The CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

Spring, Summer, Autumn & Winter 2014 Volume 71

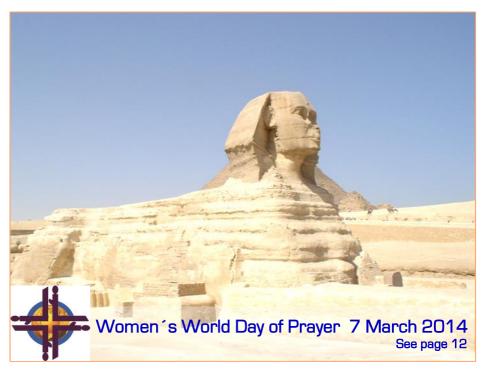
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Goring United Reformed Church
Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex.



The CHRONICLE

Spring 2014

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

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

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

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

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

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

Mid-week

10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month in the Harris Room

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 71 - No. 637 Spring 2014

Front Cover

The service for the Women's World Day of Prayer this year has been written by the women of Egypt.

On the front cover this quarter we show The Great Sphinx, which is located at the Giza Plateau. It is one of the largest and oldest monuments in the world and is surrounded by the pyramids.

Services in our area this year are at:-

St Richard's, Maybridge at 2.30pm

New Life Church, Durrington at 7.30pm

More information on pages 12-15

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Who do you think you are?



"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (Luke 19:10). We live in a world that is full of people who are lost. Sadly many people believe that they simply don't fit in. Individuals are searching for a sense of belonging to someone or something. We live in a time where many are simply experiencing what I want to call an identity crisis! In all walks of life

we have to constantly prove who we are. We are known by our bank account number, our security PINs; our passwords; our name and who we

are often becomes irrelevant, it is the digital information that dictates and confirms who we are. Soon passwords and PIN numbers will not be enough and we will be known by our retina pattern or finger prints. Remember the old days when your signature proved who you were? The crime of Identity theft is a real and growing problem for so many 'ordinary' people. If we lose our identity we are lost.



So who do you think you are? It would seem that both in and out of the church there is an identity crisis. As Christians, we struggle everyday with this concept of being spiritual chameleons. One day we feel full of the spirit the next we are feeling guilty through something we have said or done or even thought. One day we're sure of our faith the next

day we're sliding away. In our churches we are taught all kinds of interpretations of scripture. This can be good as it challenges mature Christians but throws seekers into utter confusion. Many new Christians move from one church to another trying to find life and truth where they can!

There are some serious issues that arise due to our lack of ability to know who or what we really are.

So if we are having an identity crisis, we must deal with the pre-conceived opinion of :-

1. Who the World thinks we are —

To the outsider our beliefs seem outdated and irrelevant. It also appears to the casual observer we don't exactly know what we believe. Churches are also divided and hold subtly contrasting and contradictory doctrines.

2. Who we believe we are -

That can be a problem when we have doubts and fears. We have unresolved gaps in our understanding as our study of scripture slips. The church as a whole has to guard against false teaching and modified doctrines.

We also need more unity across the different denominations; we need to be seen to be working together.

3. Who Christ says we are —

In spite of whom the world thinks you are or who you believe you are. You've got to know who Christ says you are. Fortunately scripture comes to the rescue and will direct us to the truth. Look at the text from 1 Peter-

1 Peter 2: "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. "Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

When we read this passage we realise Christians are being described in four rather specific ways. For true Christians are:

A chosen generation.

A royal priesthood.

A holy nation.

A possession of God.

We have this identity in Christ. So, whenever you feel like you are drifting or misunderstood by those around you remember your status as a child of God for you are special and much loved.



Yours in His service Andrew

In August 2015, this Church will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary

Between now and the summer of 2015 The CHRONICLE will be printing highlights from the years since 1940.

In this issue we look at 50 years ago in 1964 -

<u>Church Building Fund Boxes</u> Thank you to all friends who helped to raise £45 3 6d. It is surprising how the odd pennies and threepenny pieces mount up in the course of a year. Please ask me for a box. January 64 Miss W Smith

Youth Fellowship A group has been formed with the object of providing fellowship for the youth of the Church who are over Sunday School age. We meet in the Church Hall immediately after the service each Sunday evening. J F Mason

<u>Women's Fellowship</u> In its last two meetings the Fellowship has convincingly shown its wishes to widen its interests bejond Church walls. A talk by the borough reference Librarian, Miss W Fox revealed the story of the pavements we tread in our daily lives. We learned that long ago Worthing was but a tiny manor surrounded by all powerful manors, Broadwater and West Tarring; that its growth only really began when a sick little Royal princess, too innocent to be sent to Regency Brighton, came to recuperate in a quiet house in Montague Street. Soon after the little town became a Borough, typhoid nearly killed it. Miss D. Wright

<u>Car Parking</u> I have been asked to write on the subject of our car parking. We know that in wet weather there is a large pond on the car park at the rear of the building, but this will be remedied shortly. However, in dry weather could we see the cars parked more closly together............ Now for a few don'ts; please do not come in the EXIT and out out through the ENTRY. A Razzell

The Church Badminton Club was formed a year ago E A Winstanly

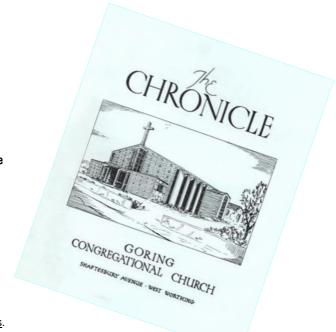
Rev Wallace Hayward commences his ministry 5 June 1964

Garden Party £60 was raised at a garden party held at the home of Mrs G Nodes

Rev Ashford dies on 9 October. He filled our pulpit during the pastoral vacancy between Rev Cyril Franks and Rev Wallace Hayward.

We bade farewell to Mr Richards who has been leader of the Junior Department. We were please to welcome Mrs M Stephens as the new leader. E C Bond.

The local church here in Goring - Anniversary



Discovered in the July issue of the Chronicle 1964

Gardening

<u>First plant five rows of peas.</u> Preparedness, Promptness, Perseverance, Politeness, and Prayers.

Then plant three rows of squash:-

Squash gossip, Squash crititism, Squash indifference

And five rows of lettuce:-

Let us be faithful, let us be unselfish, let us be friendly, loyal and truthful.

Lastly, no garden is complete without Turnips

Turnup for Church and with a smile, with a new idea, and with real determination.

Then see what a wonderful garden we can grow,

From 'Indian witness, South India newsletter' via Union Church Mill Hill.







Holiday Club

April 15th - 17th (Tues - Thurs - 9.30 - 12)

Come and join us at Goring URC for three PARENT-FREE mornings of fun, craft, games, music, stories and a chance to get messy!

Limited places available for years 1 - 6 only so book soon

Application forms available by email: fol@gurc.org.uk phone: 01903 600260



www.gurc.org.uk BN12 4EA



Tuesday Fellowship

We had a very interesting afternoon three weeks before Christmas when we had a visit from P. C Vic

He showed us his record of service when in the police force - he wrote a poem for the police officers magazine. He told us of a couple of incidences that he attended. It was a different world to what Police officers face today. I know because my Nephew was in the Police force until recently. Now this truncheon went round but it was a miniature one and I asked what it was. Vic produced the real thing so I thought I must behave myself because I have heard about them. Vic didn't start his working life as a Police officer as he was a farm hand and had a happy and contented youth. He went to Wimbledon police station and joined the railway police. He became a cadet proper in January 1962. He then went on to the motorbike section. He told us of an event for which he got a commissioners commendation before retiring in 1995. A nice afternoon Thank you Vic.

Our last meeting of the session included a visit from Andrew. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to be there that afternoon, but I can imagine it was good.

We opened the next session with a New Year party - an enjoyable afternoon - Bobby and Peggy did a funny sketch. They said a verse then both walked round saying the chorus. They both had tickling sticks or you might know them as dusters with handles I enjoy things like that as Peggy kept dusting me down, so I decided that I would grab it when she went by next time.

Before having a lovely tea, Carole read a poem. Thank you ladies for a good afternoon.

On the 28th January we had a talk with slides about the Ferring Country Centre. Most of the members had visited the centre in the past. Apparently, it is expanding all the time and this year they are opening an outdoor play area. They have opened a charity shop in Goring Road which is doing well.

Well that is it for now and I hope to report again in the next issue of Chronicle.

Janet Dean





A Group for Adults with Babies and Toddlers

Leader: Mrs Wilma Smith Telephone: 01903 873265 E-mail: ark@qurc.org.uk

February 2014

This is my first report since taking over the Ark in September 2013. The Autumn and Spring sessions so far have been busy with numbers fluctuating from week to week; there can be anywhere between 18 to 30 attendees (babies, children, mums, grans, granddads and carers).

It is lovely to see the children playing and of course to see the adults enjoying a cup of tea/coffee and a chat. We try to keep the programme interesting for the children with different toys and craft activities based around different themes

During the three weeks in December the craft activities were based on the Nativity. On our final Thursday (the 19th) we enjoyed the visit from the Little Fishes children when they sang the songs from their Christmas Nativity play to us.

A little party for the children was held before we broke up for Christmas. As you can see from the photograph right, the children enjoyed the food!

We have been teaching the children the song 'God's love is like a circle' to the tune 'Puff the Magic Dragon' and hope to do something for our new notice board, in the hall, based around this.

As I write this, it will be Valentine's Day on Friday and we are planning on filling a heart shape with magazine pictures of people from different ages and ethnicities and we will be speaking to the children about how God loves everybody. (A suggestion taken from the Roots magazine for Children and Young People.)

After half term we will be looking forward to the spring (hopefully it is just around the corner) and Easter.

The local church here in Goring - Groups



The Ark will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary in April so we will be thinking about how we can mark this occasion. None of this would happen without a dedicated team – thank you Carole, Denise, Brian, Donna, Bett and Valerie. We are all blessed in this work, and enjoy getting to know the children and adults, while sharing the love of Jesus with them.

Wilma Smith

Sounds Familian

Just a line to say I'm living -That I'm not among the dead Though I am getting more forgetful, And mixed up in my head.

I've got used to my arthritis, To my dentures I am resigned, I can cope with my bi-focals, But I do so miss my mind!

Sometimes I can't remember When I'm standing by the stairs If I should be going up for something Or have just come down from there,

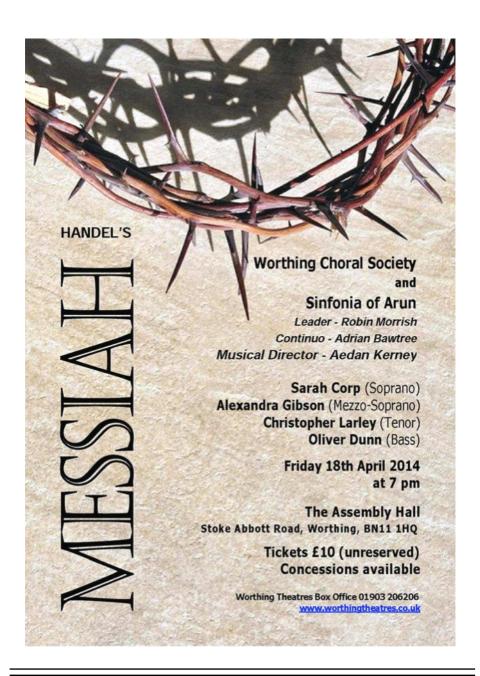
And before the fridge so often My mind is full of doubt, Now did I put some food away Or come to take some out?

So remember I do love you, And wish you lived near-by, For now it's time to post this And say 'goodbye, my dear.

I stand beside the post box And my face—it sure is red, Instead of posting this to you I've opened it instead!!

Anonymous

Submitted by Brian Mitten





WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday, 7th March 2014 STREAMS IN THE DESERT

Egypt is the country that brings us our celebration service this year on Friday, the 7th March. Could it be that we have heard enough about the abundance of water over the last few weeks?

Could it be that the promise of water as mentioned in Isaiah 35: 1-6 does not have the same impact for us in this country?

COME and hear about the woman at the well in Samaria who received the life-giving waters that Jesus offered her! **COME** and be refreshed by God's amazing promise of water flowing over places in our lives that may be dry and arid in a spiritual sense! **COME** and pray for the people in Egypt who so desperately need our prayers!

COME to a service in this area on Friday the 7th March

St Richard's, Collingwood Rd., Maybridge 2.30pm Speaker: Janice Reynolds

New Life Church, Durrington 7.30pm Speaker: Jenny Lowen

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 Summer Chronicle articles is 1 May 2014

Please help to save our printing costs by viewing The Chronicle if you can, on-line. www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday, 7th March 2014 STREAMS IN THE DESERT

The people of Egypt are starving, but unlike other countries this isn't headline news. Although they export Egyptian cotton and some vegetables their main income comes from tourism and since the Arab Spring and the problems with the Muslim Brotherhood nobody visits Egypt. It is thought to be too dangerous. Unlike the other Middle Eastern countries they don't have any oil. In Luxor the hotels are closed and the Nile Cruise boats are laid up 3 deep along the banks of the Nile.

The Egyptians thought that the Arab Spring would change their lives, give them more freedom. It was their hope for a new and better future. They never thought it would result in lack of work, lack of money, starvation and oppression. In Egypt Christians and Muslims have always got on very well together. Every business employs both Christians and Muslims. The Christians work Ramadan and the Muslims work Christmas and Easter.



The local church here in Goring-WWDP



Mohamed Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood were backed by Qatar and the Western Governments. They had money and organisation which the rest of the opposition groups didn't. This is why they won the elections.

Mohamed Morsi made all sorts of promises of more freedom before he came to power. Instead he took away their freedom especially from the Christians as the Muslim Brotherhood are anti Christian.

Since the Arab Spring 20 Christian Churches have been destroyed and many Christians killed. To the majority of Egyptians this was wrong. The Christians were blamed by the Muslim Brotherhood for removing Mohamed Morsi. The Christians were so scared they start dressing like Muslims. Since Mohamed Morsi was removed from power the Army and the moderate Muslim Council have been helping to rebuild the Christian Churches.

The new constitution passed by a referendum at the end of January this year gives Christians more freedom. Freedom to worship and follow their religion openly. The Army is in control of Egypt and we in the West think this is bad, but the Egyptians welcome it.



They have brought down the price of food and helped to create jobs. The majority of Egyptians are hoping that the head of the Army will be the next President.

I have close friends in Luxor and currently they are only surviving because of the money I send them. The beautiful English Rose garden at their house has been dug up to grow vegetables and they now keep chickens, so they have food to eat.



They are hoping that 2014 will be a better year when the Tourists will come back to Egypt especially Luxor for their holidays.

I would ask you all to pray for the people of Egypt and to pray that Western
Governments will understand that Egyptians don't want Mohamed Morsi and the Muslim
Brotherhood to run the country.

They want Muslims and Christians to live together in peace and harmony working together for a new and better future for Egypt.

Jo Johnston – Market Rasen Methodist Church (Printed with permission)

For further information speak to Eileen Rhodes Tel 248263

The Birds of The Air

The other day I heard a lot of noise in the garden - loud, boisterous voices and cackling laughter. Whoever could it be? I looked out and saw TEN Magpies flying out of the tree at the bottom of the garden. I had never before seen so many at once: we have a pair or a couple of pairs who patrol the garden and trees, particularly in the spring. They are very handsome, with black and white plumage and elongated tails. The black of their wings and tails show a very high gloss, the iridescence shining almost blue or purple.

Magpies belong to the corvid family, which includes ravens, crows and jays. They are very vocal, loud and boisterous, with harsh and grating voices that have been likened to ratchet screwdrivers - for those who are practical enough to know what that means! They are also known as 'chatterers' and became the symbol for garrulity. They use 'chacking' calls to each other and harsh cackling calls when harassing and confronting other birds or seeing danger. They were sometimes kept by farmers as watch-birds, to give warning by their chattering of the approach of strangers. In some other countries, magpies were honoured and it was unlucky to kill them, for they warned of the approach of wolves.

Magpies are opportunists.

They will eat whatever you might throw out into the garden – nuts, seeds and fruit, but seem to prefer insects and larvae, snails, slugs, small creatures (such as rabbits, moles, mice and voles), other birds, nestlings and eggs, and will scavenge just like their cousins, the crows. They are also well known for pecking ticks from other animals' hides, and keeping them clean, but also pecking in to scars and wounds, (sometimes going a little too far and causing the wounds to open further).

They are very intelligent birds. I threw a fairly large piece of bread out on the lawn one sunny day. Our resident seagulls must have been down at the sea, as the bread stayed there for hours in the sunshine and got very hard. A magpie came by and picked it up, but found it too hard to eat or even peck at. It opened its beak, picked up the bread as well as it could and dropped it into the nearby water bowl. Two minutes later it was picked out, pecked at, broken up and consumed.

Ten Magpies? The old rhyme that I learned as a child into the mind on? seeing a magpie started to run through my head – "One for sorrow, two for joy, three for a girl, four for a boy," but I could get no further. Having always regarded magpies in a superstitious way (a legacy of my Cornish childhood) I started to worry what ten magpies all seen at once might portend.

I found the rest of the rhyme – here are two versions: "Five for silver, six for gold, seven for a secret never to be told. Eight for a wish, nine for a kiss, ten for a bird that it's best to miss." The other version was: "Eight for heaven, nine for hell, ten for the devil's own sel'" Hmm, not good either way.

Why do magpies have such a poor reputation? Like many birds with pied plumage, Magpies traditionally have a two-sided reputation: sometimes friendly and good, foretelling good luck and warning of danger; sometimes as a creature of evil omen.

There is a legend that they would not go into the shelter of the Ark with Noah, but stayed outside, perched on the roof, where they could chatter and jeer at the world as it drowned. Another legend says that it has black and white plumage because it would not go into full mourning with the rest of the birds at the time of Christ's Crucifixion.

If a magpie takes hair clippings, which you may have been silly enough to throw outside, it may take them to weave into the nest. Should this happen, the person to whom the hair belongs will die within a year and a day.

It was believed that Swedish witches took the form of a magpie so that no one would know whether the magpie they encountered was a witch or a bird.

As the line in the rhyme indicated, in Scotland it was believed to be the Devil's bird and to have a drop of his blood under its tongue. What should we do to avert disaster in face of these and many other evil omens and malevolent situations?

Meeting a single magpie, to avert misfortune, you have the option of asking "Good day Mr. Magpie, how is your wife today?" bowing to it; making a cross with your foot on the ground (seeing several magpies, make a cross for each); wetting your forefinger with spit and making a cross on your shoe; making the sign of the Cross by crossing your thumbs one over the other; raising your hat, spit towards the bird, and say 'Devil, devil, I defy thee.'

I telephoned my cousin who is a farmer in Cornwall. I know he has a particular dislike of magpies. He had a row of them strung up along the field hedge when I was there a few years ago. His first words were those of a practical farmer. "You need to get a Larsen trap. First of all you have to catch the decoy and put it in the trap with plenty of food and the other birds come to it. You can let any other birds free and stretch the magpies' necks." I explained that I didn't want to destroy them; I only wanted to get more information and to know why he had such a dislike of them.

He said that this time of the year they often get together in a crowd, perhaps for choosing a mate and that it is quite likely I won't see them in a large number for another year. They generally stay with the one mate, but are not slow to replace one that might be killed.

His dislike has grown through their predatory actions on poultry and eggs and on their raiding the nests of smaller birds to steal the eggs, or even hatchlings – to feed their own hatchlings. He said that they even came into the cowshed while the milking was going on to attack the small mud nests of the swallows tucked way up in the corners of the roof.

I have myself seen them flying in and out of the trees at the bottom of our garden, pursued by pigeons or doves and being dive-bombed by blackbirds trying to defend their nests and eggs or babies. I have also tried to hide baby birds fallen from the nest, in the hope that the parents could save them from alert cats, but they were taken very quickly by the opportunistic magpie. However, we cannot blame magpies for the decline in the number of songbirds and tree sparrows, and many other birds by 70% - 85%. This shocking destruction is caused by the move towards agricultural monoculture and associated destruction of habitats: the poisoning by insecticide of the insect eating birds, or removal of their insect food; weed killer takes away the seed food of the seed eating birds and so on and so on.

Magpies compensate for their 'shortcomings' by their labour in the field by keeping down the numbers of destructive insects, mice and rabbits. Nature needs a balance and the magpies' contribution to the overbalance is minimal to that of mankind. It is time to stop man's inhumanity both to man and to God's other creatures and restore the balance of nature with more compassion and less greed.

It is time to make the sign of the Cross against our own evil and mismanagement of the world around us.

Lord, endue Thy word from heaven With such light, and love, and power, That in us its silent leaven May work on from hour to hour.

Give us grace to bear our witness
To the truths we have embraced;
And let others both their sweetness
And their quickening virtue taste.
Carl Spitta, 1801-59.

Save us from weak resignation To the evils we deplore; Let the search for Thy salvation Be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom Grant us courage, Serving Thee whom we adore.

Harry Emerson Fosdick. 1878-1969.

Mary Connelly

The Southern Synoo U.F.

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We have collected together information on work supporting those affected by the flooding in Somerset. We trust this is helpful. Do forward to others.

How to support those affected by flooding in Somerset

Forage Aid: Have you got feed, forage or animal bedding spare or space to house stock? Contact the South West NFU office via **south.west@nfu.org.uk**. Deliveries can be made to the Sedgemoor Auction Centre, at J24 of the M5, post code TA6 6DF. Please call 01278 410278 to arrange a delivery time or contact Rebecca Horsington via **rhorsington@hotmail.com** .

The Red Cross: The Red Cross are taking offers of items to donate to those affected by flooding. Call 01823 273700

FLAG Flooding on the Levels Action Group: This is a voluntary group operating locally to match those in need with offers of help. They are finding accommodation for people and pets, arranging transport, boats and 4x4s and assisting at rest centres.

Donations: The Somerset Community Foundation has created a fund to support communities affected by flooding, often for the second time this winter.

To donate call 01749 344949 or make cheques payable to the Somerset Community Foundation and write "Flood Relief" on the back of the cheque and post to: Somerset Community Foundation, Yeoman House, Bath and West Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 6QN.

Money can be given to two charities to support farmers:

Farming Community Network (Mark your donation "For Somerset Farmers")
Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution

Prayer: Gracious God, we commit to you all who are affected by flooding and the severe weather. We pray for those who are suffering through loss of their homes and everyday lives. We remember those whose livelihoods have been damaged, whose businesses cannot operate and farmers whose crops have been destroyed and livestock evacuated. We give thanks for the many people who have worked together to help one another. We remember the physical hardships, stress and distress of all those working in difficult conditions and pray for the perseverance and stamina required to carry on. We ask your blessing on the work of all organisations and initiatives that are seeking to provide relief to people, prevent further flooding and ensure livestock are well cared for.

Bless the work of all those who caught up in this severe weather and its aftermath. All this we ask through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jerry Marshall, CEO From the Southern Synod URC

An Easter Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Jesus
- 5 Doubting _
- 6 Jesus rode a ___ into Jerusalem
- 7 Disciple who denied knowing Jesus
- 10 Easter season
- 11 Colored Easter
- 13 __ of Gethsemane
- 16 Easter celebrates the of Jesus
- 17 Sunday before Easter

DOWN

- 2 After 40 days, Jesus ascended to ____
- 3 An angel rolled away the __ covering the tomb
- 4 People greeted
 Jesus with ___
 branches
- 6 where Jesus died
- 8 Mary ___ discovered Jesus had risen 9 __ sentenced Jesus to die
- 12 Season before Easter
- 14 __ betrayed Jesus
- 15 Easter animal?

© by Cliff Leitch

Weekday Activities

Messy Church ist Monday Afternoon in month

Tuesday Fellowship 2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons

The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers Thursday Mornings. School Term times

Kestro (Stroke Club) Friday Afternoons

Little Fishes Play Group Monday-Friday. School Term times

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

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 2014

The Magazine of Goring United Reformed Church



Mamy & Ruth Raharimanantsoa Congo-Brazzaville

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Church Secretary at St Andrew's Miss Pat Thomson 37 The Grangeway, Rustington, Littlehampton, West Sussex. BN16 2QS Telephone: 01903 776226 E-Mail: pannthomson@gmail.com

Worship in the Church Sanctuary

<u>Sundays</u>

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

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

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

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

Mid-week

10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month in the Harris Room

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 71 - No. 638 Summer 2014

Front Cover

Mamy & Ruth Raharimanantsoa off duty, at the 50th birthday celebration of Ruth's friend and colleague Andrea - on the island lle Faignond in the Congo River. Ruth and her husband Mamy took a dugout canoe to get there!

Ruth who grew up in this Church, and is a former member, is serving with Mamy in the Congo.

Their No.64 Newsletter can be found on the table at the back of the church next to the A/V Desk.

It is also available on-line from our website [if you login first] at www.gurc.org.uk/mission/wycliffe-bible-translators/

The Chronicles are also on-line at — www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online/

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Ruth & Mamy's Newsletter



Login

PENTECOST June 8, 2014

We are racing through the year at a rate of knots, almost at the half way mark! In the church year we come to the festival of Pentecost. Here are some facts about Pentecost Sunday, also known as Whitsun in some circles. In the early church Whit Sunday was a favourite day for baptism. It is thought that because people are often baptised dressed in white, Whit Sunday was probably originally known as 'White Sunday'.

A recent survey asked a random selection of non-churched people to name what they thought were the most important dates in the Christian year – They came up with Christmas 72% and Easter 22%, 4% Harvest and 2% Whitsun. Pentecost was not actually mentioned it was referred to as Whitsun. That is interesting because to the church Pentecost is arguably as important as Easter or Christmas. Pentecost is the birth of the church and the instigation and empowering of its ministry.



- 1. Pentecost Sunday marks the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles.
- 2. Pentecost Sunday occurs 50 days after Easter.
- 3. The Bible records the Pentecost in Acts 2:1-13.
- 4. Pentecost comes 10 days after the Ascension of Jesus Christ.
- 5. Pentecost is also known as "the birthday of the Church".

- 6. Pentecost fulfils Jesus' promise to send the "Counsellor" and "Spirit of Truth" in John 16-5-15.
- 7. Pentecost launches the largescale spreading of the Gospel after Jesus' ascension. Acts 2:41 records that after Peter spoke to the crowd after receiving the Holy Spirit, some 3,000 people were baptized.
- The Pentecostal movement derives its name from the New Testament event in Acts 2.
- 9. Jewish people also celebrate Pentecost, but not for the same reason as Christians. The celebration by Jews of Pentecost is to observe God giving the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai 50 days after the Exodus. The Pentecost in Jewish tradition takes place 50 days after Passover.
- 10. In Western Churches, Pentecost is usually represented with the colour red, which symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Two ancient Greek Hymns (perhaps written as early as the 4th century and have been accredited to John Chrysostom), chanted on the Feast of Pentecost each refer to a specific call upon the church.

1 - Kontakion When the Most High came down and confounded tongues of men at Babel, He divided the nations. When He dispensed the tongues of fire, He called all to unity, and with one voice we glorify the Most Holy Spirit.

2 - Apolytikion Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who made fisherman all-wise, by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them, drawing all the world into Your net. O Loving One, glory be to You.

In the first of these Hymns God is seen to overturn the curse of Babel, people were now able to hear the gospel in their own language. This openness of language only lasted for a brief period. In the modern church a spiritual language is still practiced, Glossolalia or speaking in tongues. Secondly there was a renewed sense of unity, empowerment and confidence among the believers as they became the church.

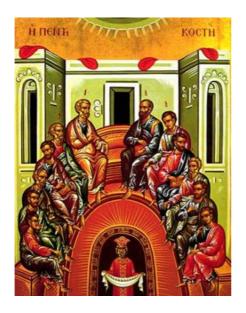
The Biblical account of Pentecost is found in the book of The Acts of the Apostles. In Chapter two we are told that the Apostles of our Lord were gathered together in one place. Suddenly, a sound came from heaven like a rushing wind, filling the entire house where they were sitting. Then, tongues of fire appeared, and one sat upon each one of the Apostles. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as directed by the Spirit (Acts 2:1-4).

This miraculous event occurred on the Jewish Feast of Pentecost, celebrated by the Jews on the fiftieth day after the Passover as the culmination of the Feast of Weeks (Exodus 34:22; Deuteronomy 16:10). The Feast of Weeks began on the third day after the Passover with the presentation of the first harvest sheaves to God, and it concluded on Pentecost with the offering of two loaves of unleavened bread, representing the first products of the harvest (Leviticus 23:17-20; Deuteronomy 16:9-10).

Since the Jewish Feast of Pentecost was a great pilgrimage feast, many people from throughout the Roman Empire were gathered in Jerusalem on this day. When the people in Jerusalem heard the sound, they came together and heard their own languages being spoken by the Apostles (Acts 2:5-6). The people were amazed, knowing that some of those speaking were Galileans, and not men who would normally speak many different languages. They wondered what this meant, and some even thought the Apostles were drunk (Acts 2:7-13).

Peter, hearing these remarks, stood up and addressed the crowd. He preached to the people regarding the Old Testament prophecies about the coming of the Holy Spirit. He spoke about Jesus Christ and His death and glorious Resurrection. Great conviction fell upon the people, and they asked the Apostles, "What shall we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" [Acts 2:38-39].

The Bible records that on that day about three thousand were baptized. Following, the book of Acts states that the newly baptized continued daily to hear the teaching of the Apostles, as the early Christians met together for fellowship, the breaking of bread, and for prayer. Many wonderful signs and miracles were done through the Apostles, and the Lord added to the Church daily those who were being saved [Acts 2:42-47].



Pentecost has been a great inspiration to artists over the years. There has been so much symbolism and stylised imagery adopted. You first need a gathering of people in a room and of course flames resting upon the individuals. Artists like to include characters that probably would not have been there, the favourite being St. Paul.

Pentecost is a great day in the life of the Church I think we need to make more of it.

Here are some ideas; in Italy it was customary to scatter rose leaves from the ceiling of the churches to recall the miracle of the fiery tongues.

In France it was customary to blow trumpets during the service, to recall the sound of the mighty wind which accompanied the Descent of the Holy Spirit. But in reality it's not about the show but how we live our lives by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Andrew Sellwood

In August 2015, this Church will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary

Between now and summer next year The CHRONICLE will be printing highlights from the years since 1940.

In this issue we look at 55 years ago in 1959 -

MILK MARKETTING BOARD January 1959

The Milk Marketing Board seems to have conducted a successful campaign to secure an increase in the consumption of milk. If we consult our Bibles we shall certainly find many references to the beneficial properties of this beverage, but what about those metal tops on the bottles in which your milk is delivered?

Do you throw them away? Please remember that the Sunday School collects them and they have already raised quite a handsome sum for the Church Building Fund. So do please bring yours along and help to swell the Building Fund.

COLLECTIONS May 1959

Envelopes = £67.17.6

Loose cash = £57.5.7

GARDEN PARTY, July 1959

The Garden Party arranged by Mrs. G.L. Nodes at her home at 5 Parklands Avenue on July 4th was a great success. The sun shone and Church friends gathered in good numbers. Various competitions, a bring-and buy stall, teas and ices helped to bring the financial result to £39.10. O

rersary



The church opened in September 1961

A few words about the progress of our new church building.

The plan adequatly provided for our general requirement to seat 300 but the committee felt that it was too modernistic, the architects have provided another design for consideration.

... a brief summary on the term modernistic.



A Christian Church is no ordinary building, its erection is an act of worship. Gothic style has been outdated, partly on account of economy. New churches will of necessity have to be very simple, modern surroundings, with materials selected for their durability

CHURCH REGISTER November 1959

- New Member Miss Barbara Stephens, Larksmead,
 7,Arlington Avenue, by transfer from Union Church, Mill Hill.
- Marriage On 16th October 1959, Miss Moira Laird to Mr David Baker. Our congratulations.
- New Address Mr & Mrs. Ralph Richards -Mill Lane, High Salvington. Tel: Swandean 1425

The Autumn Chronicle will fnclude - '60 yrs ago in 1954

The Summer Chronicle 2015 will feature 75 years of the Church's history.

If you have any memories that you would like to share with our readers, then please do let me know. Graham Redman

Tuesday Fellowship

1. We had another visit from our friend Tony Trevithick with a continuation of our journey from Penzance to Paddington.

We know our journey would be quicker by First Great Western, but not half so interesting. We enjoy Tony's talks. At the time Tony came to speak to us, the west of England were having terrible floods, and Dawlish was much in the news, so our journey started there. Tony said that Dawlish is always bad in winter. Our journey progressed to Exeter which is a Cathedral city. Exeter has problems with its railway but it is safe from floods. The Cathedral is 14th century and has a nice clock. Like Cullompton we have to face up to change. Through Tiverton we come to Wellington which boasts a Monastery which received a charter in 1215. Just as I thought, the good old Wellington boot comes from there.

Tony went on to tell us that he remembers a time when he was thinking of taking up the ministry at Taunton and Bridgewater.

An interesting afternoon Tony.

2. Eileen Rhodes came to talk about the Women's World Day of Prayer, and this year's theme was Streams in the Desert and was prepared by the women of Egypt. The national flag is a muddy red colour at the top, then white with a symbol and black at the bottom.

Eileen showed us some slides of Egypt. We saw Cairo the capital, then we saw the river Nile and Pyramids. The Muslim Brotherhood are quite a force in Egypt but Christians and Muslims are getting more tolerant of each other's views. It turned out I was unable to go to St Richards'church on the day, I got a programme so saw what went on. An interesting visit - Eileen wore the national dress for the afternoon.

- 3. Next we had a visit from two gentlemen who showed us films made by the South Downs film makers. A different afternoon that was. We saw a film made about Worthing and smugglers who did their worst at Goring. I was interested to note that there is a road in Goring called Smugglers Walk. We saw other films too one about the National Trust gardens in Sussex and Kent, and another interesting film about Ferring Country Centre. There were more films shown while we were having tea so my notebook went away, and as they say, "everything stops for tea".
- 4. We had a visit from a lady called Marianne, not our Marianne Barber but Marianne a singer and a Guitarist. Percussion instruments were distributed amongst us.

Some of the songs we sang were from South Pacific, The Sound of Music, My Fair Lady and Summer Holiday. We sang Yellow Bird, Getting to Know You, Singing in the rain - no comment, and Bye, Bye Blackbird.

Then with the greatest respect to Dame Vera Lynne and the people she entertained during the Second World War, we sang The Bluebirds Flew over the White Cliffs of Dover and We'll Meet Again.

We then came to our 19th song — Mr Tambourine Man, then a childhood favourite of mine, Puff the Magic Dragon and Blowing in the Wind.

And to end the afternoon, a song which reminded me of Matthew and Wilma as it was a good old Scottish Song - The Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond

I enjoy the Tuesday Fellowship and I don't feel I am too young for it as the programmes are varied and interesting so if you can come along a warm welcome awaits you. It would be great to see you on Tuesdays. Details are always in Welcome and on our website.

Janet Dean





A Group for Adults with Babies and Toddlers

Leader: Mrs Wilma Smith Telephone: 01903 873265 E-mail: ark@gurc.org.uk

Happy 25th Anniversary

Over 25 years ago a group of mums in the Church felt there was a need for a Christian parent and toddler group. Christine Brewer, Janice Byerley, Jenny Merritt, Liz Stilwell and myself had a vision of a safe haven from the stresses of daily life and The Ark was born. The name also seems appropriate as most people came in two by two.

Sue Mitchell joined the team introduced by Jane Archer, and Bett Swierk (a close neighbour of Liz) brought her young son Martin along.

Most of us had our own children with us but had great support and help from several older friends within the Church.

Our first meeting was the Thursday following the Easter Holidays and each year we would celebrate another anniversary with a group of loyal families who enjoyed a parent and toddler group with a difference. The difference being a Christian story, craft and simple songs. '1,2,3 Jesus loves me' and 'God's love is like a circle' were among our favourites. Each member of the team had their own strengths, chatting with visitors, making the tea, keeping the register. Sue would 'man' the craft table and I played the accordion to lead the singing and music time. It doesn't seem possible that 25 years have passed although the age of my own children are evidence. Kevin was only 9 months old when we began and Mum used to come along to mind him for me. Kerry (nearly 3) thought she was one of the helpers!

Since the original staff in 1989, many have led and helped including Gaynor Anderson-Easy, Carol Webber, Jane Bond, Sue Nicholls, Rosemary Terry, Margaret Butcher, Joan Ely, Carole Culliss, Les & Beryl Richardson, Tania Hunt, Denise Woods, Susanna Gauntlett and Brian Mitten.

Hilary Redman stepped aboard in September 2002 and stayed at the helm until Wilma Smith took over last year.

The prayerful support that enabled the group to begin has continued over the last 25 years. Thank you all, and please join me in praying for it to continue into the future, giving Christian love to another generation of families. There are many Parent / Toddler groups out there but not so many Christian ones.

Long live The Ark. — Val Gill

Nazareth

Layers of landscape still expose the stones, trees and flowers where He walked. Mimosa trees, mustard flowers, look alike hollyhocks line the roadside.

In midst of new churches, souvenir shops and cafes, Nazareth still says Jesus lived here. Returning to my cabin I wash my feet.

Marianne Barber

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

The last day for Autumn Chronicle articles is 1 August 2014

Please help to save our printing costs by viewing The Chronicle if you can, on-line. www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online







The Chronicle Summer 2014

Messy Easter Holiday Club







Thanks and congratulations to Mary for all the hard work she, and those who helped, put into the "Messy Easter" holiday club event. It was all so well organised that everything went like clockwork. No mean feat as I know from my own experience years ago.

In particular I enjoyed the wonderful Easter Sunday service which Mary conducted, and I am certain that I was not the only one in Church on that day who was in turn, both inspired and deeply impressed by all we saw and heard.

Doreen Norris

Worthing Food Bank

On Saturday 3rd May it was my privilege to join the team of four volunteers from the Worthing Food Bank as they collected food donations at the monthly store collection. As it was my first time on the team I arrived early for my shift, so that I could see what I had to do. I was stationed by the doors letting the shoppers know that we are helping local people in crisis and could they please consider donating one item from the list I was giving them. Most people accepted the list, but how many donated an item on the way out of the store I don't know.

A number people came back to me with single tins, multiple tins and bags of with a variety of food stuffs. The sons of one of the team members came and swapped my trolley for an empty one at regular intervals. The store in May was the Ferring Asda and the team was split into three groups, two of us-one on either side of the doors speaking to people and giving out the shopping lists, the other two plus the boys were just beyond the doors sorting the donations into appropriate boxes. In my experience no one was rude, but one or two muttered "scroungers", two people asked if the Food Bank could help them, one seriously and the other one saying, "I need help, I have to pay tax on my pension"....?

It is these donations together with the donations that we at GURC and various other groups around the area give that keep the Food Bank going; there are however other costs, such as running the van, that need to be met, if you are able to commit £2 a month by standing order there are some standing order forms on the table by the coffee trolley, if not please continue to donate food as you have been. This all helps local people in crisis.

I look forward to helping again in June, I can't remember at which store, but it will be just as much a privilege as it was in May. Volunteers are always needed, if you have a couple of hours to spare and feel you could help with the food collections, packing the parcels, or talking with clients then please email Julie Denyer

office@foodbank.co.uk

or phone her on 07767115943 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays only. There, but for the grace of God, go I.

Another Year!

Sing a song of May-time, Sing a song of Spring; Flowers are in their beauty, Birds are on the wing.

May-time, play time, God has given the May-time; Thank Him for His gift of love – Sing a song of Spring. Blossom on the hedgerows, Sunshine on the hills; Oh, the happy May-time All my being fills: May-time......

> Frederick Arthur Jackson 1867-1942

It seems only like yesterday I wrote about 'Walking through Forget-Me-Nots'. That time of year has arrived again. The garden was taken over by Celandines, then Dandelions and Forget-Me-Nots and that great fun plant for children – Cleavers. And as soon as the Celandines would finish, then the Creeping Buttercup would be rampaging over the flowerbed! As a child, I remember pulling off pieces of Cleavers and throwing them against someone's trousers and watching with delight their struggle to pull it off. The same happens with the Cleaver seeds (burrs) that stick to clothes as you walk against the plants.

(Of course, someone else saw the potential in Teasels and Cleavers and invented Velcro!)

In the meantime, I wondered what I should do about these 'weeds' that were filling the garden. Should I spend time pulling them up?

Should I exhaust myself entering a battle against Nature at her strongest? What should I do? Then I comforted myself with the words of an almost forgotten hymn that came into my mind and I looked at the profusion with pleasure, if not gratitude.



To God, who makes all lovely things, How happy must our praises be! Each day a new surprise He brings To make us glad His world to see. How plentiful must be the mines From which He gives His gold away! In March He gives us celandines, He gives us buttercups in May.



One of my banks of Celandines.

He grows the wheat and never stops; There's none can count the blades of green, And up above the elm-tree tops As many thousand leaves are seen.

And when the wheat is bound in sheaves, He sends His wind among the trees, And down come all the merry leaves In yellow twinkling companies.

On winter nights His quiet flakes

Come falling, falling all the night, And when the world next morning wakes, It finds itself all shining white.

He makes the sea that shines afar With waves that dance unceasingly; And every single little star That twinkles in the evening sky.

He made the people that I meet, The many people, great and small, In home and school, and down the street, And He made me to love them all.

John Macleod Campbell

How many years is it since I last sang those words? Too long – and what a shame! Do you remember 'In our dear Lord's garden, planted here below, many tiny flowerets in sweet beauty grow'? Do you remember the rest of the verses?

'Christ the loving gardener, tends these blossoms small; loves the little lilies as the cedars tall.

Nothing is too little for His tender care; nothing is too lowly in His love to share.

Jesus loves the children, children such as we, blessed them when their mothers brought them to His knee.

Jesus calls the children, bids them come and stand In His pleasant garden, watered by His hand. Lord, Thy call we answer; take us in Thy care, train us in Thy garden, in Thy work to share.'

Ella Sophia Armitage, 1841-1931.

Maybe I have stirred some memories – I hope so. There is a wealth of 'God in Nature songs and hymns unsung for too long!

Mary Connelly. May, 2014.

Immanuel Church, Vancouver, Canada

Time is passing really quickly. It is already May 2014, we've been married nearly 8 months and it's been 3 years since I first came to Canada. Maybe because its spring, it feels like reminders and celebrations of new life are all around us at the moment. It was wonderful to celebrate our friend Carlos' baptism on Easter morning. As a small indicator of the number of lives that he and his journey have impacted there were at least 10 people who were willing to join him in the (very cold sea)water when he was baptised!

We also recently celebrated 2 years sober for another friend too. It is encouraging to see people who we haven't seen for a while coming to dinner and seeing the small changes in our regular friends that come, even if it is just sticking around for a little longer after eating or a longer chat than usual. I may have written this before, but there are times when we are sitting around chatting after dinner it feels just like a big family.



Carlos just about to be baptised.

Church in Canada - Anna Cooper

Our Easter weekend was a bit hectic – we've worked out that we did roughly 10 hours of Church related activities! Starting on Good Friday with a joint service between a number of churches in the area.

On Saturday we attended the Easter Vigil (a 3 hour Anglican High Mass) at St James, the church that we were married in. From there it was to another Church where Immanuel (the Church that we now attend) was having a 24 hour prayer room for the Easter weekend. We topped it off on the Sunday by attending the Baptism of our friend Carlos and attending Immanuel's Easter morning service too. It felt very full, but it was great to see, experience and celebrate Easter with the beautifully diverse Body of Christ!

The joint service we attended on Good Friday was held at Strathcona Church, a church building only a few blocks away that was recently vacated by a small, primarily commuter congregation that had been there for years. Though a number of us living in the neighbourhood were concerned about the level of engagement whoever took it over would have with the Downtown Eastside, we have been blessed to see the way God, through nearly thrown out newspaper ads and other apparent coincidences, led its new owners to buy and open the space to diverse Christian groups and churches rooted in the area. We're excited to see what will develop.

Workwise, I feel like I've settled into a good rhythm of entering the monthly data into the spreadsheet, producing reports and paying Servants workers, and I can definitely see that I have got quicker at entering the data. Whereas it would have taken me a good couple of mornings to enter it all and probably a couple more to do the report, I can now enter all the data and produce the two monthly reports in a morning!

I've also been working on the Annual Charity Return for the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA). Every year it has caused me a lot of stress, and this year seems to be only mildly better. I have started it a lot earlier, which is good, but I have still ended up being stuck at the same point that has caught me out the other two years. At least I still have plenty of time before the deadline at the end of June.

Outside of the financial side of things, I have also been continuing to select and publish the 'Fortnightly From the Archive Friday' articles on the website – www.servantsasia.org.



The last two have featured the rules of board games that were rewritten a few years ago by a Servants Team in India and a not so serious test to see if you are a 'Social Justice Freak'...

We've also been up to some fun things - Jason was asked to lead worship for our Church's Youth weekend away (and I got to go too!) so we spent our first Valentines day surrounded by a bunch of young people! The weekend was held at Camp Squeah, which is near Hope, BC, and was the furthest into Canada that I have ventured so far. Another weekend we went Snow Shoeing, which was hard work. The best part was getting to slide all the way down to the bottom of the trail! We've also travelled out to Abbotsford to visit some friends of Jason's from college, and spent most of the weekend pulling faces at their very cute 6 month old daughter:) We are still persevering with our monthly games nights, so far we've mainly just had one extra person come, but last time we had 3!

The hope is for more of our neighbours to join us in playing games and having fun.

I have decided to opt for a new hairstyle - dreadlocks. It's one I have been contemplating on and off for a while, and finally decided that I should just go for it, see if I like it and I can always comb them out if I want to. So far, so good, it takes about a year for them to get fully settled in, so some days I feel I look a lot like a haystack! And just so you know – I still wash my hair 2-3 times a week and no wax is coming near my head!

Jason and I are now an aunt and uncle! Jason's brother, Colin and his wife, Sarah had their first child, Ellie, just before Christmas, so she is now around 5 months old. We have yet to meet her in person, but we have heard her over the phone!

Thank you for supporting me in the many ways that you do :]

Anna Wood née Cooper, & Jason

This is a video featuring the Church we attend (if you look carefully you might see me!): If you are viewing this on line, click on the link.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBZFy1ZDKE4

Weekdan Activities

Messy Church ist Monday Afternoon in month

2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons Tuesday Fellowship

The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers Thursday Mornings. School Term times

Kestro (Stroke Club) Friday Afternoons

Little Fishes Play Group Monday-Friday. School Term times

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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 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

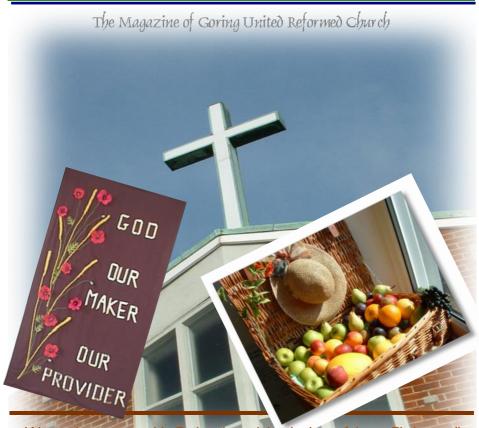


Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex. www.gurc.org.uk



The CHRONICLE

Autumn 2014



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

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GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

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

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The CHRONICLE

Vol. 71 - No. 639

Autumn 2014

Front Cover

Basket of fruit used as a Harvest Festival display some years ago. One of the banners designed and made by some of the talented ladies of the Church, led by Caroline Hibbs. Background: Church façade.

Harvest Festival:

28 September at 10.30am

Concert: Morning Has Broken

Saturday 4 October at 7.30pm Worthing Choral Society Collection in aid of the Bible Society.

Organ Recital: Geoffrey Redman

Thursday 16 October at 1.00pm Retiring collection in aid of Royal College of Organists

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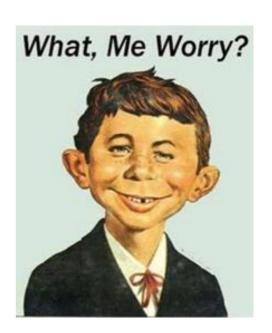
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"What, me worry?"

So, following on from my recent enthusiasm for the way God provides for us and His reassurance that we need not worry here is more about worry. "What, me worry?" This was the catch phrase of Alfred E. Neuman the fictitious cartoon cover mascot of Mad magazine, an American satirical journal published for over four decades until 2004.



Alfred was a bit of a goofy character looked like he didn't have a care in the world, a simple day dreamer. Whatever situation or disaster he found himself in he simply did not recognise the problem, he came through unscathed. The reason being 'he had no worries'. This comic book character was used to represent an unrealistic reflection of the human condition.

Isn't it annoying when at a time you are feeling worried about something someone helpfully comments – you need to chill out, lighten up, it may never happen or get a life. This advice tends to make you just flare up more. But maybe it is more positive than we think ... get a life in Christ. We seem to spend a vast amount of time worrying about things that others may think of as being trivial. A while ago I heard there was a football match being played in faraway Brazil; people were really worried England may not win, England did not win. Some things are inevitable, so there was really no need to worry; sometimes we just need to be accepting. Being summer there was also a tennis game going on, this time nearer to home just outside London. TV experts declared they were worried that our Scottish player might not win. He didn't win, but all the worry didn't seem to help him or make the result any different. Worry never changes the situation

but it may well change us mentally and physically.

Worry is negative in so many ways.

More seriously just because we are believers in Jesus does not guarantee a worry free life. When sin entered the world it did more than just separate us from God, sin stole our confidence, it made us question God's intentions for us. Even now when things do not go as

we had hoped or planned we ask Him why.

Why have you not given me a job? Why have you not restored my marriage? Why have you not rescued me from my financial distress? Why have you not taken my illness from me? Why God? Why? We worry God is not listening or perhaps he has abandoned us? Scripture tells us that is not the case.

Research has found that the average person's worry is focused on:-

40% of things that will never happen...

30% of things about the past that can't be changed...

12% of things relating to the criticism by others, mostly untrue...

10% about health, which gets worse with stress and

8% about real problems that will be faced.

some degree. The challenge and easy, and my burden is light." opportunity God gives us is to come to Him, all you who are weary and burdened, and He will give us rest.

We worry about what we look like Matthew 11 28 "Come to me, all you how others see us but we are that are weary and are carrying created in God's image so we can't heavy burdens, and I will give you be that bad. God loves us as His rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and children just as we are. Worry is learn from me; for I am gentle and the product of the human condition humble in heart, and you will find so inevitably everybody worries to rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is

> KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON YOUR WALK OF FAITH.

> > Andrew Sellwood

In August 2015, this Church will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary

Between now and summer next year The CHRONICLE will be printing highlights from the years since 1940.

In this issue we look at 60 years ago in 1954

No. 59 : Bi-Monthly THE CHRONICLEActing Minister: REV. S, O, MORGAN, B.A., B.D.

SECRETARY: Miss A. E. Handford

CHURCH TREASURER: Mr G. L. Nodes EDITOR OF CHRONICLE: Mr W A. E. Pearn

raised.

Start of East Hall A gift day was fixed to raise building project £1250 - a formidable sum! Followed by a service of thanksgiving at which time it is hoped that an announcement will be made that the greater part of the sum had been

> GIRL'S LIFE BRIGADE The No.5 Company of the G.L.B. formed recently and attached to the Church, under the captaincy of Mrs.Blackman,

Miss Handford celebrates her 91st birthday on 8 February 1954

-MID-WEEK SERVICES:

Mr. H. Danis, educated Jobs The decision to hold these services was appreciated by many who feel that a quiet hour of devotional fellowship together during the week is helpful. Please come if you are able to do so. Attendances have been encouraging, but there have always been plenty of spare chairs.

> The following verses were on a Christmas card received by Mr. Blackman

Oh if they knew —

Would I be called a Christian If everybody knew My secret thoughts and feelings And everything I do? Oh, could they see the likeness Of Christ in me each day? Oh, could they hear Him speaking In everything I say.

Ladies Working Party. The ladies have been

taking a Well earned

afternoon labours, but

commence again early

meetings will

in September.

rest from their Tuesday

The local church here in Goring-Anniversary

HOW well DO YOU KNOW YOUR hymn BOOK? In which hymns do the following lines appear? 1. And none O Lord have perfect rest,

- 2. Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise. 3. O blest communion, Fellowship divine.
- 4. Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood. 5. Let knowledge grow from more to more.
- 6. The praises of redeeming love they

An Hour of Quiet An hour of quiet in worship together in the middle of the week is something inestimable value and we trust that these services will be supported so that our minister is encouraged and the spiritual life of the Church quickened. Can we all make this a matter which we will regard as a prior claim on our time.

THE CALL TO FREW CHARLES CHAIL FRANKS.

THE CALL TO FREW CHARLES CHAIL FRANKS. THE CALL TO REAL CHARGES THE CHARLES CHAIL THE BEAUTH TO REAL TO REAL CHARGES A CEAR CONDITION THE BEAUTH THE REAL CHARGES A CEAR CONDITION THE BEAUTH THE CHARGES A CEAR CONDITION TO THE CHARLES OF CEAR CONDITION TO THE CHARLES OF

In response to several enquiries - the quotation from the "Christian World by Dr

"What is this life if full of care We have no time for praise and prayer? No time at dawn to kneel and pray For guidance through the coming day. No time when duties crowd, to ask The needed strength for every task. No time at noon amid the throng To breathe a silent grateful song. No time to sit beside the brook And read a chapter from the Book. No time when evening comes, to bring Our "Thank you God for everything". No time to look up in His face, And ask forgiveness and more grace. A poor life this, if dull and clod,

Coach trip to Salisbury organised

The Winter Chronicle will include - '65 yrs ago in 1949'

The Summer Chronicle 2015 will feature 75 years of the Church's history.

If you have any memories that you would like to share with our readers, then please do let me know. Graham Redman



A Group for Adults with Babies and Toddlers

Leader: Mrs Wilma Smith Telephone: 01903 873265 E-mail: ark@gurc.org.uk

July 2014

Numbers have continued to fluctuate from week to week during the spring and summer sessions.

We have had between 14 and 27 (babies, children, mums, grans, granddads and carers) attending. New faces arrive and are made very welcome and some regulars we have not seen for a little while.

Bett keeps us on track with our craft activities. Having completed spring, we have recently been busy depicting and speaking to the children about summer and all that means – seaside, what lives in the sea, fish, crabs etc.; building sandcastles with bucket and spades. We have introduced play trays and the children have enjoyed playing in the sand. Bett

is very gifted and she is responsible for the lovely work which goes on our notice board.

In addition to colouring ice cream cones we all enjoyed eating ice creams on our last day of the session when the Little Fishes arranged for an ice cream van to come and visit. We joined forces in the Little Fishes playground/playroom to eat them; it was lovely. You will see from one of the photographs how much Carol and Denise enjoyed their ice creams – a lovely break from making teas and coffees.

My thanks go to all of the Ark team who are very loyal and turn out every week and a special mention to Val Cooper who comes week by week but has also stepped into the breach and

The local church here in Goring - Groups

run the sessions when I haven't been well enough to attend. Brian does a fantastic job as security person on the door and he ensures none of our little ones escape! The children love it when Brian brings out the fish that produces bubbles! Donna also regularly attends and interacts with the children and mums, helps us with our singing and helps out wherever she can; everyone has a part to play.

However, the Ark year has now finished and it is time for me to hand over to Rosina; I am sure that she will receive the same fantastic support from the Ark team as I have and I am sure she will be a brilliant leader. Having read this article if you think we have a great time (which we do) and you would like to join the Ark team I am sure Rosina will welcome you with open arms.

The Ark begins again on Thursday 4th September.

Wilma Smith



Tuesday Fellowship

This afternoon we had a Spring celebration - Bobby read a poem Peggy did too. Then Bobby decorated a few bare twigs much like you do for Christmas but these decorations were Easter eggs and rabbits and things like that It was unusual but lovely. Doreen read us a poem called a dieters prayer and after she had finished she said she would like a cheese and chocolate diet and we all agreed. Peggy read us another poem. Doreen read again then Bobby read about the different traditions in other countries regarding Easter. Germany decorate trees like we do for Christmas . That is just one country she told us about. A very interesting afternoon

Now when I turned up for this afternoon I thought 'hello-hello what have we here?' It was a computer display Vic showed in preparation for his 2nd talk to us about his life as a Policeman. Now I saw some handcuffs so I thought The bracelets were not my style and I don't want my hands behind me joined together by this ugly looking silver thing so I thought I will just write and behave. So here goes. To start with he showed us a police magazine called "The Peeler". There was an article in it about a Shepherd from the Isle of Wight who went to London to join the Metropolitan Police. In order to do that he walked from his home in the Isle of Wight to London.

The bikes were called Noddy bikes because you had to nod rather than

wave at folk. A wild card was somebody in plain clothes who went with the uniformed men as they stood a better chance of catching the baddies. Now we all know Vic is not a big and burly man. When he went into plain clothes he was able to use his own car which was Vic size however he was accompanied by a much bigger chap than Vic who didn't like Vic's car. He did a lot of grumbling about being cramped in a small car. Vic told us many tails of incidents he dealt with, however I will tell you about just one. Vic could hear scraping....so they got backup. Vic knocked on the door and 20 police officers pounced and as a result found stolen goods. They got a commendation for that. The police are encouraged to follow the instincts of their leading officers and I am not surprised by that. As in the catering trade policing is teamwork. Vic took an exam for promotion to Sargeant and went to Greenwich. That sums up that afternoon an enjoyable one thank you Vic. Next we went to Haskins which was nice for us. Some of us, myself included, homed in on Hobbycraft. My notebook had an afternoon off that afternoon. After those of us who went to Hobbycraft had finished we joined the others in Haskins restaurant to have tea and cake.

Continued on page 16

From the Ministers desk, - an occasional item 'My Hobbies'

Warning - dear reader if motor cars bore you please move on to the next item.



I have had an interest in cars since I was about 5 or 6. My brother-in-Law brought me a Corgi model every month. He even made me a splendid display cabinet to house them. I think it was because he wanted to have a collection of his own but my sister wouldn't let him.

I remember when I was about 16 and had left home for a while. On my return I found to my horror that my mother had given my collection to the local scout group for their jumble sale. I was not pleased to say the least but it was all for a good cause.

Some ministers play golf, paint pictures, grow dahlias or write books. Me, I like to tune up motorcycles and cars and basically make them as efficient as possible. Now I don't want you getting the wrong idea that I have hours of spare time on my hands, I strive to take one day off a week. All my projects are very cheap to purchase, fix and to run. That is the beauty of them. I usually find written off vehicles and re-cycle them. Some work that would take a garage a day may take me weeks. I get the spanners out and spend a few moments here and there my 'tinker time therapy'. I suppose I am reverting to my engineering background.

After leaving school I spent the next 10 years working in the Aerospace industry as a developmental technician/engineer. One of my projects was to design a *Nitro methane powered small block engine* racing car (we weren't building many planes in those days!).

While. was apprentice three of us chipped in together and bought a rough 1968 Dodge Charger from a US airbase and tuned it and raced it a My every day little. transport was heavily modified 350cc Royal Enfield café racer.



In the late 1970's I had the chance to drive a pro fuel dragster at Santa Pod raceway, due mainly to the fact no one else wanted to, why? It was too dangerous (I don't think I actually had a car driving licence at the time).



My best quarter mile time was 10.48 seconds equalling a terminal velocity of 191 mph. very slow by modern standards. Then braking 10 seconds was good now sub 5 seconds is expected!! The picture shows a fire burn out, yes it's meant to be like that. It's a technique used so more traction is achieved; you simply set fire to the tyres so they melt, just a bit, and stick to the tarmac, if you wait too long in the flames the car blows up. It really tests your nerves as you study the complicated set of countdown lights that allow you to go – you think to yourself 'should I stay or should I go'. The adrenaline rush is enormous By the way don't try it at home!! See the man with the fire extinguisher.

So you see I have always liked cars and speed. During my secular employment I have been able to own some interesting company cars. A Ford Sierra RS Cosworth, Jaguar XJR-S V12 6.0 litre, a couple of BMW's and in my last job I was fortunate to have a Porsche 964 Carrera as a company car for a year. The chairman of the company said I could keep it when I left but changed his mind when he found out I was going in to the ministry. He was furious with me - he said to everyone 'bah! What a waste of talent, the man is a fool' - probably just as well I didn't get to keep the car.



During my time in ministry over the years I have had several modest projects starting when I was in my last pastorate. I restored an old Austin Healy. It took about two years and cost practically nothing. The car had been lurking in a local farmer's barn for the previous 25 years or so. It was delivered by trailer and un-ceremonially dumped in the church car park. All kinds of people came from the village and helped.



Three of them over time became church members. It was a good project and caused much interest in the local community there was even a car show held in the church car park. Sadly I had to sell the car to pay for my MA course. Well the car served a good purpose I suppose.

My first project here in Goring was to find myself an old Yamaha xv750 Virago 'V' twin motorcycle. To me they look like a poor man's Harley Davidson. I thought that would be a relatively inexpensive undertaking. I found one that had been written off in a crash, fortunately just the back end had been wrecked.

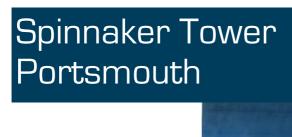


But I had a problem, I realised my driving licence did not cover me any more for riding a big motorcycle, however I did notice I could ride a three wheeled vehicle so I trike'd the bike. As it was a shaft drive Yamaha I simply bolted a scrapped reliant robin back axle on ... well perhaps a bit more complicated than that. The vehicle was inspected by VOSA who gave it a perfect pass and I put it on the road. Amazingly the hardest thing was to get it weighed for the reregistration, it was too light for a public weighbridge, the only place

for miles around was the customs house at Portslade. You do get to meet some very interesting people in the restoration process. They are often amazed when they find out I am a minister. As you can see Emma and Liz gave it their approval. The trike went OK in a straight line but to my mind it didn't go round corners very well so I swapped it for a

..... to be continued.

Andrew Sellwood



In July I decided to go to Portsmouth and I had a lovely day that I thought you the readers of Chronicle may like to read about. First of all I got on the train from Durrington to Portsmouth Harbour.

When I got there I didn't know where to go so I was gasping for a cup of coffee. I found a café and had that and decided my next move. I could see the Spinnaker Tower that I wanted to see so I followed that round and I came across a shopping centre and I rather liked the look of that for maybe another day but too hot and nice for that day.

In that centre I found a member of staff and asked if I could get to the Spinnaker Tower and in fact I was right on top of it so that was good and I had a lovely time in there.

Now I had a photo taken as I went in and I hope Graham can do something with the copy I gave him If he can't I will tell you about it I thought it was clever. I stood in front of a green background and I thought I would wave to all who are interested. I collected it on my way out. When I got the said photo back it was like I was standing out side the building holding the thing up (me Tazan). I took my shoes off and walked on the glass floor and you could see right below you and the views from the two floors were amazing.

A lift took us up to the first level but if you are fit you can walk. Then you can get to another viewing point and a café. Well worth a visit and an enjoyable one.

After that I wandered to the historical dockyard and got a waterbus round the harbour, and seeing all the navy vessels was very interesting.

I couldn't see the Victory but I saw one that was similar called the Warrior. After that I sat on the harbour wall in the shade and watched the activity. Now before I headed to the station I fancied a cuppa so having found my feet I went to a restaurant in the grounds of the Spinnaker Tower

called the Waterfront and I discovered that my view was in fact a marina which I liked looking at. Then it was time to end the trip and head for home and some fish and chips for my Dad and me. The most wonderful thing about being able to go out for a day is the fact that I can leave my Dad now knowing that if anything happened to him while I am out then he has a 'falls detector' and Wellbeing will get to him, possibly without my knowing, until I get home. I can only praise God for that and I feel He is with me to look after Dad. I am not alone. Well that is my day out. I hope you found it interesting and that you can see the photo. God bless you all.

Janet Dean

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
- or by post to Graham RedmanSalvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

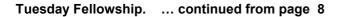
The last day for Winter Chronicle articles is 1 November 2014

Please help to save our printing costs by viewing The Chronicle if you can, on-line. www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online

The local church here in Goring-Groups



Table Tennis [Christmas] lunch at 'The Fox' in June!



Next we had our AGM not much to say here other than to say You will continue to get these reports from me. After the formalities were finished we just had a good natter. We also shared Olive's birthday and we had a lovely cake made by Maureen. Thank you for that Maureen Next we went to Bobby's for our annual garden party. It was a lovely afternoon weather-wise as well as an enjoyable afternoon. Some of us

had a good game of boulles. Later on Bobby threw a ball to each of us who remained seated. We sat in a circle and we threw the ball back to her. The clever ones of us did a guess the famous face puzzle. A lovely afternoon Bobby. Thank you once again for opening your home up to us. That is it for this session. We meet again on September 9th for our catch up and subs afternoon. Do join us if you can. Janet Dean

Weekday Activities

Messy Church ist Monday Afternoon in month

Tuesday Fellowship 2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons

The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers Thursday Mornings. School Term times

Kestro (Stroke Club) Friday Afternoons

Little Fishes Play Group Monday-Friday. School Term times

Publication Team:-

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Mailing Secretary & Treasurer. Mrs Susie Thomas Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at-2 Ardale Close, Worthing, BNII 6HW

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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 There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or of production. 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

Winter 2014/15

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

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Worship in the Church Sanctuary

<u>Sundays</u>

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

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

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

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

Mid-week

10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month in the Harris Room



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Sunday 21 December at 6.00pm
75th Anniversary
Tuesday 4 August 2015
Celebrations Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd August 2015.
* * Do you have anything to write for

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the Summer Chronicle?

to contribute something.

75 yrs Anniversary. Issue no. 642 Please give it some thought now, and let the editor know if you will be able

Reformed Church

An Advent Reflection

The retail build up towards Christmas has begun in earnest. Earlier this month I was looking through a newspaper colour supplement; I noticed it had some ideas for Christmas presents, good I thought. They helpfully put the presents in price bands to match your budget. The stocking fillers begun at £100, the main presents £5,000 upwards. The article went on to say parents on average will spend £1,000 on a teenagers present. I soon gave up reading. This all goes to underline the fact that we live in a world in which bigger, better and more expensive define our expectations for much of life. My hobby may be restoring performance cars but I still wonder why manufacturers set a 200 plus miles an hour bench mark for a super car - when can we go that fast?

We have become so attracted by super-size, super stars, and high definition; everything has to be mega. We in the so called 'wealthy west' have developed distorted entitlement levels.

We expect so much out of the material world that we tend not to see potential in small things unless perhaps they are diamonds. But as the prophet Zechariah reminds us (Zech 4:10), we should not "despise the day of small things," because God does some of his best work with small beginnings and impossible situations.

It is truly an enlightening experience to look to the Bible to see how frail and imperfect all the "heroes" actually are.

Abraham, who hesitated to believe the promise. Jacob, the cheat who struggles with everybody. Joseph, immature and arrogant. Moses, the murderer who cannot wait for God. David, the power abusing adulterer. Solomon, the unwise wise man. Finally, Mary a very young Jewish girl from a small village in a remote corner of a great empire.



It never ceases to amaze me that God often begins with small things and inadequate people. God being God could have chosen "bigger" things "bolder" actions and "better" people to do His work in the world. Yet if God can use the ordinary, and reveal Himself through them in such marvellous ways, it means that He might be able to use any one of us, inadequate, and unwise, and too often lacking in faith as we are.

It means that we need to be careful not to put limits on what God can do with our limited resources, with the most unlikely of people and in the most hopeless of circumstances.

I think that is part of the amazing mystery of the Advent Season. God in Jesus didn't arrive into history on a white charger at the head of an army to lead his people and to defeat evil. He starts his mission as a weak and helpless baby. He wasn't born in a palace surrounded by servants; no, it was he who came to serve.

God turns our expectations upside down. Why did God desire to be with us in the world?

I believe the main purpose of the incarnation (God in human form) was to provide Hope. So as I see it the season of Advent is all about hope as well as joy and peace. This great Hope is not just hope that lasts for one happy day of celebration.

It is more that human existence has meaning and possibility beyond our present experiences, a hope that the limits of our lives are not nearly as narrow as we experience them to be.

It is not that we have possibility in ourselves, but that God is a God of new things and so in and through Him all things are possible. In Jesus we have a faith that continues to see possibility when there is no present evidence of it, just because God is God. That is the wonder of Advent.

Andrew Sellwood

In August 2015, this Church will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary

Between now and the summer, next year, The CHRONICLE is printing highlights from the years since 1940.

In this issue we look at 65 years ago in 1949 -

Minister: "At a Church meeting held on Sunday Nov 14th at the close of the morning service, it was unanimously agreed, the Church should ask Mr Morgan to continue his pastorate for another 12 months. As a Church we owe much to our present minister for leading us during the past year and keeping us united. His readiness to visit members and friends has been much appreciated."

New Church & Hall "The new Church/Hall is situated in Barrington Road off Shaftesbury Ave Bus services Nos, 3, 31 or 31F. Nearest stopping place is Sea Place, Goring Road. Sunday services are held at 11am and 6.30pm. The new building is now rapidly approaching completion, but the delayed delivery of the boiler makes it unlikely that the building will be ready before the early spring. Eight and a half years is a long time, but the little company who gathered together for the first services in 1940 were prepared to wait patiently in unity and loyalty of spirit."

Services and Church Meetings:

"Sunday services are held at 11am & 6.30pm Communion 1st Sunday morning of each month Evening communion on 3rd Sunday of March, June, Sept, Dec Midweek service on Wednesday at 6.30pm Church meetings held on the last Wednesday of each month."

"Tuesday Ladies Working Party:

Meeting for the first time in our new church building, - The Ladies Working Party on Tuesday 8th March. The gathering was a social event, gentlemen being invited from 4 o'clock onwards. The attendance totalled about 50. Meetings are held on alternate Tuesdays at 2.30pm"

The Chronicle Winter 2014/15

The local church here in Goring - Anniversary

Hymns: "In our worship many of the hymns we sing would have more meaning if we knew of the origin of the verses. One hymn as shown below has often been selected for the consecration of cathedrals and other magnificent buildings. -

'We love the place O god Wherein Thine honour dwells, The joy of Thine abode, All earthly joy excels.'

This hymn was first sung in a little mission church. About a century ago a young naval officer, William Bullock, was asked to survey the coast of Newfoundland. Whilst there he resigned his post and sought ordination and propagation of the gospel. At a small place named Trinity he built his first church and composed this hymn for the consecration service. So it was sung for the first time in a tiny church in poor surroundings."

March Chronicle: "This number has been complicated under the stress of conflicting emotions. One of great thankfulness and joy that our new Church Hall is ready for occupation. But overshadowing all is the great loss the Church has sustained in the passing of its beloved Church Secretary. Mr Rule was with us as usual at the evening service on 30 January but he was by no means well and had carried out his duties with considerable strain and suffering."

The New Church/Hall:

"The new building opened Tuesday 1st March 1949
Amidst the congratulations and acknowledgements of indebtedness to
distinguished visitors and others must be recorded the part that our secretary
played making all final arrangements for the opening ceremony. The sudden
passing of Mr Rule greatly complicated matters."

The Spring Chronicle will include - '70 yrs ago in 1945

The Summer Chronicle 2015 will feature 75 years of the Church's history.

If you have any memories that you would like to share with our readers, then please do let me know. Graham Redman

Advent Calendar Times at Goring

Tuesday 9	10am-12noon	Christmas Coffee morning
Wednesday 10	9.30am	Painting For Fun
Thursday 11	2.30pm	Church Prayers
Saturday 13	10am-12noon	Christmas Table Decorations
Sunday 14	10.30am	Bible Sunday
Monday 15	10am-12noon	Decorating the church
Tuesday 16	2-4pm	Fellowship. Speaker Andrew Sellwood
Wednesday 17	6pm	Christmas Quiz with Fish & Chips
Thursday 18	9.30-11.15am	The Ark Christmas Party
Saturday 20	11am	Carol Singing at the Mulberry Shops
Sunday 21	10.30am	4th Sunday in Advent service
	6pm	Carols by Candlelight
Monday 22	10-12noon	Decorating the church
Wednesday 24	5pm	Christmas Children's Nativity
Thursday 25	10.30am	Christmas Morning Worship: Rev Tony Trevithick

Dedication

The dedication of Braxton Tyler son of Andrew and Michelle Gay took place on Sunday morning 30 November.

New Members

Marianne Barber and Jenny Morgan were brought into membership of the Church on Sunday 30 November.

Elders Induction

The following elders have recently been inducted for three years : Vic Joy, Matthew Smith and Wilfred Rhodes

Deaths

Ron Courtnadge on Thursday 20 November Peter Mitchell on Saturday 22 November

We remember in our prayers their families and friends

Peter Mitchell 14 November 1945 – 22 November 2014

Pete became a member here in Goring in October 1994, but it wasn't until I became the Property Group Chairman that I got to know him a little more. He was a very quiet and private man, and never shouted about the things he could and did do very well.

He played a very important role in the Property Group and anytime we had something to discuss about building methods, particularly plumbing, he came into his own and was able to contribute worthwhile advice about what we should and shouldn't do.

On a practical level, he kept the church's plumbing in order, ready to pop down to the church whenever necessary. We can look around our buildings now and see the results of his many labours.

Do you remember the gents' old toilet off the main hall before we built the new Cornwall Room? Well, Pete was responsible for removing all the dilapidated existing toilets etc and then plumbing in the new ones, plus new hand washbasins and hot water heaters. We now have hot water on tap! - I cannot believe that before then we had to suffer with a cold water

supply only. He also plumbed in the sink in the flower room and provided the hot water boiler. I could go on ...

Pete had many ups and downs during the course of his illness and it was less than 12 months ago that he decided the time had come for him to stand down from the group. We sent him a card and letter to tell him how much we appreciated all his hard work. He is, and will be, very much missed.

A phone call was received from Dan Mitchell on Saturday 22 November to say that his Dad had died late that afternoon.

We remember his wife Sue, and their two sons Dan and Ricky in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time for them.

Graham Redman

Pete came to my rescue twice, first time we had just moved into our new home and soon found there was a problem with our water which was leaking down the walls into some of the light sockets, Pete came over as soon as I phoned and sorted the problems until we could get the problems permanently fixed. The second time Pete came to my aid was for one of my shows - The gun Run I staged. Pete made the gun carriage.

Thanks Pete, May the Lord bless you, From Malcolm & Sue Nicholls and the Boys.

Tuesday Fellowship

We started back for the Autumn Session on 9th September with a good natter and a catch up of our summer holidays and days out. At the next meeting, our friend Rev. Tony Trevithick continued with the next leg of the journey from Penzance to Paddington and I was sorry that I couldn't be there. Then in October, we had a visit from Valerie Cooper to tell us about her daughter Anna's wedding in Canada. An interesting afternoon -Anna Cooper and Jason Wood were married in Vancouver. Canada on the 7th September 2013. The boys had high jinks wrapping each other up in cling film. Anna and her sister. Ruth, one of her bridesmaids, both looked lovely. Ruth had decorated the cake. Then it was rehearsal time. followed by a special rehearsal dinner. The wedding rings were wooden, made by our Alan. Then the bride and groom washed each others feet. The bridesmaids wore either royal blue or turquoise. Anna had royal blue flowers in her hair and bouquet. The 1st Nations Church drummed them in with a blessing sung to them. Then it ended with a bring and share lunch. It sounded a lovely day

and Valerie spoke to us wearing the

outfit she had worn to the weddingshe looked nice too. One year on and they are still happy. At the new flat Jason did the D.I.Y. while Anna inspected and I hope it met with her approval. They have a nice view from their flat window.

Thank you Valerie for sharing that time with us.

Towards the end of October we had an afternoon sharing poems and readings with a couple of CDs. After we had sung happy birthday to one of our members, Bobby read something from a book of comical poems. Look out Pam Aieres because Bobby is very good. Others read items too - Carole, Olive, Joan and Barbara also read poems. All in all a pleasant afternoon, well put together and much enjoyed by all.

Janet Dean



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Solution on page 20

Life on the Ocean Wave

Yes. I'm, (no, Shirley and I) are cruising again, this time 15 days on the "Balmoral" to the Azores and Portuguese mainland, nonstop to three islands of Praia da Vitoria, Horta and Ponta Delgada, thence Madeira and finally Lisbon and Oporto, (a glass of port even before lunch). I have said many times, the only time I relax is at sea,

I don't have anything to organise and it's the only time I read a book, (although I normally read 5 magazines a month at home). O.K. I have to decide which entertainment/lectures to go to during the day, which bar for the pre-dinner drink and then, the greatest task of the day, what to choose for dinner. We almost enjoy the sea days more than the port days.



In fact, we have been to all these ports before but are looking forward to our return visits, we know what we want to do.

I am often asked, "What is your most memorable moment?"

That's impossible to answer as the moment dictates the enjoyment. Was it standing on the upper deck early one morning as the vessel nosed her way through a channel in the coral reef into the blue lagoon.?

The water was so clear you could see the channel. Or was it up early at 5 am, very cold, many layers of pullovers, as the vessel came under the Bridges of America, and we caught sight of the first lock of the Panama Canal, ('the vessel will never fit into that lock', you think and then you remember the vessel has been through before). Breakfast was served on deck that morning. It was a very tight squeeze, the vessel picking up a broad black mark from the rubber fenders as we went through the locks.

Or was it rising at 4.30 am three mornings running to go to Machu Picchu? There really is a special feel about the place, it was after all the centre of civilisation for the Inca tribes for some centuries. Or perhaps cuddling a Koala Bear or feeling dolphins nose the soles of your feet as they prepare to propel you at such a speed that you rise up out of the water.

The list is endless.

But what has concerned me until recently has been Sunday Worship. On P & O ships the Captain takes the service but on Fred Olsen it's the Entertainment Officer who presides. Since when has a religious service been entertainment? Maybe I am doing the Entertainment Officer an injustice? Yes, we have a series of printed services prepared by The Mission to Seamen, and on P & O we always sing "For those in peril on

the sea". But of course I have been missing the point. On the Balmoral something like 175 Christians out of 1300 passengers attend the services, a seventh, not a bad representation although remember, if you are not a pensioner you will stick out like a sore thumb.

175 passengers of many different persuasions gather to sing praise and pray in our Lord's name.

Altogether a very rewarding time spent with fellow believers.

On one occasion we flew to Rio to ioin the Black Watch for the rest of her South American voyage, another 6 or 7 Sundays. We found on board a retired Minister who seemingly had volunteered to take the Sunday services and as such he was able to develop a theme. The services were taken in the cinema seating about 100 passengers. He had the rare experience of standing on the stage and pointing out where there were vacant seats, two there, and two over there, and if that person could move up there's two there, the rest of you will have to sit in the aisles and so they did.

I started this article by mentioning some of the glories of this world, Shirley and I give thanks that we are still able to enjoy the wonders of God's creation.

Roger Wilde

The Family Tree

Responsibilities and recent events have conspired to create chaos and confusion in my mind and thoughts are difficult to put in order to form a worthwhile article.

However...

Another year has passed and again I was unable to visit Cornwall and see my sister and brother, in-laws, cousins, second cousins, third cousins and their in-laws and their numerous offspring - in short, unable to go to the Hearn Family Annual Reunion.

I missed seeing the oldest member of the family, Aunt Flor, 98 years old, the one daughter remaining of the original fourteen children born to my grandmother, Sarah Hearn.

There are always one or two new babies making an appearance since the last gathering and plenty of noise and running about with the seemingly ever- expanding family.

The family tree changes shape all the time. Trees and branches have been prominent in church for a couple of Sundays and when Rev. John Jennings chose the theme of the Vine and the branches, it set me thinking of families and the harvesting of grapes from the vines and olives from the olive trees in Crete. Happy days!

Then, the following Sunday, a line in one of the hymns chosen by the Minister pushed my memories and thoughts a little further. In the hymn, 'All hail the power of Jesus' name' is the line: 'Extol the stem of Jesse's rod' and it did not sound quite right to me as I remembered singing so many times in my childhood the line from "Lo, the eastern Sages rise at a signal in the skies" 'David's



rod of Jesse's stem is the star of Bethlehem.'

Rod or stem, which comes first? We know that it means that Jesus was 'of the house and lineage of David', which was why his mother and father set off for Bethlehem for the census.

I found the original line in Isaiah 11, verse 1. "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots."

I looked up both words in one of my trusty dictionaries. *Stem*: Family tree or pedigree. *Rod:* Slender straight round shoot on tree.

Hmm, so that may have been poetic license on the hymn writer Mr. Perronet's part back in the 1700s as he needed a rhyme for 'God'. The construction of the line makes it just that little bit awkward grammatically. We must extol the rod, not the stem and I shouldn't be so pedantic! I've been cutting back my olive tree – which came from a rod cut off a Cretan tree and rooted by Christos, my son-inlaw, who sadly died a few weeks

ago. Last year when I pruned it, he instructed me as to which parts to cut out, seeing the tree through the modern m i r a c I e of S k y p e . I still have a second, more precise pruning to do. I had to restrain my normal instinct to pot up my cuttings. I keep telling myself that I really must cut down the amount of work I make for myself: I must stop replanting the thinnings, cuttings and self seeded plants.

As garden bonfires are almost a thing of the past, my council 'Green Bin' takes the place of the cleansing fire and into it go the hard stems and mouldy leaves not suitable for the compost bin.

The Buddleia tree has also been cut back very severely. When taken back almost to the root, it sends out new long arching shoots in the spring and the butterflies have a wonderful time in the summer on the prolific, long, sweet smelling purple flowers.

I wonder whether the trees feel grateful when someone comes with a sharp blade or shears to cut the strangling growth and make space for the healing air and sunshine.

In our crowded minds we need to dare to make a space where God can enter in to break the strangle hold of thoughts that choke, that threaten to destroy. We need to let in the light and allow the growth of joy and peace.

Soon, we will be seeing, brightly lit, the inevitable Christmas tree. Maybe this year I will look at it from a different viewpoint. Usually, I am rather skeptical about the fuss and expense involved in the buying of it and the expenditure of its dressing and lighting. I even made my own annual timesaving Christmas tree. This tree can be hung on the wall for all to admire and for me to remember the

people who wore, or gave me the pieces of jewellery from which it was made. However, recently I found these verses from the pen of our old friend Patience Strong.

"The Tree of Christmas."
Where Autumn's red and golden ways
Merge into a wintry haze,
There stands, star bright, for all to see
The wonder of the Christmas tree.
The tree that year by year is lit
That man may have the joy of it
And rest from turmoil, sin and strife,
Under the boughs of the Tree of Life:
The tree of peace for all spread wide,

Rooted in love at Christmastide.

This year I shall take joy in looking at other Christmas trees and appreciate the lights, the decorations and the symbol of the gifts placed below. However, after hanging up my 'timesaver tree' over the fireplace, I shall look out of my window and see the trees and bushes I have pruned and cut back. I need to remember that sometimes what seems to be the deepest and severest cut will encourage the best growth and know that next year there will be renewed vigour and much pleasure and joy.

The Epistle of Paul to the Ephesians, Ch.3 verses 14-19 include the words ("I pray) That he would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by his spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love may be able to comprehend what is the breadth and length, and depth and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye may be filled with the fullness of God."

Mary Connelly

Fashion Swap

I went to the Fashion Swap at Queen Street Church on 30th October. It was very nice, and I didn't meet anyone there I knew. About fifty people turned up and we paid the £5.00 entrance. The ladies running the event took our bags of clothes and hung everything up on the rails while we had a drink and a chat.

When everything was ready we were told that we could start to look through the rails - it was enjoyable. The idea was that if we took in 5 items , we could take home 5 items. I came home with five different things.

I think it would be rather nice if we did something like the Fashion swap in our church hall sometime

Daphne Eames

Stop the Traffic

In 2010 Eileen and I went to Spring Harvest. It was a fantastic experience, with many exceptionally good speakers.

One of the speakers was Ruth Dearnley OBE, chief Executive of a charity called "STOP THE TRAFFIK". She spoke about the trafficking of people – children and adults. We hear a lot about this these days, and she spoke so strongly and enthusiastically and knowledgeably. We were very impressed, so much so that I now donate to them several times a year.

You can find out many details on their website: info@stopthetraffik.org

Mrs Dearnley showed videos of the work that the charity carries out, and one particular axe that they grind is about child trafficking in the cocoa industry. Young boys are trafficked to work on cocoa farms in West Africa. The beans they pick make the chocolate that we love to eat. The boys are worked extremely hard for next to no reward so that we in the West can enjoy cheap chocolate. The charity seeks to put a stop to the exploiting of these children.

Trafficking also occurs in the fashion industry when young women and girls, hundreds of thousands of them, are deceived and trafficked into cotton spinning and dying factories. The charity has a "Make Fashion Traffik-Free" campaign, and they work hard to make the fashion industry see to it that their workers are not exploited and are paid proper wages.



And of course their work is not just abroad. They work with people in our own communities in this country such as doctors, housing officers and social workers and teach them to recognize people who are being trafficked, and stop it.

We can all help by making donations to "Stop the Traffik" but also to do our best to buy Fair Trade goods in our shopping, which makes sure that workers and producers are paid a fair price for the goods they produce.

It would be good to have a representative of "Stop the Traffik" speak to us in one of our Sunday services, but as a church we do not support the charity, so do look them up on the internet, and support their work.

I have signed up to an international organisation called Charter for Compassion (contact@charterforcompassion.org) and recently received the following in an e-mail:-

The concept of a "Golden Rule" in which we do to others only what we would want others to do to us, can be found in one form or another as far back as the civilisations of ancient China, Babylon, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. It was, of course, taught by Jesus. It has been called an "ethic of reciprocity", and can be found in all cultures, and in all world religions as well as in the philosophies of humanists and existentialists - and Christians, It is, in short, an ethical code that all of humanity can agree on. Why then do we find ourselves here in the 21st century inhabiting a world that is dangerously polarized, with a growing imbalance of power and wealth among the ever increasing number of people on the Earth, with continuing wars that ravage populations and waste resources, with massive genocide and terrorist atrocities that endanger us all? How is it that we find humankind facing the terrifying possibility of environmental catastrophe? These questions confront us with a greater urgency than ever, and it is these questions that have led us to the human heart and the human brain - the great possibilities of compassion that lie within each human being - to identify the solution.

Wilfred Rhodes

Women's World Day of Prayer



NEW NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER

Pictured are Eileen Rhodes, retiring United Reformed Church representative and Revd. Rosemary Shirley who has taken her place. Eileen has served her full nine years on the Committee and says: "It has been an honour to represent the URC and a real privilege to contribute to the life and work of the WWDP.

She says that she has loved every minute! Rosemary, who is Chaplain of the Point in View Chapel in Exmouth, Devon, has had a life-long interest in the World Day of Prayer movement, at first through her mother and then as a minister's wife, being asked to speak at services. We wish her every blessing as she begins her WWDP journey, and we thank Eileen for her commitment and for the work she has given to WWDP over the last 9 years.

FROM THE BELFRY



THE MESSAGE OF THE CHRISTMAS BELLS

"Hallelujah" pealed the bells,
"A Son is born" they sang with joy,
From cathedral spires to village towers
So all could hear- "a new-born boy".

"Come to church" then pealed the bells, "Rejoice at the new-born Saviour's birth", And young and old folk hurried along, Children danced and skipped with mirth.

Inside the church the bells were quieter, All humbly prayed, their homage to bring, "Come to the manger, kneel and adore Him, "O worship the Lord, tell the world He is King".

Eileen Rhodes





- C is for carols we all love to sing
- H "Hallelujah" our praises we bring
- R is red berries on holly so gay
- I is the infant born today
- S for the star which shone brightly that night
- T for the tree with its candles so bright
- M is for Mary the mother of God
- A is the angels who sang "Praise the Lord"
- ${f S}$ is this story- all true, every word.

Eileen Rhodes

DOWN	irth of Christ						
DOWN 1 Who were tending their flocks by night 2 Who announced the birth of Christ to the shepherds 3 The wise men bowed down to Jesus to him 4 Jesus was born in this town 6 "The of peace" - one of the titles of Jesus 8 mother of Jesus 9 Jesus was born in a							
10 The shepherds were in the when they saw an angel							
9 9 11	7 8						
ACROSS 1 The wise men followed a that led them to Jesus 5 human father of Jesus 7 There was no at the inn for Jesus 9 one of the gifts of the three wise men 11 Jesus could not stay at the because it was full 12 and on earth, go odwill toward men (Luke 2:14)							

Bill Waters Publications ©2001

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Can you find these words in the big square above?

Bear Horse
Camel Ibex
Donkey Jackal
Gazelle Leopard
Goat Lion

Hart Mouse

Nighthawk

Ostrich

Sheep

Wolf

Unicorn

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 —

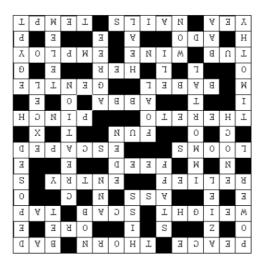
- 1. E-Mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk
- or by post to Graham RedmanSalvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

The last day for Spring Chronicle articles is 1 February 2015

Please help to save our printing costs by viewing The Chronicle if you can, on-line. www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online

Solution to Codeword Puzzle on page 9





Weekdan Activities

Messy Church ist Monday Afternoon in month

Tuesday Fellowship 2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons

The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers Thursday Mornings. School Term times

Kestro (Stroke Club) Friday Afternoons

Little Fishes Play Group Monday-Friday. School Term times

Publication Team:-

Proof Reading: Mrs Jane Bond and Mrs Denise Woods

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer. Mrs Susie Thomas Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at-2 Ardale Close, Worthing, BNII 6HW

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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 There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or of production. 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