

The CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

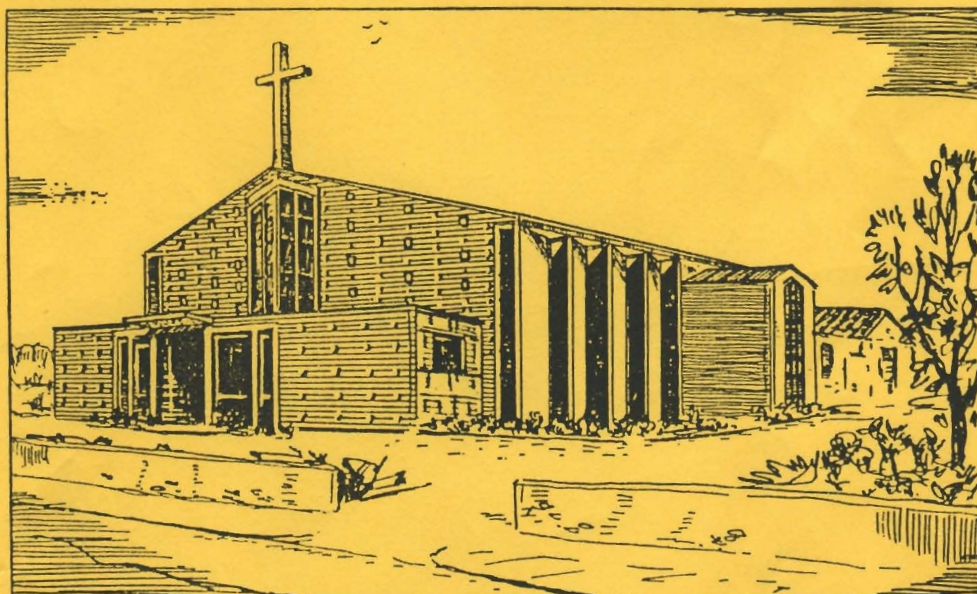
Golden Jubilee Edition
1940-1990

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

1940 - 1990

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF
GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, WORTHING



LEVITICUS

CHAPTER 25 v. 10

Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you: each one of you is to return to his family property and each to his own clan.

"OTHERS HAVE LABOURED, AND YOU ARE ENTERED INTO THEIR LABOURS"

St John 4. v.38

The hymnwriter takes the words of Jesus from which this text is a part, and writes:

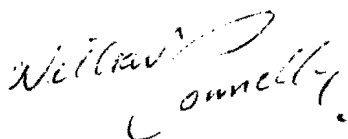
"Our Father, by whose servants
Our house was built of old,
Whose hand hath crowned her children
With blessings manifold,
For Thine unfailing mercies
Far-strewn along our way,
With all who passed before us,
We praise Thy name today.

They reap not where they laboured,
We reap what they have sown;
Our harvest may be garnered
By ages yet unknown.
The days of old have dowered us
With gifts beyond all praise:
Our Father, make us faithful
To serve the coming days."

Contained within these words is the joy and hope of Jubilee. Fifty years of Worship and Service from Elm Grove School to Goring United Reformed Church today. An acknowledgment that when freedom itself was imperilled, Christ's free-men and women were seeking to proclaim Him with vigour and vision blessed by the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We look back with thanksgiving in order to gain renewed zeal for today and tomorrow. May this Jubilee year proclaim "the gospel to the poor, healing of the broken-hearted, deliverance to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, and liberty to all in the Grace of God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

"Before us and beside us
Still holden in Thine hand
A cloud unseen of witness,
Our elder comrades stand:
One family unbroken,
We join, with one acclaim
One heart, one voice uplifting,
To glorify Thy name."



WILLIAM CONNELLY

Minister

MINISTERS

Rev. Morris Bold, MC (Methodist)	1941/42
Rev. F. J. H. Humphrey D.S.O. (Baptist)	1942/47
Rev. S. O. Morgan B.A., B.D. (Presbyterian)	1947/50
Rev. H. M. Springbett, M.A.	1950/53
Rev. C. C. Franks	1954/63
Rev. Wallis Hayward	1964/73
Rev. William Connelly	Ministry commenced 1974
Associate Minister	
Rev. R. C. Christopher	1978/86

D E O G R A T I A S

CHURCH SECRETARIES

Mr E. T. Wiseman	1940/44
Mr A. J. Rule	1944/49
Miss M. Handford	1949/52 and 1953/54
Mr G. Askew	1952/53
Mr A. E. Harrison	1954/56
Mr B. C. Hoskins	1956/62
Mr H. A. Winterton	1962/68

ADMINISTRATIVE

Mr A. Birch	1968/72
Dr R. A. Webb	1972/74
Mr C.S.Stephens	1974/77
Mr R.H.Newell	1977/86
Mr W. Rhodes	1987 -

PASTORAL

Mr E. C. Bond	1968/75
Mr E. C. Bond	1976/79
Mr F. Marsh	1979 -

CHURCH TREASURERS

Mr E. T. Wiseman	1940/44
Mr E. W. J. West	1944/50
Mr G. L. Nodes	1950/62
Mr R. O. Parker	1962/70
Mr N. F. Redman	1969/77
Mr J. D. Blakey	1977/89
Mr R. Gooderham	1989 -

MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH WHO HAVE ENTERED THE MINISTRY

Rev. B. Chatfield
 Rev. E. Symmons
 Rev. J. Titlow

In celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Church no attempt has been made to give a detailed year by year history. Rather a general impression of the past five decades and our hope for the future.

We can make no better start than by recalling the formation of the congregation as it is so ably written by the late Mr Charles Cornwall in the book 'TWIXT DOWNS AND THE SEA'.

For some years after the First World War residential west Worthing did not extend much beyond Wallace Avenue. But by 1927 Reigate Road was fast coming into being, almost its whole length being a mass of bricks and other building materials. Also a few scattered houses were being erected in Brooklyn and Pembroke Avenues, and The Rose Walk. Yet from Wallace Avenue to St. Mary's Church at Goring, there still remained a lovely Sussex lane of considerable charm, and a large Estate Agent's board invited folk to "Come and live in the Old World Lane." (Goring Lane, now Goring Road).

By 1930, or a little later, the district westwards was noticeably altering, and rural scenery began to be lost as the first few shops were built. Recognising that changes in local life were imminent, the Congregational Church at Shelley Road began to consider what the future might hold, and a Church Extension Committee being formed this Mother Church eventually purchased three-quarters of an acre of land in Barrington Road, at the foot of the new bridge for the sum of £1,450, thus securing a site for the building of a Congregational Church in the new Goring district.

What followed was undoubtedly very unusual, and almost remarkably so. The Church at Shelley Road was itself passing through a time of change of ministry, and there was yet no organised body of Free Church worshippers at Goring, and it required not only foresight, but also a little faith and courage to incur liabilities of a financial nature, which could only be met if real progress resulted. Yet the order was given to Messrs John Denman & Son of Brighton to prepare plans for a Dual-purpose Church to seat 300. Tenders were put out for construction, and that of Messrs Patching & Co. was accepted for the sum of £4,290, excluding furnishings. The financing of the scheme for building was based on a loan for £4,000 with interest charges of 3½%, and a Maintenance Fund was also started. Other arrangements were made partly based on a generous residuary legacy for £5,000 left by a local friend and well-wisher, Mr Charles Barrett. Although attending at the St. Columba's Presbyterian Church, Mr Barrett was extremely anxious that yet another Free Church should be erected in the new area expanding westwards. So the date for the Stone Laying Ceremony was actually fixed for November, 1939, but the outbreak of War meant that all such planning had to be abandoned for the time being, and subsequent events, and the rising costs of building, made this an almost tragic delay. But let this be recorded. In accepting the call to the Church at Shelley Road in 1940 one of the first questions the Rev. B. R. H. Spaul, M.A. asked was whether Shelley Road Church had the "forward look". Recent planning although dramatically halted, proved a convincing reply.

SUNDAY SERVICE AT THE ELM GROVE SCHOOL HALL

In the closing months of the 1940 Summer, danger threatened Worthing, and even evacuees were leaving. Old folks were also advised to leave if possible. Those who remained felt that they did not care to be too far from home when attending a place of worship, and at that time many residents in our locality were members of the Church at Shelley Road. This problem suggested the opportunity for a Free Church Fellowship to meet together, somewhere near to the newly constructed Goring Road. So those responsible for such arrangements gratefully accepted the offer of Worthing Corporation, who expressed their willingness to loan the Elm Grove School Hall and Class Rooms for Sunday Services, subject to

Thus it was on Sunday, 4th August, 1940, some 37 friends attended the first morning service, 15 being present for evening worship. Mr W.H. Young of Lancing, and Chairman of the Shelley Road Extension Committee, conducted both services, and collections for the day amounted to £2 8s. 0d.

In 1941 No.3 Goring Road (one of several private houses since replaced by the Wallace Parade Shops) was brought into use. The Army's consent having been obtained this was opened as a "House of Quiet" for Servicemen. One of the upper rooms was converted into a beautiful little chapel, furnished with a simple communion table draped in rich blue velvet and adorned by the little brass cross. On the ground floor a rest room and canteen arrangements met the needs of soldiers and airmen in the district. During the War several evening services had to be held in the lounge as the School Hall was not blacked out.

The Church was constituted on 14th June, 1947. Church Hall opened on 1 March, 1949. East Hall opened on 4th November, 1950. West Hall was completed and opened on 23rd July, 1955. Junior Church and Youth Club Hut built 1959 (hut demolished late 1970's). The new Church was opened on 16th September, 1961. The Cornwall Room was opened on 12th March, 1967. The Harris Room, Kitchen extension, detached store and new cloakrooms were completed in 1985.

In 1972 our name was changed from Goring Congregational Church to Goring United Reformed Church on the merger of the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches.

The Goring (Sussex) Congregational Housing Association Ltd. was established to assist in housing the elderly and subsequently Hayward House, 2 Shaftesbury Avenue, Worthing was purchased and converted into Flatlets. Our Church, together with Offington Park Methodist Church was one of the founders of the Durrington Community Centre Church in 1984. Rev. Ron Christopher was the first minister. 17 of our members went to support this congregation.

MANSES

19 Brook Barn Way, Worthing Sold in 1958 for £2820.

140 George V Avenue, Worthing. Purchased for £4500 (opened for inspection by congregation on 3rd March 1958).

THE CHURCH ORGAN (Installed in 1961)

(Members of the Organ Selection Committee: Messrs S. E. Grew, H.J. Harland, C. S. Stephens, E. Tilbury, and Mr Stanley Alderson, Organist.)

Thanks to the members of the Committee appointed to deal with this important matter, the Church is happily assured of an instrument worthy of the building.

Following many enquiries and investigations contact was finally made with the noted firm of Henry Willis & Sons Ltd., London, and the Church was asked to accept the recommendation that the firm should install a pipe organ, which although not new, was strongly commended as an instrument of quality, this for the sum of £2,900.

Composed of two separate sections, one on either side of the Choir, the organ is electrically connected to a playing console in the Choir. There are two manual keyboards, and pedal keyboard, with 17 speaking stops, seven couplers, and five pistons, the whole organ comprising some 830 pipes. These will not be seen, being placed behind gills above the choir stalls.

This, the largest item to be provided for out of special funds, was quickly followed by two outstanding gifts which largely off-set the cost. The Mother Church at Shelley Road most generously promised a contribution of £1,000 from a Trust Fund, and an anonymous friend and well-wisher offered another £1,500.

(Are you sitting comfortably?)

Then I'll begin ---

Once upon a time (in the 1950's) there lived in the parish of Thundridge on the Essex-Herts border an enthusiastic amateur organ-builder - who was also the parish priest. In a large barn which was part of his tenure he collected and assembled many organ parts, all of the highest quality his discerning taste could find, and there came into being a magnificent instrument later to bear the trade name of "Ex-Thundridge". One thing was lacking as an aid to performance until Henry Willis & Sons were called upon to supply an electric action. Sadly, the parish priest cum organ builder did not live very long to enjoy the fruit of his handiwork and when he died in 1958 Henry Willis gladly acquired the organ and took it into stock until such time as an adequate home could be found for it.

Meanwhile, in Goring, the Church was deeply concerned with plans for a new church building and the architects who were then engaged responded to a plea that the plans should include those for an organ chamber suitable to house an adequate pipe organ should later generations desire to acquire one. (the former church had been served in what is now the Church Hall by a strange organ, partly electronic, sighted on the platform).

An organ committee was formed and wide-ranging visits along the South were made in order to be able to compare the merits of what were then the latest in electronic instruments (including the now famous Allen organ with its computerised stop selection) and those of the conventional pipe-organs of widely varying size and quality.

Eventually regular advertisements for new and rebuilt pipe-organs were found in musical journals above the name of Henry Willis and Sons, and an enquiry was sent off. With the ex-thundridge organ in his workshop, Mr Willis was most anxious to have sight of the Architect's plans for Goring. He became very enthusiastic and very generously offered to keep the organ in stock for something more than twelve months while the Church was building if the church decided to buy it. Accordingly, the committee journeyed to the works (then in Bermondsey) where selected ranks of pipes were set up on tuning benches awaiting to be heard for approval. Mr Willis himself was busily voicing and tuning the trumpet rank for the Swell department. The committee was delighted with what had been seen and heard and returned to Goring determined unanimously, to recommend the purchase of Ex-Thundridge.

This recommendation was therefore made to the church meeting. As always, finance was a problem and represented, at the price of £2,900, a serious additional commitment to the cost of building the church itself. However, help and a great act of faith were at hand. the Shelley Road Church, always generous to us, had promised a gift of £1,000 towards the cost of the new church and they graciously agreed that the sum might, if so decided, be used to provide the beautifully appointed organ console which we now see.

The church meeting, in spite of a possible debt of £1,900 - no mean sum in 1960! decided to accept the committee's recommendation. the following morning an anonymous donation to the organ fund appeared on the Minister's desk £2,000. On being informed that the fund was thus "over-subscribed" Mr Willis was informed as it was regarded as proper that the money should be used for the purpose for which it had been given. Ex-Thundridge was already a very tight fit in the spaces provided (it can easily be seen from below that the pipes of the Pedal Dept. at 16' pitch have had to be doubled over to fit in) but Mr Willis suggested that room for one small additional rank could be found and he recommended at a cost of £100 the

inclusion of a Nazard rank at pitch 22/3' which possessed the inestimable virtue of changing the colour of any other of the stops with which it was drawn. It thus introduced the possibility of producing a beautiful 'Baroque' sound for such music as called for it.

There was something miraculous about the development of this story, but by then the Church, though by no means blase, was very expectant of miracles - and why not?

Good-night dears,

P.S. Mr Henry Willis in every way a perfectionist, sadly lived for not very much longer, but he was there to prowl around the Church during the Opening Service. I think he was pleased with his handiwork.

P.P.S. alas, no other Member of a dedicated Organ Committee survives to receive our acknowledgements, but their memorial is before us and on high.

C.S.S.

In 1985 the organ was overhauled by Morgan and Smith at a cost of £6575.

This has been published since 1944 on a Monthly/Bi-monthly basis and we are indebted to our Editors for keeping the congregation so well informed about the life and witness of the Church, and all helpers who have participated in the preparation and production of The Chronicle. Over the years Editors have been Mr C. H. Cornwall, Mr A. E. Pearn, Miss E. Gilby, Mr S. E. West, Miss D. M. Walsh, Mrs M. B. Popplestone, Mr E. Popplestone and currently Mr L. Montford.

More recently The Chronicle has been supplemented by a weekly news sheet "WELCOME". A copy of the Minister's Message in issue No.73 of The Chronicle for May and June, 1956 is underneath and two pages of issue No.78 for March and April, 1957 are reprinted overpage as they record significant periods and events in the history of the Church.

THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Manse,
April, 1956.

My Dear Friends,

We have called a special meeting of the Church and Congregation for April 26th. to consider the question of accommodation. It is not for me to anticipate what decision will be taken; that lies with you. Neither can I now attempt to advise or suggest what I think should be done. By the time this "Chronicle" is in your hands the meeting will have reached its decision. Whatever we decide that God is calling us to do we may be sure that He will never let us have any rest until we are, at least, attempting it.

That is true, of course, not only of our life in the Church but of every aspect of a Christian's being. Israel Zangwill, in "The Cockpit", makes the Queen scornfully comment on the New Testament phrase "the peace of God". "As I lie sleepless I think of the eternal insomnia of God." And when her attendant utters a shocked protest she goes on: "I only quote the Bible. God neither slumbers nor sleeps. Ah, it is the pain of God, not His peace, that passeth understanding".

At this Eastertide we have been thinking again of the "agony through which the children of men have caused their Father to pass age after age." May God keep us from forgetting that His heart is torn by every word, act, thought of ours which reveals that we are refusing the persistent challenge that He presents to our faith. We cannot have the peace without doing the will of God, and the sense of inner warring and disruption is the sign that whether we know it or not His will has not been made ours. Yet there is something to be glad about in this lack of peace. Mark Rutherford expresses it better than I can, "I think the sense of our wants, when withal we have a restlessness and a sort of spiritual impatience under them, and can make a din, because we want Him Whom our soul loveth, is that which maketh an open door to Christ: and when we think we are going backward, because we feel deadness, we are going forward; for the more sense the more life, and no sense argueth no life."

To go back to where I began; I have certain restlessness within me. I do really believe that God is saying, "Build My Church". I don't know how it is to be done -- that is not the first consideration. I wanted to let you know how I felt in this matter. God forbid that I should lay my restlessness at His door when it is of my own creation. But I cannot escape the belief that He is doing it.

Yours very sincerely,

C. C. FRANKS.



PAST - PRESENT - FUTURE
CHURCH BUILDING FUND GIFT DAY
Wednesday, March 13th, 1957

One of those wise men who so often do our thinking for us more indolent folk has suggested that there is no action in life which is not the beginning of a long chain of consequences. But this also could be true - No action, but still consequences. This in brief is the position in which we now find ourselves placed.

THE PAST

Briefly related, a war-time Christian Fellowship started in 1940 became our fully constituted Congregational Church in June, 1947, when 84 friends were received into membership. But it was not until 1948 that we were allowed to erect a Church Hall of our own. Let the word "allowed" be emphasised. Prohibitions were still in force, and it was only after earnest pleading that our present Hall was extended by some 6 or 7 feet! The total cost of the building was about \$5500, but other considerable expense was also involved. The carriage drive alone added another \$400, and chairs and furnishings, etc. meant extra expenditure, even though supplemented by most generous gifts in kind.

By 1950 our first settled ministry was commenced, and by that time the children were in effect knocking at our door, so another hall was built at a cost of about £1500. Also in 1950 the present Manse was purchased for over £3000, and by 1954 after years of patient waiting, our Electronic Organ was installed at a cost of £500. By the summer of 1955, it was felt that a second Children's Hall was very necessary, and this was erected for about £1400, our good friend, Mr E. E. Hodder again being the architect.

These facts and figures are given as evidence that we have almost unaided raised not far short of £8000 in about 12 years, and much of this when our Church Membership was not much more than 130. Yet throughout the years we have as a Church liberally responded to outside appeals, and as illustrating this, we recently contributed £113 to the Hungarian Relief Fund, and £150 to the new Church at Crawley. The story of our Church has always been marked by great generosity.

THE PRESENT

During the past 4 years, our Church Membership has shown an average increase of 20 each year, this allowing for losses and removals. Today, we are amongst the first six largest Congregational Churches in Sussex, our Sunday School being the third largest. Our present Church membership stands at just over 200, and our Church Hall can only accommodate a very few above that number.

Complaints have fairly often been made that our chairs are placed too close together for comfort! And unknown to many, there have been special occasions when stewards and others have had to sit in the Cloak Rooms. The presence of some of our children (please note the word "some") at our morning service has been very fully discussed, and faced as a real problem. For morning worship our Church is usually practically full, and evening attendances have shown a marked increase even during these winter months. The morning Sunday School now has 160 on its roll, and after a difficult start, the afternoon School begins to approach 50 in number. Surrounding our Church site is what in effect is a new West Worthing and Coring area. The rapid development would amaze some who do not often wander around. And so to

THE FUTURE

There was a wise man in the East whose constant prayer was that he might see today with the eyes of tomorrow. Could we do that we might be saved many mistakes and regrets. But we should not gain in qualities that make for our good.

Our present Building Fund stands at well under £2000, and it is computed that the cost of a new Church as suggested to hold about 350 would need anything from £15,000 to £20,000. What then can we do?

First, we can at least let it be publicly known that if the necessary money comes to hand, a new Church building would give distinction to Shaftesbury Avenue. Also maybe, by judicious expenditure, we can gain the interest and some support from residents and friends, not only in Worthing, but even farther afield. With that in mind, the Chronicle you are now reading might, when finished with, be passed on to someone else.

Finally we most certainly can, and ought to make our problem one of earnest prayer. "Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers" wrote Phillips Brooks, adding "Pray for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you shall be a miracle." And yet another good man (Bishop Bailey) also wrote, "The greater thy business is, by so much more hast thou need of God's good-speed and blessing upon it."

.....
: "Faith is to be- :
: lieve what we do :
: not see; and the :
: reward of this :
: faith is to see :
: what we believe." :
: St Augustine. :
.....

Somewhere about 1937 the Church at Shelley Road was tentatively considering the building of a new Congregational Church farther west in this district. As a member of that first Church Extension Committee, the writer of this article was asked in rather chilling tones, "And where do you expect to get the money from?" There seemed no satisfying answer to such a question. Yet all unknown, almost at that very time, an interested friend was making his last Will, leaving a legacy of nearly £5000 for the erection of a new Congregational Church in West Worthing. His name was Charles R. Barrett, and a brass plate to his memory stands on our Church wall.

The Rev. C. C. Franks will be in his vestry on March 13th, to receive gifts from 10 a.m. until noon, and again from 2 to 4 p.m. C.H.C.

GIRLS' LIFE BRIGADE

We have been very pleased to welcome many new girls to the Company. Some of the older members have progressed from Juniors to Seniors and others from Cadets to Juniors, and all are now working very hard to gain as many badges as they can.

The times of starting have been adjusted slightly and are as follows:- Cadets, 5.30; Juniors, 6.15; Seniors, 6.45.

Three of the Seniors, Joyce Smith, Judith Ward and Delia Hughes, are now "Helpers" to the Cadets, and we hope they will eventually take their tests and prove good non-commissioned officers. Good wishes to them all; they are a great help.

Come along, girls; there is still plenty of room for more members and you will have a most enjoyable time. M.A.W.

GORING CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**LIFE DEACONS**

Mr C. H. Cornwall

Miss A. M. Thomas

Mr G. L. Nodes

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**SERVING ELDERS**

Mr P. Archer

Mr J. Brewer

Mr W. Davis

Mrs S. Gooderham

Mr F. Marsh

Mr C. Nodes

Mrs H. Redman

Mr D. Stewart

Mr C. Ward

Mr E. Bond

Dr A. Clark

Mr M. Donnelly

Mrs R. Hitchin

Mr K. Merritt

Mr N. Prattent

Mr W. Rhodes

Mrs D. Turner

NON-SERVING ELDERS (Full Members who have served as Elders at Goring URC)

Mr J. Almond, Mr J. Blackwood, Mr D. Blakey, Rev. R. C. Christopher, Mr R. Close,
 Mr R. Courtnadge, Mr G. Dean, Mrs E. Dearsley, Miss E. Fisher,
 Mr A. Flashman, Mr K. Irving, Mr W. Kimber, Mr T. Lyons, Mr R. Pownall,
 Mr G. Redman, Mr N. Redman, Mr C. Stephens, Mr R. Tuley, Mrs. J. Webb, Dr. R. Webb

Associate Members who have served as Elders at Goring URC

Mr R. Newell, Mr W. Perrett, Mrs. B. Popplestone, Mr E. Popplestone, Mrs G. Thomson.

ELDERS who assisted in the establishment of the Durrington Community Centre Church,

Mrs S. Batchelor, Mr N. Dobson, Mr and Mrs E. Popplestone, Mr A. Razzell

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

The 12 Deacons of the first Diaconate were inducted on Sunday morning 8th May, 1949. (Previously the Church had been administered by a Management Committee).

The first person to be baptised in our Church was Edward Hite. This was in 1944 at Elm Grove School. The service being conducted by Rev. F. J. H. Humphrey, D.S.O. (a week later Irene Tuley was baptised).

In 1957 Mr Franks held the first Monthly day of Prayer.

Margaret Cozens-Walker was the first person to be married in the Church.

First Broadcast Service

Sunday evening 10th June, 1956 when Rev. John Huxtable M.A. was our visitor for the Church Anniversary.

The dramatic increase in costs over 50 years can be seen by the following figures:-

In 1939 the estimated cost of a new Church seating 300 was £4290.

In 1961 the new Church (seating 400) cost about £27000 to build.

In 1985 the cost of the Harris Room, Kitchen Extension, Store and Disabled Toilet amounted to approximately £43000.

Sunday August 4th, 1940 was the 337th Day of the Second World War and news headlines on that day were "Italians invade British Somaliland. Japanese nationals arrested in London, Singapore and other British possessions". " Air raids over Great Britain, Germany and North Africa".

However, the congregation at Elm Grove had faith that peace would arrive and they made active preparations to meet the challenge of the Post War period.

THE WAKE

I cannot always trace the outward course my ship must take;
But looking backwards I behold its shining wake.
Illumined with God's light of love: and so I onward go.
In perfect trust, that He who holds the helm,
The course must know. "The Chronicle" January 1953.



On B.B.C. advice, the minister, the Rev. C. C. Franks, who conducted the service, chose a helpful sermon he had first preached a few months ago. His text, from St. Mark's Gospel, was: "Lord I believe, hold Thou my unbelief."

Two microphones were placed high in the centre of the chancel and in front of the pulpit. A red light, signalling the start and end of the broadcast, was fixed to the organ for the guidance of the organist, Mr. Stanley Alderson.

It was the first time that Mr. Franks and Mr. Alderson had broadcast.

The specially augmented choir sat in front of the main congregation. After a try-out of hymns before the broadcast the producer, Andrew Quicke, of Religious Broadcasting, Bristol, described the quality as "splendid."

Late arrivals and Sunday school children heard the broadcast in the church hall. A tape recording was made by Mr. D. Stewart at his home in Palatine-road.

Augmented choir for broadcast

2nd June, 1974. "Hayward House" opened.

Goring (Sussex) Congregational Housing Association Ltd. is a registered charity to assist in housing the elderly.

10th August, 1988.

Bishop Mondal and his Wife from BANGLADESH were entertained to Lunch at the Church.

JUBILEE 1990

Who is sounding the trumpet for this year of Jubilee? In the history of the Old Testament we read of this festival as possessing tremendous importance. It was observed every fiftieth year to celebrate the deliverance of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt. This Church will be celebrating at the end of July the beginnings of the Church in Elm Grove School. But who is sounding the trumpet .. where are the songs and shouts of Deliverance? It was on June 18th 1940 that Winston Churchill ended a speech with these words, "Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties, and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire and it's Commonwealth last for a thousand year, men will still say 'This was their finest hour'".

Those men and women who in 1940 founded this Church believed in more than Empires and Commonwealths created by men and women - their vision pierced the dark days of War and viewed the dawning of God's Kingdom. And it was the heavenly vision that sustained and cheered them in the perilous days of war and led them to Victory and Deliverance from evil.

The evils of today are holding in bondage the lives of many people throughout the world. Let the victory of faith in Christ proclaim a Jubilee .. a Deliverance to men and women today. Sound the trumpet for Jubilee now! Look to the Jubilee as becoming an occasion for EVANGELISM, and all our present endeavours will be blessed by God.

6 December, 1989

Dear Mr Redman

Thank you for your letter, the import of which has produced some rather odd mental reactions, the precise nature of which, I have been trying to disentangle.

I think the major factor arises from the violent contrast between life today and life as it was for the new Minister at Goring at the beginning of 1950. My stipend was somewhat less than £7 a week, with no allowance for expenses or telephone, and, of course, no car. All my visiting was done on foot, by bicycle or on public transport. There was no washing machine or freezer, no television and no colour photography. Making a film would never have entered into one's wildest calculations. Times have changed and the Minister of my Church here rejoices in his word-processor.

I was inducted on 9th February 1950, the charges being preached by the Rev. Frank Ballard, whose Assistant Minister I had been at Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church. The Moderator, I imagine presided, though I cannot recall the fact. The Manse was at 19 Brook Barn Way, off Sea Place, and I soon acquired an allotment between it and the sea to help feed the family. The Church Secretary then was Miss Handford, who was succeeded by Mr Askew, a retired Methodist headmaster. I was the first full-time Minister of the Church which had previously been overseen by a retired Baptist Minister the Rev. F. J. H. Humphrey who had died some time before I came. His widow, with her sister, Miss Green, were members of the congregation:

When I arrived there were some 90 members on the Church Roll, that number rising to some 135 by the time I left in the Summer of 1953. The Church was usually well filled for Morning Service and I can remember an Easter Day Service, probably in 1952, when the children had to sit on grown-ups laps so that each adult could have a chair. As most of the congregation were retired there was a Men's Afternoon meeting and there was a Men's Group who laboured in the Church garden during the Spring and Summer.

I also note from my diaries that as early as the Spring of 1951 there was a Building Committee meeting - to give preliminary thought to the erection of a Church building proper. One of the Members had a son who was an Architect and I seem to remember that his thoughts ran along lines similar to mine, though I imagine these would bear little relation to what eventually transpired.

Yours sincerely

Rev. H. M. Springbett, M.A. (Cantab).

MINISTER 1950/1953.

During the life of our Church we have been blessed by organisations which have enriched the fellowship. Some groups such as the Drama Group (Shaftesbury Players)., Ladies Working Party, the Badminton Club, Auto Fellowship, Contact Club, Family Circle, no longer function. However, others are still flourishing and it is with great pleasure that we are able to publish the following messages:-

WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE

John 4 Verse 38 reads "I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour: others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour".

The working party, chaired by the Revd. W. Connelly, which met on the 27th February, 1985, were aware that they were following in the footsteps of many church members who, over the years, had wholeheartedly supported various mission activities. From that party the Committee was formed in the hope that more would be achieved collectively than would be possible individually. Its agreed immediate aims were to re-awaken general interest in mission activities and, from time to time, to raise money for specific objectives: the long-term purpose was to establish contact with a Church overseas.

The passing years have seen changes in Committee personnel, but no weakening of endeavour or resolve. The splendid support from Church members for the many and various fund-raising events indicates that they appreciate what the Committee is doing.

Correspondence is being exchanged with two overseas Churches - St. Thomas' Church, Nittyanandapur, Bangladesh and the Hope Presbyterian Church, Assin Nsuta, Ghana. It is encouraging to know that, in addition to the more 'official' correspondence, members of our Church are exchanging personal letters with individuals in Ghana and Bangladesh. News from both countries tells us of staunch Christians holding on to their Faith in spite of hardship, poverty and discrimination.

We need to count our blessings.

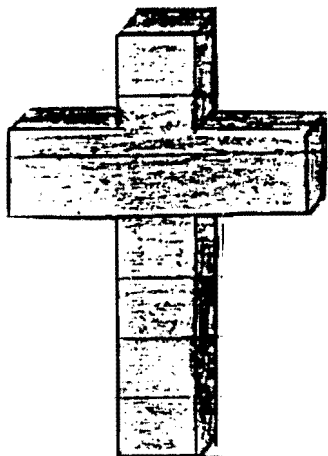
AREA FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Fellowship groups include all members of our Church family. there will be several of these area fellowships of Goring URC in Worthing. Meeting in a smaller group, in a home atmosphere, we can get to know each other better. We hope, also, that we can keep a caring eye on those who are ill or infirm; to encourage and develop our life of faith in Jesus Christ, and to be channels of His love in sharing the good news with those outside the Church.

William Connelly
Warwick Davis
Michael Donnelly

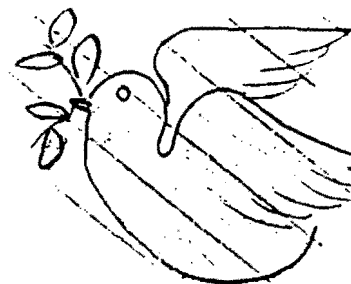
JUNIOR CHURCH

CELEBRATES THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH AND LOOKS FORWARD TO THIS YEAR OF RESTORATION WITH THE FOLLOWING PRAYER:



Dear Lord,

Thank you for our Church started 50 years ago in a school hall.
 Thank you for helping people to meet together in difficult times during the war.
 Thank you for providing the buildings that we worship in today.
 We are too young to know much about the past but we know that, during the last 50 years, you have blessed our Church, that you have guided its people and that many have come to know you as Lord and Saviour and now serve you here at Goring United Reformed Church.
 Our prayer now Lord Jesus is for the future.
 We pray that you will reign as Head of our Church.
 We pray that more and more people will come to accept you as Lord and Saviour.
 We pray that they will find freedom to worship and praise you as you want them to.
 We pray that you will guide our Minister, our Elders and all our Leaders.
 We pray that you will give them wisdom Lord in the things they say and do and we ask that they listen to you and obey you when you speak to them.
 Most of all Lord we pray that everyone in our Church will be able to love one another in the way your Word teaches us so that there may be understanding and compassion between us all.



AMEN

1 CORINTHIANS 13 v 4-7

LOVE is patient and kind; it is not jealous or conceited or proud; **LOVE** is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable; **LOVE** does not keep a record of wrongs; **LOVE** is not happy with evil but is happy with the truth. **LOVE** never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail.

and V 13

Meanwhile these three remain faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is

LOVE

..... and so, we in Junior Church send our *love* to all at Goring United Reformed Church

YOUTH CLUB

During the past two decades the Youth Club has been under the leadership of Mr Chris Byerely, Mr Ray Close and currently Mr Graham Redman.

There have been many varied activities for the young people including camping, sailing, greenbelt, barbeques, bowling, table tennis, guest speakers, snooker, swimming

The Ministers have been very much part of the young people's lives, certainly during the last three ministries.

1. Cyril Franks.

As a father of four himself was widely known for his love of children and young people. His childrens' addresses and visual aids, as Mr Cornwall writes 'will long remain as a most effective part of his Ministry'.

2. Wallis Hayward:

Brought with him to Goring his love and affection of young people. All through his life he cared for them and was therefore very interested in the Girls and Boys Brigades and Youth Club. Evening meetings were also held after evening worship at The Manse.

3. William Connelly:

Our current Minister as we all know, adores the young people. He is keen for them to take part in our services and we are all well aware of how much of a contribution our young musicians give to our Evening Services.

The Youth Club. Well, hardly a week goes by without William having a game or two of table tennis!

For a number of years a Youth Club Bible class was held in the East Hall at 10 o' clock on Sunday mornings.

The Youth Club today caters for the 12 - 16 year olds who enjoy themselves very much on Saturday evening. They have designed and produced their own 'Youth Mag'.

A number of the older young people meet after Sunday evening services at the home of Val and Ray Close.

5th WORTHING COMPANY GIRLS' BRIGADE

After 4 years as a Lieutenant I became Captain of 5th Worthing Company on 1st January, 1972. Since 1975 annual camps have without doubt been the highlight of each year. We have all enjoyed our trips to Bexhill, Edenbridge (twice) Felixstowe, Bedford (twice) Woodford (three times) Bournemouth (three times), Bath, Dorking, Switzerland and Holland. 1977 saw the start of our Love and Care scheme and this has become a very important part of our Girls' Brigade service. Housebound and elderly folk of the Church receive Christmas and Easter gifts and cards from camp and we try to send cards to the sick, the bereaved, those with anniversaries, birthdays and other special occasions.

Each year since 1974 we have been privileged to conduct the June Parade service. These occasions have given us a wonderful opportunity to witness for the Lord and it has been marvellous to watch the growing confidence of the girls through the years, as a result of these services.

Each year in December we've put together a display or concert as part of our Awards evening - a very special evening for the girls when their years work is acknowledged, and although our venues have been varied, for the last eight years we've held these evenings at West Park School and hope to be able to continue to do so.

1978 saw the celebration of the Company's 25th Birthday and over the years we've seen new Officers commissioned.

For ten years from 1978 we cared for the Church garden, decorated some of the Church premises and each year we've made a useful gift to the Church. Perhaps the gift giving the greatest pleasure is the ministers small microphone and the hearing aids for use by members of the congregation.

Over the years we've had our share of success in District Competitions. We were also privileged in 1984 to represent Girls' Brigade at the Christian Heritage Service at Westminster Abbey. In 1986 Alison Brunton became our first and so far only, Queens Award girl and 1987 she was chosen to be a representative in a Guard of Honour for the Queen and Prince Philip at the Princes Trust building in Bedford Row, London. When I became Captain in 1972 the Company had just saved and bought their first guide dog for the blind, Bella. Now enough money has been raised to buy another dog. It has taken three years but they have been wonderful years of working and giving by the girls.

Laughter, singing and love are the memories I shall cherish always

Jean Webb 29. 6. 89





THE BOYS' BRIGADE

5th Worthing Company

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
SHAFTESBURY AVENUE,
WORTHING, SUSSEX.

CAPTAIN: D. W. Stewart,
29 Palatine Road,
Goring-by-Sea,
Worthing, Sussex BN12 6JR.
Phone: Worthing 43787.

Apart from a few documents and a lot of memories of the writer it is somewhat difficult to compile a precise history of the 5th Worthing Company. Before it was officially enrolled a form of club existed led by men such as Robert Jones and Vince Mott. In December '58 the Lifeboys (later the Junior Section) under the leadership of Audrey Hodge was enrolled and in September '61 the Company Section with Charlie Hodge as Captain was enrolled. Mr Hodge resigned in '64 and Donald Stewart took over as Captain and apart from a short gap has held that office since. The Anchor Boys were enrolled in September '77 under the leadership of Sylvia Batchelor but is now led by Eileen Rhodes with helpers Bobby Hitchin and Alison Sopp. Leaders in the Junior Section over the years have been Elwyn Jones Miss Grice, Lyn Garrod and Alan Flashman. Officers in the Company Section have been Chris Kingsbury, Graham McCarthy, Graeme and Dennis Gill, Prentice Templeton, Phil Bliss, Paul Richards, Malcolm Nicholls Chris Chatfield, Brian White. (Sorry, if I have missed some gentlemen) Chaplains to the Company being Cyril Franks, Mr Winterton, Wallis Hayward, William Connelly and Ron Christopher. Our grateful thanks for services rendered to all these folk. At the start the Company was in the Sussex Division then, the West Sussex Battalion and as now the Brighton, Hove & District Battalion. Annual and week-end camps have always been popular in the life of the Company. We have been to Jersey, Dawlish, Swanage, Prestatyn, Pwllhelli, Woolacombe, Charmouth Chideock, Croyde Bay, Modbury, Brecon, Bembridge, Freshwater, Watcombe Whitecliffe Bay, Warnham, Ifield, Glynde etc;. Also, boating on the Norfolk Broads and the Wey & Thames. We have not always been brilliant at sports but have enjoyed competitions involving football, cricket; cross-country, canoeing, swimming and mini-olympics etc;. We have survived quirks of fashion such as winkle picker & platform shoes, skin tight jeans & bell bottoms, long hair, crew-cuts and dyed hair, skate-boards, roller boots, BMX bikes and now decorative tee shirts and bermuda shorts. One family I have to mention that always seems to be involved with the Company is the Easeys. Jean Easey as well as helping at many functions of one sort or another can be proud in that her four sons and one daughter have served in the Company over many years. Several of our members past and present have committed their lives to Christ and as a Company we hope and pray to go on in extending Christ's Kingdom amongst Boys.

D.W. Stewart.

"THE ADVANCEMENT OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM AMONG BOYS, AND THE PROMOTION OF HABITS OF OBEDIENCE, REVERENCE, DISCIPLINE, SELF-RESPECT, AND ALL THAT TENDS TOWARDS A TRUE CHRISTIAN MANLINESS"

The Women's Guild has a motto - "To have a friend is to be one", and our Guild is indeed a very friendly one. We further this friendship by our contact with other churches in the district through our Anniversary Services: and by welcoming and providing tea for parties on outings from churches further afield. Equally we have enjoyed the same hospitality and fellowship on our way home after visiting a place of interest.

Our meetings are well attended, and those held jointly on several occasions with the Men's Fellowship give pleasure to both organisations, visiting speakers covering a wide range of subjects.

Several ladies knit blankets and vests for E.C.H.O. and every year donations are made to various charities and causes. Neither is the Church forgotten - last year we provided two extra tables for use in the Hall.

The Lord's name be praised.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Meetings held on alternate Tuesdays at 2.45 p.m.

Each year there is a varied and interesting programme.

MONDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

Meets alternate Monday nights at 8 p.m. either in the Harris Room or Cornwall Room. Group was originally known as the Young Wives and later the Young Women's Fellowship.

THE ARK GROUP

For Parents and under 5's.

Meet 10 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. every Thursday morning in the Church Hall.

BEANO CLUB

Thursday evenings as announced.

Fellowship group for the younger men in the Church.

Secretary Mr Julian Brewer.

THE CHOIR

Choir practice Friday Evenings at 7.30 p.m.

New members always welcome.

Secretary Mrs R. Hitchin.

Colin Nodes and Graham Redman. We wish to thank all who have contributed to the Golden Jubilee in preparation of services and other events.

Our main celebrations will be from Saturday 21 July to Sunday 29 July.

- 21 July Saturday morning. GIFT DAY 10 a.m - 12 Noon. Target £5,000
Girls Brigade will provide coffee.
Mr Graham Redman has made a video film of the Church and its history over the past 50 years. This film will be shown during the morning.
- 21 July Saturday Evening. Jubilee Celebration Service led by JOHN PERRY.
- 22 July Sunday Morning. Rev. Cyril Franks.
Sunday Afternoon Jubilee Tea
Sunday Evening, Songs of Praise led by the Choir and young people.
- 25 July Wednesday 6 p.m. Praise party for Families and Young Children.
Barbecue Tea.
- 26 July Thursday Morning. "The Ark" Jubilee Party for Parents and Under 5's.
Thursday Evening. Church Meeting and Election of Elders.
- 27 July Jubilee Quiz in evening.
- 29 July Sunday Morning. Rev. David Helyar M.A. (Cantab).
Sunday Evening. Rev. William Connelly

A FLOWER FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD IN THE CHURCH FROM 21 JULY

The Women's Guild have prepared a Jubilee Tapestry.

An organ recital with soloists and young peoples choir - 29th September. Buffet.

In the East Transept there will be a display of photographs and mementos.
Also commemorative mugs, pens and other items will be on sale.

During 1990 there will be a service of rededication for Church Members.

The Chairman of the Committee, Mr Norman Dobson, died during the preparation of the Jubilee Celebrations. We give thanks to God for his excellent contribution to this event.

We welcome Mr Ray Close as a Member of the Committee.

Grateful thanks to all Lay Preachers, Deacons, Elders, Stewards and members of Committees and their Secretaries who have served the Church so faithfully over the past 50 years. Also to those who have given donations, furniture and equipment to help in the life and witness of this congregation so that the Lord's work can be furthered.

Finally, we thank Members who have given valuable assistance in respect of the upkeep of Church Buildings and grounds. We remember Mr E. R. James who was Caretaker/Cleaner for a period of many years.

When God wants things done, His gospel preached, His work extended, and His power shown to an indifferent world, He calls upon his followers to carry out the work.

We will conclude where we started by quoting from 'TWIXT DOWNS AND THE SEA'.

THE FOUNDATION AND THE SUPERSTRUCTURE

("other foundation can no man lay than is laid,
which is in Christ Jesus" | Corinthians 3 : 11)

"The foundation is laid, it is the superstructure which depends upon us. Given the foundation we are to be the builders. Whether we think of the building of Christian character or of the Christian Church, the foundation must be Christ our Saviour, and we can only establish our work by faith in Him".

The late Dr. Leslie Church who was a visting
Preacher when services were held in the Church Hall.

