

# *The* CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

*January - December 2005*

*Volume 62*

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

The  
**CHRONICLE**

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February 2005

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*The magazine of Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex A church  
— within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —*

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A new Church in Worthing  
'Emmanuel' -- God with us

See inside - Page 12

## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

E-Mail: [secretary@gurc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@gurc.org.uk)

Web site: [www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

### Ministers:

Rev Margaret Ashby - Telephone 01903 754263 - Friday rest day

Rev Norman Croft (Part time) - Telephone 01903 715813 - Wednesday rest day

Rev Simon Franklin (Part time) - Telephone 01903 713 506 - Monday rest day

Rev Andrew Sellwood - Telephone 01903 248259 - Friday rest day

### Church Secretary: Mrs Jane Bond

51 Ilex Way, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4UY

Telephone: 01903 244157 E-Mail: [secretary@gurc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@gurc.org.uk)

### Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith

10 Cissbury Drive, Worthing, West Sussex. BN14 0DT

Telephone: 01903 873265 E-Mail: [treasurer@gurc.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@gurc.org.uk)

Worthing Area Team Lay Representative for Goring: Mr Graham Redman

5 Salzwington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

Telephone: 01903 260568

## *Worship in the Church Sanctuary*

### Sundays

8.00am Holy Communion

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 Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

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# The CHRONICLE

No. 581

February 2005

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**March Chronicle Closing Dates - See bottom of page 20**

Dear Friends

I realise this letter will be in the February edition of the church magazine, but I can't help reflecting on events of the last few weeks namely the Tsunami disaster in the Indian Ocean. I am sure its repercussions will continue for weeks, months and years after the event. The world was indeed stunned by the terrible destruction brought about by the events of nature, and within hours we began seeing the horrifying pictures on our TV screens. Within a similar time frame people began to respond with financial gifts to help bring about some kind of relief to those caught up in the situation

The Christian community as well as many others began taking stock, the Asian disaster shows us a great deal about ourselves; how frail we humans are, but also how united we are. The loss and despair of men, women and children we have never met living in places we have perhaps never visited is real to us, we cannot help but be touched. I hope and pray the spirit of goodness that has been discovered will prevail and be extended to other areas of suffering in our world.

At the beginning of this year we are encouraged to make a change in our world and Make Poverty history. Has the Tsunami disaster sadly been the catalyst we needed to respond? A colleague reminded me that nature can cause great catastrophes but

humankind is also more than capable of reeking havoc among ordinary peoples lives through war, oppression, greed and power. We can redress the balance and give others hope, it is such a blessing we have the resources to do just that. As to be expected there are some hardened individuals who I have heard comment, "Why should we help? We have enough troubles of our own in this country". I have also heard it said, "That's just the way things are some people will always be poor, likewise some rich. What can I do that could possibly make a difference; my £1 would be just a drop in the ocean".

What can we do? - Well just look at the response from ordinary people to the Tsunami disaster £100 million + donated just 11 days after the event. By peoples' response the Government is encouraged to respond also. Could they be persuaded to cancel world debt? It has been calculated that it would cost the treasury a total of £1.3bn as a one off payment to cancel the UK's share of all remaining debt owed by the most indebted developing countries to the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. If the chancellor were to spread the cost over the next ten years until 2015 the cost is just £2.85 per year for each UK citizen - about the same as the cost of a pint of Guinness.

*Andrew*



## Joanna Jones

Sadly, Joanna passed away in St Michael's Nursing Home on the 7th January this year.

Although Joanna was a neighbour of mine, I did not realize she belonged to Goring United Reformed Church until she made herself known to me when I became a member. Thereafter, we drove to church together each Sunday.

She was a very quiet, gentle, retiring person who regularly helped with various charities and voluntary work, along with her husband Eric. A real 'Darby and Joan' couple.

Latterly, as Alzheimer's Disease took hold Joanna was housebound, with devoted husband Eric looking after her until she was admitted to the Nursing Home.

Please pray for Eric, and daughter Lynn and family, that they may find peace and support in the days ahead.

*Cath Findlay*



## Peggy Walker

Peggy, a long-time worshipper and member of this church, will be missed by all who knew her, or had the pleasure of meeting her. A quiet lady, with a delightful smile, she will be missed both from church on Sunday mornings and also from Tuesday Fellowship.

Not often seen without her husband Derek, she would come to coffee mornings and other events supporting the fellowship here. You will recall the article printed in the June Chronicle last year on the happy occasion of their Diamond wedding anniversary.

We give thanks to God for her life of witness among us, and to Derek we offer our love, remembering him and the family in our prayers for the coming days.

*Hilary Redman*



**Dear friends at Goring URC** (and especially the World Church & Mission Group). Thank you so much for all your greetings for our wedding!

We had a great day with family and friends from 16 nationalities!

I am trying to adjust to life in Sweden, while Mamy finishes his studies here. Every blessing, Ruth and Mamy.

Mamy and Ruth Raharimanantsoa  
Skyttestigen 11, 33231 Gislaved, Sweden

mamy\_rahariantsoa@kastanet.org  
ruth\_rahariantsoa@kastanet.org



## **Camargue Court**

Thank you so much for the Christmas gift of a purple African Violet, which now sits between a white one and a pink one, - the colours complementing each other.

Sadly our weakness and difficulties of age make life restricted for us, but we are thankful for the various religious TV and Radio programmes which allow us still, to make Sundays special.

Finally, thank you for all the caring ways that you keep in touch and we ask God's blessing on you all.

*Eileen and Ron Jordan*



## **House-Group News.**

The Wednesday evening house-group now meets on Tuesday evenings, generally the second and fourth Tuesdays in the month, from 7:45pm until 9:30-10:00pm.

For further details please telephone Worthing 506264 and speak to Val or Al Cooper. New participants are always welcome.

# Junior Church

## WARNING -

### **Without action your Sunday morning worship life may be changed!**

Junior Church and Crèche are extremely short of leaders. We have only two regular weekly Junior Church leaders and up to 14 children now and that ratio is not high enough considering the age range and needs of the children.

Their ages range from 3 to 16 years and of course crèche children are younger. As "best practise" dictates that two adults should always be present with even only one child the crèche meets on the stage in the hall and this by its very nature can be disruptive at times.

We are looking for people to help with the children on Sunday mornings, a minimum of three adults are required, plus crèche and that only now happens on the fourth Sunday in each month. Paul Redman is present most weeks, Sue Gauntlett has other commitments on the first Sunday of each month and Valerie Cooper will only be present on the fourth Sunday. Grace Ralph has stepped in for the first Sunday but this still only leaves two adults for most weeks.

### **Without extra help the children will on some Sundays have to stay in church for the whole service whether or not they are expected to.**

Speak to any of the leaders if you are able to help. You do not have to commit to being present every week, but a rota would ease the lot of those who are working on a regular basis. If you are unable to commit regularly, but occasionally feel that you can help, working with children is very rewarding, please ask on the morning. As leaders we are always busy on Sunday mornings and don't have time to run around looking for volunteers.

*Valerie Cooper*

## **Parish Pump**

Please let me know if you would like your organisation or event mentioned or publicised on the Parish Pump page of the Worthing Herald newspaper.

*Susanna Gauntlett Telephone: 709255  
e-mail: sg\_ppgoring@yahoo.co.uk*

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**PILOTS NEWS PILOTS NEWS PILOTS NEWS PILOTS NEWS**


## Ahoy there!

Pilots were very busy last term. From September to half term we learnt about *Greece*, about the country, the people and the language, as you might have seen from our notice board. When we were learning to write our names in *Greek* we had a visit from Ruth Turner, the Regional Pilots officer.

The half term ended with a study of *Greek* food, the Pilots made some Tzatziki and chopped up a Greek style salad. These were eaten along with hummus, taramasolata, pitta bread, olives (not at all popular) and fresh figs with yogurt and honey! We also had a go at Greek dancing, so all round it was a very good evening! While doing all this, the Pilots learnt about the journeys of St Paul in and around the area of what is now Greece and Turkey.

The second half of term was of course the build up to Christmas. We started with a games evening and after that there was a different craft each week. Everyone did cross stitch, made cards and decorations, and produced wonderful Christmas table decorations. Of course our term ended with a Christmas party which included carols around the Christmas tree and the presentation of a small gift each. As well as all

this productivity we learnt about the Tearfund Partners project in rural India, using material from Tearfund. November was a busy month for the church, with a working morning, coffee morning and a jumble sale and at each of these events some Pilots were present and happily helping in different ways. In December they helped to finish the church Christmas tree decoration. We have eight children attending regularly and we have all missed Doreen Norris and have prayed for her return to health. This term we will be looking at that other great flood and keeping the people affected by the Asian Tsunami in our prayers. Please keep praying for us, we really value your support.

*Valerie Cooper, Bett Swierk,  
Janet Dean, Sue and Ricky Mitchell.*

# Handbook No 56

## 2004-05 Amendments

### Handbooks issued before February 2005 :-

Mrs Joanna Jones and Mrs Peggy Walker died in January.

- Please delete their names from pages 20 and 28.

Please add the following to the directory pages :-

**RATCLIFF** 600492  
Mr Roy  
136 Goring Road, Goring by sea. BN12 4PH

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### Also for Handbooks issued before December 2004

Page 2. Change 'Prayer and Praise' start time from 3.00pm to 2.30pm

Page 7. Delete Mr Michael Donnelly 264614

Also, please add the following to the directory pages :-

**THOMAS** 700141  
Mr Ryan  
Mrs Susie  
2 Ardale Close, Worthing, BN11 5HW

**WOODCOCK** 243498  
Mr Tom  
8 Parklands Ct. 171 Goring Road, Goring by sea, BN12 4BB

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*A copy of the latest Handbook can usually be found  
on the table at the back of the church.*

## An update from House & Fabric Group

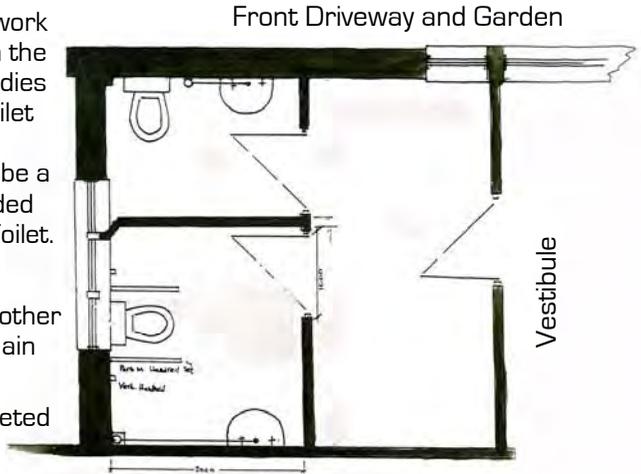
### New Toilets off the Vestibule

Many will have noticed that work has started on the project in the Vestibule to refurbish the Ladies Cloakroom area providing toilet facilities for people using wheelchairs. There will also be a separate Ladies Toilet provided next to the larger Disabled Toilet.

See plan right

The Gent's toilet across the other side of the Vestibule will remain unchanged.

The project should be completed by Easter weekend and the



House & Fabric Group apologise for any inconvenience caused during this time.

### Ramp

To further help those people with wheelchairs, a ramp is to be provided outside the front doors of the church, but this work will probably not happen now until later in the Spring.

### Hall Loop Amplifier

We are still waiting for delivery of the Loop Amplifier for use in the hall. Although this item was ordered from the manufacturer in September, we have unfortunately been caught up with the overwhelming demand for this type of equipment due to the disability discrimination act which came into force towards the end of last year.

### Health and Safety

Those who attended Church Meeting in November or those who have read the December Chronicle will know that we are exploring the URC's paper on health and safety in churches. If you did not see the article in the Chronicle it is suggested that you read it now, as Health and Safety in Church is a concern and a responsibility for us all. The Group is still working through the issues and will report again when there is more to say.

*Graham Redman*

## Have you visited the Little Chapel?

As you leave the sanctuary, passing by the pulpit, on your left hand-side is the Little Chapel. Here is a place of quiet, a place for prayer and worship.

It is here that the 8.00 am worshippers meet for Holy Communion on Sunday and at 10.30 am on the first Thursday of the month. Come here for Prayer & Praise on the first and third Thursday afternoons at 2.30 pm.

In the Chapel you will find a book in which to write prayers; a valuable resource which binds us together in Jesus' love and compassion. Write here your requests, your thanks, and your joys, and join in the fellowship of prayer.

Here also is the Book of Remembrance. In this book we record the names of loved ones who have died. Not only church friends, but also family members and personal friends. If you would like a name added here please let me know.

Take a quiet moment to visit the Little Chapel.

*Hilary Redman*



### Women's World Day of Prayer

Annual Service Friday, 4th March

Prepared by Christian Women of Poland

#### Services in this area are:

2.30pm Emmanuel URC, Shelley Road, Worthing  
Speaker: Rev Mary Parish

3.00pm St Mary's Parish Church, Goring  
Speaker: Mrs Theresa Boyle

8pm St Michael's RC Church, High Salvington  
Speaker: Sister Brenda Matteson



# FEBRUARY

Thu	3	10.30am 2.30pm	Holy Communion Prayer and Praise
.....			
Sun	<u>Rededication Sunday &amp; Synod Day of Prayer: [ See below ]</u>		
6	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood	
	10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood	
	6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers	
Tue	8	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship. South Downs Video Club
Thu	10	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
.....			
Sun	8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood		
13	10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick	
	6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Simon Franklin	
Thu	17	2.30pm	Prayer and Praise
13th - Last day for March Chronicle material			
.....			
Sun	8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Marie Roe		
20	10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood	
	6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood	
Tue	22	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Signposts, Scenery and Soggy Sandwiches
Thu	24	7.30pm	Church Meeting
.....			
Sun	8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion: TBA		
27	10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Simon Franklin	
	6.00pm	Evening Worship: Mr Wilfred Rhodes	

## Synod Day of Prayer

The Southern Province Synod office is organising a Synod Day of Prayer on 6th February. Congregations are requested to intercede for the United Reformed Church on that day and ask God to give leaders direction.

Congregations and individuals are also invited to set a time of repentance during which they could repent of those things they might have done wrong in the past and rededicate themselves to Christ.

Please pray that we can really discern from God what is His future direction for our congregations, Districts and Province.



Thu	3	10.30am 2.30pm	Holy Communion Prayer and Praise
Fri	4	Women's World Day of Prayer - Service times and places are shown on page 9	

<b>Sun</b>	<u>Mothering Sunday</u>		
<b>6</b>	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood	
	10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev John Jennings	
	6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Peter Elliott	

Tue	8	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship. Littlehampton Harbour Master
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Thu	10	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
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<b>Sun</b>	8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Simon Franklin		
<b>13</b>	10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood	
	6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood	

Thu	17	2.30pm	Prayer and Praise
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13th - Last day  
for April  
Chronicle material

<b>Sun</b>	<u>Palm Sunday</u>		
<b>20</b>	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: TBA	
	10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers	
	6.00pm	Evening Worship CTG at St Richard's	

Tue	22	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship. Easter Praise
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Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Evening Holy Communion	
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Good Friday	10.30am	Morning Worship	
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<b>Sun</b>	<u>Easter Sunday: British &amp; EU Summer Time begins</u>		
<b>27</b>	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: Mr Michael Donnelly	
	10.30am	Morning Worship : Rev Andrew Sellwood	
	6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Dr Eric Rogers	



## Looking ahead into April . . . . .

17 April 10.30am

Worthing Area Team Service  
Emmanuel URC, St Michael's Road



# Emmanuel United Reformed Church

More than 120 people attended the inauguration service for Emmanuel United Reformed Church, Worthing, led by the Moderator Rev. Nigel Uden on 2nd January 2005.

The congregations of Shelley Road URC and St. Columba's URC met together for the first time as Emmanuel URC, each congregation presenting three items - symbols of the two fellowships. One candle was lit from two.

St Columba's brought their Offertory Dish, Celtic Cross and Archive Book of Photographs. Shelley Road brought their Font, a banner woven from bandages - a gift from their link church in Wolfstein, Germany, and their Easter banner.

The Moderator gave the address; the choir, newly robed in blue, sang "Proclaim the story" from Charpentier's Te Deum; prayers were said in

Some of the items brought by the two Churches can be seen here



thanksgiving for the past; members dedicated themselves to the new Church and its future, and children cut the 'Unity' cake. Three new members were received into the church and all shared in Holy Communion at the Lord's Table.

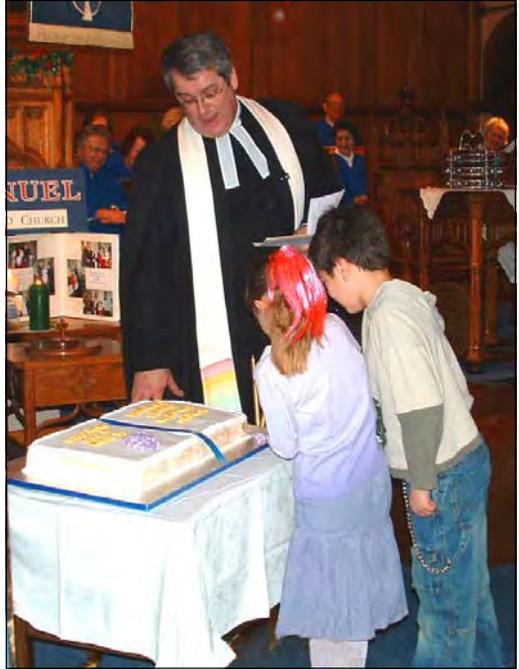
The Moderator gave the blessing:

'May the eagerness of the shepherds, the joy of the angels, the perseverance of the Magi, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmastide, in and through the life of Emmanuel United Reformed Church'

- and all responded:

'Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen'

*Hilary and Graham Redman*



Cake cutting supervised by the Moderator.

The 'Unity' cake was for all to enjoy with a glass of orange juice or with a glass of 'bubbly' in the hall after the service.

## Proposed Joint Pastorate: St Andrew's, Rustington and Goring

From the District Meeting held on Thursday 20th January 2005 -

It was reported that the Goring and St. Andrew's Churches are seeking to withdraw from the Worthing Area Team Ministry and form a joint pastorate under one minister. Representatives of the Pastoral Care committee met with the churches 'Focus' group and as a result of that meeting the Committee agreed -

1. to commend the action of St Andrew's and Goring churches to the District Council;
2. to recommend that the new Joint Pastorate be recognised at the District Council meeting on 21st April and come into being on 1st May .

# Είναι ελληνικά για μενα !

## Καλη Χρονιά

Kalee Krone-ya — Happy (New) Year! This month, I'll make it a little happier for Graham and not put in Greek words, only the (approximate) English pronunciation of those words. Haroomenoss Kenooree-oss Krone-oss. Happy (or Merry) New Year!

So many wishes have been exchanged over Christmas and the New Year and no doubt you have had many, but you may never get as many good wishes as the Greeks exchange.

The New Year greeting would be exchanged between people meeting for the first time that month, not restricted to New Year's day. Again, in the same way as we do, they say, 'Good Day' - Kalee-mare-a, 'Good Evening' - Kalee-spare-a 'Good Night' - Kalee—nick—ta. 'Have a good evening,' is Kalo Vra—thee.

A step further - if you met someone on a Monday for the first time, you might say 'Kalee evdomatha' — 'Have a good week!' Or, if it is the first of the month, 'Kalo meena' - 'Have a good month!'

In September/October when people are returning to the big cities after the summer holidays and getting back to work, they often ask each

other about the holiday, then wish each other 'Kalo Heemone-a', 'Have a good winter.'

At the end of Spring, beginning of summer, they will wish each other 'Kalo Kalo-kare—ee', which literally means 'Good goodweather' or 'Good Summer!' Daily, wishes around meal times - on your way to eat, on your way home to lunch or dinner or at the table — 'Kalee orex-ee' - 'Good appetite!', and, if you've just eaten, 'Kalee Horepsee!' - 'Good digestion!' - and, in reply, 'Eph-aristo, Epeesis.' - 'Thank you, the same to you.'

My old friend, Les, said to me, 'The next time you come, you can have some of my candied fruits that I got for Christmas, but I warn you, you'll get in a mess!' I could understand why when I opened the box, chose a candied fig and cut open the well-sealed plastic 'envelope'. This was the genuine Greek confection, fruit preserved in a thick, sugary syrup, not the crystallised kind. Trying to eat it with the fingers as a sweet is a big mistake! You get into the big mess as the syrup drips off the fingers on to your sleeve, skirt or trousers! I leave you to imagine the following sequence of operations!

If you are a visitor to a Greek home, this syrupy preserved fruit is a traditional offering. In Crete, I have been offered preserved orange and

lemon peel in syrup.

Once seated, you may be offered a liqueur or drink, sweets, nuts, or the candied fruit. This is offered on a plate - with a spoon! So you eat it and don't get sticky, drink the drink and the glass of water (there's always a glass of water) to help it down and say, 'Stin ya sas' - 'to your health'.

When you're leaving, you thank them for their hospitality - for their 'Filoxeneea' - their 'kindness to a stranger'. They will often say 'Sto kalo'

## Quiz.

Oh, dear! No one has said to me, 'I know the answers to your quiz!' So the giant bar of chocolate I've been keeping as a surprise prize is now next to William's chair and likely soon to be broken open and eaten!

Answers to December's quiz.

1. Archimedes went on to do further experiments from which he formulated the buoyancy principle - that an object such as a ship will float when the weight of water it displaces equals its own weight.

2. Buoyancy - the reason why steel ships weighing thousands of tons can float on water.

3. A Plimsoll line - also known as Plimsoll mark or Load line, is a marking on a ship's side and in particular, on the hull of a merchant ship, to indicate the depth to which it may be legally loaded. It is named after Samuel Plimsoll 1824-98, Member of Parliament, who supported the British Merchant Shipping Act of 1876, which aimed to reduce the number of ships which sank due to overloading.

4. 'Draught' in relation to the above is the depth of the keel of the boat below the surface of the water/ the depth of the water needed to float a particular ship.

Have you done any floating and sinking experiments? Can you make a sinker into a floater?

Well, have you and did you?

Anything will float if it is shaped to displace its own weight of water before it reaches the point where it will submerge (sink). The ship's ability to float depends upon how its weight is distributed.

A lump of iron or steel put on water will sink, but made into the shape of a bowl, will float. A steel ship, like a bowl, floats because it is hollow and so its weight is widely distributed over the water.

Try floating a milk bottle top. Now screw it up into a ball. What happens? Cut several equal sized pieces of aluminium foil. Screw one up very small, another one not so much. With the others make as many different shaped boats as you can. What floats? Which of your boats float best? Pointed ones? Flat bottomed ones?

You could make cargoes from peas or marbles and find which boats carry the most cargo. With experiment, the most unlikely materials can be made useful. Just like us!

### Load Lines

Because salt water is denser than fresh water and cold water is denser than warm water, (something else to investigate?) a ship will float in different positions depending whether it is in the North Atlantic or the Indian Ocean, (T. mark used to be Indian waters in Summer (is) , on a river, or out in the sea. So several levels are marked on a ship to cover all the conditions it is likely to be in.

The diagram shows (Lloyds Register of Shipping)

The centre of the circle is in line with the Summer loadline (s) in temperate latitudes.

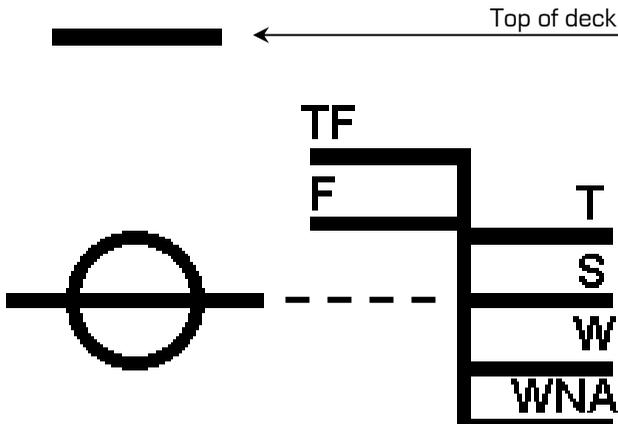
Other marks are: TF - Tropical Fresh; F - Fresh; T - calm Tropical;

W - rough Winter loading; WNA - for the colder and denser Winter North Atlantic Ocean.

What a lot of influence Archimedes had on all our lives since his first experiments hundreds of years ago!

*Mary Connelly.*

## Lloyds Register of Shipping



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# Ruth & Mamy's CHAT

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No.37

from Sweden

December 2004

Dear Friends,

The following sentence, which was part of a dictation given in my "Swedish for foreigners" class recently, sums up quite well my first six weeks of living in Sweden:

***"Det kändes underligt att plötsligt befinna sig i ett främmande land."***  
*("It feels weird to suddenly find oneself in a strange country.")*



We've had snow already and the temperature was down to minus 10 when I walked to my class on a couple of mornings! Being much more at home where it's 40 degrees hotter, this is taking some getting used to, although the snow can be very beautiful. We've had deer coming into the garden looking for food – apparently that's not unusual here.

For the moment, the snow has melted, but when it snowed in November we had a visiting pastor from Congo staying with us, and it was his first experience of snow. We took him to a nearby ski resort where they had just turned on the snow machines ready for the skiing season to begin. Here I am in my Eskimo look-alike gear.

It's also strange for me not to have much of a role here, compared to my responsibilities in Congo. I'm just a foreigner who doesn't know how the system works! Quite humbling, but it's a good reminder of someone else who *"made himself nothing"* in order that we could be reconciled to God...

Being in language school every morning takes up much of my energy at the moment, but I mostly enjoy it. In my Swedish class there are folk from Iraq, Burundi, Poland, Thailand, Serbia, Bosnia, Vietnam, Romania... Some are here by choice, but not all. I wonder how many millions of people around the world this Christmas just wish they could *"go home"*.

For Mamy and me, our thoughts turn often to Congo and to our future plans. We hope to return around the middle of 2005. Mamy is working hard at his studies, but it seems that a doctorate always takes longer than one thinks...! He will also be resuming his pastoral duties part-time in January. I am helping my Wycliffe colleagues in Congo from time to time with correspondence and small tasks which are possible from a distance by email. I'm glad to be able to help out in this way, and I'm also grateful to YOU, my supporters, for continuing your support during this extended time in Europe. It's important for Mamy and me to have time to work out our marriage together - we are both finding that we need to make adjustments.



*The Bridesmaid, Bride & Bride's Mum arrive at the church...*

For those of you who missed it, our wedding in London on 2<sup>nd</sup> October was a day to remember. It was great to see so many special faces at the church, sing meaningful songs and be encouraged from God's Word. Afterwards we had an enjoyable reception at Spurgeon's College, with folks from 16 nationalities present, and friends from UK, Congo, Sweden and Madagascar providing musical and cultural entertainment.



*The Groom is eagerly waiting!*

It was over all too quickly, but we were also ready for a relaxing week on the Pembrokeshire coast afterwards.

I'll be coming to UK for a week just before Christmas. It was to be my brother's wedding, but they have decided to postpone until next year. However, I decided still to come and have some British Christmas with family and friends, while Mamy continues his studies here. I will be back in time for a Swedish Christmas, and we hope to have Mamy's sons, Samuel & David, staying with us for a couple of days afterwards.

**For prayer:**

- For God to achieve his purposes for us during this time in Sweden!
- For perseverance (M) and patience (R), and for a growing, God-honouring marriage.
- For us to see more clearly how to work out our future with the two different missions, two different home countries, etc.
- For a positive time with Samuel & David after Christmas.
- For God's enabling and wisdom for Mamy as he resumes as part-time pastor in January.
- For Andrea and Sylvain in Congo – their baby is due early February.
- For more Congolese to be transformed by the living Word of God, and to grasp the importance of mother-tongue Scriptures.



*"Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto us!"*

With warm greetings and wishes that you may know the reality of the living God, as we celebrate his coming to earth and enter a New Year!

## *Ruth & Mamy*



***You, O Lord, keep my lamp burning,  
my God turns my darkness into light. (Ps 18 v28)***

# News from Bangladesh

I have had two phone calls from Rev Benjamin Biswas in Bangladesh.

The first was a few days before Christmas, when he sent greetings to all at Goring URC, and thanked us all for the generous gift he had received to help the flood victims. Life is very difficult for that poor country. Although the flood water was receding - such havoc remained.

The garden that he had so carefully cultivated was completely ruined, and to re-plant, seeds were now so expensive - like everything else.

He has lost two calves, but he assured me, however, that the rebuilding work was progressing, and they are all so thankful that help has been given.

The second call was early in January wishing a happy New Year to all.

I realise that now the Tsunami Disaster is foremost in all our minds, but please do not forget our friends in Bangladesh who need our thoughts and our prayers.

*Thank you, Lily Collison*

---

## EMMANUEL United Reformed Church at St.Michael's Rd

A special

### TSUNAMI EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

#### MORNING MELODIES

performed by Marcus Martin at the Yamaha Grand Piano & Compton Organ.

Guest — Helen Smith [ Soprano ]

SATURDAY 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 11am - 12noon

**Doors Open 10.30am Coffee and Admission Free**

Donations towards the work of the Disasters Emergency Committee

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## GORING United Reformed Church

has so far raised £1000. Thank you for your support.

### March Chronicle Closing Dates

**Sunday 13 February for typed and E-mailed articles  
(Sunday 6 February for handwritten articles)**

**E-mail to:- [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)**

**Tel:- 01903 260568**

### Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Parents, Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 2.30pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

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[chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

#### Publication Team :-

Printing and collating: Ken Woods. Telephone 01903 505177

Proof Reading: Ron Jordan

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Mailing Secretary: Mrs Grace Ralph. Telephone 01903 690714

Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -  
 10 Cuckfield Crescent, Worthing, BN13 2ED

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Editor: Graham Redman.  
 Telephone 01903 260568

5 Salvington Hill, Worthing. BN13 3AT

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#### WELCOME Editors

[welcome@gurc.org.uk](mailto:welcome@gurc.org.uk)

February 6, 13, 20, 27

Wilf & Eileen Rhodes

Tel: 01903 248263

March 6, 13, 20, 27

Caroline Hibbs

Tel: 01903 523570



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.  
[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

The  

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**CHRONICLE**

March 2005

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*The magazine of Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex A church  
— within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —*

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**Women's World Day of Prayer**

Annual Service Friday, 4th March

Prepared by Christian Women of Poland

## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

E-Mail: [secretary@gurc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@gurc.org.uk)

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### Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith

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Worthing Area Team Lay Representative for Goring: Mr Graham Redman

5 Salzwington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

Telephone: 01903 260568

## *Worship in the Church Sanctuary*

### Sundays

8.00am Holy Communion

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 Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

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# The CHRONICLE

Vol. 62 - No. 592

March 2005

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### April Chronicle Closing Dates

Sunday 13 March for E-mailed and typed articles  
 (Sunday 6 March for handwritten articles)

E-mail to:- [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

Tel:- 01903 260568

Dear Friends

Here we are once again in Lent, in the build-up to Good Friday and Easter Day and at the time when traditionally we 'spring clean' ourselves, making sure that we are continuing to grow and develop as Christians.

It is a truism to say that we cannot have Easter Day without Good Friday. I am always amazed that there are people who are happy to come to Church on Easter Sunday without having worshipped God on Good Friday. To do that is like looking at a wonderful landscape with our eyes deliberately shut. In both cases we may get a vague feeling of gladness from the people around us but we have no appreciation of what is really happening, what is really there. If we neglect Good Friday we fail to understand the cost which Jesus paid and our faith is, therefore, very superficial. We do not experience real, deep blessing because we have not properly grasped the profound sacrifice which Jesus, God's own Son, made for us.

Rather than giving something up for Lent it is much better to do something special instead. How about reading a chapter of that Lent book you always intended to read each day? That would give you an understanding of the vital importance of Good Friday and help you to think at the same time. If you do not have any books all the Churches have libraries, just have a look and choose something which appeals to you.

This is a small way in which we can grow and develop our faith, coming to God as we read, using our brains to think out what, as individuals, God is teaching us, what we truly believe. At this time that is a vital thing to do as we are all facing changes, the Churches of the Worthing Area Team separating, even though we are keeping some links between us, and the people of Emmanuel settling into a new, different way of being a Church.

Jesus was tortured and put to death in a barbaric way. Jesus accepted all the suffering and dereliction on our behalf in order that we could, through him, be put right with God. Easter Day is simply the way in which God showed what Jesus had done on Good Friday, that on the Cross Jesus had won the victory over evil, sin and death.

Does that make everything alright, then? In one way it does. It opens up the path back to God, it means we can live in a true and good way, in God's way. Looking at the news from various parts of the world, though, we see that many people are not living in God's way. Some of them, perhaps, have not heard about Jesus but there are others who have heard and have taken it all far too lightly. This is why I urge you to think about your faith, to read the Bible and other, modern Christian writers, to allow God to deepen your faith in these ways. May you begin to realize something of the infinite love of God, love which went to the uttermost as Jesus died on the Cross, love which won an endless



**Thank you** - I would like to take this opportunity to use the Chronicle to thank all the people in the Church who have sent cards, flowers, made phone calls, and sent messages via Roy, and most of all your prayers during my recent illness.

I am so much better and all I need now is to regain my voice so that I can rejoin the choir. What a blessing it is to be a member of a caring Church, thank you once again.

*Sheila Gooderham*



Mrs. Ailsa Blackwood thanks her friends at Church for the gift of an African Violet at Christmas; for Chronicles and Church papers received during the past year. The violet occupies a prominent place in her home to remind her of the Church being in touch. Thank You.

Mrs. Freda Bateman also sends thanks and love for the African Violet and for all Church papers etc. received during the past year. Freda has had an operation to her foot to correct a toe alignment. She is now at home and apart from an attack of arthritis hopes to feel better with treatment in a short while

Miss Ellen Manix who will be 102 years old on 1st March enjoys fairly good health. She very much appreciates the Chronicle which is read from cover to cover!! She wishes to be remembered to her friends at Tuesday Fellowship of which she was a member for many years. She sends her thanks and love to all who may remember her. Thanks too for the plant and its beauty which is kept close by in her room.

Finally - Thank you Hilary in helping out with the distribution of all the plants. A very worthwhile activity resulting in smiles. The fact people are remembered by the Church means wonders to them, and that they are not forgotten or overlooked at such a busy time as Christmas.

From our lovely and endearing friends at South Ferring.

*Pheniah Taylor*

*(Continued from page 2)*

victory over the forces of evil, love which was revealed in awesome glory at dawn as the birds sang in a garden in Jerusalem.

We thank God for such love.

Wishing you a happy and blessed Easter, with love to you all, *Margaret*

**Congratulations** to Lesley & Craig Kovacs on the birth of their first daughter - Anya Louise. She was born on Friday 11 February weighing 8lbs 7½oz. Wilma & Matthew Smith rejoice in their second grandchild, their first being born in November to their son and daughter-in-law, David and Jo.

**Congratulations** to Geoffrey Redman who recently gained his MA in Information Studies at Brighton University.

## Tuesday Fellowship

I was unfortunately not able to get to the Fellowship's New Year party on 11 January, but I am reliably informed that a good time was had by all.

25th January We were to be visited by a lady from the Trading Standards Council but she had to cancel at the last moment. In her place, and at the 11th hour, our very good friend Rev. Tony Trevithick stepped in to save the day. How pleased we were to see him.

He, Tony, spoke very amusingly of "seeing ourselves" and how very often we don't like what we see in the mirror, especially if that mirror is magnified! Most of us, (he says) would wish to be taller - or slimmer, or somehow or other different to the way we are. We should not worry however, but accept ourselves not only our looks, but "Just as I am".

Tony was the only child of his Methodist Minister father and mother, living in a large Manse, the attic of which was completely taken over by an enormous train set, his pride and joy - and only his - until the times when the other ministers in the District came to the house for meetings and they all adjourned to ... Yes! you've guessed it - the attic to play with the trains. Tony, quite a small boy, was completely excluded from their games and he didn't like it at all. He was not used to sharing!!

We really enjoyed Tony's visit. As well as being entertaining it was most thought provoking and we thank him wholeheartedly for being such a wonderful stand-in.

*(Continued on page 5)*



**Dear Friends,** I felt I must tell you how wonderful it has been to get back to church these past few weeks after such a long absence. I have been very moved by the warmth of the welcome I have received.

My thanks go out to you all for the kindnesses - cards, visits, phone-calls, flowers, shopping and of course the many prayers that have upheld me. Special thanks go to Denise Woods for standing in for me at short notice as Pulpit Supply Secretary. I am sure that she earned the admiration of all with whom she came into contact with whilst doing the job. I was so grateful to her for all that she did.

*Love and blessings to you all, Doreen Norris*

*(Continued from page 4)*

8th February The Fellowship was entertained by the South Down Video and Film-makers - and very enjoyable it was too!

Two of the Group, Edmund Law and Norman Kinnear came to show films made by themselves and fellow members, all of whom are obviously very talented film makers.

We watched a wonderful selection - the beauty of Highdown Gardens in Spring, two very funny sketches, beautifully acted, as was a "high drama" with a twist in the tail.

A very interesting film was the one taken by Mr Law whilst he and his wife were on a trip to New York. He showed us amazing views of the skyscrapers, the Hudson river, the famous bridges - the Statue of Liberty of course, but the most poignant was the view from very high up on Tower 2 of the World Trade Centre - just six days before 11th September 2001. We were all very moved by the thought of it, as you can imagine.

*Doreen Norris*

P.S. A happy outcome from the afternoon. One of the ladies acting in the "drama" was someone I knew years ago and with whom I'd lost touch. As a result of seeing her in the film I have contacted her and we have resumed our friendship.



# MARCH

Thu 3 9.00am-11.00am The Ark 'drop in'  
10.30am Holy Communion  
2.30pm Prayer and Praise

Fri 4 Women's World Day of Prayer -  
- 2.30pm Emmanuel URC Shelley Road, Worthing Speaker: Rev Mary Parish  
- 3.00pm St Mary's Parish Church, Goring by sea Speaker: Mrs Theresa Boyle  
- 8.00pm St Michael's RC Church, High Salvington. Speaker: Sister Brenda Matteson

**Sun** Mothering Sunday

6

8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood  
10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev John Jennings  
6.00pm Evening Worship: Rev Peter Elliott

Tue 8 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. Littlehampton Harbour Master

Thu 10 9.00am-11.00am The Ark 'drop in'  
7.30pm Elders' Meeting

**Sun**  
13

8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Simon Franklin  
10.30am Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood  
6.00pm Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

Thu 17 9.00am-11.00am The Ark 'drop in'  
2.30pm Prayer and Praise

13th - Last day  
for April  
Chronicle material

**Sun** Palm Sunday

20

8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman  
10.30am Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers  
6.00pm Evening Worship CTG at New Life Baptist Church, Goring

Tue 22 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. Easter Praise

Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Evening Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood

Good Friday 10.30am Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

**Sun** Easter Sunday: British & EU Summer Time begins

27

8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Marie Roe  
10.30am Morning Worship: Rev Simon Franklin  
3.00pm Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood  
6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Anthony Trevithick

Thu 31 7.30pm Church Meeting



# APRIL

Sun		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
3		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers
Tue	5	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship. Cruise Capers
Thu	7	10.30am	Holy Communion
		2.30pm	Prayer and Praise

Sun		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
10		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Simon Franklin
Thu	14	9.00am-11.00am	The Ark 'drop in'
		2.30pm	Elders' Meeting

10th - Last day  
for May  
Chronicle material

Sun		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Marie Roe
17		10.30am	Morning Worship: Team Service Emmanuel, St Michael's Road
		6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Tue	19	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship. Worthing Churches Homeless Project
Thu	21	9.00am-11.00am	The Ark 'drop in'
		2.30pm	Prayer and Praise

Sun		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: Mr Michael Donnelly
24		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev John Jennings
Thu	28	9.00am-11.00am	The Ark 'drop in'
		7.30pm	Church Meeting

Keep up to date with our Diary on the Web - [www.gurc.org.uk/diary](http://www.gurc.org.uk/diary)

## Looking ahead into May . . . . .



Sunday 1 May	May Chronicle available
Tues 3 May 2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Koinonia
Sunday 15 May	CTG at St Richard's Church



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# Southern Province District Council Meeting

## 20th January 2005

Items of interest from the proceedings -

Dr Graham Campling - the newly appointed Synod Clerk gave us a résumé of his duties and responsibilities:-

- 1 PASTORAL - looking for people to work for God
  - 2 COMMUNICATION - between District Council, Synod, General Assembly, and Mission Council
  - 3 OVERSIGHT of buildings and trusts
  - 4 Running Synod affairs, to know what is going on in the District to enable God's Mission to be carried out
  - 5 Providing support and counsel for the Moderator
- 

A resolution was passed "noting with approval and commending EMMANUEL the newly inaugurated URC in Worthing and gave thanks for the worship, witness and service of St Columba's and Shelley Road Churches."

Synod have set a goal of having half the Synod Churches supporting Fair Trade - we are as yet some way off this target.

### Pastoral Care:-

Daryl Sinclair has been accepted for training as a Non-stipendiary Minister.

Goring and St. Andrew's (Rustington) are seeking to form a joint pastorate under one minister. The committee agreed to recommend the action of the churches to District Council and to recommend the new joint pastorate to be recognised at Council meeting on 21st April and to come into being on 1st May 2005.

### Church and Society:-

The "Trade Justice" voting campaign will go on alongside Christian Aid Week in May.

### Evangelism:-

Rev Sas Conradie has been offered a job with an organisation based in Philadelphia, USA commencing August 2005. He will continue to work part time in the URC from March to the end of August to complete his involvement here.

(District Council Meeting: Continued from page 8)

Other items:-

We were exhorted to accept children in our churches, to be familiar with "Children's Charter" and to recognise that "Fellowship is for all".

We were urged to exercise our democratic right to vote at (any) General Election and to consider carefully and prayerfully what candidates have to offer.

Next Council Meeting 21st April 2005 at St Andrew's Rustington.

*Alec Ralph*

THE ROWLAND SINGERS

# Easter Concert

**Goring United Reformed Church  
WEDNESDAY 9th March at 7.30pm**

**Christ Church, Worthing  
THURSDAY 10th March at 7.30pm**

**The Programme is -**

Olivet to Calvary by Maunder  
and Magnificat by Rutter.

Conductor - Jacky Emery    Organist - Philip Adams

Soloists -

Soprano: Helen Emery, Tenor: Nathan Cline, Bass: Nick Ryder

Programmes are available from me, on Worthing 506452, price £5.00 ; £2.00 children. The Mayor of Worthing is President of the Rowland Singers and he, and his wife, will be attending the concert in our church. We hope to see you there too.

*Sheila Gooderham.*

Today I harvested my olives! A little late, perhaps, but we are a few weeks behind Crete for the seasons. Only a handful to be gathered, so no sacks of olives to be taken to the oil factory, no barrels, bottles or urns of rich, greeny-gold oil to be distributed. I don't own an olive grove, just one tree grown from a cutting from the trees at Kalamitsi Amigdali, Crete. They call it my 'Bonsai Olive'!

This harvesting was much different from the last olive harvest in which I was involved. No comparison of crop yield, no comparison of flavour or colour, no weary limbs from mat spreading, tree beating, picking out of twigs and leaves before the sacking up and heaving into the car, van, or lorry to be taken away, just fifty-four small black olives that I will preserve in brine and oil from last year!

All around Crete are ruins of old oil presses, huge circular stones lying under ruined arches. With the coming of electricity, the labour of the mules and donkeys came to an end and olive pressing and oil extraction became technological. Centrifugal action is one method. Another is the 'synolea' method, which helps to keep the taste and scent of the oil and its excellent natural character. The olives are first crushed and then special blades plunge in and out of the pulp. The oil, which adheres to them, is collected. The spent paste is dried out and used as fuel.

The trees' owners like to get a good few bottles and cans of the first 'pressings' or the 'virgin' oil – the best and the tastiest for the home table. Greece has the greatest personal consumption of olive oil in the world. It is thought that Crete

## Είναι ελληνικά για μένα !

is the area where the systematic cultivation of the olive tree started, perhaps as far back as Neolithic times. Olives and olive oil were important commodities in the Minoan times (3000-1100 B.C.) Oil was stored in great urns, or amphoras. It was used in the kitchen, as a means of payment, was exported, used for lighting in their lamps, for beauty treatments and skin care and as a medicine. The ancient Greeks knew about the healing properties of olive oil, confirmed by today's scientists and dieticians.

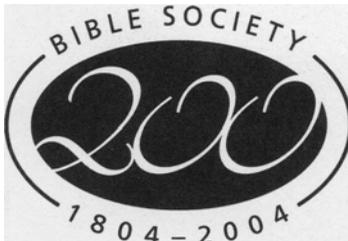
The Cretans rarely have circulatory problems or heart disease, fewer cancers than other countries and a comparatively long life expectancy. This is mainly attributed to the traditional diet – low in meat, high in fresh vegetables and fruit, bread, grains and pulses and plenty of olive oil! Olive oil is easily digested and

extra virgin olive oil, the most natural of the various grades you may find in the shops, contains not only oleic acid but many other nutrients essential for good health. Little wonder that the oil of the olive has enjoyed an importance and prominence throughout history and the tree revered as the symbol of peace and eternal life.

In Cretan folklore, olive oil is linked with the tears of Christ. The legend has it that Jesus, knowing what was coming, went with his disciples to the Mount of Olives, "as was his custom" and in the evening into the Gethsemane garden, where he sought strength and solace in prayer, surrendering himself to the will of God. He lay down under an olive tree to rest, but could not sleep. Because of his sadness, he burst into tears. The tears fell into the roots of the tree and watered it. The tree was therefore blessed and gives delicious oil and light to the lamps in churches and monasteries. How blessed is the olive tree, having drunk from the tears of Christ!

This Eastertide, let us remember the healing qualities of the olive and its oil and the healing love of the Risen Lord.

An e-mail from Greece *Mary Connelly*.



**YOUR PRAYERS AND GIFTS ARE HELPING US MEET THE CHALLENGE OF MAKING THE BIBLE HEARD EVERYWHERE.**

"What you are doing is much more than a service that supplies God's people with what they need. It is something that will make many others thank God." [ 2Corinthians 9.12 CEV ]



*With grateful thanks for all who contributed towards the £68.50 raised by this Church here in Goring.*

*Margaret Butcher*



**Worthing  
Philharmonic  
Choir**

Reg. Charity 1084240

**G.F. Handel**

# Messiah

Worthing Philharmonic Choir

and Sinfonia of Arun

with Fiona Hammacott: soprano

Jane Money: mezzo-soprano

Charles Wood: tenor

Freddie Tong: bass-baritone

conducted by Donovan Brown

**Assembly Hall, Worthing**

**Good Friday 25 March, 2005**

**at 7.30pm.**

Tickets £12.00 (Balcony), £10.00 & £8.00, available from the Call Centre - tel. 01903-206206, Pavilion or Connaught Theatre Box Offices, online at [www.worthingtheatres.co.uk](http://www.worthingtheatres.co.uk), or at the door.

### Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Parents, Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
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[welcome@gurc.org.uk](mailto:welcome@gurc.org.uk)

March 6, 13, 20, 27

Caroline Hibbs

Tel: 01903 523570

April 3, 10, 17, 24

Graham Redman

Tel: 01903 260568



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.  
[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

# The CHRONICLE

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April 2005

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

— *A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry* —

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*He is Risen !*

*He is Risen indeed !*

## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

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### Church Secretary: Mrs Jane Bond

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## *Worship in the Church Sanctuary*

### Sundays

- 8.00am Sunday Fellowship with Holy Communion..  
 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 Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month  
 2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

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# The CHRONICLE

Vol. 62 - No. 593

April 2005

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### May Chronicle Closing Dates

Sunday 10 April for E-mailed and typed articles  
(Sunday 3 April for handwritten articles)

E-mail to:- [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

Tel:- 01903 260568

Dear Friends

## *Could it happen here?*

“Jesus entered the town of Worthing in glorious triumph; travelling along the A27 and eventually turning toward the town centre. Crowds gathered excitedly, waving leaves and crying out in adulation – *‘Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’*

He instructed his disciples to make preparation for the Passover, the table was prepared in the upper room at Goring United Reformed Church and when the hour had come he reclined there with his followers. Here he took simple elements of bread and wine and shared them with his friends.

In due time they travelled to the seafront garden area and whilst his followers slept Jesus prayed earnestly asking his Father to release him from the great pain and anguish that he knew was to follow. In the garden Jesus was betrayed and arrested; they took him for trial before the authorities in Worthing Law Courts. Though wrongly accused and innocent he was sentenced to execution.

They led him away to the Downs and there high on a hill they crucified him alongside two criminals. On the sixth hour of that day darkness came across Worthing and Jesus cried out in a loud voice *‘Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani’ - My God, my God, why have you forsaken me;* after he had

cried out again he breathed his last and gave up his spirit.

After a while some friends took his body down from the cross and buried him in a borrowed grave at the Durrington Cemetery in Findon Valley. They placed a huge stone in front of the tomb and the authorities even put a guard on duty in case there were any strange occurrences.

Three days later some of the towns’ women went to visit the tomb and found that remarkably it had been opened and Jesus had risen. They met him and he told them to tell his disciples the news. After that he appeared to many many other people in Goring and all over the world.

Could it happen? Could Jesus have come to our town? Has it happened? Does the love of a risen saviour apply here? Questions that perhaps confuse, questions that would probably be ridiculed by many in our community.

Yet questions to which the answer is a definite YES, YES, YES.

As Easter 2005 draws to a close we look forward to celebrating Ascension and Pentecost etc. However we must never forget the glory that is Easter and we must continue to proclaim the love of a risen saviour.

Christ is risen, risen indeed, risen in Worthing, risen for all peoples of all places of all times.

Thanks be to God!!

In Christian love *Simon*

## Greetings from Ian Hennel

Ian writes from his home in Glawood House about the delight he had when Wilf delivered flowers there in March. Although Ian is able to get to Church with others who live in the flats, he does miss his friends at Goring URC !

He now regularly worships at St Stephen's Anglican Church in Angola Road, but he says that his family have always been 'staunch Non-conformists' so he is pleased that he finds can fully join in with the worship at St Stephen's, "where the members are mostly young, many with small children."

Even so, Ian does not want to sever his ties with Goring and sends his regards to us all.

---



Congratulations  
to Ellen Manix  
who Celebrated  
her 102nd  
birthday on the  
1st March

Photo: Grace Ralph



Thank-you for your generosity in helping the Pilots to raise £132 at our Coffee Morning and Cake Sale recently. Last weekend via the B.B.C. Southern Counties Radio station we used that money to buy a fishing net at £125 for a family in Lunama, southern Sri Lanka, to help them get back on their feet. Many people over the weekend contributed to this appeal, and many

fishing boats, £250, and engine repairs, £100, as well as fishing nets were purchased for villages in this region.

Many thanks again, from the Pilots.

*Valerie Cooper, Bett Swierk, Janet Dean, Sue and Ricky Mitchell.*

## Sunday Morning Coffee

Anyone out there able to help with coffee on a Sunday morning? I am looking for a number of people to help with serving the coffee, as I'm unable to be there every week to do this. Whenever possible I will provide the milk and biscuits each week and the coffee, tea and hot chocolate as required, so it's just a case of setting up, the children quite often help with this, boiling the kettles serving until 12noon and clearing up afterwards.

The children enjoy counting the money! Coffee after the service has become an important part of Sunday mornings, providing a valuable opportunity for fellowship and may have cut down some of the necessity of chasing around to see people before the service begins. If you feel able to help, please sign the list in the hall during coffee time.

May I say a BIG thank-you to those few people who do serve the coffee when I'm unable to do it, very often at very short notice.  
*Valerie Cooper*

## Greetings from Robin Bradley

Robin has sent an Easter card in which she writes, "Thinking of you all at this special time.



# The Ark

We have been blessed by a well attended Ark throughout the long cold Winter/Spring months.

Well done to all who braved the weather to enjoy warm company on Thursday mornings! We have an average attendance of up to twenty adults, some of whom bring several children. This means lots of chat, and lots of play, colouring, sticking and modelling with playdo. We have built a collage about the world under the sea, moved on to Pirates with a Pirate 'party', before ending the session on an Easter theme. We hope that a lady setting up as a professional face painter will come to practice her skill on the last Thursday of our term!

We are pleased to announce that by popular demand we have agreed to extend the time that the Ark will be open. Some of the mother's have asked if we will stay open until 11.30 am, and this we will be pleased to do. So if you would like to respond to our 'drop in' invitation and



join us for part of the morning you will be welcome from 9.15 am until 11.30 am. Coffee time - 10.00 am, will be about the same. This is an experiment, initially for the summer term.

Come and visit us, you'd be very welcome. We start again on 14th April, and the theme will be 'Shapes'.

Thank you for your prayers for The Ark, and the support that you offer in other ways,

*The Ark 'Team': Hilary, Margaret, Susanna, Beryl, Graham and Les.*

## Anyone for Table Tennis ? !!!

We are thinking of starting a Table Tennis Group, we will not call it a club, to be held in the East Hall during the day, possibly on a Monday or Tuesday, morning or afternoon. We understand that tables, nets and bats are already there. Before we can go ahead, we would obviously like to know how much interest there will be in this activity to make it viable. Please let us know when you see us or by telephone on Worthing 506452. *Roy & Sheila Gooderham.*



# APRIL

Sun		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
3		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers

Tue	5	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship. Cruise Capers
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Thu	7	10.30am	Holy Communion
		2.30pm	Prayer and Praise

Sun		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
10		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Simon Franklin

10th - Last day for  
May Chronicle material

Thu	14	9.15am-11.30am	The Ark 'drop in' Mother, Baby and Toddler Group (new session)
		7.30pm	Elders' Meeting

Sun		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: Rev Marie Roe
17		10.30am	Morning Worship: Team Service Emmanuel, St Michael's Road
		6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood

Tue	19	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship. Worthing Churches Homeless Project
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Thu	21	9.15am-11.30am	The Ark 'drop in' Mother, Baby and Toddler Group
		2.30pm	Prayer and Praise

Sun		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion: Mr Michael Donnelly
24		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev John Jennings

Thu	28	9.15am-11.30am	The Ark 'drop in' Mother, Baby and Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Church Meeting

## Looking ahead into June . . . . .





<b>Sun</b>		8.00am	Sunday Fellowship with Holy Communion: Mr Wilfred Rhodes Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
1		10.30am	
		6.00pm	

Mon 2 Mayday Bank Holiday.

Tue 3 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. Koinonia

Thu 5 9.15am-11.30am The Ark 'drop in' Mother, Baby and Toddler Group  
10.30am Holy Communion  
2.30pm Prayer and Praise

<b>Sun</b>		8.00am	Sunday Fellowship Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Mr Michael Donnelly
8		10.30am	
		6.00pm	

8th - Last day  
for June Chronicle  
material

Thu 12 9.15am-11.30am The Ark 'drop in' Mother, Baby and Toddler Group  
7.30pm Elders' Meeting

<b>Sun</b>	<u>Whit Sunday</u>		
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15		8.00am	Sunday Fellowship Morning Worship: Rev Peter Newell Christians Together in Goring worship at St Richards
		10.30am	
		6.00pm	

Tue 17 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. AGM

Thu 19 9.15am-11.30am The Ark 'drop in' Mother, Baby and Toddler Group  
2.30pm Prayer and Praise

<b>Sun</b>		8.00am	Sunday Fellowship Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
22		10.30am	
		6.00pm	

Thu 26 9.15am-11.30am The Ark 'drop in' Mother, Baby and Toddler Group  
7.30pm Church Meeting

<b>Sun</b>		8.00am	Sunday Fellowship Morning Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick Evening Worship: Rev Brian Stone
29		10.30am	
		6.00pm	

Mon 30 Spring Bank Holiday.

Tue 31 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. Garden Party

**Keep up to date with our Diary on the Web - [www.gurc.org.uk/diary](http://www.gurc.org.uk/diary)**

# Tuesday Fellowship Meetings

## 22 February

Twenty four members braved the weather and came to the Tuesday Fellowship on the 22nd February.

We commenced our meeting with a short service and then Betty Saunders gave us news of Betty Hislop. Betty (S) had been to see Betty the previous day and in her words "she had nothing but admiration for the way Betty has so cheerfully accepted her disability." Betty (H) sent greetings to the members and her thanks for all the messages and cards, flowers and telephone calls which she had received and for the many prayers which have been said for her.

Our speaker was "an old friend" - Mr Steve Harris, having visited us on two previous occasions. "Signposts, Scenery and Soggy Sandwiches" was his subject— what good alliteration!

Upon Steve's retirement he and his wife did not want to vegetate, so they started a walking club. It took a while to get going but eventually they had a good membership and to this day

there are about forty folk walking the paths of counties in the South of England.

We were shown beautiful slides of places passed on various walks and with each picture Steve gave us a résumé of the subject photographed - some sombre, others humorous but each one with great interest and information.

Peggy, who led the meeting, because Bobby was in "sunny Spain" thanked Steve for a great afternoon of entertainment. As always our cup of tea (plus biscuits) was most welcome!

*Joan Burrage*

## 8 March

Colin Hitchcock has Been Harbour Master at Littlehampton for four years and he came on 8 March to tell us about his job.

However, the story of the years leading up to 2001 would have filled a book.

It certainly entertained and amused us, talking for more than 50 minutes, and it was not a moment too long.

Colin's career has spanned all aspects of sea-going, despite the fact that he was born in Lambourn, about as far away from the sea as one could get; and in a place full of small men (Jockeys) where he, at 6ft.3ins.

and his brother 6ft.7ins, were rather unusual.

This said career started in the Fleet Air Arm with Search and Rescue Helicopters. Then to the Royal Navy H.M.S. Illustrious, more helicopters. On leaving the Navy the next job was with ship building, where he sailed and tested the luxurious ocean going yachts owned only by the world's richest people. From this job he was head-hunted by one of the richest people of the world, The Sultan of Oman.

So Colin then became the Keeper of His Majesty's Harbours and Jetties for the Sultanate of Oman. This included the Royal Yacht plus 34 smaller vessels for the entourage and the luggage, Colin, with his wife and daughters loved the life in Oman, but knew it would

not last for ever, so he applied for, and was appointed as Littlehampton Harbour Master. There is far more than one would think to the job of Harbour Master, especially with all the commercial shipping using the harbour, and the many small craft which go up and down the river to Arundel. Part of the job description would be River Pilot, Traffic Policeman, Social Worker, Tourist Guide, and Car Park Attendant, to name a few, plus all the real work involved in running such a busy port.

Regretfully, I have to leave out a lot of what we were told about such an interesting life, led by a man who is still only 43.

Maybe, one day, he will write that book.

*Doreen Norris*

## **Trudie Knight**

At the age of ninety seven, on Sunday 27th February Mrs Trudie Knight passed with joy and peace to be with the Lord she served so faithfully.

Not many of our today's members would remember Trudie, but she with her husband Lionel, were staunch members of our Church for many years.

Les and I had had a bond with the family, as we both had families in Australia. When we visited Michael we always visited their daughter, Joan and vice versa on their visits to Australia dined with our family.

We send our condolences to David, Joan and their families, but there should be no sadness, just wonderful memories of Lionel and Trudie, who are now in the presence of the love of the Lord Jesus Christ whom they served during their time on earth. *Joan Burrage*

## REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN PROVINCE SYNOD

**Held on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2005  
at St John's URC, Bexhill.**

This was my first visit to Synod since I attended the one held in our church about 12 years ago, when I was Church Secretary. The day commenced at 10.30 am with the Rev Brian Bowyer, minister of the two URC's in Bexhill leading opening worship; and Rev Andrew Prasad minister of Dulwich URC and formerly of the Church of South India, gave an address. They were both excellent speakers. Mr Prasad asked which is most important: unity or diversity? (I think unity). He was Indian and he found that people of different ethnicity don't happily mix. White people don't mix well at all.

Our Moderator, Rev Nigel Uden, welcomed everyone and chaired the day. He had traffic lights set up at the front of the church where we met - green for speakers to speak, orange to warn them when it was time to finish and red to tell them to stop now!! What a good idea! There were 340 people present, 40 had sent their apologies.

Lomas House: The URC has to sell the property with planning permission for redevelopment already fixed up. The local authority had said that the 24 units proposed was not enough, so they hoped that the 28 units now proposed would be accepted.

Report of the Mission Council by the new Synod Clerk, Dr Graham

Campling: He spoke very well. The Council is the body that runs the URC. The Moderator, Clerk and two others from each synod make up the Council. Dr Campling talked about "Catch the Vision", the buzz phrase at the moment. The Council asks whether 'we', the Church, are using Ministers, Lay People, and Elders etc, to the best advantage. The URC now has 50% of the membership of 1972, but with 10% fewer churches. We cannot go on like this as finances are very tight. The Annual General Assembly costs £1¼ million to hold, so it may be held only every two years in future and be slimmed down. There may be only one decision-making level between Assembly and the local church, i.e. Synod, so that District Councils may be disbanded. Synod areas may be changed, and one for London introduced (as the Methodists have done.) All this might be agreed in principle at the 2005 Assembly, authorised in 2006. But it's a big 'may be'. (This would be a good move.)

A number of Ministers and members described the work in their churches and districts - there were some remarkable stories of outreach. There is a Beachy Head Chaplaincy supported by churches and the police etc., because it's the No.1 spot for suicides.

Rev Harry Richardson, a guest speaker, and Chairman of the London S.E. district of the Methodist Church compared our two Churches and the work we did. There are a large number of union churches between



(Continued from page 10)

Methodist and URC. He told a story about a very large opera singer, as she moved on to the stage to sing, with little room to move, she knocked over the music stand of the leader of the orchestra. "Madam" he whispered "move sideways". And she whispered back, "I have no sideways". Mr Richardson said that was like us, we have no hierarchy. (Though I'm not sure he's right.)

Mrs Janet Davidson spoke on her work in the Ukraine as an English teacher, and talked about the Reformed Church there. David Mearke, a gap year student also went out to help in the same area. They were sponsored by the town and churches of Petworth. All very interesting and very worthwhile work.

There was a very noisy presentation by FURY about the work of the Fellowship of United Reformed Youth.

The last item was "Picking up the Baton", a major prayer initiative being passed around this country and other countries. It's about discovering the prayer needs of our community. The scheme is currently running in Sussex, and the 24/7-prayer event in our church hall some weeks ago is part of it.

The Moderator, Rev Nigel Uden ended with the words: "GO WITH GOD, FOR GOD GOES WITH YOU."

*Wilfred Rhodes.*

## Είναι ελληνικά για μένα !

The talk to the children in church last month about caterpillars and butterflies reminded me of the day, while on holiday in Crete with Fiona and the children one summer, that we were exploring the little village and calling in to see a friend, Marianthi, who ran a kafenion. We had our drinks and a chat and Sam was getting restless, not understanding what we were saying and impatient with the slowness of my translation!

Marianthi could see he needed some thing to do and said, 'Come with me and help me with some work.' So we all trooped out with her to the out houses beside the Kafenion.

The 'Wow!' factor came into play immediately. We were fascinated. If it were in my nature to say, 'Gob-smacked' that's what we were! Why? What did we see? There, in front of us, were several old bedsteads, the wire / mesh bases covered with leaves and thousands of wriggling white worms, all busy eating. Through a door, in the next room, were three or four more beds, covered with even bigger worms. While we were still staring, Marianthi's friend came in carrying a sack of leaves, which she started to spread along the beds as fresh fodder for the worms. We were looking at beds of silkworms!

Some of the women of Kalamitsi Amigdali and the neighbouring village, Exopoli, have joined together in a co-

operative, working mostly with the breeding of silkworms and the processing of silk. In May, a small box arrives from Japan or China containing 20,000 eggs, the size of a pinhead. After 15 days at normal (warm) temperature, the tiny worms are ready to hatch. If necessary, the hatching can be delayed by refrigeration. The worms hatch out, looking like little black hairs. They have enormous appetites and start eating straightaway, demolishing lots of mulberry leaves. Luckily, there are many mulberry trees in the area, which provide food not only for the silkworms, but often branches and leaves are gathered as fodder for the many sheep, particularly in the hottest and driest time of the year.

Constant leaf debris and excrement cleaning is necessary to avoid disease, while the provision of fresh food intensifies as the worms grow quickly. Being such voracious feeders, they shed their skins four times, their colour changing from black to a milky white. After each shedding they rest for twenty-four hours, then - back to eating! After the last shedding on the twenty-third day, they eat even more, even faster! If you are quiet, you can hear the munching. By the thirty - thirty-fourth day they have grown BIG - about ten centimetres long. Brushwood and small branches are now provided instead of leaves so that the worms can spin cocoons.

A cocoon takes three days and nights in the making, while the worm spins the silk thread round a hundred thousand times. As soon as this is done, the caterpillar passes into the

chrysalis state. Unless the moth is needed for egg-laying, (in which case, uninterrupted, it would hatch out after eighteen days, mate, then produce two hundred to four hundred eggs.) the cocoons are laid out in the hot sun to halt the development. The dried cocoons are dipped in very hot water to loosen the thread from the gum holding it together, then stirred around with a stick to loosen the ends of the thread. Several filaments will come together to make one thread as it is wound on to the spool. Further 'cooking' in soap and water and boiling cleans more gum and glue from the threads. From three kilos of cocoons you will get one kilo of thread. Each cocoon can produce from three hundred to fifteen hundred metres of silk thread.

All this, of course is the old, traditional method, using no machines. The nearest thing to a machine that the women use is the three hundred year old loom on which they weave, making table linen or silk mats and rugs. Most of the women are expert at crotchet and make articles ranging in size from tablemats and coasters to bedspreads.

They also make decorative hangings by splitting some of the cocoons into two parts, then cutting them into pieces, colouring some. Combined with gold thread, stuck on to black fabric, they make beautiful flower, animal and landscape designs. Once again, the message seems to be that we can make things of beauty from what may seem very unlikely materials, but we need to put in plenty of effort!

*Mary Connelly.*

### Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Parents, Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

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*The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or post to Mrs Grace Ralph ( address above ). Thank you.*

### WELCOME Editors

[welcome@gurc.org.uk](mailto:welcome@gurc.org.uk)

April 3, 10, 17, 24

Graham Redman

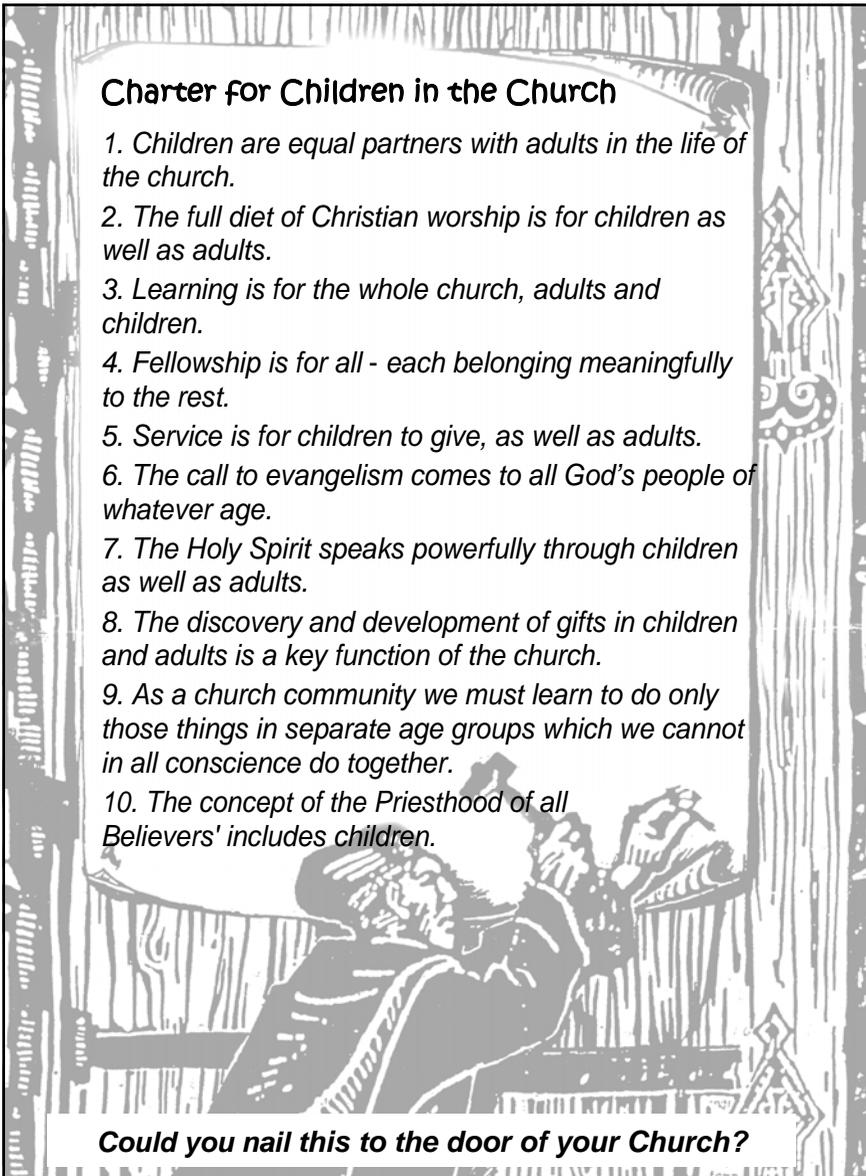
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May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Ken Woods

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**Charter for Children in the Church** It has been requested by District Council that all churches review and discuss this Charter. It is reproduced below so that all members may have the opportunity to read and discuss the implications if they wish. *Jane Bond*



**Charter for Children in the Church**

1. *Children are equal partners with adults in the life of the church.*
2. *The full diet of Christian worship is for children as well as adults.*
3. *Learning is for the whole church, adults and children.*
4. *Fellowship is for all - each belonging meaningfully to the rest.*
5. *Service is for children to give, as well as adults.*
6. *The call to evangelism comes to all God's people of whatever age.*
7. *The Holy Spirit speaks powerfully through children as well as adults.*
8. *The discovery and development of gifts in children and adults is a key function of the church.*
9. *As a church community we must learn to do only those things in separate age groups which we cannot in all conscience do together.*
10. *The concept of the Priesthood of all Believers' includes children.*

**Could you nail this to the door of your Church?**



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.  
[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

# The CHRONICLE

May 2005

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

*— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —*



**Goring United Reformed Church  
becomes a joint pastorate  
with St Andrew's, Rustington**

**See inside, pages 2 and 3**

## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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## *Worship in the Church Sanctuary*

### Sundays

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

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

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

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

### Mid-week

10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

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# The CHRONICLE

Vol. 62 - No. 594

May 2005

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**June Chronicle Closing Date: Sunday 8 May**

**E-mail to:- [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)**

**Tel:- 01903 260568**

## Joint pastorate

All change! Oh, not again you may be thinking. Well the Worthing Area Team has changed its line up. After many years of development and planning in order it to come into existence; as from 1st May the Team will cease to be. Over a period of almost 10 years the Team concept has been evolving, now it is moving into a different phase.

### A logical step

I do not feel that this particular change levels any criticism or invokes any sense of failure of the previous team structure, it has simply adapted to circumstances, a logical progression, if you will. I think that this is a positive step, it indicates that none of the churches were bound fast to any set structure, but can be influenced by the movement of the Holy Spirit. As many of you know the Elders of Goring and St. Andrew's have for a long time been seeking the Lord's guidance in this matter. It seemed the natural progression for the two churches to form a Joint pastorate sharing one minister.

### So what is a Joint pastorate?

The URC manual under patterns of ministry, states the following at 10/19 p.130 *"This is the most usual form with a minister working with two, three or occasionally more congregations. The degree of co-operation other than in sharing a*

*minister is usually as much as between churches in separate pastorates within the same District Council".*

That's clear enough, but you may well ask; what does that mean to me? Perhaps some people in the church will never notice the change, others may sense a subtle difference in the dynamic of the church. It will be an opportunity to build on the strengths and resources of each individual Church. Therefore, we must first establish that the two Churches are different, serving unique communities; the only common link is the minister. Ultimately being part of a Joint Pastorate can enable a more focused approach to ministry and leadership at the local level. The joint pastorate model also provides a more defined ministry/church profile. All this will lead to a more strategic plan for mission and ecumenical co-operation.

### Churches in the Team

Having spoken about the aspects of separation we must acknowledge that relationships made between the Team Churches will continue, as local churches we may still share in Christian fellowship. Someone once said; the act of moving away from team ministry is rather like what happens in a family when children grow up and move on, there is always a link amidst the independence.

*(Continued on page 3)*

(Continued from page 2)

### A new venture

To make this new venture work we must all get involved in the life of the church. It is of no benefit to any one if whilst sitting on the sidelines we chose to criticise. We need to get in to the mode of encouragement and building up. Even though we are out of a team ministry situation we need to be united in fellowship and service. This is a new start, a new opportunity to serve the Lord and progress the Kingdom. So through prayer, study, worship, prayer & praise, thanksgiving, prayer & witness this new chapter will bear fruit; much fruit in His name.

*Yours in His service, Andrew*

## Worthing Area team Ministry

- the last 'Team' service held at Emmanuel URC, St Michael's Road on 17 April



Sussex West District Council gave approval on Thursday 21 April for Goring and St Andrew's United Reformed Churches to become a Joint Pastorate as from 1 May this year.

Rev Andrew Sellwood led the service and Rev Norman Croft gave the address. The choir of Emmanuel sang the anthem, "With a voice of singing", Fellowship, tea and coffee were enjoyed in the hall afterwards.



## Elders Election - July 2005

Every year at the beginning of May we seek the names of Church members who may be willing to respond to the call to Eldership, to elect new Elders and to re-elect those who have had a break in service and are willing to stand for a further period of three years.

This year, two Elders stand down after 3 years and are eligible for re-election; they are Mrs. Jane Bond and Mrs. Valerie Cooper

Nominees must have been Church Members for at least two years on the 1st September in the year of their election, and can only be nominated by church members. Nomination forms will be available from Sunday 1st May and the last date for handing them in is Sunday 29th May 2005. The permission of the nominee must be obtained, and the nomination form must be signed by the nominee, the proposer and seconder. The forms are available in the vestibule.

If you have any questions about the Election of Elders, if you believe that you are being called, or if you are approached by someone who would like to nominate you and you would like to talk to someone, please speak to one of the Ministers or one of the Elders.

*Jane Bond*



The Church Spring Garden



# Handbook No 56 2004-05 Amendments

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## **Handbooks issued before February 2005 :-**

- Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington :- Insert replacement page 1 to be found on the table at the back of the Sanctuary.
- Please change telephone number for Amina WHITTEY to read 600151

*A copy of the latest Handbook can usually be found  
on the table at the back of the church.*



## Thank you

I would like to say thank you for the flowers that were delivered to us on Easter Monday following the loss of my Uncle Harold. I really appreciated that and I'm sure my parents feel the same. It was a shock to ring him on that last Sunday that he was at home to be told that paramedics were outside with him after he fell (we weren't sure then that he fell) My Brother found out that when he rung the hospital later. He was my favourite Uncle so I really loved him and his wife my Auntie Elsie. I have a lot of happy memories of them both and I had the privilege of seeing him as a fit and well 88 year old man recently so that is a good thing he was like that. Like my Dad. Thank you again for the love and prayers of the Church. It was appreciated. God bless

*Janet Dean*

## TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2005

**O**ur visitor for this meeting was Alison Godfrey, Fund Raiser and Public Relations Manager of the WORTHING CHURCHES HOMELESS PROJECT. (Stepping in at the last moment) Alison is a wonderful speaker and what she had to tell us about the Homeless Project was most interesting and inspiring.

We heard about the St. Clare's Day Centre where homeless people are provided with breakfast after a night spent in a sea front shelter or the like. At St. Clare's they can also have a shower, clean clothes and if they wish, can receive counselling should they need help with combating their substance abuse. The house in Byron Road, which used to be called the Night Shelter, is now the DIRECT ACTION Hostel and is the second stage in what is hoped to be a recovery from alcohol and drugs as people can only stay if they are 'dry' and 'clean'. They are allowed to stay for seven weeks as long as the rules of the house are kept. – And if they are – the next stage is the STEPPING STONES project which can be a home for up to two years and can give a sense of permanence to anyone really trying to pick up the threads of their previous life as well as a 'fixed abode'.

I quote from a WCHP poster - call it a mission statement. 'Not just a place for food and shelter. A place for meeting people where they are

and helping them to move forward along their journey towards a new life'.

Now for some statistics! St. Clare's feeds about 30 people a day, 14 live at the Direct Action hostel and 13 at Stepping Stones at any one time. There are also plans afoot for a fourth scheme to be known as the RECOVERY PROJECT. Over 500 people are helped in some way during the year by 25 staff and over 200 volunteers.

The outreach into the community is quite amazing with churches, schools and local community groups, plus the staff and volunteers all working together for what is a very good cause, because there but for the Grace of God.....

By the way, more volunteers help is always welcome!

*Doreen Norris*

We Invite you to join us on a half-day outing To Tilgate Park, Crawley, on Tuesday 7 June 05 from 2.00 p.m. till 6.00 p.m. (cream tea available).

For further details - please contact -  
Lily Collison - Tel: 248861 or  
Barbara Popplestone - Tel: 242906

# ANYONE FOR TABLE TENNIS?

**Twelve people have shown an interest in playing Table Tennis so we propose to start on Tuesday mornings from 9.30am starting on Tuesday 3 May in the East Hall,**

There are 2 tables and all the necessary equipment is available. There will be refreshments and we suggest making a small charge, say 50p, to cover any expenses ie table tennis balls, refreshments and a donation to the church for heating when it is needed.

So if anyone else is interested just let us know.

*Roy & Sheila Gooderham . 506452*

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## **Mission Coffee Morning**

**in the Church Hall**

**Displays of all the Missions we support**

**Saturday 4 June 2005      10.30am - 12.00noon**

**More details in next month's Chronicle**

# House and Fabric Issues

## Health and Safety

During April we started a three monthly periodic inspection of the church premises with the aim of removing hazards where they are likely to cause an accident. It is worth stating here that it is the responsibility of everyone to notify a member of the Fabric Group should they find anything which they think might cause an accident.

## Maintenance Programme

We are also beginning a structured programme of maintenance and repair; this together with the quinquennial survey planned for later this year, should help to reduce the number of sudden large expenditures on repair work. It will be of great help if users of the premises would notify the Fabric group of any item(s) which need attention.

## Disabled Access to front of church building

We are investigation a number of possibilities and ways of providing a slope or ramp to the front of the church. This is proving to be rather complicated, because there appears to be a negative side to which ever option we think of. However, as soon as proposals are available they will be brought to the Church Meeting.



## Ladies' Toilets

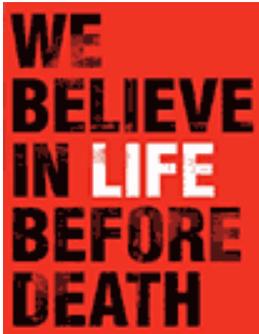
The re-arrangement and refurbishment to the Ladies toilet at the front of the church is now complete.

The refurbishment includes new facilities for the disabled.

*Graham Redman*

# Christian Aid

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 15<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> MAY



I have collected the envelopes and road allocation for Christian Aid week.

If you can help in the distribution and collection of envelopes, please sign your name on the road allocation list, which will be displayed at the rear of the church from the end of April.

Dates of Christian Aid activities can also be found on the notice board.

Should you require further information please contact me on:-  
Telephone No. 01903 243194

Many Thanks. *Bett Swierk*



Sun 1 8.00am Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mr Wilfred Rhodes  
 10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Dr Eric Rogers  
 6.00pm Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

Mon 2 Mayday Bank Holiday.

Tue 3 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. Koinonia

Thu 5 9.15am-11.30am The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group  
 10.30am Holy Communion  
 2.30pm Prayer and Praise

Sun 8 8.00am Prayer & Praise  
 10.30am Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood  
 6.00pm Evening Worship: Mr Michael Donnelly

Thu 12 9.15am-11.30am The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group  
 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Fri 13 7.30pm Christian Aid Service. St Andrew's, Clifton Road

<p>Sun 8th last day for          June Chronicle          material.  <hr/>         English Church          Census Day</p>
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Christian Aid Week: 15 - 21 May

Sun 15 8.00am Prayer & Praise  
 10.30am Morning Worship: Rev Peter Newell  
 6.00pm Christians Together in Goring worship at St Richards

Tue 17 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. AGM

Thu 19 9.15am-11.30am The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group  
 2.30pm Prayer and Praise

Sat 21 7.30pm Quiz at Sompting URC [ A Goring Team is required - page 13]

Sun 22 8.00am Prayer & Praise  
 10.30am Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood  
 6.00pm Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

Thu 26 9.15am-11.30am The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group  
 7.30pm Church Meeting

Sun 29 8.00am Prayer & Praise  
 10.30am Morning Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick  
 6.00pm Evening Worship: Rev Brian Stone  
 Closing date for Elders nominations [See page 4]

Mon 30 Spring Bank Holiday.

Tue 31 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. Garden Party



Sat	4	10.30am-12.00noon	Mission Coffee Morning
Sun	5	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Rev Marie Roe Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Vic Sumner Evening Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
Thu	9	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Elders' Meeting
Sun	12	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick
Thu	16	9.15am-11.30am	The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	19	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Brian Stone Evening Worship: Rev John Gordon
Thu	23	9.15am-11.30am	The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	26	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Elders Evening Worship: Miss Maureen Clarke
Thu	30	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting

Sun 12th  
last day for  
July Chronicle  
material.

## The Church Website is one of our windows to the world

If you have internet access, please take time to look through its pages, passing your comments to the Editor Graham Redman.

It is only by constantly reviewing what has been said on its pages through God's guidance, can we hope to achieve some of the objectives. Our objectives are to provide Christian outreach to the community as well as providing information to others in the Church and its members.

The website has recently been fully updated to include the Joint Pastorate, to improve finding your way around and the general appearance.

[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

Dear Friends

I spotted this story in a United Reformed Church magazine recently and it is probably worth reprinting.

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer of his plans to leave the house building business and live a more leisurely life with his wife and family.

He would miss the pay cheque but they had enough money to get by, just! His boss was sorry to see such a good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house for him as a personal favour. The carpenter said yes, but his heart was not in his work. His workmanship was shoddy, and he endeavoured to make a bit extra on the side using inferior materials.

When the carpenter finished and his boss came to collect the keys from him he said to his friend, 'this is for you, keep the keys, it is your house now!'

Oh dear! What a shame he did not know that before he started. Presumably he would have done things so differently!

It is a tale that reminds us of the importance of giving of our best whatever we are doing.

Jesus when he turned water into wine at the feast in Cana gave of his best. The wine he produced was

the best wine drunk that day [ John ch 2 v 1 -12 ]

Jesus gives of his best always and in return expects the very best from us.

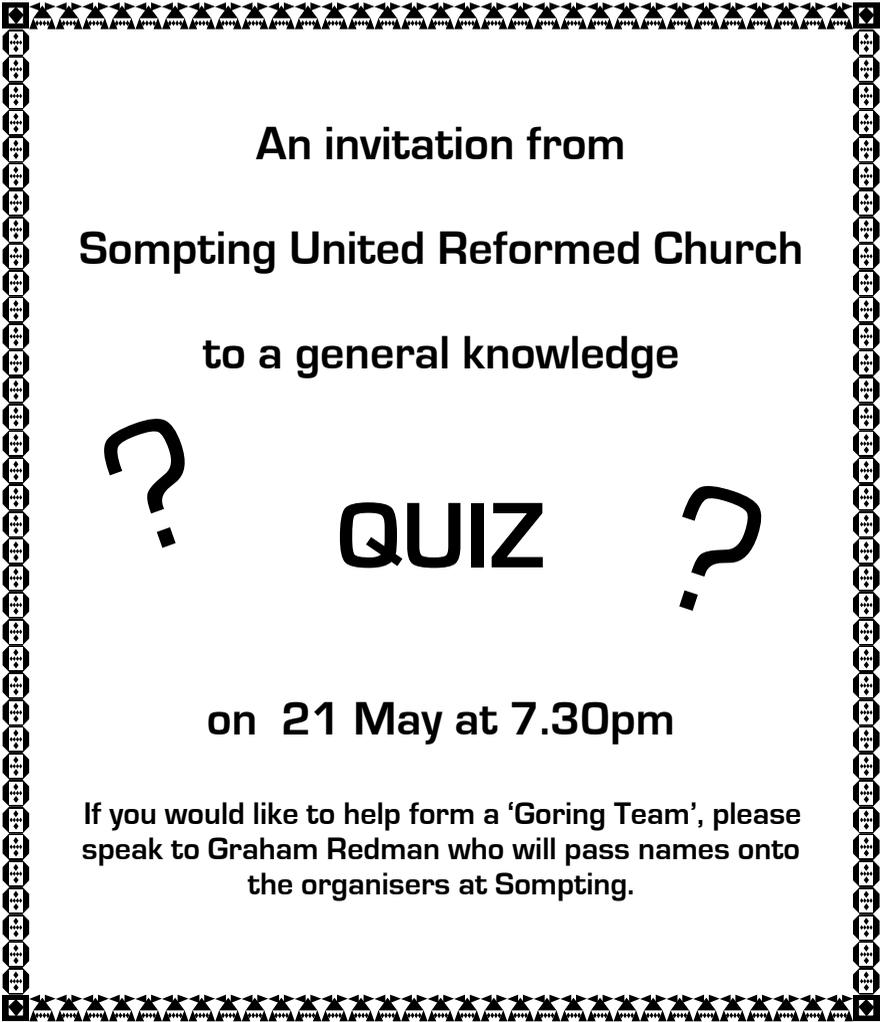
A story, which illustrates this well, is another story involving wine, this time in Luke's gospel. [ Luke ch 5 v 36 - 39 ]

Constant change is the way of the world. It always has been and always will be, No one uses a new piece of cloth to patch old clothes. The patch would shrink and make the hole even bigger. Transfer that thought to life and are we guilty of taking bits of Jesus message to us and patching it onto a threadbare life. And said Jesus no one pours new wine into old wine skins. New wine will ferment and burst old brittle wine skins, so both are lost. A desire for the new life that Jesus gives means that you cannot patch that onto our old life. A new start has to be made.

Jesus tells us that change must begin with ourselves. We want to see that world changed for the better.

To achieve that we must start with ourselves and our own lives and give of our very best to Jesus all the time.

*Norman Croft*



**An invitation from  
Sompting United Reformed Church  
to a general knowledge**

**? QUIZ ?**

**on 21 May at 7.30pm**

**If you would like to help form a 'Goring Team', please  
speak to Graham Redman who will pass names onto  
the organisers at Sompting.**

# Είναι ελληνικά για μένα !

Enai Ellinika Yia Mena! Kalo Pasca!

'Kalo Pasca!' Why am I wishing you a Happy Easter a month late? I'm wishing you a Happy Greek Easter, which this year is a month later than ours. This difference is to do with the decree from the Council of Nicaea in A.D.325, which states that the Orthodox Easter should take place on the first Sunday following the first full moon following the spring equinox following the Jewish Passover. The Greek word 'Pasca' means both Easter and Passover. Christ proclaimed himself the New Passover when he offered himself as a sacrifice.

Easter is by far the most important event in the Greek calendar, though Christmas is becoming more celebrated as Greece becomes more westernised. Easter is a time for families to get together, preferably in their own 'home' villages. Many of the big cities become strangely peaceful as people leave to go home for Easter. The planes and ferries from Athens are crowded and Crete fills up!

Some people would have been fasting for the forty days eating only 'fasting foods' which exclude meat, fish and olive oil and dairy products, but which allow shellfish, octopus and lobster. A lot of vegetables and pulses are eaten. More people join the fast in the last week as the mood of the week becomes more sombre.

Everyone gets busy in the run up to Easter, busier as the week advances -Easter biscuits are made; houses are cleaned. Walking up through the village you sometimes come across someone slaughtering a sheep, which gives a whole new meaning to the phrase 'as a sheep to the slaughter' and you suddenly understand the seriousness of the whole operation. One year, I witnessed one of 'our own' sheep going through the process, from being fed one morning, to ending up on the spit three or four days later. (Photos available for the strong-stomached!) The last time I was there at Easter, I took a walk up to the little village church on Good Friday morning to see how the women and children were getting on with the decoration of the bier. On the approach to the church, I came across a mass slaughtering. Some men were evidently being paid to do the killing and skinning and cleaning of several other people's

Easter Sunday lunches!

'Holy Thursday' morning 'Kallitsounia' – cheese pies or pastries are made, some are baked, some are fried, depending on the area in which you live. If possible, in Kalamitsi Amigdali, Christos's aunt prefers to use the old brick wood-heated domed oven, which gives them a very special taste. Some are served with honey, or grape juice syrup or sugar. Up in the mountains, the pies are made drier, so that they could be carried easily while looking after the sheep.

All Holy week, at all hours, you can hear the church bells ringing, not the musical peals we know and love in Goring on a Sunday, but the clang of a single bell, or, if you're unlucky, the clang of two bells. Children and young men, when passing a church, nip into the churchyard and pull the bell ropes that hang outside the church and ring the bells – at any time of the day or night!! This is specially permitted just for this period. The people who live near the church are glad when Easter is over!

On Good Friday, women and children go out collecting flowers from villagers' gardens and the women then decorate the wooden bier called the Epitaphion on which the picture of Christ on the cross – often on display in the church – is taken down during the afternoon service and laid on the bier.

As part of the evening service, the bier is carried around the boundaries of the parish, usually the village boundary, then to the cemetery, where people go and stand by the graves of their relatives and the priest goes to each and says prayers for the souls of the dead. The bier is then taken back into the church where it rests until the Saturday night. Saturday sees the last minute jobs being done – the cheese pies and the red eggs, if you didn't have time before. They will also make the 'magiritsa', or entrail soup – made from the liver and intestines of the sheep you have prepared, with onions, dill, parsley, and lemon juice.

Sometimes the Saturday evening seems a bit like pre-Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, as young men go round the village displaying the effigy of Judas – bearing remarkable resemblance to some of the 'guys' I have seen in England!

The climax of the week is reached on Saturday night and people wish each other 'Kali Anastasi' – 'Good Resurrection'. Crowds gather in the churches, all carrying an unlit candle. At midnight, the liturgy reaches its climax with the words 'Christos Anesti' – Christ is risen! Then the bells ring out and all reply, 'Alithos anesti' – 'He is risen indeed!' The congregation all then light their candles from the priest's, which is

lit from the flame brought from Jerusalem to Athens and on to the churches throughout Greece and the islands. When one is lit, the person holding that candle turns to someone else and lights theirs, until all the candles are lit and the church is illuminated by candle power. They file outside to the bonfire on which Judas's effigy is burnt to the accompaniment of bells, fireworks and sometimes even gunfire! Everyone tries to get home with the candle still alight to ensure a good year.

Once home, after midnight many people break the forty days' Lenten fast by eating the entrail soup, which is quite delicious and perhaps try their luck for the next year by indulging in a little egg-cracking, one person's red egg against another. The last egg to get cracked is the lucky one!

On Easter Sunday, families get together to roast a whole lamb on a spit and eat a meal together, which will go on for most of the afternoon. However, not all can afford this, or don't have the family to join with. One year, my friend Pantelis, said to me, 'Come up to my house for your Easter dinner, I've got something very good.' So I duly went up to the other village in time for lunch, looking forward to what I thought would be at least a small roast joint of lamb. On entering the house there didn't seem to be that exciting aroma one would expect,

but there was something simmering on the Calor gas ring in a big grey saucepan. Pantelis's house is one of the original Cretan houses, with whitewashed walls and very basic necessities. Plates were set out on his rickety kitchen table, slices of bread cut off the oval loaf and some 'horta'- wild greens picked from the mountain taken out of a little saucepan and put on the plates, with olive oil and cut lemons at the ready.

The moment had come! Pantelis, with a big smile, lifted out the steaming.....? sheep's head, tied round with string. He cut the string and the head fell apart, having been sawn directly through the middle. One half he put on to his plate, the other half on to mine. 'Enjoy!' he said, promptly setting about demolishing his portion.

Well, yes, I did enjoy it. I'm all for trying out new things – even to eating the eye and the brain! After all, I was brought up in Cornwall in a time of hardship, and, in many ways, Crete is like the Cornwall of fifty years ago, except for the T.V. aerials and the increasing numbers of tourists and traffic. That was one of my more memorable Easter treats, mostly for the love in which it was given.

Once again, greetings are exchanged between people meeting for the first time after Easter – 'Christos anesti – alithos anesti!' He is risen indeed!

*Mary Connelly.*

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# Ruth & Mamy's CHAT

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No.38

from Sweden

April 2005

**Dear Friends,**

Time for some Raharimanantsoa news...

## S W E D E N

### Serious study

Study has been our main preoccupation so far this year - for Mamy, of course, his doctoral thesis is the BIG challenge. Being a "people-person", it's not easy for him to spend long hours in front of the computer, but he's getting there! The pressure is currently on to try and submit the thesis during the next few weeks for feedback and comments, in preparation for the final presentation. I'm helping out with proof-reading.

Otherwise, I've been busy learning how to use prepositions in Swedish and which particles follow which verbs, etc. General progress has been good, thanks to the excellent classes I'm taking, and it's satisfying to understand more at church, etc. Since Christmas I've been part of a small weekly Bible study group for women - they have been patient with me, as I've led the study several times in faltering Swedish!

### Swedish sport & scenery

In February and March we had six weeks of snow on the ground, and tried our hands (or rather our feet!) at ice skating and cross-country skiing on a frozen lake. Mostly, we stuck with "innebandy" (indoor hockey) as our weekly sport. Mamy went deer-hunting with some friends (but they didn't catch anything!), and I saw a real live elk by the roadside before it darted into the forest for cover. It's a bit different from life in London!



## C O N G O

### Sermons & songs

Mamy decided in the end not to resume as part-time pastor, but he continues to preach about once a month, and we've been able to share about missions and Congo in several churches. In February I was part of a one-day Gospel choir (= Negro Spirituals in English); we learned the songs in the morning/afternoon, and sung then in church in the evening!

### Spring &... a Saviour!



Spring came suddenly to Sweden at the same time as Easter. It was especially meaningful to celebrate Jesus' victory over the powers of darkness, sin and death, as light, warmth and life returned to Sweden.

### Colleagues in Congo

Caleb Ebengue was born on 15<sup>th</sup> January by caesarian section at the main hospital in Brazzaville. He was premature and weighed just 1.8kg, but God took care of all the details, and he is doing fine now. My friend Andrea (German) and her husband Sylvain (Congolese) are adjusting to being parents in hot, sticky Brazzaville.

Caleb is not the only new face in Brazzaville these days. The SIL-Congo\* team has been reinforced by a new family from USA, Jeff & Michelle Winters, (with Brent & Brock), and the return to Congo of Larry & Camille Robbins. Later this year, three single women will join the team, so that the number of SIL personnel in Congo will reach double figures for the first time this century! Having more workers to share the load is a BIG answer to prayer.

### Calculating the cost

I've been helping from Sweden by translating into English some project funding requests and reports from colleagues in the other Congo. Funding is needed to pay salaries for local Bible translators and literacy workers, for running workshops and training programmes, for literacy materials, etc.



Whilst we praise God for the generosity of donors in USA and elsewhere, the BIG challenge is also to help Congolese become more financially independent.

### Cameroon conference

I'll be flying to Cameroon on 3<sup>rd</sup> June for three weeks (while Mamy is in Uppsala and Stockholm attending a doctoral seminar and his church's annual synod), for planning meetings for our work in Central Africa. I'm looking forward to re-

establishing contact with my colleagues, talking about what my role will be when we get back to Congo, and spending time with my Cameroonian friend, Julienne.

### Count-down for Congo

Here's how the next few months are looking (subject to change):

May 3rd-10<sup>th</sup> Ruth's mum visiting us in Sweden.

May 30<sup>th</sup> Ruth's end of course Swedish exam.

June 3<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> Ruth in Cameroon,  
Mamy in Uppsala & Stockholm.

June 25<sup>th</sup> Ruth arrives in UK for a couple of weeks, hopefully joined by Mamy.

July/August Packing up our apartment in Sweden, putting our belongings into storage, finalising Mamy's thesis.

September Mamy possibly defending his thesis (if not, he may come back from Congo to do this next year), goodbyes in Sweden & UK, off to Congo!

October Mamy starts teaching Old Testament at the Biblical Seminary in Brazzaville, while Ruth resumes her work with Congolese languages & Bible translation.



Thanks so much for your prayers for us over the summer – there is much to think about and organise. It's good that we can leave our concerns and stresses with God at the end of each day.

**Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you!**  
(1 Peter 5 v7)

Our love and greetings to each one of you, *Ruth* &  
*Mamy*

*(\* SIL is the name we are known by in Congo)*

### Mamy & Ruth Raharimanantsoa

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33231 GISLAVED  
SWEDEN

Tel: 00 46 371 511818

Email: ruth\_rahariantsoa@sil.org  
mamy\_rahariantsoa@kastanet.org

### Wycliffe Bible Translators

Horsleys Green, High Wycombe  
Bucks HP14 3XL, ENGLAND

### *Memo from God*

*Do not feel totally, personally,  
irrevocably responsible for  
everything.*

*That's my job.*

*Signed, GOD*

# Life of Christ

2005

An open air play in three acts



The play will be performed on Tuesday 28 June to Sunday 3 July and will start at approximately 10.15am and finish about 4.30pm each day.

The cost is Adults £13.00, Children £6.50 (up to age 18).



More details and booking -

Tel: 01483 892167

[www.wintershall-estate.com](http://www.wintershall-estate.com)

### Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Parents, Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.  
[chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

#### Publication Team :-

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Editor: Graham Redman.  
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5 Salvington Hill, Worthing. BN13 3AT

*The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or post to Mrs Grace Ralph ( address above ). Thank you.*

#### WELCOME Editors

[welcome@gurc.org.uk](mailto:welcome@gurc.org.uk)

May 8, 15, 22, 29

Ken Woods

Tel: 01903 505177

June 5, 12, 19, 26

Caroline Hibbs

Tel: 01903 523570

The Chronicle May 2005



The  

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**CHRONICLE**

June 2005

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

— *A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington* —



## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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

E-Mail: [secretary@gurc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@gurc.org.uk)

Web site: [www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

### Minister:

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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 Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

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# The CHRONICLE

Vol. 62 - No. 595

June 2005

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### Calling everyone to volunteer !

to help with a 'Working Party Week' Mon. 4th July - Sat. 9th July

Look out for details of jobs to be done in next month's chronicle - but please, put aside some time in that week to come along and help.

**July Chronicle Closing Date: Sunday 12 June**

**E-mail to:- [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)**

**Tel:- 01903 260568**

Dear Friends,

As you may know I will be on a sabbatical beginning 1<sup>st</sup> June until the end of August. But what is a sabbatical, you may well ask? After ten years of ordained ministry one is obliged to take a period of three months study leave. It is a time to reflect upon your ministry and to some extent recharge the batteries; you also have to come up with a piece of work to justify the time away (there is always a catch). Over the last year several ideas for study have floated through my mind. I suppose my theological interests are the study of mission and evangelism. So it would be more than appropriate to be able to concentrate within this area.

We all know about the shadow of decline over our denominational churches, but what about the growth areas, I have recently been made aware signs of growth and renewal in several areas of the Christian church. There are the well known non-charismatic ones Willowcreek, Saddleback, House church movement (cell) in general; also the ICM (one *Mission Carismatica International* unit in Bogotá Columbia gained 5 million converts since 1986), in the UK; COC, New Frontier, Rock of life, there is actually quite a long list. But there is one other growing church. The Orthodox Church particularly in North America, and Eastern Europe, I would like to explore the reason for

this seemingly unlikely growth\*. I have been put in touch with various Church leaders and commentators to find out why. I would like to compare and contrast Orthodoxy practice with my recent MA evangelism studies course findings and ask, "Have we been misled by sociologists perhaps there is a need for ultimate truth and authority after all?"

*\*Unlikely if one follows the David Bosch theory of Mission in a Post Modern Age*

I want to come to an understanding of how the Gospel moved from Jerusalem to Goring or Rustington. I will track it across Europe and look back into its earliest doctrinal teachings and contextual issues.

Methodology - I have Three main aims:-

**1. Visit to Turkey.** Through seeing the archaeology sites and attending field trip lectures, this will provide an insight of how the gospel spread into Europe. A time for personal reflection would focus on context and history. This trip would also provide material for presentations to groups within the church and enhance my experience for preaching.

**2. Trip to Greece:** To explore the mission and evangelistic models of the Orthodox church, again important to be in context. I believe this to be in contrast to my own

*(Continued on page 8)*

## Annual Appointments

At our July Church Meeting we will confirm or make appointments to our Administrative Groups and also to the various responsibilities taken by many members in the Church. ( See pages 4,5 and 8 in the Handbook. )

Please prayerfully consider your own role and confirm with me if you are able to continue. However if you feel called to a new task, wish to change, or stand down at this time, let me know so we can ensure continuity in our service in the life of the church.

It is with great appreciation that we acknowledge the contributions of so many in the life and witness of our church each year. Thank you all.

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## English Church Census Returns

On Sunday 8 May, 110 worshippers attended our church, of whom 10 were children.

24 people attend twice weekly.

73 people attend once weekly.

3 were first time attenders or visitors.

Approximately 70 people read the Bible personally at least weekly.

*Jane Bond*

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## Ellen Manix dies at the age of 102.

It was on 1st March that Ellen celebrated her 102nd birthday at home in Scotch Dyke Nursing Home. She died peacefully there on Thursday 19 May, after saying that she felt tired and wanted an early night.

We give thanks to God for her commitment and witness to the Lord Jesus Christ. Ellen had been a Church member here for many years.

Her funeral is to take place at this Church on Tuesday 31 May.

## TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS

### CRUISE CAPERS

Due to a last-minute change to the programme on April 5<sup>th</sup> the Fellowship was entertained with "Cruise Capers" on April 19<sup>th</sup> instead.

It was our dear President – Bobby Hitchin – who regaled us with tales of "Holidays on the High Seas" when she and her husband Mick had two cruises during 2004.

The two trips were very different, one on the P & O AURORA:- not so big, based in Southampton and cruising the Mediterranean. The other was on a ship called NORWEGIAN DREAM, based in Miami and which cruised in American/Caribbean waters. This was a much larger vessel and carried many more passengers.

However, it would seem that both ships had a great deal to offer in the way of entertainment. Music, dancing, cabarets, all kinds of shows as well as other activities – swimming, arts and craft sessions, talks and lectures on any number of subjects – and for those who can't live without them – SHOPS! And then of course there is the FOOD. This was, according to Bobby, out of this world and it all too easy to eat far too much – with dire results!!

Bobby showed us some wonderful memorabilia from the ships and also from the days spent ashore. Madeira, in particular, they thought very beautiful. Thank you Bobby for sharing it all with us. We had a most enjoyable afternoon.

**KOINONIA** - from the Greek for Fellowship and Communion as we learned from John and Celia Royston who came to Tuesday Fellowship on 3<sup>rd</sup> May .

John and Celia are the managers of the Christian Residential and Care Home which bears that name and which incidentally is the only truly committed Christian Home in the South. The prospective Residents are required to give a Testimony of Faith before they are accepted into Koinonia.

After that introduction John told us something of their earlier life, both having been born and brought up in Huddersfield. They were married in 1970 – becoming committed Christians in 1982. From then on they felt led by the Lord into caring for others (Celia was already a Registered Nurse in a Care Home). They moved from Huddersfield in 1994, leaving their grown-up children

behind. Usually it's the other way around! This move took them to Rickmansworth to manage a Care Home and after a while there to a similar establishment in Bournemouth where they were very happy. Unfortunately that Care Home changed ownership and John was made redundant which was sad for him at the time but lucky for Koinonia in Worthing.

He (John) is a very talented musician with a beautiful voice and he then enthralled us by singing a version of Psalm 27 the music for which was composed by hymn-writer Adrian Snell. It was then Celia's turn to talk to us. She spoke of the whys and wherefores of going into a Care Home. How very important it is to choose for oneself to go – not be pushed into it by family or friends. It must be a happy choice.

There are many reasons why people give up their homes but the most probable one is that the house or flat becomes difficult to maintain and is a liability to an elderly person. Or that person might be lonely and feel the

need of fellowship. In these days when such awful things are happening some folk want to know that they are in a safe, secure environment and not alone and isolated.

Celia emphasised the fact that a Care Home is NOT a prison. One has the same rights and freedom as in their own home, Koinonia provides all these things. Comfort – free from worry, fellowship, safety, security plus a very happy social life with outings, entertainment within the house, always some activity to do or to take part in – IF the Resident wishes – and most important of all, the wonderful Spiritual uplift which comes from living in totally Christian surroundings.

John then sang another lovely song which brought a most inspiring afternoon to a close.

As Bobby said in her Vote of Thanks we were truly blessed.

*Doreen Norris*

### **Outing to Tilgate Park, Crawley**

We Invite you to join us on a half-day outing To Tilgate Park on Tuesday 7 June 05 from 2.00 p.m. until 6.00 p.m. (cream tea available).

For further details - please contact -

Lily Collison - Tel: 248861 or Barbara Popplestone - Tel: 242906



# JUNE

Sat	4	10.30am-12.00noon	Mission Coffee Morning
Sun	5	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Rev Marie Roe Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Vic Sumner Evening Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
Mon	6	5.15pm-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	9	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Elders' Meeting
Sun	12	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick
Mon	13	5.15pm-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	16	9.15am-11.30am	The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	19	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Brian Stone Evening Worship: Rev John Gordon
Mon	20	5.15pm-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	23	9.15am-11.30am	The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Sun	26	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Elders Evening Worship: Miss Maureen Clarke
Mon	27	5.15pm-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	30	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark : - Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting

Sun 12th  
last day for  
July Chronicle  
material.





# JULY

Sun 3                    8.00am    Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Rev Simon Franklin  
                              10.30am    Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Mr Wilfred Rhodes  
                              6.00pm    Evening Worship: Mr Michael Donnelly

Mon 4            5.15pm-6.30pm    Goring by Sea Pilots Company

Thu 7            9.15am-11.30am    The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Gp

Working Party Week  
 Details next month's  
 CHRONICLE

Sun 10                8.00am    Prayer & Praise  
                              10.30am    Morning Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick  
                              6.00pm    Evening Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers

Mon 11            5.15pm-6.30pm    Goring by Sea Pilots Company. Enrolment service.

Tue 12                2.30pm    Tuesday Fellowship: Strawberry Tea

Thu 14            9.15am-11.30am    The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group  
                              7.30pm    Elders' Meeting

Sun 17                8.00am    Prayer & Praise  
                              10.30am    Morning Worship: Rev David Bedford-Groom  
                              6.00pm    Churches Together in Goring at Bury Drive Methodist

Mon 18            5.15pm-6.30pm    Goring by Sea Pilots Company. Last meeting before September.

Thu 21            9.15am-11.30am    The Ark : Mother, Baby & Toddler Group

Sun 24                8.00am    Prayer & Praise  
                              10.30am    Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner  
                              6.00pm    Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Vic Sumner

Thu 28                7.30pm    Church Meeting: Election of Elders

Sun 31                8.00am    Prayer & Praise  
                              10.30am    Morning Worship: Mrs Kay McIntosh  
                              6.00pm    Evening Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick



## Looking ahead . . . . .

4 September    Induction & Dedication of Elders



Sun 31st July is the  
 last day for September  
 Chronicle material.

(Continued from page 2)

theology and churchmanship.

**3.Conclusions:** To distil this wide experience of history, culture and tradition and to focus on my own ministry. What can we learn or (re-learn) from the early example of the Christian Church. There is a greater sense of the 'mystery of God' in Orthodoxy, perhaps we have become too informal even casual in our worship? Is our doctrine too broad? Are we sufficiently mission minded?

One implication of this sabbatical is that for three months I am not contactable for any church business. That is part of the agreement stipulated by the training board, my supervisor says; "see it as if you have been dropped on a desert island with no telephone." However there will be pastoral cover supplied.



## Handbook No 56 2004-05 Amendments

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### **Change of address as from 3 June**

Mrs Pheniah Taylor  
The Abbeyfield Ferring Society Ltd  
The Old School House  
27 Ferring Street, Ferring, Worthing. BN12 5HL  
Telephone number unchanged

Mrs Janet Hannant  
2 The Rockeries  
Petersfield Road, Midhurst. GU29 9JN  
Telephone: 01730 817535

Left:

The Reverend Samuel Nkrumah getting married to his new wife Mercy.

Below left:

Samuel's church at Bodada, where he has been working for almost a year now. The church looks big and solidly built from the outside and there is also a Manse with it. In fact, Samuel sent more photographs which will be on display during the COFFEE MORNING of the MISSION GROUP on the 4th June 10.30 - 12 noon!



Other Special news: in May, a very happy letter arrived

from Samuel telling us that his wife Mercy had given birth to a little baby boy and that mother and baby are doing well. He writes, "he and his wife, their families, the Church members and the entire community are jubilating"!

*Monika Leal*

Note

It was some 15 years ago that our Church Youth Club of the mid 1980s organised the raising of funds to purchase a much needed bicycle for Samuel. The bike was eventually bought, packed and shipped to Samuel. The Church here in Goring has maintained its link with the Church in Ghana and Samuel Nkrumah since that time, and probably had connections well before then. Rev William Connolly, minister at Goring during that time will no doubt remember it well !

# Είναι ελληνικά για μενα !

## Einai Ellinika yia Mena!

### The Feast of Pentecost.

Following on from the late Orthodox Easter, I'm really early (Greek time) thinking about Pentecost.

You, I hope, will already have read about, heard about, thought about, sung about, prayed about the outpouring from Christ of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples, and have, in some way, celebrated the fiftieth day after the feast of the Passover and of the resurrection of Jesus.

The word Pentecost comes from the Greek words pente, five + -konta, "ten times" peninta = fifty, pentikostos =fiftieth. So it was earlier known as 'pentcoste hemera,' the fiftieth day.

The Jewish holiday, Shavuot, was held at this time, commemorating the delivery of the law of the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai and celebrating the end of the wheat festival – a harvest thanksgiving. The first Syrian harvests were gathered in early summer, and in ancient times first fruits were then brought to the Temple.

We call this festival Whitsuntide, because those who were newly baptised wore white in church – White Sunday Tide or Time.

Jesus had promised the disciples that the day would come when they would receive from him an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and on

one of the days of the Feast they were all together hoping that the promise would soon be kept.

St. Luke, writing (in Greek) in 'The Acts of the Apostles', described what happened: "Suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a mighty, rushing wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues of flame, which sat on each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit led them to speak. People from many nations who were in Jerusalem came crowding round to see what had happened.

The disciples spoke, and those present, Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and the dwellers of Mesopotamia, Judaea, Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia, Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the parts of Libya around Cyrene, and

strangers from Rome, Jews and those who had become Jews, Cretans and Arabs, understood what was said, as though the disciples were speaking in their own language about the wonderful works of God.

People were astonished at this strange and mysterious occurrence, though some, not understanding and not wanting to understand, openly mocked and jeered and said that these Galilean disciples were drunk

Peter, however, stood up and preached his first sermon. "You men of Judaea, and all you here in Jerusalem, these men are not drunk as you think, so early in the morning, but this is the fulfilment of Joel's prophesy that your sons and daughters shall prophesy, and your young men see visions and your old men shall dream dreams," and he told them of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Those who listened and believed his words and repented, were baptized, and that day, about three thousand men and women were added to their number, thus forming the first 'Church.'

The Eleven Apostles, together with Matthias, who had been chosen to take the place of Judas, became the leaders of all the people who joined together in a great fellowship. Some sold their possessions and goods and shared the proceeds with the poorest, and were each day in the Temple, preaching and praising God, being full of happiness. Each day, too, more were added to their numbers.

The Temple authorities observed with anxiety the joy, warm-hearted kindness and popularity of these followers of Jesus, and decided to watch them very closely.

What was happening? What did all this excitement mean? Surely they had crucified and killed and buried Jesus of Nazareth and got him out of the way? What would happen next? How could they control this situation? They might need to stop these Apostles and the people who were joining them before they became a serious threat.

They did try, without much success. Perhaps they would succeed better these days. Do we pose a threat to anyone? Do we need to be controlled? Are we joyous and excited? Does anyone notice us for what we are saying and doing? Are we speaking in a language people can understand? Are we even speaking? Would anyone notice if we weren't here?

Fifty days on, fifty years on, fifty hundred years on, will there be anything happening?

*Mary Connelly.*

# SOMPTING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

celebrate **70 YRS** with a

## FLOWER FESTIVAL

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**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> JULY** from 10am - 5pm  
**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> JULY** from 2pm - 5pm

The theme will be based on a variety of 'CELEBRATORY EVENTS' depicted by groups / organisations that are part of the life of our Church / or meet regularly there.

It is hoped to have a small number of musical items during the Saturday.

Refreshments will be available on both days in the large hall *with a light lunch being available on the Saturday only ( 12.30pm – 2pm.)*

Please support our event and bring your friends to a very colourful and we hope an interesting display.

Free entrance.....donations towards church funds

For more information contact ...  
 Hazel Weston (01903) 755122

### Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Parents, Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.  
[chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

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[welcome@gurc.org.uk](mailto:welcome@gurc.org.uk)

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The

# CHRONICLE

July 2005

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

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## Summer



- by



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Vol. 62 - No. 596

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### Front Cover

The children in Junior Church were given the text, " ... and on the seventh day, God rested ... ", and were asked to illustrate something to do with their summer holidays.

## August / September Chronicle

**Closing Date: Sunday 31 July**

**E-mail to:- [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)**

**Tel:- 01903 260568**

Dear friends

Prophets can be a real pain. By their nature they tell you things you didn't want to hear. Not only that they then go on and on with their message. They just seem to want to rock the boat and upset everyone.

Jeremiah prophesied for 42 years, ministering from the reign of the last good king of Judah, Josiah, to the final destruction of the city of Jerusalem. Politically, the region was going through tremendous changes as the Assyrian Empire waned and Egypt, Babylon, the Medes, and Persia, all tried to grab the remains of the Assyrian Empire. Jeremiah saw these events as directed by God, intended on bringing destruction to the wicked (Judah included).

Jeremiah's message in this context is clear. Babylon is coming. Repent and the coming invasion from the north won't be as brutal. Keep with your wicked ways, and the destruction will be thorough. What if one Sunday a preacher stood in the pulpit and persistently declared that God was on the side of some other group of Christians? That God was against the Church in this country and that he was raising up the outsiders to be his people and his servants, to take over? That God cared nothing for the status of the Church in this country or the long heritage of religious worship that our nation has had? In fact, that the

things we have emphasized were an offence to God?

And what if this preacher went on to advocate that Christians renounce their loyalty to their traditions and practices even their country and join the outsiders? And what if the preacher was then subjected to house arrest, or flung into prison, or slapped in the face in public and his writings burned, or he was half-drowned in a pit of slime; would not only stubbornly refuse to take back one word of what he had said but would only repeat it again? Well, this is something like the situation that is recorded in the book of Jeremiah.

This is exactly what Jeremiah was called to do. Imagine yourself as that preacher. Imagine how you would feel when no one listens to you and persecution hounds you every step of the way. You are unable to seek any comfort because the days are too difficult and God has said to remain alone. You feel abandoned, and alone; all your friends turn from you. Imagine how you would feel when no one listens to you and persecution hounds you every step of the way.

And if you try to quit, and refuse to be this kind of a preacher, you find that you cannot quit – that the word of God burns in your bones and you have to say it whether or not you want to. And despite the message that you are called upon to deliver, your love for your country and

*(Continued on page 3)*

*(Continued from page 2)*

Church is genuine and deep – as you see it surrounded by its enemies and ravished and conquered and despoiled, you are overcome by a deep sorrow that breaks out in grief's lamentations

Now, perhaps, you can understand why Jeremiah, of all the prophets, was unquestionably the most heroic. Isaiah wrote more exalted passages and perhaps saw more precisely the coming of the Messiah and the fullness of his work. Other prophets speak more precisely concerning some of the future events that were to be fulfilled, but Jeremiah is outstanding among the prophets as a man of heroic, dauntless courage. For many years he endured this kind of persecution in his life without quitting. That is an amazing record, isn't it? As you read through this book you can see that here indeed is an amazing man.

That's all very well but we don't have prophets in the church these days. O dear; that is perhaps the problem, God is not speaking to His people any more, or is it they are not listening? Friends, be prepared I believe the Lord will indeed speak to His church in these latter days. We may well need to totally re-think our ways for it will be made plain that they are not of the Lord; a mighty challenge will be presented before us.

*Yours in His service Andrew*



I spent a few days with Robin (Bradley) in Brecon last week. She and her son John have settled into their bungalow very happily.

It was good to see Robin so well and happy with her loving family around her.

She sends her love to all her friends at Goring - of course she misses us, but has made new friends at the small URC at Brecon.

*Lily Collison*

## What is our Mission Statement?

- we wouldn't blame you if you don't know !

**I**t is quite lengthy and therefore has been reproduced at the bottom of page 9 to remind us. The Elders now challenge us to produce a shorter, more "punchy" statement of perhaps 10-12 words - something we can quote, display and is more meaningful to the children too. See what you can do! To start us off -

" We are here to ..... "

May God be in your head and in your understanding, in your hearts and in your thinking.

Suggestions may be handed to me before the next Church Meeting on Thursday 28th July

*Jane Bond*

## A tribute to Ellen Manix

Have you ever felt your life to have been richly blessed by one particular person? If so, you will know what a truly wonderful feeling it is.

My life has been truly blessed by the late Ellen Manix. Some 25 years ago, through Girls' Brigade, and the 'Love and Care Scheme' Alison was assigned to Ellen, to visit her each week and to do her shopping - and any other odd jobs she wanted doing.

Ellen loved Alison from the start as indeed she grew to love us all in 5th Worthing. To me she was generous with her time and friendship, and always ready to learn about our needs in the Company, from new uniforms to summer camps. She supported us in everything we did, both by her presence and her gifts of money.

Although 5th Worthing Girls' Brigade is no more, neither Alison nor I lost touch with Ellen and I was so glad to sit alongside Alison at Ellen's funeral service - and to recall with great love and thanksgiving all that Ellen has meant to me down the years and especially since Roy died. I shall greatly miss her.

Thank you Ellen for everything, and God Bless.

*Jean Webb*

## TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEETING

The Fellowship held its Annual General Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2005.

As she had served the allotted term of 2 years, Bobby Hitchin stood down from the post of President. In her place Peggy Mott took up the job for the next 2 years. We wish her well. Secretary, Carol Webber and Treasurer, Audrey Gerlach are willing to continue (at least for the next year) in the jobs they have done so ably, as are the two committee members Barbara Popplestone and Trudie Saunders.

Bobby gave the Presidents report for the past year and as Carol was on holiday also read the Secretary's report. Audrey gave the Treasurer's report.

After the business part of the meeting we enjoyed ourselves with that old favourite – a Beetle Drive

before having our welcome cup of tea!

Sadly the Fellowship's numbers are diminishing and we would wholeheartedly welcome new members, gentlemen as well as ladies. It is always a very happy afternoon, sometimes with an interesting speaker or a members' 'Fun-time', and always a nice cup of tea. Look out for the new programme, available soon.

*Doreen Norris*

**STRAWBERRY TEA**  
**TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY AT 2.30PM**  
**The highlight of summer!**  
**Tickets £3.00**  
**from committee members.**

## Annual Appointments

At our July Church Meeting we will confirm or make appointments to our Administrative Groups and also to the various responsibilities taken by many members in the Church. [ See pages 4,5 and 8 in the Handbook. ]

Please prayerfully consider your own role and confirm with me if you are able to continue. However if you feel called to a new task, wish to change, or stand down at this time, let me know so we can ensure continuity in our service in the life of the church. It is with great appreciation that we acknowledge the contributions of so many in the life and witness of our church each year. Thank you all. *Jane Bond*

# The Ark



**A**s we approach the end of another year, we are pleased to say that over the months The Ark has enjoyed the company of many adults with children. The weekly attendance varies but we average approx. 10 families each week, many with more than one child attending. This last term chicken pox kept some families away for a short while, but happily all have now recovered, and with no lasting effects.

We will be saying goodbye to some of our older children at the end of this summer term, as they go off to school for the first time. This always leaves a gap at the 'top end' and some have been with us since before they were born! Never-the-less we are always aware of their need to move on and up!

We do not receive very many visiting church friends, but you are very welcome to pop in whenever you fancy a little fun, friendship and a cup of coffee/tea. If you arrive nearer to eleven o'clock you can join in the singing, some of which is accompanied by actions. Marching with instruments and piano is always popular too!

We were able to spend a happy morning hosting a lady who does face painting, and later a representative of Osbourne Books came to offer her items for sale.

Our themes for the year have included 'The Farm' 'Under the sea' and 'Shapes' - Picture below 'Shapes'

The Ark would not function without its leaders, Margaret, Susanna, Beryl, Les, Hilary and Graham who engage with both adults and children, keep watchful eyes on activities and provide the refreshments. Janet Oakes and Kate Henwood are both carers/ mums with good ideas, and so we are well served.

Thank you all, who remember this group in your prayers, please continue in your support for the work of The Ark. We'll be back in September!

*Hilary Redman*







# AUGUST

Sun	7	8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Dr Eric Rogers
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Peter Elliott
Sun	14	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev John Jennings
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Mr Alec Ralph
Sun	21	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Peter Newell
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Peter Elliott
Sun	28	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Vic Sumner

Most Groups and Organisations do not meet during the month of August.



## Looking ahead . . . . .

4 September Induction & Dedication of Elders



In March 2000 the Church Meeting agreed the following vision statement for our Church.

" Goring United Reformed Church, through its members and its buildings, is here to bring the Good News of Jesus to our local community, to provide the means by which all may draw nearer to God in worship and fellowship, to learn about and share Christ's gospel of love and forgiveness, to serve those around us and the wider world. "

The Elders now invite us to review its wording - see page 4

## An invitation from the House & Fabric Group

for all to come and lend a hand at our 'Working Party Week' from Monday 4 July to Saturday 9 July.

Please see list of jobs opposite. There is also a list in the Vestibule and a duplicate in the Main Hall with spaces where you can leave your name.

The job list may look a bit daunting, but the more help we receive, the easier it will be - also the more we can do ourselves, the less we need to spend on professional assistance. Some jobs, i.e. the driveway, building jobs and electrical work, etc. must be done by professionals, however we aim to complete as much as we can using our own skills and talents as we maintain the House of God. Each one is asked to consider what they might be able to offer, to make a team and to work in fellowship in God's service.



## Goring by Sea Pilots Company

We met after Easter for a long session this time. We have been looking at the life and culture and things of the people of Bangladesh.

Starting off with maps flags and flowers. Then we moved on to the way of life, language, money and clothes. Then we had an evening when we sampled the food of Bangladesh - to you and me Curry - which the children enjoyed. Then for the last item before we think about worship for the remainder of the session. We looked at the wildlife of Bangladesh.

Now we are getting ready for our last evening which will be an open evening and enrolment of 4 children. \*\* I am pleased to report that we are steadily getting more in. We now have 9 regulars now so that is good. Please keep on praying for us and more children and young people.

Thank you for your support and will keep you informed of our activities. God bless

*Valerie, Bett, Sue, Ricky and Janet (Officers)*

*\*\* You are invited to our enrolment service and open evening on Monday 18th July at 5.15 pm. You are welcome to stay for refreshments afterwards.*

*We do hope you can join us on this occasion.*

## List of Jobs — more details from lists in Vestibule &amp; Main Hall.

<b>Decorating</b>	<b>Repair &amp; investigation</b>
Main Hall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exterior West Wall - check wood and brickwork and re-decorate.</li> <li>• Interior - Decorate walls after plaster repairs, see below.</li> </ul>	Main Hall Gents Toilet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Window insecure and glass cracked.</li> </ul>
Old Boiler Room: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decorate walls and ceiling and pipes.</li> </ul>	East Hall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roller Blinds need adjusting.</li> </ul>
Vestibule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rub down doors and shelves and treat surfaces with oil.</li> <li>• Re-decorate Vestibule</li> </ul>	Plaster repairs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elders Vestry - small area</li> <li>• Cracked areas in choir Vestry</li> <li>• Vestibule</li> <li>• Main Hall - small area</li> </ul>
Sanctuary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some selective decoration required including rubbing down and treating of wood shelves.</li> <li>• Wood on Organ Console needs to be treated.</li> </ul>	Investigation & report back to Fabric Grp: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Transept window need attention.</li> <li>• Old Print Room - Investigate and repair if possible poor area of flooring</li> <li>• Men's Toilet window frame off Vestibule has wood rot.</li> </ul>
Choir Vestry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-decorate walls and ceilings</li> </ul>	<b>Odd jobs</b>
Elders Vestry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-decorate walls and ceiling</li> </ul>	Vestibule: : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Door to Disabled/Ladies Toilet Closer to be removed.</li> <li>• Fit magnetic closers to Cupboards.</li> </ul>
Driveway: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark out and paint new large "Out Arrow" and re-paint hatching areas.</li> </ul>	Cornwall Room Passage Area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fit mirror to Disabled Loo.</li> <li>• Adjust Cornwall Room door catch</li> </ul>
<b>Cleaning and tidying</b>	Main Hall Entrance Lobby: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase and fit plug and chain to basin in Ladies' toilet.</li> <li>• External doors fit new door hook.</li> </ul>
Sanctuary windows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove paint &amp; clean.</li> </ul>	Outside West Hall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear French Drain</li> </ul>
Garage: Tidy and clear rubbish.	And Finally — <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trips to the Corporation Tips.</li> </ul>
Vestibule Gents Cloakroom: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tidy and/or relocate miscellaneous items.</li> </ul>	

# *Pastoral Care at Goring URC*

Jesus says,

“Love one another as I have loved you” St John Chapter 15 verse 12

There are so many ways in which we can show our love for one another. It may be helpful, especially to those who have not been worshipping with us long, to point out some of the resources we have at Goring.

- **Prayers**

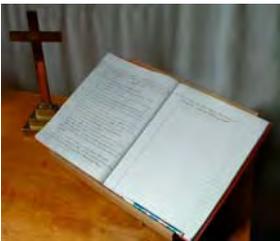
How do I know who needs my prayers?

There are many ways, of course - but in particular, there is a prayer book in the Little Chapel, situated just to the left of the Pulpit. Here is a space to be quiet and record prayers of thanksgiving and prayers of intercession. You are welcome to share joys and sorrows in prayer through the means of this little book.



- **The Minister or our Pastoral Elder.**

Are you concerned about some-one, or some-thing?



These are people who will hear you in confidence, who will pray with you and for you. You will find the telephone number of the Minister and the names of the Pastoral Elders in the Church Handbook. If you do not have a hand book please speak to Graham Redman.

Prayer Book

- **Mid-week Holy Communion in the Little Chapel**

Besides joining in Holy Communion on a Sunday you can also join the small group who meet to celebrate the Lord's Supper on the first Thursday of each month at 10.30 am. There are several occasions in the year when we meet for a short service of Holy Communion at 3.00pm in the afternoon.

- **The ministry of flowers.**

We welcome and give thanks for the flowers which enhance Sunday's worship. Are you able to arrange flowers for Sunday worship? Perhaps you would like to provide the flowers, either as a gift, or as a memorial or thanksgiving. If you have a car, you may be able to use it to distribute flowers occasionally, or more frequently?



- **Prayer & Praise**

More friends would be welcome to join in on alternate Thursday afternoons in the Little Chapel. Here is an opportunity to pray together informally, for about an hour, using the prayers recorded in the prayer book, reading scripture and singing praises.



- **The Book of Remembrance**

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

Book of Remembrance

- **Visiting**

Some of our church friends are stuck indoors. Perhaps you are available to visit people who are unable to get out, to have a chat, do a little shopping, offer a lift in your car.

If you would like to help through pastoral care, or you have a gift to offer please speak with me as soon as possible. Please also let me know if you have news of some-one who needs extra prayers or care.

*Hilary Redman, Pastoral Secretary. Telephone: 260568*

# Είναι ελληνικά για μένα !

## Einai Ellinika yia Mena!

### Pictures.

Once again, something that was mentioned in a sermon gave me food for thought. It was about the custom of worshippers in the Greek Orthodox Church of kissing the icons on display in their churches. I have heard it suggested that it smacks of idolatry, (which would be known as 'iconolatry',) but from what I have observed when in Crete, the kissing of the icon is an act of veneration.

On feast days (usually the saint's day after whom the church is named), the icon, or picture, of that saint is put on display outside the church, to allow access by all the congregation, should the church be too crowded to get inside. Natasha, our granddaughter, asked questions on this subject, before her baptism and acceptance into the Greek Orthodox Church, and now sees the kissing of icons "as a mark of respect to the saints they depict," and nothing more. She also tells me that the nuns in the convent where she was baptised, in the interests of the convent's self-sufficiency, are busy making and painting icons and exporting them to other parts of Europe, mainly Germany.

"Tutenkamon is an icon, a symbol of Egyptian power," I heard in a documentary on television, and you will read and hear the word mentioned frequently, even in reference to living people who may or may not have the qualities we might expect of an 'icon'.

We hear many people referred to as 'Icons of our time,' for example, Kylie Minogue's "enduring status as a gay icon"; and I found this quote in a travel magazine: "During your stay, you can head to Los Angeles Downtown to discover the birthplace of movie theatres, the iconic Walt Disney Concert Hall..." You will have come across many 'iconic' references in your reading, watching and listening. Perhaps you would like to interpret them in the light of a few definitions.

What is an icon? Well, the Greek word for picture is Eikon – icon, or ikon.

### Dictionary definition:

1. An image, a representation.
2. A representation or picture of a sacred Christian personage, itself regarded as sacred, especially in the tradition of the Eastern Churches.
3. A term that in some way resembles that which it designates.

Iconography:

- 1.a. Pictorial illustration of a given subject.
  - b. The collected representations illustrating a subject.
- 2.a. A given set of symbolic forms bearing the meaning of a stylised work of art.
  - b. The conventions defining them and governing their relationship. [ Greek eikonographia, description, sketch, "drawing of images": icono- + -graphy ]

"In Greece, the picture on our television screen is known as an eikon," says Helen, "But the pictures you painted for us, hanging on our walls, are 'pinakas'. Photographs are 'fotografias'." Whatever the word, there are always photographs of parents and grandparents hanging on walls in the houses of Crete which often are venerated as much as any icon. And do we, ourselves, not sometimes carry a photograph or portrait next to our hearts either in a wallet, or in a locket, or keep it where we can see it frequently, even kiss it and talk to it, trying to glean or send some comfort or love from and to the person depicted?

Are there some of you who are iconoclasts? Don't know? I don't think so.

Dictionary definition: 1. A destroyer of sacred images, specifically: a. Any of the opponents of the use and veneration of icons in the Eastern Churches during the eighth and ninth centuries A.D. b. A Protestant in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries who opposed the veneration of sacred images and traditions. 2. One who attacks and seeks to overthrow traditional or popular ideas or institutions. [Medieval Latin 'iconoclastes', from Medieval Greek

'eikonoclastes' "image breaker" : icono- + -clast].

We are not so puritanical as to wish for bare, whitewashed walls in our church, with no representation or symbolism of the Christian faith and endeavour. We have beautiful floral arrangements; pictures and symbols in the glass of our windows; we have pictorial banners on the walls and a picture of the Last Supper below the large symbolic cross in the sanctuary. These are constant reminders of the foundations of our faith.

A new form of icon has now appeared amongst us: many or most of you will be familiar with the icons on computer screens. This is new technology, but the symbolism is ancient: clicking on to an icon leads us to what lies beyond, to information, further exploration, knowledge and hidden power, so too, our thoughts and prayers, stimulated by symbols and pictures, can open up to us the limitless Divine Love.

*Mary Connelly*

# SOMPTING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

celebrate **70 YRS** with a

## FLOWER FESTIVAL



**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> JULY** from 10am - 5pm  
**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> JULY** from 2pm - 5pm

The theme will be based on a variety of 'CELEBRATORY EVENTS' depicted by groups / organisations that are part of the life of our Church / or meet regularly there.

It is hoped to have a small number of musical items during the Saturday.

Refreshments will be available on both days in the large hall *with a light lunch being available on the Saturday only ( 12.30pm – 2pm.)*

Please support our event and bring your friends to a very colourful and we hope an interesting display.

Free entrance.....donations towards church funds

For more information contact ...  
 Hazel Weston (01903) 755122

### Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Parents, Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.  
[chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

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*The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph ( address above ). Thank you.*

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Tel: 01903 523570

August 7, 14, 21, 28

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*Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.*  
*[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)*

The  
CHRONICLE

August / September 2005

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

— *A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington* —



Inside —

- *Issues from the July Church Meeting*
- *Pastoral News*
- *Annual Appointments*
- *Preparations for a new Mission Statement*

**GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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***Worship in the Church Sanctuary***

Sundays

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

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

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

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

Mid-week

10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

*The* CHRONICLE

Vol. 62 - No. 597

August / September 2005

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**Front Cover**

The 'Main Hall' showing the newly constructed ramp, laid by some of our Church members. The only addition now will be the provision of a safety handrail[s].

See page 5 for progress regarding ramp at front of church.

**October Chronicle****Closing Date: Sunday 11 September****E-mail to:- [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)****Tel:- 01903 260568**

**A**s torrents in summer, half dried in their channels,  
Suddenly rise, tho' the sky is still cloudless,  
For rain has been falling far off at their fountains;

So hearts that are fainting grow full to o'er flowing,  
And they that behold it marvel, and know not,  
That God, at their fountains far off has been raining!

These are the lovely words written by Longfellow and sung by the choir as an introit on the Sunday of our Elders service on 26th June.

Most of us experience times when we feel dried up and have fainting hearts, perhaps even question where God is in problems seen in the world or in our own lives.

At times like these how good it is to experience again the love of God, caught perhaps in the words of a hymn or prayer, in the loving care of a friend, or the beauty we see in the creation around us. Then our hearts may grow full to overflowing and we know that God has been raining far off in the fountains of our lives and can restore us with living water. [ John 4 v10 and 14 ] .



Maybe when we see joy and inspiration in the life and witness of someone else, they too may have had a dry patch and we are seeing the result of God raining His living water in their lives too.

Let us continually pray for each other that we may receive His precious gift of living water given to us in our Lord Jesus Christ, and for Andrew during his sabbatical Leave, that his fountains will be refilled.

*Jane Bond*

Due to holiday times and a shortage of Chronicle production time, the Editor apologises for this copy of the magazine not being proof read by Ron Jordan. Please therefore excuse any errors (sorry errors !!) which may occur.

## From the July Church Meeting

Election of Elders. It was our joy and privilege to elect Sue Mitchell to the eldership, and we pray for every blessing on her as she commits herself to this calling. Valerie Cooper and Jane Bond were re-elected for a further term of three years.

Thank You. July Church Meeting is the opportunity to thank all those people who faithfully undertake regular tasks within the church, both small and great. Some of these are listed in the Handbook, but there are many others who minister in unobtrusive ways. If you were unable to attend the meeting, please accept our thanks and appreciation.

Harvest. Church Meeting agreed to support the Worthing Churches Homeless Project this year, with gifts of money and dry goods for their night shelter food store, in lieu of decorating the church with traditional fruit and vegetables, which are hard to place afterwards. Instant coffee is particularly welcome. We hope to arrange a speaker one Sunday beforehand to help us to be aware of their work and needs.

New members who have been accepted on transfer by Church Meeting who will be received formally in the Autumn;

Mr. Ray Elliott and Mrs. Verna Elliott  
3 Selkirk Close tel 504618

Mr. Don Jenkin and Mrs. Joan Jenkin  
40 Shaftesbury Avenue tel 242297

They have all been worshipping with us for some time and we give them a very warm welcome .

*Jane Bond*

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### A note from Audrey Gerlach -

What a blessing it is to be upheld by a Church family in times of anxiety and sadness.

Thank you for all your love and prayers, for the many cards, telephone messages and gifts of flowers I have received, My sister suffered for a long time and I give thanks that she is now at peace.

## Pastoral News

Three members have died since the July Chronicle was issued -

Mrs Elsie Chatfield on 4 July. Her funeral was held at Worthing Crematorium on Friday 8 July. It was good that Ruth (nee Chatfield) and Mamy Raharimanantsoa had not returned to the Congo at the time so were able to attend the funeral with other members of Ruth's family.

Mr Frazer Finlay died on 21 July after a long illness. His funeral was on Monday 1 August; The Committal Service at Worthing Crematorium and then for a service of Thanksgiving at Goring United Reformed Church to which about 90 friends and relatives were able to attend. Frazer and his wife Joan have been members here since October 1980. Frazer was a elder of the URC although he did not serve at Goring.

Miss Phyllis Wheeler who died on Sunday 31 July at her home in Highgrove House. Phyllis has also been a member since the early 1980s and during that time was involved with the Torch Fellowship and provided constant prayers for the 'Welcome' Prayer diary. The funeral for Phyllis took place on Thursday 11 August at Worthing Crematorium.

We give thanks for the lives and Christian witness for those who have died and pray for peace in the hearts of family and friends.

Please remember to update your Handbook with the above and also to amend Mrs. Caroline Hibbs who has now moved to:-

Springa, 20 The Heights, Worthing. BN14 0AL

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## New Handbook No 57 2005-06

The new Handbook is currently in course of preparation for printing in September.

If you are aware of any errors that need to be corrected from the No56 Handbook, please notify Graham Redman.

## Phyllis Wheeler

Phyllis came to live in Goring at the end of the war to live with her parents, and she worked in the Inland Revenue.

Following the death of her parents, she was alone in the world, having no living relatives. She referred to Goring URC as her church family.

She was a familiar sight with her bicycle, often collecting door to door for charity. Phyllis loved a bargain and was always present at every coffee morning or bazaar, buying items to add to her ever increasing collection of trivia. Many people throughout the world have been remembered in prayer, at Bible study, or at a prayer meeting due to her wide reading of Christian evangelical literature. Her memory was extraordinary, and until the end of her life she could recite, word perfectly, hymns or poems learnt in her youth, naming the author often with either scraps of information about the person concerned.

Most letters she wrote contained a verse or two as she thought appropriate.

When, reluctantly, Phyllis had to leave her bungalow and go to live in a care home, she hoped to into Koinonia a Christian home, but at the time there was no place available.

The Lord in His wisdom found a place for her in Highgrove House, where she was well cared for.

She soon made her Christian faith evident, and shared it every opportunity. The time of Sunday supper was changed, at her request to allow residents to watch 'Songs of Praise' and Christian literature was always evident among books and daily newspapers.

Whenever Phyllis is spoken of in years to come, it will be a smile at a memory of a 'character'.

*Robin Bradley*

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## Ramp outside Church Front Door

The provision of the ramp at the front of the Church is imminent and may have been laid by the time this magazine becomes available.

Being a much larger project than the ramp outside the Main Hall, this one has been given to contractors to carry out the work.

## A New Mission Statement

At our July Church meeting we briefly looked at about half a dozen suggestions for our new Mission Statement. The present one which is printed in last month's Chronicle, is quite lengthy and difficult for us to remember; we need now a much shorter statement, more punchy and precise, probably no more than a dozen or so words.

The suggestions which were distributed at Church meeting are reproduced below along with a few other suggestions.

- *Goring URC is here to share God's love and care for all people.*
- *Goring URC is here to bring the word of God to every one and care for one another.*
- *We are here to share God's love and care for our neighbours.*
- *We are here to worship God and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ's love.*
- *Choosing to love and serve God, we are challenged to love and serve our neighbours.*
- *We are here to worship God and to bring the good news of Jesus to all around us.*
- *This Church is here so that you can come in to worship God, then go out to proclaim His (or God's) love.*

Will members please come to the Church meeting on Thursday 29 September prepared to vote for the most suitable.

The idea is that it will be displayed on the Welcome sheet, Chronicle and other leaflets and publications in order that our visitors will know why we are here and what we stand for — and reminding ourselves at the same time.

## TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEETING

The last meeting of the session was our annual Strawberry Tea on the 13<sup>th</sup> July.

More than 30 of us were treated to a lovely repast, especially the strawberries which had been picked by Bobby Hitchin and Peggy Mott, and were delicious!



It was wonderful to welcome some of our dear friends whom we had not seen for a while due to illness. We hope that you will all soon be well enough to be back with us regularly.

The afternoon included entertainment provided by, who else, but our very talented duo, Bobby and Peggy. They performed a selection of poems, sketches and songs and were ably supported by Joan Finlay at the piano.

The new autumn session starts on 13<sup>th</sup> September. Programmes are available from Carol Webber. I don't wish to bore you all by repeating myself but we really would like some more members. The Tuesday groups have been part of this church for many, many years so it would be very sad if this fellowship had to close for lack of support.

Come and try us – bring a friend – or two! You may be very glad you did!

*Doreen Norris*



Sun 21	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
	10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Peter Newell
	6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Peter Elliott
Sun 28	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
	10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
	6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Vic Sumner

Groups and Organisations do not generally meet during the month of August.

## NEWS OF THE "FERNHURST" FELLOWSHIP GROUP

On Monday evenings once a fortnight (diaries permitting!) we push back the furniture, bring in extra chairs and some hymn books, and prepare for a time of fellowship. We have been blessed by three new friends who have joined us during the last year, making our full complement eleven.

Last autumn we studied "Christian Virtues" such as Hope, Love, Wisdom, Integrity etc. In the spring we watched short videos with the title "Open Home, Open Bible" and discussed each topic using the Bible references given.

Since April we have been using a booklet entitled "Loving Justice", studying subjects such as: "Does God Care about Injustice?", "God Shows no Partiality" and "Caring for Our Enemies". Needless to say, we don't always stick to the point!

We ended our summer session with a BBQ, and a quiz! We all enjoy meeting together in the name of our Lord, and sharing our faith and ideas. We think it is true to say that we all feel blessed by the fellowship we share one with another.

*Eileen and Wilfred Rhodes*



# SEPTEMBER

Thu	1	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Fri	2	2.00pm	Kestro Club
Sun	4	8.00am 10.30am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mr Michael Donnelly Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood - Induction and Dedication of Elders
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Thu	8	7.30pm 7.30pm	Elders Meeting Choir Practice
Fri	9	2.00pm	Kestro Club
Sun	11	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Brian Ranford Evening Worship: Rev John Gordon
Tue	13	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship
Thu	15	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Choir Practice
Fri	16	2.00pm	Kestro Club
Sun	18	<b>Harvest Festival</b>	
		8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Christians Together in Goring at St Mary's
Thu	22	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Choir Practice
Fri	23	2.00pm	Kestro Club
Sun	25	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Mr Wilfred Rhodes Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Dr Eric Rogers
Tue	27	2.00pm	Tuesday Fellowship
Thu	29	9.15am-11.30am 7.30am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting (No Choir Practice this week)
Fri	30	2.00pm	Kestro Club
Sun	2	<u>October</u>	
		8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Mrs Nancy Welch Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

# Goring-by-sea Millennium Parish Map

Did you know that the Goring map was created by our own Painting For Fun group who meet in the East Hall on Wednesday mornings?

Prints of the original have been sent all over the world and money raised has benefited several local charities. Recent news from the County Archivist, Kim Leslie, tells us that our map has been part of his presentation to seminars in 4 towns in North Italy, and is being used as an example as far away as India.



The original map can be seen in Goring Library and prints are still available from me.

*Jane Bond*

## A PRAYER FOR OUR WORLD

May Thy love  
Bring peace and goodness into men and women's hearts.

May Thy love  
Overcome the barriers that keep food from the hungry.

May Thy love  
Transform darkness into light in this troubled world that you have  
Entrusted to us,

And may that Light  
Shine forth from the lives of those who love Thee. Amen

*MBP*

# KESTRO

## WORTHING AND DISTRICT STROKE CLUB

**I**t is now one year since Robin Bradley's photograph appeared in the Chronicle when she was moving from Goring, and I thought members and friends might like to hear more news of KESTRO.

An average of 15 members and a similar number of helpers have met regularly on Friday afternoons during the year. We have had a variety of speakers and entertainers, our own home-grown activities, and outings in the autumn and summer months. Highlights, for example, were a musical afternoon by "Deep Purple Harmony", the ever popular Card Bingo, and an outing to Littlehampton's "Look and Sea".

Visits from "Little Fishes" have been much enjoyed, as was our Anniversary Party, and the Christmas Sale. I hope we are all fitter as a result of our weekly "Armchair" Exercises to music.

The help we receive from our regular minibus drivers, Vic and Jim, and from all those who bring others has been invaluable. It is sad however that there have been enquiries from prospective new members whom we have not been able to transport. The assistance of all our helpers has also been invaluable, though it is unfortunate that some are not physically able to help those in wheelchairs. (Potential drivers and 'fit' helpers are always a welcome addition to our club). Here I could add that the new toilet for disabled users has been a real asset to our members.

Earlier in the year we nominated Robin for a "Life After Stroke" award (volunteer section) and we were thrilled to hear recently that she had received an Award Certificate. We all endeavour to do our best week by week in the hope that our members will benefit from their afternoon at the club.

*Eileen Rhodes*

# Ruth's Chat

**Name: Ruth Raharimanantsoa (nee Chatfield)**

**Her Annual report for supporting constituency and other friends.**

**JANUARY 2004 - DECEMBER 2004**

## **The work that I have been doing this past year is:**

For the first three months of the year I was continuing with my work in Congo. This was mainly helping to supervise several translation and literacy programs, in particular the Teke project, as well as doing administration and handing over my responsibilities as country leader to the next person.

At the end of March I traveled to UK for six months, to rest, work a bit at the UK Wycliffe centre, and spend time with my supporting churches and family.

After my marriage in October, we moved to Sweden where I have been learning Swedish and familiarizing myself with my husband's home country, while he works on finishing his doctoral thesis.

**Location:** Congo (Jan-Mar), England (Apr-Oct) and Sweden (Oct-Dec)!

## **Highlights of the year include**

- The final draft of the New Testament in Munukutuba was sent to USA for typesetting!

- I enjoyed spending most of the summer at the Wycliffe centre in England, working as registrar for the training courses held there.
- It's been good to have a less pressurised year work wise, compared to the past 2 years in Congo.
- I got engaged in April and married in October!

## **Setbacks or disappointments we have encountered:**

- The work in Congo continues to be hard-going, with a heavy work-load for the small team, personnel difficulties, and the challenge of involving Congolese churches more.
- Getting married meant for me extending my time in Europe by at least six months and moving to Sweden where Mamy is finishing his doctoral thesis. This was quite a cultural adjustment, on top of getting married, whereas part of me just wanted to be back in Congo!

**Family situation, including wider family (where relevant):**

- My surname suddenly got a whole lot longer and harder to pronounce!
- We now have family in two European countries: England (my family) and Sweden (Mamy's 2 sons from his previous marriage).

**Health:** I have not had major health problems, apart from a persistent cough in Europe.

**Support level:** Continues to be good, for which I praise God!

**Plans for the coming year:** Mamy and I plan to return to Congo by September this year (providing Mamy's doctorate is completed by then). Mamy will work for his Swedish denominational mission, teaching Old Testament at the Theological Seminary in Brazzaville, while I continue to be part of the SIL-Congo team, helping with the Teke project, with training workshops for translation, literacy and Scripture use, etc. In the meantime, I hope to make a visit to Central Africa for planning meetings, and will also occasionally be doing some work for SIL by email, whilst still based in Sweden.

**Training needs:****Any other matters:**

It is quite a challenge to work with two different missions as a couple. We will be working on an agreement between the two missions before returning to Africa. In the long term, we are wanting God's direction as to whether to both be part of the same mission, and if so, which one! But for the next 3 years or so we expect to continue with both missions.

**Signed:** Ruth Raharimanantsoa

**Date:** 2nd February 2005

# Είναι ελληνικά για μενα !

## Mary's Day.

At last, a name day for me! All the Marias in Greece will be celebrating their name day on August 15<sup>th</sup>, the day on which the Virgin Mary was bodily taken up into heaven - the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, though in Crete, for some reason – so far unknown to us – only the married Marias celebrate.

A church feast is held on this day in the village next to where Helen lives, Exopolis. This celebration take the form of a music festival with both old, traditional instruments and old, traditional Cretan music and dances. Tables and chairs are set out in the 'Panagia' ('The Virgin Mary') churchyard (not the graveyard, which is about half a mile away, and has its own little blue and white church, the church of Christos). Most people of the village and many from neighbouring villages come, young and old, and sit down to a feast of barbecued and boiled lamb, lamb pilaff, souvlakia, tzatziki, salad, and these days, the ubiquitous chips, or 'patates' as the Cretans call them. All washed down with village wine, orange juice, or water.

'Simple Giorgio' from our little village, is already going round advertising the event by miming, as he can't speak. For the two nights of the event he will sit right by the band, continuing his involvement by miming the musicians.

Edward Lear, in 'The Cretan Journal' of 1864 describes Exopolis in very unflattering terms. At the time of his travels, Crete was still part of European Turkey and about a quarter of the population were Turkish, with a few Albanians, Arabs and Negroes, with the inevitable intermarriage being quite common. This also meant a growing number of Moslems amongst the Orthodox Christians.

"At 3.45 arrive at Exopolis and wait at a filthy pothouse outside the ruinous village, while the 'Proestos' (village president) is sent to. If I am to suffer again tonight I shall make straight for Rethymnon tomorrow and travel here no more. Torture, and

nothing gained by it, is a bore. Exopolis is a most miserable place; no decent house can be found, and we must abide in this pothouse. No wine either. Meanwhile, things grow more odious in that pothouse: several drunken Greeks were there, and some sober but angry Turx (both parties being armed it seems likely some row will ensue, and it does not require much travelling in Crete to perceive that its elements are extremely volcanic). In vain we tried two houses or rooms: more filthy still, and the Proestos was out. And it was too late to return to Karydhi and too far to go to Episkopi. The journey from Hania to Rethymnon is either performed by steamer or in a single day by horsemen, so that there are no places of any kind used as dwellings by travellers between the two towns). So I made up my mind to stay with the disgusting drunkards and beggars and filthy people.

Later, however the Proestos, Haralambi, came and we got an upper empty room, where at seven I write this. At 7.45 asparagus salad, lamb and baccala and good wine. Three Cretans sit and stare. The little owl doth cry; the fleas do bite. Also the Cretans stare at my going to bed.

How the darling owls did cry! But, thank God, I slept very well. Rose at four, and at 5.30 left this piggery, and came out to the church above, where I drew till 6.30, a pleasant and fine expanse. During all

yesterday, this, and the view from above Karydhi, are the only two I could have wished to draw, and the latter was not clear as to distance and so useless, as it was mainly a rich olive-covered valley scene. Certainly, Crete has few very picturable scenes hitherto, though it is full of loveliness. I go now to the filthy café of last afternoon, and mean to go and see Kourna'. The abundant richness and greenness of the scene before me, and the quiet, are charms not often got nowadays: what fields! what a land of food and riches! O land! O Crete! O morning!"

So wrote Edward Lear. His journal is very interesting, and our family have retraced many of his steps in this area, sitting down in what we believe to be the 'piggery' of the café, (only a few degrees better than in his time) and having a drink with the hard-working and hard-drinking present owner, thought to be the best arch builder in the area. With his long, curling hair, and long, curling beard, usually with a knotted kerchief on his head, he looks more like a pirate as he drives around the villages in his very battered, very old, pick-up van on his building jobs. When the chicken barn was being converted to a house, Kyriakos it was who built the arches, but Kyriakos it was who had to pull down one of the walls and rebuild it, because of his over-consumption of 'raki' that day!

We walk up the rough road to the church, and around to the other side, where there are a couple of benches.

We sit where Edward Lear sat and admire much the same view, thinking what a lovely picture to draw and paint, but overwhelmed by the immense panorama that is spread out before us. There are mountains, white with snow in the far distance to the south and west. There are mountains, straight across the valley, craggy and split where the limestone quarry lies constantly grumbling, night and day, breathing out smoke and fumes, and every day, at a set time, dragon-like, roaring as the stone is blasted from its insides. The mountains continue eastwards with villages and houses, new and old, dotted here and there. The new ones show up more because of the wounds where the earth, rock and boulders have been dug out to make a flat space on which to build.

Ancient villages still cling to the sides of the mountains, with houses that are ruined, and some that on the outside look almost like ruins because of their age, with thick, thick walls and very small windows. This was to keep out the heat in the summer and keep the heat in during the winter. The villages of Mathes and Kournas are two such old villages, the first to the right and the second to the left, set way above the Lake of Kournas, the only freshwater lake of the island, which is hidden from view.

Immediately below us the road winds in a series of hairpin bends down to the fishing village of Georgioupolis, through groves of olives and oranges and vineyards. You can see the white

church of Saint Nikolas, the patron saint of fishermen, standing out in the harbour at the end of a rough causeway. Further eastwards you can see the coast and the wide valley stretching away below Episkopi, and on to Rethymnon and the mountain of Ida near Heraklion.

I have taken many photographs of this view, hoping sometime to have the time, energy and possibly the expertise to capture its beauty in watercolour, but so far these have been lacking! The mountains remain as solid and firm as ever, even though we, small as specks of dust in comparison, do our utmost to 'change' or 'improve' or 'modernise'. Sitting on the bench outside the church, far enough from the sound of the traffic on the main road which cuts right across the island from west to east, hearing only the rippling sound of the bells on a flock of sheep as they graze in a grove below us, we can assimilate the peace and beauty as we lift up our eyes to the hills and remember the source of our help and strength, the maker of this beautiful land and the beautiful sky above.

"He will guard against all evil; he will guard you body and soul. He will guard your going and your coming, now and forevermore."

*Mary Connelly.*



### Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Parents, Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

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August 7, 14, 21, 28

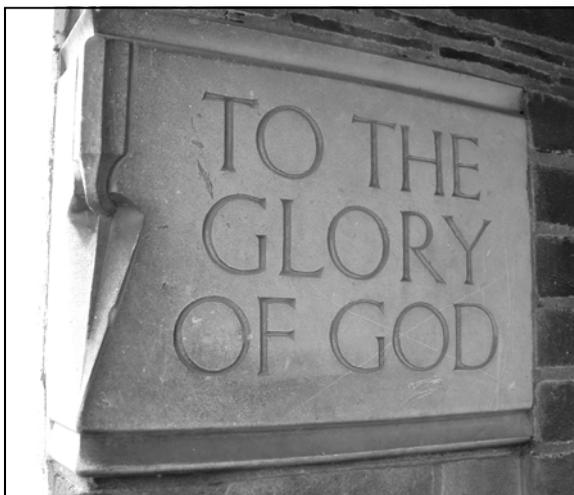
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# The CHRONICLE

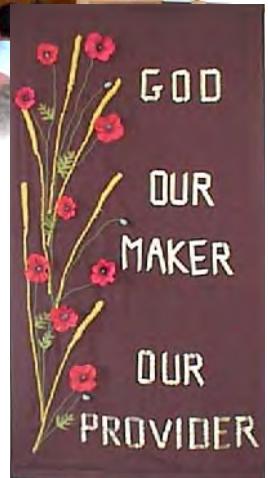
October 2005

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

— *A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington* —



All good gifts around us  
are sent from heaven above



**GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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***Worship in the Church Sanctuary***

Sundays

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

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

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

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

Mid-week

10.30am Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

# The CHRONICLE

Vol. 62 - No. 598

October 2005

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**Front Cover:** Harvest Festival Celebration Service 10.30am Sun 18 September.  
Included the Dedication and thanksgiving of Anya Louise Kovacs [Photo page 4]

**November Chronicle: Closing Date - Sunday 9 October**

**E-mail to:- [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)**

**Tel:- 01903 260568**

Dear Friends

My three-month sabbatical has come and gone far too quickly, but I did manage to fit in some very informative trips. The visit to Crete went very well and has changed some of my opinions of the Orthodox Church. The seven churches tour in Turkey also went well and became another challenging experience. What is now left to do is write up those many notes and to produce presentation material from photographs taken. At this point it is not my intention to give too much away but remark on two aspects of my findings on the beginnings of the Christian church.

Firstly, the Early church, right back in Acts 2 seems to be the ideal form of church. Having real drive and vision and a simple structure that seemed to work very well "And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved", but like everything else it soon became a target for corruption by those desiring positions of authority. False teaching, gnosticism, personality cults and a desire to revive the old ways take over from the simple message of

good news. Perhaps there is a lesson to learn, we do have this tendency to make things too complicated for ourselves; and if we do that, just think how much harder it is for those outside the church to understand us. We must all look again at how we 'do' church and reclaim our mission!

The second thing that made an impression on me was the vastness of the ancient cities I visited. Ephesus, Pergamon and Laodicea they must have been fantastic, but now what little has been excavated (about 5%) is a poor reflection of a once former glory. The huge ruins of the Crimson Basilica at Pergamon bear testimony of a long gone Christian community that once thrived there. As you walk among the deserted ruins of this vast church there is a real sense of sadness. But if you stand very still, by the altar, you can hear the rushing sound of a deep underground stream that has flowed for thousands of years. A sign of hope in a dead and desolate place, the water of life flows on, as does the good news of Gods love.

*Yours in His name Andrew*



Thank you for your kind gift. We count it a privilege to have had the support of Miss P Wheeler and we will use your kind gift in her memory. *Part of a letter received from the Bible Society.*

## A wedding in the family

Some of the GURC fellowship will remember the Heckels family and will be delighted to hear that Peter & Eileen's son Philip was married to Ashley Innocent at Rustington Methodist Church on 20th Aug 2005. Phil's sister, Ruth, was chief Bridesmaid.

I was privileged to attend the service, along with a few other people from this church, which was conducted by Rev. Peter Heckels and Rev. Simon Frankin as the Registrar.

Everyone looked very happy and well on this fine August day.

*Photos & text by Paul Redman*





Lesley & Craig Kovacs at the Dedication and Thanksgiving service for the birth of their daughter, Anya Louise. Grandparents Matthew and Wilma Smith behind.

## JUNIOR CHURCH

Although our numbers have fluctuated, Junior Church remained busy and active during the summer weeks.

We were fortunate to welcome Caroline Hibbs, who not only spoke about the Church banners but gave us lots of practical help in producing a new heading for the Junior Church notice board. It is now in place, please come and admire it! Thanks also to Grace Ralph who always has interesting ideas showed us and gave us some wonderful shells from Thailand.



If you feel that you have a gift or experience which you could share with the children and young people please let us know.

Our thanks to everyone who has helped in Junior Church, please continue to remember us in your prayers.

*Susanna Gauntlett*

## Publications for 2006

The time for ordering Bible readings and literature for 2006 is fast approaching, therefore I should be obliged if you would let me know your requirements from the following list by the end of October.

### IBRA - International Bible Reading Association

Words for Today 2006	£7.00
Light for our Path ( also as large print version)	£7.00
Finding our way together (Books 1, 2 and 3)	£20.00

*All of the above are last year's figures as prices for this year are not currently available*

### URC Publications

Prayer Handbook Advent 2005-2006	£7.00
Glory at Ground Level	£3.75 + p&p
The URC Pocket Diary - 2006 Red, Brown, Green, Blue	£5.00
Insert for standard Personal Organiser	£5.00 + p&p
Leather-bound Organiser Cover	£5.50

### Other Publications

A Knock at the Door (Forty miscellaneous meditations)	£8.95
A Road to the Garden: Poems and Pictures for Lent.	£20.00

PLEASE REFER TO NOTICE BOARD IN CHURCH VESTIBULE FOR DETAILS WHICH YOU MAY FIND HELPFUL.

*Beryl Richardson*



# OCTOBER

Sun	2	8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Mrs Nancy Welch
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	3	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	4	9.30am	Table Tennis
Thu	6	9.15am-11.30am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
		10.30am	Holy Communion
		2.30pm	Prayers in Little Chapel
Fri	7	2.00pm	Kestro Club
<hr/>			
Sun	9	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	10	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	11	9.30am	Table Tennis
		2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship
Thu	13	9.15am-11.30am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Fri	14	2.00pm	Kestro Club
<hr/>			
Sun	16	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Vic Sumner
Mon	17	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue		9.30am	Table Tennis
Thu	20	9.15am-11.30am	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Fri	21	2.00pm	Kestro Club
<hr/>			
Sun	23	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Tue	25	9.30am	Table Tennis
		2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship
Thu	27	7.30am	Church Meeting
Fri	28	2.00pm	Kestro Club
<hr/>			
Sun	30	8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Mrs Maureen Lawrence
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Peter Elliott



# NOVEMBER

Tue	1	9.30am	Table Tennis
Thu	3	9.15am-11.30am 10.30am 2.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Holy Communion Prayers in Little Chapel
Fri	4	2.00pm	Kestro Club
<hr/>			
Sun	6	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	7	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	8	9.30am 2.30pm	Table Tennis Tuesday Fellowship
Thu	10	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Elders' Meeting
Fri	11	2.00pm	Kestro Club
<hr/>			
Sun	13		<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>
		8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	14	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	15	9.30am	Table Tennis
Thu	17	2.30pm 9.15am-11.30am	Prayers in Little Chapel The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group
Fri	18	2.00pm	Kestro Club
<hr/>			
Sun	20	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Christians Together in Goring Evening Worship in this Church: - Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	21	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	22	9.30am 2.30pm	Table Tennis Tuesday Fellowship
Thu	24	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting
Fri	25	2.00pm	Kestro Club
<hr/>			
Sun	27	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	28	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	29	9.30am	Table Tennis

## Είναι ελληνικά για μενα !

### A Taste of Honey.

Saint Paul travelled a lot in the Mediterranean and called in at a number of ports. One was 'Kali Limenes' or 'Fair Havens' on the south coast of Crete, an important port in Roman times. During his voyage to Rome as a prisoner in the care of the centurion, Julius, he was on a ship with a cargo of wheat and 276 people aboard. It was a difficult journey with head winds, so the captain decided to sail in the lee of Crete and make for the open sea instead of fighting the winds through the Greek islands. However, it was not much better and they struggled to get as far as Fair Havens.

Local stories have it that Paul landed at more than one place along that coast and attempted to convert the natives, who were not exactly welcoming, even aggressive and brutal! There are a couple of 'St. Paul' churches erected in his memory.

It was late in the season by then, so Paul advised that they should stay

there for the winter. Fair Havens was not very suitable, so they (the ship's captain and the centurion) decided to go on to Phoenix, 50 miles to the west and a good harbour. The wind at the time coming gently from the south, they set off, taking care to stay near the shore. "But soon, a tempestuous wind, called the 'Northeaster', struck down from the land; and when the ship was caught and could not face the wind, we gave way to it and were driven."

Due south of Phoenix, they managed to get the ship under control, but they were 30 miles off course and in the lee of Clauda (the island of Gavdhos, the southernmost point of Europe).

The storm raged and the winds persisted, driving them on until at last they were cast up on the island of Malta.

(For more details, see Acts 27)

While in Crete and being 'late in the season', I wonder if Paul had the pleasure afforded to us when we go there, albeit by aeroplane, especially in the spring and summer, to smell that wonderful aroma which

somehow seems to 'underline' the essence of Crete. I shall always remember my first visit. As the plane doors were opened on Chania aerodrome, my nostrils were greeted by the pervading scent of thyme, sage and oregano which grows in profusion on the surrounding mountains.

The words 'meli' – honey, and 'melissa' – bee, are recorded far back in ancient times, in Greek myth and legend. According to myth, honey saved the life of Zeus, the king of the Greek gods. His father Cronos, had been told by a seer that one of his sons would depose him, so he got rid of them in one way or another, including swallowing some! The baby Zeus managed to survive because his birth was kept secret and he was kept quiet and contented, being fed sweet and fragrant honey by his mother, Rhea, together with Melissa, the daughter of the king of Crete, Melisseus. They managed to rear him to maturity and he did eventually depose his father and forced him to disgorge his brothers alive.

Remember I once told you about sweet, sticky, preserved fruit, beloved of the Greeks? Honey-candied fruits were once a sacrificial offering to the gods. And nectar, which the bees collect from the flowers to make the honey, was the name given by the ancient Greeks to the drink of the gods. It made men immortal as well as having a wonderful scent.

Like olive oil, honey is rich in natural goodness. It contains minerals and trace elements and for good health, honey is a better sweetener than sugar, with the added aroma of the mountain herbs, the olive blossom, orange or lemon blossom, or whatever flowers the bees have been fortunate enough to visit.

As a 'sweetener' to the marriage contract, a special sweet made of walnuts and honey was given to the bride and groom at the wedding ceremony.

Honey was also well known as an aphrodisiac – no coincidence that the month after marriage is known by the French as 'lune de miel' – 'month of honey' – honeymoon.

Honey goes well with bread; it is widely used in casseroles and with vegetables and fish and has been teamed with fresh soft cheese as a dessert for a long time. Many different pies and pasties and cakes with delicious flavours are drenched in honey syrup. A good sheep or goats' yoghurt with honey is a 'must have' when on holiday!

The honey bees have a wonderful time, often being taken in their hives by their owners in their pick-up trucks and deposited in areas rich in flowering plants for their flowering season, then moved elsewhere to 'pastures new'. Do not make the same mistake as we once

did and guzzle fresh honeycomb from bees which have been making the most of a field of poppies! Strange sensations occur!

Cretan thyme honey is famous and very much sought after by natives and foreigners alike. Those Cretans who live and work on the mainland of Greece or in other countries rarely leave after a holiday without a supply of olive oil and honey. I usually come back with the same booty plus walnuts and some times lemons from the trees in the garden.

The Old Testament is full of references to honey and honeycombs and most O.T. books mention one or the other or both, as

well as the joyful prospect of a life in a land flowing with milk and honey. Samson enjoyed eating honey from the carcass of the lion that he slew. Did it compare in strength-giving quality to the Cretan honey? Was the wild honey the John the Baptist ate equally delicious?

When Jesus reappeared to the disciples, having shown them his hands and his feet, he asked for food. "And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. And he took it and did eat before them." [Luke 24, v.42. Authorised version.]

*Mary Connelly.*

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## New Handbook No 57 2005-06

The new Handbook is currently being printed and should be available within the next week or two. Please keep an eye open for it on the table at the back of the church during October.

Caroline Hibbs has recently changed her telephone number to Worthing 695817, so until you pick up the new Handbook, please remember to update your old copy.

## WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



PREPARATION CONFERENCE  
for the 2006 Service

### " SIGNS OF THE TIMES "

Prepared by Christian Women of South Africa  
Arundel Cathedral, St Mary's Hall  
London Road, Arundel

Wednesday 26 October 2005 10.00am - 3.00pm

Further details may be had from Eileen Rhodes

MAKING THE  
BIBLE HEARD

Worthing Bible Society Action Group  
invite you to join us

### **The Bible changed our community !**

**Video presentation of the  
Yali people of Papua**

**Bric-a-Brac, Cakes, Gift Stall, Tea**

**Wednesday 19 October 2.30pm**

**Holy Trinity Church, Shelley Road, Worthing**

**Admission: £2.00**

## Good home wanted for Steinberg Upright Piano

Mrs Betty Hislop has recently donated a beautiful upright piano for use in the Church Hall. It is waiting for a suitable cover to be made before being moved into the Hall.

Consequently we now have a piano which is 'surplus to requirements' and is being offered free to anyone who is interested. This instrument has been in use in the Cornwall Room for many years and although it is in a playable condition, will probably need a tune once in its new home. One of the pedals will need some attention, and the castors are in need of changing - however, there is a spare set available.



The surplus 'Steinberg'

The cost of fitting the castors will be about £75 along with the transportation cost which should be in the region of £50.

If you are interested and would like to know more about it, please speak to Geoffrey Redman.

## New Print Room and Printing of the Chronicle

The Chronicle and Welcome sheets have been printed on the new Canon Photocopier for the last 3 months and we hope that you have appreciated the improvement in printing quality. The Photocopier also gets plenty of use printing the church's minutes, agendas, documents and letters, Little Fishes papers, programmes for Tuesday Fellowship, Kestro, The Ark etc etc ..... The new machine is much more reliable with fewer paper jams, and is cheaper to run too.

During early September florescent lighting and addition power sockets were installed, completing the rearrangement from the old boiler room into the new print room. There are also plans to introduce a computer into the room in order that the Chronicle [mostly] can be printed directly rather than by copying; thus improving quality of reproduced pictures still further. The computer itself is already available but needs a monitor. Has anyone an old monitor that they would like to donate to the Church? Maybe somebody who is or has upgraded from an older type CRT monitor to a modern flat screen.

If you can help, please let me know. *Graham Redman House & Fabric Group*

### Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Parents, Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.  
[www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle](http://www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle)

#### Publication Team :-

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 Telephone 01903 260568 [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

*The Chronicle costs approximately 50p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph ( address above ). Thank you.*

#### WELCOME Editors

[welcome@gurc.org.uk](mailto:welcome@gurc.org.uk)

October 2, 9

Graham Redman

01903 260568

October 16, 23, November 6, 13, 20, 27

Eileen & Wilf Rhodes

01903 248263



Then thank the Lord, thank the Lord,  
for all His love.



*Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.*  
*[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)*

The  
CHRONICLE

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November 2005

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

— *A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington* —



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



**GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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

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Web site: [www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

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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 Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month

2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month

# The CHRONICLE

Vol. 62 - No. 599

November 2005

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## Front Cover:

Photograph of church taken during early evening in November last year.

**December Chronicle: Closing Date - Sunday 13 November**

**E-mail to:- [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)**

**Tel:- 01903 260568**

**or Submit via the website – [www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle](http://www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle)**

# As you know, during recent

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

Since Church Meeting a few people have enquired, "what is it for" or commented, "do we really need one?"

I will try to provide some answers. What is it for? A good question, for there is no point in having a mission statement if it is not understood. Putting it very simply the statement is, if you like, a banner under which we rally, it -

- **Provides a "reason for being".**
- **Provides clarity and focus and makes choices.**
- **Is clear and concise.**
- **Is agreed by the congregation.**
- **Is a statement to the world.**

Do we really need one? Yes I think we do, it is more than helpful to have something to compare and measure ourselves against. Of course we know we have scripture for that, but this statement is also accessible for the outside community to see, and it

identifies who and what we are.

I think this is a helpful mission statement for it focuses on two crucial elements of our existence as a church, worship and proclamation. However in order for it to be of value we must use it and ask ourselves; "just how do we worship God? Is what we offer acceptable to Him? Are we proclaiming the good news to all?"

Mission statements originated in the church but have been avidly adopted by secular organisations.

The following are some examples of mission statements from well known companies.

**3M** - "To solve unsolved problems innovatively"

**Merck** - "To preserve and improve human life."

**Wal-Mart/Asda** - "To give ordinary folk the chance to buy the same thing as rich people."

**Walt Disney** - "To make people

happy."

Back to Christian values, here is St Martin-in-the-Fields Mission Statement -

*St Martin-in-the-Fields exists to honour God, and to enable questioning, open-minded people to discover for themselves the significance of Jesus Christ.*

Do you remember the five marks of mission? A simple but comprehensive formula that has been widely advocated for the last fifteen years. It is a statement of mission for churches to adopt and compare themselves too.

The five marks of Mission are simply stated.

- **To proclaim the good news of the Kingdom**
- **To teach, baptise and nurture new believers**
- **To respond to human need by loving service**
- **To seek to transform unjust structures of society**
- **To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and to sustain the life of the earth**

Let us not become so familiar with this Mission statement of ours that we ignore it, instead let it constantly be a challenge to us as a church but also as individuals. Do we really worship God? Are we actively proclaiming the

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

“

By having this more easily remembered statement we hope we will be able to say clearly to visitors, friends and neighbours what is our purpose, both as a church and as individuals, and we hope the children will find it helpful too. This will now appear on Welcome, the Chronicle and our notepaper, and perhaps elsewhere too!

Watch out for it, use it!

*Jane Bond* ”



On the sad and unexpected loss of Frazer, Joan sends her heartfelt thanks to all who have supported her through these difficult weeks with prayers, cards, flowers, phone calls and visits. They are all very much appreciated and bring much comfort.

*Joan Finlay*



Many thanks to all who came to the Harvest Fellowship Meal back in September. Ruth counted 49 people present and something quite unexpected happened, I didn't expect to break even and thought that the Sunday morning coffee fund could pick up the short fall. In fact we did not break even, once the bills etc were sorted out the evening made a profit of £35 and this was put in the dish for the Worthing Churches Homeless Projects that we heard about the following weekend.

Thanks again for making it a good evening all round.

*Valerie Cooper*



### **From the Secretary's desk**

We have received news and greetings from Michael and Audrey Ebeling.

*"It does not seem possible that we have been in Yorkshire for just over three years, and over five years away from Goring. We still miss our friends there, but we are very happy living so close to Charlotte and family..... We continue to be busy with church activities, and I now play the organ once a month..... we shall be over to see you all at Goring whenever we can".*

Jerome Whittingham (their son-in-law) has sent some prayer cards which he has produced. If you are interested, let me know.

*Jane Bond*

# Goring by Sea Pilots Company



On July the 18th we met for the last time before the Summer Holidays. It was our annual enrolment and open evening.

First of all, Val called the Pilots together as she usually does on a Monday Evening and invited us to walk into church where she welcomed all visitors and the Pilots.

Donna and Carly said a prayer of thanks. David and Ruth told us why they enjoy Pilots. Then Carly, David Anderson Easy, Collette and her brother Simon were enrolled. We then sung our favourite song Shout to the Lord. We sung another song which was a modern one. After that I went and led the congregation in the Pilots prayer to finish the service and everyone went through to the hall to have refreshments and to look at what we have done in the year since our inauguration. The children and officers enjoyed it and we hope that those who joined us for that occasion enjoyed it. Thank you for your support on that occasion.

We are now in full flow with our Autumn session. This time we are looking at belonging. This report was done well before the November deadline. We have so far learnt about respect for things and all creatures great and small. By the time you read this we will be planning for Christmas [Just to get the kids excited - No not really] They will learn the real meaning of Christmas. The session will end with a time of celebration. I think a lot of each child and young person who comes to Pilots. I am grateful to Val and the others for making it come into reality. I enjoy helping with it because it is so different from what is my usual life and it gives me a bit of a break. The children are great.

*Janet Dean*



# NOVEMBER

Tue	1	9.30am	Table Tennis
Wed	2	2:30 - 4.00pm	Discussions on Spiritual Renewal in Local Areas - with Rev Sally Willett. [see back page]
Thu	3	9.15am-11.30am 10.30am 2.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Holy Communion Prayers in Little Chapel
Fri	4	2.00pm	Kestro Club
Sun	6	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	7	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	8	9.30am 2.30pm	Table Tennis Tuesday Fellowship
Thu	10	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Elders' Meeting
Fri	11	2.00pm	Kestro Club
Sun	13	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b> Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	14	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	15	9.30am	Table Tennis
Thu	17	2.30pm	Prayers in Little Chapel
Fri	18	9.15am-11.30am 2.00pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Kestro Club
Sun	20	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Christians Together in Goring Evening Worship in this Church: - Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	21	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	22	9.30am 2.30pm	Table Tennis Tuesday Fellowship
Thu	24	9.15am-11.30am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting
Fri	25	2.00pm	Kestro Club
Sun	27	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	28	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	29	9.30am	Table Tennis

Closing day for December  
Chronicle articles



# DECEMBER

Thu	1	10.30am 2.30pm	Holy Communion Prayers in Little Chapel
Fri	2	2.00pm	Kestro Club
Sun	4		<b>BIBLE SUNDAY</b>
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion: Rev John Jennings
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick
Mon	5	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	6	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship
Thu	8	9.15am-11.15am 7.30pm 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Elders' Meeting Choir Practice
Sun	11		<b>GIFT SERVICE</b>
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
		6.00pm	Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	12	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	15	9.15am-11.15am 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Choir Practice
Sun	18		
		8.00am	Prayer & Praise
		10.30am	Morning Carol Service
		6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Mr Wilfred Rhodes
Mon	19	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Sat	24	5.30pm 11.30pm	Children's Christmas Eve Service Christmas Eve Holy Communion
Sun	25		<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>
		10.30am	Morning Family Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood

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

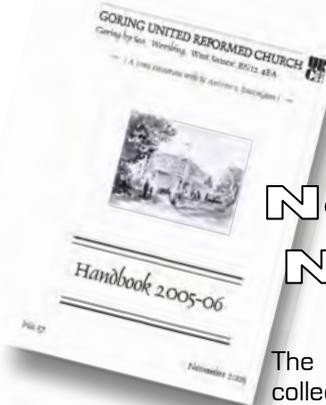
## TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEETING

The new session opened on 13 September with a Members' afternoon.

It was on the theme of Harvest time and we commenced with a Harvest hymn and Bible reading. We were happy to welcome a new member, our friend Ivy Madge. Peggy Mott, as president did the honours as Compère for the entertainment which was a selection of items, both amusing and reflective, from some of our members including poems, readings etc. and a very creative demonstration of flower arranging by Bobby Hitchin.

All in all it was a most enjoyable afternoon and I'm sure that I speak for all when I say that it was especially good for our happy fellowship to be meeting again after the summer break.

*Doreen Norris*



## New Handbook No 57 2005-06

The new Handbook is now available for you to collect from the table at the back of the Church.

## Είναι ελληνικά για μενα !

### Take a little wine.....

In August, September and October, if you are visiting friends in Crete, you often sit outside, preferably in the shade of the mulberry trees, pruned so that their branches interlink to provide heavy shade from the heat of the sun. More often, outside the house you will sit in the krewatina, or vine arbour, in the shade of grape



The Krewatina

vines, with their branches, runners, tendrils and leaves covering the whole area of the avli, or patio. Huge bunches of luscious grapes, pink and purple and black, or yellow and green hang below in richly coloured profusion. You can be sure that you will be offered freshly cut grapes to eat while you sit and talk, and not

often will you leave without having pressed on you a carrier bag full of these juicy treats!

Christos's uncle Giorgio, aged ninety-three, carefully ascended a ladder and cut several bunches of different colour grapes and I managed to lug them back home on the aeroplane in my carry-on bag. They are so much sweeter than the unripe, prematurely cut grapes we find in our supermarkets.

When I was there in September, people were examining their vines and the ripeness of the crop. "Not ready for about ten days," "I think I will start on Tuesday," "When we have finished ours, I'll come and help you." All these are references to the harvesting of the grapes to make wine.

I went visiting my old friend Pantelis and had lunch with him, which he prepared and cooked in his very primitive kitchen on the (Calor) gas ring – 'patates' and a couple of eggs fried in olive oil. We had a good long chat – mostly about his recent illnesses and his present disability – cancer treatment, then a broken hip and now a hernia, so that he is able to do very little.

I went up to the village again to see him before leaving for home and found that his nephew, wife and two boys plus a friend were there, already hard at work cutting the bunches of ripe grapes in the vineyard and from the krevatina in the avli – up and down the ladder and standing on the ‘mikani’ (machine) – the heavy, clanking, rattling two-stroke pick-up from the Peloponnese which Pantelis bought at the end of the war. While his health held out he would roar (fairly slowly) up and down the road between the villages. We always knew when he was leaving ‘to allo’ – ‘the other’ Kalamitsi! [One village is Kalamitsi Amigdali, (Kalamitsi of the almonds), the other, Kalamitsi Alexandrou (Alexander’s Kalamitsi), where he lives. Whichever village you happen to be in, the other village is ‘to allo’.] Pantelis had the expertise and just enough strength to move the mikani round to a new area of the avli for Eirene to reach every bunch of grapes.

The crates soon filled up, and the serious work began.

There weren’t enough ripe grapes to warrant the cleaning out of the patitiri (wine press) and the cistern into which the juice would flow, so they made do with a plastic bath!

They carefully placed the electric grape crusher on the back of two plastic chairs with the plastic bath underneath. This crusher breaks the grapes without chopping up stems and pips. These contain tannin and

astrigent resin that would compromise the taste and successful fermentation of the wine. Some crushing done by electricity also saves a lot of energy in the later footwork.

Pantelis suddenly said to me, “Can you ask Natasha to come up and tread grapes with us?” Unfortunately Natasha was due to go to work that afternoon, so I knew she wasn’t available. “That’s such a pity,” they all agreed. Legend has it, of course, that the best wine is made from grapes trodden by virgins. So it fell to the lot of the energetic youngest boy to do the treading. Having first washed his



The crates soon filled ...

feet, he waited until a large amount of grape pulp had dropped into the bath and then stepped in and started on his journey without a destination. The treading of his active feet mashing the grapes soon released the juice. He seemed to enjoy it and was soon (Isaiah 62 v2)! The sweet juice started to flow, the mash got mushier and a halt was called while the other two boys shovelled it into a huge bucket shaped colander allowing the juice to drain out into a half-barrel. It was pressed down gently to extract as much as possible. The residue was thrown into another barrel, towards the making of ouzo or raki later in the season. The juice was put through a strainer and carried bucket by bucket into the 'cava', or wine cellar and poured into a plastic barrel.



Testing for  
sugar density

While this was going on, mother has been lighting the little primitive barbeque, ready to grill pieces of lamb and peeling and cutting potatoes for chips. I was busy making a Greek salad, cutting bread and laying the big plastic table outside.

Everyone took a break and had lunch discussing the next session. They were pressed for time, so decided to line the back of the mikani with a huge sheet of plastic and to do the rest of the treading there, so that there was a greater quantity in a bigger space. It was much easier to crush, strain and sieve and ladle up the juice, which is set fermenting by yeasts called *saccharomyces* in the bloom of the berry, which supply enzymes to start the process.

Treading, sieving, straining and barrelling at last came to an end and the juice was tested for the density, or the amount of sugar it contained and was declared good and satisfactory. The mikani and the avli were brushed and hosed down, goodbyes were said and the family left. I left soon after, as Christos and Helen were having guests to supper to celebrate their tenth wedding anniversary.

A few years ago, I was staying with Pantelis after the annual winemaking, and the bedroom was above the cava.

Warm days and nights kept the fermentation moving apace. At night, I could hear the wine 'singing' in the vat as it sent heady fumes up

*(Continued from page 11)*

through my bedroom window. A good vintage that year!

Jesus drank wine, made wine, used viticulture and wine in sermon illustrations, and used watered wine at the last Passover supper to make 'God's new covenant, sealed with my blood.'

"Then he took a cup, and having offered thanks to God he gave it to them with the words: 'Drink from it, all of you. For this is my blood, the blood of the covenant, shed for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, never again shall I drink from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in the kingdom of my Father'" (Matt.26. v.27-29.)

*Mary Connelly*

## **COFFEE MORNING**

Sat. 26th November 2005 10 - 12 noon

In the Church Hall

Now is the time for you to turn out all NEW items in your home to make way for those you will be receiving at Christmas.

So we are having a coffee morning, on the date above, in the large hall.

There will be stalls for cakes and groceries, stationery, Christmas items, bric-a-brac etc. and of course coffee, tea and mince pies. We hope you will come and bring your friends.

Admission free !!! *Sheila Gooderham*

### Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Parents, Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Thursday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

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#### WELCOME Editors

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November 6, 13, 20, 27

Eileen & Wilf Rhodes 01903 248263

December 4, 11, 18, 25

Caroline Hibbs 01903 695817

**UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**  
Southern Province. WEST and EAST DISTRICT!

# "Cultivating New Spiritual Life" with Rev. Sally Willett

Evangelism and Renewal Advocate, Group for Evangelism and Renewal within, the United Reformed Church.

Discussions on Spiritual Renewal in Local Areas

**Wednesday 2 November 2005**

**2:30 - 4.00pm: Goring URC, Shaftesbury Avenue, Goring**

For more information contact:

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Tel:01825 768252

E-mail: [conradie@alwaysmovmg.freemove.co.uk](mailto:conradie@alwaysmovmg.freemove.co.uk)



*Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.*  
*[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)*



*The*  
**CHRONICLE**

December 2005

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

— *A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington* —



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

## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A Joint Pastorate with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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

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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 Holy Communion: on first Thursday in month
- 2.30pm Prayer and Praise on first and third Thursday in month



# The CHRONICLE

Vol. 62 - No. 600

December 2005

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**February Chronicle: Closing Date - Sunday 8 January**

E-mail to:- [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

Tel:- 01903 260568

or Submit via the website — [www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle](http://www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle)

## BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS

"Christmas under threat; as tinsel is banned in school!" This was the shock headline in a recent edition of a 'quality' national newspaper. Did I worry? No, not this time, it's a shame for the children but in our P.C., 'nanny state' that's what we have come to expect. There were two reasons for the ban one on health and safety issues, the other was that tinsel used for Christmas decorations may offend those of other faiths or no faith.

Over the years it seems that our Christmas celebrations have been under attack. Have we stood up for them? Well no not really. Perhaps this is telling us something, maybe instead of the glitzy materialistic celebration, we need to get back to the reason for our celebration - the good news of Jesus birth. What follows are excerpts from scripture that simply remind us of the most amazing event that has ever happened to humanity (without tinsel).

"And she shall bring forth a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins. So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 'Behold the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, 'God with us.'" Matthew 1: 21- 23

Because of that first Christmas, the child of God is recipient of three great assurances that provide comfort and strength throughout our life.

### GOD WITH US!

"...and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, God with us."  
Matthew 1:23.

### GOD IN US!

"... which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." Colossians 1:27.

### GOD FOR US!

"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things."  
Romans 8:31-32.

The dedicated Christian who walks daily in the will of God can take courage in knowing that "no weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me, says the Lord." Isaiah 54:17.

*Peace to you this Christmas. Yours in His Service Andrew*



## Church Flowers 2006

If you would like to provide flowers in the Church for a particular occasion or anniversary the list for the coming year is now available in the vestibule for you to sign. Anyone who is able to purchase and arrange the flowers themselves please sign both columns of the list.

- Could your name could be added to the rota of 'arrangers'?
- Do you have surplus foliage in your garden that could be pruned occasionally by the arrangers?



*Carol Webber*



**Thank you** - Geoffrey & Glen Dean wish to express their sincere thanks for the kindness and love in the good wishes sent to them for peace and happiness in their new home.



### Table Tennis

The Table Tennis Club started last May and we have 10-12 enthusiastic members who come on Tuesday mornings from 9.30am. You can tell who we are as we have lost weight ! We are holding a 'fun' morning on 20 December and will return after Christmas on the 3 January 2006. We shall be delighted to receive new members. *Sheila Gooderham*



### Glass Recycling

Please put glass jars for recycling in the labeled container in the kitchen.



Thank you for the flowers that came from the church when my Dad went in hospital. It is nice to know that I am a member of such a caring church. The relatives that came back and forward at that time thought so too. They all said what a lovely gesture that is and it was a witness. He is better again but it is a funny thing that causes havoc for a few days and gets the Doctors confused because they as yet can't find the cause but he is having a C.T. scan at some point to see if that comes up with anything. Thank you again for the love and care shown to us at that time. It was appreciated. God bless.

*Janet Dean*



I send my thanks for the lovely flowers which Alec and Grace brought me from the Church family. It was such a delight to receive a beautiful bouquet when one is feeling very much 'under the weather'.

*Joan Burrage*



SHOE BOXES Thank you to all who contributed to the shoe box appeal. A total of 18 shoe boxes were collected. *Bett Swierk*



#### SHAPE UP TO CLIMATE CHANGE

When you read this world leaders will have met in Montreal to begin the process of agreeing a plan for averting dangerous climate change, after the KYOTO PROTOCOL expires in 2012. Demonstrations will have taken place in major European cities and world-wide. In the London demonstration Christians will have formed part of an interfaith section of people whose religious beliefs have inspired them to bear witness. An ecumenical service in London organised by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland will have taken place to pray for international action to prevent disastrous global climate change.

Please pray, and continue to pray for those who must make plans and decisions to safeguard the life on Earth, both for now and for future generations, which will affect everyone, rich and poor.

Further details may be obtained from [www.christian-ecology.org.uk](http://www.christian-ecology.org.uk) or from myself. *Eileen Rhodes.*



## Handbook No 57 2005-06

The 2006-06 Handbook has been updated to include November's amendments and is available on the table at the back of the Church.

### Amendments to the November issue:-

Page 5. House & Bible Study. Change to Monday Afternoon for Audrey Gerlach

Page 15. ELLIOTT, Mr Ray & Mrs Verna. Add asterisk \* before names.

Page 18. HIBBS, Mrs Caroline. Change telephone number to read 695817

Page 19. JENKIN, Mr Don & Mrs Joan. Add asterisk \* before names.

Page 20. LEADER, Mrs Thelma. Delete entry.

Page 23. RALPH, Mr Alec & Mrs Grace. Change email to - gralec10@aol.com

*Please remember to keep your Handbook up to date.*

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**New Year Party** - See rear cover

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**Thank you everyone** who either came to help and/or buy at the Coffee Morning held during November. A good time of fellowship was had by all. A grand total of £150.79 was raised for church funds which was great. Thanks once again.

*Sheila Gooderham*

# The Ark



**I**t doesn't seem possible that we are just a week away from the end of the Autumn term, and once again looking forward to watching Goring Little fishes put on their end of term Christmas show.

You may have seen our wall picture "God made ..... everything" on the board in the hall - a little bit more added each week. We have welcomed Joan Eley to the Ark team and she oversees all the colouring, cutting and sticking, which has resulted in the final collage. Well done Joan!

During the summer we reviewed our toys and equipment, and spent some of our savings on some special items: a brand new slide, some new musical instruments (including cymbals!), and a toddler trike.

Some of our dollies had appalling wardrobes or no clothes at all, so we were very pleased that a number of church friends kitted out the dollies with new outfits. Now we have dollies which are played with, rather than left to one side, and their bright new clothes have cheered us up on the autumn mornings! So a big THANK YOU to the sewers and knitters.



We also say thank you for the gift of a perfectly sized book rack. We had no way of displaying books until this little shelf was given.

Now the children can look at selections of books week by week.  
THANK YOU

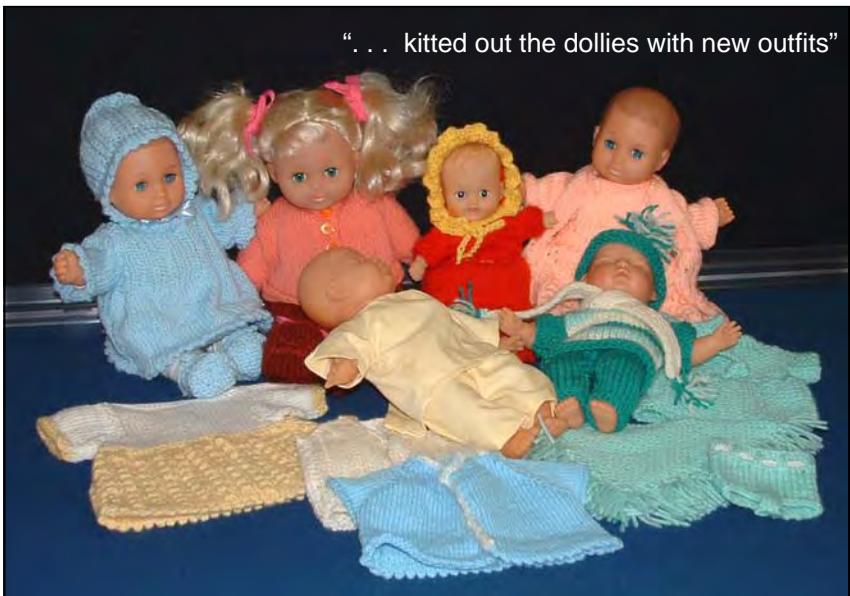
Activities this term included packing a shoe box with children's goodies to send off to the Samaritan's Purse Appeal, and we have had a visit from Rebecca, our new Usborn Books representative. She brought a lovely selection of books fit for Christmas giving, and we hope she will come again towards Easter time.

The Ark is a happy place for making new friends, sharing toddler 'experiences', realizing that others who are responsible

for little children have similar stories to tell, and generally "chilling out". This is a 'drop in' group, and anyone who is able to drop in for a mid-morning drink and a chat would be welcome - do come and join in the fun. Our new term begins on 5th January, and runs to 30th March with ½ term in the middle.

Those of us in the Ark team are conscious of your prayers for this group, and thank you for your support and interest. Please continue to pray for us, and all the adults who bring their little ones, and help us in our prayer that the families represented here will have a truly blessed Christmas.

*Hilary, Margaret, Susanna, Joan,  
Beryl, Les, and Graham*



## Cinderella

The children of Pilots and Junior Church teamed up with the band of T.S Implacable Band to make this show of 'Cinderella' on Friday 18th and Saturday 19th November.

This year we added a Saturday afternoon performance which was well attended with approximately 50 people, including children from Little Fishes Playgroup so it was an excellent way of the Church working together to provide something for all the family.

Two of the children in the show now attend Junior Church regularly.

Everyone involved in the show enjoyed themselves, as well as the adults who seemed to do so, as well as doing numerous tasks!

On Saturday between the performances we all enjoyed fellowship with a fish and chip tea:

The show made £95.00: £45.00 was donated to T.S Implacable and £50.00 to the Church.

We were also able to send £52.00 to 'Children In Need' from donations received during the performances.



Watch this space for an announcement of our next show.

*Sue Nicholls*



**Friday 6 January 2006 3.00pm - 4.00pm**

**Kestro Club,**

**Goring United Reformed Church Hall**

**St Margaret's Hand Bells**

**All are invited and very welcome to come along**



## **HALLOWEEN**

On the 31<sup>st</sup> October the Pilots had an Alleluia Party instead of an Halloween Party and I thought it would be a good idea to find out a bit more about Halloween. So I clambered onto the internet to see what I could find and what I found was quite interesting and a couple of people have asked me to share the information with you.

The origins of Halloween date back to about 700BCE, with the ancient Celtic festival of SAMHAIN (pronounced sow-in). Samhain means the end of summer and that was celebrated at the time we now date 31<sup>st</sup> October, and the Celtic new year began on 1<sup>st</sup> November. The Celts believed that on the night before the new year the boundary between this world and the world of the dead dissolved and the dead returned to earth to cause trouble and damage crops. Another web site suggested that the dead returned to inhabit the bodies of the living, so the villagers would don masks and costumes, parade to the outskirts of their towns to try and trick the spirits into leaving.

To help celebrate Samhain the Celts built huge sacred bonfires and the people brought their harvest food and sacrificed animals to share a



communal dinner in celebration of the festival. [The origins of the Sussex bonfire societies?]

By 43CE the roman empire had conquered most of the Celtic region and in the following 400 years two Roman festivals became incorporated with Samhain. The first was Feralia, a day in late October when the Romans commemorated the passing of the dead and the second was a day to honour Pomona, the roman goddess of fruit and trees. The apple is the symbol of Pomona, so perhaps that's where the tradition of apple bobbing came from. Apparently whoever bit into an apple first would be married first in the next year!

By the 800s Christianity had spread into the Celtic lands and the celebration became known as Eve of All Hallows, and eventually Halloween. In Old English, hallow means to bless,

*(Continued on page 12)*

## Tuesday Fellowship Meetings

### 27th September

At the beginning of our Fellowship meeting on 27th September, our President, Peggy Mott, announced that Mrs. Pearl Ghenoweth, a dear friend of Olive Jones and one of our members, had died. Pearl had suffered greatly over the past months and now she is out of pain and in the everlasting arms of our Lord and Saviour. We remembered Pearl and her family and friends in our prayers.

Our speaker was Mrs. Ann Beamish of West Sussex Trading Standards, she warned us of all the 'scams'<sup>1</sup> that are offered by traders etc., and gave us warning of how to avert being tricked. People can be prosecuted for bad workmanship and failed, but the process is a long one. We were advised to be wary of car boot sales, to check goods for safety, to be alert when doorstep sellers and bogus callers knock on the door. It was a very interesting and instructive talk and we were all given a booklet on advice about trading standards. It was really for the 'oldies' of the Fellowship but maybe the 'younger' members will benefit by reading it!

We are a very happy group of women and 'men' and we would like to see more folk join us. Blessings to all who read this article. *Joan Burrage*

### 11th October

We had the privilege of welcoming Mr Richard Polley to talk to us about 'Wheels for the World'. Some of you may remember that this time last year Richard came to the church whilst visiting his friends Sheila and Roy

Gooderham and introduced us to Wheels for the World. As a result of this Tuesday Fellowship decided that it should be our chosen charity for this year and so Richard, with his wife Margaret, was invited in order to be presented with a cheque.

The organisation came into being through his work as an Orthotist (the making and fitting of metal supports, callipers etc) for disabled children and adults. Thanks to the NHS this kind of help, i.e. wheelchairs and walking aids is available to all who need it, but of course it is not the same everywhere. Richard and his colleagues learned of the dire need for wheelchairs in the African and Balkan countries. They knew that so many old and worn out wheelchairs were just thrown away by the NHS so made it their business to gather up the cast offs and get them refurbished. The wonderful part is that the refurbishment is carried out in the workshops of prisons throughout the country and Parkhurst prison is, and I quote "The jewel in the crown" as they have a waiting list of men wanting to work in that particular workshop. We were shown a video made by Wheels for the World, it showed some of the recipients in Africa with their new Wheels! The joy on the faces of the folk who, until then had only been able to crawl on all fours. Also on the faces of the mothers who had had to carry their children until they were far too big and would now have the luxury of pushing them in a shiny new chair specially adapted to their particular needs was a most moving sight.

This is only part of what we learned. I could write so much more but suffice



to say I doubt if there was a dry eye in the hall when Richard had finished. We were so pleased to be able to present him with a cheque for £250.00 for his very worthwhile cause. The members were so moved that they asked if there could be a further collection, when a further £105.00 was added. It really was a 'Count your Blessings' day.

### 26th October

The ladies of the Fellowship had a most entertaining afternoon, every woman's favourite occupation, looking at the lovely clothes on show a very smart fashion parade.

The outfits come from 'Number One' an Aladdin's cave of chic clothing and accessories on South Ferring. Sue Boulter, the proprietor of the shop introduced the models as they 'strutted their stuff' on the catwalk and also compered the show. Two of the models were well known to us, being Jane Allen and Peggy Mott, and a very good job they made of it too! Move over Kate Moss and Naomi Campbell!!! The clothes we were shown proved to be very popular with the audience and I can envisage a good number of Fellowship members making their way to South Ferring, cheque books at the ready! If several of us come to church one Sunday wearing the same things, you will know where we have been. It will how what excellent taste we have. *Doreen Norris*

### 22nd November

Although we were a little depleted in numbers, the warmth and love was in the Hall as we welcomed Mrs. Geraldine Lissenburg who came to talk to us a Mayor of our Borough.

As Leslie, my late husband, and myself had both worked for local Government albeit at different authorities, I was very

interested in what Mrs. Lissenburg had to tell us. Her term of Office was in 1997 and she became a Councillor in 1986 and is the longest serving Councillor at the moment. There had only been two previous Lady Mayors and where there is usually a Mayoress, Mr. Lissenburg became the Mayor's Consort.

The Mayoral year is an exhausting one for the occupant of that position. There are hundreds of engagements to attend - opening establishments, attending church services, greeting one hundred year old people of our Borough, balls and various entertainments and, as 1997 was the year of Diana, Princess of Wales' death, Mrs. Lissenburg had to present our Book of Condolence to Buckingham Palace. On a lighter note she attended a Garden Party at the Palace and she described the scene there to us. Each Mayor chooses a charity for their year of Office and Mrs. Lissenburg had three - Diabetes, Shopmobility and Worthing Warm, the latter not in existence now.

Our President thanked our speaker for such an interesting talk and we had a book of photographs to peruse of her Mayoral year.

As always we sang our Vesper and then there was the most welcome 'cuppa' which is always appreciated by all.

By the time you read this, we will have seen 'The Little Fishes Christmas Show' at our meeting on 6th December. We would love to welcome any man or lady who would like to join us for our 'Christmas Celebration' on the 20th December. The members of the fellowship send good wishes and greetings for Christmas and the New Year to all who read the Chronicle

*Joan Burrage*

consecrate or sanctify. In the 8<sup>th</sup> century Pope Boniface IV made November 1<sup>st</sup>

All Saints Day to honour those saints that didn't have a special day of their own. The Pope hoped to replace the pagan Celtic festival with a Christian one or church sponsored holiday.

All Saints Day is said to be the day when souls walked the Earth. In early Christian tradition souls were said to be released from purgatory on All Hallows Eve for 48 hours, and cakes and wine were left out for them.

Another interesting fact I found out was where the pumpkin carved lanterns come from, not simply America as the Pilots suggested! This has its origin in Irish folklore. The Jack-o-Lantern is named after man called Jack, who was a notorious trickster and drunkard. He tricked Satan into climbing a tree, carved a cross on the tree's trunk, trapping the

devil up the tree. Jack made a deal with the devil that if he would never tempt him again he would let down the tree. After Jack died, he wasn't allowed into Heaven because of his evil ways, but he wasn't allowed into hell either, because he had tricked the devil! Instead the devil gave him a single ember to light his way through the darkness. The ember was placed inside a hollowed-out turnip to keep it glowing longer.

The Irish used turnips as their "Jack's Lanterns" originally, but when many Irish migrated to America during the potato famine they found that pumpkins were more plentiful than turnips!

I visited two of the many web sites available, the B.B.C. website and <http://www.anniversaries.co.uk/> where there is more information to be had.

*Valerie Cooper*

## DECEMBER

*Dates for your Diary ...*

Sun	18	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise <b>Festival of Lessons and Carols</b> led by the Choir. <b>Carols by Candle light</b> at Emmanuel United Reformed Church at Shelley Road. No service here in Goring.
Mon	19	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Sat	24	5.30pm 11.30pm	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> Carols for Children and Parents Christmas Eve Holy Communion
Sun	25	10.30am	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> Morning Family Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood





  
**JANUARY**

Sun	1	8.00am 10.30am	<b>NEW YEAR PRAYER DAY</b> Prayer & Praise Morning Worship & Prayer Vigil with Holy Communion: - Rev Anthony Trevithick
		-----	No Evening Service.
Thu	5	9.15am-11.15am 10.30am 2.30pm 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Holy Communion Prayers in Little Chapel Choir Practice
Sat	7	4.00 - 7.00pm	New Year Party. See back page
Sun	8	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise with Holy Communion: Mrs Hilary Redman Morning Worship: Rev Vic Sumner Evening Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	9	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	12	9.15am-11.15am 7.30pm 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Elders Meeting Choir Practice
Sun	15	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Christians Together in Goring at St Laurence C of E
Mon	16	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	17	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Fun Afternoon
Thu	19	9.15am-11.15am 2.30pm 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Prayers in Little Chapel Choir Practice
Sun	22	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Dr Eric Rogers Evening Worship with Holy Communion: Rev Andrew Sellwood
Mon	23	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Thu	26	9.15am-11.15am 7.30pm 7.30pm	The Ark: Mother, Baby & Toddler Group Church Meeting Choir Practice
Sun	29	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Prayer & Praise Morning Worship: Rev Andrew Sellwood Evening Worship: Rev Anthony Trevithick
Mon	30	5.15-6.30pm	Goring by Sea Pilots Company
Tue	31	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Adventures of a Parlour maid

## GOD IS GOOD AND HE DOES LISTEN

This is a testimony to report on how the good God has turned my life round in just one week. I was born in a very strict religious family and attending church was simply a must when I was growing up.

It was one Sunday early in November that I had three issues that were quite significant in my existence that I was overwhelmed by them. I dragged myself out of bed that morning not expecting any miracles.

I stopped Andrew Sellwood after the morning service, and I told him my bother. I said that I do not think God is listening to me, and his response was "God loves you and he is listening". He also explained that life is all ups and downs and God is also treading with me in this rough time.

I also felt the need to proclaim my unhappiness with God to Hilary Redman who also explained to me that God loves me and advised me to put my request in the prayer book, which I did.

I just want people to know that God is good and he does listen, I want people to thank the Lord for mercies and goodness towards me.

That particular Sunday I felt so low and helpless, but by the following Sunday I was smiling!

*Amina Whittey*





## GOD ANSWERS PRAYER IN STRANGE WAYS

My daughter now lives in Cornwall and on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November was caught out by the blizzard there. She lives in Newquay and teaches in a school which is about a half an hour drive from home. The blizzard hit the county after she had gone to work and all the children to school. Therefore by the end of the school day everyone was wondering how they were going to get home. Some children were taken home as normal but others stayed on at school because their parents had not been able to get to the school as the A 30 had been closed due to two accidents, and other abandoned cars. However, eventually there were very few children left and four teachers, two of whom lived too far and had decided to stay at school for the night.

One father came in a tractor to pick up his wife and child and said he would take my daughter and her colleague back to Newquay.

We had a text message from her 'Going home in a tractor, no joke!!' Well unfortunately even the tractor couldn't get through and took them back to the school. They had both decided that perhaps they should stay at the school too.

Then something happened that was very unexpected, a lady arrived in a four wheel drive car to pick up her grandchild and take her back to Newquay. The child was not at the school because she had gone home with a friend the lady was asked if, as she was going to Newquay would she take two teachers too and her first reply was no, being more worried about her grandchild I suppose but after realising she needed the teacher to show her the way to where the child was she agreed and they all got home safe and sound if a little late and very cold.

During this excitement I spoke to Rebecca a couple of times and prayed very hard the Lord would keep her safe, which of course He did. The point of the story is that sometimes you don't really know how much your children believe in the way the Lord works but when I spoke to Rebecca when she was at home her words were thus: 'Mum I just couldn't believe it when the four wheel drive arrived because even the tractor couldn't get through, it was sent from God'.

*Caroline Hibbs*

# WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

No, it is not time for the annual service yet, but I thought that members and friends might like to hear how I am finding the National Committee now that I am the United Reformed Church Representative. Although I have been on the local Goring committee for many years I have never served at this level before , and I was at first excited, then a little terrified! From the beginning I felt that the Lord was calling me to this task, and I know that He will surely enable me to see it through.

I have been privileged to present a 40 minute Bible Study to 140 ladies at the West Sussex Preparation Conference. As I prayed about it I knew that the Lord was with me from the moment I first put pen to paper in preparation, and no, I was not terrified!

Committee meetings are every other month in London, and I recently attended my first four day residential meeting in Hertfordshire. This was a lovely occasion to get to know the other nineteen representatives of the different denominations from England, Wales and Northern Ireland much better, and from the beginning I felt accepted and an integral part of the group, enjoying the friendship and fellowship of one and all. The purpose of this meeting was to work on the preparation of the service for 2007, including the notes on the background to the country, Bible Study notes, the music, the children's material, and the allocation of the annual grants. I was in a group of six working on the Order of Service itself, which had already been mostly prepared by the Christian women of Paraguay. The days were long and intense, starting at 8am with prayers and concluding at 9.30pm after prayers.

I would really value your prayers for the movement and for me. There are so many countries in the world where women are still marginalised or oppressed, and they do need our prayers.

Watch this space for news about the annual service on Friday, 3rd. March 2006!

*Eileen Rhodes*



Dear Friends

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS 2005

Had any surprises lately? I have: the totally unexpected blessing of satellite navigation in my new car (I call her Betty) — never again can I arrive late legitimately telling you I was lost! I was also surprised by the delight of a windfall due to an overpaid bill. In quite another realm, Bethan, Jess and I have been overwhelmed by the kindness that has been shown throughout a year when Jess, our daughter, has been far less well than we would have wished; we are deeply grateful to so many of you - thank you.

So, yes, life is full of surprises. Some of them, of course, are grimmer than others as the personal lives of too many of you in 2004 will have testified. In the same way, as we celebrate Christmas we will mark the first anniversary of the tsunami that surprised us all in the most terrifying way imaginable on Boxing Day 2004. Even that horror, though, brought with it the heart-warming surprise of humankind's generous response as money was given for the rebuilding of communities and of devastated lives.

Of course, one might say it's bit sad that we are surprised by human kindness - after all, most of us know more nice people than nasty ones, don't we? But for me, the absence of surprise would be more worrying - it would suggest that we have started so to take for granted things like decency, generosity and thoughtfulness that we no longer give them the value they truly have as building blocks of a humane society.

It's not all that different with the incarnation, I think. Here is one of the core events, one of the fundamental doctrines on Christianity: that God is amongst us in the living Lord Jesus Christ, full of grace and truth. Some measure of understanding of that has been part of my life since, at the piano stool, my mother taught me 'Jesus loves me, this I know'. Every Christmas we recall it, celebrate it, contemplate how to respond to it. It's part of the warp and weft of life. Yet still 'the Word made flesh' surprises me. And thanks be to God that it does. For surprise is what stirs wonder, wonder is what affords faith, and faith is what breeds hope. I hope and pray that I will never lose the surprise at the heart of Christian discipleship. It keeps my faith alive, it transforms many a disaster into a moment of opportunity, and it inspires one to remember whose the glory is.

As the United Reformed Church goes through its process of review and re-formation it seems to me that there is a tendency towards tiredness and

Cont'd on next page ➔

## NEWS FROM THE UNITED CHURCH OF BANGLADESH

Mrs. Lily Collison is in regular contact with the Right Reverend Benjamin Biswas of the Church of Bangladesh. She asked that the content of a recent letter be made known to the Church here in Goring in context of Andrew's recent Evening Service on Spiritual Warfare. Bishop Biswas writes about the sufferings experienced as a result of the persecution of Christian families in his diocese, and that child trafficking goes on un-checked. Two Christian young men died last year, one was kidnapped and hung, the other shot in front of his parents when they refused to pay money. Last year two Christian Evangelists were burnt in their homes. If money is not paid to these groups of terrorists, then there is the threat that the children will be kidnapped. In July 2005 two young evangelists were beheaded in their home. Bishop Biswas has himself been threatened,

and there have been threats to kidnap, his four children. It is difficult for these children to attend High School safely, and he is able for only one of his children to stay in a Mission Hostel for her safety, as he receives no salary as such. The church does receive support from friends elsewhere, and from the Methodist Church in Malaysia. At present there is some relaxation of pressure because of international concern, however the local authorities seem powerless to arrest the ringleaders.

He concludes his letter, "within all these we are well by the grace of our Heavenly Father" We commend our brother and his family to you for your prayers for guidance and safekeeping.

*Alec Ralph*

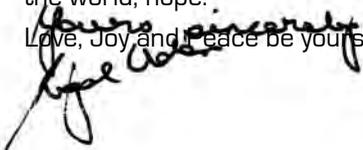
*(Continued from page 17)*

disappointment. Even pessimism about where it will all get us to.

As one of you put it to me, "the vision is so ordinary". And so it will be if it is rooted in our ideas, initiatives and energy levels. It's Christmas we need - every day in the church - so that we never lose our surprise, our wonderment that the Word is flesh and dwells amongst us full of the grace we need, full of the truth we crave.

So as Christmas comes round again — be surprised by the God whose we are and whom we serve; by hope for the church, hope for yourself, hope for the world, hope.

Love, Joy and Peace be yours, this Christmas and for 2006.





## WORLD CHURCH & MISSION GROUP REPORT

This year Wycliffe have declared their vision, that by 2025, the remaining un-translated languages, and in many cases, without yet a written alphabet will at least have some portions of scripture available in these languages. This will cover groups of people in India, Africa, Indonesia, South America, and parts of the former USSR in Central Asia. Both Wycliffe and FEBA are going ahead with literacy programmes, combating drug abuse and dependency, and provide support for sufferers from HIV/Aids. Economic support is also being provided, along with that provided by Christian Aid, so that subsistence farmers improve their methods to become self supporting, and increase their production to have a surplus for marketing. Other support is available, typically sewing machines, so that women can produce marketable goods to support themselves and their families.

It is in parts of the world where livelihoods are so fragile, that natural disasters cause loss of life and living. The Tsunami of S.E. Asia, the floods of Bangladesh, and the earthquakes in Turkey and India. Here Mission Agencies are active in providing relief, often those on the spot are the most knowledgeable as to priorities and support. Our total Mission Funds amount to around £4,500 annually, of this £2,500 is sent directly to the Central Mission Fund; £1,000 represents our annual contribution towards supporting Ruth, through Wycliffe. The balance is divided equally between our Mission Committee and the Outreach Group.

Our special relationship with Reverend Nkrumah in Ghana is monitored by Monika Leal, who also is our Tear Fund Contact. Bobby Hitchin oversees Leprosy Mission, both here and St. Andrews. Bett Swierk is our representative for Christian Aid, Margaret Butcher is our Bible Society representative, and Geoffrey Dean maintains contact with FEBA and MAF. Alec Ralph is the Wycliffe contact and also with Living Hope, the outreach to Africa and India based in Lancing.

Special devoted collections have been taken this year for the Tsunami Disaster and the Indian Earthquake Appeal as well as the Worthing Homeless Projects.

*Alec Ralph*



## **CELEBRATION GIFTS – GIVE AND YOU SHALL RECEIVE**

I consider myself to be a fortunate woman. I have a lovely family, a nice home, a great job with Bible Society and some wonderful friends. I have reached a stage in my life when I rarely want for anything. This creates rather an interesting problem for my loved ones – what do you give to a woman who doesn't want anything? I'm not a perfume and jewellery sort of girl, and I've got more clothes, ornaments and books than I have space for. Please don't give me any more plants to kill!

Actually, the only thing I really want is to spend time with friends and family to celebrate special occasions. Yet it is customary to give a gift to commemorate these points in our lives. So how do we solve this problem without offending our nearest and dearest?

An excellent way of channelling their generosity is to ask them, instead of buying you a gift that you don't need, to send a donation to your favourite charity instead, stating that the gift is to celebrate your birthday, anniversary or other special milestone in your life. Bible Society happily accepts such gifts on your behalf. We register all of them under your name and will let you know how much is received.

By asking for celebration gifts instead of presents, you could be responsible for a substantial donation to Bible Society. Both you and your loved ones will feel satisfied that the giving and receiving of gifts has been satisfied, and that those gifts will be received around the world, wherever Bible Society is working to make the Bible heard.

If you would like to know more about celebration gifts, please contact Bible Society, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon SN5 7BR or email [contactus@biblesociety.org.uk](mailto:contactus@biblesociety.org.uk) or telephone 01793 418100.

*Alison Knight [ Bible Society ]*



# Είναι ελληνικά για μενα !

## Christopsomo

I recently spent a few days in Cornwall at my sister's house, in order to be present at the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Hearn Family reunion. Up to the time I left home to make the (approx.) 6 hour drive, I had been for weeks toiling on some prose and poetry to perform as entertainment for the (approx.) 150 family members who were there, ranging in age from ninety three to one month old. Having been thinking of things Cornish and being immersed in the dialect for a couple of days, when I finally got some time to sit down to put pen to paper to write this article, memories came crowding back, pushing away the pages of notes I had already made on another subject – you'll get that article another time! One reference would lead to another and so far I have eight or ten foolscap pages of notes, possibly the basis for.....?

Thinking about a Cornish Christmas and the associated smells that arose from the baking and cooking, made me think about some of the ritual baking my mother did every year, on certain days. She probably never thought about the reason or the tradition involved, and did it just because her mother and grandmother did it on those days. They probably did it for the same reason!

Bread has been made since prehistoric times, at first, an unleavened bread made from pounded

corns or nuts mixed with water.

The Egyptians were believed to be the first bakers of leavened bread in about 2600 BC. Dough that had been left out for a length of time, caught wild yeast from the air. When the dough was baked on the hearth, it puffed up. That was the original sourdough, which has gone through many attempts to make it less sour, though retaining the leavening qualities. The Egyptians used wheat flour to keep a store of sour, fermented dough for the next batch of baking.

Later civilisations discovered barm, the yeasty foam from fermenting beer and used that for leavening. (Interesting to think what the word 'barmy' means!) It took until the 19<sup>th</sup> century to create compressed yeast, which we used to buy at the grocer's shop for our week's baking. Huge, thick slabs of grey yeast with the consistency of a firm cheese spread, and a sharp, unique smell. It was cut off, weighed in ounces, and put into small triangular paper bags. You got a rectangular or square bag to hold a larger amount. I loved the smell so much, that I was often tempted, on the way home from the shop, to stick my finger in and scrape a little off to taste! These days, you can get active dry yeast in jars or packets, in granule or powdered form, as well as rapid-rise yeast – not quite as satisfying to the sense of smell!

A Cornish Christmas.

The fire was lit early in the black-leaded Cornish range and the newly polished brass knobs twinkled in the light from the oil lamp on the kitchen table. The big black coal-scuttle was heaped to the brim, backed up with reinforcements in the round bronze-effect parlour scuttle, brought out to the kitchen for the day. Its round, contoured lid lay on the heaped coals like a discarded Roman buckler. Christmas Eve was the day for baking the saffron cake, the white sultana cake and the buns – called cake, but really sweetened fruit bread. The sharp, yeasty smell would fill the house, mingled with the aroma of the spicy saffron.

Of course, we children wanted to help! We liked to knead the dough and to form the buns, taking sultanas or currants from the tops and tucking them away underneath, so that they wouldn't get burned in the baking. Mother did the big batches and the loaves, keeping a watchful eye on us all the time, as we also liked to pinch bits of the soft dough to eat, savouring the tang of the yeast and the sweetness of the occasional sultana.

Oh! The waiting! The waiting for the dough to rise in the big cloam (earthenware) mixing bowls, covered with lard papers and clean tea towels and perched up in the warm place on the rack above the 'slab'. Then the knocking back and shaping and yet more waiting for it to prove, to rise again before being put into the black cavern of the oven. Then there was the waiting for the first nose-tickling smell to creep from the oven – the smell

which meant it was time to turn the sheath around, to brown the whole batch evenly. Then the fire would have another shovelful of coal put in. "Don't poke it! We doan't want a blaze! Just rake a few ashes from the bottom, or the buns will burn! Then more waiting. It seemed interminable!"

At last they would be ready and come out; golden-brown sultana or the orangey-brown saffron, studded with currants. The big cakes and loaves were baked last.

We were more interested in the buns. "Can I 'ave one, mum?"

"No, they're too 'ot!"

"I doan't mind!"

"Tedn' good for you too new!"

"I doan't mind!"

"No! "

"Aw, please, Mum!" and we would keep on and on until her resistance was worn down and our teeth sank into the still-warm fruit-filled treasure.

Early on Christmas day, the fire was stoked again and the bread was started – white and brown, loaves and splits (rolls). Once again, the smell of yeasty baking filled the house, to be finished before chapel time for the Christmas morning service. So why make sure the bread was made on Christmas day?

Of all the foods that are made, bread is more surrounded by ancient beliefs and omens than any other. Bread has immense importance as the main article of diet and it has usually been regarded as sacred, either in itself or symbolically. For pagan people it held the Corn Spirit, and for Christians, it



has a deep religious significance because of the Last Supper. Many country house wives who still make their own bread, make a cross on the dough when putting it to rise. It may help to ensure a better rise, but, traditionally, the reason is that the bread is redeemed from the power of the devil and protects it from witches.

Bread baked on Good Friday or Christmas day was thought to have wide ranging healing and protective powers – indeed, there are so many customs, rituals and superstitions connected with bread, that there is no room to list them here!

Every country seems to have special recipes for festive occasions, even the simplest recipe being enriched, especially for Christmas. I remember our staple Cornish Saffron cake and the white sultana cake having extra fruit, sugar and egg put in at Christmastime. The addition of sweet ingredients, such as honey and dried fruits to the original plain bread dough began in medieval times. However, bakers in this country were prohibited by law, until the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, from making ‘enriched breads’ except for special occasions. This was probably a law to ensure the poor had enough plain bread to eat in times of poor harvests. Their bread might be later enriched and sweetened as work and fortunes permitted.

The British fondness of dried fruit used in cookery was remarked on by the Venetian ambassador in London in 1610, when it was thought that Greece might reduce her exports of currants: ‘the English population consumes a greater amount of this fruit than the rest of the world’. Currants were

originally called ‘raisins of Corinth’. This became shortened to ‘Corinths’, which became ‘currants’.

Both sweet and savoury breads play a big role in Greek religious life, as part of the Orthodox ritual and celebration food. There are various kinds of bread baked for different occasions and Saints’ days during the year. At Christmas and the New Year, the sweet breads are much more ornate, intricately shaped or decorated, often with a sugary glaze.

The Christmas bread – ‘Christopsomo’ used to be the main feature of the Cretan Christmas meal. Baked in a round tin, the decorations varied in the different regions, more or less ornate, sometimes showing the branches of a tree which was sacred to the Minoans. Birds, flowers, leaves, etc were shown, but it usually had a large cross in the centre, which can be taken as the Cross, or the letter X, the first letter of the word *Xristos* – Christ.

Its beautiful decorations golden and gleaming, the bread sat in pride of place on the table. The head of the family was the only one allowed to cut this bread. While everyone stood, he would hold the knife as a priest would in ancient times, make the sign of the cross, wish everyone a Happy Christmas, and then cut the bread.

‘During supper, Jesus took bread, and having said the blessing he broke it and gave it to the disciples with the words: “Take, eat, this is my body.”’

Kala Xristouyenna! Happy Christmas!

*Mary Connelly.*

## Darts !

A young lady named Sally, relates an experience she had in a seminary class, given by her teacher, Dr. Smith. She says that Dr. Smith was known for his elaborate object lessons.

One particular day, Sally walked into the seminary and knew they were in for a fun day. On the wall was a big target and on a nearby table were many darts.

Dr. Smith told the students to draw a picture of someone that they disliked or someone who had made them angry, and he would allow them to throw darts at the person's picture.

Sally's friend drew a picture of the girl who had stolen her boyfriend.

Another friend drew a picture of his little brother.

Sally drew a picture of a former friend, putting a great deal of detail into her drawing, even drawing pimples on the face. Sally was pleased with the overall effect she had achieved.

The class lined up and began throwing darts. Some of the students threw their darts with such force that their targets were ripping apart.

Sally looked forward to her turn, and was filled with disappointment when Dr. Smith, said because of time limits, asked the students to return to their seats. As Sally sat thinking about how angry she was because she didn't have a chance to throw any darts at her target, Dr. Smith began removing the target from the wall.

Underneath the target was a picture of Jesus. A hush fell over the room as each student viewed the mangled picture of Jesus; holes and jagged marks covered His face and His eyes were pierced.

Dr. Smith said only these words... "In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matthew 25:40.

No other words were necessary and tears filled eyes of the students focused only on the picture of Christ.

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

## Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Monthly Prayer & Praise	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoons 3.00pm
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Thursday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

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### WELCOME Editors

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December	Ken Woods	505177
January 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Caroline Hibbs	695817
February 5, 12, 19, 26	Hilary & Graham Redman	260568



# New Year Party

Saturday 7 January 2006

4.00pm - 7.00pm

Bring a plate of Sweet or Savoury  
food to share

Looking forward to seeing you

All invited

Val Gill & Sue Mitchell

## Old Christmas Cards - Recycling

When you clear out your Christmas Cards, Birthday cards, and any type of greeting card give them to me and I will pass them onto a friend who remakes them into new cards and sells them in aid of St Barnabas hospice.



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.  
[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)