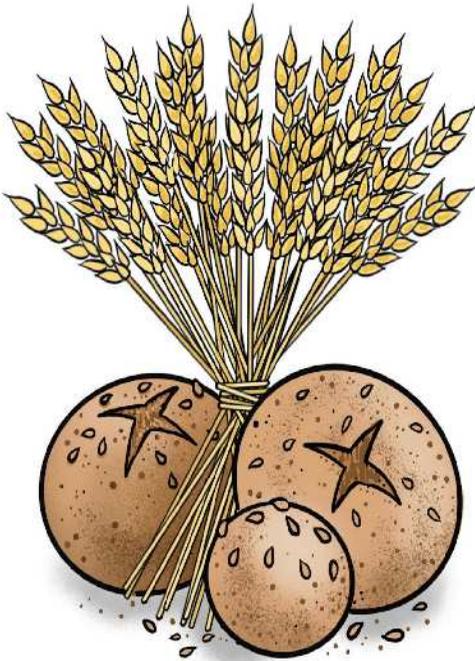
For comparison purposes, the hot weather in the UK in July this year peaked at 40.3C (104.5F), at Coningsby, Lincolnshire, on the 19th of that month. Many schools closed.

The Parish Pump

Tuesday Fellowship

In June and July we met in the garden and had beautiful weather both times. One day in July we had a very noisy sports day behind us. Eventually it ended and we had peace, perfect peace. It has been great to get together, enjoy the garden, chat and tea and cake.

In September we will be back in the Cornwall Room with a mix of speakers and in house sessions. It would be great to have more friends



Artwork by Deborah Noble

We met in the garden
The sky was blue
We talked away
And had lots to say.
We had cake and tea
And the garden to see
A good time was had by all !

Bobby Hitchin

One Day's Trek is Five Minutes Flying

MAF FLIES MOSQUITO NETS TO REMOTE PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Malaria is a disease which kills thousands of people globally every year. MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) has partnered with Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM) for over ten years and their goal is to eradicate malaria from the face of the earth using proven interventions such as free long-lasting insecticidal mosquito nets.



1 - MAF plane and nets

This year 2022 MAF and RAM delivered 34,250 nets to 26 airstrips across Papua New Guinea's (PNG) vast, isolated areas.

In remotest PNG there are no roads or infrastructure and the only means of transport in mountainous areas is either walking or flying. MAF serves some 200 bush airstrips and so great are the distances it can take two days to walk to the nearest airstrip. For RAM to distribute these life-saving nets MAF are the most cost-effective, reliable, fastest and safest mode of transport to reach vulnerable, rural communities.

Siobhain Cole from MAF's PNG Ground Operations team says: 'We specialise in flying to very hard, remote communities, such as Telefomin because no one else will fly to its airstrips.

They are very remote, steep, scary airstrips that no commercial operator will fly to. We're also flying nets to 20 bush airstrips serving 32 health centres. Each centre serves at least a dozen villages. Without MAF not everyone would get a net'.

For Siobhain and her team it has been an intense and complex operation. The nets are weighed, and any fuel drums that may be required to transport the nets further (i.e. motor operated canoes), also passengers and their luggage. In addition to thorough logistical planning, good weather is also key to a successful operation.



2 - Siobhain and Ryan

As MAF pilot (Siobhain’s husband) Ryan Cole testifies: ‘We may have a wonderful plan, but PNG has some of the most challenging flying in the world because of the weather, created by the mountains – cloud on the ridge lines needing pilots to find holes in the cloud to find the airstrips. In hundreds of miles of cloud, there might be just one little clear hole I can go through.



Sometimes it feels like God is giving me a window’ Without MAF to fly from Telefomin to Edwaki there would be huge implications for RAM in terms of logistics, time and cost.

Without MAF it would take four days on foot to reach the nearest river, another two days to travel by canoe and another day of walking – a week of overland travel compared to a 30-minute flight.

I have written this article with permission from Mission Aviation Fellowship so that you can visualise and thank God for the wonderful work they do. Here are their details if you wish to get in touch or contribute to their



organisation: MAF UK, 1st Floor, Castle Hill Folkestone, CT20 2TQ 01303 850950

www.maf-uk.org

Eileen Rhodes

Remembrance Day Quiz

1. The two-minute silence is held on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. But at what time was the `Armistice of 1918, which signified the end of the war, signed? 5am 10am or 11pm the night before
2. How many horses were used by Britain in WW1?
120,000 1.2 million 1.5 million 12 million
3. How many women served in the Women's Auxiliary Army between January 1917 and November 1918? 27,000 57,000 107,000
4. How many British people were evacuated in major cities during WW1? 1.5 million 4 million 500,000
5. How many soldiers and labourers from across the Empire and Commonwealth served alongside the British Army in the First World War? 1.3 million 2 million 3 million 30 million
6. Who wrote the poem 'In Flanders Fields', and what nationality?
7. What does the word 'Cenotaph' literally translate as?
8. Which of these countries was neutral in World War 1?
Spain Bulgaria Portugal Nepal
9. Which building was surrounded by a sea of ceramic poppies in 2014 to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of WW1?
10. Who lays the first wreath at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day?

Answers on page 19

Quiz donated by Mrs Marion Tarbuck of Worthing USA



Garden Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs are a gardener's friend, as they eat beetles, caterpillars, worms and other invertebrates. Did you know that as many as ten different hedgehogs may visit a garden over several nights, which could mean 'your hedgehog' is actually a number of different ones visiting at different times! To encourage them to visit you, leave areas of your garden wild, with piles of leaves, logs or compost. These are an attractive nest, as well as a home for the invertebrates that hedgehogs like to eat. You could place a piece of board against a wall thus making an artificial home for them. *Information gathered from <https://rspca.org>*

Monday Afternoons Coffee Cake Chat

You are invited to come and join us on Mondays 2 - 4pm for a Cuppa, Cake and Chat.

Maybe a game of Scrabble.
We are very friendly and welcome all. Hope to see you.

Rosina, Val and Christina





The Covid delayed Skittles Evening from 2020 -
Saturday 25th June 2022 at The Spur, Slindon
Eighteen enjoyed a few games of skittles with a hot buffet.

Photo by Chloe

Church Website

Did You Know

1. From the front page of our website you can reach the current Sunday Service, Welcome, Members'Area, and Diary of Events, as well as our new Safeguarding pages.
2. You can search for past week's services from the top menu bar, under 'Worship'

Walking 600 Miles - for the fun ?

After the first lockdown Graham asked for news of what we had been doing during the imposed house arrest that the whole world was experiencing. What DID we do with ourselves then and during the time later when we were allowed out but not to socialise?

Well we, that is David and I decided to go for a walk! Not just an afternoon stroll, oh no not nearly challenging enough. Many of you know that we embarked on walking the Monarch's Way a 600ish mile long national footpath which allegedly was the escape route of King Charles II in 1651. It passes Findon Church and goes up through Nepcote. I say 600ish because some information says 615 and some 625 miles. Just to keep you reading I shall tell you how far we walked later.

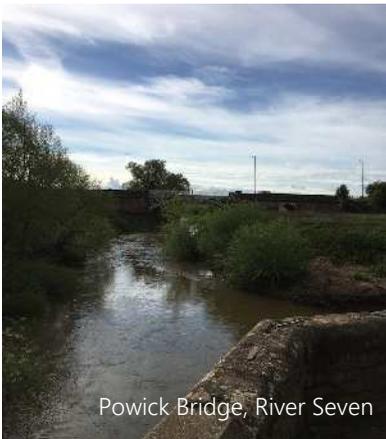
The background to this tale; King Charles II lost the battle of Worcester in September 1651 and to avoid death by Oliver Cromwell and with the help of sympathisers he went North to return to Scotland but didn't get any further than the Wolverhampton area. The route then comes south via Stratford-upon-Avon and on to Charmouth then along the South of England from Dorset to Sussex where from Shoreham he boarded a boat to France.

We didn't walk the route in the correct order as we completed the last leg across the South of England first because it was near home. Covid rules were that we were not to travel too far away from home. So during the latter part of 2020 when we were allowed we completed the first 200 miles. It was probably the best thing we could do to keep fit and healthy in

the time of social distancing as we didn't meet many people on the trail. We were self sufficient with food and drink on our backs and using 2 vehicles to ferry ourselves around, taking one to the end of the days route and one to the beginning, walking in between. On this first leg, we experienced some very steep hills and the most beautiful views, from The Trundle

behind Chichester our 360 degree view took in the Isle of Wight to the west and the 7 Sisters to the East, its not often you can see both ways but we did that day. Its a climb I would really recommend. The most challenging hills on this leg were the cliffs at Charmouth it is also part of the South West Coastal Path. They were steep to climb up but so much worse coming down I resorted to slowly sliding down on my derriere, I learnt that my knees may not be up to it!!!

Well the South was complete in 2020 so we waited for Spring 2021 to begin again, this time doing it in the same order as the King from Worcester and finishing in Charmouth. Starting at Powick Bridge which is the site of the Battle of Worcester to Stratford-upon-Avon via Boscobel.



Powick Bridge, River Seven

Most of the trail on this leg was along canals in the West Midlands which are really beautiful and very easy walking.

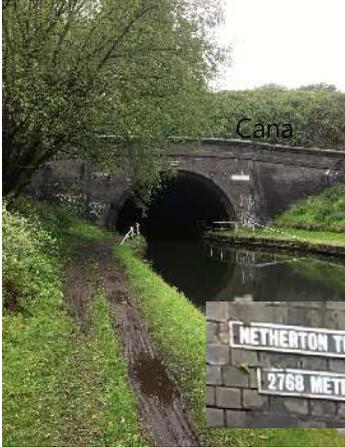
We were beginning to see a pattern of the Kings route it was always away from towns and villages and also always passing country churches where he could rest perhaps.

He took refuge in Boscobel House, North West of Wolverhampton where he hid for a few days in a priest hole hidden in the house. This was also the place where he hid in an oak tree while soldiers were searching the house and grounds. An oak tree is still there but it is a great granddaughter of the original!

All the time his friends and servants were working hard for him trying to find an escape route.

We continued on the trail from the West Midlands south to Stratford along canals and crossing motorways and across farmers fields.

One of our day's walk on this part of the journey was 17 miles going through one of the longest canal tunnels in the country.



The Netherton Tunnel is 2768 metres long or 1.72 miles. It was pitch black with 3 openings for air but so overgrown they didn't offer any light, thank goodness for torches. There was a safety rail so no falling into the murky water! I was quite convinced we were in an episode of *Midsummer Murders*!!

It was exciting but frightening too. The King left the West Midlands with the help of another sympathetic family as the servant of a woman who was going to visit her sister in

Bristol via Stratford, well that was his excuse! It was where he had been promised help and possibly a boat, which was sadly not forthcoming. It's 2022 now and we continued to Stratford, like the King, and they were really lovely walks. Moving on through Gloucestershire in gorgeous weather was a joy.

Then on to Somerset; it was a bit of a disappointment as the farmers don't keep the paths open becoming very difficult to get through; hard going. Mind you having said that some of the views are so beautiful they take your breath away.

We had great weather here thankfully for us and the tens of thousands of people who descended on Worthy Farm, Pilton for the Glastonbury Festival. Just to walk through the site and out the other side was an experience, not that I could ever entertain the idea of going to the concerts with such huge crowds!!

Another odd sight we encountered in Somerset was a tiny prison; picture below.



It is said that the roof inspired the police helmet but its other claim to fame was that if a child skipped Sunday School they were locked inside for a while. Eventually we left Somerset for Dorset and arrived in Charmouth our final destination.

We were sad and happy at the same time; sad to finish but happy that we had. We were blessed with good weather and hardly any rain over 3 summers 200 miles each. We loved it, and achieved our goal; walking 604 miles. The first leg we got blisters but kept going. We bought new boots for the second and third and no blisters.



David and Caroline

We met a couple somewhere in the West Midlands who were walking from Cornwall to Yorkshire to visit their Grandchildren for half term, it had taken 2 months with another 7 weeks to go.

We also met Hannah on a gap year who was walking the route and wild camping.

We met her in Bourton-on-the-Water outside the Co-op!!! She did the whole route in 57 days, We were there to greet her at the end and buy her a lunch of just chips, she had missed them!!!

Well we did it!!!

But Finally.....

The Captain of the ship that took the King to France from Shoreham-by-Sea was called Nicholas Tettertel. An unusual name but one I had heard before, the former Boss of Mid Sussex Roofing had the same name, sadly he has died but his son Jack still runs the business and when he was putting a new roof on our bungalow I asked him if he knew the story of the King's escape.....

The Captain of that ship from 1651 was Jack's 15 times Great Grandfather. What a lovely ending.

Caroline Hibbs

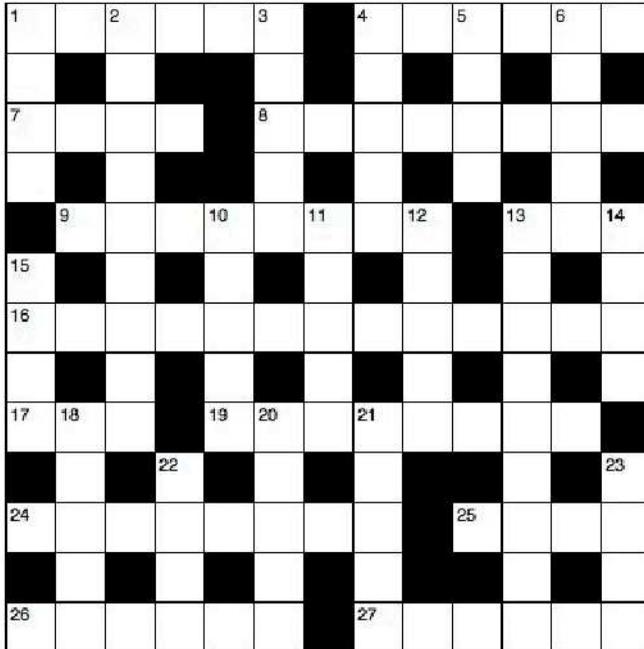
Autumn Crossword Puzzle

Across

- 1 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders — in vain' (Psalm 127:1) (6)
- 4 Season of the year (Psalm 84:6) (6)
- 7 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. — here and keep watch with me'
(Matthew 26:38) (4)
- 8 It came over the whole land from the sixth to the ninth hour on the first Good Friday (Luke 23:44) (8)
- 9 Paul invariably did this in the synagogues he visited on his missionary journeys (Acts 17:2) (8)
- 13 'It is God who works in you to will and to — according to his good purpose' (Philippians 2:13) (3)
- 16 Members of the Church of Scotland (13)
- 17 'Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and — down' (Matthew 5:1) (3)
- 19 Mock(Luke 14:29)(8)
- 24 Disgrace(Psalm 44:13)(8)
- 25 First month of the Hebrew calendar (Exodus13:4)(4)
- 26 Christianity of the Britons before Augustine arrived from Rome(6)
- 27 Mean (Numbers 35:23)(6)

Down

- 1 'Whoever finds his life will — it' (Matthew 10:39) (4)
- 2 'My lord the king, let the — — on me and on my father's family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt' (2 Samuel 14:9) (5,4)
- 3 O raid (anag.) (5)
- 4 'If two of you on earth — about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven' (Matthew 18:19) (5)
- 5 Take care of (1 Samuel 17:15) (4)
- 6 What the older son heard as he came near the house the day his prodigal brother came home (Luke 15:25) (5)
- 10 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with — judgment' (Romans 12:3) (5)
- 11 Do ten (anag.)(5)
- 12 Architectural style first used in Greek temples in the sixth century BC (5)
- 13 Capable of being used(1Kings7:36)(9)
- 14 'Each one should — his own actions'(Galatians6:4)(4)
- 15 Among the items imported by Solomon's fleet of trading ships (1 Kings 10:22) (4)
- 18 'But I am afraid that just — was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray' (2 Corinthians 11:3) (2,3)
- 20 Outstanding 18th-century hymn writer, — Watts(5)
- 21 One of the four sons of Asher(Genesis46:17)(5)
- 22 Be distressed(Proverbs 24:19)(4)
- 23 He was the father of Gaal, who threatened rebellion against Abimelech (Judges 9:28) (4)



Crossword by Parish Pump. Solution on page 20

Answers to Remembrance Day Quiz on page 11

1. The two-minute silence is held on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. But at what time was the `Armistice of 1918, which signified the end of the war, signed **5am**,
2. How many horses were used by Britain in WW1? **1.2 million**
3. How many women served in the Women's Auxiliary Army between Jan 1917 and Nov 1918? **57,000**
4. How many British people were evacuated in major cities during WW1? **1.5 million**
5. How many soldiers and labourers from across the Empire and Commonwealth served alongside the British Army in the First World War? **3 million**
6. Who wrote the poem 'In Flanders Fields', and what nationality? **John McCrea, Canada**
7. What does the word 'Cenotaph' literally translate as? **Empty Tomb**
8. Which of these countries was neutral in World War 1? **Spain**
9. Which building was surrounded by a sea of ceramic poppies in 2014 to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of WW1? **The Tower of London**
10. Who lays the first wreath at the Cenotaph ? **The Queen or her representative.**

The Chronicle: Winter 2022

The closing date for the Winter magazine articles is 1 November.

Please submit articles in either of the following ways :-

The Form on our Website

E-mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk

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

Crossword Solution from page 18/19

ACROSS: 1, Labour. 4, Autumn. 7, Stay.

8, Darkness. 9, Reasoned. 13, Act.

16, Presbyterians. 17, Sat. 19, Ridicule.

24, Reproach. 25, Abib. 26, Celtic. 27, Intend.

DOWN:1, Lose. 2, Blamerest. 3, Radio. 4, Agree.

5, Tend. 6, Music. 10, Sober. 11, Noted. 12, Doric.

13, Available. 14, Test. 15, Apes. 18, As Eve.

20, Isaac. 21, Ishvi. 22, Fret. 23, Ebed.

New Here?

If you are new to Goring United Reformed Church and would like to know a bit more about us, then you can very easily do so by either -

Picking up a Leaflet "New Here ?"
ask a 'Welcomer' at the door, or -

From our website <https://gurc.net>,
click or tap on the [New Here?](#) button.

Weekday Activities

Please refer to our website for up to date information
<https://www.gurc.net/diary>

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Proof Reading: Mrs Jane Bond

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Susie Thomas

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

2 Ardale Close, Worthing, BN11 6HW

The Chronicle costs approximately £1.50 each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production.

There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Susie Thomas (address above).

Thank you.

The

CHRONICLE

<https://gurc.net/chronicle>

chronicle@gurc.org.uk



Goring United Reformed Church

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

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 46500.

It has over 1300 congregations, and 608 active ministers. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Reformed Association of Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

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

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

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

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



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex

<https://gurc.net> and on facebook

